



SAKURA ANDO

**HIROFUMI ARAI** 

# 100 YENLOVE 百円の恋

# a film by MASAHARU TAKE

"Ando is that rare performer worthy of comparison to Japan's all-time greatest actor, Toshiro Mifune."

—Peter Debruge, Variety

Japan | 2014 | Japanese with English subtitles 1.78:1 | 113 minutes | 1.85:1 Widescreen | 5.1 Surround Sound

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### **SYNOPSIS**

32-year-old Ichiko (Sakura Ando, *Shoplifters*) lives at home in self-indulgent grunginess with her parents and recently divorced younger sister. One morning, after a particularly heated argument, Ichiko decides to leave for good. With few options to support herself, she finds a job at a 100 yen shop (dollar store). Each day on her way home from work Ichiko passes a boxing gym where she watches Yuji Kano (Hirofumi Arai) silently practice. The two make plans to see each other, and suddenly life starts to change for Ichiko... At last, the bell rings, and this longtime loser's rematch with life begins!

Japan's 2016 official entry for the Best Foreign Language Film Oscar, Masaharu Take's 100 YEN LOVE had its world premiere at the Tokyo International Film Festival where it won the Japanese Cinema Splash Best Picture Award.



#### **ABOUT THE FILM**

In 2012, the Shunan Film Festival established the Yusaku Matsuda Screenplay Award, named after the legendary late film actor. Shin Adachi's screenplay was awarded its inaugural Grand Prize.

The lead role of Ichiko called for an actress who could handle both intense boxing and sensitive romantic scenes. After consideration of over 700 audition requests, the role eventually went to rising star Sakura Ando with Hirofumi Arai cast opposite her in the role of aging pro boxer Yuri. Rounding out the cast are several veteran actors with connections to Yusaku Matsuda's filmography, including Toshie Negishi, Osamu Shigematsu and Yozaburo Ito.

Director Masaharu Take filmed 100 YEN LOVE in the suburbs of Kanto and in Yusaku Matsuda's home turf of Yamaguchi.

The film had its world premiere on October 25, 2014 at the Tokyo International Film Festival, where it received the Japanese Cinema Splash Award, and was selected as the Japanese entry for the Best Foreign Language Film at the 88th Academy Awards.

#### **ABOUT THE DIRECTOR**

Born in Aichi Prefecture in 1967, Masaharu Take graduated from Tokyo's Meiji University. In 1986, during the course of his studies, he began making independent films. He then moved on to work as an assistant director for directors like Takashi Ishii and Yoichi Tai. He made his feature film debut with BOY MEETS PUSAN (2007) and later went on to direct the features EDEN (2012), 100 YEN LOVE (2014) and THE GUN (2018) along with the successful Netflix series THE NAKED DIRECTOR (2019).

# **CREDITS**

#### **CAST**

Ichiko Saito

Yuji Kano

Hirofumi Arai

Ichiko's Mother Miyuko Inagawa

Fumiko Saito Saori

Okano Shohei Uno

Noma Tadashi Sakata

Sada-san Yuki Okita

Nishimura Kaito Yoshimura

Kobayashi Shinchiro Matsuura

#### **CREW**

Directed by Masaharu Take

Screenplay by Shin Adachi
Music by Shogo Kaida

Produced by Gen Sato

Yuji Hiratai

Yoshinori Kano

Cinematography Hiromitsu Nishimura (J.S.C.)

Lighting Yohio Tsunetani

Art Designer Shota

Sound Recording Masashi Furuya
Edited by Cheiko Suzaki

Costumes Masae Miyamoto

#### **ABOUT FILM MOVEMENT**

Founded in 2002, Film Movement is a North American distributor of award-winning independent and foreign films based in New York City. It has released more than 300 feature films culled from prestigious film festivals worldwide including the Oscar-nominated films *Theeb* (2016) and *Corpus Christi* (2020). Film Movement's theatrical releases include American independent films, documentaries and foreign-language arthouse titles. Its catalog includes works by directors such as Ryusuke Hamaguchi, Lee Isaac Chung, Hirokazu Kore-eda, Maren Ade, Jessica Hausner, Ciro Guerra, Bertrand Bonello and Mélanie Laurent.

In 2015, Film Movement launched its reissue label Film Movement Classics, featuring new restorations released theatrically as well as on digital platforms, Blu-ray and DVD, including films by such noted directors as Ang Lee, Chen Kaige, Luchino Visconti, Stanley Kwan, Peter Greenaway, Bille August, Marleen Gorris, Takeshi Kitano, Arturo Ripstein, King Hu, Lee Chang Dong, Hideo Gosha and Sergio Corbucci. For more information, please visit <a href="www.filmmovement.com">www.filmmovement.com</a>. Visit <a href="www.filmmovementplus.com">www.filmmovement.com</a>. Plus, Film Movement's critically-lauded subscription streaming service.

