ACLA Horst Frenz Prize 2023

Committee:
Janet Walker, Rutgers University
J. Scott Miller, Brigham Young University
Pavel Andrade, University of Cincinnati

Winner: Abe, Kodai: "The Transpacific Afterlife of Korean Comfort Women"

Abe argues that, rather than considering the issue of Korean comfort women in a national context, it should be approached within a triangular context that includes Korea, Japan, and the United States. He analyzes two "anti-colonial feminist texts," the novel Comfort Woman (1994) by the Korean American writer Nora Okja Keller and the novel The End of August (Hachigatsu no hate, 2004) by the writer Yū Miri, a writer of Korean origin residing in Japan, arguing that the two heretofore unlinked texts, the first viewed as a Korean American text and the second as a Korean Japanese text, provide a valuable transpacific context within which to articulate the comfort women issue.