

**Academy Awards® accredited Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia presents
Japan Cultural Expo Project:
Experiencing the beauty of Japanese countryside**

**Achi Village Promotional Video series vol.2
“Beauty of Achi Village (Nagano Prefecture),
Beauty of Japan : Cinematic Edition”
is now on YouTube**

**~collaboration with an award-winning overseas filmmaker,
created remotely with a Japanese film crew.**

Academy Awards® accredited Short Shorts Film Festival and Asia (SSFF & ASIA), is collaborating with Japan Cultural Expo on a project about Experiencing the beauty of Japanese countryside.

As a part of this project, SSFF & ASIA is proud to present you “Achi Village Promotional Video” series filmed in Achi Village, Nagano Prefecture.

This video was produced as a project sponsored and co-sponsored by the 2021 Japan Cultural Expo to explore “The Beauty of Japan” together with filmmakers, directors, and artists from Japan and overseas.

As a second part of the series, this film presents Achi Village with a cinematic touch, portraying its Nature, Culture, and Humanity; embraced by its spirituality.

Filmed throughout Spring, Summer and Fall seasons, the film guides the audience through the beauty of Achi Village. The beautiful and delicate guide represents our curiosity and our respect as guests to the village. Through her, we will see, touch, pray, feel, and celebrate both the natural elements and spirituality of Achi Village.

The “Cinematic” video spans 3 different seasons, but it trajects like a full day from sunrise to night. In the second part of the film, a strong and elegant dancer will perform on an ancient shrine stage. The bright colors of the day will be replaced by the bold flames and stars shining in the night while the dancer pays homage to the protective deities of Achi Village.

The film will conclude with the annual ritual of the fireworks’ cleansing, which is visually striking and is a great ending for our journey of Achi Village. Please enjoy the splendor and beauty of Achi Village.

This work was edited by Salvatore D’Alia, who participated in the “Discover Beauty Symposium” at the Japan Expo project last year. D’Alia’s short film “NY Rhapsody” was also streamed online and screened within “Discover Beauty Program.”

Filmmaker D’Alia, who lives in New York, conceived the concept of the remotely produced “Cinematic” video during the pandemic. Based on his creative direction, the Japanese production team went to Achi Village to film the images. The post-production including editing was done in New York City by Salvatore D’Alia, in coordination with a sound engineer based in Japan.

“Beauty of Achi Village (Nagano Prefecture), Beauty of Japan : Cinematic Edition”

<https://www.shortshorts.org/japanculturalexp/en/experiencing-the-beauty-of-japanese-countryside/>

6 : 23 / Japan / 2021 / Creative Director & Editor : Salvatore D’Alia /
Cinematographer: Toshinori Maenaka Creative Production : 3minute





Creative Director & Editor : Salvatore D'Alia

Italian born and raised, moved to NYC in 2010 after graduating at the Academy of Cinema and TV of Milan. Sal started his career as a freelance director, producer, camera operator and editor. He has worked for many Fortune 500 companies and networks like Marriott, Sony, Citroen, Unilever, Nike, Food Network, Glamour, GQ, NY Giants, Bravo, Warner Sound and artists such as Madonna, Ed Sheeran, Blake Shelton, Jon Bon Jovi and many others ...

Sal is a pioneer of the original content for web, his work can be quantified with more than 100 million views on YouTube spreading from music to sports and art. Since 2016 Sal is a Sony Alpha ambassador and one of the founding members of the Alpha Collective.

"Beauty of Achi Village (Nagano Prefecture), Beauty of Japan : Navigator Edition"



Enjoy also the first part of the "Achi Village Promotional Video" series. Entrepreneur /Businesswoman Ms. Priyanka Yoshikawa experiences and reports on hot springs that warm the body and mind, interaction with villagers and discover "the best starry sky in Japan" approved by the Ministry of the Environment. Travel with "Navigator Edition" video and feel the beauty of Achi Village and the beauty of Japan through Ms. Yoshikawa's eyes and minds.

Production: 3Minute inc.

Official project website(English):

https://youtu.be/6W9aYk_3Eg

【Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia】

Actor Tetsuya Bessho, who is also a member of the American Actors Association (SAG), founded the American Short Shorts Film Festival in 1999 with the desire to introduce "short films," which he encountered in the United States, to Japan as a new genre of film. In 2001, the festival was renamed the Short Shorts Film Festival (SSFF) and in 2004 it was recognized as a recognized film festival by the Academy Awards®. In the same year, the Short Shorts Film Festival Asia (SSFF ASIA, co-hosted by Tokyo) was established with the aim of expanding new visual culture originating in Asia and fostering young filmmakers, and currently operates as SSFF & ASIA.

In 2018, to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the film festival, the Grand Prix was named after Director George Lucas. In January 2019, the Short Shorts Film Festival in Hollywood was held to commemorate the 20th anniversary. Since 2019, the four Best Short Award-winning short films from the official competitions (International, Asia International, Japan) and the Non-Fiction Competition, and from 2022, five short films, adding the Best Short Award-winning short film in the Animation competition, will be eligible to be nominated for the Academy Awards for Best Short Film the following year. The SSFF & ASIA will continue to support young creators.



【Official website】 <https://www.shortshorts.org/en>

【Press Inquiry】

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【Still's are Available here:】

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ZI2B9eMQO5uhTgFSQ4XqoJ_2LEPithlt?usp=sharing