

"White Lily" by Hideo Nakata – Lesbian

Hideo Nakata is a director who joined Nikkatsu and witnessed the production of Roman Porno with his own eyes as it was happening. As a genuine and direct successor of Roman Porno, Nakata studied the aesthetics of his master Masaru Konuma. With a respect for past films of the genre, he now portrays female-to-female passion and love.

Regardless of genres, be it horror, action, or thriller, Nakata has consistently filmed the themes of strength and vulnerability of women.

While this new piece of Roman Porno retains his clever psychological descriptions that drag out the dark side of human beings, it also covers something that Nakata has always wanted to portray: “A story of love with their lives at stake.”

In this piece, women, as they get hurt, go through emotional growth. The film is also enriched by a variety of bold and beautiful sexual imagery that cannot be found in heterosexual sex.

Director Comment: Hideo Nakata

As a movie buff, I was a great admirer of Nikkatsu Roman Porno films, which boasted freedom of expression and a spirit of anti-establishment. Then, I entered Nikkatsu film studios and worked as an AD. Unfortunately, Nikkatsu stopped making them just before I reached the position of film director.

As such, I was quite delighted to be offered the chance to direct one of the new Nikkatsu Roman Porno films. The reason I picked a story of a lesbian couple is that it could be both emotional and aesthetically beautiful during the love making scenes. My mentor, Masaru Konuma, created very unique, abstract, and yet beautiful love making scenes. In that sense, White Lily is greatly inspired by his works.

Throughout the production I asked myself, “As a modern Nikkatsu Roman Porno film, what really appeals to the modern audience?” Undoubtedly Roman Porno used to aim to arouse men’s desire... Nowadays, sex in real life has become very handy and unlimited Internet porn is easily accessible. So, what kind of expression would most attract the modern audience? I have yet to find the answer...

I am quite pleased with the completed film. I would hope that both men and women come to see White Lily, and I would love to hear what they think of the film.

Synopsis

One passionate story — a young woman bets her life on an exceptional love beyond the gender. Tokiko, a ceramic artist, and her apprentice Haruka. Two females are in a relationship. The couple is not an intrinsic lesbian, but they fell for each other by chance. Tokiko has trauma with her past fiancée and continues to sleep with several men as if she tests Haruka's love. In contrast, Haruka strongly believes the patience and tolerance against a partner's irrationality means the power of love. With the emergence of a new apprentice Satoru, a handsome young guy, their love of soul gradually transforms into a twisted codependent relationship and gets mad despite themselves. This is a woman's growth story describing from the struggles with a painful love to overcoming it. The Roman Porno makes the ultimate a love story sublime.

Hideo Nakata

Born in 1961, Okayama, Japan. After graduated University of Tokyo, Nakata entered Nikkatsu as an assistant director and experienced several on-location shoots for Roman Porno soft-core series. He debuted with the horror feature *Don't Look Up* (1996) and internationally acclaimed for Nakata's groundbreaking films *Ringu* (1998) and *Dark Water* (2002), his latest marks a return to the less-is-more approach that terrified audiences worldwide and made "J-horror" a household word. *White Lily* is the first Roman Porno title directed by Nakata himself. He challenges a lesbian world taking over from the old title spirits, with his respect for his master, director Masaru Konuma.

[Filmography]

Don't Look Up (1996) – Director
Ringu (1998) – Director
Ringu 2 (1999) – Director, Writer
Sleeping Bride (2000) – Director
Sadistic and Masochistic (2000) – Director
Chaos (2000) – Director
Dark Water (2002) – Director
Last Scene (2002) – Director
The Ring Two (2005) – Director
Hideo Nakata's Kaidan (2007) – Director
L change the WorLd (2008) - Director
Foreign Filmmakers' Guide to Hollywood (2009) - Director
The Incite Mill (2010) – Director
Chatroom (2010) - Director
The Complex (2013) - Director
Monsterz (2014) - Director
Ghost Theater (2015) - Director