



HIROSHIMA UNIVERSITY

Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences  
The International Peace & Coexistence Programme

# The Afterlives of Art Problematising the Anti-War Message

Japanese soldiers and personnel sent to the Philippines created art through their picture diaries (e-nikki) or illustrating postcards. The initial purpose was to serve as private records or intimate messages to their loved ones, recently, families have chosen to publish their intimate encounters so that their readers can have a glimpse of their family's lives as well as their sufferings during the campaigns. Not only do these publications give awareness to their local readers, but the horrors of the war inspire anti-war sentiments. While these are brave and noble gestures, the art presents a one-sided picture, to which the anti-war message is because of the sufferings of nationals and not the suffering inflicted on Filipinos. Thus, this paper will look at these intimate art pieces to re-view and critique their afterlives.



A LECTURE BY

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