June, 29, 2026

KOIAS Fellows Meeting: Mariaenrica Giannuzzi explored Walter Benjamin's cosmic landscapes

On April 27, KOIAS hosted a Fellows Meeting led by KOIAS Fellow Mariaenrica Giannuzzi at the Graduate School of Humanities, Kobe University. Titled *"Cosmic Landscapes,"* the workshop examined the presence of Walter Benjamin's philosophy in the environmental humanities, focusing on the notion of a "cosmic predicament" in landscape perception.

Drawing on Benjamin's essay *"Zum Planetarium"* and Giannuzzi's recent work *"From the Sublime to the Cosmic: Walter Benjamin's Planetarium,"* participants discussed how Benjamin's thought offers new ways of understanding the relationship between humans, landscapes, and the cosmos. Taking advantage of the warm spring weather, the workshop was held in the garden of the Graduate School of Humanities, where the surrounding landscape provided a fitting setting for the conversation and its reflections on environment, perception, and cosmic experience.

The workshop was followed by an engaging discussion among fellows and participants.





