

August 19, 2010  
ICLA Seoul Congress

The Noguchi Legacy  
Between Patriotism and  
Internationalism

Artistic Vagabondage of  
Yone and Isamu Noguchi

- from Poetry to Sculpture

Panel Organizer: **Shigemi INAGA**  
International Research Center for  
Japanese Studies  
Graduate School for Advanced Studies,  
Kyoto, Japan

Banraisha, Keio University, 1950-51  
Isamu Noguchi + Yoshirō Taniguchi



*Leonie* Kadokawa Pictures, 2010  
Based on Masayo Duus, *The Life of Isamu Noguchi*,  
Princeton University Press, 2004  
Director: Hisako Matsui and David Wiener  
Writer: Hisako Matsui and David Wiener  
Photography: Tetsuo Nagata  
Cast: Emily Mortimer, Shido Nakamura

The Noguchi Legacy: Artistic Vagabondage of Yone and Isamu Noguchi, from Poetry to Sculpture; between patriotism and internationalism

14:00-14:15 Introduction: Shigemi INAGA  
14:15-14:40 Miyoko HADA  
Yone Noguchi as a Japonisme Novelist  
14:45-15:10 Madoka HORI  
Yone Noguchi's Poetics as a Writer of Dual Nationality  
-15:30 Discussion, 15:30-16:00 Break  
16:05-16:30 Mark BURNS  
Isamu Noguchi and Omni Crossbred Intl. Society  
16:35-17:00 Gen ADACHI  
Avant-Garde Debate over Japanese Tradition in 1950s  
17:00-17:30 General Discussion  
17:30 Closing

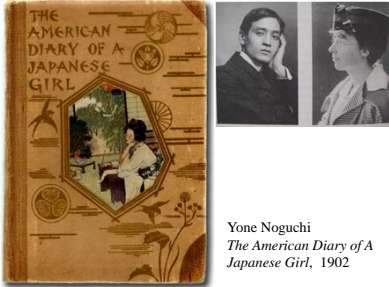
The XIXth Congress of ICLA, Seoul, Korea Aug.15-21, 2010

Congress theme:  
Expanding the Frontiers of Comparative Literature  
"C.L. need to move beyond its Western origins"  
"Korea is the only divided country on the face of earth"  
"Breaking down boundaries and overcoming frontiers"

- Writing the Conflicts and Otherness
- Translating Differences, Connecting the World
- Asia in the Changing Comparative Paradigm




Yone Noguchi (1875-1947) 1903 Leonie Gilmore (1874-1933) ca. 1895




Yone Noguchi  
*The American Diary of A Japanese Girl*, 1902

Isamu's character is infinitely complicated and at the same time pure and simple as a child. At times he was incredibly sweet and sympathetic, but at next moment he exploded like tornados or instantaneous water heater. An untreatable choleric. But he was outstanding in his high pride as an artist and sincerity as a human being. His insight into all kind of things was a constant surprise for me. An intolerably selfish behavior was followed by his dry, original humor which was so natural and intelligent. I know his wonderful smile which he show when we were alone. Such were constant intoxication for me. (interview, Nov.14, 1994, the passages are omitted from *The Life of Isamu Noguchi*. Tentative retranslation into English by S. Inaga)




Priscilla Morgan  
Isamu Noguchi's devoted  
Business Partner from 1959  
until Isamu's death in 1988



