

# "FILM by MUSIC"

July 6 (Sat) - December 1 (Sun) 12:00 - 18:00 FRANK cafe/gallery and more

#### Movies born from music

## Screening exhibition showcasing competition winners' and invited artists' works

As part of its 10th Anniversary Program, the Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM] launched the "Film Competition for Imaginary Film Music" as a competition for movies based on soundtracks composed for films that don't yet exist.

A jury made up of Ryuichi Sakamoto, artistic director for the 10th Anniversary Program, and five other professionals working in the front lines of film/video production and critique, selected a total of twelve works including 5 grand prize winners from among 122 submissions from Japan and abroad. The winning works are introduced at the café/gallery "FRANK" in Yamaguchi City, along with three new movies made under the same conditions as the competition entries by three filmmakers commissioned by YCAM.

This exposition of outstanding film/video works weaving new threads that connect images and music as basic components of a movie, to be watched in a casual everyday kind of setting, represents an approach to the 10th Anniversary Program's key concepts of "art", "environment" and "life" through the familiar medium of film.

## Winning works (Excellent Award)

Nao Yoshigai "grooming"
Suzuko Ohgaki "day after day"
Takuya Dairiki "2012 Sep 12"
Taro Asakura "ricochet"
Humberto Duque, Nick Deamer "CACHÉ"

#### Commissioned filmmakers

Tetuya Mariko Natsuki Seta Sho Miyake



Natsuki Seta's new "5 windows mountain mouth", an epilogue to "5 windows" from 2011. The entire movie was shot in Yamaguchi.



## FILM by MUSIC - Thoughts about the relationship between film/video and sound/music



Tree at Izumo Shrine in Yamaguchi (photo by Shiro Takatani)

As the production of a movie is commonly done by creating the visuals first, in the normal case a soundtrack is added afterwards in the form of music composed to accompany already existing images. However there are movies realized exactly the other way around. For example, composer Arnold Schoenberg's "Begleitmusik zu einer Lichtspielszene [Accompanying music to a film scene], Op. 34)" (1929) was made according to a music publisher's concept of "composing would-be film music". 43 years later, a movie directed by Straub-Huillet was produced, which later developed into the movie "Einleitung zu Arnold Schoenberg's Begleitmusik zu einer Lichtspielscene [Introduction to Arnold Schoenberg's 'Accompanying music to a film scene']".

With such precedents in mind, "FILM by MUSIC" was organized as the first ever film competition at YCAM, and as a screening program introducing the winners. For the competition, Ryuichi Sakamoto, a leading authority in the realm of film music, first chose three musicians – Ichiko Aoba, Koji Ueno and Masahiro Miwa – that were commissioned to compose new original scores. Following was a competition format call for submissions from the general public of "movies/videos born from music", made by creating visuals to go with the provided scores.

Six judges around Sakamoto himself eventually selected a total of twelve winners from among 122 submissions from Japan and abroad, which will be shown at the café/gallery "FRANK" in Yamaguchi City. In addition, three young filmmakers that have recently come under the spotlight – Natsuki Seta, Tetsuya Mariko and Sho Miyake – were commissioned to make films using the same music as in the competition, the results of which are presented at the same time.

Starting now is a program that showcases how film scores composed by musicians based on certain individual ideas are interpreted and translated into imagery, while considering/observing the relationship between images and music by different approaches.

#### Ichiko Aoba

Born 1990. Started playing classical guitar at the age of 17. Made her official debut with her first solo album "Kamisori Otome" in January 2010 at the age of 19, and released two more albums ("Origami", "Utabiko") to date.

## Koji Ueno

Composer. Formerly a member of the bands 8 1/2, Halmens and Guernica, and later began writing soundtracks for movies like "Zero no Shoten" (Focus Zero) and "Helter-Skelter", and songs for commercial spots ("Tarako, Tarako, Tarako", etc.)

#### Masahiro Miwa

Born 1958. Professor at the Institute of Advanced Media Arts and Sciences (IAMAS). Studied under Isang Yun at Berlin University of the Arts, and later under Günther Becker at Robert Schumann University of Music and Media. Received numerous awards including an Akutagawa Award for Music Composition for "Bolero by Muramatsu Gear Engine" in 2004, a Golden Nica at Ars Electronica for "Reverse Simulation Music" in 2007, an Art Encouragement Prize from the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology in 2010.



