

President Message

From one amazement to the next

The first movie I ever saw was Charlie Chaplin's *The Kid*. And it made me cry.

Years later, when I discovered director Akira Kurosawa's *Yojimbo*, I thought, "How engrossing and beautiful." I had no words for how I felt--I was amazed and awestruck. Wanting to experience that amazement once more, I embarked on a journey of watching movies one after another. In today's words, it was the start of my life in the "*numa*" (inescapable swamp) of movies.

Discovering *A Taxing Woman* by director Jûzô Itami in 1987 was especially impactful; I still vividly remember the day that I watched it three times in a row.

Shin'ichi Ichikawa, Sô Kuramoto, Akira Hayasaka, Kuniko Mukôda, Taichi Yamada...

As I was enchanted again and again by the works of these scriptwriters who drove the golden age of Japanese TV dramas, it may have been inevitable, in a sense, that I transitioned from "viewer" to "creator."

This legacy has been passed on, with the work of next-generation writers including Sumio Ohmori, Kankurô Kudô, Ryôta Kosawa, Yûji Sakamoto, Miho Nakazono, Akiko Nogi, Kôki Mitani inspiring and attracting young staff.

This is how "paying that amazement forward" became my career.

The Japanese Movie Channel and Samurai Drama Channel exist because of the "cluster of amazement" that our predecessors left to us.

The universality and vast potential of samurai dramas embodied by *Samurai Detective Onihei*, starring Kichiemon Nakamura, was passed on to the new *Samurai Detective Onihei*, starring Kôshirô Matsumoto.

The aura of movie star Ken Takakura was passed on to Kin'ya Kitaôji, who starred in *The Book of Setting Sun*, a huge series that will air its ninth installment in 2025.

For cinema films, the TV drama *Hey Handsome!!* was developed for theaters with the support of enthusiastic, devoted fans. Scriptwriter and director Masatoshi Yamaguchi noted in his proposal: "a work that encapsulates the essence of Kuniko Mukôda's *Terauchi Kantarô Ikka* and Jûzô Itami's *Tampopo* plus *Sazae-san*."

Because we hold so much respect for these masterpieces, we have gained the support of fans of past classics and original works while creating a new fanbase, leading us to “pay that amazement forward.”

Today, we deliver the charm of Japan’s samurai dramas not only in Japan, but also to the world, through the “24/7 SAMURAI-SHINOBI” overseas streaming service.

Amazement is found not only in movies and TV dramas, but also in meeting people and making connections. It’s the joy of collaborating with the actors and creatives and the joy of excavating classics to deliver to customers.

We provide sheer enjoyment to our customers and preserve amazement. That is our job and our mission.

Tomoyuki Miyagawa
President
Nihon Eiga Broadcasting Corporation



Profile

Born in 1967; native of Tokyo

Engaged in organization and planning since the establishment of the Japanese Movie Channel and Samurai Drama Channel in 1998.

Planned and produced over 35 original samurai dramas for the Samurai Drama Channel. Key cinema films include *The Last Ronin* (director: Shigemichi Sugita), *LIAR GAME The Final Stage* (director: Hiroaki Matsuyama), *A Bride for Rip Van Winkle* (director: Shunji Iwai), *Ribbon* (director: NON), and *Baian the Assassin M.D. 1 & 2* (director: Shunsaku Kawake), which won the Newcomer Award at the 42nd Fujimoto Awards.

Executive producer of the *Samurai Detective Onihei* series, starring Kôshirô Matsumoto, (director: Tomohiko Yamashita) and the TV drama + cinema film version of *Hey Handsome!!* (director: Masatoshi Yamaguchi). Planned the 2025 Jûzô Itami 4K Film Festival and the action samurai drama *SHOGUN'S NINJA* (director: Kôichi Sakamoto). Appointed Executive Managing Officer in 2022 and President in June 2025.

