

# CLASSIC JAPANESE FILM SCREENINGS

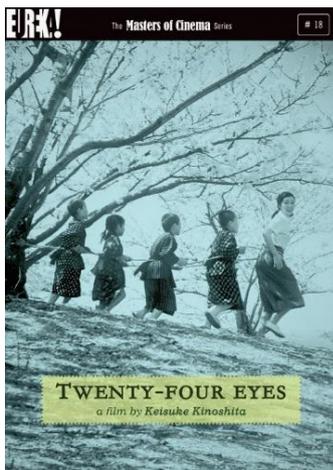
## SEMESTER 2, 2013: KINEMA JUNPŌ SERIES

4pm fortnightly in Coombs bldg. Seminar Room D (see screening dates below)



**AUG 07** *UMARETE WA MITA KEREDO* (*I Was Born, but...*) Dir. Ozu Yasujiro, 1932. 100 mins.

After moving into a new neighborhood, two young brothers must outwit the local bullies. They are later distressed to see their father debasing himself in front of his boss. An early silent feature from Ozu combines charming comedy, coming-of-age family drama and a sly look at Japan's social structure. A classic silent film. Kinema Junpō best film award winner 1933.



**AUG 21** *NI-JŪ SHI NO HITOMI* (*Twenty-four Eyes*) Dir. Kinoshita Keisuke, 1954. 156 mins.

On the eve of fascism and war in the Pacific, a dedicated school teacher struggles to impart to her pupils a positive view of the world and their place in it. A mixture of emotional drama and sober analysis, this film from the director of *The Ballad of Narayama* (1958) is a favourite in Japan but little-known abroad. Kinema Junpō best film, Golden Globe best foreign film 1955. Placed #6 in Kinema Junpō's ten best Japanese films of all time (2009 list).



**SEPT 04** *UKIGUMO* (*Floating Clouds*) Dir. Naruse Mikio, 1955. 123 mins.

A wartime love affair is renewed in the uncertain world of postwar Japan. Based on the novel by Fumiko Hayashi, and addressing the familiar postwar themes of wandering and identity dislocation, *Ukigumo* was Naruse's most popular film in Japan. Won best film, actor, actress and director at 1956 Kinema Junpō awards. Placed #3 in Kinema Junpō's ten best Japanese films of all time (2009 list).



**SEPT 25** **BAKUMATSU TAIYŌDEN** (*Sun in the Last Days of the Shogunate*) Dir. Yūzō Kawashima, 1957. 110 mins.

A riotous comedy with a free-flowing spirit, set in the late Tokugawa period (circa 1850) but taking clever satirical jabs at contemporary Japan. The great Shōhei Imamura considered Kawashima his true mentor. Placed #4 in Kinema Junpō's ten best Japanese films of all time (2009 list).



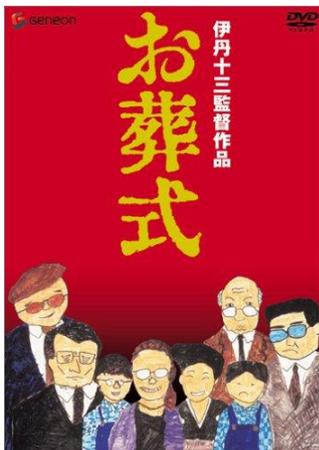
**OCT 09** **SUNA NO ONNA** (*Woman in the Dunes*) Dir. Teshigahara Hiroshi, 1964. 146 mins.

Based on Kōbō Abe's novel, this bizarre but beautiful psychodrama sees an entomologist unable to escape from a nightmarish beach or the woman who inhabits a lonely shack there. Kinema Junpō best film and director 1965. Cannes jury prize winner.



**OCT 23** **NIPPON KONCHŪKI** (*Insect Woman*) Dir. Imamura Shōhei, 1964. 123 mins.

Sachiko Hidari gives a standout performance as a poor peasant girl who progresses from near-destitution to wealth as an unscrupulous brothel owner. But has she really progressed at all? Imamura's unglamorous docudrama style perfectly captures a character who is sometimes loving, sometimes wicked – all too human, in other words. Kinema Junpō best film, director, screenplay and actress 1964.



**NOV 06** **OSŌSHIKI** (*The Funeral*) Dir. Itami Jūzō, 1984.

Itami Jūzō wowed festival audiences with this directorial debut, a deadpan comedy detailing the funeral for the patriarch of an apparently normal Japanese family. The late Itami was the master-satirist of the foibles of Japanese society in the bubble economy era, as later works like *Tampopo* (1985) and *A Taxing Woman* (1987) confirmed. Kinema Junpō best film, director and actor 1985.

