

Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia 2022

FY 2022 Japan Cultural Expo Project Presented and Co-presented by Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan, and Japan Arts Council

「Discover Beauty Symposium」

The Beauty of Japan and Ainu Culture

Online Talk Event

【June 17th (Fri) 20:00~】

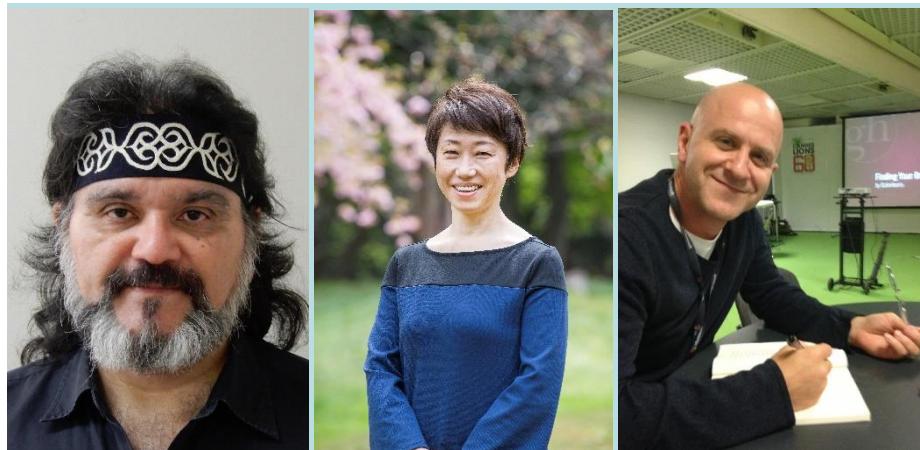
**From the Ainu Sanctuary; Lake Akan Forest/Lakeside National Park
A discussion about sustainability from
an Ainu's point of view with Ainu experts
Hideo Akibe and Satomi Igarashi**

Academy Awards® accredited, Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia, now in its 24th year, announcing a project sponsored and co-sponsored by the 2022 Japan Cultural Expo to explore The Online Event "Discover Beauty Symposium: The beauty of Ainu and its view on sustainability" will premiere world wide on June 18th (Fri) @ 20:00~.

Creative Director for the Ainu Performing Arts, Hideo Akibe, and the Director of the Hokkaido Museum of Modern Art, Satomi Igarashi, who served as the director of the "Ainu Culture Promoting Act" established to promote and understand Ainu culture at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games. They will be holding the event and Chuk Besher, a women empowerment activist, as the moderator.

Two experts involved in Ainu culture and art and on the cutting edge of film production, direction, and critique of films and art content will be invited to discuss the origins of sustainability and its aesthetics as learned from the Ainu. The talk will be held against the backdrop of the forest and lakeside of Lake Akan, a national park that is sacred to the Ainu people. We will find hints from the Ainu culture that are essential for modern society to effectively achieve SDGs.

URL <https://www.shortshorts.org/japanculturalexpo/en/discover-beauty/>



[Discover Beauty Symposium]

- Date : June 17th Fri 20:00~
- Guest : Hideo Akibe, Satomi Igarashi
- Moderator : Chuk Besher
- Site : SSFF & ASIA YouTube
- Admissions : *Sign up for reminder settings on Peatix to receive reminder notifications before the event starts.
- Price : Free
- URL :

<https://shortshorts.org/2022/en/event/db-symposium/>



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【Discover Beauty Symposium】 panelists

【Guests】



Hideo Akibe

Ainu Performing Arts Creative Director

After graduating from high school, he apprenticed with his father as a woodcarver. He learned Ainu dance and its techniques under the tutelage of Toko Nupuri, Toyojiro Yontaku, and others in the village of Kotan.

In addition to running a folk craft store, he is a member of the Akan Ainu Craft Cooperative Association, the Akan Ainu Association, and the Akan Ainu Folk Culture Preservation Society, and contributes to the promotion of understanding of Ainu culture in various genres, including artistic activities, cultural preservation and cultural lectures.

