



FACULTY OF ARTS  
Charles University

Institute of East Asian Studies, Faculty of Arts, Charles University

invite you for a special lecture

**Prof. Simon KANER**

*University of East Anglia, UK*

## **Cultural heritage in contemporary Japan**

### **– Local and global perspectives –**

**Date:** March 15, 2018, 14:00 – 15:30

**Venue:** Charles University, Celetná 20, Prague 1, Green Hall (Zelená posluchárna)

Simon Kaner MA Cantab, PhD (2004) is Executive Director and Head of the Centre for Archaeology and Heritage at the Sainsbury Institute. He is also Director of the Centre for Japanese Studies at the University of East Anglia. He is an archaeologist specialising in the prehistory of Japan. He has undertaken archaeological research in Japan, the UK and elsewhere and worked for several years in archaeological heritage management in the UK. His recent publications include *The Power of Dogu: ceramic figures from ancient Japan* (2009), which accompanied a major exhibition at the British Museum. Other works include *Jomon Reflections: Forager Life and Culture in the Prehistoric Japanese Archipelago* by Kobayashi Tatsuo (2005) or an edited volume *The Archaeology of Medieval Towns: case studies from Japan and Europe* (2011).



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## **Cultural heritage in contemporary Japan**

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Japan is exceptionally proactive in engaging with UNESCO World Heritage. This talk will introduce several recently inscribed Japanese World Heritage sites with which I am involved, including the sacred island of Okinoshima, described as the Shosoin of the Sea, inscribed in 2017, Mount Fuji, the Industrial Sites of Meiji Japan and the Iwami Ginzan Silver Mines, and some from the Tentative List, including the massive 5th century AD burial mounds in Osaka and prehistoric Jomon sites in northern Japan. I will consider how these sites exemplify issues around the management, conservation and promotion of cultural heritage in Japan, perceptions of the international importance of local heritage, how cultural heritage is used in Japan's 'soft diplomacy', and what we might expect in the lead up to the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics.