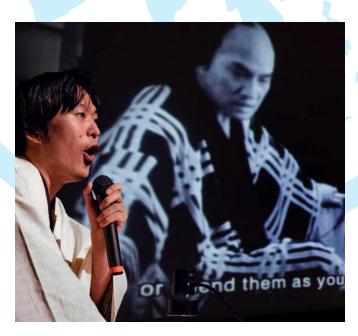
UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH ASIAN STUDIES CENTER PRESENTS

HOW TO:

ASIA Japanese Film NARRATION



TUESDAY
FEBRUARY 26
1:00 - 2:30 PM
4130 POSVAR

JOIN US FOR A HANDS-ON WORKSHOP ABOUT JAPANESE VERBAL PERFORMANCE WITH A PRACTICING BENSHI.

Questions? Please email asia@pitt.edu

Once called "poets of the dark" benshi (film narrators) brought silent films to life through commentary and vocal performance, giving voice to the characters on screen. Dressed often in a tuxedo and perched on a podium beside the screen, the benshi was an integral and indispensible part of film entertainment in the silent era. As many as 8000 benshi were performing across the country and the Japanese empire by the 1930s, and their popularity—and power—slowed the introduction of sound film in Japan.

In the workshop, **KATAOKA ICHIRŌ** will discuss training in the art of the benshi. Particpants will have the oportunity to test their performance skill by reading a few sentences out loud in order to receive feedback and suggestions.

