

Saving the Waters: The Work of Ishimure Michiko

Environmental Activist & Writer

Thursday, Nov 12, 7 pm, University of Idaho Law School, Room 104

Abstract: In her novel, *Paradise in the Sea of Sorrow*, Ishimure Michiko lays bare the stories of the people of Minamata Bay, poisoned over years by a local chemical plant that dumped mercury into their waters.

Regarded as the Rachel Carson of Japan, she has brought environmental struggles to the forefront, writing over 50 works of narrative, essay, drama, poetry, & children's literature during her 88 years on this planet.



Presenter: Bruce Allen is professor in the Dept of English Language & Literature at Seisen University, Tokyo & visiting scholar at University of Idaho. He is passionate about using literature to impart greater understandings and environmental wisdom among us all.

He is working to translate and share the messages of Ishimure's works. He will use film, lecture, and discussion to explore her life experiences as housewife turned environmental writer and activist. He will touch on water/dam issues in Japan, the Fukushima Nuclear incident, and hope for the future of life on the planet.

Sponsored by: University of Idaho English Department & Palouse Environmental Sustainability Coalition