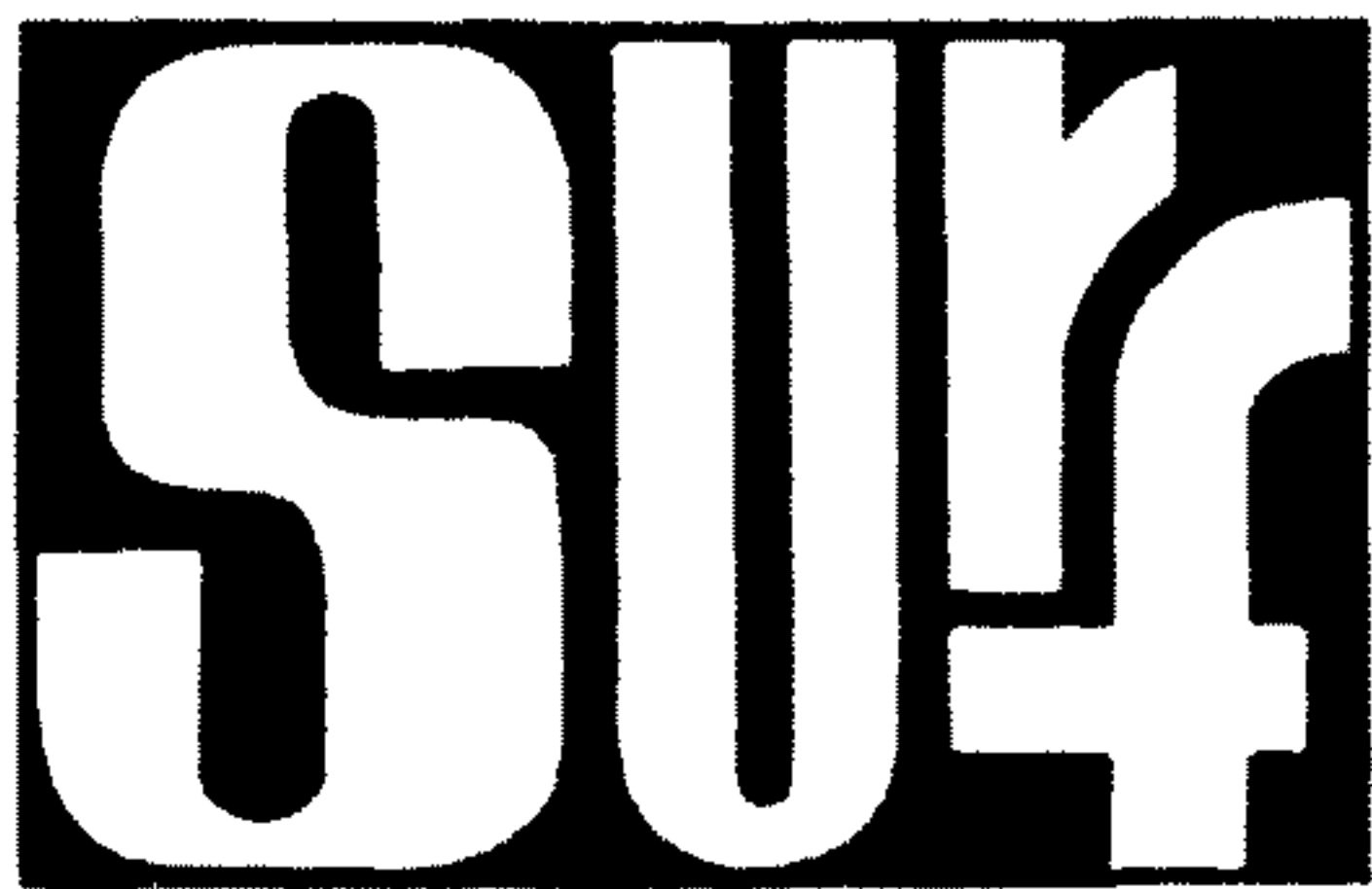


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PRESS RELEASE



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San Francisco's Foremost Specialized Cinema

EXCLUSIVE WEST COAST ENGAGEMENT OPENING WEDNESDAY, MAY 3 OF A FILM
BY YASUJIRO OZU: "TOKYO STORY" (1953)

CAST

CHISHU RYU
CHIYEKO HIGASHIYAMA
SETSUKE HARA
SO YAMAMURA
HARUKO SUGIMURA
KUNIKO MIYAKE
KYOKO KAGAWA
NOBUO NAKAMURA
EIJIRO TOHNO
HISAO TOAKE
SHIRO OSAKA
SHIZUKA MURASE & MICHIIRO MOHRI

Shukishi Hirayama
Tomi Hirayama
Noriko
Koichi
Shige
Koichi's wife, Fumiko
Kyoko
Shige's husband, Kurako Kaneko
Numata
Hattori
Keizo
Koichi's sons

CREDITS

Director
Scenario
Photography
Music

YASUJIRO OZU
KOGO NODA & YASUJIRO OZU
YUSHUN ATSUTA
TAKANORI SAITO

RUNNING TIME: 139 Minutes

Yasujiro Ozu (1903 - 1963), considered "the most Japanese" of all directors, was the most honored film-maker in his own country. He began his directing career in 1927 and made 54 films during his lifetime. Ozu's reputation in the U.S., however, has been based on a very small number of works. As a result of recent retrospectives, Ozu is becoming better known. Most of his films are concerned with family life, which he sees as a reflection of the outside world. His style is austere: the camera never moves; there are no dissolves, fade-outs, or flashy techniques usually considered cinematic. Most of his shots are filmed from a fixed and low-level camera position that shoots up toward his characters. Yet his rigorous style seems well suited to his simple dramas and intimate character studies; the effect of Ozu's pure approach is to deeply involve the viewer in the characters' lives and to transform the commonplace into the profound. Several of his major films are remakes of his earlier works. Like Chaplin, Ozu employed sound only after the sound era was well established. Similarly, he waited until color was developed to a point where he could achieve the delicate and subtle shadings that characterize his later color films, commencing with FLOATING WEEDS.

FILMOGRAPHY (Partial)

1932	I WAS BORN, BUT...
1934	FLOATING WEEDS (Silent)
1949	LATE SPRING
1951	EARLY SUMMER
1953	TOKYO STORY
1956	EARLY SPRING
1959	FLOATING WEEDS (Remake)
1959	GOOD MORNING (OHAYO)
1961	LATE AUTUMN
1962	EARLY AUTUMN