# ARATA IURA TOKVO COMBOY



#### SOMETIMES GOING OFF COURSE IS THE BEST COURSE OF ACTION

SALARYMAN FILMS PRESENTS A TAYLORMADE PRODUCTION "TOKYO COWBOY" ARATA IURA GOYA ROBLES AYAKO FUJITANI WITH ROBIN WEIGERT AND JUN KUNIMURA Messichad Cannon und yasu indue Cathering Emily Schwebber (SSIMe Misty Rose Production Takes) and the source of the



"Tokyo Cowboy is everything you want an independent film to be. It's got heart, scope, scale, and character" – John Dahl

"Tokyo Cowboy is a breezy character piece about self-discovery in The Wild West that is undeniably disarming" -MUSE TV, Norm Gibney https://www.musetv.net/film-review-tokyo-cowboy/

"It's funny, romantic and charming. These are the highlights of a type of film we've lost" – Write Drunk Edit Drunk, Clint Westbrook https://writedrunkeditdrunk.com/2023/10/08/tokyo-cowboy-review/

"A superb movie with a lot of heart that tells an uplifting fish-out-of-water story driven by cross-cultural interaction" -Asian Movie Pulse, Sean Barry https://asianmoviepulse.com/2023/10/film-analysis-tokyo-cowboy-2023-by-marc-marriott/

"Director Marriott keeps it within the indie drama spectrum, which allows him to focus on the human drama, which lies at the heart of this film" -Film Threat, Alan Ng https://filmthreat.com/reviews/tokyo-cowboy/

"Tokyo Cowboy is a heartwarming journey that does not lean on stereotyping or cliches... Each interaction seems very authentic and true to the story. -The Black Cape, Jonita Davis https://theblackcapemag.com/review-tokyo-cowboy-is-a-beautifully-shot-commentary-on-passion-andwork-55b374ed466a

INTERVIEWS AND ARTICLES:

Creative Screenwriting In Depth Chat with Marc Marriott, Brigham Taylor & Ayako Fujitani <u>https://www.creativescreenwriting.com/an-in-depth-chat-with-marc-marriott-brigham-taylor-ayako-fujitani-on-tokyo-cowboy/</u>

Behind the Lens with Debbie Lynn Elias

Interview with Director Marc Marriott

https://behindthelensonline.net/site/miscellaneous/behind-the-lens-podcast/btl-radio-show-10-16-2023with-guests-marc-marriott-and-jeremy-pion-berlin/

SCREENFISH

1 on 1 with Marc Marriott, Brigham Taylor, and actor Goya Robles <a href="https://youtu.be/63MAiE0oZ6E?si=S86uBK7hErsKDXLc">https://youtu.be/63MAiE0oZ6E?si=S86uBK7hErsKDXLc</a>

YAHOO NEWS JAPAN -Article (In Japanese) https://news.yahoo.co.jp/expert/articles/1cebc73e53dc355a5100efc2f22cec9703a23f26?fbclid=lwAR3AL

WsNGd\_dJxCTAauB0EKj3CwQTCFlqjVDNxnTD07BoSP60vv0KJXVAjc

COMINGSOON.net Exclusive Tokyo Cowboy Clip -Article

https://www.comingsoon.net/movies/trailers/1356476-exclusive-tokyo-cowboy-clip-shows-an-intense-pitch-meeting

STARRING ARATA IURA GOYA ROBLES AYAKO FUJITANI with ROBIN WEIGERT and JUN KUNIMURA

> DIRECTED BY MARC MARRIOTT

PRODUCED BY BRIGHAM TAYLOR

WRITTEN BY AYAKO FUJITANI & DAVE BOYLE

> DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY OSCAR IGNACIO JIMENEZ

> > EDITOR YASU INOUE

STORY BY MARC MARRIOTT & BRIGHAM TAYLOR



# LOGLINE

A Japanese businessman goes on an unwitting journey of self-discovery when he takes a company trip from Tokyo to a Montana cattle ranch.

