

2012.2.23

"Muybridge's Strings," Produced & Funded by Polygon Pictures

Nominated in the Short Film Competition at the 36th Hong Kong International Film Festival!

Polygon Pictures Inc. ("PPI," President and CEO: Shuzo Shiota, Head Office: Minato-ku, Tokyo) is proud to announce that our film "Muybridge's Strings" has been nominated in the Short Film Competition at the 36th Hong Kong International Film Festival, and will be screened as part of the festival's "Animation Unlimited" program. The animated short film was directed by Koji Yamamura and produced in collaboration with National Film Board of Canada and NHK.

"Muybridge's Strings" has received critical acclaim both in Japan and abroad, including winning the Excellence Award in the Animation Division at the 15th Japan Media Arts Festival. The film was also nominated for Best Animated Short at the Genie Awards, the Canadian film industry's most influential honor (awards will be presented on March 8, 2012).

In keeping with our stated mission to "do what no other has done, in unparalleled quality, for all the world to see and enjoy," PPI will continue striving to launch Japan's renowned animation business on a global scale.

About the Hong Kong International Film Festival

Of Asia's many film festivals, the Hong Kong International Film Festival is one of the most highly respected, capturing the attention of moviemakers and industry professionals all over the world. In addition to the international film festival, the organization also hosts various other film-related events throughout the year.

Official site: <http://www.hkiff.org.hk/eng/main.html>

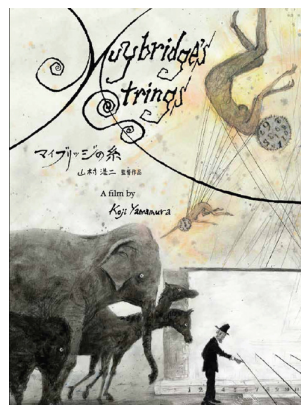
Location: Hong Kong, China

Dates: March 21 - April 5, 2012

*Award-winning works will be announced during the festival period.



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About the film, "Muybridge's Strings"

In 1878, the photographer Eadweard Muybridge succeeded in photographing a galloping horse in continuous motion. This animated short film contrasts his world with the scene of a mother and daughter in modern-day Tokyo in order to explore the concept of "time."

Details: 2011, 12 min. 39 sec, Canada/Japan No dialogue, Subtitles: English & Japanese, Black-and-white & color

Official site: <http://www.muybridges-strings.com/>

Produced by: National Film Board of Canada

Co-Produced by: NHK, Polygon Pictures

Direction/Script/Editing/Design/Animation by: Koji Yamamura

Original Music/Sound Design by: Normand Roger, Pierre Yves Drapeau, Denis Chartrand

J.S. Bach, "Crab Canon." Arranged by: Normand Roger

Distributed/Promoted by: Polygon Pictures, Yamamura Animation

◆Schedule of major upcoming screenings

15th Japan Media Arts Festival, Exhibition of Award-Winning Works: Animation Division, Excellence Prize.

Dates: February 22 - March 4, 2012 *Closed Tuesday, February 28.

10 a.m. - 6 p.m. (Fridays until 8 p.m.) / Last entry 30 mins. before closing. Free entry.

Venue: The National Art Center, Tokyo, Special Exhibition Gallery 1E (Roppongi, Tokyo)

<http://megei.jp/?locale=en>

Kanazawa Cine Monde, Ishikawa February 11 - 24 (Now playing)

Theater Kino, Sapporo, Hokkaido February 18 - 24 (Now playing)

Cinema Clair, Okayama February 25 - March 2

Umeda Garden Cinema, Osaka February 25 - March 9

Kobe Art Village Center, Hyogo March 3 - 16

Kyoto Minami-Kaikan March 24 - April 6

*Contact the theater for detailed information about screening programs, prices, etc.

Screenings are planned at various other locations nationwide. An announcement will be made on the official site once details have been confirmed.

About the Director, Koji Yamamura

Koji Yamamura was born in 1964 and is a graduate of Tokyo Zokei University. His 2002 film "Atama Yama (Mt. Head)" was awarded six grands prix at major international animation festivals including Annecy and Zagreb, and was nominated for the 75th Academy Awards. In 2010, Yamamura traveled to Canada as a cultural ambassador and he is also active as an illustrator and as a creator of picture books. He is currently a professor of animation at the Tokyo University of the Arts, Graduate School of Film and New Media.

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