

## **Itsushi Kawase, Ph.D.**

### **Current Academic Position and Affiliation**

Assistant Professor, National Museum of Ethnology, Japan  
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### **Research Interests**

Visual Anthropology  
Ethnographic Filmmaking  
Ethiopian Studies

### **Current Research Topics**

- Creating the Audio-visual Narrative in Conjunction with Anthropology, Cinema and Contemporary Art
- Intangible Cultural Heritage and Filmmaking: the investigation of knowledge, method and politics based on case studies from Africa

### **Award and honor**

2013

Takashima Prize, Japan Association for Nilo-Ethiopian Studies

2013

Hiob Ludolf Guest Professor, the University of Hamburg

2008

Premio per il film piu innovativo (Prize for the Most Innovative film)  
Sardinia International Ethnographic Film Festival, NUORO, Italy, for the film "Room 11, Ethiopia Hotel"

### **Education**

2010

Ph.D. Area Studies, Graduate School of Asian and African Area Studies, Kyoto University

2007

MA. Area Studies, Graduate School of Asian and African Area Studies, Kyoto University

2001

BA, Literature, Faculty of Letters, Ritsumeikan University

### **Academic Career**

2010-2012

Honorary Research Fellow, Granada Centre for Visual Anthropology, School of Social Sciences, The University of Manchester, UK

2007-2010

Postdoctoral Fellow for Research Abroad, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science

2008-2012

Special Research Fellow, Institute for Art Anthropology, Tama Art University

2008-present

Board Member, Commission on Visual Anthropology, The International Union of Anthropological

and Ethnological Sciences (IUAES)

### **Grants**

2013-2016

Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research of Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology in Japan. "The Creative Use of Ethnographic Film in Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage in Africa"

2010-2012

Postdoctoral Fellowship for Research Abroad, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science  
"Intangible Cultural Heritage and Filmmaking: the investigation of knowledge, method and politics based on case studies from Africa"

2009-2011, 2012-2014

Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research of Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology in Japan. "Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage in Africa"  
Research collaborator (Project leader: Prof. Junzo Kawada)

2007-2009

Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Fellows, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science  
"The Visual Anthropological Research on the Change and Continuity of the Folkloric Performing Arts in Africa"

2006-2007

UNESCO/Norway funds-in-trust "The Audio-visual Documentation of Traditional Ethiopian Dances in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia"

2006

Sasagawa Scientific Research Grant, Japan Science Society, "The Visual Anthropological Research on the Change and Continuity of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of the Local Societies in Africa"

2005-2007

Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research of Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) in Japan. "The Study on the Intangible Cultural Heritage of the Local Societies in Africa: challenges and prospects for preservation" Research collaborator (Project leader: Prof. Junzo Kawada)

2003-2004

21st Century COE Program Grant -Aiming for Center of Excellence of Integrated Area Studies-,  
"Anthropological Study on the Performance-Making process of Azmari and Lalibala"

### **Temporal/Visiting Lecturer**

2012

MA Program in Visual and Media Anthropology, The Free University of Berlin

2011

SoundImageCulture (Belgium)

2011

Tama Art University

The University Museum. The University of Tokyo

2010  
Northwest University for Nationalities, Lanzhou (China)

2009-2010  
Kobe College, School of Letters

2008-2010  
Sonoda Women's University, Department of Culture Development

2009  
University of Shizuoka, Faculty of International Relations

Miyagi Gakuin Women's University, Department of Music

2007  
Komazawa Women's University, Department of Visual Communication

### **Jury**

2012  
Student Film Prize Competition, The 11<sup>th</sup> Goettingen International Festival of Ethnographic Film, Germany

2009  
Intangible Culture Film Prize Competition, The 11th Royal Anthropological Institute International Festival of Ethnographic Film, Leeds Metropolitan University, UK

