



SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS
351 West University Boulevard | Cedar City, UT 84720

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 8/28/2014

Chelsea S. Kauffman
Marketing and Public Relations Associate
College of Performing and Visual Arts
Southern Utah University
Office: 435-865-8667
cpvamktg@suu.edu

**SUU's ART INSIGHTS TO HOST
VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTIST /FILMMAKER
MITSUYO MIYAZAKI
SEPTEMBER 4, 2014**

Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah: As a story-teller, Mitsuyo Miyazaki visually articulates the power and beauty of humanity through her films. Miyazaki's craftsmanship in the visual and performing arts has drawn enriching realization, so much so that she will be the featured guest at **SUU's Department of Art & Design's** weekly series, **Art Insights**. At this presentation, Miyazaki will be sharing her insights and experience with students. The presentation will take place in the **Gilbert Great Hall** of **SUU's Hunter Conference Center** on **Thursday, September 4, 2014, at 7pm. Admission is free and the general public is invited to attend.**

Originally from Osaka Japan, **Mitsuyo Miyazaki** is an artistic Renaissance woman with extensive professional background as an actor, dancer, singer and photographer. As an alumni of Southern Utah University, Miyazaki acquired her Bachelor of Science in Theater Arts, Dance Performance and Fine Arts. With her love for the arts and a creative mind towards story-telling, Miyazaki traversed into cinematography as a writer and director. Her 2011 debut student film, *Tsuyako*, was developed as her capstone project which earned her a Master's of Fine Arts in Film and Television Production from the University of Southern California, School of Cinematic Arts.

Inspired by an old photograph of her grandmother, *Tsuyako* narrates a post-war Japanese factory worker and mother that must decide between duty and love; between her family and her freedom. *Tsuyako* premiered at over seventy film festivals worldwide, earning forty-two awards

and two nominations such as: Best Screenplay and Best Short Film at Social World Film Festival in Italy and Future Filmmaker's Award and Audience Award at Palm Springs International Short Fest. Jury Guanajuato International Film Festival exclaims:

A fascinating film that touched all of us very deeply. Through its many layers and textures, the short film makes exquisite use of the great Japanese Cinematic tradition... We chose *Tsuyako* by unanimous decision for its elegant cinematography, profound acting and mostly its provocative subject matter.

Her most recent film, *A Better Tomorrow* (2013), enters a world of fantasy and adventure. Miyazaki was chosen as one of five directors what were selected by producers The Weinstein Company and Lexus International; the film previewed the latest concept car, the Lexus LF-LC. At a time of water starvation, two orphans endear to follow their father's legacy and develop a technology that could "turn the tides of time and heal the earth." As dark forces seize them in effort to steal their father's invention, the device is mistakenly activated and a mysterious power unleashed. Finally, as the orphans pursue escape, they are magically transported on a voyage out of this world. *A Better Tomorrow* takes the audience on an emotional and heartwarming journey.

Mitsuyo Miyazaki blends a sincere and compelling story with strong and illustrative cinematography confirming her mastery in story-telling. Miyazaki believes in the "power of visual communication, and that it changes society and the minds of the people." Her work firmly exemplifies "stories that bring out the essence and connection with the audience and their sense of humanity."

For more information on Mitsuyo Miyazaki's work and filmography, please visit:

<http://www.mitsuyomiyazaki.com/index.php>

Art Insights is a weekly program hosted during the fall and spring semesters by SUU's Art and Design faculty. Students and community members meet to experience presentations and discussions by visiting artists and art educators from around the nation who share their work and insights and attend gallery openings. Admission is free, and the general public is invited to attend. This installment of Art Insights is a perfect opportunity for southern Utah artists and

residents to learn from a unique artist that is actively immersed in our beautiful, intermountain landscape.

ABOUT THE COLLEGE

Southern Utah University's College of Performing and Visual Arts is home to nationally-accredited departments of Art and Design, Music, Theatre Arts, and Dance. The College offers 17 degrees, including liberal arts Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science, professional Bachelor of Music, Bachelor of Fine Arts in art and theatre, and Arts Administration Master of Arts and Master of Fine Arts. It houses the Center for Shakespeare Studies, which offers a degree minor. More than 60 full- and part-time faculty and staff teach and mentor over 550 arts majors. Over 1100 students enroll each year in more than 195 arts classes. The College presents 100 performances, lectures, presentations, and exhibitions annually. Its affiliate organizations include the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery, American Folk Ballet, Utah Shakespeare Festival, and the SUU Ballroom Dance Company. For more information about the College of Performing and Visual Arts, contact the Office of the Dean (435) 865-8561, or by e-mail at cpvamktg@suu.edu.

FOR CALENDAR EDITORS: SUU's *ART INSIGHTS* PRESENTS

Mitsuyo Miyazaki, Visual and Performing Artist

- WHAT:** Mitsuyo Miyazaki, a writer-director and cinematographer who will share the imagination and work behind her international films
- WHO:** Art Insights, Southern Utah University, Department of Art and Design
- WHEN:** Thursday, September 4, 2014
- TIME:** 7:00pm
- WHERE:** Hunter Conference Center, Gilbert Great Hall, Southern Utah University, Cedar City, UT
- INFO:** Visit: www.suu.edu/pva/arts
- PRICES:** Free Admission and the General Public is encouraged to attend.