# THE WEEKEND MARCH 2016 JAPANESE FILM SHOW

ADMISSION FREE I WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

## The Blue Bird

青い鳥

(NAKANISHI Kenji 中西健二 / 2008 / 105 min)



## 5th March (Sat), 3pm

Location: Auditorium, Content Malaysia Pitching Centre, Platinum Sentral (next to KL Sentral)\*
Enquiries: The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur Tel: 03 2284 6228 E: jpcc@jfkl.org.my W: jfkl.org.my

<sup>\*</sup> A map of the venue is available at the back of this flyer.







<sup>\*</sup> Programme is subject to change without prior notice due to unforeseen circumstances.

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### Synopsis:

A substitute teacher named Murauchi takes over a troubled class for a semester, which is trying to move on from the shock of a bullied student's suicide attempt. Murauchi's daily acknowledgement of the incident—in spite of his own ridiculed stutter—snaps the rest of the school out of their complacency and forces them to reflect on their actions. Nobody is happy about him reopening old wounds, especially Shinichi, who is guilt-ridden after being identified as one of the tormenters in the suicide note.

Based on award-winning author Shigematsu Kiyoshi's novel, this quiet drama explores the age-old topic of bullying, shedding light on Japanese society's behaviour and approach to the problem.

#### Cast:

ABE Hiroshi as Mr. Murauchi HONGO Kanata as SONOBE Shinichi ITO Ayumi as Ms. Shimazaki INOUE Hajime as Mr. Ishino

#### Awards & honours:

- 33rd Hong Kong International Film Festival SIGNIS Award (Special Mention) NAKANISHI Kenji
- 63rd Mainichi Film Award for Best Actor ABE Hiroshi
- 21st Tokyo International Film Festival Official Selection