### **Publications**

- 2012 The Azmari Performance During Zar Ceremonies in Northern Gondar, Ethiopia -Challenges and Prospects for the Documentation-, *CULTURES SONORES D'AFRIQUE V* publie sous la direction de Junzo Kawada, Institut de Recherches sur les Cultures Populaires du Japon, 65-80.
- 2012 *Commons Schola 11. Traditional Music of Africa, 2012*  
(The CD book co-authored with R.Sakamoto, K. Tsukada, D.Bundo, etc)
- 2010 Intercultural Dialogue on the Visualization of Local Knowledge: Films on Hereditary Singers in Ethiopia. *African Study Monographs Supplementary Issue 41*, 101-109.
- 2010 *Area Studies on the Interactive Visual-representation in Africa*, 1-184, Graduate School of Asian and African Area Studies, Kyoto University. (Ph.D. thesis with 3 ethnographic films, in Japanese)
- 2009 The Challenge of Ethnographic Filmmaking in 21<sup>st</sup> Century, *Visual Folklore Vol.7*, 71-77. (Article in Japanese)
- 2008 The Transformation of Musical Activities and Self-imposed Group Markers of Azmari in Ethiopia, *CULTURES SONORES D'AFRIQUE 4*, Institut de Recherches sur les Cultures Populaires du Japon, 11-31.
- 2007 Filming Itinerant Musicians in Ethiopia: Azmari and Lalibalocc: Camera as Evidence of Communication, *Nilo-Ethiopian Studies Vol. 11*, 39-49.

- 2007 Lalibalocc, *Encyclopaedia Aethiopica Vol.3*, Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz Verlag, ed. Siegbelt Uhlig, 492-493.
- 2006 *The New Horizon of Visual Anthropology* Shinjyuku-Shobo. (Jointly edited book with M.Kitamura and K. Arai, in Japanese)
- 2005 Musical Performance and Self-designation of Ethiopian Minstrels: Azmari, *African Study Monographs Supplementary Issue 29*, 137-142.
- 2005 Enzata, *Encyclopaedia Aethiopica Vol.2*, Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz Verlag, ed. Siegbelt Uhlig, 325-326.
- (Forthcoming) "Exploring the Old Town Lijiang or Re-visualising Myself?" The Reflection in-between the Strange and the Familiar An Intuition in Phenomenology to the Basis of Visual Anthropology of First Sight and the Practice of the Old City of Lijiang, ed. Baojiang and I. Kawase
- (Forthcoming) Visual Anthropology and Ethiopia, *Encyclopaedia Aethiopica Vol.5*, Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz Verlag, ed. Siegbelt Uhlig.

#### **Selected Conference Papers (in English only)**

- 2007 "Filmmaking Project for Inventorying Intangible Cultural Heritage Program: The Case from Ethiopian Traditional Music/Dance Scene in Addis Ababa" RAI Film Festival Conference 'BEYOND TEXT: SYNAESTHETIC & SENSORY PRACTICES IN ANTHROPOLOGY' (Granada Centre for Visual Anthropology, Manchester University)
- 2006 "The Creative Aspect of the Code of Communication Shared by Ethiopian Minorities" Positive Relationships between Culture and Development in East Africa: Analysis of Multi-Ethnic Context, International Workshop of 21<sup>st</sup> Century COE Program (Addis Ababa)
- 2005 "Rhetoric of the Ethiopian Minstrel: The Interaction of Lalibalocc with the Audience" The Society for Ethnomusicology, 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference (Emory University, Atlanta)
- 2005 "Sociolinguistic Aspect of Azmari and Lalibalocc: the Argot as a Self-imposed Group Marker", International Conference on Endangered Language of Ethiopia, (Addis Ababa University)
- 2003 "Musical Performance and Self-designation of Ethiopian Minstrels: Azmari", International Workshop of 21<sup>st</sup> Century COE Program, (Addis Ababa University)
- 2003 "Some Aspects of Azmari Performance in Several Social Occasions in North Gondar", 15<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Ethiopian Studies, (Hamburg University)

