

People who preserve and pass on heirloom plants and seeds to the next generation

Reviving Recipes



Producer: Takahashi Takuya Director and Editing: Watanabe Satoshi

Photography: Hotta Yasuhiro Sound Mixing: Ishidera Kenichi Music: Suzuki Haruyuki

Production Company, World Sales: Movie "Reviving Recipes" Production Committee

JAPAN / 2011 / Japanese / Color / HD / 5.1ch / 95min.

<http://www.y-recipe.net>

Seeds are vessels of life and wisdom

Reviving Recipes



Film Synopsis

This movie is a story of discovery. It is about heirloom plants and those who grow them, and the profound relationship between food and farming. In this story you will meet a researcher who has studied heirloom plants in Yamagata prefecture and examined the significance of traditional cultivation methods and flavor components, and a chef who creates unique Italian dishes that make the most of the bitter or strong characteristics found in heirloom plants. You will encounter growers that have safeguarded the seeds of heirloom plants on their own accord who present an unseen side of farming that is vanishing, and children who grow the heirloom plants in an elementary school garden to study farming and food, and end up learning that heirloom plants are precious local vegetables to be treasured. Without the help of others, the seeds of heirloom plants cannot be passed on to future generations. This movie seeks to illustrate the connections between people and the cultivation of plants, which ultimately leads to the cultivation of a wealth of values.

Our Motive

Heirloom plants are a living cultural heritage that have been passed down through decades and centuries to provide generations with flavors, aromas, and textures, as well as cultivation and cooking methods. However, in this age of rapid economic growth, that heritage has been unable to adapt to mass production and consumption, and is on the brink of being forgotten. Today, when social values are diversifying, heirloom plants can elude extinction by drawing attention as valued local resources. An understanding of heirloom plants leads to an understanding of the intense relationship between foods and farming. The revival and passing on of local heirloom plants means tasting and enjoying bountiful foods, and creating and strengthening bonds among local peoples. This story is being shared as a recipe to help remedy the food and farming problems being faced throughout Japan and the world.

Note on Okuda Masayuki

He was awarded by the Italian town of Arcevia in March 2006 for his activities, and chosen as one of the world's top 1000 cooks at Terra Madre 2006, hosted by Slow Food Italy. Only 11 cooks from Japan were included.



The Director: Watanabe Satoshi

A native of Yamagata, he has been making films based in the local community over many years. His previous film was invited to the prestigious "Yamagata International Documentary Film Festival".



Reviving Recipes" Production Committee

The film production team consists of citizens involved in food and cinema related work in Yamagata. Alongside the production of this film, the committee hosts cooking classes and symposia related to Slow Food.

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<URL> <http://www.y-recipe.net/> <trailer> <http://www.y-recipe.net/Preview-E.html>

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