



*Regeneration Talk:*  
**Ensuring the Future of Historic Textiles: The Case of a Japanese Empress's Court Gown**

*Image: Courtesy of Monica Bethe*

APR  
**21**  
THU

**4:00 – 5:00 PM**  
Zoom | *FREE*  
Registration required at  
[bit.ly/Bethe-IHC](https://bit.ly/Bethe-IHC)

## MONICA BETHE

Textiles speak to us across time and space; their colors, shapes, textures, and materials provide insight into other lives and ways of living. They are also extremely perishable and challenging to preserve. Using the example of a court gown made for Japan's Meiji empress, Haruko (1850-1914), Monica Bethe will illuminate the principles of conservation, the recovery of lost techniques, and the cutting-edge, scientific solutions needed to preserve textiles for future generations.



Monica Bethe is Director of the Medieval Japanese Studies Institute in Kyoto, dedicated in part to the conservation of treasures in Japanese Imperial Convents. Her publications include chapters in *Miracles and Mischief: Nō and Kyōgen Theater in Japan* (2002); *Amamonzeki, A Hidden Heritage: Treasures of the Japanese Imperial Convents* (2009); *Transmitting Robes, Linking Minds: The World of Buddhist Kasaya* (2010); and *Color in Ancient and Medieval East Asia* (2015).

*Sponsored by the IHC's Regeneration series and the East Asia Center*