# **SYNOPSIS**

Brash businessman Hideki arrives in Montana having convinced his Tokyo bosses he can turn a profitless US cattle ranch into a premiere-performing asset. Yet when his Hardee's-burger-loving Japanese Wagyu-beef expert fails him, Hideki is poised to misfire magnificently unless he identifies a missing element that's key to the transformation... himself.

**RUNNING TIME** 1 hour 58 minutes

ASPECT RATIO 2.35:1 (Cinemascope)

**SOUND** 5.1 Surround

LANGUAGES English Japanese (English Subtitles)

# DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

The story of TOKYO COWBOY was born out of my own experience living as a foreigner in a foreign land. Years ago, I had a profoundly impactful experience living in Japan. I went as one person and I came home changed. My time in Japan caused me to become quieter- to listen more.

I went back a second time as an apprentice to Japanese master Yoji Yamada as he directed the 42<sup>nd</sup> film in the "Tora-San" series where Tora-San travels for the first time to a foreign country. In the film, Tora is the odd man out. During my apprenticeship, I was often the odd man out. The experience made me observe deeply and again, to listen. I sometimes felt disconnected in Japan, and when I felt that way, it was through individual friendships with people that I found connection. These opportunities of self-discovery affected who I am and what stories I want to tell.

As I was having my own fish-out-of-water experience, I began to wonder what it must be like for a Japanese person traveling to America.

Around this time, I became aware of an actual cattle ranch in Montana that was hosting Japanese workers learning about ranching in the wide-open American West. Some of them even stayed on to become cowboys. I was fascinated by this juxtaposition and found myself speculating on what kind of experiences someone from Tokyo might have on a Montana cattle ranch...

...thus was born Hideki Sakai and his journey in TOKYO COWBOY. Displaced and disconnected in Japan, Hideki Sakai spends his time acquiring other people's dreams. Like the characters in my favorite films such as LOCAL HERO, I was charmed by Hideki's journey and his growing attraction to a place he has come intending to change, even destroy. Hideki's bottom-line numbers-focused approach to life has left him empty- searching for more.

This is a story about finding untapped reservoirs of courage and empathy from your own culture, while also reaching out and connecting with others. Highlighting this character journey is the natural beauty of the Montana landscape: the stunning contrast to the rich neon beauty of Tokyo produces a unique visual palette.

The greatest dramatic stakes are when we risk something personal, and humor is most indelible when it's derived from a shared human experience. This is what I wanted to feel in TOKYO COWBOY. I hope audiences are surprisingly charmed by this gentle narrative about Hideki's journey. I hope that they can see some of themselves in Hideki's desire to listen, slow down, and connect with the land and with the people around him.

# ABOUT THE PRODUCTION By Producer Brigham Taylor

In assembling a team to tell a cross-cultural story like this, you want every level of your cast and crew to reflect the cultures represented and insure its authenticities. Our story would take us to the skyscrapers of Tokyo and the sprawling landscape of Montana, two very different worlds, and we wanted to bridge the gap between them.

We brought on talented creatives with relevant lived experience to what our film characters would go through. Recruiting our two screenwriters, a native Japanese woman who had moved to America, and a Japanese-speaking American who had lived Japan, was the first step in building this emotionally authentic story. We engaged local talent and crew in both Tokyo and Montana, inviting them to have creative input into our decisions, deepening the authentic texture of the film. We endeavored to not have our perspective be monolithic, so we needed our local collaborators to be as diverse and informed as the local populations themselves.

During pre-production we were unable to see and scout various locations as much as we might normally due to the pandemic. As a result, the process became much more collaborative with our local teammates on the ground. Amazing unexpected suggestions for locations and scene moments came from this process, which helps give the film the genuine texture and life we're so proud of.

Whether it was surviving the cold of the American west or navigating the crowded streets of an Asian megacity, shooting with our local cast and crew never failed to produce incredible results. As with any production, we had our share of curveballs, but our story about human connection had become crewed with such a tight community unto itself that there was never any sense of crisis or concern. These disparate creatives and craftspeople from completely different backgrounds were united in their passion for this story and their camaraderie with each other.

