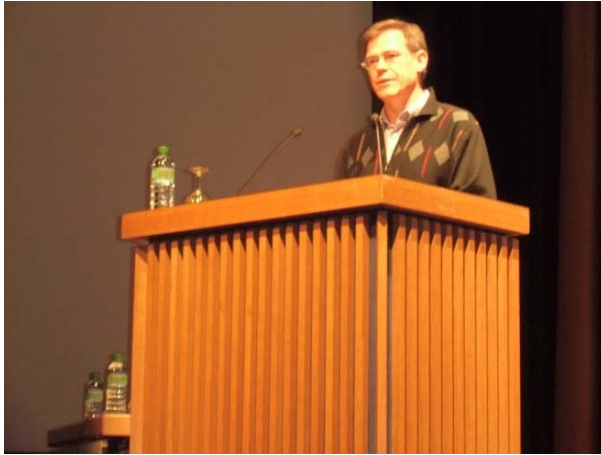


**Symposium “Film as Performance Art:  
Motion pictures in early times and the history of movie theaters”**



Professor Reinhard Zöllner (University of Bonn)

On the first day of the symposium, Prof. Komatsu Hiroshi (Waseda University) gave a keynote address at the Japanese Culture Institute of Cologne. The address was followed by a screening of a silent film “The Water Magician” (directed by Mizoguchi Kenji), which was accompanied with a performance by Mr. Kataoka Ichiro, a silent film narrator (*benshi*). The students of the dual degree Master’s Program TEACH, organized together by the University Bonn, the Korea University and the University of Tsukuba, also participated in the symposium.



A scene of symposium in Bonn

The University of Bonn, the Japan Foundation, and the University of Tsukuba jointly organized a symposium entitled “Film as Performance Art - motion pictures in early times and the history of movie theaters” in both Cologne and Bonn from November 29 to December 1, 2013.



Silent Film Narrator (Benshi) Mr. Kataoka

On the second and third day of the symposium, 14 German and Japanese researchers, among who was also Prof. Reinhard Zöllner, made presentations in 7 sections about silent film narrators, magic lantern use (*Laterna Magica*) in Germany and Japan and other related topics. They also discussed the possibility of hosting an international research forum titled “Comparative Film History of Germany and Japan”. This symposium introduced Japanese culture and proved to be an innovative turning point in comparative cinematographic research.