

## **Announcement of Recipients of Japan-United States Friendship Commission Prize for the Translation of Japanese Literature and the Lindsley and Masao Miyoshi Translation Prize**

New York, New York, February 4, 2019 –The Donald Keene Center of Japanese Culture announces winners selected by the jury for this year’s Japan-United States Friendship Commission Prize for the Translation of Japanese Literature and Lindsley and Masao Miyoshi Translation Prize.

The Japan-United States Friendship Commission Prize for the calendar year 2018-2019 will be awarded to the following translator:

Takako Lento for her translation of Kaneko Mitsuharu’s poems, as contained in her manuscript, *Pioneers of Modern Japanese Poetry* (Cornell East Asia Series, forthcoming in 2019)

In addition, the Lindsley and Masao Miyoshi Translation Prizes will be awarded to the following translators, listed in alphabetical order by last name:

Michael Brase for his translation of *Soetsu Yanagi: Selected Essays on Japanese Folk Crafts* (Japan Publishing Industry Foundation for Culture, 2017)

Geraldine Harcourt for her translation of Tsushima Yuko’s *Territory of Light* (Penguin Classics, 2017)

Sumie Jones for lifetime achievement as a translator, and especially for her work as a translator and editor of three major anthologies: *A Kamigata Anthology: Literature from Japan’s Metropolitan Centers, 1600-1750* (forthcoming from University of Hawaii Press); *An Edo Anthology: Literature from Japan’s Mega City, 1750-1850* (University of Hawaii Press, 2013); and *A Tokyo Anthology: Literature from Japan’s Modern Metropolis, 1850-1920* (University of Hawaii Press, 2017)

An awards ceremony will be held at Columbia University in New York City on Friday, March 29, 2019.

[Correction: An earlier version of this announcement on December 4, 2018 incorrectly reported Michael Brase as one of the recipients of the Japan-United States Friendship Commission Prize; as explained here, he is receiving the Lindsley and Masao Miyoshi Translation Prize. We regret the error.]

The Japan-United States Friendship Commission Prize for the Translation of Japanese Literature was established in 1979, and the award has been administered by the Donald Keene Center of Japanese Culture at Columbia University since the Center was founded in 1986. The Prize is awarded annually to outstanding works of translation into English from the Japanese language.

The Lindsley and Masao Miyoshi Translation Prize was established in 2016, in honor of Lindsley Miyoshi, longtime jury member for the Japan-United States Friendship Commission Prize, and her husband Masao. The prize is awarded on an occasional basis to outstanding or academically significant translations; and, in rare cases, lifetime achievement awards for translators with particularly distinguished careers.

About the Japan United States Friendship Commission:

The Japan United States Friendship Commission (JUSFC) was established as an independent agency by the US Congress in 1975 (P.L. 94-118). The Commission administers a US government trust fund that originated in connection with the return to the Japanese government of certain US facilities in Okinawa and for postwar American assistance to Japan. Income from the fund is available for the promotion of scholarly, cultural, and public affairs activities between the two countries.

About the Donald Keene Center of Japanese Culture:

Founded in 1986 at Columbia University, the Donald Keene Center of Japanese Culture (DKC) is named in honor of Professor Donald Keene, internationally renowned scholar, Columbia University teacher, and interpreter of Japanese literature and culture to the West. The Center is dedicated to advancing the understanding of Japan and its culture in the United States through university instruction, research, and public education. In addition, the Center seeks to encourage study of the interrelationships among the cultures of Japan, other Asian countries, Europe, and the United States. The DKC is the central institution supporting the study of Japanese culture, literature, and history at Columbia University, and frequently co-sponsors events with the Weatherhead East Asian Institute, the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, the Burke Center for Japanese Art, the Center for Korean Research, and other Columbia centers and institutes.

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