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Ise: The Changing Meanings of a Timeless Monument with Professor Jordan Sand

Lecture

Presented by JICC, Embassy of Japan

27 MAR 2024

WED, 6:30 PM

JICC

Celebrated for the austere beauty of their wood architecture, the superb craft tradition that has sustained them, and the remarkable practice of rebuilding them completely every twenty years, **the Grand Shrines of Ise**, which form a central site of Shinto tradition, are renowned globally..

Believed to have started in the seventh century, the tradition of complete reconstruction has been upheld through considerable dedication and resources. However, despite the tremendous effort and expense put into maintaining this tradition, the shrines have in fact undergone a tumultuous history.

This lecture will examine Ise from ancient times to the modern day, with a special emphasis on interpretations of the architecture in each era as both the shrine architecture and the meanings given to it have changed over the centuries.

ABOUT THE PRESENTER



Dr. Jordan Sand is **Professor of Japanese History and Culture** at **Georgetown University** and a **Distinguished Visiting Professor at Kokugakuin University**. He holds a master's degree in architecture history from the **University of Tokyo** and a doctorate in history from **Columbia University**.

His research focuses on urbanism, material culture, and the history of everyday life. He is the author of *House and Home in Modern Japan* (Harvard University Press, 2004), *Tokyo Vernacular: Common Spaces, Local Histories, Found Objects* (University of California Press, 2013), *帝国日本の生活空間 (Living Spaces of Imperial Japan)* (Iwanami shoten, 2015), and *破壊と再生の伊勢神宮* (Iwanami shoten, 2023). He has also published on urban fire and disaster resilience, historical memory, museums and cultural heritage policy, and the history of food. He has served as visiting professor at Sophia University, Waseda University, the University of Tokyo, Columbia University, Michigan University, and the School for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences in Paris.



3.27 LECTURE AT JICC

|| ISE: THE CHANGING MEANINGS
OF A TIMELESS MONUMENT

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This event is free and open to the public, but registration through [Eventbrite](#) is required. Doors open at 6:00PM. The program begins at 6:30PM. No admittance after 7:00PM or once seating is full.

Registered guests be seated on a first come, first served basis. Registration does not guarantee a seat. Walk-ins will not be accepted.

To modify your registration, please email jicc@ws.mofa.go.jp. Your registration is not transferable.

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