

# OUTRAGE A TAKESHI KITANO FILM



IN COMPETITION

### OURAGE A TAKESHI KITANO FILM

JAPAN - 2010 -109 min - Color - Cinemascope - Dolby Digital

the directors label



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### **ON YAKUZA FLICKS**

For a long time, I was often questioned why I made yakuza flicks. Then, as the years passed since 2000's BROTHER (my last film focusing on yakuza), a lot of people started asking me why I stopped making movies about yakuza. So now I guess maybe people will ask me why I decided after a decade to "return" to making a movie about yakuza. Well, the answer is simply that I wanted to. I found it amusing and interesting before and I had not made one in a while. There's nothing wrong with doing one now and then. But I definitely don't consider it a "return" to the yakuza films that I've made in the past. With every new film, I'm always looking to try new things. On OUTRAGE, I'm working within the yakuza genre structure, but I did try and play around with twists in the storyline. And I did look for new ways to orchestrate violent and murderous tactics.

### ON FILMING VIOLENCE

People have said that filming violence is one of my specialties, and I think I'm pretty good at it, as well. I feel pretty confident that I can do that sort of thing anytime. It's like asking an experienced Japanese chef to cook the very everyday katsu-don (breaded pork cutlet on rice). Of course, he thinks that he can make katsu-don in his sleep. Well, filming violence is my katsu-don. It's a dish that I'm always ready to prepare. And I hope that my katsu-don is more delicious than everyone else's... Joking aside, I intentionally shoot violence to make the audience feel real pain. I have never and I will never shoot violence as if it's some kind of action video game.

### **ON DIALOGUE**

Most of the roles that I've played in my films have been rather quiet and those characters had a certain coolness with few words. In OUTRAGE, I intentionally made the characters speak a lot more. The entire film consists of sleazy yakuza speaking freely. What I find interesting is that the yakuza in OUTRAGE don't keep their cool at all. Everyone is constantly screaming and yelling at each other. They're pretty embarrassing. There is even a segment where the actors overlap each other's dialogue in a rhythm similar to my manzai style. I had never tried doing this in my previous films, so it was very amusing for me to have characters constantly calling each other asshole.

### ON BALANCING THE ENSEMBLE

Although it's set within yakuza society, there are ideas that everyone in our modern world can surely relate to. What unfolds in OUTRAGE is similar to what goes on in other organizations or clans in politics, corporate culture or even academia. It's all about a game of survival among self-serving men. Although pledged to a group, the characters act independently and only think about themselves. Since the film is an ensemble piece without a single protagonist at the center, I had to take special care to balance the characters. During the script work, I was constantly trading lines and actions between characters. Similarly, I had to pay careful attention to camera angles and shot variety, as well. I was constantly thinking about balance. I'm sure that if I had focused on a single main character, this film would have loss some dynamism. The result is that all the characters entwine with each other.

### ON WORKING WITH NUMEROUS CHARACTERS

My scripts always originate from images. Already in the casting process, I had a chart with arrows connecting character names to the actors' photographs. I used this chart to figure out balances between the clans and their sworn brothers. I also didn't want certain actors with strong features to overshadow the others. Even with all this, I didn't have to change the characteristics of my image that much. During the shoot, I was open to seeing if the actors moved as I imagined the characters. Sometimes they actually moved better than I had hoped or sometimes what I saw led to a different image from what I had originally imagined. When that happened, I made the necessary script adjustments. Some directors are headstrong about sticking to the shooting script to the point of even forcing an actor to do something unnatural. I don't think our modern times grant us with such time, so to move forward, I chose to tailor the script to the actors.

### ON WORKING WITH NEW ACTORS

All of the actors in OUTRAGE were new to working with me, so they were probably carefully checking me out at first. In return, I was checking them out too. With the group of actors that I'm used to working with, things run very smoothly. But I think that a certain kind of tension on a set can be good too. There were no setbacks at all. I actually think it was good since it was so fresh. There were some actors whose acting technique I had never staged before in a film. I saw things that I had not experienced before with my usual actors. I thought about asking them not to act the way they did, but then I decided that it might even be better that what I had imagined, so I decided to work with their acting style.







