

Kyoto Filmmakers Lab 2019: Report

The Museum of Kyoto
December 12, 2019



Kyoto Filmmakers Lab (KFL) 2019 was a development camp for young filmmakers all over the world as well as Japanese (official language was English). The program, called “Hands-on Jidaigeki,” provided the participants with opportunities to make short *jidaigeki* (samurai period drama) films, using exactly the same facilities such as open sets, props, lights and wardrobes as being used for professional films. In addition, KFL had “Masters Session,” the program collaborated with Tokyo International Film Festival (TIFF) this year. KFL team invited various lecturers from TIFF guests and juries for the program. Furthermore, we partnered with the Biennale College Cinema, which is a human resource development project of the Venice International Film Festival in 2018. At this year’s Kyoto Filmmakers Lab, two films selected by Biennale College Cinema were screened and each director participated in the workshop. At the Masters session, their filmmaking process and advice on Biennale College Cinema were introduced. A program staff, Ms. Valentina Bellomo also gave a presentation on how participants should make films, which can attract attentions at international film festival, and on trends of Biennale College Cinema and how to apply.

From May 31st to August 20th, 334 applicants from 62 countries and regions applied to the workshop through online application. As a result of selection, 38 participants who are directors, producers, scriptwriters, cinematographers and animators and so on from all over the world were selected. There were 13 Japanese participants and 22 foreign participants. There were also 3 foreign participants who live inside of Japan.

<HANDS-ON JIDAIGEKI>

The four-day-program of making jidaigeki films which was held from October 30th to November 1st at Toei Studios Kyoto, Shochiku Studios and The Museum of Kyoto. The program was held under the supervision of Mr. Kiyoto Ando (lighting professional) and Mr. Satoshi Nagashima (film producer). The participants stayed together at a *ryokan* (accommodation in Japanese style) in Uzumasa where is close to Toei and Shochiku Studios.

<MASTERS SESSION>

The four-day-program held from November 1st to November 4th at The Museum of Kyoto and Kyu Butokuden (Old Kyoto Budo Centre). We had 12 sessions include sword action lecture presented by Toei Tsurugikai. Same as Hands-on Jidaigeki session, the participants stayed together at a ryokan in Uzumasa, Kyoto city.

Host: Kyoto Historica International Film Festival (KHIFF) Committee
(Kyoto Prefectural Government, The Museum of Kyoto, Toei Company, Ltd., Shochiku Studio Co., Ltd., Toei Kyoto Studio Co., Ltd., Iwamoto Metal Co., Ltd., Directors' Univ Co., Ltd. and Ritsumeikan University)

Co-host: Tokyo International Film Festival, Istituto Italiano di Cultura Osaka, Kyoto Cross Media Experience

Project Entity: Kyoto Cross Media Promotion Agency

1 Application

Period: May 31st to August 20th, 2019

How to apply: Online application from the website

Number of Applicants: 334

(51 from India, 34 from Nepal, 30 from Philippines, 21 from China, 15 from USA, 13 from Thailand, 12 from Japan, 11 from Indonesia, 10 from Taiwan (Republic of China), 10 from Pakistan, 8 from Spain, 7 from Lithuania, 6 from Bangladesh, 6 from Hong Kong (Republic of China), 5 from Argentina, 5 from England, 5 from Singapore, 5 from Vietnam, 5 from Poland, 4 from Italy, 4 from Malaysia, 3 from Ukraine, 3 from Germany, 3 from Brazil, 3 from Bulgaria, 3 from South Africa, 2 from Iran, 2 from Australia, 2 from Czech Republic, 2 from Chile, 2 from Dominica, 2 from Norway, 2 from Brunei, 2 from Hungary, 2 from Macedonia, 1 from Ireland, 1 from Afghanistan, 1 from Armenia, 1 from Israel, 1 from Ecuador, 1 from Egypt, 1 from Austria, 1 from Netherland, 1 from Canada, 1 from Canada/England, 1 from Canada/Taiwan, 1 from South Korea, 1 from Cyprus, 1 from Guatemala, 1 from Croatia, 1 from Kenya, 1 from Sri Lanka, 1 from Chile/Spain, 1 from Trinidad and Tobago, 1 from Turkey, 1 from Japan/USA, 1 from Bahrain, 1 from Philippines/USA, 1 from Bhutan, 1 from Puerto Rico, 1 from Brazil/Italy, 1 from France, 1 from Belgium, 1 from Poland/USA, 1 from Portugal, 1 from Mexico, 1 from Mozambique, 1 from Romania, 1 from Rosia.

