



俺は園子温だ !!

I Am Sion Sono!!

Sion Sono

Written and directed by Sion Sono. Director of photography Sion Sono, Ryosuke Yamamichi.

With Sion Sono (Sion Sono).

DCP, colour. 37 min. Japanese.

It goes without saying that the director of *Heya*, *Strange Circus* and *Love Exposure* is one of the most influential Japanese filmmakers of recent decades. Yet no one has introduced themselves to audiences with such non-chalance and self-confidence as the then 22-year-old Sion Sono did with his film *I Am Sion Sono!!* – a disarming, sometimes funny, sometimes raunchy, hugely energetic self-portrait which became the manifesto of a wild, uncompromising, uninhibited cinema. Filmmaking is easy after all: “Focus on infinity and just shoot!”

Christoph Terhechte

Sion Sono was born in Toyokawa, Aichi Prefecture, Japan in 1961. He published his first poems at the age of seventeen. He started making 8mm films while a student at Hosei University in Tokyo. In 1985, he made his debut film, *Ore wa Sono Sion da!! / I Am Sion Sono!!* (1985). Since then, he has worked as a director as well as a producer, actor, writer, and performance artist.

Films

1985: *Ore wa Sono Sion da!! / I Am Sion Sono!!*. 1986: *Otoko no hanamichi / A Man's Flower Road*. 1988: *Kessen! Joshiryo tai danshiryo / Decisive Match! Girls Dorm Against Boys Dorm* (90 min.). 1990: *Jitensha toiki / Bicycle Sighs* (94 min., Berlinale Forum 1991). 1993: *Heya / The Room* (92 min., Berlinale Forum 1993). 1997: *Keiko desu kedo* (61 min.). 1998: *Kaze* (26 min.). 2000: *Utsushimi* (110 min.). 2002: *Jisatsu sakuru / Suicide Club* (99 min.). 2005: *Yume no naka e / Into a Dream* (103 min.), *Kimyo no sakasu / Strange Circus* (108 min., Berlinale Forum 2006), *Hazard* (103 min.). 2006: *Kikyu kurabu, sonogo / Balloon Club, Afterwards* (93 min.), *Noriko no shokutaku / Noriko's Dinner Table* (159 min.). 2007: *Ekusute / Exte: Hair Extensions* (108 min.). 2008: *Ai no mukidashi / Love Exposure* (237 min., Berlinale Forum 2009). 2009: *Chanto tsutaeru / Be Sure to Share* (109 min.). 2011: *Tsumetai nettaigyo / Cold Fish* (145 min.), *Koi no tsumi / Guilty of Romance* (144 min.). 2013: *Jigoku de naze warui / Why Don't You Play in Hell* (126 min.). 2014: *Tokyo Tribe* (116 min.). 2015: *Love & Peace* (117 min.), *Riaru onigokko / Tag* (85 min.), *Hiso hiso boshi / The Whispering Star* (100 min.).