



Press Release

The 7th Yokohama Student Film Festival to open on the 28th Masterpieces of Young Japanese, Chinese and Korean Directors to Be Shown

YOKOHAMA, JAPAN – Wednesday, November 26, 2008 – The 7th Yokohama Student Film Festival will be held in Yokohama-shi from Friday, November 28 to Sunday, November 30, 2008. Run by its executive committee, the festival features films directed by students from Japan, China and South Korea. The upcoming festival will include classics in addition to new releases. The students' unique viewpoints, insights and approaches eloquently depict the culture and society of their countries.

The 7th Yokohama Student Film Festival features 27 films including drama and animations made by students of educational institutes for moving images that have produced significant talent for the film industries of Japan, China and South Korea, such as the Beijing Film Academy, the Chinese Central Academy of Drama, the Korean Academy of Film Arts, the Japan Academy. *"Destiny"* (the Beijing Film Academy) vividly depicts the reality of today's Tibetan Buddhists. *"High School Girls"* (the Korean Academy of Film Arts) is a story of high school days that are quite ordinary: yet they are very valuable and never return. Each of the films shown at the festival reflects viewpoints and an awareness of issues that are unique to students. This year's festival adds to its lineup by showing such classic student films as *"Chang-su gets the job"* (1984, the Korean Academy of Film Arts).

The classics include works by Mr. Hirohumi Watanabe, Mr. Li Huajun and Mr. Kim Ki-Hyeon from their university days. These individuals are assigned to a director's role in their respective countries in a common project* that derived from the Yokohama Student Film Festival. This is a trilateral collaboration involving film education institutes of Japan, China and South Korea and commemorates the 150th anniversary of the opening of the Port of Yokohama in 2009. The 2008 symposium on the Japan/China/Korea film collaboration project is also scheduled during the period of the festival.

***About the Japan/China/Korea trilateral film collaboration commemorating the 150th anniversary of the opening of the Port of Yokohama**

The project stems from a network that has been formed through the Yokohama Student Film Festival. The year 2009 marks the 150th anniversary of the opening of the Port of Yokohama. To commemorate this, film education institutes of Japan, China and South Korea and the municipal government of Yokohama are taking the lead in moving forward with collaboration among the filmmakers of the three countries. The film will be an omnibus and consist of short stories that unfold in Qingdao, Incheon and Yokohama, the representative port towns of China, South Korea and Japan, respectively. The collaboration is expected to facilitate friendship, mutual understanding and the nurturing of talented young filmmakers from each of these countries.

(Inquiries for captured images from movies and the overview of the festival follow)

<Overview>

D a t e	Friday 28, – Sunday 30, November, 2008 11:15 – 20:00* *Starts from 13:30 on 28 and Close at 17:45 on the last day. Movies to be screened are different on each day
V e n u e	Port Opening Memorial Hall (Address: 1-6, Honcho, Nakaku, Yokohama / TEL: 045-201-0708)
Organizer	The executive committee, Yokohama Art Project
Co-Organizer	150th Anniversary of the Port Opening & Creative City Headquarters
Institutes to join	China – Beijing Film Academy, the Chinese Central Academy of Drama Korea – the Korean Academy of Film Arts Japan – the Japan Academy, Osaka University of Arts, Nihon University College of Art, Tokyo Polytechnic University, Kyoto University of Art and Design
U R L	http://www.ysff.jp (Japanese)

<Major films shown at the festival>

Coal Core Director: Mr. Song Di / Beijing Film Academy / 32 min. / Drama

This story is about the love of a mother and her son living in a village in northeastern China in the 1980s. A five-year-old boy tries to pick up ashes alone in an attempt to warm his mother who is in a poor health. The mother is concerned about her son's safety.

High School Girls Director: Mr. Park Ji-wan / the Korean Academy of Film Arts / 15 min. / Drama

By depicting the cheerfulness of high school girls in their ordinary life, the film successfully conveys the freshness and beauty of high school days that are never to return.

Destiny Director: Mr. Wang Ming (aka Cicheng Sangbu) / Beijing Film Academy / 38 min. / Drama

The director of Tibetan ancestry depicts the everyday life of today's Tibetan Buddhists based in Lhasa, the holy land of Tibetan Buddhism. In this film you can see the piousness of these Buddhists in their asceticism and their pursuit of spiritual awakening.

< The 2008 symposium on the Japan/China/Korea film collaboration project>

D a t e	Friday 28, 2008 15:30 –
V e n u e	Port Opening Memorial Hall Room #1
T h e m e	Producing process of the film collaboration project

Please address any inquiries regarding this news release to the following persons:

> Yuiko Itoh / Masahiro Masuda

Media Liaison Subdivision, City of Yokohama TEL: 045-671-3498

> Hidehiko Yamada / Seiko Indo

Japan Public Relations Institute TEL: 03-5368-0911 or hidehiko.yamada@japan-pri.jp