

MONTREAL
FESTIVAL
DU NOUVEAU
CINÉMA
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Fantasia

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**MONTREAL'S FESTIVAL DU NOUVEAU CINÉMA AND
THE FANTASIA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
UNITE TO HIGHLIGHT A 100-YEAR NIKKATSU RETROSPECTIVE**

Montreal, Tuesday, June 5, 2012 – Montreal's Festival du nouveau cinéma and the Fantasia International Film Festival have joined forces this year, in their first major collaboration, to present a mutual retrospective dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the Japanese production and distribution company, NIKKATSU, in collaboration with the Cinémathèque québécoise.

Following a successful run at New York City's Lincoln Center, as well as the Cinémathèque française in France, this prestigious retrospective will now be presented in Montreal. Fantasia, now in its 16th edition, will host the first part of the retrospective, with five films which will run from July 19 to August 7, 2012: **Tokyo Drifter** (1966) Seijun Suzuki; **Slaughter Gun** (1967) Yasuharu Hasebe; **Profound Desires of the Gods** (1968) Shohei Imamura; **Stray Cat Rock - Sex Hunter** (1970) Yasuharu Hasebe; and **Postman Blues** (1997) Sabu.

Later this fall, the 41st edition of Montreal's Festival du nouveau cinéma will take the reigns from October 10 to 21, 2012, presenting a selection of ten films: **Momijigari** (1897) Tsunekichi Shibata; **Jiyaiya the Ninja** (1921) Shozo Makino; **Singing Lovebirds** (1939) Masahiro Makino; **The Sun in the Last Days of the Shogunate** (1957) Yuzo Kawashima; **The Woman from the Sea** (1959) Koreyoshi Kurahara; **I Hate but Love** (1962) Koreyoshi Kurahara; **Intentions of Murder** (1964) Shôei Imamura; **Retaliation** (1968) Yasuharu Hasebe; **Secret Chronicle: She-Beast Market** (1974) Noboru Tanaka; and **Charisma** (1999) Kiyoshi Kurosawa.

NIKKATSU is one of the oldest Japanese film production houses around. Founded in 1912 after the amalgamation of four film companies with studios in Tokyo and Kyoto, its history bears witness to major changes in both cinema, as well as society in general. The thrillers it produced in the early 1970s are renowned for their artful expression of rebellion and disenchantment, which, to this day, still constitute a pivotal moment for the studio, as well as the history of Japanese cinema.

This 100th anniversary NIKKATSU retrospective constitutes the first collaborative initiative between Montreal's Festival du nouveau cinéma and the Fantasia International Film Festival, and was born out of a mutual desire to develop

innovative strategies that would see Montreal film festivals strengthen their position within the international festival circuit.

A dual FNC/FANTASIA: NIKKATSU 100th anniversary special accreditation pass - with prices and eligibility requirements yet to be determined – will be available and valid for all the retrospective films during both events.

Access to Nikkatsu's archives has been made possible thanks to the collaboration of the Cinémathèque québécoise.

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