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[Eiichi Shibusawa: The Spirit of Japanese Ethical Capitalism & Sustainability](#)

Third Live Webinar of the *Living Traditions Series*, A Five-Part Program Designed to Examine Iconic Facets of Japanese Culture, from Ancient Roots to Modern Day

Thursday, November 11, 7–8pm EDT / 4-5pm PDT



Image © Utagawa Hiroshige III – Wikimedia Commons

New York, NY (November 1, 2021)—Eiichi Shibusawa—widely known as the father of Japanese capitalism following the Meiji Restoration in the mid-19th century—died 90 years ago on November 11, but his influence continues today. A prominent entrepreneur and business leader, Shibusawa (1840-1931) was involved in the founding of approximately 500 modern economic institutions in sectors such as banking, insurance, textiles, paper, and railroads, as well as 600 social enterprises. Shibusawa embraced the millennia-old teachings of Confucianism, cultivating virtue in economic endeavors, and his firm belief in those principles led him to publish his renowned book, *Rongo and Soroban (Analects of Confucius and the Abacus)*. Our webinar, [Eiichi Shibusawa: The Spirit of Japanese Ethical Capitalism & Sustainability](#) discusses how Shibusawa’s philosophy is still relevant to Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) in today’s social and business environment.

Agenda: Discussion and Q&A, 7:00–8:00 pm EDT (4:00–5:00 pm PDT)

Program Details: This is a free event, with advance registration required. The program will be live streamed through YouTube, and registrants will receive the viewing link by email in advance. Participants can submit questions through YouTube during the live stream. Register [here](#).

Participant Bios:

Christina Ahmadjian (Speaker) is a professor at the Hitotsubashi University Graduate School of Business Administration. She was an Assistant Professor at Columbia Business School from 1995 to 2000 and joined the Hitotsubashi faculty in 2001. She served as the Dean of the Hitotsubashi University Graduate School of International Corporate Strategy from 2010-2012. She is currently the director of the Shibusawa Scholar Program, a global leadership program for Hitotsubashi undergraduate students. She currently serves as a non-executive director of NEC, Asahi Group Holdings, Japan Exchange Group (parent company of the Tokyo Stock Exchange), and Sumitomo Electric Industries. Her research interests include corporate governance in Japan and Asia, globalization and financial systems, Japanese management, and organization, and interorganizational networks and business groups. She is particularly interested in how Japan's system of corporate governance is changing and its effects on Japanese firms and economy. She received an AB, magna cum laude, in East Asian Studies from Harvard University, an MBA from the Stanford Graduate School of Business, and a PhD from the Haas School of Business at that University of California at Berkeley. Her work experience includes positions at Bain & Company and Mitsubishi Electric.

Ken Shibusawa (Speaker) founded in 2001, Shibusawa and Company, Inc., a strategic advisory firm for alternative investments, ESG/SDGs alignment, and human resource development. He also founded in 2008, Commons Asset Management, a mutual fund dedicated to deliver long term investment opportunities to the Japanese household. He has extensive market experience at JP Morgan and Goldman Sachs as well as Moore Capital, a global macro hedge fund, where he was the representative managing director of the Tokyo Office. He is also director of Keizai Doyukai (Japan Association of Corporate Executives), advisor to the Office of the President, University of Tokyo, visiting professor at Seikei University, and a steering committee member of UNDP SDG Impact. He is a published author and writes frequently for magazines, journals, and internet media. He also publishes and hosts of a podcast, [Made With Japan](#). He was educated in the United States from second grade elementary through college (University of Texas, BS Chemical Engineering, 1983), and then returned again for graduate school (University of California Los Angeles, MBA, 1987).

