

Reconsidering the Eyeless Sūtra (*menashikyō*)  
Temporality, Dissonance, Method, and Ritual

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17:00, January 22 (Tuesday), 2019  
Room E-B-107 (East Zone Building 2)

The *Eyeless Sūtra* is the popular name for a set of five scrolls completed around the year 1200 CE—a four-volume transcription of the *Golden Light Sūtra* and a one-volume transcription of the *Rishu Sūtra*. The curious *Eyeless* name stems from the fact that the sutra text was inscribed on top of monochromatic line drawings of genre scenes in which 95% of the persons depicted lacked eyes. Our understanding of the *Eyeless Sutra* is based on two terse inscriptions. Heavy reliance on these inscriptions has led scholars to believe that these drawings were made in preparation for a large, polychrome illustrated handscroll project (e.g., the very roughly contemporaneous *Genji Scrolls*). According to this interpretation, the illustrated scroll production was interrupted by the death of the retired emperor GoShirawaka (1127–1192), and the pages were repurposed for use as memorial sutras. This talk will cast doubt on this standard interpretation and explore new ways of understanding these enigmatic objects

「目無し経」の再考—時間性、不調和、メソッド、儀礼

クリストファー・カーギー、カリフォルニア州大学ロサンゼルス校

2019年1月22日(火)

午後5時

イーストゾーン2号館、E-B-107号室

「目無し経」は1200年頃製作された「金光明経」四巻と「般若理趣経」一巻の五巻セットの俗称です。不思議なお名前の由来は経文が白描下絵の上に写経されて、下絵が描かれた人物は95%ぐらいは目が描かれていませんですから。「目無し経」についての知識は奥書二つしかに基づいていません。この奥書を重視して、いわゆる「目無し経」五巻の本来の意図は「源氏物語絵巻」のように派手な作り絵の物語絵巻を想定されました。後白河法王が崩御したと、プロジェクトを止めて、紙を使って結縁経を写経しました。この講義は一般に認められている解釈を疑問視して、珍しい装飾経について新しい仮説を狙いとします。

This lecture series is supported by a 2018–19 AY Challenge Type 3, Progress 100 (Invitation program for top global researchers) RINK [Research Hub for the Humanities, Social Sciences, and Interdisciplinary Studies](#), [Kyushu University](#) grant, *The Many Shapes of Meaning: Object and Performance in Asia Across Time*.

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