



The World Value Survey in 2008, rated Japan as the most 'secular-rational' country in the world, exceeding



even the famously atheistic countries of Sweden and the Czech Republic. This claim was based in part on



a study conducted in Japan in 2005, in which 80.5% of those who responded said that religion (shukyo) was



either 'Not very important,' or 'Not at all important,' in their lives (Yamazaki, 2005). But only one year earlier,



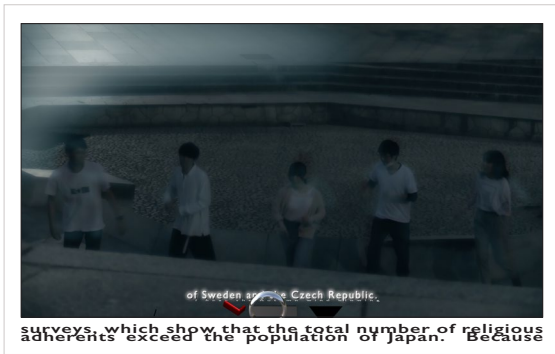
in 2004, according to the U.S. Department of State's International Religious Freedom Report, 213,826,661



Japanese citizens claimed they had a religion – a number that, as the report's author notes, is nearly



twice as large as Japan's population. This statistic is roughly supported by the Japanese government's yearly



surveys, which show that the total number of religious adherents exceed the population of Japan. Because



each person belongs to an average of two religions.

