



The Centre for Korean Research

at the Institute of Asian Research **Presents**

Introducing Hearts of Pine: Songs in the Lives of Three Korean Survivors of the Japanese 'Comfort Women'

By Joshua Pilzer, Assistant Professor of Ethnomusicology University of Toronto Friday, February 28, 2014 • 3:30 – 5:00 pm Conference room #120, C.K. Choi Building, 1855 West Mall

During four decades of post-war public secrecy about the comfort women system, song served for these women as both a private and a public means of coping with their trauma-each used song in a different way to reckon with their experiences and to forge a new sense of self. In the 1990s a nationalist movement arose in South Korea to seek redress from the Japanese government and to tend to the previously-shunned comfort women survivors in their old age. Suddenly these women, and many others like them, found themselves pulled from the margins of society and thrust into the very center of the public cultural spotlight.



Professor Joshua D. Pilzer is a scholar of Korean and Japanese music. He is interested in the place of music in the texture of post-colonial Korean life, in music's everyday social utility and poetics, in music as alternative history, and in women's music.

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