

DRIFTING FLOWERS, FLOWING DAYS

この日々が風いだら

KONO HIBIGA NAIDARA



A Film by Yutaka TSUNEMACHI

85' | JAPAN | 2022 | Drama | Color
Japanese | DCP | 24fps | 1.85 : 1 | 5.1



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SYNOPSIS

It's a story about youth and love. The relation of a young couple begin to change when they start questioning the life they are living and what's next.



DRIFTING FLOWERS, FLOWING DAYS follows Hiroto (Hiroki Sato), Futaba (Kaho Seto) and Daigo (Masashi Yamada) in their daily life in Tokyo, Hiroto working at a construction site, Futaba at a flower shop, Daigo in a design studio. Life seems going on as usual, but things gradually begin to change when they start questioning the here and now and what's next.

When Hiroto and Futaba learn they have to move out of their apartment within six months' time because it will be tear down, more doubts raise than just where to search for a new place. What the future should be like? Daigo is experiencing new challenges and pressures at work where he doesn't feel to be appreciated while demanding him to take more responsibility.

One day, Hiroto receives a phone call from the Police Station.

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MAIN CAST



Kaho SETO as Futaba MOCHIZUKI

Born 1993 in Kanagawa. Seto debuted in *Orange* (2015), and has been actively working in movies, theater, web dramas, and numerous music videos. She won the Best Supporting Actress Award at the 6th Kashikojima Film Festival with *Queen in the Living* (2019). She is expanding her scope as a model for advertisements, fashion magazines, brand catalogs, and more.

Filmography

Clematisno madobe by Toshiyuki Nagaoka, 2020

Une petite histoire d'amour by Michio Koshikawa, 2019

Queen in the Living by Hiroaki Mimii, 2019

My Identity by Sae Suzuki, 2019

Beyond the Blue by Kenichiro Hiro, 2018

Aurora Glory by Toshiyuki Nagaoka, 2018

Kiroi hana hitotaba nijigoro by Michio Koshikawa, 2017

Birds by Toshiyuki Nagaoka, 2017

Nitotteno sekai by Ryo Yoshikawa, 2017

Orange by Kojiro Hashimoto, 2015

Hiroki SATO as Hiroto MIYAJIMA

Born August 7, 1994 in Hokkaido. Sato started his acting career in the musical "Head Shot Land". He received the MOOSIC LAB 2019 Best Actor Award in the Feature Film Category. His filmography includes *I was in Heaven* (2020) and *Sasaki in My Mind* (2020). He is currently appearing in a TV series "Heaven and Hell ~Psycho Two People~".

Filmography

Fear of Missing Out by Akira Kawachi, 2020

Arme by Kozue Nomoto, 2020

I was in Heaven by Yuiga Danzuka, 2020

Mud Mask by Karin Koyama, 2019

Oi-Kaze by Ryo Anraku, 2019

Tokyo Landmark by Chiaki Hayashi, 2019

Murder at Shijinso by Hisashi Kimura, 2019

Sayonaramo iezuni by Kenji Nakanishi, 2019

Female by Yutaka Tsunemachi, 2019

Dare to Stop Us by Kazuya Shiraishi, 2018

Namigiwa by Yutaka Tsunemachi, 2018

Breakers by Minami Goto, 2017

Kimiwo wasureta kimie by T MARU, 2017

Banzai by Aya Igashi, 2017

IN CONVERSATION with the MAIN CAST



How do you feel about your role in *Drifting Flowers, Flowing Days*?

While working with Hiroki Sato as Hiroto, the outline of Futaba's existence became clearer. Director Yutaka Tsunemachi wrote the character of Futaba while thinking about me, so it was an opportunity for me to reconsider myself through this character.

What experience did you gain after taking part in the film?

Being involved in this film has become a great asset in my career as an actress. This is an important film for me because it made me want to continue acting.



Hiroki SATO as Hiroto MIYAJIMA

How do you feel about your role in *Drifting Flowers, Flowing Days*?

Hiroto was keeping in his heart the sadness of his life's past events, giving up on living actively his present. And that was very similar to the way I felt. I think that this film is about the "change" that a person, who cares about small things, living in a corner of the world, challenges the days and the words of the people around him. So I wanted to show the physical changes and emotional fluctuations as much as possible, without dramatizing them.

How challenging was it for you to play the role of Hiroto?

It was fun to think about the film and Hiroto, but I was forced to face the fact that I had grown older, so I felt that it was difficult to play that role.

YUTAKA TSUNEMACHI

Director, Screenwriter, Editor



Biography

Tsunemachi was born in Kanagawa, Japan in 1997. He studied drama at Tama Art University and also entered The Film School of Tokyo when he was a sophomore student.

His first short film *NAMIGIWA*, completed as part of the elementary course at the film school, was selected for many film festivals in Japan and won five prizes, among which Best Film Award at Yokohama Independent Film Festival.

His second short film *FEMALE* was produced in 2019 and it was selected in Competition at Yubari International Fantastic Film Festival 2020. *DRIFTING FLOWERS, FLOWING DAYS* is his debut feature film.

Filmography

Female (2019, short fiction)

In this world, everyone has unspeakable emotions. Mika is a “female” living in this world and she has been spending her days well in her own way. One day, she finds an angrily handwritten notice which could change the world she lives in. This story is the prologue to her life.

