Ogasawara, **Hiroki**, Kobe University, Japan; **Yamamoto**, **Atsuhisa**, Sophia University, Japan

Fantasising the Black Male Body, Again: How does Blackness Ignite the Revival of the Japanese Traditional Body Image?

No matter how commodified or fetishised, black male body, particularly African-descendant athletes' body, is desired as an anti-thesis of the Japanese body. Consequently, the body enjoys its revival of interests not for multicultural cosmopolitan purpose but for the necessity of regaining the 'traditional' Japanese body. The paper aims to prove this critical polarisation of the body typology. With references to athletics, boxing, football and other fields of sports on the one hand, and 'traditional' martial arts such as kikou (tai-chi) or aikidou on the other, we suggest that even admiration for a particular physical ability may generate a race thinking and that in response to it the 'traditional' Japanese body is quoted against the modern degeneration of what is supposed to be more appropriate and suitable bodily techniques for Japanese population. Our tentative conclusion is that when race becomes an ethical community, exclusion occurs despite its politically correct manners.