

Wednesday September 25th 6-8pm

On the campus of UT Austin

Free parking with registration

Teaching the Bomb(s): Alternatives to *Oppenheimer* from Japanese Visual & Popular Culture

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This interactive workshop is designed to think through how to teach the bomb(s) using visual and popular culture in a way that is both engaging and ethical. Together, we will consider the pros and cons of using a variety of materials when teaching our current generation of students. These materials range from historical photographs and first-person accounts of Hiroshima and Nagasaki to B-horror movies, like *Godzilla* and from well-known anime like *Grave of the Fireflies* that itself is based on a semi-fictionalized first-person account of the Kobe fire bombings to student-designed video games created by undergraduate students at [UT's JapanLab](#).

We will consider together how to navigate between history and representation, fact and fiction, high politics and low-brow popular culture. Given the recent Oscar-winning success of *Oppenheimer*, I hope this workshop can offer a timely intervention to consider how we might re-present historical traumas today and to what end in our classrooms.

The PowerPoint will be made available to all participants for future reference/use and all attendees will also receive a free copy of the following book:

Introducing Japanese Popular Culture, edited by Alisa Freedman (Routledge, 2023, second edition)