November 11

8:45-9:15 Coffee, light snacks

9:15-9:30 Opening remarks:
Raffaele Milani (Università di Bologna)
Paolo Valesio (Columbia University)

9:30-10:55 Panel 1 “The Paths of Beauty”
Raffaele Milani (Università di Bologna)
Comparative aesthetics
Enrico Fongaro (Tohoku University)
On some problems related to the translations of “yūgen” and “grazia” in Japanese and Italian
Marcello Ghilardi (Università degli Studi di Padova)
A pathway between Europe and Japan: Developing cross-cultural thought through art and aesthetics

11:00-12:30 Panel 2 “Images and Narrative”
Taku Kuroiwa (Tohoku University)
The use of images in Japanese adaptations of the Song of Roland for Children
Akihiro Ozaki (Tohoku University)
Rembrandt and Japanese washi paper: Toward an aesthetic of black
Mária Ildikó Farkas (Károli Gáspár Református Egyetem)
Images in the early modern discourses of identity in Japan and East Central Europe

12:30-1:30 Lunch break

1:30-3:25 Panel 3 “A debate on the arts and their intersections”
Tadahiko Wada (Tokyo University of Foreign Studies)
Traveling Pinocchio in the variations between texts and images
Yuko Nakama (Ritsumeikan University)
The Cultural Comparison of Landscape-images through the Travelers’
Manuela Gallerani (Università di Bologna)
Disease words and images in Michelangelo’s work
Luca Cesari (Accademia di Belle Arti di Urbino)
The notion of interval between the arts

3:30-5:00 Panel 4 “Images in tradition and translation”
Kōji Ōno (Tohoku University)
Counting claws: The evolving image of Early Modern Chinese dragons in clothing, porcelain, and festival
Kyoko Ito-Morales (Universidad de Granada)
Changing images and roles of oni in Japan: App oni kara denwa (A call from oni)
Haga Mitsuru (Tohoku University)
The repurposing of ancient Greek and Roman gods in Buddhist cosmology: Art as visual philosophy

5:00-5:15 Coffee, light snacks

5:15-6:00 Keynote Speech:
Timothy Brook (University of British Columbia)
Asians in oil

November 12

9:00-9:30 Coffee, light snacks

9:30-10:45 Panel 5 “Hermeneutics and Cognition”
Alberto Giacomelli (Università degli Studi di Padova)
Kire-tsuzuki and iki: a hermeneutical analysis through pictorial images
Lorenzo Marinucci (Università degli Studi di Roma Tor Vergata)
日本: Japanese image as flow
Laura Ricca (University of Bologna)
The Aesthetics of Ma in a Comparative Perspective

10:50-12:05 Panel 6 “New Media Aesthetics”
Federico Farnè (Università di Bologna)
Images of beautiful bodies in the virtuality era
Olga Kopylova (Tohoku University)
Lines and shapes in flux: Reproduction and modification of visual style in otaku-oriented media

12:05-1:05 Lunch break

1:05-3:40 Students and Post-doc Research Presentations and Workshop
Wang Yuling, Lu Huang, Wu Peiyao
Aya Nakama, Luca Contardi, Giacomo Barbini

3:40-4:00 Coffee, light snacks

4:00-5:00 Workshop
The long 1960s:
Time and change in Japan and Italy
Leaders: Marco del Bene (Università di Roma) and Hiroaki Adachi (Tohoku University)

5:00-6:00 Keynote Speech
Satō Hiroo (Tohoku University)

6:00-6:15 Closing Remarks
Christopher Craig (Tohoku University)

7:30 Reception Dinner
for presenters and invited guests

With the support of the
Centro Studi Sara Valesio (Genus Bononiae) and SIE (Società Italiana di Estetica)
With the collaboration of the
“Philosophies of India and Eastern Asia”
(Dipartimento di Storia Culture Civiltà)
In cooperation with SER IN AR
Hasekura League Symposium: Images, Philosophy, Communication
Co-organizers: Raffaele Milani, Akihiro Ozaki, Christopher Craig
November 11-12, 2019, Bologna
Faculty of Arts and Letters, Tohoku University
Laboratorio di ricerca sulle città, Dipartimento di Scienze dell'educazione, Alma Mater Studiorum-Università degli Studi di Bologna
Hasekura League Symposium: Images, Philosophy, Communication

Nei giorni 11 e 12 novembre
The Laboratorio di ricerca sulle città, Dipartimento di Scienze dell'educazione, Alma Mater Studiorum-Università degli Studi di Bologna and the Faculty of Arts and Letters, Tohoku University are pleased to announce the fifth Hasekura League international multidisciplinary symposium on the topic Image, Philosophy, Communication, to be held November 11-12, 2019 at the University of Bologna.

In respect to artistic creativity and reception, we use the term “image” to designate something that has an autonomous identity capable of fusing together elements of creativity, imagination, symbolism, and memory. At the same time, images are involved in an aesthetic process and an activity of the mind that seeks to discover, invent, and experiment with ever new visions, including the most widely diffused representations of life and nature. Along with these explorations, however, comes the risk, especially in today’s mass media-dominated society, of the reduction of the formative potential of the imagination to simple consumerist communication. Philosophy plays the singular role of critical interpreter of change in the age of globalization, it provides the means to view the phenomenon of taste through the lenses of form, doing, and representing.

Adopting a perspective that runs from antiquity to the future, philosophy analyzes human work as expressed in the arts, poetics, and techniques in the light of a formative idea that cuts across cultures and epochs, within the framework of the history of Japanese, East Asian, and Western civilizations. As such, images and the strategies and approaches to their interpretation.

We invite scholars in all fields of the humanities and social sciences to join us and present scholarly work relating to the meeting points of images, philosophy, and communication past and present, in Japan and the world. Images, both actual and metaphorical, can be a vector by which philosophy can be both conceptualized and transmitted. Philosophy and schools of thought inform visual traditions and can function as keys to decode the meanings embedded in images. Religious iconography can communicate esoteric philosophies not easily expressed in words. And the encoding and transmission of messages in images for purposes of propaganda, education, or advertisement can offer windows onto the modes of thought that undergird systems of political and economic power. In these areas and more, the nexus of images, philosophy, and communication offers fertile ground to researchers working in a wide variety of disciplines and concentrating on a disparate array of regions and localities.

We welcome individual paper proposals that explore the theme of images, philosophy, and communication in various local, national, transnational, or global contexts. We will happily accept submissions from scholars conducting research in every area of the social sciences and humanities concentrating on any region. Alongside panels exploring aspects of the symposium theme, we will also present a special workshop session devoted to the emerging concept of the “Long 1960s”, the extended period of dramatic social, political, and economic change from the late 1950s to the early 1970s, in Japan, Italy, and Europe in the context of the issues described above and we invite any interested scholars to take part in shaping the future course of research on this area.