

## Tea and Transformation in Medieval Japanese Folklore: The Legend of Sōtan Inari and the *Tsukumogami* “Tool Spirits”

宗旦稲荷の伝承と、  
道具の妖怪つくも神

Fri, Oct 26, 1:00 pm  
Dodson Rm (302)  
I. K. Barber Learning Centre  
1961 East Mall, Vancouver (UBC)  
Free and open to the public  
<https://cjr.iar.ubc.ca>



Professor TOKUDA Kazuo of Gakushūin Women's College offers a firsthand look at medieval tales and legends of supernatural transformations connected with Japanese tea culture. In one such tale, a fox learns the tea ceremony so well that he is able to disguise himself as Sen Sōtan, the grandson of the great tea master, Sen no Rikyū. In other legend, it is said that once everyday objects, including utensils for tea preparation and flower arrangement, grow old and worn, they come to life in the form of charming demons (*yōkai*) that haunt the night.

**The talk will be followed by a viewing of original illustrated handscrolls, books, and colour woodblock prints featuring these fantastical *yōkai* creatures.**



details from *Hyakki yagyō emaki*  
(Night Parade of the 100 Demons)  
illustrated handscroll



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