

Dear Korean Studies Community,

We are please to invite you to the following event, organised by the Center for Gender and Diversity Research, in cooperation with the Department of Japanese Studies, the Department of Korean Studies, and the Department of Indology:

Film Screenings and Q&A

**Gender, Diversity, (Anti-)Discrimination: Documentary Films and Filmmakers from Japan, South Korea, and India**

Friday, 10 February 2023

12 – 19 s.t.

Lecture Hall 24, Kupferbau (Hölderlinstr. 5)

The event brings together three documentary films from Japan, South Korea, and India which all address different aspects of social and cultural diversity, experiences of discrimination, and individual and collective efforts to navigate these experiences in their specific environments, and to find a way to counter them with emancipatory counter-movements.

Each screening will be followed by a conversation with the filmmakers (some on Zoom).

***Watashitachi wa nigen da!*** (Japan 2022, 114 min.) - 12:00 – 14:30

Directed by Chanyu Ko

*Chairs: Kae Ishii (Doshisha University), Monika Schrimpf (Department of Japanese Studies, Tübingen)*

Foreigners living in Japan have been severely discriminated against for 100 years. In March 2021, Wishma, a Sri Lankan woman, died. She had been detained at the Nagoya Regional Immigration Bureau as an 'illegal resident'. Her death is emblematic of the discrimination against foreigners by governmental authorities. After the Second World War, the Japanese government began to pursue a policy of repression against Koreans living in Japan. Later, as the number of technical trainees and refugees from other countries increased, the government aimed this policy, which stands in violation to fundamental human rights, at all foreigners. *Watashitachi wa nigen da!* is the first feature-length documentary film that depicts the history and current state of the discrimination against foreigners living in Japan. People deprived of their human rights appeal: 'We are not animals, we are humans!'

**#AfterMeToo** (South Korea 2021, 84 min.) - 15:00 – 17:00

Directed by Kangyu Garam, Lee Somyi, Park Sohyun, Soram

*Chair: Yewon Lee (Department of Korean Studies, Tübingen)*

Since the #metoo movement began to spread in various fields in South Korea, how much has changed? As the title suggests, *#AfterMeToo* tackles the activism and resistance that remained after the initial #metoo fever cooled down. This anthology documentary ties together four short films dealing with the 'School Me Too' movement amongst teenagers, the fallout of the #metoo movement in the art world, confessions of sexual trauma from long ago and the respective healing process, and the sexual self-determination of women. Each segment has its own distinctive style, presenting the aftermath of #metoo from multiple angles. The coolness of black-and-white photographs, the dramatic gestures of mime artistry, the direct confrontation of places and memories of hurt, and the vitality of illustrations inserted into interview testimony – these are all tools in the effort to keep #metoo alive. The format of each segment poses a question about the #metoo movement, but also presents a challenge and interrogation of the documentary form through evidence and remnants, memory and recordings.

**Where the Blue Lotus Blooms** (India 2016, 24 min.) - 18:00 – 19:00

Directed by Anand Gautam, Geetha K Wilson, Radhika Agarwal, Saurabh Kumar, Shreya Katyayini

*Chair: Claire Maes (Department of Indology, Tübingen)*

A home is not merely a physical space; it is a space of belonging, a space of acceptance and dignity. *Where the Blue Lotus Blooms* is a film made at home with four transgender individuals – Joanna, Pradipta, Sree and Urmi – from various social and physical spaces in Mumbai. Cutting through the identity of being transgender in a world dominated by cisgendered (so-called 'normal') people along with the social prejudices that come with it, they speak to each other about how they negotiate the space they call 'home'.

We look forward to seeing you!

Best regards,

Gero Bauer, Kae Ishii, Yewon Lee, Claire Maes, Monika Schimpf