## Winning works from among 122 submissions

#### Excellence Award



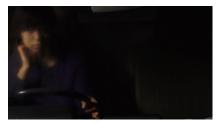
Nao Yoshigai "grooming" 2013 / Japan / 4 min 33 sec Music: Ichiko Aoba



Suzuko Ohgaki "day after day" 2013 / Japan / 3 min 56 sec Music: Ichiko Aoba



Takuya Dairiki "2012 Sep 12" 2013 / Japan / 3 min 40 sec Music: Koji Ueno



Taro Asakura "ricochet" 2013 / Japan / 6 min 34 sec Music: Ichiko Aoba



Humberto Duque, Nick Deamer "CACHÉ" 2013年 / Mexico and USA / 5 min Music: Masahiro Miwa

### Fine Work Award



Kosuke Muroi "daily life" 2013 / Japan / 2 min 21 sec Music: Ichiko Aoba



Yoshikazu Homura "Japan" 2013 / Japan / 3 min 59 sec Music: Koji Ueno

#### Honorary Mention

ALIMO "WHITE" (2013 / Japan / 6 min 3 sec / Music: Masahiro Miwa)
Noriyuki Kimura "Unser Haus" (2013 / Japan / 5 min / Music: Masahiro Miwa)
Ryosuke Hayazaka "a guitar story" (2013 / Japan / 7 min / Music: Ichiko Aoba)
Yuki Sato "own/e" (2013 / Japan / 4 min 44 sec / Music: Ichiko Aoba)
Shinji Furuya "377" (2013 / Japan / 5 min 12 sec / Music: Masahiro Miwa)



## New short films by three up-and-coming young directors, specially made for this program



## Natsuki Seta "5windows mountain mouth"

Director: Natsuki Seta / Music: Ichiko Aoba

Natsuki Seta: Born in Osaka in 1979. Film director. Completed a graduate course with a major in movies, Department of Film and New Media, Tokyo University of the Arts. The main works she directed include "A Letter from Elsewhere (A Letter from the Other Side)" (2008) and "What's Done is Done" (2009). Her first major film "A Liar and a Broken Girl (A Liar and a Broken Girl)" (Cast: Aya Oomasa and Shota Sometani) was released nationwide in 2011. In addition to such an experimental work as "5windows" composed of five stories, and the production of drama in which stories unfold via mobile phones and the web, she is working on "Vampire Heaven" (TV Tokyo), a late-night drama series.



## ■ Tetsuya Mariko "NINIFUNI+"

Director: Tetsuya Mariko / Music: Masahiro Miwa

Tetsuya Mariko: Born in Tokyo in 1981. As a student of Hosei University, he was awarded the Grand Prize at Chofu Film Festival 2003 for "HOZO," and his 8mm movies, "Kyokuto no Mansion (Far East Apartment)" and "Mariko's 30 Pirates" won the Grand Prize in the section "Off Theater" at Yubari International Fantastic Film Festival for two consecutive years. In 2007, he became a graduate student of Department of Film and New Media, Tokyo University of the Arts, and his graduation work "Yellow Kid" was highly praised as a rare movie made by a student that was released for the roadshow. In 2011, "NINIFUNI" was invited and shown at the Locarno International Film Festival, which was very unusual for a mediumlength movie. His new work is "FUN FAIR," part of his omnibus film "Onaji Hoshi no Shita, Sorezore no Yoru (Own Night with a Shooting Star)."



## Sho Miyake "Journey to Brazil"

Director: Sho Miyake / Music: Koji Ueno

Sho Miyake: Born in Sapporo in 1984. Completed the primary fiction course at the Film School of Tokyo in 2007. Graduated from Hitotsubashi University (Department of Sociology) in 2009. In 2009, his short film "Spy no shita (The Spy's Tongue)" won the grand prize in the open competition of the 5th CO2. Produced and directed "Yakutatazu (Good for Nothing)" as his first feature film (the 6th CO2 subsidy work). His latest work "Playback" (2012) was officially presented at the open competition of the 65th Locarno International Film Festival. It also won the Director's Grand Prize as an up-and-coming director at the 27th Takasaki Film Festival. It has also recorded a long run of 10 weeks in Tokyo. (It is now showing nationwide.)

