



Live Webinar
Zen and Japanese Spiritual Practices

Part of the *Living Traditions* series

Tues., Oct. 19, 2021

7:00 pm – 8:00 pm EDT (4:00 pm—5:00pm PDT)

*Share your photos and comments on social media with **#JSFromHome***

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



Talks+ Programs at Japan Society are generously sponsored by MUFG (Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group) and ORIX Corporation USA. Additional support is provided by an anonymous donor, the Sandy Heck Lecture Fund, and Helen and Kenneth A. Cowin.



SPEAKER PROFILES

Daiko Matsuyama (Speaker), Deputy Head Priest of Taizo-in, Zen Buddhist Temple; Visiting Lecturer at Stanford University, was born in 1978 in Kyoto. Matsuyama obtained his master's degree in Agriculture and Life Sciences from the University of Tokyo. After training at Heirin-ji Temple, Niiza, he became the deputy priest of Taizo-in Temple in 2007. Matsuyama is acclaimed for organizing intercultural activities for foreign visitors. In May 2009, he was elected as a Japan Tourism Agency's Ambassador for its "Visit Japan" Campaign. Additionally, he has been a member of Kyoto's Ambassadors for Tourism since 2011. Currently, he is serving as an appointed member of the Kyoto City Board of Education. As a representative of the Zen Sect in Japan, Matsuyama has interacted with many religious leaders, such as the Roman Catholic Pope and the 14th Dalai Lama. He is the author of the book, *Forget What's Important First: 30 Zen Teachings for the Wavering Soul* (Sekai Bunka Publishing, 2014) *Strolling around Zen Gardens in Kyoto* (PHP Publishing, 2016) and *Introduction of ZEN for workers* (Kodansha Publishing, 2016).

Shoko Mekata, Ph.D., (Speaker) is an Associate/Instructor in the Department of South Asian Studies at Harvard University. She received her BA from Otani University in Kyoto in 2002, and her MA from the same university in 2005. From 2007-2008 she studied at Tibet University, Lhasa, for which she received the Scholarship for Asian Studies from The Eastern Institute, Tokyo, Japan. During this period, she studied the Tibetan language, as well as religious and modern literature, and did field work for her dissertation. In 2011 she received her Ph.D. from Otani University, with a dissertation focused on the early history, and especially genealogy, of the Sakya sect of Tibetan Buddhism. She has been an Associate Member of the Committee on Southern Asian Studies at the University of Chicago since 2011 and held her position as Teaching Instructor (Colloquial Tibetan) at Harvard University since 2013. Her current work focuses on Tibetan historical materials.



SUPPORT TALKS+ PROGRAMS WITH YOUR TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATION TODAY!

As a nonprofit organization, Japan Society relies on generous contributions from individuals like YOU to support the rich array of programs we offer.

Donate now:

Text **Japan** to code 565-12 and select **Talks+**
OR donate on our [webpage](#)



[@js TalksPlus](#)



[japansocietytalks](#)



[talksplus](#)

SPEAKER PROFILES

Dave Morin (Speaker) is an entrepreneur, investor, and philanthropist. He is Co-Founder & Managing Director of Offline Ventures, an investing and inventing company focused on the creation of humanist technology, serving founder potential, and building beautiful companies. He is Chairman of Esalen Institute, the leading center for exploring and realizing human potential through experience, education, and research. He is on the Board of Dwell, the award-winning, category-defining, media company serving the global community of architecture and design.

Previously, he was Founder & Partner at Slow Ventures, a leading Silicon Valley venture fund that champions long-term thinking and innovation. He was the Co-Founder & CEO of Path which was acquired by Kakao in 2015. Dave has had a lifelong passion for technology, entrepreneurship, culture, design, photography, nature, skiing, and improving society. He served both Apple and Facebook for several years during periods of rapid innovation and growth. He holds a degree in Economics from the University of Colorado at Boulder.

Paul S. Atkins, Ph.D., (Moderator) is professor of Japanese in the Department of Asian Languages and Literature at the University of Washington, Seattle. He holds a Ph.D. in Japanese from Stanford University. His specialization is the literature, drama, and culture of medieval Japan. Publications include *Teika: The Life and Works of a Medieval Japanese Poet* (University of Hawai'i Press, 2017) and *Revealed Identity: The Noh Plays of Komparu Zenchiku* (Center of Japanese Studies, University of Michigan, 2006). He was awarded the William F. Sibley Memorial Translation Prize in Japanese Literature and Literary Studies by the Center for East Asian Studies at the University of Chicago in 2011 for his translation from the Japanese of the play *Nagamachi onna harakiri* (*Harakiri of a woman at Nagamachi*) by Chikamatsu Monzaemon.



Stay up to date on Japan Society's events
by signing up for our [eNewsletter!](#)



[@js TalksPlus](#)



[japansocietytalks](#)



[talksplus](#)

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Online Workshop Thanksgiving, Japan Style Tues., Nov 2 at 6:30pm EDT

Give your Thanksgiving feast a Japanese spin this year with *shiokoji* butter brined turkey, blistered green beans and *shishito* peppers, and Japanese sweet potatoes. At this online workshop, **Maiko Kyogoku**, owner of New York-based Japanese restaurant Bessou, will teach a variety of festive recipes that bridge cultural traditions, using ingredients perfect for the season. This year, dazzle guests at your holiday feast with a menu bursting with the flavors of Japan.

All participants will receive a recipe and ingredient list, and may follow along during the workshop or simply observe.

[Buy Tickets —>](#)

