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研究課題名(和文)Rethinking political representation in the light of dramatic art under the French Revolution

研究課題名(英文)Rethinking political representation in the light of dramatic art under the

French Revolution

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研究成果の概要(和文):このプロジェクトは、フランス革命期の演劇が、この時期の主要な政治的出来事のひとつである、立法権を持ち政治討論の組織化を任務とする議会の結成を舞台上でどのように表現したかを扱うものである。この目標の下で行われた調査は、フランスと日本で発表された数多くの研究論文に結実した。パンデミック(世界的大流行)にもかかわらず、私はいくつかのハイレベルなシンポジウムに参加し、特に国際啓蒙学会議には2回連続で参加した。これらの学術的なイベントを通して、私はソルボンヌ大学(パリ)の研究者チームとの絆を深めた。また、鷲見教授(慶應義塾大学)と共同編集している共同著作の出版も、ほぼ最終段階に達 した。

研究成果の学術的意義や社会的意義

This project is part of a global problematic at the heart of the tradition of western thought since ancient Greece: the relationship between theater and politics, the place of theater in democratic public space. A community of researchers in Japan is also committed to this collective inquiry.

研究成果の概要(英文): This project was dealing with the way in which French theater of the revolutionary period (1789-1799) has represented on stage one of the major political events of the period, the formation of assemblies invested with legislative power and tasked with the organization of political debate. The inquiry carried out under this goal has resulted in numerous research papers, released in France and in Japan (and one to come soon in an Italian journal). In spite of the pandemic, I took part to a couple of high-level symposiums, in particular 2 consecutive editions of the International Congress of Enlightenment Studies (15th and 16th, in Edinburgh and Rome). Throughout those academic events, I strengthened my ties with a team of researchers of Sorbonne University (Paris). I also reached almost the final stage of the publication of a collective work which I am coediting with Prof. Sumi (Keio University), on the topic of family matters and public space from the 17th to the 20th Century.

研究分野: French Literature

キーワード: Theater Dramatic Art French Revolution Political Representation Oratory Political Assemb

lies Public Sphere

1.研究開始当初の背景

This project was at the crossroads of two fields endowed with a powerful research dynamic, but rarely linked together by the scholars working in each field.

- (1) Studies on the theater written and performed during the French Revolution have experienced a significant boom since the Bicentenary of 1789. The scientific impetus associated with the commemoration put an end to the eclipse that had long overshadowed a corpus that was nonetheless abundant, but generally perceived as too closely dependent on the context in which it appeared. The topical, or occasional, plays that made up its main component were written with the aim of weighing in on the political debates and oppositions of the moment, to exert an influence on the course of events: this function runs contradicts the usual criteria for enshrining works in the literary or artistic canon. Over the past forty years or so, theater historians have reconsidered and re-evaluated this corpus.
- (2) The art of oratory, political eloquence, and the history of parliamentary assemblies, have also attracted renewed interest from historians, political scientists and researchers in literature and linguistics. This approach to the political history of the French Revolution had been central until the end of the 19th century, but was then neglected when history established itself as a scientific discipline, focusing on new objects and methods, mainly of an economic and social nature. It was the linguistic turn of the 1970s that brought back the analysis of political discourse during the Revolution, its forms and its framework.
- (3) Paradoxically, however, while revolutionary theater has been examined from a political angle, through its themes and effects, there have been few studies of the way it took hold of the raw material of political life during the Revolution, i.e., the life of parliamentary assemblies.

2.研究の目的

It was this paradox that my project sought to elucidate and overcome, this gap that it set out to fill.

For that purpose, the main topic to ivestigate was the specific kind of public space shaped by theater. A closer look at its full aesthetic scope would yield a broader insight on one peculiar side of the connection between theatricality and political speech: given the fact that parliamentary debates have often been decisive in the course of events, they were consequently to play a central part while reflected in contemporary plays. But the most interesting question dealt perhaps with the dialectical connection and the potential strains which are likely to occur between the rules of dramaturgy and the rules of political deliberation.

My theoretical assumption consisted in leading a political and philosophical significance to the formal structures implemented to integrate the scenic protocol of political debates into the codes of dramatic art. I therefore aimed at dealing with 2 main points:

(1) The relevant pattern which applies to this mechanism is the famous "théâtre dans le théâtre" (theater within the theater), highly valued and used in the baroque culture, and

pervaded both by Stoic philosophy and Christian vision, in terms of metaphysics and politics as well. I will try to figure out to which extent such a philosophical background may clarify the concept and ideal of a democratic public space put into question through those theater plays.

(2) The dramatic genres also provide an acurate clue to the handling of the political and parliamentary scene on dramatic stage.

Tragedy bears, quite logically, the most adequate features to such a theme, because that genre is traditionally devoted to the depiction of statesmen and orators; and those plays are full of public discourses, solemn speech acts and civil conflicts. The Revolutionary decade shows an abundance of tragic plays elaborating on the famous models of oratory in the Ancient Athenian democracy and Roman Republic, but also drawing their examples from the modern experiences of political assemblies (in America and England), and from the very debates and events currently ongoing in the revolutionary assemblies.