We continued this approach in post-production, bringing in a native Japanese editor currently living in America who could help ensure the layers of bilingual nuance stayed cemented into the story as the film came together. Test screenings for friends, family, and industry colleagues, from America, Japan, and around the world, reaffirmed our confidence in this unique story. Every audience member formed their own special connection with the film and its meaning.

As TOKYO COWBOY rides now to screens around the world, we're excited to bring this story about universal human values and connection to audiences everywhere.

#### DIRECTOR, MARC MARRIOTT

Marc Marriott is an award-winning producer/director of television and film. At the start of his career, Marriott lived in Japan and apprenticed with renowned Japanese filmmaker Yoji Yamada. The creative seed for **Tokyo Cowboy** was planted during that time. This is his first feature film as a director.

During his professional career, Marriott has earned a reputation as a specialist in stories of real people in extraordinary situations; from the History Channel's **AX MEN**, to the Discovery Channel's **Roush Racing: Driver X**. He's been a Series producer and Director for The Discovery Channel, History Channel, FOX, VH1, TLC, and The Travel Channel, among others.

Marriott is a graduate of the Masters directing program at UCLA. His first film, **Short Order** won the Prix Canal Plus at the Henri Langlois International Film Festival in France and his short film **The Snow Child** played at Cannes. He has received the Independent Film Channel Award and the Jimmy Stewart Crystal Heart Award from the Heartland Film Festival. Marriott is a member of the Producers Guild of America.

#### **PRODUCER, BRIGHAM TAYLOR**

Brigham Taylor is a feature film producer best known for producing live-action Walt Disney Studios films. He produced **The Jungle Book** with director Jon Favreau, **Christopher Robin**, and **Lady And The Tramp** as one of the marquee launch titles for **Disney+**, along with **The One And Only Ivan**. He was an executive producer on **Tomorrowland** and **Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales**. Other projects in development include adaptations of **The Rocketeer**, **The Rescuers**, **Ichabod Crane**, and more. Brigham has been associated with Walt Disney Studios since 1994, when he joined the company as a production assistant and grew to Executive Vice President of Production. As an executive, he oversaw many of the studio's blockbuster films, including the Pirates of the Caribbean franchise, **Tron: Legacy, Chronicles of Narnia** and **Oz: The Great and Powerful**. Brigham is a member of the Producers Guild of America.

# SCREENWRITERS

#### DAVE BOYLE

Dave Boyle is a Los Angeles based writer and director. His critically acclaimed crosscultural mystery, Man from Reno was nominated for the John Cassavetes award at the 2015 Film Independent Spirit Awards and won the Grand Prize at the Los Angeles Film Festival.

Since 2014, Boyle has worked as a writer and creative consultant for Hong Kong based Edko Films and producer Bill Kong (Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon).

In 2017, Boyle made his television directing debut with the Hulu original series Dimension 404. Boyle is currently writing D for Detektiv, a Cold War adventure story for Walt Disney Pictures and an untitled adventure series for Netflix Japan.

His past features as a writer/director include Surrogate Valentine (SXSW, 2011) and Daylight Savings (SXSW, 2012). He produced Lynn Chen's directorial debut 1 Will Make You Mine (SXSW, 2020) and Kenji Tsukamoto's upcoming documentary debut Ashima (2022) about rock climbing prodigy Ashima Shiraishi.

#### **AYAKO FUJITANI**

Ayako Fujitani was 13 years old when she debuted in the Japanese movie GAMERA: GUARDIAN OF THE UNIVERSE. Since then, she has built her career as an actor and writer for Film/TV, collaborating with international directors and producers. Her first novel, Flee Dream, inspired director Hideaki Anno (EVANGELION, SHIN GODZILLA) to adapt it into RITUAL (2000), the first non-animated feature film by Studio Ghibli. Ayako then starred in SANSA (2003) by French director Siegfried which premiered at the Cannes Film Festival.