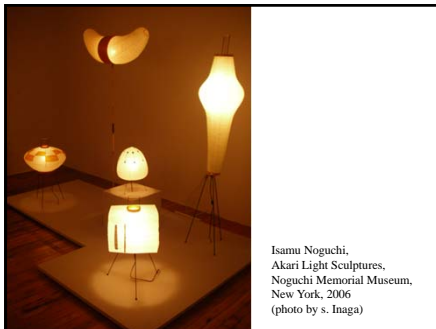
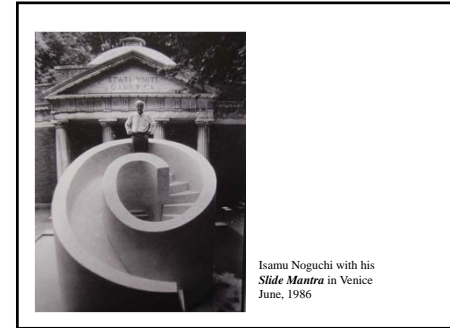
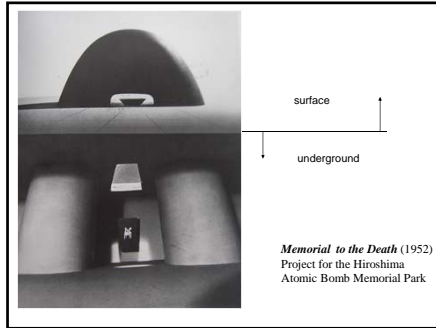
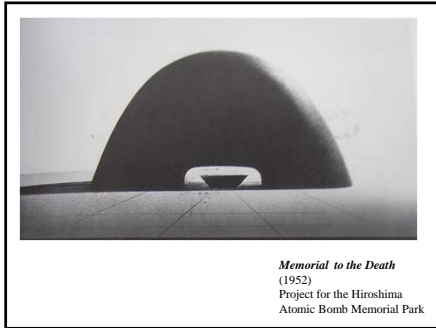
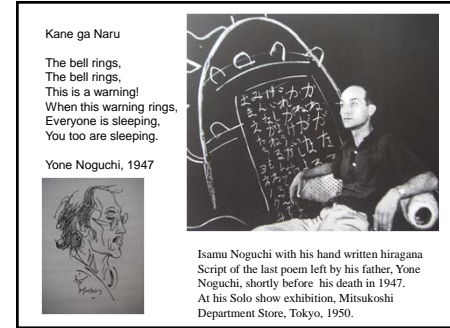
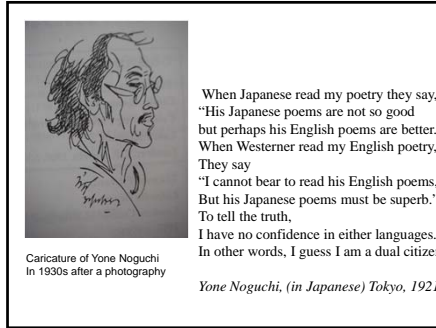
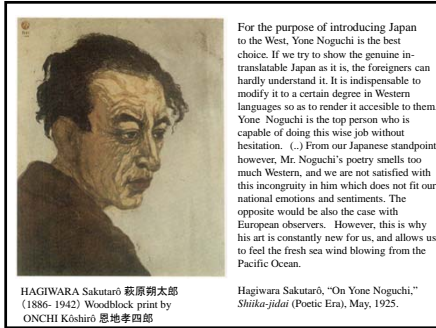
*Los Angeles Herald*,  
Nov. 14, 1904  
Five months later, in 1905,  
the marriage between  
Caucasian and Mogorian  
is forbidden by the law.

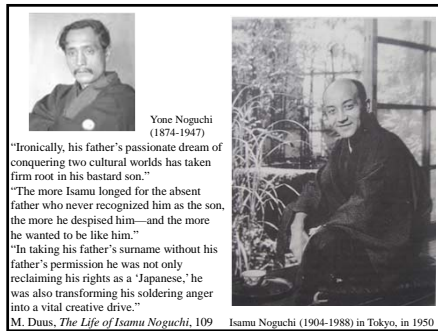
Yone tends to run from one side to the extreme opposite when he is criticized. The same is true to Yo (Isamu). When scolded as he was covered with mud, he jumps into the washing tub without taking off his clothes.

Leonie Gilmore,  
Letter to Frank Putnam,  
May 27, 1906  
The passage is omitted from the English version; the above is a tentative retranslation into English by S. Inaga.



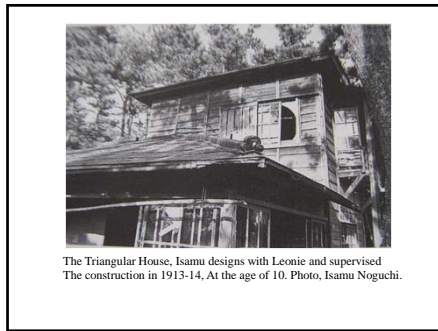
Isamu Noguchi in passport  
Photograph, 1918





Yone Noguchi (1874-1947)  
 “Ironically, his father’s passionate dream of conquering two cultural worlds has taken firm root in his bastard son.”  
 “The more Isamu longed for the absent father who never recognized him as the son, the more he despised him—and the more he wanted to be like him.”  
 “In taking his father’s surname without his father’s permission he was not only reclaiming his rights as a ‘Japanese,’ he was also transforming his soldering anger into a vital creative drive.”  
 M. Duus, *The Life of Isamu Noguchi*, 109

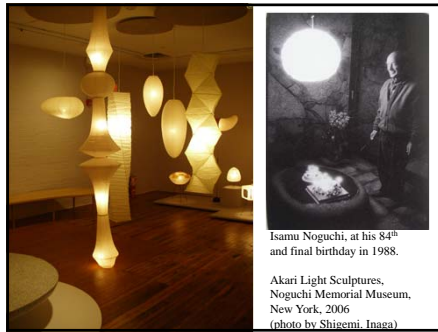
Isamu Noguchi (1904-1988) in Tokyo, in 1950



The Triangular House, Isamu designs with Leonie and supervised The construction in 1913-14. At the age of 10. Photo, Isamu Noguchi.

