NEW Lecture ● NEW Topic
(Not included in our Spring 2016 Class Schedule!)

“The Hiroshima Maidens”
Rodney Barker, author and speaker
Tuesday, April 19, 2016
10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
Sands Room 131
ASU West campus
4701 W. Thunderbird Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85069

In this session, you will hear directly from the author about “The Hiroshima Maidens,” a humanitarian epic that reveals a side to the Hiroshima story very few Americans know about. It gives us a very personal look at a miraculous group of Hiroshima survivors – 25 young Japanese women crippled and disfigured by the effects of the blast – who were brought to the United States in 1955 for plastic and cosmetic surgery in a collective act of courage, compassion and redemptive hope. But the heart of this remarkable book is the story of how these young women whose futures had seemingly been destroyed by the bomb, remade their lives and re-created themselves, becoming instead of dramatic symbols of the horror of warfare, shining examples of what is possible when visions of human harmony are acted upon. (Books will not be available or sold at this session.)

Valley resident, Rodney Barker, began a career in journalism, first as the editor of a small weekly newspaper, then as an investigative freelancer for national magazines, and finally as an author, penning non-fiction book. A number have appeared on bestseller lists and been translated into foreign languages. He has appeared on Good Morning America and CNN, and has testified before a Congressional hearing. Mr. Barker was in a unique position to write “The Hiroshima Maidens” – he was nine years old when two of them came to live in his house. Thirty years later, he resolved to make their story better known to the world and was able to inspire the kind of trust and candor in his sources that could only come from a sense of shared experience and intimacy.

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