In 2008, director Michel Gondry (ETERNAL SUNSHINE OF THE SPOTLESS MIND) hand picked Ayako to play the lead in TOKYO! (2008).

After Ayako moved to Los Angeles in 2009, she starred in MAN FROM RENO (2015), directed by Dave Boyle, which was nominated for the John Cassavetes Independent Spirit Award. She also starred in TV shows such as THE LAST SHIP and MOZART IN THE JUNGLE. She co-wrote a short film with Director Park Chan-Wook (OLD BOY) called "A Rose Reborn" which premiered at the Berlin Film Festival. She wrote and directed the short films "The Doors" and "BOW WOW BOW" which premiered to French audiences at the Clermont-Ferrand Film Festival.



### ARATA IURA HIDEKI

Arata lura is a Japanese actor who embodies his characters with a natural authenticity. Since making his film debut in Hirokazu Koreeda's **After Life**, he has appeared in over 50 films. Arata co-starred in Yukio Ninagawa's **Snakes and Earrings** with Yuriko Yoshitaka and Kengo Kora. He appeared in Junji Sakamoto's **Strangers in the City**. He portrayed Yukio Mishima in Koji Wakamatsu's **11:25 The Day He Chose His Own Fate**. He also appeared in Koreeda's films **Distance** and **Air Doll**.

# **GOYA ROBLES**

JAVIER

Goya Robles is a Latino actor of Puerto Rican and Ecuadorian descent. From playing the vulnerable and volatile to the quirky and awkward, his honesty and unpredictability are a stamp in of all his work. In addition to playing Javier in **Tokyo Cowboy**, he is playing the role of Yago as a series regular alongside Chris O'Dowd and Ray Romano in the EPIX Original Series **GET SHORTY**. He has starred in numerous independent films, including a



supporting lead role as Teyo in the film **11:55**, starring Victor Almanzar, John Leguizamo, Elizabeth Rodriguez, David Zayas and Julia Stiles.



# **AYAKO FUJITANI** KEIKO

Ayako Fujitani is an actor as well as the co-screenwriter of **Tokyo Cowboy**. Ayako has appeared in numerous films including **Sansa**, **Tokyo!**, and **Man from Reno**. She made her first appearance in television in **Gamera: Guardian of the Universe** and **Ultraman Max**.

ROBIN WEIGERT PEG

Robin Weigert is an actor in film and television who is best known for her muchlauded portrayal of Calamity Jane in the HBO television series **Deadwood**.





## **JUN KUNIMURA** WADA

Jun Kunimura is a Japanese actor known for his work in **THE WAILING**, **KATE**, and **KILL BILL**.

# **END CREDITS**

DIRECTED BY WRITTEN BY

STORY BY

PRODUCED BY PRODUCED BY PRODUCED BY MARC MARRIOTT DAVE BOYLE AYAKO FUJITANI MARC MARRIOTT BRIGHAM TAYLOR BRIGHAM TAYLOR, p.g.a MARC MARRIOTT, p.g.a. JERI RAFTER

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS

MORIO AMAGI AYAKO FUJITANI DAVE BOYLE JOHN FOSS JAYNE SULLIVAN

ARATA IURA GOYA ROBLES AYAKO FUJITANI with ROBIN WEIGERT and JUN KUNIMURA as WADA

Director of Photography Editor Production Designer Costume Designer Casting Director Music Composer

**Executive Producers** 

**Executive Producers** 

Oscar Ignacio Jimenez Yasu Inoue Kate Lindsay Misty Rose Emily Schweber Chad Cannon

Troy Bourne and Amanda Bourne Christianne Case and Dan Danielson Todd Fitch and Heather Fitch Jerry Pennock and Melissa Pennock Brian Ramos and Charity F. Ramos Paul White and Debra White 42nd.club Chris Eastland and Trista Eastland Brian Fitch and Mary Fitch Wendy Garff and Matthew Garff

