

## Rachel Saunders

Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Associate Curator of Asian Art  
Division of Asian and Mediterranean Art,  
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### EDUCATION

*Harvard University*, Ph.D. Art History and East Asian Languages and Civilizations, 2015.

*Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts*, The National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.,  
2013–2015.

*University of Tokyo*, Visiting Fellow, Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia, 2011–2014.

*Keiō University*, Short Term Research Fellow, 2007.

*University of Tokyo*, Short Term Visiting Researcher, Historiographical Institute, 2005–2006.

*University of Melbourne*, Ph.D. candidate, 2002–2003.

*SOAS, University of London*, MA, History of Art and Archaeology (Distinction), 1999.

*St. Anne's College, University of Oxford*, BA (Hons) Japanese Studies (First Class), 1998.

*Ochanomizu University*, Visiting Student, Japanese Language and Culture, 1996–7.

### PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

*Harvard Art Museums, Harvard University*

Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Associate Curator of Asian Art, October 2015–present.

*Museum of Fine Arts, Boston*

Research Associate for Japanese Art, 2004–2011.

*Routledge/Curzon Press, London*

Acquisitions Editor, East Asia, Sept 1999–Oct 2002.

### FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship in Cultures of Conservation, The Bard Graduate Center, 2015–16  
(declined)

Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies Postdoctoral Fellowship, 2015–16 (declined)

Ann Van Biema Fellowship, Freer-Sackler Galleries, 2015–16, (declined)

Jane and Morgan Whitney Fellowship, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, 2015–16, (declined)

Ittleson Fellowship, Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts, 2013–2015

Kajima Foundation for the Arts Supplementary Research Grant, 2013–2014

Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies Dissertation Completion Grant, 2013–2014 (declined)

Noma-Reischauer Prize, Harvard University, Aug. 2012

Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies Supplementary Research Fellowship, Oct. 2012–Oct. 2013

Metropolitan Center for the Study of Far Eastern Art, Supplementary Doctoral Award Oct. 2012  
Japan Foundation Doctoral Fellowship, Oct. 2011–Oct. 2012  
Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies Summer Grant 2011  
Museum Technology Fellow, Harvard University 2009  
Harvard University Presidential Fellow 2007–2015  
Japan Foundation Short-term Research Fellowship May–July 2007  
Kaempfer Foundation Fellowship Oct. 2005–Jan. 2006  
University of Melbourne International Ph.D. Scholarship 2002–2005  
Finals Prize, St. Anne’s College, University of Oxford, 1998  
Sir Peter Parker Awards for Spoken Japanese (Winner, Student Category), 1998  
Japanese Government Monbushō scholarship Oct. 1996–Oct. 1997

## **PUBLICATIONS**

Saunders, Rachel. *Xuanzang’s Journey to the East: Picto-Textual Efficacy in the Genjō Sanzō emaki*. Ph.D. dissertation, Harvard University, 2015.

Saunders, Rachel. 「玄奘三蔵像研究～釈迦十六善神図を中心に」 (The Iconography of Xuanzang in Medieval Paintings of the Assembly of Shaka and the Sixteen Protective Deities) [Japanese]. 『鹿島美術研究』 (*Kajima Journal of Art History*) 31 (2014): 226–238.

Saunders, Rachel. 「絵とことばの輻輳～藤田美術館蔵『玄奘三蔵絵』が語り出すもの」 (Textual Acoustics in the *Genjō Sanzō-e*) [Japanese]. Sano Midori (ed.). 佐野みどり編. 『中世絵画のマトリックス II』 (*The Matrix of Medieval Japanese Painting II*). Tokyo: Seikansha, 2014: 451–482.

Saunders, Rachel. “Gyre and Gimble: The Artist Books of Takei Takeo (1894–1983).” *Print Quarterly* 30:1 (March 2013): 23–39.

Saunders, Rachel. 「玄奘三蔵絵研究～玄奘三蔵像の二つのかたち及び典拠テキストの重層性」 (Dual Identity: Textual Sources for the Image of Xuanzang in the *Genjō Sanzō-e*) [Japanese]. 『B1』 6:1 (December 2012): 15–26.

Saunders, Rachel. “Talking Pictures: *The Life of Xuanzang* in a Fourteenth-century Japanese Handscroll.” *Literature and Aesthetics* 22:2 (December 2012): 174–200.

Saunders, Rachel. *Le Japon Artistique*. San Francisco: Chronicle Editions, 2011.

Saunders, Rachel. “Japanese Rare Books at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.” *Arts of Asia* 40:6 (2010): 100–107.

Saunders, Rachel. 「武井武雄 (1894–1983) 刊本作品中におけるテキストとパラテキスト」 (Text and Paratext in the Kanpon of Takei Takeo (1894–1983)) [Japanese]. In National Institute for Japanese Literature (ed.). *Artifact of Literature*. Tokyo: National Institute for Japanese Literature, 2009: 171–189.

Co-author (essay and entries). *Arts of Japan*. Boston: Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, 2009.

Saunders, Rachel. "Patterns of Identity: Kimono Pattern Books in the Collection of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston," *Andon* 83 (2008): 49–57.

Saunders, Rachel. "Pursuits of Power: Falconry in Edo Period Japan," *Orientalism* 36:2 (2005): 82–92.

### **SCHOLARLY PAPERS AND INVITED TALKS**

"Reed-writing: The Visual Rhetoric of Decipherment in Medieval Japanese Sacred Scrolls." Hidden Writing: Graphs, Signs, and Contextual Writing in Early Cultures, Brown University, April 2016.

