

NIKKATSU PRESENTS ECSTASY OF THE BLACK ROSE PRODUCED BY AKIRA MIURA ADAPTED FROM THE NOVEL BY GIICHI FUJIMOTO STARRING NAOMI TANI SHIN KISHIDA MEIKA SERI HATSUO YAMAYA
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY SHINSAKU HIMEDA EDITOR AKIRA SUZUKI PRODUCTION DESIGNER YOSHINAGA YOKOO WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY TATSUMI KUMASHIRO

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NOVATEL

Ecstasy Of The Black Rose

黒薔薇昇天





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*Ecstasy
Of The
Black
Rose*

a film by
TATSUMI KUMASHIRO

Japan | 1975 | Japanese with English subtitles
2.39:1 | 72 minutes

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SYNOPSIS

In this wryly provocative film, Juzo, an adult film director, searches for a new leading actress when his previous star gets pregnant. After secretly recording the moans of a female patient at a dentist's office, Juzo becomes fixated on finding her. What ensues is a wild goose chase that quickly spirals into bawdy chaos.

Based on Yoshikazu Fujimoto's novel "Brutus Bruce," ECSTASY OF THE BLACK ROSE is a unique, self-referential sex comedy whose flamboyant backdrop of the adult film industry ironically comments on the Roman Porno genre itself. Featuring irreverent set pieces filmed with wild abandon, master director Tatsumi Kumashiro exemplifies how "Nikkatsu's roman porno films, and Kumashiro's in particular, covered a broad range of styles and attitudes" (*Japan on Film*).



TATSUMI KUMASHIRO DIRECTOR

Tatsumi Kumashiro (1927–1995) was one of the most distinctive and influential Japanese filmmakers of the 1970s, renowned for bringing an unusually personal and sophisticated sensibility to Nikkatsu's Roman Porno series. Born in Saga, Japan, Kumashiro studied English literature at Waseda University before entering the film industry at Shochiku's Kyoto studio in 1953. He moved to Nikkatsu in 1955, where he worked for more than a decade as an assistant director and screenwriter before making his directorial debut with *Front Row Life* (Kaburitsuki Jinsei) in 1968.

Kumashiro emerged as a major filmmaker following Nikkatsu's launch of its Roman Porno line in 1971. With films including *Wet Lips* (1972), Ichijo's *Wet Lust* (1972), *The World of Geisha* (1973), *Behind the Sliding Walls* (1973), *Street of Joy* (1974) and *The Woman with Red Hair* (1979), he transcended the conventions of the genre through an idiosyncratic visual style and an abiding interest in the complicated emotional and sexual relationships between his characters.

Kumashiro also directed acclaimed films outside the Roman Porno genre, including *Bitterness of Youth* (1974), *Mr. Mrs. Miss Lonely* (1980) and *Like a Rolling Stone* (1994). His work received numerous honors during his career, and his final films reaffirmed his standing as a singular voice in postwar Japanese cinema. Kumashiro continued directing until shortly before his death in 1995 at the age of 67.

CAST

Ikuyo
Juzo
Meiko
Dentist

Naomi Tani
Shin Kishida
Meika Seri
Hatsuo Yamaya

CREDITS

Directed by
Adapted from the novel by
Produced by
Director of Photography
Editor
Production Designer

Tatsumi Kumashiro
Giichi Fujimoto
Akira Miura
Shinsaku Himeda
Akira Suzuki
Yoshinaga Yokoo