But comedy did also play a specific part in this political theater. This fact was rather new in respect with the classical forms of comedy prevailing in 17th and 18th century France, which tended to avoid any political allusion. It's a kind of revival of a tradition which can be traced back to the IVth century B.C. and was embodied in democratic Athens by Aristophanes, who raised a hardly surprising curiosity throughout the revolutionary decade. In a very general way, one can notice the vitality of counter-revolutionary satire, through a set of sarcastic comedies, transfering to the revolutionary political field a well- known type of comedy, the so-called comédie de mœurs (comedy of manners). The new target aimed by the satires of that time was the emerging profession of representative of the people: the new political language, which was devised to fit the new conditions of eloquence, fell under the mockery usually applied to all social statuses.

3.研究の方法

The whole project required a close study of the hundreds of theater plays where public speaking apparatuses are enshrined within the dramatic stage, and a structural analysis of such a *mise en abyme*. But, besides that internal perspective on the subject matter, a very important inquiry had to be conducted on the abundant data provided by the newspapers of that time, and by the various accounts of theatrical performances written by all kinds of spectators, either famous or unknown, close to the stage (actors, playwrights) or belonging to the ordinary public, from all kind of social and political background (public servants in charge of censorship, members of municipal authorities responsible for handling performance venues, etc.).

The circumstances and opportunities of academic life, and the various encounters and collaborations I've forged with colleagues, have led me to gradually develop a problematic through specific contributions to various collective works on cross-disciplinary subjects. I give 4 main examples in the summary of my research results.

4. 研究成果

(1) Identity

The general topic of the 15th international Congress of Enlightenment Studies (Edinburgh University, 2019), led me to examine la figure du représentant du peuple dans le théâtre révolutionnaire, au croisement des théories politiques de la représentation (représentation-mandat, représentation-identité), de l'anthropologie politique de la Révolution française (le "protagonisme", concept forgé par un historien, Haim Burstin, pour désigner un mode d'engagement politique), et des catégories propres à l'esthétique dramatique (le déguisement, l'acteur saisi par son rôle, la reconnaissance – *anagnorisis* – le théâtre du monde – *theatrum mundi*).

(2) Antiquity

The general topic of the 16th international Congress of Enlightenment Studies (Sapienza University, Rome, 2023), led me to examine the presence of Antiquity on the theatre stage during the French Revolution era. It turned out to be a powerful vector of political imaginery, as Greek and Roman topics resonated with the glorification of patriotic and republican heroism. They also bore a meaningful connection with the rise of parliamentary assemblies, an obvious highlight of that time, which the citizens were given an oportunity to understand and judge more acutely through the theater looking-glass.

(3) Emotions

For a collective book dealing with the emotions at play amidst the revolutionary events, I examined a set of books written at the end of the 19th century, which aimed at drawing a complete panorama of oratory and politics in the Revolution. This well-known historical compendium, *L'Eloquence parlementaire pendant la Révolution française* (Parliamentary eloquence during the French Revolution), by Alphonse Aulard (1881-1885), shows the part played by the spectacle of political discourse, oratorical emotions and aesthetic sentiment, in historical knowledge and civic awareness of that era.

(4) Oikos and Polis: Public and private spheres interlinked through family matters

I am coordinating, with Professor Sumi Yoichi (Keio University, Tokyo), a collective book entitled *Regards croisés sur la famille (17e-20e siècles)* (to be released during the current academic year). I wrote two of the book's nine chapters, tracking in the theater plays of the revolutionary eras a reflection of the major debates held in the parliamentary assemblies over family issues, such as the divorce and the recognition of adulterous children), alongside with a thoughtful insight of the metamorphosis of the public sphere and the rise of the parliamentary public space.

This project, which aims to shed light on one aspect of the history of French theater, is part of a global problematic that has been at the heart of the intellectual tradition of reflection on theater in the West since ancient Greece: the relationship between theater and politics, the place of theater as a social institution in the City and in democratic public space. It also aims to contribute to the elucidation of a central concept of western thought, representation, which presents a unique and fertile polysemy in the French language. All the reflections I have presented within this framework over the past 5 years have added a small stone to this great collective undertaking, which is also mobilizing a brilliant community of researchers in Japan, at Keio University, Meiji University and Waseda University (Tokyo), in particular. The

invitation to Japan, in November 2019, of Professors Pierre Frantz and Renaud Bret-Vitoz (Sorbonne University), in which I took part by organizing a half-day study session on their research at Osaka University, was a valuable opportunity to showcase this Franco-Japanese network.

In consideration of those ongoing fruitful cooperations, and of the essential issues involved in the project, not only regarding the academic "Republic of letters", but also regarding the general political interest, the inquiry shall be continued and deepened.

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6.研究組織

	氏名 (ローマ字氏名) (研究者番号)	所属研究機関・部局・職 (機関番号)	備考
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7.科研費を使用して開催した国際研究集会

〔国際研究集会〕 計0件

8. 本研究に関連して実施した国際共同研究の実施状況

共同研究相手国	相手方研究機関
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