

Film Screening

Award-winning Documentary

YASUKUNI 「靖國神社」



4 February, 2010
(Thursday)
5.30pm - 8.30pm
(film running time:
123 minutes)
T1, Meng Wah Complex,
HKU

ABOUT THE FILM:

Already the highest grossing Japanese documentary ever released in Japan, and hailed by many to be one of the most controversial and influential, Yasukuni has split Japanese society and become a huge political and social phenomenon in Japan today. It is a powerful study of the controversial Yasukuni shrine which exposes hidden truths about Japan's history and identity, and challenges notions of Japanese militarism, post-war legacies, and their disturbing contemporary significance today. The film touches Japan's most sensitive nerve by challenging notions concerning the real nature of the 'chrysanthemum' – the Emperor's emblem, Japan's 'sacred war' in WWII, its unresolved post-war legacies and responsibilities, and the disturbing contemporary significance with ultra-nationalists and right-wingers today, while Yasukuni still remains the focus of painful memories and protests from Japan's victims of war. Ten years in the making, the film tears apart multiple meanings and voices to look at layers of history, militarism, legacies of war while confronting human dilemmas of war and peace, death and memory.

'AND' AWARD – Pusan International Film Festival 2007

WORLD CINEMA COMPETITION – Sundance Film Festival 2008

OFFICIAL SELECTION – Berlin International Film Festival 2008

HUMANITARIAN AWARD FOR BEST DOCUMENTARY - HK International Film Festival 2008

POST-SCREENING DISCUSSION with:

LI YING, Executive Producer and Film Director, YASUKUNI

DR. SEBASTIAN VEG, Assistant Professor, Dept of Comparative Literature,
French Centre for Research on Contemporary China

YU XUYING, PhD candidate, Dept of Comparative Literature

DR. ESTHER YAU, Associate Professor,
Dept of Comparative Literature (Moderator)

All are welcome. Seats are available on a first-come-first-served basis.
For enquiries, please contact Joyce Lam (jlam0406@hku.hk).

Co-sponsors:
French Centre of Research on Contemporary China (CEFC)
HKU School of Humanities
HKU Center for the Study of Globalization and Cultures
HKU Department of Comparative Literature

