

Key of Life

Kenji Uchida's screwball comedy, which make you laugh while warming your heart !

Cast Masato Sakai, Teruyuki Kagawa, Ryoko Hirose, Yoshiyoshi Arakawa, Yoko Moriguchi

STORY

Unemployed 35 year old Sakurai (Masato Sakai) aspired to become an actor, but has failed miserably. He decides to end it all by killing himself, but first he goes to purify himself at a public bathhouse. While at the bathhouse, he meets the very prosperous Kondo (Teruyuki Kagawa) who suffers a fall which brings on amnesia. On a whim, Sakurai switches locker keys, steals the man's belongings and decides to pass himself off as the wealthy Kondo. Sakurai is not to know that Kondo runs an illegal business which brings him into contact with some mighty annoyed yakuza gangsters. Meanwhile, Kondo has been convinced that he is actually the failed actor Sakurai and he faces the dismal reality of that life with increasing bewilderment. Fortunately, at the hospital, he meets the lovely Kanae (Ryoko Hirose) who, while yearning for marriage, goes out of her way to help "Sakurai" pull himself together. Finally the real Kondo comes to his senses, but before he can make a new life with Kanae, he has to solve the many problems caused by the man who assumed his identity.

The Mohican Comes Home

Returning to the island where he grew up with his wacky family! - Hilarious tragicomedy directed by writer/director Shuichi Okita

Cast Ryuhei Matsuda, Akira Emoto, Atsuko Maeda, Masako Motai, Yudai Chiba

STORY

Young Eikichi (Ryuhei Matsuda) is frontman for a death metal band that has no future. His girlfriend Yuka (Atsuko Maeda) 's pregnancy prompts him to return home to Tobi Island, where his family lives. He hasn't been home for 7 years and he's not eager to return. His father, Osamu (Akira Emoto) is stubborn and he doesn't approve his son.

Osamu gives his son an earful when they go home but he's happy about the news of his first grandchild and calls all the locals over for a wild party. Osamu collapses at the party and consequently discovers that he has cancer with a bad prognosis. Eikichi struggles with the imminent death of his father. His efforts to please his father mostly fail but he tries to think of what he can do for his dying father...

The Projects

A hilarious mix of clever dialogue, deadpan surrealism and heartwarming drama by Junji Sakamoto

Cast Naomi Fujiyama, Ittoku Kishibe, Michiyo Okusu, Renji Ishibashi, Takumi Saito

STORY

Hinako (Naomi Fujiyama) moved to a 3 room apartment in the housing project called danchi with her husband Seiji (Ittoku Kishibe), 6 months ago. They had managed a third generation herbal medicine store until the unexpected death of their beloved son in an accident. Since the move, Hinako has started a part time job, but Seiji spends everyday wandering aimlessly around. Occasionally a young man (Takumi Saito) visits the Yamashita household because remedy that Seiji makes is the only effective medicine for him. This mysterious young man, who speaks slightly strange Japanese, is Mr. SHINJO. After a while, Seiji disappears from the estate. Again, rumors start up, “Have they finally divorced?” and “Did he simply vanish?” To cap it all off, the housewives on the estate believe that Hinako has offed her husband and is hiding his body in their apartment. What really happened to Seiji? And who is SHINJO? Soon rumors start up among this small community.

La La La at Rock Bottom

Director Nobuhiro Yamashita's musical coming-of-age drama set in Osaka.

Cast Subaru Shibutani, Fumi Nikaido

STORY

Shigeo (Subaru Shibutani), an underdog who gets beaten into amnesia, goes through a desperate struggle to remember his own identity with the help of a lone teenager Kasumi (Fumi Nikaido) who lives with her demented grandfather alone. She finds his talent to sing and invites him to join her managing band as its lead vocal. Although he tries to start his new life, all the memory coming back to his mind is the dark past he wants to erase. Now, singing is the only thing he is left with to deal with the life he has remembered and will be living. Can they find a shred of happiness in life even after he remembers everything?

Subaru Shibutani of the idol group Kanjani Eight stars as an amnesiac who clashes fiercely with a young woman played by Fumi Nikaido (Marcello Mastroianni Award at Venice International Film Festival in 2012 for **Himizu**) and sings passionately.