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# The Good Wife of Tokyo 1994 Asian

Directors: Claire Hunt & Kim Longinotto

England; 1992; 16mm; 52 Minutes

Ames. Int FF, S.F.

"WE ARE NINJAS WE ARE NOT GEISHAS," PROCLAIMS THE THREE-WOMAN BRITISH ROCK BAND FRANK CHICKENS, PERFORMING IN TOKYO. THEIR LEADER, KAZUKO HOHKI, HAS COME HOME TO INTERVIEW WOMEN, YOUNG AND OLD, ABOUT LIFE IN JAPAN TODAY - AND TO MARRY, TO PLEASE HER MOTHER. THIS KIND OF PARADOX IS CENTRAL TO *THE GOOD WIFE OF TOKYO*, A BEAUTIFUL COMPLEMENT TO OUR OZU SERIES IN BEING A STUDY OF THE CONTRADICTION OF FAMILY LIFE FOR WOMEN IN JAPAN. KAZUKO'S MOTHER IS A PRIEST IN THE RELIGION KNOWN AS HOUSE OF DEVELOPMENT, WHICH DRAWS MIDDLE-AGED WOMEN TO ITS CREED OF LAUGHTER AND FAITH, AND DRAWS THEM OUT IN FRANK DISCUSSIONS. ONE WOMAN'S DIFFICULT MOTHER-IN-LAW LIVED TO BE 100, ANOTHER TELLS OF HER HUSBAND'S SUICIDE AND APOLOGIZES FOR THE INCONVENIENCE. BUT CHANGE IS IN THE AIR IN A NEW WOMEN'S CULTURE.