



Comparative Asian Research Network
Monthly Lecture Series on Issues and Research in the Asian Region
 Organized by the Department of Japanese Studies, CUHK

All are Welcome!!

“Overall Linguistic Differences between Japanese and English and their Implications for Translation”

Dr. Richard Donovan

Lecturer, Doshisha University, Kyoto

Date: 28 November, 2013 (Thursday)

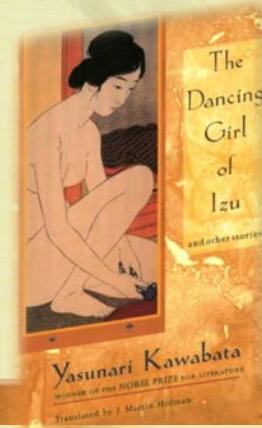
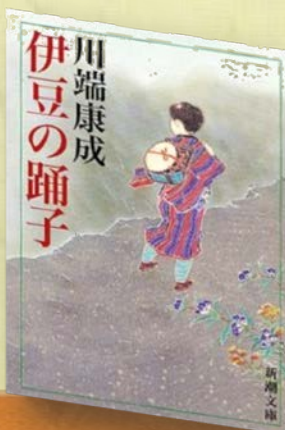
Time: 14:30 – 16:15

**Venue: G24 Arts and Humanities Hub,
 Fung King Hey Building, CUHK**

Language: English



Please Try to Do Your Japanese-to-English Translation Exercise of 『伊豆の踊子』 before the Lecture:
 You may download the document from: www.cuhk.edu.hk/jas --> “Research Output / Activities”



Speaker Biography:



Richard Donovan lectures at Doshisha University, Kyoto, Japan, teaching in the Faculty of Global and Regional Studies. He also works as a translator between Japanese and English. He holds an MA in English Literature from Massey University, New Zealand, and obtained a PhD in Literary Translation Studies at Victoria University of Wellington in 2012. The title of his thesis was “Dances with Words: Issues in the Translation of Japanese Literature into English.” It was based on a case study of the Kawabata Yasunari novella *Izu no odoriko* and three of its English translations.

Publications from 2012 include “Decision-making and Disambiguation in Japanese-to-English Literary Translation: An Application of Game Theory” in *IAFOR Journal of Arts and Humanities* (Summer 2012) and “Translating the Punctuation of Kawabata’s *Izu no odoriko*” in *Journal of Faculty of Foreign Studies, Nagoya University of Foreign Studies* (2012). He is the editor of the *IAFOR Journal of Literature and Librarianship*, which has just published its autumn 2013 issue.

No registration necessary.

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Exercise: Your Japanese-to-English Translation of 『伊豆の踊子』

Kawabata Yasunari, Nobel laureate (1968), published his first novel Izu no odoriko in 1926 at the age of 25. Based on real events, it depicts the student narrator's affection for an itinerant dancing girl and her troupe as they travel among the hot-spring resorts of Izu Peninsula. Here near the beginning of the story, he is infatuated with the girl, and intent on pursuing her at Amagi Pass.

Instructions: To get a sense of the situation, read the original Japanese text **all the way through** before you start translating into English. You can use your dictionary as much as you want. Try to write natural English. You do not have to keep the original sentence breaks.

(Notes: Numbers reference the original sentences. ¶ = paragraph break.)

Original Japanese (<i>furigana</i> added)	Your English translation (you can change sentence breaks)
6. そのうちに、大粒 <small>おおつぶ</small> の雨が私を打ち初めた。	
7. 折れ曲った急な坂道 <small>か のぼ</small> を駆け登った。	
8. ようやく峠 <small>とうげ</small> の北口の茶屋 <small>ちや</small> に辿りついてほっとすると同時に、私はその入口で立ちすくんでしまった。	
9. 余 <small>あま</small> りに期待がみごとに的中 <small>てきちゆう</small> したからである。	
10. そこに旅芸人 <small>たびげいじん</small> の一行が休んでいたのだ。	
11. ¶突 <small>つ</small> 立っている私を見た踊子 <small>おどりこ</small> が直ぐに自分の座布団 <small>ざぶとん</small> を外して裏返し <small>うらがえ</small> に傍 <small>そば</small> へ置いた。	
12. ¶「ええ——。」とだけ云って、私はその上に腰 <small>こし</small> を下ろした。	
13. 坂道 <small>のぼ</small> を走った息切れと驚きとで、「ありがとう。」と云う言葉が咽 <small>のど</small> にひっかかって出なかったのだ。	
14. ¶踊子 <small>おどりこ</small> と真近 <small>まぢか</small> に向い合ったので、私はあわてて袂 <small>たもと</small> から煙草 <small>タバコ</small> を取出した。	
15. 踊子 <small>おどりこ</small> がまた連れの女の前の煙草盆 <small>ぼん ひきよ</small> を引寄せて私に近くしてくれた。	
16. やっぱり私は黙 <small>だま</small> っていた。	
17. ¶踊子 <small>おどりこ</small> は十七くらいに見えた。	

Notes on a separate page: What is challenging to translate? Why?