

TALK EVENT

The New Wave of Activist Culture in Post-3.11 Japan



The Japan Foundation, Sydney presents [‘The New Wave of Activist Culture in Post-3.11 Japan’](#), a public talk by **Prof Akihiro Ogawa** (Asia Institute, University of Melbourne) on **April 1 (Friday), 6:30pm – 7:30pm** at The Japan Foundation, Sydney. This talk is part of an event program titled, ***After 3.11: Have you met the new Japan?***, commemorating the 5th anniversary of the earthquake and tsunami that hit Japan on March 11, 2011.

March 11, 2011 was a trigger point in the social movement history of postwar Japan: the triple disaster of the earthquake, tsunami and nuclear power plant explosion disrupted everyday life and caused Japanese people to reflect upon their way of living. Post-3.11, citizens across the country began to protest against nuclear power, awakening the nation’s activist culture from decades of slumber. Since then, new large-scale actions on different issues have shown that post-3.11 activism was not a lone spike, but the beginning of a broader trend.

This talk outlines the rise of a new activist movement in post-3.11 Japan, making connections with the social activism of Japan’s early postwar-era as well as pro-democracy movements across Asia.

April 1 **The New Wave of Activist Culture in Post-3.11 Japan**
Akihiro Ogawa (Melbourne University)

April 15 **3.11 in Literature and Film**
Tamaki Tokita (University of Sydney)

6:30pm – 7:30pm (doors open 6pm) @ The Japan Foundation, Sydney.
Admission is free. RSVP essential (via website).

Free CHOYA tastings available at venue.

[FILM]

April 8 **Tell the Prime Minister** (2015; 109 mins; Japanese with English subtitles)
Feat. Q&A with director Eiji Oguma

6:30pm (doors open 6pm) @ University of Technology Sydney (Bldg 2, Lecture theatre 3.02)

Admission is free. RSVP essential (via website).

Venues:	[EXHIBITION, DEMONSTRATION & TALKS] The Japan Foundation, Sydney Level 4, Central Park (access via lifts) 28 Broadway, Chippendale NSW 2008
	[FILM] University of Technology, Sydney (UTS) Building 2, Lecture Theatre 3.02 (via UTS main entrance, Broadway)
Admission:	Admission is free. RSVP essential for talks, film and opening reception. RSVP via website.
Enquiries:	reception@jpf.org.au / 02 8239 0055
Website/RSVP:	www.jpf.org.au



Free CHOYA tastings available on talk nights

ABOUT AKIHIRO OGAWA



Akihiro Ogawa is Professor of Japanese Studies at the University of Melbourne's Asia Institute. He was born in Japan, and worked there as a journalist before starting his academic career. He earned his PhD in 2004 at Cornell University, and went on to positions at Harvard University and Stockholm University before coming to Australia in 2015 for his current appointment. As a social anthropologist, his research interests include Japanese civil society, social movements, politics, peace, security, education and energy. Ogawa's current project is a book titled, *New Energy Culture: Lessons for a Post-Fukushima Japan*, exploring how ordinary citizens are translating lessons from 3.11 into renewable energy projects that aim to improve natural disaster resilience. His publications include *The Failure of Civil Society?: The Third Sector and the State in Contemporary Japan* [2009], winner of the 2010 Japan NPO Research Association Book Award, and *Lifelong Learning in Neoliberal Japan: Risk, Knowledge, and Community* [2015].

ABOUT 3.11

On March 11, 2011 a magnitude 9.0 quake struck Japan, causing the nation's biggest tsunami in over a millennium. The wave hit the northeastern Tōhoku region, destroying thousands of homes and sparking the explosion of a nuclear power plant in coastal Fukushima. This triple disaster of earthquake, tsunami and plant explosion is known in Japan as "3.11". Five years on, the effects still echo in the physical, civil and artistic landscape. The *After 3.11* program shines a spotlight on some of these changes.

ABOUT THE JAPAN FOUNDATION, SYDNEY

The Japan Foundation, Sydney is the Australian arm of the Japan Foundation, which was established by the Japanese government to promote cultural and intellectual exchange between Japan and other nations. It runs a diverse range of programs and events, including exhibitions, talk events, grant programs and Japanese language courses for all levels from beginner to advanced. The Japan Foundation was established in 1972 with a global network of 22 offices in 21 countries. The Australian office was founded in 1978.



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For more information please see www.jpf.org.au or contact:

Elicia O'Reilly (02) 8239 0055 / elicia_oreilly@jpf.org.au or

Jessica Chow (02) 8239 0055 / jessica_chow@jpf.org.au

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