

Himalaya Film Festival WEST JAPAN 2009

Report



NPO Himalaya Archive Japan / Cinema Azadhi

August 2009

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Introduction

Himalaya Film Festival WEST JAPAN 2009 had 2,100 people at 3 venues during 19 days with 53 shows. The number of people excludes related events such as Tibet photo exhibition. If included, 2,750 people came. From communication with audiences and their answers to a questionnaire, it is apparent that they highly evaluate the film festival. Thus we can evaluate that Himalaya Film Festival WEST JAPAN 2009 is successful in terms of number of people and their evaluation.



Major events during the film festival earned some merits.

At the opening party, we could establish a good relationship with people in various fields such as the film industry, university and so on. At the lecture of Mr. Kunihiko Tanaka, the chief producer of the festival prompted a meaningful dialogue with enthusiastic audiences. At the mini concert in Kobe titled as “Prayer for the Himalayas,” the small venue was fully attended by 70 people including staffs. Audiences gave a standing ovation to the tune created by the musicians with classic musical instruments.



This success of the film festival is attributed to not only the high quality films, the cooperation of film directors and Mr. Glenn Mitrasing, the Dutch founder of the film festival but also the contribution of Mr. Kunihiko Tanaka, who created the Japanese version of each film, putting Japanese subtitles to the films.

Unfortunately, we could not invite foreign guests because of lack of budget. We are truly sorry for that. There are many lessons to learn but we will do better next time.

This film festival has a more definite and unique character in comparison to other film festivals in Japan. It is clear that this film festival is a very valuable event. Not only we but also the other people hope the continuation of the Himalaya Film Festival in Japan.



I. Summary of Film Festival

■ Summary

- Duration: April 25 – May 8, 2009
- Venues: April 25 & 26: Wings Kyoto Event Hall (240 seats / Kyoto)
April 28~May 8: Kyoto Minami Hall (165 seats / Kyoto)
May 2~6 : Kobe Film Archive Planet (38 seats / Kobe)
- Organizers: NPO Himalaya Archive Japan, Cinema Azadi
- Support: Himalaya Archief Nederland, The Embassy of Nepal, Japan, Nepal Association, Kyoto Newspaper, Kobe Newspaper, FM Kyoto
- Special Sponsor: Himalaya Kanko Kaihatsu, Ltd.
- Official site: <http://himalaya2009.jakou.com/>

■ Program

- Main Program : Film Show - 16 programs (30 films)
- Opening event: “Welcome to the Himalayas!” (April 25-26)
 - Opening ceremony : “Prayer for the Himalayas” by music
 - Lecture: “40 years living for Nepal – Challenge of Mr. Takashi Miyahara” (CEO, Himalaya Kanko Kaihatsu, Ltd.)
 - Talk on the Himalayas by Mr. Kunihiko Tanaka, the director of “Tibetan Refugees: Struggle Beyond Generations”
 - Opening party (April 25, 6:30 pm – Open to public)
- Photo exhibition: “On the Lung-ta” (held in Wings Kyoto and Kobe Film Archive Planet)
- Sales of goods and books related to Tibet, Nepal, India and Bhutan (at each venue)
- Exchange Party & Mini concert in Kobe (May 4, 6:00 pm -)
 - * Concert: Original music is performed by Sarangi & Tabla (Indian classic instruments) and Bansuri (Nepalese bamboo flute)

■ Ticket and Price

* Entrance Fee

	Advance Sale	On the day
1 program (2 films)	1,000 yen	1,300 yen

(Discount available)

2. Summary of Organization and Event

■ Administrative Office

2-50 Goryominami-Arakicho, Saikyo-ku, Kyoto 615-8232

Tel 075-382-2331 Email windchime@m9.dion.ne.jp

■ Organizer, Support, Sponsor, Staff

<Organizer> NPO Himalaya Archive Japan, Cinema Azadi

<Support> Himalaya Arhief Nederland, Embassy of Nepal, Japan Nepal Culture Association, Kyoto Newspaper Agency, Kobe Newspaper Agency, FM Kyoto, RCS, Kobe Film Archive Planet, Kyoto Minami Hall, Planet Film Show Room, Tibet Support Group KIKU Osaka

<Special Sponsor> Himalaya Kanko Kaihatsu Co., Ltd.