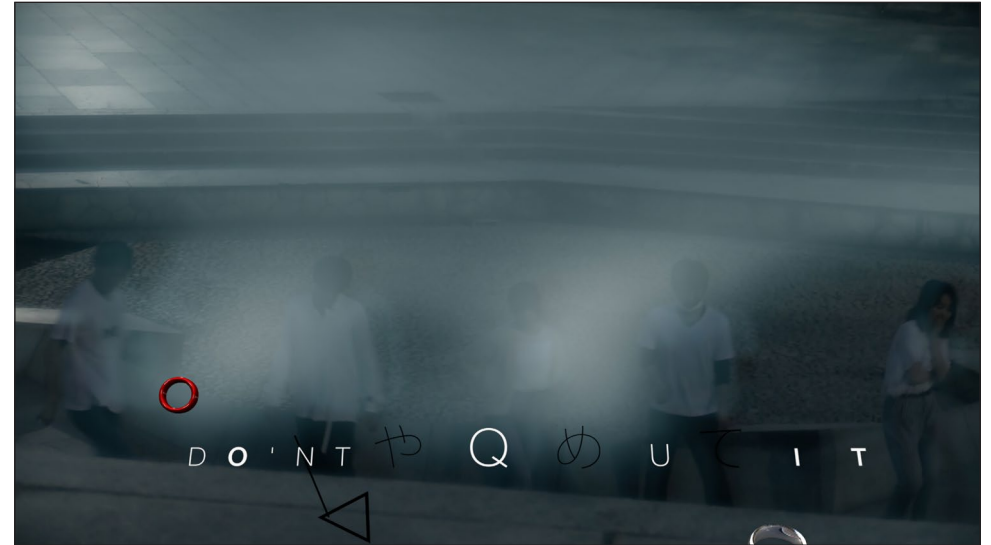
MODERN DANCE ODORI | 40. PARADOX I

Christopher Lawrie 2019

9 Archival Inkjet Prints A2 ea. 42 x 59.4 cm Total Size: 146 x 200 cm



even the Czech Republic. This atheistic claim was based in part on Sweden and on



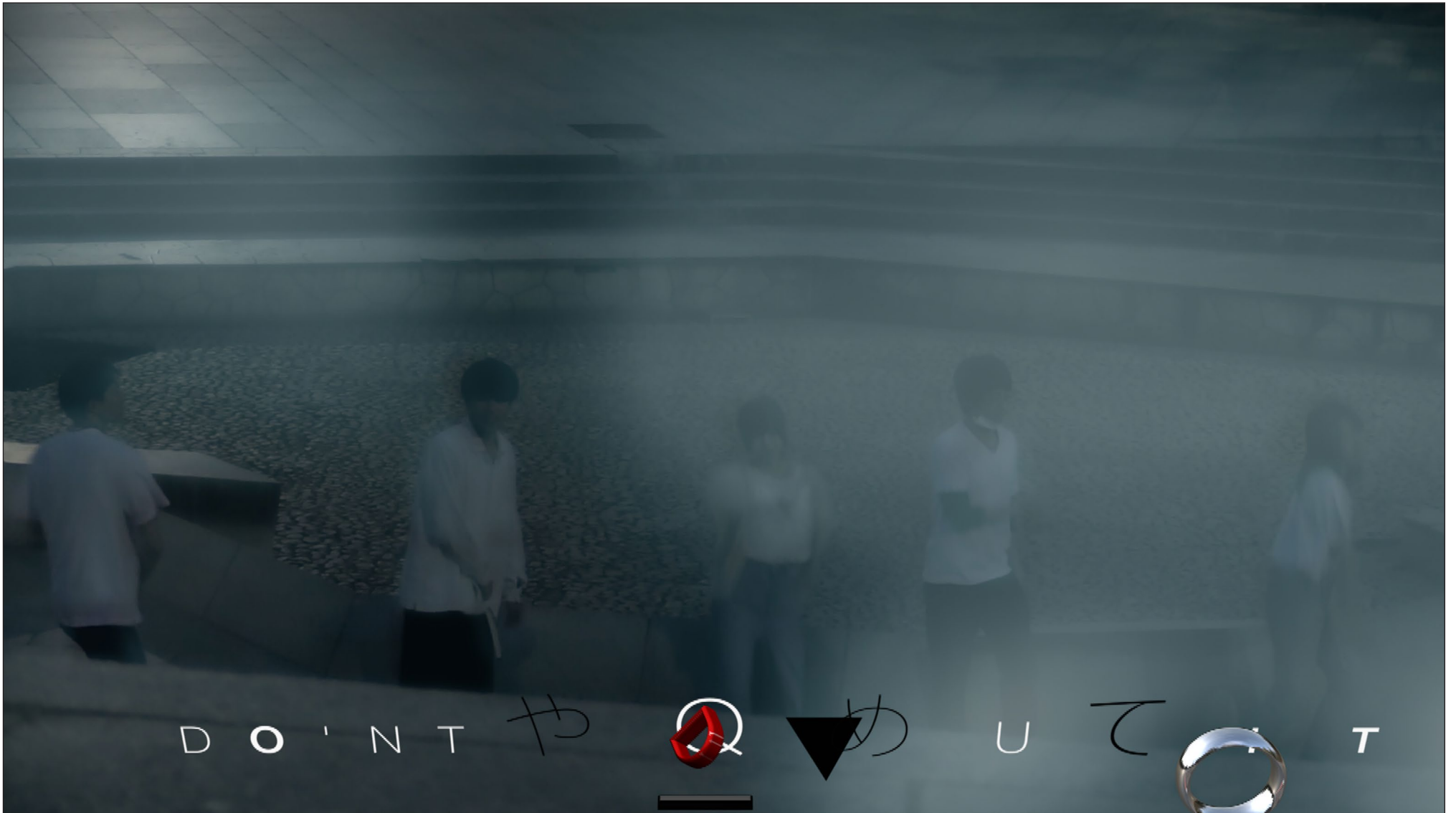
The most 'secular-rational' country in 2008 rated Japan as the exceeding

The World Value Survey in 2008 rated Japan as the most 'secular-rational' country in the world, exceeding even the famously atheistic countries of Sweden and the Czech Republic. This claim was based in part on a study conducted in Japan in 2005, in which 80.5% of those who responded said that religion (shukyo) was either 'Not very important' or 'Not at all important' in their lives (Yamazaki, 2005). But only one year earlier, in 2004, according to the U.S. Department of State's International Religious Freedom Report, 213,826,661 Japanese citizens claimed they had a religion – a number that, as the report's author notes, is nearly twice as large as Japan's population. This statistic is roughly supported by the Japanese government's yearly surveys, which show that the total number of religious adherents exceed the population of Japan. Because each person belongs to an average of two religions.

The Paradoxes of Secularism in Contemporary Japan *Jason Ananda Josephson*
 The Nonreligion and Secularity Research Network's blog



even the famously atheistic countries of Sweden and the Czech Republic. This claim was based in part on



The World Value Survey in 2008 rated Japan as the most 'secular-rational' country in the world, exceeding



I hear the Autumn wind blowing

a study conducted in Japan in 2005, in which 80.5% of those who responded said that religion (shukyo) was