



The Himalaya Film Festival Executive Committee, in collaboration with NHK (Japanese Broadcasting Corporation), is pleased to announce that it will organize the first Himalaya Film Festival in Tokyo this summer from August 14-17 and from August 19-22.

The opening of the festival will be at a timely moment in history, because this year marks the 50th anniversary of the successful ascent of Mount Manaslu by a Japanese climbing expedition, the first successful scaling of this Himalayan peak. The expedition was acknowledged as a great achievement and it boosted the morale of the Japanese, who had been mentally and economically depressed since World War II. This year is also the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Nepal and Japan. So, this is certainly an excellent moment for the Japanese to explore the Himalayan region and to establish good relations with the local people.

The HFFT 2006 will offer the public an excellent and unique opportunity to take a closer look at the Himalayan region, including present-day Northern India, Nepal, Bhutan, Pakistan and Tibet, and to think about the global environmental problems and human diversity in the region. In addition to screening sixteen documentaries that cover topics ranging from intrepid climbing expeditions to cultural festivals and events unique to the region, to pressing environmental issues, the festival aims to promote discussion of some of the issues examined in the films. In conjunction with the festival, a symposium entitled "How to Deal With Global Warming Issues, Starting From the Himalayas" - to be broadcasted on NHK - will be held on August 12th 2006.

The Himalaya Film Festival, which is just beginning to branch out to several cities around the world, is the only international film festival that documents the Himalayan region. It officially started in 2003 in Amsterdam and was organized by the Himalaya Archief Nederland (www.himalaya-archieff.nl), a Dutch NGO.

“We firmly believe that the Himalaya Film Festival Tokyo 2006 project will help foster people’s understanding about the Himalayan region, the human-nature relationship and environmental issues,” says Mrs. Junko Tabei, the first woman to reach the peak of Mount Everest. She is also a member of the executive committee.

2006 will be a “Himalaya-first year” in Japan.

The structure of the festival is as follows:

Official Name: Himalaya Film Festival Tokyo 2006

Host: Himalaya Film Festival Executive Committee

(NHK International / Himalaya Archief Nederland)

Co-host: NHK

Support: Ministry of the Environment; Indian Embassy; Pakistan Embassy; The Royal Netherlands Embassy in Tokyo; Embassy of Nepal, Tokyo; Japanese Alpine Club; Japanese Worker’s, Alpine Federation; New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization; Mainichieigasha Co., Ltd.

Sponsorship: Kansai Electric Power Co., Inc.; Shibuya Television; Aquarium Co., Ltd.

Festival period: August 14 - 17 & 19 – 22 (8 days)

Festival site: NHK Fureai Hall

Fee: Advanced Ticket: 1000 yen/Day Ticket: 1100 yen

*Official site: www.himalaya-tokyo.net

* International site: www.himalayafilmfestival.nl

Programs:

- 1) Screening international films (16 documentaries) on the Himalayan region
- 2) Holding a related symposium: "How to Deal With Global Warming Issues, Starting From the Himalayas " (This symposium is scheduled to be broadcasted on NHK: "NHK BS Forum": August 12, 2006/6pm-7pm)

FILMS (16 films)

- "The Fatal Game" (52min.) (James Heyward)
- "A Higher Calling" (45min.) (Neal Michaelis)
- "Trio for one" (57 min.) (Shay J. Katz)
- "Call it Karma" (48 min.) (Geoff Browne)
- "Daughters of Everest" (56min.) (Sapana Sakya & Ramyata Limbu)
- "Meltdown" (50min.) (Richard Heap)
- "A Man Called Nomad" (40min) (Alex Gabbay)
- "Farther than the Eye Can See" (75min.) (Michael Brown)
- "Into the Thunder Dragon" (47min.) (Sean White)
- "Timber to Tibet" (30min.) (Mohan Mainali)
- "Schools in the Crossfire" (52 min.)(Dhurba Basnet)
- "The Spirit Doesn't Come Anymore" (40min.) (Tsering Rhitar & Sherab Lhawang)
- "Climbing Manasuru" (100min.) (Gajiro Yamamoto)
- "Bhedako Oon Jasto....in search of a song..." (55min.)(Kiran Krishna Shrestha)
- "On the road with the red god: MACHHENDRANATH" (75min.) (Kesang Tseten)
- "Indian Journeys: Shiva's Matted Locks" (50 min.) (William Dalrymple)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman:

Junichi Nishizawa (The chancellor of Tokyo Metropolitan University, technologist)

Vice-chairman:

Glenn Mitrasing (Himalaya Archief Nederland teamleader)

Keiichiro Yoshida (NHK International commissioner)

Executive Committee:

Junko Tabei (mountaineer) Isamu Takano (photographer)

Koji Akimoto (Shibuya Television CEO)

Special Adviser:

Zenkichi Hirayama (chairman of the Japanese Alpine Club)

Yuichiro Miura (mountaineer)

Executive Director:

Kunihiko Tanaka (video journalist)

Deputy Director:

Hiroyuki Yamamoto (NHK International)

Taizo Yoshihama (Shibuya Television)

Auditing Officer:

Akio Kunimi (corporation controller)

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