FESTIVALS: International Short Film Competition, Yubari International Fantastic Film Festival 2020; 14th TOHO Cinemas Student Film Festival; 31st Tokyo Student Film Festival.

Namigiwa (2018, short fiction)

In a small port town, Daigo is about to graduate from high school, and Hiroto, who was not able to attend school, works in the town. The everyday life of the two friends is going to change as a special day awaits the two of them. This is the story about two boys wavering on the gap between "adulthood" and "childhood".

AWARDS: Best Film in Short Film Category, Yokohama Independent Film Festival; Best Film, Best Technical Achievement, West Tokyo Citizens' Film Festival; Audience Award (Grand Prix), 7th Kansai Student Film Festival; Grand Prix, Best Actor Award (Hiroki Sato), SeishoCinemaFes; Grand Prix, TOKYO Tsukiichi Film Festival; Best Newcomer Award, Hamamatsu Film Festival 2018.

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In CONVERSATION with the DIRECTOR



What makes *Drifting Flowers, Flowing Days* so special for you to be your first film? Why did you choose it to be your director's debut film?

This film is the one I feel like my personal business card to introduce myself. If I hadn't made this film, I couldn't move forward. This is such a film, including "everything" about the time when I shoot it.

You are also the scriptwriter of *Drifting Flowers, Flowing Days*. How did you work on the script?

I made this story inspired by the "feelings" I had while living those days. What I saw, heard, felt and the undefinable emotions that arose, are the driving forces behind my work. I embodied what kind of people I would draw those emotions through, what kind of setting it should be, what kind of story it would be, and how I could convey it to the audience. And then, I continued to revise the script until filming it, in a way that appealed to the cast members.

How did you balance your role as scriptwriter, director, editor and producer of the film?

All roles were connected to each other. It was somehow inevitable for me to take all that responsibility for this film. I thought it would have given more depth to the film itself. It wasn't easy at all, but I did everything in my power to make the film that I believed in.

What was your greatest challenge in making this film?

It's about whether I could capture "live emotions". Although it is a fiction, I thought that there would be no vivacity if there is no live emotion there. That's why I carefully interacted with the cast members. I think that it led to projecting things that could only be filmed live at that time. I am very happy about the quiet but condensed time and emotions existing in this film.

How was the process in selecting the cast?

I wanted to cast people who can live with their feet on the ground. It was the most difficult part for me when I first started working in the cinema world as an actor, that's why I wanted to cherish the selection of the cast the most. When I was writing the script with that thought in mind, I offered the roles to the people who came to my mind. Luckily the people I wanted accepted my offer. I think that was almost a miracle.



How was it working with Kaho SETO and Hiroki SATO?

I don't think this film would have been possible to make without the two of them. The two have different personalities and different approaches to the acting, but seeing them spend time in the same space together made me feel that the characters of Hiroto and Futaba were real. Hiroki Sato and Kaho Seto did not try to act dexterously, they were disturbed and confronted with the emotions that welled up. I would like to work with them again someday because of the chemistry between them.

How would you introduce *Drifting Flowers, Flowing Days* to your audience?

This is the story of young people who lived an unchanging "everyday life" in between the changing of the Japanese era name. What the drifting flowers see and think about beyond the flowing days? This film, which seems to be on the line of an extension of our daily memories, should be linked to your or all audience's own story.

What is your next project?

There are stories of "memory" and "love" that must be filmed, like the story of Haruka, a lonely high school girl. Haruka was saved by a relationship with one high-school girl who only occasionally met in the music room. But suddenly, she commits suicide. Then, in Haruka's head, the sound of the piano she played resounds, and that sound creates an encounter with her classmate Tamotsu, who has nothing to do with her death. This is a project that connected the feelings I had in my daily life and a moment of suicide that I witnessed. However, instead of depicting "death" itself, I draw about the state of "love". If this project will become a film one day, I think that these two themes that are deeply rooted in me will become stronger.

Interview done in Tokyo in April 2023



CAST & CREW

Directed by	Yutaka TSUNEMACHI
Screenplay by	Yutaka TSUNEMACHI
DoP	Shu HAGIWARA
Editing	Yutaka TSUNEMACHI
Cast	Hiroki SATO as Hiroto MIYAJIMA Kaho SETO as Hutaba MOCHIZUKI Masashi YAMADA as Daigo SAITO Atsushi ODA as Hiroshi MIYAJIMA Kisetsu FUJIWARA as Kyouzuke HASEGAWA Takeo GOZU as Haruo MITA Suzu YAMANOUCHI as Nanami TAKAHASHI Yohta KAWASE as Ken MAEDA
Sound Mixer	Kotaro TONE
Music by	Moeka SHIOTSUKA (Hitsujibungaku)
Theme Song	Moeka SHIOTSUKA (Hitsujibungaku)
Costume Dresser	Mei KOMIYAMA
Hair Make-up Artist	Mei ANDO
Still Photographer	Kaori SOMEYA
Lighting Artist	Koichi NAKAJIMA
Planning by	Takatoshi NAOI and Yutaka TSUNEMACHI
Production Designer	Hinano OTAKA
Production Manager	Syo NAGANO
Producers	Yutaka TSUNEMACHI Sachihiko TANAKA
Production	Ippo, Inc
International Sales	Asian Shadows