

THE JAPANESE COOK

IFCT 2006 Award Winners

Thank you to all the 2006 festival participants. It was a pleasure showcasing the work from each and every participant. As with most film festivals, IFCT can only acknowledge a handful of winners who received the highest scores. However, the staff of the festival wants to point out that quite a few categories were extremely competitive with many films receiving extremely high judge commendations. The winner of each category will be contacted in regards to receiving his/her prize.

IFCT wants to thank again all the judges who participated with the IFCT 2006 World Tour. Your contributions are truly appreciated and without your assistance the judging process would not have been possible.

The IFCT 2006 Award for Best Short

Winner: Waking Dreams
Runner Up: The Japanese Cook
Honorable Mention: Blackwater Elegy

The IFCT 2006 Award for Best Cinematography in a Short

Winner: Paradisco
Runner Up: A Message from Outer Space
Honorable Mention: A Pioneer Miracle

The IFCT 2006 Award for Best European Short

Winner: The Japanese Cook
Runner Up: 9' 45 Marie
Honorable Mention: Message from Outer Space

The Japanese Cook

by Perpetual Murray



In this eventual attention-grabbing short film, a young Swiss goes to extremes to prove to his Japanese girlfriend's stanch dad that he is a worthy suitor.

After falling out completely with the girlfriend's dad for his apparent lack of interest in learning proper Japanese politesse and completely exposing his weakness, the young man makes a shocking comeback, which catches the otherwise composed future father-in-law so off-guard that it brings out a part of the old man thought to have been buried decades ago.

'The Japanese Cook' is a raw representation of a sweeping worldwide social phenomenon today where ethnic or tribal heritage is no longer a pre-requisite for people to subscribe to any custom. Rather, cultural inclination nowadays is more psychological than it is physical.

This film would still have worked had it been set in any other part of the world, and Robert Nortik's cast is believable, the cinema's pace well timed, and the intended effect definitely achieved.