2 Selection of Participants

Selection date: September 7, 2019

Venue: Conference Room on the 7th floor of The Museum of Kyoto

Juries: Mr. Ken Takahashi (Toei Studios Kyoto) and Mr. Satoshi Nagashima (Shochiku Studios)

Selected Participants: 38

- 25 non-Japanese (3 of them were in Japan) and 13 Japanese

- Participants' countries are following: Japan, India, Argentine, Philippines, China, Hong Kong, Canada, Romania, Indonesia, Thailand, South Africa, Poland, Turkey, Malaysia, Iran, Australia.
- 23 males and 15 females
- 1 candidate canceled.
- Finally we welcomed 37 participants.

3 Selection of Participants' Role and Script Competition for Hands-On Jidaigeki

Selection of Participants' Role:

Program team decided participants' role according to participants' score at the selection and their wish list.

<Hands-on Jidaigeki Toei team>

Supervisor: Mr. Kiyoto Ando (Lighting specialist)

Participants:

Ms. Yuxi Li (Director, China), Mr. Victor Elijah Gador (DP/Camera operator, Philippines), Mr. Danial Rifki (Assistant director, Indonesia), Mr. Young Pole (Assistant director, USA/Japan), Ms. Yuka Nakamura (Production Manager, Japan), Mr. Subhash Maskara (Sound recordist, India), Ms. Masako Nishi (Script Supervisor, Japan), Ms. Iulia Puica (Art Director, Japan), Masashi Fujita (Gaffer, Japan), Prateek Srivastava (Production Manager, India)

<Hands-on Jidaigeki Shochiku team>

Supervisor: Mr. Satoshi Nagashima (Producer)

Participants:

Mr. Shiladitva Bora (Director, India), Mr. Ezequiel Salinas (DP/Camera operator, Argentine), Ms. Maria Francesca Lee (DP/Camera operator, Philippines), Mr. Cilin Deng (Assistant director, China), Ms. Michelle Kee (Assistant director, Canada), Mr. Takuya Misawa (Production Manager, Japan), Mr. Hitoshi Matsumoto (Production Manager, Japan), Mr. Jamie Kassler (Production manager, USA), Mr. Ion Donica (Gaffer, Romania) and Mr. Yuichiro Nakada (Sound Recordist, Japan)

<Masters Session>

Participants:

Mr. Ray Figueroa (USA), Ms. Annisa Adjam (Indonesia), Ms. Kezia Eales (South Africa), Ms. Adrianna Wojtkowiak (Poland), Ms. Mediha Didem Türemen (Turkey), Shee Heng Kuek (Malaysia), Aniruddh (India), Lorna Bayani (Philippines), Zune Kwok (Hong Kong), Elahe Nassr (Iran), Miho Higashi Le Gal (Japan), Hiroshi Kasuga (Australia), Randy Zhang (China), Atsushi Sakahara (Japan),

Nao Tase(Japan), Mari Miyamoto(Japan), Yoshimasa Azuma(Japan)

Script competition for Hands-on Jidaigeki:

Calling for scripts for Hands-on Jidaigeki was open to the participants. The Scripts had to be 3 minutes in length. 6 scripts were submitted, and under considerations of location and availability of actors, 2 scripts described below were selected by program team.

