



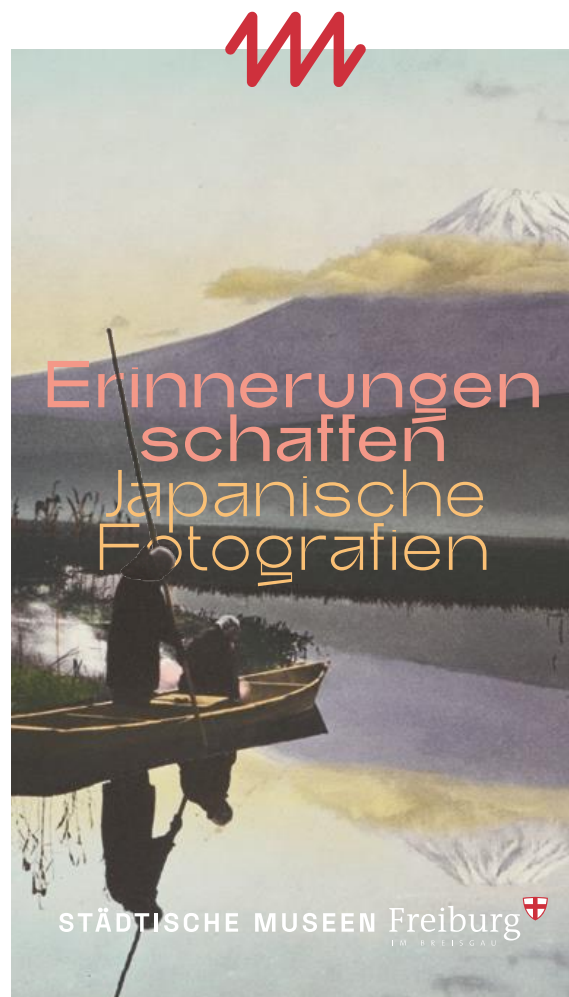
Universität
Zürich ^{UZH}



Schweizerisch-Japanische Gesellschaft
Swiss-Japanese Society スイス・日本協会

Creating Memories: Early Japanese Photography

Prof. Dr. Hans Bjarne Thomsen



Fotograf unbekannt, Morgennebel am wolkenverhangenen Fuji, 1860–1880

Thursday, February 15, 2024, 18:00–19:30
University of Zurich, Rämistrasse 59, 8001 Zürich
RAA-G-15

The lecture will be held in English and is open to the public
(no registration is necessary)

Abstract:

Fascinating landscapes, spectacular temples, and people adopting romantically staged poses while wearing traditional costumes: early photographs such as these, hand-colored in delicate shades, still influence the image of Japan abroad to this day. Their dissemination throughout Europe led to Japan becoming a place of longing for many travelers towards the end of the 19th century.

An outstanding collection of hand-colored Japanese photographs from the 1860-80s is currently being exhibited in a Freiburg (Breisgau) museum. A co-curator of this exhibition, Hans Bjarne Thomsen of the University of Zurich, will discuss the remarkable stories and techniques behind these photographs in a public presentation, accompanied by a PowerPoint presentation and actual photographs of the period.

Prof. Dr. Hans Bjarne Thomsen Since 2007, Professor Thomsen has been working to strengthen, to expand, and to make the discipline of East Asian art history more visible in Switzerland. Especially of note is Prof. Thomsen's continuous work in the discovery and scientific development of East Asian Art collections in Switzerland. In 2019, Professor Thomsen was honored by the Japanese government with The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette for his "contribution to the exchange and promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and Switzerland in the field of art". Currently, Prof. Thomsen is a professor under private law at the University of Zurich and continues to undertake numerous surveys of East Asian art collections in collaboration with various museums in Switzerland and Germany.

This event is sponsored by the Swiss-Japanese Society, with the kind collaboration of the University of Zurich. For questions regarding this event, please contact the Swiss-Japanese Society: info@schweiz-japan.ch