



For Immediate Release
Shochiku Co., Ltd.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF 2020 SHOCHIKU'S FILM DIVISION RETROSPECTIVE EVENTS START AROUND THE WORLD

Tokyo, Japan – February 14, 2020 – On February 11th, 1920, Shochiku founded Shochiku Kamata Studio in Tokyo and started producing motion pictures. This year marks “Shochiku Cinema 100th Anniversary” and we are pleased to announce many retrospective events which are planned around the world.



A Message from the CEO

This year marks the 100th year since Shochiku started producing films. On this occasion, we would like to thank everyone who has kindly supported Shochiku films throughout the rich history.

We produced Japan's first talkie film and color film, and films shot in other ways being, aware of what is coming as new challenges, and created numerous masterpieces and memorable work.

We will continue to take on new challenges, unafraid of change, to provide you with quality experiences.

We thank you for your understanding and warm support as we pursue this goal.

Jay Sakomoto

President and CEO, Shochiku Co., Ltd.



RETROSPECTIVE EVENTS

<International>

[France/Paris]

■ Hiroshi Shimizu Retrospective (tentative title)

When: April 22 (Wed) 2020 – May 26 (Tue) 2020

Where: Maison de la culture du Japon à Paris and Cinémathèque Française

[Denmark/Copenhagen]

When: Sept-Oct 2020

Where: Danish Film Institute

[Norway/Oslo and other cities]

When: Sept-Nov 2020

Where: Norwegian Film Institute

[Finland/Helsinki]

When: Nov-Dec 2020

Where: KAVI Finnish Film Institute

[Germany/Munich]

When: Oct-Mar 2020

Where: Munchen Film Museum

[Sweden/Stockholm] (tentative)

When: Jan-Feb 2021 (TBD)

Where: Swedish Film Institute

[Netherlands/Amsterdam] (tentative)

When: Feb 2021 (TBD)

Where: EYE Film Institute



*Additional Retrospective Screenings are currently planned in the United States, UK, Italy, Switzerland, Belarus and will be announced as they become available.

<Japan>

■“Shochiku Kinema 100th Anniversary” Exhibition

When: Jan 10 (Fri) 2020 - Mar 3 (Tue) 2020

Where: Shochiku Otani Library

Organizer: SHOCHIKU OTANI LIBRARY

■“THE COLORS OF SHOWA: THE SHOCHIKU OFUNA STUDIO STORY” Retrospective

When: Jan 18 (Sat) 2020 – Mar 27 (Fri) 2020

Where: Kamakura City Kawakita Film Museum (Kamakura, Kanagawa Pref.)

Organizer: KAWAKITA-KBS GROUP

■“Shochiku Cinema 100th Anniversary: Directors for Shochiku Films Throughout the Century

When: From Feb 1 (Sat) 2020

Where: Eisei Gekijou Pay TV Channel

Organizer: Shochiku Broadcasting Co., Ltd.

■“Shochiku Cinema 100th Anniversary: Genealogy of the Home Drama”

When: Jun 6 (Sat) 2020 – Jun 26 (Fri) 2020 (tentative schedule)

Where: CINEMAVERA (Shibuya, Tokyo)

■“Shochiku Cinema at 100 [exhibition] (tentative title)”

When: May 29 (Fri) 2020 – Aug 30 (Sun) 2020 (tentative schedule)

Where: National Film Archive of Japan Exhibition Room (Kyobashi, Tokyo)

Organizer: National Film Archive of Japan

■Shochiku Cinema at 100 [screening] (tentative title)

When: June 25 (Thu) 2020 – Sept 6 (Sun) 2020 (tentative schedule)

Where: National Film Archive of Japan Nagase Memorial Theatre OZU (Kyobashi, Tokyo)

Organizer: National Film Archive of Japan



■Shochiku Cinema 100th Anniversary Film “Gods of Cinema” (tentative title), “Kinema no Kamisama” (original Japanese title)

Director: Yoji Yamada

Starring: Ken Shimura, Masaki Suda, Mei Nagano, Nobuko Miyamoto

Theatrical Release Date: Dec 2020 (tentative release schedule)

To celebrate “Shochiku Cinema 100th Anniversary”, we’ve received several comments from various important partners of Shochiku.

Golden Scene Company Ltd. (Hong Kong)

Managing Director, Ms. Winnie Tsang

Golden Scene has been in constant collaboration with Shochiku for the past twenty years, and we are delighted to be able to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Shochiku Cinema with one of the most professional and diligent teams in the film industry. We can always trust that Shochiku will produce films that represent the highest quality in Japanese cinema. Here's to another 100 years to Shochiku Cinema!"

Hong Kong Asia Film Financing Forum (HAF)

Director, Mr. Jacob Wong

Happy 100, Shochiku! Thank you dearly for the treasures you brought to cinema, and long may your glorious century draw you on to an even brighter future."

Maison de la culture du Japon à Paris

Assistant Director of Programming, Mr. Fabrice Arduini

For several decades, Yasujiro Ozu’s French fan base has constantly grown and now counts hundreds of thousands spectators.

Each year, retrospectives organized in our major French cities have always been a great success.

If we can state that today, French spectators are familiar with Ozu’s work, on the other hand, they almost know nothing about the Studio from which Ozu came from: the Shochiku company, whose logo representing Mount Fuji appears at the same time as the first few bars of the film’s music.



This year 2020 is the centenary of Shochiku Studio. This anniversary pushes us to organize jointly with the Maison de la culture du Japon in Paris and the Cinémathèque Française "A History of Shochiku" retrospective, offering to French spectators the opportunity to discover the richness of its production and its modern touch that marked the golden age of Japanese cinema.

By following step by step the history of the Shochiku studio, from the 1920s to its most recent achievements, the French public will approach Japan's history, its sensitivity and its culture through this unprecedented cinematic experience.

This event will take place in Paris in November and December 2020. It will be preceded, in April and May 2020, by the first complete retrospective -outside Japan- dedicated to director Hiroshi Shimizu, who was the contemporary of Ozu.

This year, Paris will be Shochiku special venue.

Shochiku Cinema 100th Anniversary Logo

Japanese and English version





<About Shochiku>

Founded in 1895, Shochiku functions as a highly-tuned vertically integrated entertainment entity, encompassing feature film and television production, theatrical distribution of Japanese & foreign motion pictures, worldwide sales, exhibition, videogram & home entertainment distribution, and the theater stage production & distribution including the Kabuki Theater.

Shochiku operates one of the most successful motion picture divisions in Japan which was founded in 1920. The company has produced a number of critically and financially successful films, including the 2009 Academy Award® Winner for Best Foreign Language Film “Departures” directed by Yojiro Takita, and 2004 Academy Award® nominee for Best Foreign Language Film “The Twilight Samurai” directed by Yoji Yamada.

(<http://www.shochikufilms.com>)

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