



沖縄 うりずんの雨

OKINAWA: The Afterburn

Okinawa: Urizun no Ame; 121 minutes; 2016 Siglo
Film Screening followed by discussion with director
John Junkerman

5PM-8PM, November 17, Thursday

Room HC 1530

Harbour Centre Campus, Simon Fraser University

515 West Hastings, Vancouver, BC

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A major hit in Japan since its release in June 2015, on the 70th anniversary of the Battle of Okinawa, *Okinawa: The Afterburn* is the first documentary to provide a comprehensive picture of the Battle and the ensuing 70-year occupation of Okinawa by the US military. The film won Best Documentary in the Kinema Junpo film magazine awards and the Mainichi Film Awards.

On April 1, 1945, the US military landed on Okinawa, beginning a battle that lasted 12 weeks and claimed the lives of some 240,000 people. This film depicts the Battle through the eyes of Japanese and American soldiers who fought each other on the same battlefields, along with Okinawa civilians who were swept up in the fighting, with carefully selected footage from the US National Archives.

The film conveys the complex postwar fate of Okinawa, an island that has had to live side-by-side with an extensive array of US bases, and the related crimes, accidents, and pollution they have caused. The legacy of the war translates into a deeply rooted aversion to military force. This has been expressed in recent years by the island-wide rejection of the plan to build a new US base at Henoko, a source of controversy to this day. *Okinawa: The Afterburn* explores the roots of this resistance and Okinawa's vision for the future.

One emerges not just with understanding and admiration, but also with hope.
John W. Dower, Pulitzer Prize-winning historian

"Okinawa: The Afterburn" sheds light on the ferocious anger against U.S. bases.
Mark Schilling, The Japan Times

A terrific tour-de-force, beautifully integrating the history with a contemporary perspective.
Roger Pulvers, Australian writer and director

Sponsored by Simon Fraser University's Institute for Transpacific Cultural Research, VanCity Office of Community Engagement and the School of Communication along with the Peace Philosophy Centre