



## Invitation to the Special Guest Lecture

### Series of “Pleasure of Comparative Philosophy for a global World”

Association of Comparative Philosophy and Interdisciplinary Education /  
Verein für Komparative Philosophie und Interdisziplinäre Bildung (*KoPhil*)  
(ZVR 608499578), Vienna, Winter Semester 2015

Tuesday, November 10<sup>th</sup> 2015, 16:45 – 18:15

Lecture Auditorium 23, University of Vienna

1010 Wien, Universitätsring 1, entrance gate V

Guest Lecturer

**William EKESON (Kigen Seigaku), Oshō**  
(Rinzai-ji, Los Angeles / USA, OEBR/Vienna)



### „Reflections on the Relationship Between Life and Death Within the Practice of Zen Buddhism”

Language: Lecture in English, Discussion in English and German

Chair of Discussion: Hisaki HASHI (Univ.-Doz. Dr., Head of Presidium *KoPhil*)

*Birth, Decay, Illness, and Death – Buddhism addresses these fundamental phenomena of human life in both its religion and philosophy. This is especially true of Zen Buddhism that has a unique approach that couples an intense philosophical perspective with actual practice. What is the Zen view regarding these problems that are still so relevant to our contemporary society?*

**William EKESON, KIGEN Seigaku** (希玄 青岳), **Oshō** began his studies of Zen Buddhism in 1987 at the Cambridge Buddhist Association, a center that was co-founded in 1957 by Shin’ichi Hisamatsu and D.T. Suzuki in Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA. There he began kōan practice under Myo-an Maurine Stuart, Roshi. In 1990 he moved to Mt Baldy Zen Center and was ordained as a monk and immersed himself in the strict monastic environment of Rinzai Zen. After nine years of training on Mt Baldy, Kigen was appointed as Vice-abbot of Rinzai-ji, in Los Angeles, CA, and given the rank of Osho (priest). Four years later Kigen was given the opportunity to lead a new meditation group and founded the Hollywood Zen Center.

In 2010 Genro Seiun (玄朗 棲雲), Oshō, the founder and Abbot of Bodhidharma Zendo, passed away and in 2012, Kigen, Oshō was invited to come and work as the new Zen teacher at the Bodhidharma Zendo. There he leads meditation, gives Dharma talks and offers students instruction in the practice of Rinzai Zen Buddhism.

**Verein für Komparative Philosophie und Interdisziplinäre Bildung (*KoPhil*)**

Organisiert von: Verein für Komparative Philosophie und Interdisziplinäre Bildung (*KoPhil*)

Gefördert durch: Kulturabteilung der Stadt Wien (MA 07)