He also served as the director of the "Ainu Culture Creation Council" established for the purpose of promoting Ainu culture at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games, and successfully led the Ainu Culture Creation Performance.



Satomi Igarashi

Art Historian, Curatorial Director, Hokkaido Museum of Modern Art

Born in Kushiro, Hokkaido in 1964. Igarashi graduated from Hirosaki University in 1986, Faculty of Humanities, majoring in Japanese art history. She has worked as a curator at the Hokkaido Museum of Modern, served as deputy director of the Yoshitaro Mikishi Museum of Art & others in Hokkaido before assuming her current position.

She has curated exhibitions such as "AINU ART: Kaze no Kataribe" (2013, Hokkaido Museum of Modern Art) and "Show Up. The Life of Morira: The World of Woodcarver Takeki Fujito" (2017, Sapporo Art Park Museum), "Beautiful Handicrafts of the Ainu People" (2019, Hokkaido Museum of Modern Art), & others. She received the BIRENKOY Grand Prize for Outstanding Paper Award in 2019 & her publications include "Ainu Emaki Exploration: Unraveling the Mystery of Historical Drama" (Hokkaido Shinbunsha). She has given numerous lectures on Ainu paintings and sculptures.

【Modelator】



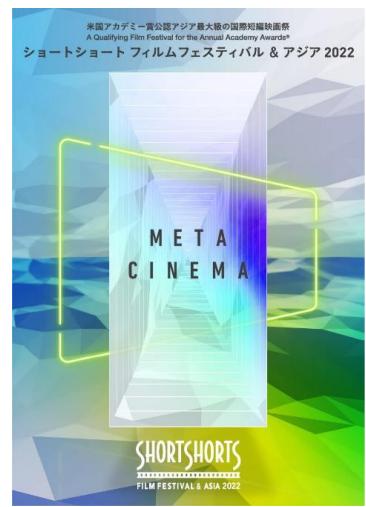
Chuk Besher (Moderator)

Born in Kobe, Japan, Besher is a Japanese citizen of Russian heritage—a son of stateless Russian refugee parents. Besher is the creator/producer of an award-winning documentary series—Future is MINE—featuring Japanese women in their journey of self-empowerment. Current film, Ainu My Voice, is being nominated by multiple international film festivals.

Besher has a broad range of experience in communication and government spanning careers in politics, marketing, broadcasting, and government relations. Most recently, Besher was in charge of communication planning for the Olympics and FIFA World Cup as well public affairs and sustainability at Coca-Cola Japan. Besher is a graduate of Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs—where he received a graduate degree in East Asian Studies and Communication. Besher's publications include books in Japanese, Japan and the World Seen from Columbia University, and Corporate Crisis Management. Besher is a columnist for Tokyo Headline. Besher currently works for Japan's leading IT firm, GREE, and its subsidiary 3Minute Inc., where he is involved in its Media and Advertising business. Besher lives in Tokyo, with wife Yuki, and two sons Noah (8), and Luka (6).

【Short Shorts Film Festival & ASIA 2022 Outline】

- President : Tetsuya Bessho
- Dates : June 7th (Tue) ~ June 20th (Mon)
Online Screening April 28th (Thurs) ~ June 30th (Thurs)
- Screening Venues : Opening Ceremony at LINE CUBE SHIBUYA
Euro Live
Omotesando Hills Space O
TORQUE SPICE & HERB, TABLE & COURT
iTSCOM STUDIO & HALL Futakotamagawa Rise
Akasaka Intercity Conference
※Schedules varies by venue
- Admission : Free ※Special events will have an admission fee
- Official Website : <https://www.shortshorts.org/2022/en>
- Organizer : Committee for Short Shorts / Committee for Short Shorts Film Festival Asia
※All event schedules are subject to change due to COVID-19.



<Poster Visual>

【Contact Information】

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【Download Pictures】

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1XPG_zRqrBp0ZrM779iCkI7ex1V0IWffQ?usp=sharing