

## **News Release**

13<sup>th</sup> November, 2014

### **Japanese Pop Culture Festival 2014**

The Embassy of Japan in Bahrain will host Japanese Pop Culture Festival 2014 in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture from 20:00 on 26<sup>th</sup> November, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> December 2014 at the Auditorium of National Museum. **Admission to the venue is FREE.**

We would be very happy to obtain this opportunity to welcome residents in Bahrain to enjoy the festival.

#### **- Program of Events -**

① **26th of November: Movie “5 Centimeters Per Second”**

**(Note: This movie is a Japanese movie with English subtitles.)**

Color / Cinema Scope (1:1.78) / 2007 / 63min / CoMix Wave Films

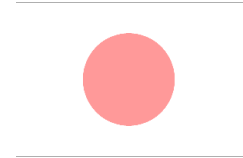
©Makoto Shinkai / CoMix Wave Films

Takaki and Akari became best friends after transferring into the same elementary school. However, the two are separated following their elementary school graduation.

As they placed their feelings for each other behind them, time simply passed by.

Then one snowy day, Takaki is about to be reunited with Akari. As he sits on the train from Tokyo, memories of the past rush through Takaki's head, his meeting time with Akari drawing ever closer.

Join Takaki on a journey into three interconnected tales of love and lost innocence that span the minutes and months of their lives.



**(C) Makoto Shinkai / CoMix Wave Films**

**② 3rd of December: Workshop by Japanese & Bahraini CG Artists**

**(Note: Working language is Arabic with Consecutive Interpretation into Japanese.)**

**[Japanese CG Artist's Profile]**

Mr. Hiroyuki HAYASHIDA (CG Artist, Commissioner for Cultural Affairs of the Japanese Government)

Born in Fukuoka.

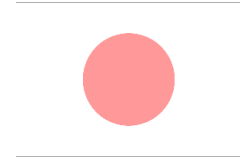
[Education] Tokyo University of the Arts, Faculty of Fine Arts, Department of Design

While he has been working as a CG artist/director in the field of CG and VFX creations through various medium such as CM, movie, TV game, and music video, he also holds solo exhibitions with his original works at some galleries in Ginza and Aoyama, which well illustrates the diversity of his activities. In addition, he writes for CGWORLD magazine and some technical books, and gives lectures at the company "Autodesk" and seminars held in colleges.



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1989 Won a prize at the 10th Japan Graphic Exhibition.

1991 Won Encouragement Prize at the 59th Mainichi Advertisement Design Competition.

1996 Won a prize at the SIGGRAPH'96 Computer Animation Festival.

Won the Artist Award at the Multi Media Grand Prix organized by Multi Media Contents Promotion Association.

2003 Received recognition as a Maya Master by Alias Company (Currently named as Autodesk Company).

2004 Appointed as a special invited associate professor (of CG animation) at Keio University, Faculty of Environment and Information Studies. (until 2007)

Worked as a lecturer of 3DCG in the NHK program "Digista teens"

### [Major Works]

TVCM...Shiseido TSUBAKI, Shiseido UNO, Kirin Tanrei Green Label and more

Movie...Yatterman (In 2009, Shochiku), Dororo (In 2007, Toho), SHINOBI (In 2005, Shochiku) etc

Game...Final Fantasy 12, 13 (SQUARE ENIX), Lost Odyssey (Microsoft), DEAD OR ALIVE 3 (Tecmo) etc

Music Video...EXILE FIREWORKS, EXILE Perfect Year Live 08 opening videos etc

[Web] <http://www.studiolinda.com/english/>

### [Bahraini CG Artist's Profile]

Mr. Khalid Abdulla Al-Muharraqi (CG Artist, Founder & Chief Creative, Muharraqi Studios W.L.L.)

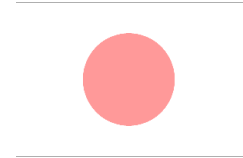
Khalid was born and raised in Bahrain. From an early age he followed in his famous father's artistic footsteps with paint, cameras and sculpture. He went to the US to study Photography and Interior Design at the Art Institute of Houston in the early 90s, where he first became entranced with using computers to create his design concepts.

In 2004 Khalid founded his company, Muharraqi Studios, in Bahrain to create 3D architectural visualization; character animation; VFX and advertising materials. Khalid has won many international prizes



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for his varied work, including several 3D World, CG Society and 3D Total awards. In 2010, Khalid presented at the influential Abu Dhabi Film Commission's Circle Conference on the subject of stereography and 3D in film-making.

Some of his visualization work includes the Bahrain World Trade Centre, the famous Durrat Al-Bahrain resort and accompanying marina that can easily be seen under construction in Google Earth (link to kmz file) and the stadium for the 2022 FIFA world cup in Qatar. Khalid's animation work includes environment and world building for a famous television show in UAE and several more personal projects.

Khalid has helped several developers get their software just right for the artist and his work has helped programs such as LightWave 3D, Modo and ZBrush among others perform better for the digital artist. He is also happy to get his hands dirty with sketching, sculpting and painting. Even with all the work, he still makes time to race his motorbike and engage in Brazilian Jiu Jitsu.

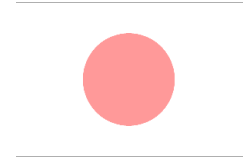
“My mission is to get the world to change for the better – to make it a happier and more colorful environment for us all. Things will not change until we change them. We are the future and our time has come to step up and prove it. Art has no skin color, religion or prejudice. It should always be beautiful and that is what I aim for.” – Khalid Al-Muharraqi

### **③ 11th of December: Movie “CHIBI MARUKO CHAN (MOVIE)”**

**(Note: This movie is a Japanese movie with English subtitles.)**

Color / Cinema Scope (1:1.33) / 1990 / 94min / Nippon Animation, NTT ADVERTISING, Fuji Television Network

As the second term commences, Maruko and her classmates return to their small groups. Maruko's group includes two naughty boys and Maruko is forced to be one of their subordinates. She seems to face a lot of pressure at school. As the school's athletic meet approaches, all the classmates are busy exercising. Maruko is no exception, although her laziness means that she is late sometimes. Maruko realizes that the two boys rival each other in everything they do, and that their friendship is deep and strong.



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**(C)Nippon Animation, NTT ADVERTISING, Fuji Television Network**

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For further information in regard to this press release, media inquiries can be directed to Mr. Mitsukuni Miyakawa, Public Affairs Section of Japanese Embassy at 17716565 and [mitsukuni.miyakawa@mofa.go.jp](mailto:mitsukuni.miyakawa@mofa.go.jp) or to Japanese Embassy's Web site at <http://www.bh.emb-japan.go.jp/index.htm>