Toei team: *A cat and A pig, and Sake* written by Mr. Young Paul

Shochiku team: *Blood for the Throne* by Ms. Michelle Kee

4 Program Schedule

■HANDS-ON JIDAIGEKI

<October 30th, Wednesday> Venues: Toei Studios Kyoto and Shochiku Studios

13:00~

【1】 Orientation

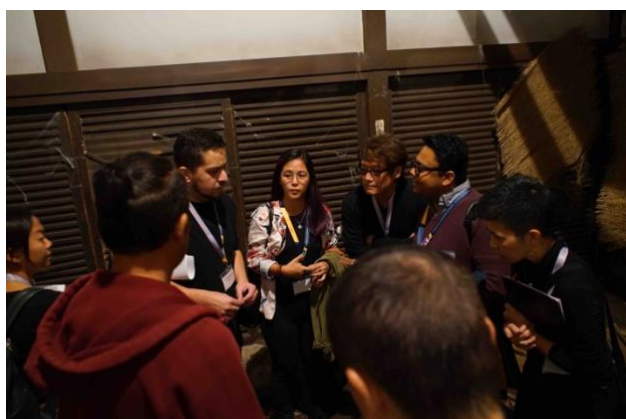
* 20 participants from 9 countries



14:00~

【2】 Pre Production Meeting

* 20 participants from 9 countries



<October 31st & November 1st, Thursday & Friday> Venues: Toei Studios Kyoto and Shochiku Studios

8:00~18:00

【3】 Shooting

* 20 participants from 9 countries



■MASTERS SESSION

<November 1st, Thursday>

14:00~ Venues: Toei Studios Kyoto and Shochiku Studios

- 【1】 **Studio Tour** * 24 participants from 13 countries
 18:00~ Venue: The Museum of Kyoto, Annex Hall
- 【2】 **Welcome Party** * 17 participants from 13 countries

<November 2nd, Friday> Venues: The Museum of Kyoto
 10:00~10:30

- 【3】 **Rush Screening of Hands-on Jidaigeki team's work** Venue: The Museum of Kyoto, Film Theatre
 * 40 participants from 15 countries

12:00~15:30

- 【4】 **Filmmaker Lightning Talk 1** Venue: The Museum of Kyoto, Annex Hall
 3-minute presentation by KFL participants; they talked about their projects and dreams.
 * 37 participants from 15 countries



16:00~19:30 Venue: The Museum of Kyoto Film Theatre

- 【5】 **“The Barrad of Narayama” (1983, Shohei Imamura) Talk with Amir Naderi**
 Maestro Amir Naderi and young filmmakers of the world, unravel the Jidaigeki masterpiece by Cannes Film Festival Palme d'Or winner, Shohei Imamura. * 101 participants from 17 countries



Lecturer

Mr. Amir Naderi [Director]

One of the major Iranian directors, he currently lives in America. Recognised films include "The Runner" (1985), and in Japan "CUT" starring Hidetoshi Nishijima (2011). His Italian period film "Monte" was awarded the Glory To The Filmmaker Award at Venice Film Festival in 2017.

Ms. Mizue Kunizane [Producer]

In 1976, founded dongyu.inc, agency for actors/actresses and directors, with actor Ken Ogata. She participated in many films of Shohei Imamura and Sion Sono. Produced films include "Adrift in Tokyo" and "Land of Hope".

Mr. Eric Nyari [Producer]

The CEO of Cineric, Inc. in the US. Participated the project of 4K digital restoration of films by Kenji Mizoguchi and Yasujiro Ozu. Produced films includes Amir Naderi's "Adrift in Tokyo", "Ryuichi Sakamoto: Coda".

<November 3rd, Saturday> Venue: The Museum of Kyoto (Film theatre and Annex Hall)

13:45~15:30

【6】 Masters Talk by Erick Nyari

Lecture on the way of thinking as producer from Erick Nyari, producer and The CEO of a film restoration company in NY.