"The Noodles in the Nouveau: Japanese Responses to Western Responses to "Japan." Boston Athenaeum, January 2016.

聖なる絵巻をつくる：『玄奘三蔵絵』における間テクスト性 (The Making of a Sacred Scroll: Words, Pictures, and Intertextual Efficacy in the *Illustrated Life of Xuanzang*) [Japanese]. Genjō Forum, Tsukuba University, Tokyo, December 2015.

"From Mundane Matter to Sacred Scroll: The *Illustrated Life of Xuanzang* in Medieval Japan." McGill University, February 2015.

"The Analogic Icon: Numinosity, Narrativity, and Medieval Japanese Handscrolls." Miami University, February 2015.

"Spatial Intertextuality in the Depiction of China in Medieval Japan." College Art Association, New York, February 2015.

"Rolling Analogy: Time, Space, and Picto-textuality in a Medieval Japanese Handscroll." Pre-doctoral colloquium, Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts, January 8, 2015.

"Movement and Stasis in the Viewing of Japanese Narrative Handscrolls." The Mobile Spectator: Viewing on the Move, The University of Nottingham, UK, July 2014.

"Shifting in the Sands: The Image of Xuanzang in Medieval Japanese Painting." Asian Studies Conference Japan, Sophia University, Tokyo, June 2014. (Panel organizer; "Temporal Tensions: Painting and the Past in Medieval Japan.")

"Pictures that Talk: Visual-Verbal Transformations in Japanese Medieval Handscrolls" (語り出す絵画：詞から絵に、絵から詞に) [English and Japanese]. ASNET Seminar No. 81, Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia, University of Tokyo, October 2013.

十四世紀の絵巻物における異国のイメージ (The Depiction of the Foreign in Kamakura Period Handscrolls) [Japanese]. Symposium: "Retired Emperor GoShirakawa and Illustrated Handscrolls," Kyōritsu University, Tokyo, June 2013.

"Portrait of a Place: *Minister Kibi's Adventures in China* and Sinophonic Imagery in Twelfth-Century

Japan.” Association for Asian Studies, San Diego, March 2013.

場のポートレート～異国のイメージと吉備大臣入唐絵巻 (Portrait of a Place: Imagery of the Exotic and *Minister Kibi's Adventures in China*) [Japanese]. Asia Future Conference, Bangkok, March 2013.

玄奘三蔵絵研究～玄奘三蔵像の二つのかたち及び典拠テキストの重層性 (Dual Identity: Textual Sources for the Image of Xuanzang in the *Genjō Sanzō-e*) [Japanese]. Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia Workshop “Medieval Japanese Art from a Pan-Asian Perspective.” Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia, University of Tokyo, June 2012.

“Animated Icon: Presence and Absence in Medieval Japanese Portrayals of Xuanzang.” Harvard Yenching Workshop: Power, Status, and Space in Asian Art, Harvard University, April 2012.

“Talking Pictures: Poetry, Pilgrimage, and Painting in Medieval Japan.” Word and Image, East and West, University of Sydney, Australia, October 2011.

玄奘三蔵絵～歌と巡礼 (Genjō Sanzō-e: Poetry and Pilgrimage) [Japanese]. Daigamen Kenkyūkai, Gakushūin University, July 2011.

玄奘三蔵絵における旅と歌 (Poetry and Pilgrimage in the Illustrated Life of Xuanzang) [Japanese]. Beliefs, Rituals, Stories, and Art in Medieval Japan II, Harvard University, March 2011.

“Poetry and Pilgrimage in the *Genjō Sanzō-e*.” Harvard Emaki Conference, Harvard University, December 2010.

江戸の美と本の虫～歌麿の潮干のつと (Beauty and the Bibliophile in Edo Japan: Utamaro's *Gifts of the Ebb Tide*) [Japanese]. Nara ehon kokusai kaigi, Seijō University, August 2010.

“Beauty and Bibliophilia in Early Modern Japan: Kitagawa Utamaro's *Gifts of the Ebb Tide*.” Harvard East Asia Society Conference, Harvard University, February 2009.

武井武雄 (1894–1983) 刊本作品中におけるテキストとパラテキスト (Text and Paratext in the Kanpon of Takei Takeo (1894–1983)) [Japanese]. Artifact of Literature, National Institute of Japanese Literature and Harvard University, Harvard University, November 2008.

“Art of the Japanese Book.” Two lectures as part of the MFA, Boston evening course *Arts of the Floating World*, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, October 2007.

“Patterns of Identity: Kimono Pattern Books in the Collection of the MFA, Boston.” Association of Asian Studies, Boston, March 2007. (Panel chair: “Print Culture in Tokugawa Japan: Recent Research at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.”)

“The Revealing World of the Kimono Pattern Book.” *Ehon* symposium (to accompany the New York Public Library exhibition *Ehon: The Artist and the Book in Japan*), New York Public Library,

October 2006.

### **RESEARCH AFFILIATIONS**

*Member*, 大画面研究会 (Research Group for Large Scale Narrative Paintings), chaired by Professor Sano Midori, Gakushūin University.

*Member*, 看聞日記を読む会 (Research Group for Reading the *Kanmon Nikki* Diary of Prince Sadafusa (1372–1456), chaired by Professor Matsuoka Shinpei, Tokyo University.