Joshua W. Walker, Ph.D., (Moderator) became President & CEO of Japan Society on December 2, 2019. Previously, he worked at Eurasia Group, the world's leading political risk analysis firm, where he served as global head of strategic initiatives and Japan in the Office of the President. He has actively expanded global events and new business offerings, including leading the company's first ever "GZERO" geopolitical summit in Japan. He has worked with clients worldwide with a focus on Japan and in a variety of sectors to evaluate global geopolitical risks. Walker has more than two decades of experience in international business and diplomacy. Prior to Eurasia Group, he was CEO and president of the USA Pavilion of the 2017 World Expo in Astana, Kazakhstan; founding dean of the APCO Institute; and senior vice president of global programs at APCO Worldwide, a leading global strategic communications firm based in Washington, D.C. Before joining the private sector, he worked in numerous roles at various U.S. government agencies, including the State Department and the Defense Department. He is a

Transatlantic Fellow at the German Marshall Fund of the United States, Senior Fellow at the Center for the Study of the Presidency and Congress, and professor of Leadership and the American presidency at George Mason University and the Reagan Foundation. He co-founded the Yale Journal of International Affairs and Young Professionals in Foreign Policy in New York along with being instrumental in the Project on Religion, Diplomacy, and International Relations at Princeton. He has taught at numerous academic institutions, served on a variety of boards and won various awards along with being a Presidential Leadership Scholar, Trilateral Commission Rockefeller Fellow, Mansfield Foundation Network for the Future Member, Munich Young Leader, Council on Foreign Relations Member, Fulbright Scholar, Foreign Policy Initiative Future Leader, Sister Cities International Honorary Board Member and Truman National Security Project Fellow. He earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Richmond, a master's degree from Yale University, and a doctorate from Princeton University. Walker grew up in Japan where his parents still serve as missionaries, came to the United States when he was 18, and is bicultural and multilingual.

Living Traditions webinar series is co-presented with Portland Japanese Garden and supported by the Government of Japan. Presented with support from Citi, Deloitte, Mizuho Financial Group, and Toyota Motors North America

About the *Living Traditions* Series

Many of today's most popular and newest trends are rooted in ancient Japanese tradition going back centuries, if not millennia. Through five distinct, single-topic webinars, the *Living Traditions* series unravels the historical journeys of some of the most iconic facets of Japanese culture through conversations between thought-provoking experts and cultural stewards on how they maintain deep-rooted traditions in the present day. ***Eiichi Shibusawa: The Spirit of Japanese Ethical Capitalism & Sustainability*** is the third event of the five-part *Living Traditions* series. Additional webinar topics will be announced and held in December and early 2022.

About Japan Society

Japan Society is the premier organization connecting Japanese arts, culture, business, and society with audiences in New York and around the world. At Japan Society, we are inspired by the Japanese concept of *kizuna* (絆)—forging deep connections to bind people together. We are committed to telling the story of Japan while strengthening connections within New York City and building new bridges beyond. In over 100 years of work, we've inspired generations by establishing ourselves as pioneers in supporting international exchanges in arts and culture, business, and policy, as well as education between Japan and the U.S. We strive to convene important conversations on topics that bind our two countries together, champion the next generation of innovative creators, promote mutual understanding, and serve as a trusted guide for people everywhere who seek to appreciate the rich complexities and abundance of Japan more fully. From our New York headquarters, a landmark building designed by architect Junzo Yoshimura that opened to the public in 1971, we look forward to the years ahead, which will be defined by our digital and ideational impact through the *kizuna* that we build. Our future can only be enhanced by learning from our peers and engaging with our audiences, both near and afar.

This year, Japan Society is celebrating our heritage through the 50th anniversary of our landmark building with the launch of a new distinct modern logo and visual identity. The "JS" monogram is created via overlapping, interconnected lines and shapes, reinforcing the idea of *kizuna* and that Japan Society acts as a platform that connects across, cultures, people, and time.

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About Portland Japanese Garden

[Portland Japanese Garden](#) is a nonprofit organization originally founded in 1963 as a place for cross-cultural understanding following World War II. A hallmark in the City of Portland, the Garden was founded on the ideals of peace and mutual understanding between peoples and cultures. Portland Japanese Garden is considered the most authentic Japanese garden outside of Japan and offers programming that seeks to use Japanese gardens, arts, and culture as a lens for engaging diverse people and helping them transcend their differences to embrace commonalities. The Garden is a place for convening and collaborating across the community and globe, attracting nearly half a million visitors each year. Follow the Garden on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [YouTube](#).

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