Embassy of Japan

Press Release

11 September 2017





Japanese Film Festival 2017

14-17 September 2017, Free Admission Paramount Cinema (25 Courtenay Place, Wellington)

The Embassy of Japan, in cooperation with the Japan Foundation, is very pleased to announce the return of the Japanese Film Festival to Wellington in 2017.

This year, the ever-popular Japan Film Festival has once again come to the Paramount in Wellington, featuring recent films across a variety of genres, including drama, action, and comedy. They provide the audience with an exciting opportunity to deepen their familiarity with Japanese culture and society.

Opening night (Thursday 14th September) brings you a special Wellington-Sakai Sister City Association-sponsored film, "Ask This of Rikyu", and each day of the festival forward will feature at least two different films.

Friday 15th September features "The Mohican Comes Home" at 3:30pm, a bittersweet drama about what it means to be family, followed up by "The Long Excuse" at 6:30pm, a novel adaptation about the joys of living for others. Saturday 16th September showcases three different offerings. At 11:00am, "Chihayafuru Part 1" illustrates the competitive world of *karuta* cards, followed by "What a Wonderful Family!" at 2:00pm, a tongue-in-cheek comedy about coping with change, capped off with a 5:00pm showing of "It's a Beautiful Life –IRODORI-", a tale of triumph based on a true story. On Sunday 17th September, we will screen our final two films: "The Magnificent Nine" at 1:00pm, with its real-life historical comedy stylings, closing out the festival with "My Love Story!!" at 4:00pm, a live adaptation of the popular comic, a romantic comedy with a manly twist!

Admission is free to all sessions, and tickets can be applied for via the <u>Embassy of Japan website</u>. Seats are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Please see the attached file for more details.

If you would like to cover the film festival, please contact us at <u>jicc@wl.mofa.go.jp</u>.

In cooperation with:

