



Online Lunchtime Lecture By CAAS Unit

PRESERVING VIDEOTAPE, THE ID OF AN ERA

We live in the days of Netflix and the era of rental video is long gone.

Yet for almost three decades, videotape was Japan's (and the world's) dominant film and moving image culture. Now seen as an obsolete technology, videotape has been disappearing inside landfills and incinerators. This has robbed us of a large part of Japan's cultural heritage, particularly a rich harvest of material culture from the Bubble era and its aftermath. Film archives do not preserve video, which is seen as inferior to film-based material.

But where does that leave works that were never shown in theaters and of which no film materials exist? This large group of works, known in Japan as “original video”, even includes early works by Japanese filmmakers who today compete at the world's most prestigious film festivals, leading voices in world cinema such as Kurosawa Kiyoshi and Miike Takashi. What means exist to save this heritage from disappearing completely? And how can we change the way we talk about video, so as to remind us of the urgency and necessity of its preservation?



Talk by

Tom MES

Leiden University/
Tokyo University of Foreign Studies
(CAAS Unit)



Registration

Please register in advance through the link.

Zoom MTG information will be sent to those who have registered by June 22.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSecOri0a0SudrH73eHddz08sunYKc6oS15y969zvyChAfd9hg/viewform?usp=sf_link



Inquiries:

東京外国語大学 大学院国際日本学研究院 CAAS Unit Tel 042-330-5826, caas_admin@tufs.ac.jp