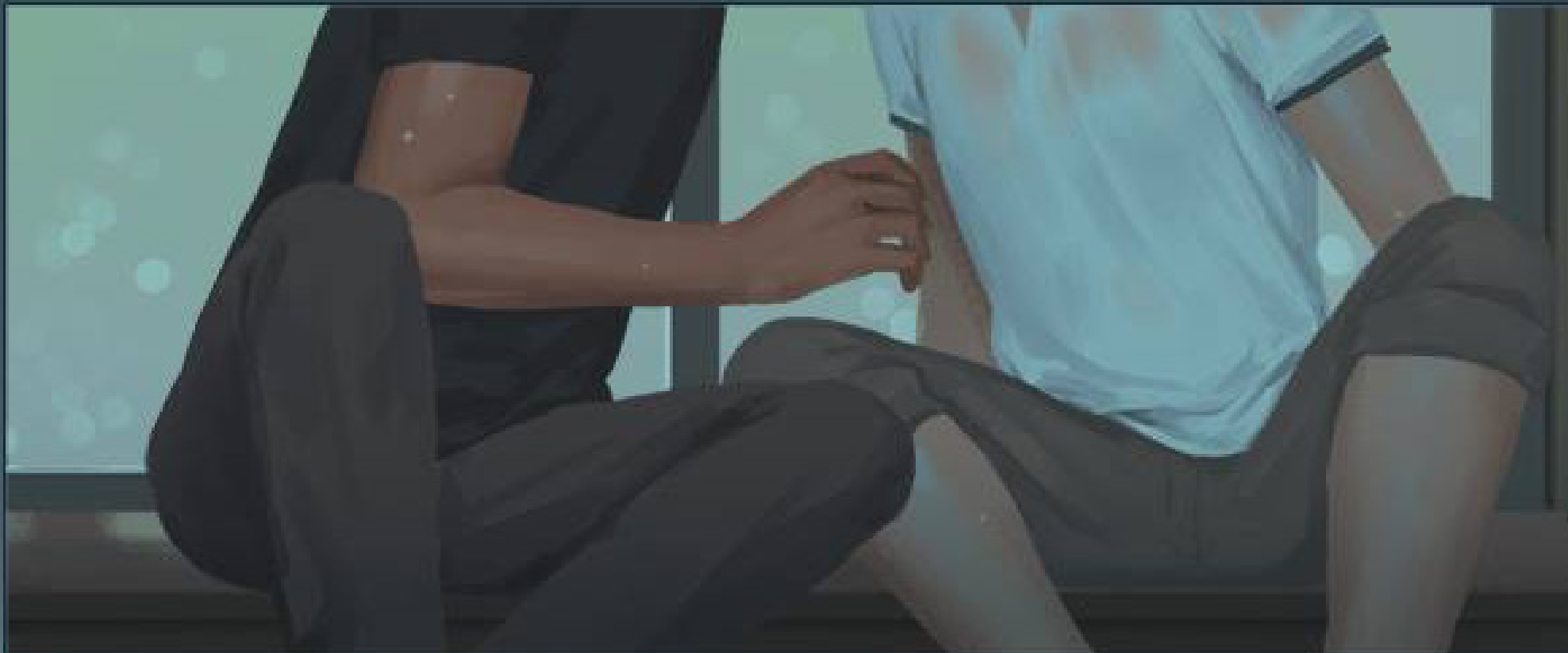




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The Transformative Power of Boys Love (BL) Media in Asia

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Created by and for adolescent girls and women, boys love (BL) media, depicting romantic and sexual relationships between males, took root in commercial *shōjo* manga (girls' comics) magazines in Japan in the early 1970s. With an estimated annual domestic market size in the 2010s of around US\$190 million, BL media clearly has a pronounced presence in Japanese popular culture today. It has also become increasingly popular outside of Japan, particularly in Asia. In this talk Welker will discuss the varied sociocultural effects of BL media around East, Southeast, and South Asia, ranging from helping female BL fans reconsider their attitudes towards romance, sex, and sexuality in India and the Philippines, to affecting attitudes about and representation of the LGBTQ community, including same-sex marriage, in Indonesia, Taiwan, and Thailand, to facilitating new forms of cultural exchange across the region.

This lecture is presented by the Center for Asian and Pacific Studies. It is sponsored by the Admiral David E. Jeremiah and Mrs. Connie Jeremiah Lecture Series, the Yoko McClain Lecture Series in Japanese Studies, and the Asian Studies Program. Free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, please call 541-346-5068.

Tuesday, May 21, 2019 - 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Cedar and Spruce Rooms, Erb Memorial Union

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