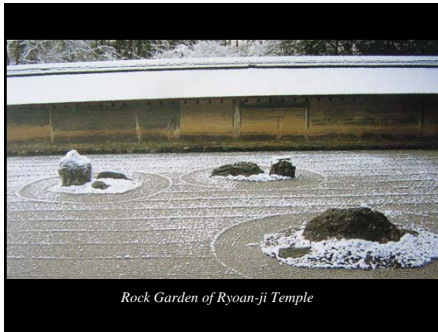
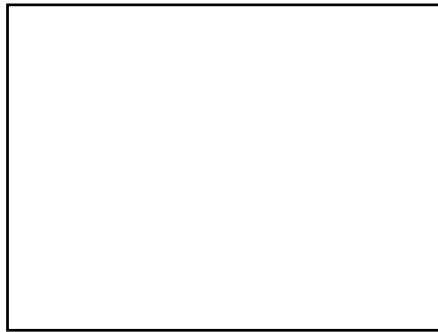


Isamu Noguchi at his MacDougal Alley studio, New York, in 1946

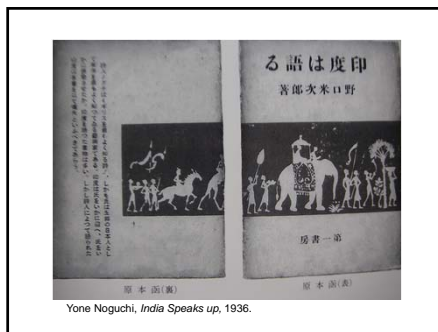


Isamu Noguchi, at his 84<sup>th</sup> and final birthday in 1988.

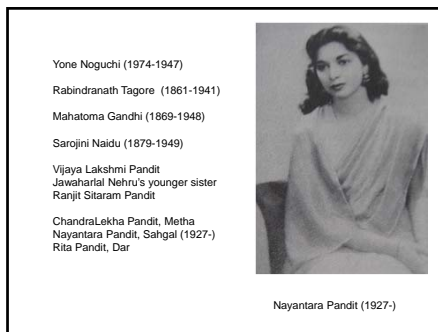
Akari Light Sculptures, Noguchi Memorial Museum, New York, 2006 (photo by Shizemi, Inaga)



Rock Garden of Ryoan-ji Temple



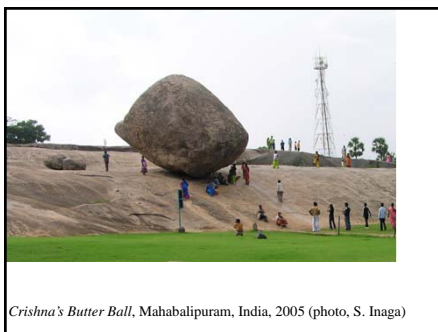
Yone Noguchi, *India Speaks up*, 1936.



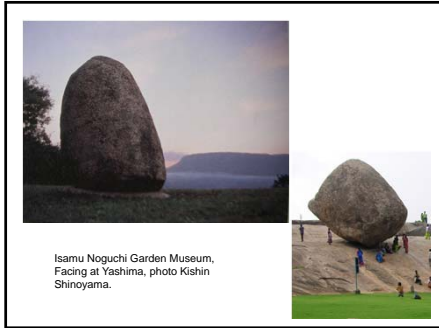
- Yone Noguchi (1874-1947)
- Rabindranath Tagore (1861-1941)
- Mahatoma Gandhi (1869-1948)
- Sarojini Naidu (1879-1949)
- Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit
- Jawaharlal Nehru’s younger sister
- Ranjit Sitaram Pandit
- ChandraLekha Pandit, Metha
- Nayantara Pandit, Sahgal (1927-)
- Rita Pandit, Dar



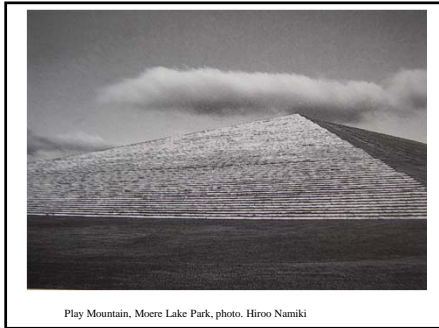
Nayantara Pandit (1927-)



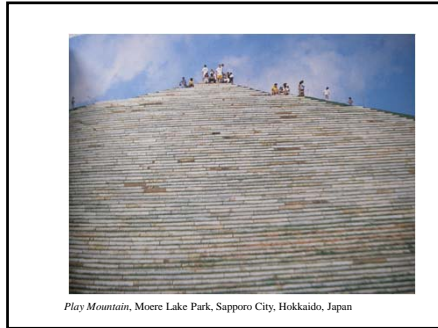
Crishna’s Butter Ball, Mahabalipuram, India, 2005 (photo, S. Inaga)



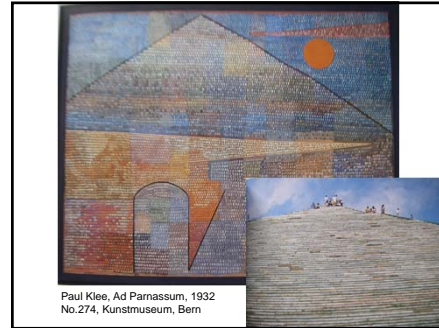
Isamu Noguchi Garden Museum, Facing at Yashima, photo Kishin Shinoyama.



Play Mountain, Moore Lake Park, photo. Hiroo Namiki



Play Mountain, Moore Lake Park, Sapporo City, Hokkaido, Japan



Paul Klee, Ad Parnassum, 1932 No.274, Kunstmuseum, Bern



The Noguchi Museum, NY



The Noguchi Museum, NY

