



Premiere of “IMPHAL 1944” for the closing ceremony of the 70th Anniversary of the Battle of Imphal

London, June 11, 2014: London-based Japanese filmmaker **Junichi Kajioka** announced that he is currently working on the final edit of a short film “**IMPHAL 1944**”. This film is to be premiered at the closing ceremony of the 70th Anniversary Commemoration of the Battle of Imphal (WWII) on June 28.

The film is inspired by the true story of a Japanese war veteran **Masao Hirakubo OBE**, who fought in the Battle of Imphal in Manipur, Northeast India. He was the founder of the Burma Campaign Society (BCS) and was one of the veterans of WWII who tirelessly devoted his later life to reconciliation between the UK and Japan. He died in 2008 at the age of 88. The film is dedicated to the people who lost their lives at the Battle of Imphal.

Junichi Kajioka discovered this story while preparing for a feature film “**My Japanese Niece**”, in which he is due to act in the leading role. He was moved to discover that Manipuri people are still passing the story of Japanese soldiers onto the younger generation. Junichi decided to make his own film “**IMPHAL 1944**” to commemorate the anniversary in this special year.

Junichi Kajioka states that this film aims to act as a symbol of friendship and peace between Britain, Japan and Manipur. The theme song of this film, called “**Memories of Imphal**”, was specially written and composed by a Tokyo-based musical duo **Luna Luna**. The lyrics express gratitude toward the people of Manipur. Junichi hopes to make the feature version of “**IMPHAL 1944**” and work with local actors and talent in Manipur. He is currently seeking sponsors, backers and a lot of moral support! If you are interested in this project we would love to hear from you. Please make contact to arrange an interview session in Imphal (June 27 - July 2) or in Delhi (July 3 - 7).

imphal1944film@gmail.com

Theme song of “MEMORIES OF IMPHAL” by Luna Luna

1 minute teaser with the song on Youtube: <http://youtu.be/CxYAzEOVthI>

The peoples’ Kingdom was torn apart

Ah Imphal, Imphal

Your tears became our lives

Ah Imphal, Imphal

We will never forget you
The people who died, the people who survived.
Ah, ah, that boarder line
Although time has passed, the pain is still deep in our hearts
Sleeping in the land of Manipur
The lives of three countries
The people of Manipur saved our lives
Country of roses and country of cherry blossom
Returned home to live our lives
That boarder line will never disappear
Ah, Imphal, Imphal

For more Information about the film:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/imphal1944>

Recent articles about the film:

NE Travel and Life - 26.05.2014.

<http://www.netravelandlife.com/people/item/58-japanese-tribute-to-battle-of-imphal.html>

Yahoo India News - 02.06.2014.

<https://in.news.yahoo.com/japanese-filmmakers-imphal-1944-set-imphal-premiere-073209782.html>

Bollywood Life - 02.06.2014.

<http://www.bollywoodlife.com/news/imphal-1944-to-have-the-imphal-premiere-on-june-28/>

E-PAO Manipur - 03.06.2014.

<http://e-pao.net/GP.asp?src=23..030614.jun14>

For more Information about the filmmaker:

Junichi Kajioka - Producer / Writer / Director / Actor

Website: <http://www.junichikajioka.com>

IMDB: <http://www.imdb.com/name/nm2554701>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/junichikajioka>

RECONCILIATION AND PEACE



A FILM BY JUNICHI KAJIOKA


IMPHAL 1944



INSPIRED BY A TRUE STORY

A JUNICHI KAJIOKA FILM "IMPHAL 1944"

JUNICHI KAJIOKA RAY BULL DIANE CRUSH DANIEL SHELLEY JAMES VILLER YUSEI SHINA SHIHOKO NAGAI ESRAH UGURLU
MUSIC BY LUNA LUNA DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY MICHAL TOMASICZEK WRITTEN AND PRODUCED BY JUNICHI KAJIOKA TIMOTHEE LAYAT
DIRECTED BY JUNICHI KAJIOKA

 /IMPHAL1944

IN IMPHAL JUNE 28

The first poster image for the film "IMPHAL 1944".