

Freeter and Precariat

With featured Guest:

Prof. Guy Standing, PhD (Professor of Development Economics, SOAS)

July 19th, 2014, 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM, Sophia University, Yotsuya Campus, Bldg. 2, Room 508

The days of stable labor and meaningful employment are far in the past for most young people. 'Irregularity' has become the new normal, in Japan and around the post-industrial world (and beyond). And yet, our perceptions of actual current conditions are often as unrealistic as are the causes and effects--personal, social and political costs--of this disintegration. We are only now starting to think about the possible futures that this state of affairs is bringing upon us. In order to understand these shifts, some realistic and comparative perspective is necessary. This event attempts to supply both.

Program

- **5:00 pm: Showing of the Film "Japan's Disposable Workers" by Shiho Fukada (Director)**
- **5:40 pm: Lecture and discussion "A Precariat Charter: From Denizens to Citizens" Dr. Guy Standing (SOAS)**

Host: David H. Slater (Sophia University)

Guy Standing's immensely influential 2011 book introduced the Precariat as an emerging mass class, characterized by inequality and insecurity. Standing outlined the increasingly global nature of the Precariat as a social phenomenon, especially in the light of the social unrest characterized by the Occupy movements. He outlined the political risks they might pose, and at what might be done to diminish inequality and allow such workers to find a more stable labour identity. Today's talk will focus on his new book, *A Precariat Charter*.

See more at: <http://www.bloomsbury.com/uk/a-precariat-charter-9781472510396/#sthash.Tyb1rBcl.dpuf>

Bio: Guy Standing is a Professor of Development Studies at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London and co-founder of the Basic Income Earth Network (BIEN). He is a famous advocate of the unconditional basic income and deliberative democracy. From 1975 to 2006 he worked at the International Labour Organization as a researcher on insecurity and flexibility of Labour. He is known for having created the Decent Work Index. (<http://www.guystanding.com/>)

Fukada Shiho documents the lives of disposable workers in Japan in stories that illustrate the global unemployment crisis and the growing gap between rich and poor that has provoked much turmoil. One billion people, 30 percent of the world's workforce, are jobless. Recent political instability, from the Arab Spring to the London riots and Occupy Wall Street protest, all have one thing in common – frustration over unemployment and anger towards the growing gap between rich and poor. Unsustainable employment, and the political turmoil it provokes, is a global crisis. (We will show Shiho's film, but she is unable to join us in person.) www.disposableworkers.com

Bio: Fukada Shiho is a graduate of Sophia University, and is currently a film maker and freelance photographer based in New York City. She has worked in the fashion and advertising industries in New York before becoming a photojournalist in 2004. After working in New York for five years and traveling the world, she moved to China in 2008. Her awards and recognition include: The Visa d'or - Daily Press award at Visa pour l'Image Perpignan (2011); Alicia Patterson Fellowship (2010); Best of Photojournalism (2009); Photo of the Year, Editor & Publisher / Grand Prize (2008), among others. (<http://www.shihofukada.com/#/index>)

Language: English / No RSVP required / Free of charge / Open to public