





# a film by HIDEO NAKATA

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Japan | 2016 | Japanese with English subtitles 1.85:1 | 80 minutes

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# **SYNOPSIS**

Celebrated ceramic artist Tokiko (Kaori Yamaguchi) takes Haruka (Rin Asuka), a troubled teenage runaway, into her home where she becomes her apprentice. When Tokiko's husband dies, Haruka promises to remain by her side, and the two begin a romantic, but volatile relationship. Overcome by sorrow and struggling with alcohol abuse, Tokiko drifts into a series of casual sexual encounters, leaving Haruka torn between her feelings of passion and devotion for her mentor and the emotional abuse she has been forced to endure.

Produced as part of Nikkatsu's Roman Porno Reboot series, WHITE LILY is directed by Hideo Nakata, the master behind such J-horror classics as *Ringu* and *Dark Water*.



### **DIRECTOR BIOGRAPHY**

Born in 1961, Okayama, Japan. After graduated University of Tokyo, Hideo Nakata entered Nikkatsu as an assistant director and experienced several onlocation 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.

#### DIRECTOR STATEMENT

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.

Hideo Nakata

#### CAST

Rin Asuka Kaori Yamaguchi

Shoma Machii Kanako Nishikawa Ichiro Mikami Taro Kamakura Ito Koko Yuki Enomoto Hisako Matsuyama Miki Hayashida

## **CREDITS**

Directed by Hideo Nakata

Written by Junya Kato, Ryuta Miyake

Chief Executive Producer Keizo Yuri

Executive Producer Tadashi Tanaka

Producers Saori Nishio, Masahiko Takahashi

Associate Producers Naoko Komuro, Kiyoe Takagi,

**Akira Yamamoto** 

Casting Director Takefumi Yoshikawa

Assistant Director Ryuichi Saeki

Music by Shuichi Sakamoto Stylist Masae Miyamoto

Make-up Mitsue Sato
Scripter Mizuho Kudo

Production Designer Kosuke Nishibuchi

Editor Naoko Aono

Sound Effect Kenji Shibasaki

Director of Photography Ryuto Kondo
Lighting Director Isamu Fuji

Sound Mixer Isao Kakizawa



