

***Shingeki* Theatre and Censorship in Occupation-Era Kumamoto: Focusing on the Works of Shimokawa Enji**

Allied Occupation of Japan, *Shingeki* theatre, Theatre censorship, Regional theatre, Dizer Collection

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This article examines regional theatre in occupied Japan through a case study of the Kumamoto-based troupe Bungeiza and the playwright Enji Shimokawa (1916–1991), clarifying how GHQ theatre censorship operated. Drawing on scripts from the Dizer Collection at the Waseda University Theatre Museum, it reveals discrepancies between institutional regulations and actual performance practices, including cases in which prohibited works were staged. Comparing Shimokawa's occupation-era drafts with his later play *Den'en Kyōshikyoku* (Pastoral Rhapsody), the study reassesses regional *Shingeki* as a critical engagement with postwar democracy and its tensions. It also highlights the methodological significance of cross-referencing censorship documents with performance records.