

UPLINK Co.



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UPLINK Co, was founded by ASAI Takashi in 1987. It started out as a film distribution company, distributing films of the English director, Derek Jarman, in Japan. UPLINK has since co-produced 4 films of Derek Jarman until his death; "THE GARDEN," "EDWARD II," "WITTGENSTEIN," and "BLUE." UPLINK has also been focusing on art and independent films and has released films like; "GAS, FOOD, LODGING" by Allison Anders," "THIRTY TWO SHORT FILMS ABOUT GLEN GOULD," by Francois Girard, "GO FISH," by Rose Troche, "NICO ICON," by Susanne Ofteringer, "PRISONER OF THE MOUNTAINS," by Sergei Bodrov, "GET ON THE BUS," by Spike Lee, "THE GATE OF HEAVENLY PEACE," by Richard Gordon and Carma Hinton, "EXILE IN SARAJEVO" by Tahir Cambis and Alma Sahbaz, "π (Pi)," by Darren Arnofsky, "CONCEIVING ADA" by Lynn Hershman Leeson, "OSAMA" by Siddig Barmak, "MERCANO EL MARCIANO" by Juan Antin, "LIFE AND DEBT" by Stephanie Black, "THE CORPORATION" by Mark Achbar, Jennifer Abbott, and Joel Bakan, "PARADISE NOW" by Hany Abu-Assad, and the latest, "HER NAME IS SABINE" by Sandrine Bonnaire.

Our co-production includes "LOVE IS THE DEVIL," directed by John Maybury, "SHUZOU RIVER" By Lou Ye and production "I.K.U." by Shu Lea Cheang. Moreover, "BRIGHT FUTURE" by KUROSAWA Kiyoshi, "PINK RIBBON" by FUJII Kenjiro, "BLACK KISS" by TEZKA Macoto, and "STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKES" by YAZAKI Hitoshi. From 2005 to 2007, we handled the Japanese production management of Sergei Bodrov's Oscar nominated film, "MONGOL." Other than distributing feature films for the theater, it has presently come to have its own video label; producing and selling DVD for more than 400 titles.

UPLINK is also a publishing company of titles such as "Mapplethorpe," "Andy Warhol's Factory Photo," "Autobiography of Malcom X," Gas Van Sant's "PINK," Ethan Cohen's "Gate of Eden," Tim Burton's "The Melancholy Death of Oyster Boy & Other Stories", "Patti Smith Complete," and recently, Matthew Barney's "Drawing Restraint Vol.II". During 1993 to 1999, UPLINK published a bimonthly magazine, "DICE," which features independent culture, movie, art, and performance. In March 2008, we have converted "DICE" from print media to web portal site.

UPLINK has also been running a so-called micro electronic theater, UPLINK X, which shows digital video programs to an audience of 40 people. Furthermore, in 2005, we opened a new multipurpose place with a cafe & restaurant, bar, gallery, digital video theater, and music live house. Now, UPLINK is one of the

most independent, cutting edge film companies in Japan.