



# Carina Roth

## Religious Itinerancies: The Example of *Mizuko kuyō*

June 2 16:00-17:30 JST

In a 1991 article on *mizuko kuyō* (most commonly memorial rituals for aborted fetuses), Zwi Werblowsky somewhat provocatively describes this practice as the most important of Japan's so-called New Religions. This talk will revisit Werblowsky's claim by placing these rituals in the wider social and political context of post-war Japan. It will then follow the expansion of *mizuko kuyō* to other Asian countries as well as the United States, finally offering a comparison with recent rituals surrounding perinatal death in Europe. Via the example of *mizuko kuyō*, Roth will reflect on the malleability of conceptions that are embedded in established or semi-established religious contexts, and on how they respond to social, spiritual or ethical needs in different times and places.

Register: <https://tinyurl.com/ywhmxswu>

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