
TALK EVENT

3.11 in Literature and Film

Artistic responses to the earthquake and tsunami in Japan, 5 years on



The Japan Foundation, Sydney presents [‘3.11 in Literature and Film’](#), a public talk by **Tamaki Tokita** (University of Sydney) on **April 15 (Friday), 6:30pm – 7:30pm** at The Japan Foundation, Sydney. This talk is part of an event program titled, ***After 3.11: Have you met the new Japan?***, commemorating the 5th anniversary of the earthquake and tsunami that hit Japan on March 11, 2011.

This year marks the 5th anniversary of the magnitude 9.0 quake which struck Japan on March 11, 2011, causing the nation’s biggest tsunami in centuries and the subsequent explosion of a nuclear power plant. This triple disaster is known in Japan as “**3.11**”.

The literary response to 3.11 was almost immediate. Five days after the disaster, Fukushima poet and high school teacher Ryoichi Wago began to share glimpses of his experience as a nuclear evacuee from tsunami-ravaged Minami-Soma City on Twitter. In the months and years that followed, literary responses continued to emerge.

In this talk, Tamaki explores how 3.11 has manifested in the popular imagination through literature, manga and film, and gives insight into the latest literary developments in Japan.

April 15 **3.11 in Literature and Film**
Tamaki Tokita (University of Sydney)

6:30pm – 7:30pm (doors open 6pm) @ The Japan Foundation, Sydney.
Admission is free. RSVP essential (via website).

Free CHOYA tastings available at venue.

[FILM]

April 8 ***Tell the Prime Minister*** (2015; 109 mins; Japanese with English subtitles)
Feat. Q&A with director Eiji Oguma

6:30pm (doors open 6pm) @ University of Technology Sydney (Bldg 2, Lecture theatre 3.02)
Admission is free. RSVP essential (via website).

Venues:	[EXHIBITION, DEMONSTRATION & TALKS] The Japan Foundation, Sydney Level 4, Central Park (access via lifts) 28 Broadway, Chippendale NSW 2008
	[FILM] University of Technology, Sydney (UTS) Building 2, Lecture Theatre 3.02 (via UTS main entrance, Broadway)
Admission:	Admission is free. RSVP essential for talks, film and opening reception. RSVP via website.
Enquiries:	reception@jpf.org.au / 02 8239 0055
Website/RSVP:	www.jpf.org.au

ABOUT TAMAKI TOKITA



Tamaki Tokita is a postgraduate teaching fellow in Japanese Studies and Comparative Literature at University of Sydney. She recently submitted her PhD thesis on 3.11 literature, examining representations of the Japanese national character in Japanese, English and French literary responses to 3.11. Prior to her PhD, Tamaki worked on several research projects at the University of Auckland, New Zealand, and also has extensive experience as a Japanese-language translator. She is currently working on a book on 3.11 literature.

ABOUT RYOICHI WAGO

Ryoichi Wago was born in 1968 in Fukushima City, Fukushima Prefecture, Japan. He was a high school teacher at a school in Fukushima's Minami-Soma City at the time of 3.11. Minami-Soma City was one of the areas hardest hit by the tsunami, and was designated as a mandatory evacuation zone following the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant explosions. Wago was a prize-winning published poet prior to the disaster, having released his first solo anthology in 1998. His 3.11 poems have since been released in book form in Japan.

ABOUT 3.11

On March 11, 2011 a magnitude 9.0 quake struck Japan, causing the nation's biggest tsunami in over a millennium. The wave hit the northeastern Tōhoku region, destroying thousands of homes and sparking the explosion of a nuclear power plant in coastal Fukushima. This triple disaster of earthquake, tsunami and plant explosion is known in Japan as "3.11". Five years on, the effects still echo in the physical, civil and artistic landscape. The *After 3.11* program shines a spotlight on some of these changes.

ABOUT THE JAPAN FOUNDATION, SYDNEY

The Japan Foundation, Sydney is the Australian arm of the Japan Foundation, which was established by the Japanese government to promote cultural and intellectual exchange between Japan and other nations. It runs a diverse range of programs and events, including exhibitions, talk events, grant programs and Japanese language courses for all levels from beginner to advanced. The Japan Foundation was established in 1972 with a global network of 22 offices in 21 countries. The Australian office was founded in 1978.



@japanfoundationsydney



@jpfsydney

For more information please see www.jpf.org.au or contact:

Elicia O'Reilly (02) 8239 0055 / elicia_oreilly@jpf.org.au or

Jessica Chow (02) 8239 0055 / jessica_chow@jpf.org.au

Presented by



Supported by



Venue partner



#####