

J-Film Series September 2009
Presented by the Japan Information & Culture Center, Embassy of Japan
and the Japan Commerce Association of Washington DC



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Adrift in Tokyo

September 16th at 6:30 pm

While hiding out in his crowded apartment contemplating the finer points of tricolor toothpaste, eighth-year law student Fumiya (Jo Odagiri, *Shinobi*) is assaulted by a mullet-wielding debt collector (Tomokazu Miura, *Always: Sunset on Third Street, The Taste of Tea*). With Over ¥800,000 to repay, the loan shark gives him 72 hours to find the cash or suffer the consequences. The days pass by as Fumiya consistently fails to raise the funds, resigning himself to his fate at the bottom of Tokyo Bay. But when he accidentally crosses paths with the collector again, he is surprised by a seemingly simple solution: The thug will pay the debt himself if Fumiya agrees to accompany him on walk around Tokyo. He'll even throw in a little extra for his troubles. Skeptical but hopeless, Fumiya accepts and the pedestrian adventure begins.

From the bustling, neon-glow of Shinjuku to the quiet, leafy suburbs, *Adrift in Tokyo* explores not only the character of these two men but that of the city itself. Cleverly conjuring urban alienation without cynicism, the film illuminates the city's tension between tradition and modernity. Based on the original novel by Naoki Prize winner Yoshinaga Fujita, this surprising, wildly witty film is sure to charm even the toughest critics.

English and Japanese with subtitles. 101 min, 2007. Directed by Miki Satoshi.

This event is free and open to the public. Seating is limited and granted on a first come, first served basis.

Reservations required. Please send your name, affiliation, and the number in your party to jiccrsvp@embjapan.org.

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