

# Inside the Flower and Willow World

Lakeland  
Lectures

Tradition and Change  
in the Fukagawa  
Geisha District

Sayuki

Thursday, October 14, 7:00 pm on Zoom

**S**ayuki, an Oxford-trained anthropologist, was the first white woman to formally debut as a geisha, and currently works as a geisha and geisha mother in the Fukagawa district of Tokyo. She trained as a geisha in Asakusa before moving to Fukagawa: Japan's oldest geisha district and the site where the first female geisha appeared. In this lecture Sayuki will discuss the current state of geisha in Japan, and her journey to helping her older sisters revive the Fukagawa district.

Sayuki took her doctorate in social anthropology at the University of Oxford, and is an anthropological film-maker specializing in Japanese society. She has spent half of her life in Japan, went through Japanese schools, and was the first white woman to graduate from Keio University. She has lectured at a number of universities around the world, has published extensively on Japanese culture, and is also an anthropological film director with production credits on a range of international broadcasters. <http://www.sayuki.net>

Lakeland University Japan website at [luj.lakeland.edu](http://luj.lakeland.edu); Tel: 03-3225-0425

The Lakeland Lectures are a forum for researchers, students and members of the public to discuss contemporary issues affecting Japan. Lakeland University has offered a U.S.-accredited liberal arts program in Tokyo since 1991. Lakeland's main campus is in Wisconsin, USA and was founded in 1862.