

Mariangela Carpinteri – Curriculum Vitae

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• **Current position:** (September 2019 to the present) **Ph.D.** in Japanese Religions. University of California, Santa Barbara. Dissertation Topic: Aspects of the Ōharae ritual. Advisor: Fabio Rambelli.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Religious Culture in the Tokugawa period (Buddhism, Shintō, Confucianism, Onmyōdō)
- Ōharae and purification rituals
- History of the concepts of *harae* and *kegare*.
- Chinese and Japanese Confucianism
- Nature in Japanese Religions (wilderness, the sea, mountains)
- Buddhism in China and Japan (Zen/Chan, Tendai, Shugendō)
- Religions and the Anthropocene era
- Gagaku and the soundscape of Japanese Religions

EDUCATION

• (September 2019 - *In progress*) **Ph.D.** program in Religious Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara. Graduate advisor: Fabio Rambelli.

Dissertation (tentative title): “A Purification Ritual: The Evolution of the Ōharae”

Committee: Professor Fabio Rambelli, Professor Dominic Steavu, Professor Lisa Sideris.

Exam Fields: History of Japanese Religions; Contemporary Japanese Religions; History of Chinese Religions (with a focus on their relation with nature and the environment);

Ecology and Religion and Nature and Religion (with a focus on Blue Humanities).

- (10/2023 until 31/2025) Guest Researcher at Kokugakuin University.
- (2015 – 2018) **M. A.** in Religious Studies, University of Padua and Ca' Foscari University of Venice (joint degree). Thesis: “Green Buddhism: creation and development of Buddhist environmentalist thought” (110/110 Summa cum laude). Advisor: Professor Massimo Raveri.
- (2008 – 2011) **B. A.** in Asian Languages, University of Catania. Thesis: “A Comparative Study of ‘Rashōmon’ and ‘The Outrage’” (110/110 Summa cum laude). Advisor: Professor Francesco Vitucci.

Workshops:

- 2023/08/14 - 2023/08/16 EAJS (European Association of Japanese Studies) Ph.D. Workshop. Leuven, Belgium.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

- Summer 2024 **Instructor** in Japan Pop Culture [JAPAN 165]
- Fall 2020 **Teaching Assistant** in *Zen Buddhism* [RG ST 21] (Main instructor: Dr. Gregory Hillis).
- Winter 2021 **Teaching Assistant** in *Introduction to Buddhism* [RG ST 4] (Main instructor: Dr. Gregory Hillis).
- Spring 2021 **Teaching Assistant** in *Gods and Goddesses of India* [RG ST 19] (Main instructor: Prof. Barbara Holdrege)
- Fall 2021 **Teaching Assistant** in *Zen Buddhism* [RG ST 21] (Main instructor: Prof. Gregory Hillis).
- Winter 2022 **Teaching Assistant** in *Self, Nature, Society in Chinese Thought* [RG ST 48] (Main instructor: Prof. Dominic Steavu-Balint).

- Spring 2022 **Teaching Assistant** in *Asian Religious Traditions* [RG ST 3] (Main instructor: Dr. Gregory Hillis).
- Summer 2022 **Teaching Assistant** in *Introduction to Buddhism* [RG ST 4] (Main instructor: Prof. Dominic Steavu-Balint).

INTERNSHIPS

- (October 2023 - In progress) Kokugakuin Museum (translations of entries and booklets from Japanese to English)
- (October 2020 - February 2021) Impactmania - online magazine (research and editing for articles).

PUBLICATIONS

Translation Works

- 2023 Kokugakuin Museum Material Culture Exhibit: Exhibition of Shinto Ritual Items (translation of entries)
- 2021 Translation for Kokugakuin University Museum. “ホワッツ神道？神道入門 [*What Is Shinto? Introduction to Shinto*]”, explanatory pamphlet. Special Exhibition at Kokugakuin University Museum. Publisher: Shuhansha.
- 2021 Translation of Matsumoto Ikuyo, "New Interpretations of Sokui Kanjō in the Modern Period: The Enthronement Ceremonies of Emperors Meiji, Taishō, and Shōwa," in *Rituals of Initiation and Consecration in Premodern Japan: Power and Legitimacy in Kingship, Religion, and the Arts*, edited by Fabio Rambelli and Or Porath. Berlin: De Gruyter, pp. 173 - 194 [academic translation Japanese to English]
- 2021 Translation of Kawasaki Tsuyoshi, “Before the Appearance of *Shugen Kanjō*: Origin and History of a Forged Ritual,” in *Rituals of Initiation and Consecration in Premodern Japan: Power and Legitimacy in Kingship, Religion, and the Arts*, edited by Fabio Rambelli and Or Porath. Berlin: De Gruyter, pp. 377 - 389 [academic translation Japanese to English]

