Omens and Monsters in Heian Japan (and What to Do About Them)

Thursday, October 20, 2016
4:00 - 5:15 p.m.
International Center, Room 305

Diaries and tales from Japan’s Heian period (794-1185 CE) regularly mention prodigies, strange occurrences, and unusual plants and animals. What did these weird phenomena signify to people of the time? How were they interpreted, and what rituals were employed to address such concerns and dangers? Learn how omens provide important insights into how Heian Japanese understood the world around them.

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