

KYOTO LECTURES 2025



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Embodied “Invented Tradition”

The Bodily Experience of Qigong in Contemporary China and Japan

Wednesday, April 16th, 18:00

Huang Xinzhe
SPEAKER



Huang Xinzhe is a senior researcher at the Kinugasa Research Organization, Ritsumeikan University. His research explores qigong and spiritual practices in China and Japan.

Although qigong is widely regarded as a traditional Chinese body practice, scholars have argued that it was “invented” as a therapeutic practice in the 1950s. Yet, despite its relatively recent origins, qigong continues to be practiced and “reinvented” through bodily techniques and embodied experiences across diverse cultural settings. Drawing on ethnographic research, this lecture explores how practitioners engage with the sensory and affective dimensions of qigong, revealing its transformation from an “invented tradition” into an “embodied tradition”.



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This hybrid lecture will be held on site and via Zoom. Registration required in advance via QR code.

Zoom meeting ID: 849 7484 7315

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