* 40 participants from 17 countries



14:00~15:30

【7】 Biennale College Cinema Talk

A Talk about Biennale College Cinema, the development program for young filmmakers held by La Biennale di Venezia. *53 participants from 17 countries



Lecturer

Ms. Valentina Vellomo (Curator, Biennale College Cinema)

Ms. Vellomo has built her experience for almost a decade working in different departments for music festivals, feature films, TV series and commercials; Since 2013 she's dedicated to the coordination of the activities of Biennale College - Cinema and Biennale College - Cinema Virtual Reality, the advanced training programs realized by La Biennale di Venezia. She follows all the phases: from the launch of the international calls to the presentation of the supported features and VR projects at the Venice International Film Festival.

17:00~18:00

【8】 TIFF Seminar

Lecture on the film production situation for young filmmakers in Thai and Italy as well as expert advice to young filmmakers from a viewpoint of a film festival curator. * 53 participants from 17 countries



Lecturer

Ms. Elena Pollacchi (Venice International Film Festival / Programmer)

Elena Pollacchi has contributed to the programming of East Asian cinema at the Venice International Film Festival in the years 2004-05 and since 2012. She has curated programs on Asian cinema in Italy, Sweden and Norway. She holds a PhD from the Cambridge University (UK) and currently teaches Chinese and Asian cinema at Ca' Foscari University of Venice (Italy). She has published extensively on Chinese cinema, Asian cinema, and film festivals.

Ms. Pimpaka Towira (Director / Programme Director)

Pimpaka Towira has been a pioneer among female film directors in the Thai independent film scene since the early 1990s. She received international acclaim for her first feature *One Night Husband* which premiered at the Berlin International Film Festival. Her second feature *The Island Funeral* won Best Asian Future Film Award at the Tokyo International Film Festival. She has been a professional film programmer more than 15 years. Since 2015, she has been the Program Director for the Bangkok ASEAN Film Festival. In 2017-2018, she was the Program Director for Singapore International Film Festival.

18:00~19:30

[9] Italian Night

A party held by the courtesy of Istituto Italiano di Cultura - Osaka.

* 80 participants from 18 countries



<November 4th, Monday>

【10】 Sword Fighting Lecture

Lecture and demonstration on spirit and style of Kyoto's sword fighting.

*37 participants from 15 countries





13:45~15:30 Venue: The Museum of Kyoto (Film theatre and Annex Hall)

[11] VR observation and Master Talk Ivan Gergolet (including the viewing of *In The Cave*, specially selected from Biennale College Cinema directed by Mr. Ivan Gergolet) at **Kyoto HISTORICA International Film Festival (KHIFF)**

* 73 participants from 15 countries (VR screening:165 in total)



Lecturer

Mr. Ivan Gergolet

Ivan Gergolet (Italy, 17/5/77) started his career as filmmaker shooting short fiction and documentary films in the early 2000's. His first feature film *Dancing with Maria* was the first documentary ever selected in the Film Critics Week competition program at the 71st Venice IFF in 2014 and was nominated as Best Documentary at the European Film Awards 2015.

14:15~17:45

[12] Screening of “La vie de château” and Come Back Salmon Talk

A Participant of past KFL talked about their careers and future. *100 participants from 15 countries



Lecturer

Mr. Cédric Ido

Cédric is a scriptwriter, director and actor with roles in "Le Serpent Aux Mille Coupures" by Eric Valette, "Miracle At Santa Anna" (2008) by Spike Lee and "Les Enfants Du Pays" by Michel Serrault (2006). He also directed the short film "Hasaki Ta Suda" (2011) and documentary "Un Stains De Musique" (2010). His latest short, "Twaaga", was presented and awarded in a number of international festivals. Participated in Kyoto Filmmakers Lab in 2010.

18:00~19:30

【13】 Attending the Closing ceremony of KHIFF

* 120 participants from 17 countries





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