



LIVE WEBINAR

Japanese Animation in a Global Era

Part of the *Living Traditions* series

Tues., Jan. 31, 2023

7:00 pm – 8:00 pm ET (4:00 pm—5:00pm PT)

Living Traditions webinar series is co-presented with the Japan Institute of Portland Japanese Garden and supported by the Government of Japan



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SPEAKER PROFILES

Mike Toole has been writing professionally about anime and manga for 25 years, for storied print publications like *Sci-Fi Magazine*, *Otaku USA* and *Anime Insider*. Currently, he is the editor at large at Anime News Network, the internet's biggest English-language source for news, reviews, and information about anime and manga. Mike is also an anime industry veteran, having served past clients like Geneon, Bandai Entertainment, Crunchyroll and Viz as web designer, copywriter, and onscreen host. Mike is currently a producer at Discotek Media, a boutique DVD/Blu-Ray publisher based in Florida. His duties for Discotek involve curating extras for some of the company's many new and classic releases. His most recent major Discotek project is providing a guided commentary track for the classic 1960s anime film *FLYING PHANTOM SHIP*.



Thomas Lamarre is a scholar of media, cinema and animation, intellectual history and material culture, with projects ranging from the communication networks of 9th-century Japan (*Uncovering Heian Japan: An Archaeology of Sensation and Inscription*, 2000), to silent cinema and the global imaginary (*Shadows on the Screen: Tanizaki Jun'ichirō on Cinema and Oriental Aesthetics*, 2005), animation technologies (*The Anime Machine: A Media Theory of Animation*, 2009) and on television infrastructures and media ecology (*The Anime Ecology: A Genealogy of Television, Animation, and Game Media*, 2018). He has also edited volumes on cinema and animation, on the impact of modernity in East Asia, on pre-emptive war, and formerly, as Associate Editor of *Mechademia: An Annual Forum for Anime, Manga, and the Fan Arts*, a number of volumes on manga, anime and fan cultures. He is co-editor with Takayuki Tatsumi of a book series with the University of Minnesota Press entitled "Parallel Futures," which centers on Japanese speculative fiction.



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SPEAKER PROFILES

Julia Mechler works for Mixi, Inc., a Japanese mobile gaming company, as a business development manager overseeing US-based teams that produce gaming app content. Julia also creates manga, publishing her first comic book, *Hymn of the Teada*, an Okinawan-themed comic book released by *Heavy Metal Magazine*. She began her career as a motion graphics designer at the Los Angeles branch of a Japanese anime/gaming company. Though her career focuses on digital entertainment, she is also an expert on Okinawan traditional performing arts, producing shows in Okinawa that mesh traditional dance and digital entertainment.



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