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## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

TWO FILMS BY NAGISA OSHIMA

THE CEREMONY & DIARY OF YUNBOGI BOY, 7:00, 9:35

Perhaps Oshima's most ambitious essay on modern Japanese life, *THE CEREMONY* is a chronicle of a family named Sakurada from 1946 until the present: for Oshima, this fictional family symbolizes the state of Japan. The patriarch is the grandfather, who used to be a high ranking official in the government before and during the war; his son committed suicide after the war; the son's wife returns home from China with her young son Masuo, who becomes the central character in the film, and obviously a spiritual alter ego for Oshima. There are many other family members representing various attitudes in modern Japan, and all key action takes place during ceremonies—funerals, weddings, Buddhist services—where the strength of family tradition is most obvious, and when the task of breaking such ties seems most difficult. The film shows that the spiritual authority of the state of Japan that should have lost its power with Japan's defeat has actually managed to survive as strong as ever.

Produced by Sozsha/Art Theatre Guild. Screenplay by Tsutomu Tamura, Momoru Sasaki, Nagisa, Oshima. Photographed in color and 'scope by Toichiro Narushima. Editing: Keiichi Uraoka. Music: Toru Takemitsu. Art Direction: Jusho Toda.

With: Kenzo Kawarazaki (Masuo), Atsuko Kaku (Ritsuko), Atsuo Nakamura (Terumichi), Aiko Koyama (Setsuko), Kei Sato (Kazuomi), and Kiyoshi Tsuchiya (Tadashi). (1971, 122 mins, 35mm, color, English titles)

### THE DIARY OF YUNBOGI

This ingenious film is a montage of stills shot by Oshima while he was making *A TOMB FOR YOUTH* in Korea. From photos of poor children in Korea, he constructs a story of a boy named Yunbogi who sells chewing gum and newspapers in the street in order to support his brothers and sisters. The soundtrack is composed of excerpts from the boy's diary, opposed by Oshima's dialectic commentary on the diary. The result is one of Oshima's best, most characteristic works: a very particular story of one boy, but also the story of Korea. (1965, 30 mins)