Executive Producers	Bryan J. Grigg Stacie Leyva Steve Morrell and Kristy Morrell Allan Staker and Kristi Staker Boad Swanson and Kami Swanson

Executive Producers Rick Daynes and Robin Daynes Jonathan Groberg and Katie Groberg Robert Marriott and Marian Marriott Joey Paur and Keri Paur Rich Raddon and Katie Raddon Spencer Walch and Melissa Walch Free Reyes and Justin Truong

Unit Production Manager	Katherine Bitnar
First Assistant Director	Jeri Rafter
Second Assistant Director	Aaron Murtagh

#### CAST

**BAND MEMBERS** Joel Garcia **Emilio Huerta** Fernando Flores **Robert Quintana** BARTENDER GERALD PENN FACTORY WORKERS Shinichi Yanagisawa Makoto Saito Shun Okamura Zhao Juan Yan Haruka Kurebayashi Ei Ei Mon Thida Khine Naw Thin Ei Phy Aiko Okazaki Tomomi Kumagai Honami Sone Yuka Saito MATSUYAMA EMPLOYEES Hisashi Satoi Naoki Kanda Shirou Inagawa Kayo Yoshida Masako Taguchi Sachie Masuko

#### MIWA CORPORATION EXECUTIVES

Yoshiharu Yamada Shota Furumai Hiroyuki Fukuda Kanata Sawa Chikako Tanaka Takanori Higashiyama

#### MONTANA UNIT

Production Supervisor Stunt Coordinator Stunt Performers

1st AC 2nd AC DIT Script Supervisor Sound Recordist Boom Operator Gaffer Best Boy Electric GE Swing Brittany Brothers Cooper Taylor Buck Lunak Casey Bird Luis Puente Hallie Swain Izzac Nixon Emily Johnson Ryan Graham Laughlin Jared Benge Eric Mosley David Brown Charlie Petrie Key Grip Mike Jezak **Best Boy Grip** Michael Gunderson **Dolly Grip** Francis Rasmussen Visual Effects Supervisor Bryan Fugal Location Manager Lukas Stone Location Scout Shera Konen Location Associate Rob Story Set Decorator Laura Lovo **Property Master** Lindsev Lyford Thomas Galloway Set Dressers Maggie Sleipan Graphic Artist Courtney Fitzpatrick Kelton Cole Art Department Swing Sign Painter Mark Strand **Costume Supervisor** Sonia Antar Key Hair & Makeup Melissa Oteri Hair & Makeup Assist Macee Berry **Boss Wrangler** Duncan Vezain Wrangler JD Ham Luke Hutchinson **Production Office Coordinator** Madison Blank-Plautz **Casting Associates** Kate Britton Ciara Griffin Shera Konen Background Casting Assistant to Producer Tom Goodall **Production Assistants** Alden Marriott Henry Taylor Jordan Leyva Emily Suemitsu Cristian Seitz Translators Andrew Delis Tsukasa Baxter **Transportation Truck Drivers** Devin Hyde Bart Quarnberg Mark Gittleman Medic Kyle Tyler Catering provided by Apples N Anglers MTPL8 Catering Ann Marie Creasy Craft Services Melissa O'Hair SFX Supervisor **Bobby Brooks** Grip and Electric Powered by Rocky Mountain Grip + Electric Mechanical Bull Provided by **Big Time Inflatables** Insurance Provided by Front Row Insurance **Travel Agency** Navigator Travel Company Transportation Rolling Rentals Transp, LLC-MT Montana Video Production Rentals Camera Provided by Carnet Provided by Payroll Services Legal 20/20 Camera Carnets Xpress Media Services George Rush

MONTANA 2<sup>ND</sup> UNIT

A Camera OperatorMarc MarriottB Camera Operator // A Camera 1st ACHallie Swain2nd ACSam Lowe-AnkarA Camera 2nd AC // A Camera 1st ACMadison Blank-PlautzDITBrenden Scheller