#### **Films and Screenings (Selected)**

##### **When Spirits Ride Their Horses**

2012 / Hi-Vision / 28min / Directed by Itsushi Kawase

- The 13<sup>th</sup> RAI(Royal Anthropological Institute) International Festival of Ethnographic Film
- VI MOSCOW INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF VISUAL ANTHROPOLOGY
- The 32<sup>nd</sup> Nordic Anthropological Film Association (NAFA) Film Festival.
- The 9<sup>th</sup> International Film Festival - The Heart of Slavonia
- The 18<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Ethiopian Studies

- The 4<sup>th</sup> Yebisu International Festival for Art & Alternative Visions
- Leiden University, Department of Cultural Anthropology
- Free University of Brussels

**DANCING ADDIS ABABA -The Introduction to Ethnic Dance Performance Scene in Urban Ethiopia-**

2007 / Hi-Vision / 39min / Directed by Itsushi Kawase (UNESCO/Norway Funds-in-trust)

- Library of Congress, African & Middle Eastern Division, Washington D.C.
- Skyway Library, Seattle
- Portland Community College, Portland
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**Room 11, Ethiopia Hotel**

2007 / DV / 24min / Directed by Itsushi Kawase

- "Premio per il film piu innovativo (Prize for the Most Innovative film)", Sardinia International Ethnographic Film Festival
- The 10<sup>th</sup> RAI Festival of Ethnographic Film, Manchester University
- The 9<sup>th</sup> Gottingen International Ethnographic Film Festival
- XXI Parnu International Documentary Film Festival, Republic of Estonia
- The 9<sup>th</sup> Astra International Festival of Documentary Film and Visual Anthropology, Romania
- The 5<sup>th</sup> annual International Ethnographic Film Festival of Quebec
- IV Moscow international festival of visual anthropology
- Mostra Internacional do Filme Etnografico, Rio de Janeiro
- NAFA Conference "Sound and Image", Film Screening Program, Trondheim
- Ethnocineca, Vienna
- The 16<sup>th</sup> Conference of IUAES, Kunming
- The M.A. Visual and Media Anthropology Program, Freie Universitat Berlin

**Lalibalocc -Living in the Endless Blessing-**

2005 (reedited 2007) / DV / 24min / Directed by Itsushi Kawase

- The 16<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Ethiopian Studies, Trondheim
- UNESCO Meeting on Inventorying Intangible Cultural Heritage, Addis Ababa
- The Society for Ethnomusicology 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Atlanta
- The 16<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Ethiopian Studies, Trondheim
- 10th Berlin Ethno Film Fest, Ethnological Museum, Berlin
- Days of Ethnographic Cinema" Russian Institute for Cultural Research, Moscow
- Leiden University Department of Languages and Cultures of Africa
- Harvard University Department of Music
- Hamburg University Asia-Africa-Institute
- Cologne University Institute of African Linguistics
- Visual Anthropology Seminar, Institute of Ethiopian Studies, Addis Ababa University
- Ethiopian Music Festival VI Alliance Ethio-Francais, Addis Ababa

**Kids got a song to sing**

2006 / DV / 37min / Directed by Itsushi Kawase

- Corvallis-Gondar Sister Cities Association, Corvallis, Oregon
- Visual Anthropology Symposium "Japanische Blicke auf Asien und Afrika", Hamburg University
- Visual Anthropology Seminar, Institute of Ethiopian Studies, Addis Ababa University
- Ethiopian Music Festival VI Alliance Ethio-Francais, Addis Ababa
- BusBoys and Poets, Washington DC

**The 50 years History of African Area Studies in Kyoto University**

2008 / 60min (edited by Itsushi Kawase / Daisuke Bundo under the direction of Prof. Motoji Matsuda)

- Permanent Installation, Inamori Foundation Memorial Hall, Kyoto University