

Summer Anime Series 2009

Presented by the Japan Information & Culture Center, Embassy of Japan
and DC Anime Club



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SKY CRAWLERS

Winner of the Mainichi Award for Best Animated Film 2008

June 26th @ 6:30pm

In a hauntingly familiar yet futuristic alternate reality, eternally youthful fighter pilots struggle for supremacy of the skies. Genetically modified to exist in perpetual adolescence, these immortal "kildren" are forced to carry out a war between competing international corporations in an otherwise peaceful world—all for the entertainment of the consumer. But when an ace pilot falls for his beautiful new commander, he begins to question his fate. From award-winning anime director Mamoru Oshii comes this stunning adaptation of the original series of graphic novels by Hiroshi Mori. The highly anticipated DVD was released in the US on May 26th.

Mamoru Oshii is revered by both film enthusiasts and anime aficionados as a true innovator in animation. His introspective, philosophical style of storytelling challenges the stereotypes of conventional animation. With a unique atmospheric touch and surreal narrative approach, his film *Innocence* (2004) became the first animated film to be chosen as a finalist for the prestigious Palm d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival.

Japanese with English subtitles. 120 min, 2008. Rated PG-13. Directed by Mamoru Oshii.

This event is free and open to the public. Seating is limited and will be granted on a first come, first served basis. Reservations required. Please send your name, affiliation, the number in your party and the names of your guests to jiccrsvpsummer09@embjapan.org.

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July 31 • *Lupin III: The Castle of Cagliostro*

The escapades of master thief Lupin III continue in this action-packed anime feature. Lupin and the gang set out to expose an evil counterfeit operation at Count Cagliostro's impenetrable fortress. But if they fail to rescue the beautiful princess from the dark lord's grip, they risk destroying the world -- and losing the vast fortune of gold hidden within. Written and directed by Hayao Miyazaki, Steven Spielberg calls it "One of the greatest adventure movies of all time." Don't miss it!

Aug. 28 • *Death Note II: The Last Name*

Following on the heels of the first *Death Note* movie, Light Yagami joins the investigation of the serial killer known as "Kira," trying to uncover L's real name so he can kill him with his Death Note. L suspects that Light is Kira, but a new rash of murders are taking place around the world, with a "Second Kira" claiming responsibility. When Light learns the identity of the Second Kira, he suggests they join forces to get rid of L. Will L be able to catch Kira before he is killed?

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