### Natsuki Seta's "5windows" project comes as a special Yamaguchi edition!



Natsuki Seta "5windows"

In connection with the screening of awarded and commissioned works, Natsuki Seta, one of the invited filmmakers, presents a "special Yamaguchi edition" of her "5windows". This new edition contains a newly added episode set in the area around Ichinosaka River in central Yamaguchi.

#### Natsuki Seta "5windows" program

This movie composed of five episodes set in Yokohama's Koganecho area distinguishes itself primarily through its unique, site-specific presentation format. Four of the five episodes that make up the movie are screened at four different outdoor locations, and together form one bigger narrative that is finally shown at a movie theater. This method was adopted in order to give the viewer a stronger, rather physical sensation of the movie's temporal and spatial framework.

The "special Yamaguchi edition" of this work includes the additional "5windows mountain mouth", shot in the streets, shops and cultural facilities near Yamaguchi's Ichinosaka River, as an epilogue of sorts to the existing five episodes. Images of Yokohama waterway sceneries and the daily lives of young people in the area overlap with visual scenes of Ichinosaka River, far away from Yokohama, revealing both differences and common points that will probably evoke various inner feelings in the viewer.

Embark on a fascinating journey through filmed and real sceneries of the Ichinosaka River area, and enjoy a story transcending the boundaries of space and time.

#### 5windows

On a summer day, Riku, Tomoo, Yoshikura and Yuki happen to be in the Koganecho- area at the same time. The piece tells the story of what happens at 14:50 on that day, from the four protagonists' individual points of view. The fifth narrative finally illustrates how they meet on a bridge, and how in that moment their respective pasts, futures, dreams, memories, and possible alternative presents complexly intertwine.



## Commissioned filmmakers' previous works showcased in a related screening program

The YCAM program features special screenings of early up to recent works by each of the three commissioned filmmakers. Shown on three dates during the period of the program are titled selected by the creators themselves, including rarely shown works made in their student days, and online media based works.

Don't miss this priceless opportunity to look back on the careers of young filmmakers that are in the spotlight right now.

[For detailed descriptions and screening schedules, please visit the 10th Anniversary Program website.]

#### Program

- Natsuki Seta, "5 windows movie version" + 3 other titles
- Tetsuya Mariko, "NINIFUNI", "FUN FAIR" + 3 other titles
- Sho Miyake, "Play Back" + 2 other titles

#### **Event Data**

#### "FILM by MUSIC"

July 6 (Sat) - December 1, 2013 12:00 - 18:00

Addmission Free

http://10th.ycam.jp/filmmusic/

1) Screening of winning works + commissioned works

12:00-17:00 Admission Free / No Holidays

Place: FRANK cafe/gallery (2-4-19 Dojomonzen, Yamaguchi City)

#### 2) Related exhibition "5windows Yamaguchi Special Edition"

12:00-17:00 Admission Free

Place: public facilities &shops along Ichinosaka River

- [A] Creative Space Akarenga 2F lobby (5-12 Nakagawaracho, Yamaguchi City) \*closed on Monday and when some events are held.
- [B] Yanagi bridge
- [C] Sanpoya (163 Ushirogawara, Yamaguchi City) \*closed on Monday
- [D] fem (110 Ushirogawara, Yamaguchi City) \*closed on Tuesday
- [E] around Kinsui bridge
- [F] The Yamaguchi Furusato Feritage Center Tea room \*closed on August 14 16.

#### 3) Related screening

July 6 (Sat) - 7 (Sun), August 2 (Fri) - 4 (Sun), November 1 (Fri) - 3 (Sun) Admission:  $\pm 1300$  / "any" members & special discounts & Under 26:  $\pm 800$ 

Place: Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM] Studio C

Organized by: Yamaguchi City, Yamaguchi City Foundation for Cultural Promotion

In association with: Yamaguchi Board of Education

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Co-developed with: YCAM InterLab

Produced by Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM]