Morisaki Kazue's biography of the nihon buyō dancer and Saga niwaka comedienne Chikushi Misuko (1921 - 2013), titled Kanashisugite warau: onna zachō Chikushi Misuko no hanshō (1985), situates the performer's individual trajectory in reference to larger social frames: labor identity, regional identity, gender identity, and nation. As someone of Russian and Japanese heritage who did not always present her audiences with the expected visual

markers of Japaneseness, Chikushi's perceived difference inflected her reception as a dancer in her youth and catalyzed her later specialization in nihon buyō, a dance genre with claims to

Japaneseness and Japanese tradition. Like Morisaki's earlier Makkura: Onna kōfu kara no kikiqaki (1961), a collection of oral histories of women coal miners, the biography of Chikushi privileges the subject's own voice and shines a spotlight on women active in Chikuhō and other mining towns in twentiethcentury Kyūshū. It is also written

by Morisaki from her home in the former miners' residences (tanjū) in Chikuhō. We can understand the biography as part of Morisaki's larger activist project

for women and regional workers

social formation in Japan:

that questions historical modes of





Coal Mines, Saga niwaka,

## and the Woman Troupe Leader:

Morisaki Kazue on Chikushi Misuko's Stage Career



July 30, 2022 9:00 ~ 10:30<sub>JST</sub>

文法経本館 2 F 大会議室 GoogleMaps

Presentation: Stephanie HOHLIOS Instructor, Westminster College

Discussant:

Ryōta NISHI

Associate Professor, CHUO University

Hybrid

開催言語:講演は英語。コメント・議論は日英両語。 Opening talk in English. Discussion will be held in both English and Japanese.



Online・On-site 参加を問わず 7月27日15:00までに登録してください。 Pre-registration is required by 15:00 on July 27