### SEKUICHI aka "MR. CHAIRMAN" Boss of the ruling Sanno-kai clan. The head of a huge

crime organization controlling the whole of the greater Tokyo Area. Long reigning boss of the bosses with absolute authority.

### played by Soichiro Kitamura

Born September 25, 1935, in Kochi prefecture. Having worked with theatrical troupes including Bungaku-za and Gekidan Kumo, Kitamura now is the principle member of Gekidan Subaru. After many years of working in theatrical productions, he became a household name with his role of Police Chief Kanda in the blockbuster TV and film series Bayside Shakedown ('96). His acting projects have expanded from theater, cinema, TV films and TV series to TV variety shows and commercials. His notable TV film appearance includes Shin Kyoto Meikyu Annai" ('99-'09), Bengoshi no Kuzu ('06), Shimokita Sundays ('06), Nanase Futatabi ('08). His recent filmography includes Tsuribaka Nisshi 19 ('08), Killer Virgin Road ('09), 20th Century Boy 3: The Last Chapter - Our Flag ('09). Despite his wide and varied career, Kitamura plays a yakuza for the first time in OUTRAGE.



### KATO, underboss of the Sanno-kai

The ever-obedient right-hand man of Mr. Chairman.

### played by Tomokazu Miura

Born January 28, 1952 in Yamanashi Prefecture. Miura made his debut as an actor in the TV series Secret Butai ('71). He became one of the most popular young actors in the 70s with his roles in Akai (Red) series. Since then he has built an established career as a very versatile actor. His main film credits include: Izuno Odoriko ('74); Kanashiki Hitman ('89); Muno no Hito ('91), which won him Best Supporting Actor in the Mainichi Shimbun Film Concours; Adrift In Tokyo (Tenten) ('07); Rico's Restaurant (Katatsumuri Restaurant) ('10). Miura last played a yakuza in 1989's Kanashiki Hitman.



### OZAWA, underboss of the Ikemoto clan

Ikemoto's right hand man for the past 20 years. Loyal, but still willing to seize the opportunity to become head of the clan.

### played by Tetta Sugimoto

Born July 21, 1965 in Kanagawa Prefecture. Snce his big screen debut, Hakujasho ('83), which garnered him the Japan Academy's Best Newcomer Award, Sugimoto has worked steadily in TV and film. His filmography includes Kei Kumai's Shiny Moss (Hikari Goke) ('92), Biriken ('96), Isao Yukisada's Crying Out Love, In The Center Of The World (Sekai no Chushin de, Ai o Sakebu) ('04), Yojiro Takita's Best Foreign Language Film Oscar winner Departures (Okuribito) ('08) and Zero Focus (Zero no Shoten) ('09). His recent TV appearances include Waterboys ('03), Kurosagi ('06), Kurama Tengu ('08) Kanryo-tachi no Natsu ('09), Ryoma Den ('10) and Code Blue: Doctor Heli Kinkyukyumei – The 2nd Season ("10).



### IKEMOTO, head of the Ikemoto clan

An affiliate of the Sanno-kai. A cunning and greedy yakuza boss who will stop at nothing to please Mr. Chairman and try to get ahead. He's a tight-fisted, untrustworthy and unsophisticated con man.

### played by Jun Kunimura

Born November 16, 1955 in Osaka prefecture. Kunimura made his cinema debut in Kazuyuki Izutsu's Empire of Kids (Gaki Teikoku) ('81) and appeared steadily in numerous films, TV series and commercials domestically as well as internationally, most notably in Quentin Tarantino's Kill Bill Vol. 1 ('03). He is well known for roles as the traditional father and he received nation-wide acclaim for his role as the husband of Seiko Tanabe. a famous female novelist, in the TV adaptation of her autobiographical story, Imo Tako Nankin ('06). Other notable TV appearances include Gyoretsu 48 jikan ('09), Oyaji no ichiban nagai hi ('09), Daibutsu Kaigan ('10). His recent filmography includes Pako and the Magical Picture Book (Pako to Mahouno Ehon) ('08), Mt. Tsurugidake (Tsurugidake Ten no Ki) ('09), The King Of Jail Breakers (Itao Itsuji no Datsugokuo) ('10), Hana no Ato ('10), My Darling Is A Foreigner (Darling wa Gaikoku-jin) ('10), Tida Kankan ('10) and Okan no Yomeiri ('10). OUTRAGE marks one of his rare performances as a yakuza.





