

MOVIE NEWS & REVIEWS AUGUST 8, 2016 12:20 PM

Japanese film 'Our Little Sister' premieres Friday at Tower Theater in Miami



BY RODOLFO ROMAN
Special to the Miami Herald

Miami fans of highly acclaimed international films will have a chance to watch a flick selected to compete at the 2015 Cannes Film Festival.

“Our Little Sister,” a film by Japanese director Hirokazu Kore-eda, will be premiere 7:30 p.m. Friday at the Miami Dade College Tower Theater in Little Havana, 1508 SW Eighth St. A special reception will take place before the screening featuring live music by the Japanese Taiko spirit drummers, Fushu Daiko. Members of the Japanese consul, including Deputy Consul General Takahiro Ogihara, will also be in attendance. The film then runs through Aug. 18.

Our Little Sister Official Trailer 1 (2016) - Hirokazu Koreeda Movie HD



Jaie Laplante, executive director of the college’s Miami Film Festival, describes Kore-eda as a humanist filmmaker “capturing the intricacies of developing emotions of all ages.”

“I have appreciated Hirokazu Kore-eda’s films for many years, after he first caught my attention at Toronto International Film Festival’s New Beat of Japan program in 1998,” Laplante said. “Since then, his films such as “Nobody Knows,” which played at Miami Film Festival in 2005, “I Wish,” and “Like Father, Like Son” have deeply touched Miami audiences. When the opportunity to show Kore-eda’s newest film was presented to us, we leapt at the opportunity to share “Our Little Sister” with Miamians.”

The two-hour drama is adapted from a *manga*, a series of Japanese comic books by artist Akimi Yoshida.

“It tells the story of three tight-knit adult sisters, Sachi, Yoshino and Chika, who meet their teenage half-sister, Suzu, from their father’s second marriage on the day of their father’s funeral,” Laplante said. “Suzu comes to live with her older half-sisters, but her presence is a constant reminder of the unresolved resentments of the breakdown of the three older sisters’ original family unit.”

The movie is in Japanese with English subtitles.

Laplante said the Land of the Rising Sun is known for producing quality films.

“Japan is one of the great cinema-producing nations of the world, and Hirokazu Kore-eda is one of Japan’s most important contemporary filmmakers,” he said. “It has been two and a half-years since his last film, “Like Father, Like Son” played at Miami Dade College’s Tower Theater Miami. Don’t miss this rare chance to see his films on the big screen in a shared experience with other filmgoers.”

IF YOU GO

- What: MDC Tower Theater presents Miami premiere of Japanese film, “Our Little Sister.”
- Where: MDC Tower Theater Campus, 1508 SW Eighth St., Miami.
- When: 7:30 p.m., Friday, Aug. 12. The film continues to screen at the theater through Aug. 18.
- Tickets: \$15 adults; \$12 seniors, students and MDC staff; and \$10 MDC students, Tower Theater and Miami Film Society members. Free parking available in the lot behind the theater. www.towertheatermiami.com.



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