

To Everyone at Yale University:

Thank you very much for your invitation to come speak at Yale.

For this occasion, I will talk about tale illustrations (picture scrolls). I am sending by attachment two related files. The Japanese file is a paper published in "History of Japanese Periods 8: The Courtly Authority of Kyoto and Kamakura" (Yoshikawa Ko Bunkan, 2003.) The other file consists of a manuscript I prepared for classes at University of Michigan for art history students with no background in Japanese history. There, I discuss "The Tale of Genji Scrolls" as an example of how women were involved in the making and reception of illustrations. I also explain the cultural place and characteristics of tale illustrations within Heian court painting practice.

At Yale, I understand I will be speaking in Japanese with people specializing in Japanese studies. Together with these two papers, I would like to share my present thinking about these topics. I will show some slides from "The Tale of Genji Scrolls," and this part will correspond heavily with the English presentation I am sending. Moreover, I will like to concentrate on the problems of how and why tale illustrations, their status and their roles, changed in court culture from the 11th to 13th centuries.

I am looking forward to frank criticism and comments. Thank you for your cooperation.