<Official Staff>

Kunihiko Tanaka (Representative of Himalaya Archive Japan, Chief Producer)

Akihiro Toki (WEST JAPAN 2009 Producer and Chief Secretary, Representative of Cinema Azadi) and other 12 staffs

■ Related Events

1) Opening Ceremony

It was a simple one. After the 11-minute concert of original music specially made for this film festival played by Sarangi and video image of the Lord Shiva and the Himalayas, the welcoming speech by Mr. Kunihiko Tanaka and small announcement were made.

2) Opening Party

Its purpose was to give positive impression of this film festival to people in this business, and to have an interactive exchange between staffs and audiences. This was necessary as this is the first time for this film festival to be organized in West Japan. Three original cocktails were made especially for the film festival. We are confident that participants had good impression on the venue, food and service provided. Participants were 50 people. If include staffs, about 60 people got together.

3) Mini concert and party in Kobe

It was successful in terms of number of participants and contents. The concert truly impressed audiences. Live music of Sarangi, Tabla and Bansuri was wonderful. Daniel, the French player, made an original music devoted to the film festival and fully engaged with the festival. We were pleased with his involvement. We should positively consider this kind of event as a part of the film festival in the future. The party was really fun!

3. Number of Audiences

- Wings Kyoto: 317 persons
- Kyoto Minami Hall: 1,251
- Kobe Film Archive Planet: 537
- Opening Party: 51(exc. staffs)
- Mini concert: 50
- Photo Exhibition (Wings Kyoto): estimated 222
- Kobe Photo Exhibition (Kobe Film Archive Planet): estimated 322

TOTAL: 2,750 persons

4. Feedback from Audiences

* Quoted from “Messages to staffs”(questionnaires)

- ◇ I am pleased to watch such interesting films like these in West Japan this time.
It was a wonderful event.
- ◇ Please do continue this event. I will wholeheartedly support it.
- ◇ Please make further effort to show more films and organize this festival all over the world.
- ◇ Please convey and inform us of the unknown world, suppressed real voices and reality of the world.
- ◇ Films with such beauty and depth have impressed me and made me think. The film festival is a worthy cause. I wish you all the best.
- ◇ I am extremely pleased to watch not major films like these. Please continue it even though number of audiences is less.
- ◇ Please convey various aspects of people lives around the world through the power of films.
- ◇ It is not only good but also important to tell people in the world about the Himalayas.
Please keep telling us the truth as it is.
- ◇ This film festival is marvelous. Please keep it up.

5. Media Coverage

◇ The List

〈Magazine〉

Meets Regional (May edition)

SAVVY (May edition)

Kansai Walker (Apr. 14 & 24th edition)

Pia (May 7th edition)

〈Magazine(web issue)〉

Meets Regional

SAVVY

LEAF

Kansai Walker

〈Newspaper〉

Sankei Living Shibun Kyoto (Apr. 10th edition)

International Herald Tribune (Apr. 24th edition)

Kobe Shimbun (Apr. 17th & May 2nd edition)

Kyoto Shimbun (Apr. 20th edition)

The Yomiuri Shimbun (Apr. 21th edition)

The Yomiuri Shimbun (Apr. 22nd edition)

Asahi Shimbun (Apr. 23th edition)

Asahi Shimbun (Apr. 25th edition)

The Sankei Shimbun (Apr. 24th edition)

The Mainichi Newspapers (Apr. 26th edition)

The Mainichi Newspapers (May 1st Kyoto edition)

The Mainichi Newspapers (May 1st Kobe edition)

Nihon Keizai Shimbun (Apr. 23rd edition)

〈Web Newspaper〉

Karasuma Keizai Shimbun

〈**Radio**〉 (staff appearance)

MBS (Apr. 1st)

Redio Kansai (Apr. 21st)

Kyoto Sanjyo Radio Cafe (Apr. 5th)

FM COCOLO 「ON THE MOVE」 (Apr. 19th)

Kyoto Living FM (Apr. 17th)

fm waiwai (Apr. 11th)

FM COCOLO 「MOVE & Asian Indian」 (Apr. 24th)

〈**Radio**〉 (introduction of the film festival)

KBS (Apr. 24st)

Redio Kansai

Redio Osaka

〈**TV**〉 (staff appearance)

KBS TV (Apr. 8th)

NHK (Apr. 24st)

〈**TV**〉 (introduction of the film festival)

NHK(Kyoto)

NHK(Kobe)