

JPN 4/507

HAIKU/HAIKAI

Fall 2014 • M/W 4:00-5:20

Glynne Walley

*monks, morning-glories  
have died and returned how many times  
pine of the Law  
(Bashō)*

*onward and upward  
we girls press  
mountain cherry  
(Chiyo)*

*trampling her  
abandoned self -  
paddy-planting  
(Buson)*

*oh, don't hit me!  
fly rubs his hands  
rubs his feet  
(Issa)*

*to his kept woman:  
"there is no hell"  
(now he tells us)  
(Anonymous)*

Haiku, with its poetics of brevity, immediacy, and depth, has informed Japanese culture, and global perceptions of Japanese culture, for four centuries and counting. This course will focus on haiku during its golden age, from the 17<sup>th</sup> through 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. We will look at major poets including Bashō and Buson; the haikai linked-verse practice from which haiku evolved; aspects of "haikai culture" such as painting, comic and erotic haiku, haiku-influenced prose, and poetic almanacs; scholarship on haiku and its aesthetics; and a lot of great poetry. All readings in the 400-level version of the class will be in English. Graduate students may expect extra readings in either Japanese or English, depending on enrollment.

