

BEHIND THE COVE MOVIE RELEASED IN UNITED STATES

Tokyo, Japan 07 November 2016

Keiko Yagi's debut documentary **BEHIND THE COVE: THE QUIET JAPANESE SPEAK OUT!** takes a novel approach to film-making: producing a documentary about a documentary. The documentary that is the subject of her production is "The Cove", the negative depiction of dolphin fisheries in the town of Taiji in Japan that won the Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature in 2010.

Now being distributed in the United States, **BEHIND THE COVE** is director Keiko Yagi's attempt to present a comprehensive picture of the issues surrounding dolphin and whale hunting in her home country. Her pioneering approach delivers unexpectedly revealing interviews with those on both sides of the whaling dispute and uncovers a sinister political influence behind the original movie.

Yagi was praised for her courage when **BEHIND THE COVE** screened last year at the Montreal Film Festival. She says that she provides what "The Cove" could not offer: a unique take on the subject. She has even paid for distribution of the new movie in the United States by raising money through her website.

Motivated at first by her doubts about the reliability of media reports on the contentious whaling issue, Yagi decided to find out more. With no budget, limited experience in filmmaking, no fluency in English, but armed with a video camera and a strong desire to find out about the truth, Yagi began her research.

What began as a personal investigation, triggered by childhood memories of whale dishes, inevitably led to Taiji, the center of the whaling debate and the stage of "The Cove". What she found through her experiences there and elsewhere was a much bigger story than she had initially imagined.

The result is a captivating and passionate attempt to set the record straight, told in a way that only a native of Japan could achieve. First-time filmmaker Yagi captures the essence of the issues with a frank and entertaining style that provides insights into Japanese culture absent from "The Cove". She makes context both stimulating and inspiring, leaving the viewer with a more informed understanding of the issues surrounding fisheries that continue to take place in Taiji each year.

Yagi is thrilled that her movie will be viewed by American audiences. She said: "Americans tend to be open-minded and I hope that they will gain a broader perspective of this issue from watching **BEHIND THE COVE**. My movie is textured with different viewpoints and insights because I really want people to reach their own conclusions and not just to be led to a particular set of opinions."

Venues and timings for **BEHIND THE COVE: THE QUIET JAPANESE SPEAK OUT!** are listed below:

NEW YORK

The Cinema Village
22 E 12th St, New York, NY 10003

(212) 924-3363

Adult: US\$ 12.00

Senior & Junior: US\$ 8.00

November 25 (FRI) – December 1 (THU)

5 times/day: 10pm / 3:10pm / 5:10pm / 7:10pm / 9:10pm

(Prices and times are subject to change. Please check with your theater.)

LOS ANGELES (BEVERLY HILLS)

The Music Hall Beverly Hills

9036 Wilshire Blvd, Beverly Hills, CA 90211

(310) 478-3836

Adults: US\$ 12.00

Seniors & Juniors: US\$8.00

December 2 (FRI) – December 8 (THU)

5 times/day: 12:00pm / 2:20pm / 4:50pm / 7:20pm / 10:00pm

(Prices and times are subject to change, . Please check with your theater.)

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More information can be found at http://www.behindthecove.com/index_en.html

Director Keiko Yagi can be contacted at: behindthecoveJAPAN@gmail.com