



Professor Rein Raud

Foreign Member of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences since 2019

Rein Raud (born 21 December 1961) is an Estonian scholar, author and translator. He graduated from the Leningrad State University (now called Saint Petersburg State University) in 1985 in Japanese Studies and earned a PhD degree in Literary Theory at the University of Helsinki in 1994.

Main interests: Cultural theory, Japanese culture, Asian Philosophy.

Professor R. Raud has worked in the Estonian Institute of Humanities (now a part of Tallinn University) and the University of Helsinki, where he served as a professor in the Department of World Cultures till 2016. From 2006 to 2011 R. Raud served as the first rector of the Tallinn University. In 2011–2014 he was the President of the European Association of Japanese Studies. Currently he is a research professor at the School of Humanities, Tallinn University.

As a scholar, Raud has published on a wide range of subjects from cultural theory to pre-modern Japanese literature and philosophy, both in English and Estonian. His theoretical project combines the cultural semiotics of the Eco and Lotman traditions with anthropological and sociological approaches (particularly those of Bourdieu and Alexander) in order to achieve a more holistic understanding of cultural phenomena. His work on Japan has dealt with some of the most important philosophical thinkers, notably Dōgen and Nishida Kitarō.

Professor R. Raud has also frequently contributed to the Estonian public debate by opinion pieces, essays and critical newspaper columns, in which he has expressed left-liberal views and criticised nationalist attitudes. In 2003–2004 he hosted a philosophical talk show on the Estonian TV called *Vita brevis*.

He has published about 100 scientific articles, 9 novels, 3 collections of stories as well as translations, mainly from Classical Japanese, but also from Italian, Lithuanian and some shorter pieces from other languages (English, French, German, Classical Chinese, Finnish, Russian, Georgian) as well.

Managerial and administrative work

2012–...*Journal for Japanese Philosophy*, member of the advisory board
2003–...*Bulletin for the Museum of Far Eastern Antiquities*, member of editorial board
2014–2017 European Association for Japanese Studies, president
2011–2014 European Association for Japanese Studies, president
2008–2011 European Association for Japanese Studies, board member
2003–2015 *Keel ja kirjandus (Language and Literature)*, member of editorial board
2002–2014 *Akadeemia*, member of editorial board
1997–2000 European Association for Japanese Studies, board member

Honours & awards

The Order of the White Star, 3rd Class (Estonia, 2001).

The prize of the Estonian Journalists' Union for a series of articles criticising the American invasion of Iraq and the Estonian support to it (2003).

He has received the Estonian Cultural Endowment Annual Prize for *Hektor and Bernard* (2004) and *The Reconstruction* (2012) as well as the Eduard Vilde Prize for *Vend* (2008).

The Commander's Cross for services to Lithuania (2009).

The Order of the Rising Sun, 2nd Class, Gold and Silver Star (Japan, 2011).

Estonian Cultural Endowment's Award for Prose (2013).

Friedebert Tuglas Short Story Award (2013).

Estonian National Research Award in the Humanities (2019).

R. Raud is an honorary doctor of the University of Latvia (2006) and the Vytautas Magnus University (2011).

The information is based on a personal file and https://www.etis.ee/CV/Rein_Raud/eng?lang=ENG
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15 10 2019