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Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Akira Kurosawa's SEVEN SAMURAI -- generally regarded as one of the great humanistic action epics in the annals of film -- will be re-released with a newly created soundtrack in four-track surround stereo opening an exclusive engagement at the Castro Theatre, April 30.

To be shown in a newly-struck, full-length, uncut print, the three and a half hour epic relates the story of seven marauding samurai who are hired by a farming village to defend their town from bandits' attacks. Starring the late Takashi Shimura as the samurai leader and the legendary Toshiro Mifune as an ex-farmer who wants to become a warrior, SEVEN SAMURAI is considered to be one of the most masterful blends of eastern and western storytelling on film.

In the tradition of last year's re-release of the Abel Gance epic, Napoleon by Zoetrope Studios, the reissue of the Kurosawa classic is an undertaking of Landmark Films in association with Toho Films of Japan. The new stereo soundtrack has been recorded with state-of-the-art sound equipment by Léon's Gate Studios in Hollywood. The Castro has been selected for the premiere revival because it is one of the few theatres in the country where the film can be shown in its full 1:33 format image complementing the stereo soundtrack.

Noted film critic Pauline Kael has described SEVEN SAMURAI as "an epic on violence and action, a raging, sensuous work of such overpowering immediacy that it leaves you both exhilarated and exhausted."

Performances of SEVEN SAMURAI will be at 2:00 PM and 8:00 PM daily during the exclusive and limited engagement at the Castro, San Francisco's popular landmark movie palace.

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