OTOMO, head of the Otomo clan an affiliate of the Sanno-kai. The old-fashioned yakuza tough guy, Otomo, head of his own small clan. He always ends doing the dirty work for his sworn father lkemoto.

### played by Beat Takeshi

Born January 18, 1947 in Tokyo. Kitano formed a stand-up comedy group, Two Beats with Beat Kiyoshi (real name: Kiyoshi Kaneko) in 1973. They rose to national stardom for their poignant humor and fast delivery as one of many 'Manzai' acts that became huge in its boom in the early 80s. Beat Takeshi became a superstar after he started working solo on TV and midnight radio programs. He made his screen acting debut in Nagisa Oshima's Merry Christmas Mister Lawrence. His other film acting credits include Yasuo Furuhata's Yasha ('85), Robert Longo's Johnny Mnemonic ('85), Oshima's Taboo ('99), Kinji Fukasaku's Battle Royale ('00) and Yoichi Sai's Blood and Bones ('04). Kitano has also acted in numerous acclaimed TV movies including Showa 46 nen, Okubo Kiyoshi no Hanzai ('83), Chushingura ('90), Kyodai ('99), Harikomi ('02) and Ten to Sen ('07).



MIZUNO, underboss of the Otomo clan Like his boss, Mizuno believes in traditional yakuza chivalry. He's ready to die out of loyalty.

### played by Kippei Shiina

Born July 14, 1964 in Mie Prefecture. Shiina got his first public and critical attention with his performance in Takashi Ishii's Nude no Yoru ('93). Masato Harada's Spellbound (Jubaku) ('99) won him many awards including a Japanese Academy Awards Best Supporting Actor nomination. Shiina is an active presence in TV, cinema and theater. His notable TV appearances include Antique ('01), Keikan no Chi ('09), Zeni Geba ('09) Code Blue: Doctor-Heli Kyukyu-Kyumei - The 2nd Season ('10). His notable theater performances include Bent ('04). Rainman ('06-'07) and Ijin-tachi tono Natsu ('09). His filmography includes Kewaishi ('02), Yoichi Sai's Quill ('04), Thirty Lies Or So (Yaku Sanju no Uso) ('04), Sakuran ('07), Masato Harada's The Shadow Spirit (Moryo no Hako) ('07), Time Lost, Time Found (Yomei) ('09), Rain Fall ('09) and Katen no Shiro ('09).



ISHIHARA, member of the Otomo clan Handles financial matters for the Otomo clan. Cold, detached and temperamental, this young man could care less about yakuza traditions.

### played by Ryo Kase

Born November 9, 1974 in Kanagawa Prefecture. Kase's acting career rose with Sogo Ishii's Gojoe: The Spirit War Chronicle ('00). He has been an active force in films, both domestic and international: Antenna ('04), Scrap Heaven ('05), Honey And Clover (Hachimitsu to Clover) ('06), Clint Eastwood's Letters From Iwo-jima ('06), Masayuki Suo's I Just Didn't Do It (Soredemo Bokuwa Yattenai) ('07), Glasses (Megane) ('07), Ryosuke Hashiguchi's All Around Us (Gururi no Koto) ('08), Gugu Datte Neko Dearu ('08), Pako and the Magical Picture Book (Pako to Mahouno Ehon) ('08), Instant Swamp (Instant Numa) ('09), Pool ('09), Juryoku Pierrot ('09) and Yoji Yamada's About Her Brother (Ototo) ('10). He made his TV series debut recently in Arifureta Kiseki ('09 Fuji TV). He will soon be seen in Gus Van Sant's new film Restless.



MURASE, head of the Murase clan An old-time yakuza boss of a small clan. His alliance with Ikemoto is a desperate attempt to get in good with Mr. Chairman, but the result is escalating gang warfare.

