



*Live Webinar*  
**The Japanese Garden:  
Living Classroom of Nature,  
Architecture & Culture**

Part of the *Living Traditions* series

**Tues., Sept. 28, 2021**

**7:00 pm – 8:15 pm EDT (4:00 pm—5:15pm PDT)**

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



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## SPEAKER PROFILES

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**Kendall Brown** is Professor of Asian Art History in the School of Art at California State University Long Beach. He publishes actively in several areas of Japanese art history, and has curated exhibitions for museums across the country on topics ranging from woodblock prints to Art Deco. He is a leading figure in the study of Japanese gardens in North America, having published several books and various essays on the social history of these gardens. He was a co-founder and past President of the North American Japanese Garden Association.

**Dana Buntrock** is a Professor at the University of California, Berkeley's Department of Architecture. She has held the Chair of the Center for Japanese Studies and the first Tomoye Takahashi endowed chair from 2017-2020. Buntrock was selected as a Distinguished Professor of the (North American) Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture in 2018.

Her work focuses on Japanese architecture and construction, starting with her first book, *Japanese Architecture as a Collaborative Process: Opportunities in a Flexible Construction Culture* (London: Spon, 2000). Her second book, *Materials and Meaning in Contemporary Japanese Architecture: Tradition and Today* (London: Routledge, 2010) covers contemporary architects drawing from Japanese traditions.

Professor Buntrock has conducted fieldwork in East Asia and the US, supported by the US National Science Foundation, the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, the Council for the International Exchange of Scholars, and the Social Science Research Council. Her work has been translated into Japanese, Korean, Chinese and Spanish.



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## SPEAKER PROFILES

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As Senior Curator for The Isamu Noguchi Foundation and Garden Museum, **Dakin Hart** oversees the Museum's exhibitions, collections, catalogue raisonné, archives, and public programming, and has the daily good fortune of collaborating with Isamu Noguchi in absentia. His previous positions include Assistant Director at the Nasher Sculpture Center (Dallas), Artistic Director and Director of Artists in Residence at Montalvo Center for the Arts (Saratoga, CA), and Assistant to the Director of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco. He has also worked as an independent curator and writer. Recent exhibitions and publications include: Lawrence Weiner: South of the Border (Casa Wabi, Puerto Escondido, Mexico, 2020), Noguchi: Body-Space Devices (The Noguchi Museum, 2019); Akari: Sculpture by Other Means (The Noguchi Museum, 2018-19); Isamu Noguchi Archaic/Modern (Smithsonian American Art Museum, exhibition and catalogue, 2016-17); Self-Interned, 1942: Noguchi in Postwar War Relocation Center (The Noguchi Museum, 2017-18); Tom Sachs: Tea Ceremony (travelling, 2016-17) and Tom Sachs: Tea Manual (catalogue, 2016).

**Aki Nakanishi** is a cultural leader and public diplomacy expert with two decades of experience in government relations, public communication, artistic exchanges, and cultural programming.

Prior to relocating to Portland to assume the current position, Nakanishi served as the Cultural Affairs Specialist at the United States Embassy in Tokyo for 10 years, where he oversaw a wide spectrum of embassy involvement in cultural, creative, and educational activities while being special aide on cultural affairs to U.S. Ambassadors, including Ambassadors John V. Roos and Caroline B. Kennedy.

In his private capacity, Nakanishi has worked as an independent art director producing exhibitions, performing art, art fairs, and literary events, in addition to running his own non-profit organization for regional revitalization and leadership development across Japan since 2015.

Nakanishi also serves on foundation boards as Advisor to Chair, including The Ogasawara Toshiaki Memorial Foundation (Tokyo, Japan) and The Kiyoharu Art Foundation (Yamanashi, Japan).



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## UPCOMING PROGRAM

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### Live Webinar

### Zen and Japanese Spiritual Practices

Tues., Oct. 19 at 7:00 pm—8:00 pm EDT (4:00 pm—5:00 pm PDT)



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What is Zen? It is a term most people are familiar with, but for which few are able to find deeper understanding. This religious tradition has influenced not only Japanese culture and spiritual practices immensely, but has also had a significant impact on Western society. At this talk, we invite scholars and practitioners to share their unique perspectives, examining Zen's role and perception in Japan and the West, differences in practices, and the path forward in a post-COVID world. *This is the second of the five-part Living Traditions webinar series.*

**[Register —>](#)**