Forthcoming Publications:

- Translation of Kojima Takahiro, “Ueda Tenzui's Ordination and Recovery of the War Dead in Burma: Between Two Similar and Different "Buddhisms.” (forthcoming in 2024)
- Translation of Kayaki Tōru, “The Study of Ceremonial Music (*reigaku*) in the Edo Period: Gagaku Research by Music Amateurs.”
- Translation of Yūko Nakagawa, “Music and Musical Instruments in Kumazawa Banzan and Kaibara Ekken: The Intellectual Position of Gagaku in the Early Edo Period.”
- Translation of Yamada Junpei, “The Adoption of Gagaku Among the Samurai Class in the Mid-Edo Period.”

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Lectures

- 2023 “A Purification Ritual: The Case of Ōharae,” Religion Performed: Insights at Intersections of Religiosity, Performance, Performativity. Invited Presentation. Concordia University (Canada) Annual Graduate Interdisciplinary Conference on Religion Performed: Insights at Intersections of Religiosity, Performance, Performativity. at Concordia University. Webinar. March 16
- 2022 “Green Buddhism: The Birth and Development of Environmental Buddhism,”. *Buddhism and Post Humanism Series*. Invited lecture, The Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Center for Buddhist Studies. University of Toronto. October 27th

Conference Papers

- 2024 “The State and Future of the Study of Premodern Japanese Religions”. American Association of Religion (AAR), Annual Meeting, Society for the Study of Japanese Religions. San Diego, California. November 23.
- 2023 “Purified Animals: The Inclusion of Pets in the Celebration of the Ōharae in Japan.” American Association of Religion (AAR), Annual Meeting, Animals and Religions Unit. San Antonio, Texas. November 20
- 2023 “The Evolution of the Concept of Purification (Harae) in the Context of the Great Purification Ritual (Ōharae),” European Association of Japanese Studies (EAJS) Annual Meeting, Panel “Ruptures and junctions: tracing changes in ritual practices of Japan”. Ghent, Belgium. August 20
- 2023 “A Purification Ritual: The Case of Ōharae,”. University of Bucharest Center for Japanese Studies, and Ritsumeikan University (Kyoto) Graduate School of Language Education and Information Science. International Symposium on Japanese Studies (Re)-imagining and (re)-translating Japanese culture. Webinar. March 31 - April 1
- 2023 “A Purification Ritual: The Case of Ōharae,”. Florida State University, Annual Religion Graduate Student Symposium Sensational Religion Tallahassee, Florida. February 17 - 18
- 2023 “Shintō Spiritual Technology: The Case of Ōharae,” International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture Conference (ISSRNC), conference “After Earth? Religion and Technology on a Changing Planet”. Tempe, Arizona. February 2 - 5
- 2022 “Immaginario Satanista: The ‘Catholic Horror’ of Global Satanic Conspiracy,” with William Chavez. American Academy of Religion (AAR). Catholic Studies Unit. Annual Meeting, Denver, Colorado. November 21

SYMPOSIA

- 2021 (June) Graduate Coordinator, “Gagaku Critical Intervention Lab,” University of California Santa Barbara.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

2021 (Sept) “Gagaku and Japanese Religions: An Exhibition,” Art, Design & Architecture Museum, University of California, Santa Barbara (preparation of entries, taking pictures, and recording videos).

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS

2024 - 2025 Kokugakuin University Visiting Fellows Program

2019 - 2024 J.F. Rowny Endowment Fellowship, Department of Religious Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara

2023 Ogawa Fund

2023 UCSB Graduate Student Association Travel Grant

2023 Shinto Fund

2023 Bamboo Fund

2022 Graduate Division Relief Fund

2021 Wilbur M. Fridell Memorial Award, Department of Religious Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara

2020 UCSB Department of East Asian Languages & Cultural Studies Summer Fieldwork Grant

2020 Japan Foundation/University of California, Santa Barbara Graduate Division Research Accelerator Award

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- American Academy of Religion (AAR)
- European Association of Japanese Studies (EAJS)
- International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture (ISSRNC)
- University of California, Santa Barbara Gagaku Research Group & Ensemble

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Ryūteki (Japanese flute used in Gagaku music) practitioner (learning at Aoba Gagakukai, Kokugakuin University, Tokyo)

LANGUAGES

ITALIAN: Native Speaker

ENGLISH: Quasi-native

JAPANESE: Advanced

CLASSICAL JAPANESE: Intermediate reading proficiency

CLASSICAL CHINESE: Basic reading proficiency (Buddhist texts, Chinese classics)

FRENCH: Advanced

Language Certifications:

English: TOEFL (2017)

Japanese: JLPT N3 (2024)