

## Invitation to Okinawa Films



**Date: 10 Feb., 2015 (Tue) 6:00 p.m.**  
**(Admission: 5:15 p.m.)**

**Venue: Event Hall, Embassy of Japan**  
**(Hiroshimastr. 10, 10785 Berlin)**

Okinawa is a chain of islands in southwestern Japan blessed with very pleasant climate throughout the year. With some of the world's most beautiful beaches and marine areas, Okinawa is now one of the most popular destinations in Japan. The cultural exchange with China and Southeast Asian countries has fostered the formation of a distinct culture on Okinawa. With its splendid natural beauty and its charming culture, Okinawa is also the setting for numerous movies.

On the occasion of the 65th International Film Festival Berlin 2015, Okinawa Prefectural Government will show on the Embassy premises a series of Okinawan films (language: Japanese, subtitles: English) that were all shot in Okinawa.

Okinawan drinks and snacks will be provided before the start of the films (5:15 - 6:00 p.m.).

If you would like to attend the event, please register by email with ([kultur@bo.mofa.go.jp](mailto:kultur@bo.mofa.go.jp)) by **6 February, 2015 (Fri)**. Please note that the number of participants is limited and that you will need to present your ID / passport for admission.

**The Path of KUMIODORI** (Original Title : Unjunu Hanamichi)  
Directed by Atsushi Sunagawa and Chikako Yamashiro, 2013, 20 min

**Synopsis**

Museum worker Takeshi Kamiya manages to find time every day to practice the traditional Ryukyu art of “Kumiodori”, and show the path of the artist as he works and performs on stage. His son Takenoshin experiences lonely days without his father, who is almost never home between his time practicing and appearing on stage, but Takenoshin eventually decides to join his busy father in aiming to be a performer of “Kumiodori”. That is when he meets “Marumun”, the embodiment of traditional arts, which dwells in the theatre.



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**A Song of Gondola** (Original Title : Nirai No Oka -A Song of Gondola-)  
Directed by Naoya Oshiro, 2010, 90 min

**Synopsis**

A man who has led a generally unsatisfying life as an adult thinks back to his childhood growing up in the town of Chatan. He recalls yearning to be tough and strong, his first love, the rebellious phase, and his first true friend. He also recalls the past his father concealed for so long... This is a story that delineates the mystifying nature of life, one that circles around and around the same place like a gondola on a Ferris wheel. It is a bittersweet but encouraging gift for all those who “cannot make it work.”