#### TOKYO UNIT

Producer Producer **Production Manager** Production Coordinator 1st AD 1st AC 2nd AC Data back up Gaffer Best boy Electrician Electrician Electrician Dolly Grip **Grip Assistant** Sound recordist Sound assistant Production designer Carpenter Set decorator Assistant set decorator **Casting Director** Hair and Make up H&MU assistant Wardrobe Wardrobe **Transportation Captaiin** Driver Driver Driver

Brian Kobo Naoko Miyamoto Hiroshi Harada Moeko Adachi Yu Inose Yasushi Miyata Moe Ariizumi Syncee Kenji Morita Takuya Kakizaki **Ryosuke Saito** Hideyuki Oka Taiji Kawashima Maki Sato Toshihisa Okamura Koji "Keefar" Kihara Hideyoshi Tsushima Kanako Nakazato Masato Javier Morita Rie Isshiki Wami Igarashi Ryosuke Koga Noriko Okamoto Yuzuka Murasawa Shinobu Yamazaki Misaki Hamabe Shin Aomi Daiki Mizoe Taro Karibe Hideyuki Kon

Production Assistants

Mao YonetoProduction RunnerNaoya OnoCamera Equipment Provided byCapsule Rentals

Yusuke Adachi

POST PRODUCTION

Colorist DREW TEKULVE Project Manager – Colorist **BRITTANY SCHULTZ** Post Production Supervisor – Colorist MICHAEL STONE Compositor **BRYSON ALLEY** Sound Designer Christopher Harvengt Sound Mixer **Charles Maynes** Dialogue Editor Lisa O'Donoghue Sam Cannon Music Supervisor

Songs

"ISA Championship Intro" By Chad Cannon From SURF NATION Copyright 2022 Invisible Sea Productions, Inc.

"Off to Miyazaki" By Chad Cannon From SURF NATION Copyright 2022 Invisible Sea Productions, Inc.

"Huntington Beach USA" By Chad Cannon From SURF NATION Copyright 2022 Invisible Sea Productions, Inc.

"DOWN AND DIRTY" Written by James E. Forest Published by Waldwick Music Publishing Co. (BMI) Performed by Kidd Scruff Courtesy of Westwood Music Group

"HAPPY MAN" Written by Jack Torrey "DON'T GIVE UP" Written by Alden Marriott Copyright 2023 Alden Marriott

"OUT OF SIGHT" Written by Alden Marriott Copyright 2023 Alden Marriott

"Tokyo Cowboy (Theme Song)" Written by Chad Cannon (BMI) Lyrics by Ayako Fujitani Performed by Mai Fujisawa 藤沢 麻衣 Copyright 2022 Invisible Sea Productions, Inc. Countertenor solos by Rain Senavinin Taiko drumming by Isaku Kageyama 影山 伊作 Cello performed by Niall Taro Score conSULTING by Noah Gladstone Score recorded and mixed by Matthew Snyder Additional mixing and score editing by Will Chen Recorded at Allegro Recordings in Burbank, California Studio managed by Thu-Nga Dan Tokyo vocal recording engineered by Toshiyuki Takahashi 高橋 利幸 Orchestrations & Transcriptions by Sebastian Winter, Sun-Young Park, and Weijun Chen Special thanks to Jedediah Bigelow, Kelsey Leask Lindsay, and Ted Hinckley

Special Thanks

Michelle Taylor Lisa Marriott Javier Gullón Mye Hoang Judy O'Hair Justin O'Hair Jaydon O'Hair Jarret O'Hair Wyatt Penfold Jeremiah Clark Amy Brewster Colin Davis Ching Ling Coleman Gabriel Chandler Cody Cherry Virgil Babione Monica Suemitsu Matt Rogosienski Celia Rogosienski Tim Hanaseth BJ Johnson Auto Resource of Billings Declan Saintonigne Aaron Rasmussen Beau Baxter Hiatt House TJ's Gas N Convenience Hardee's

Makeup Supplied by

Atheletis MTG KohGenDo

Thanks to Hunter Confectionary

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Filmed in Montana

Tokyo Cowboy