We are pleased to announce the second in a series of three Zoom workshops on the theme of “QUEERING THE Straits: UNRULY SUBJECTS ACROSS MODERN KOREAN AND JAPANESE STUDIES.” These workshops are intended to facilitate greater communication and collaboration among scholars of Japan and Korea who work on issues of gender and sexuality, often in isolation from one another. We believe that such “queer” dialogues across borders and cultures offer a challenging yet vital opportunity to forge new intellectual and institutional bonds at a time when powerful forces continue to silence, erase, and marginalize seemingly minor subjects and their important points of view.

The upcoming workshop, “CROSS-STRAIT CULTURES: PERFORMANCE, MEDIA, AND HISTORY,” will take place over the weekend of 30 April–2 May 2021. (See below for a detailed schedule.) This workshop revolves around the dynamic interaction of performance, media, and history in both popular and public cultures. By considering how the weight of history animates performance and media and how, conversely, popular culture reiterates and repositions history, the workshop seeks to develop new strategies for examining mainstream and fringe cultures on both sides of the Straits. Speakers will explore the citationality of Yōsōng Kukkūk, South Korea’s all-female theater revue of the 1950s and early 1960s; contemporary histories of boys love and K-pop fandom; as well as more recent forms of “digital gender.”
Preregistration is required for this event. We particularly invite the participation of scholars whose work focuses on gender and sexuality in East Asia. To register, please fill out our RSVP form by April 29: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdBNLWYXq0oOL9AqHOLD8O8OJreM7x6PrIj4M0_14tgY8VKiw/viewform?usp=sf_link

A day or two before the start of the workshop, we will send an email to all registered participants with a link to the event. If you have any questions or trouble with registration, please email us at queeringthestraits@gmail.com.

This series of workshops is funded by the Academy of Korean Studies; the Center for Korean Research at Columbia University; the Columbia University Alumni Association of Korea; the Donald Keene Center of Japanese Culture (Columbia); the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures (Columbia); the Hajime Mori Chair in Japanese Language and Literature at the University of California, San Diego; Transnational Korean Studies (UCSD); and the Weatherhead East Asian Institute (Columbia). The organizers thank these institutions and individuals for their generous support.

Todd Henry
Greg Pflugfelder

QUEERING THE STRAITS: UNRULY SUBJECTS ACROSS MODERN KOREAN AND JAPANESE STUDIES
A Zoom Workshop Series for 2021
Workshop #2

CROSS-STRAIT CULTURES: PERFORMANCE, MEDIA, AND HISTORY
30 April–2 May 2021

SESSION A
Saturday, 1 May 2021, 9:00–11:45 AM, Seoul/Tokyo time *

OPENING REMARKS
9:00–9:10 AM

Gregory M. Pflugfelder
Associate Professor, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures & Department of History, Columbia University

PRESENTATIONS

9:10–9:35 AM
Thomas Baudinette
Lecturer, International Studies, Macquarie University
“Shipping Across the Strai(gh)ts: Exploring the Queer Potentials of K-Pop Idol Fandom Between Japan and Korea”

9:35–10:00 AM
So-Rim Lee
Visiting Scholar, Weatherhead East Asian Institute, Columbia University
“From Boyfriend to Boys Love: South Korean Male ASMRtists and Digital Gender Norms”

RESPONSES

10:00–10:15 AM
Suk-Young Kim
Professor, Theater and Performance Studies, University of California, Los Angeles

10:15–10:30 AM
James Welker
Professor, Department of Cross-Cultural Studies, Kanagawa University

GENERAL DISCUSSION
10:30–11:45 AM

SESSION B
Sunday, 2 May 2021, 9:00–11:45 AM, Seoul/Tokyo time *

OPENING REMARKS
9:00–9:05 AM
Todd A. Henry
Associate Professor, Department of History, University of California, San Diego

PRESENTATIONS
9:05–9:30 AM
Soo Ryon Yoon
Assistant Professor, Department of Cultural Studies, Lingnan University
“Performing Kwieo Methodologies, Queering Performance Methodologies”

9:30–9:55 AM
Yeong Ran Kim
Mellon Film and Digital Media Fellow, Sarah Lawrence College
“Yeosung Gukgeuk: Queer Archives, Performance, and Historiography”

RESPONSES
9:55–10:10 AM
Makiko Yamanashi
*The Japanese Society for Theatre Research*

10:10–10:35 AM
Yoon Sun Yang
*Associate Professor of Korean and Comparative Literature, Department of World Languages and Literatures, Boston University*

GENERAL DISCUSSION
10:35–11:45 AM

* Equivalent times for other time zones:
  New York – Friday & Saturday, 8:00–10:45 PM
  Chicago – Friday & Saturday, 7:00–9:45 PM
  Los Angeles – Friday & Saturday, 5:00–7:45 PM
  Honolulu – Friday & Saturday, 2:00–4:45 PM
  Sydney – Saturday & Sunday, 10:00 AM–12:45 PM
  Hong Kong / Perth – Saturday & Sunday, 8:00–10:45 AM
  Berlin / Paris / Rome – Saturday & Sunday, 2:00–4:45 AM
  London – Saturday & Sunday, 1:00–3:45 AM