

## **MADE IN JAPAN**

### **LOG LINE:**

From Nagoya to Nashville...one more time.

### **SHORT SYNOPSIS**

MADE IN JAPAN tells the remarkable story of Tomi Fujiyama, Japan's first female country music star, and her journey to fulfill her dream of taking Nashville's legendary Grand Ole Opry stage one more time. Director Josh Bishop (THE DWARVENAUT) chronicles Tomi's career, from the USO circuit to Columbia Records and Las Vegas headliner status, culminating with a knockout 1964 Opry performance where she followed Johnny Cash and got standing ovations. More than forty years later, Tomi and her husband set out for the U.S. in hopes that she can give the Opry an encore. Nashville has changed, but Tomi hasn't.

From executive producer Morgan Spurlock (SUPERSIZE ME), narrated by Elijah Wood, with a stunning score by Kaki King, MADE IN JAPAN is a funny, poignant cross-cultural trip through music, marriage, and an unlikely country girl's dreams.

### **LONG SYNOPSIS**

MADE IN JAPAN tells the remarkable story of Tomi Fujiyama, Japan's first female country music star, and her journey to fulfill her dream of taking Nashville's legendary Grand Ole Opry stage one more time.

Director Josh Bishop (THE DWARVENAUT) shows us how Tomi ended up at the Opry the first time: A little Japanese girl who loved to sing and play guitar, a desperate family, the first of a series of good old fashioned showbiz ripoffs, and an offer for the former Tomoko Kameii to sing for American soldiers stationed on Japanese bases at the tender age of 12. She spoke no English at the time.

Over her whirlwind career, little Tomoko became Tomi, "The Queen of Japanese Country," making records for Columbia, headlining in Las Vegas, still touring with the USO—and persevering through shady deals, stolen royalties, and brutally exhausting seven-night-a-week show schedules.

On November 9, 1964, Nashville celebrated the 39<sup>th</sup> birthday of the Grand Ole Opry, America's oldest country music institution. Among Nashville royalty—indeed, taking the stage immediately following Johnny Cash—Tomi performed too, breaking down in tears of joy at achieving a longtime dream, and garnering the only standing ovation of the night. It would be the apex of her country music career.

More than forty years later, Tomi and her husband set out for the U.S. in hopes that she can give the Opry an encore. Revisiting Tomi's hometown of Nagoya before taking on

Las Vegas and New York, they finally reach Nashville only to find that country music's capital has changed. Fortunately, Tomi hasn't.

From executive producer Morgan Spurlock (SUPER SIZE ME), narrated by Elijah Wood, with a stunning score by Kaki King, MADE IN JAPAN is a funny, poignant cross-cultural trip through music, marriage, and an unlikely country girl's dreams.