### played by Renji Ishibashi

Born August 9, 1941 in Tokyo. Having worked in such prominent theatrical troupes as Gekidan Wakakusa, Gekidan Seihai, Gendaijin Gekijo, Ishibashi now heads Gekidan Dai-nana Byoto. His idiosyncratic personality and precise acting skills have made him one of the most unique character actors in Japan. Previously known for playing bad guys and criminals, he now gets more offers to play funnier roles as humorous fathers, detectives and judges. His filmography includes Kinji Fukasaku's House On Fire (Kataku no Hito) ('86), Ronin Gai ('90), Railroad Man (Poppoya) ('99), Takeshi Miike's Audition ('00), Kei Kumai's Darkness In The Light (Nippon no Kuroi Natsu) ('01) and Isao Yukisada's The Year One In The North (Kita no Zero Nen) ('05). His most recent film projects include Isao Yukisada's A Good Husband (Kondo wa Aisaika)('10), Hito no Sabaku ('10) and Ningen Shikkaku ('10).

## THE VILLAINS



### KIMURA, underboss of the Murase clan

Sent to apologize formally to the Otomo clan, he is provoked to chop off his finger with a paper cutter. He now holds a bloodthirsty grudge against Otomo.

### played by Hideo Nakano

Born December 22, 1964 in Kyoto. Nakano joined Gekidan Issei Fubi aspiring to become an actor and made his small screen debut with the successful TV cop series Abunai Deka ('86). He had a breakthrough performance as Choro in Ai to luna no Motoni ('92), a hugely popular TV series. His versatile acting style has garnered him numerous roles in different genres in films. Nakano also occasionally appears on variety and talk shows. His filmography includes Gokudo no Tsuma Tachi; Sandaime Anego ('89), See You At The Camp Ground (Camp de Aimasho) ('96), The Rug Cop (Zura Deka) ('06) and Kimi Ni Shika Kikoenai ('07).

### IIZUKA, member of the Murase clan

A young yakuza whose specialty is tricking innocent passers-by into a ripoff joint. He mistakenly suckers an Otomo henchman and gang warfare soon follows.

### played by Takashi Tsukamoto

Born October 27, 1982 in Tokyo. Tsukamoto's acting career kicked off with the TV series Shokuin-shitsu ('97). He earned a reputation as one of the most promising young Japanese actors for his performances in such popular TV series as Kisarazu Cat's Eye ('02), Tiger & Dragon ('05), Kekkon Dekinai Otoko ('06) and Teio ('06). He gave an acclaimed portrayal of Takeshi Kitano as a young adult in the TV dramatization of Kitano's semi-autobiographical novel about his parents, Kikujiro to Saki ('05). His filmography includes Kinji Fukasaku's Battle Royale ('00), Rockers ('03), Taki 183 ('06), Midnight Sun (Taiyo no Uta) ('06), Tears For You (Nada Sousou) ('06), Flowers In The Shadow (Kage Hinata-ni Saku) ('08), No More Cry (Nakumonka) ('09) and Free and Easy 20 (Tsuribaka Nishi 20) ('09).





### DETECTIVE KATAOKA

A police detective for the Organized Crime Department. A former college boxing teammate of Otomo. Despite the badge, he's as corrupt as they come.

### played by Fumiyo Kohinata

Born January 23, 1954 in Hokkaido. Kohinata joined On Theater Jiyu Gekijo in 1977 and acted as its leading member until the troupe disbanded in 1996. He earned mainstream recognition as a nonchalant humorous clerk in the popular TV series Hero ('01). His recent TV projects include Ashita no Kita Yoshio ('08), Scandal ('08), Konkatsu ('09) and Jin ('09). His filmography includes Always: Sunset on 3rd Street (Always Sancho-me no Yuhi) ('05) and its sequel, Always: Sunset on 3rd Street II (Always Zoku Sancho-me no Yuhi) ('07), The Magic Hour ('08), Juryoku Pierrot ('09), the Japanese remake of Sideways ('09) and Yoji Yamada's About Her Brother (Ototo) ('10).











