

NEW UNCUT 4K RESTORATION

Shall

"Effervescent...heartwarming."
— THE NEW YORK TIMES

"Infinitely touching"
— WASHINGTON POST

"Will sweep you off your feet"
— AUSTIN CHRONICLE

We

A FILM BY MASAYUKI SUO

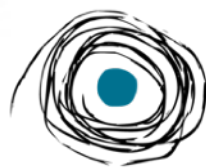
Dance?



KADOKAWA CORPORATION PRESENTS AN ALTAMIRA PICTURES PRODUCTION
A MASAYUKI SUO FILM "SHALL WE DANCE?"
KEIJI YAKUSHO • TAMO KUSAKARI • NAOTO TAKENAKA • EIKIRO WATANABE • YU TORII
HIROSHI MIYASAKI • REIHO KUSAMURA • HIDEKI HARA • AKIRA EMOTO • HIROMASA TAGUCHI
CINEMATOGRAPHY BY NAOKI KAWANO EDITOR TATSUYA NAGATA PRODUCTION DESIGNER KYOKO HEYA
SOUND EDITOR YASUSHI YONEZAWA COSTUME DESIGNER JUNICHI KIKUCHI MUSIC SCORE BY YOSHIMIZU SUO
PRODUCED BY SHOH MASAO / YUKI OGATA WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY MASAYUKI SUO
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FILM
MOVEMENT
CLASSICS





FILM MOVEMENT[®]
CLASSICS

presents

Shall We Dance?

a film by **MASAYUKI SUO**

NEW UNCUT 4K RESTORATION

4K scan by Imagica Entertainment Media Services, Inc. from Original Camera Negative
4K restoration by Tokyo Koon Co., Ltd. | Scanner: Scanity by Digital Film Technology
Supervised by the film's cinematographer Naoki Kayano

“COMPLETELY ENTERTAINING.”
—Roger Ebert, *Chicago Sun- Times*

“AN IMPLAUSIBLY CHARMING COMEDY.”
—Anthony Lane, *The New Yorker*

Japan | 1996 | Japanese with English subtitles
Romance / Comedy | 137 minutes | 1.85:1 | 5.1 Surround Sound

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SYNOPSIS

Shohei Sugiyama (Koji Yakusho) seems to have it all – a high-paying job as an accountant, a beautiful home, a caring wife and a doting daughter he loves dearly. However, he feels something is missing in his life. One day while commuting on the train he spots a beautiful woman staring wistfully out a window and eventually decides to find her. His search leads him head-first into the world of competitive ballroom dancing.

An “infinitely touching” (*Washington Post*) modern classic from director Masayuki Suo, *SHALL WE DANCE?* is a feel-good romantic comedy that “will sweep you off your feet” (*Austin Chronicle*). A box office sensation in North America upon its initial release (which led to a Hollywood remake with Richard Gere), Film Movement Classics presents *SHALL WE DANCE?* in a new 4K restoration of the original 137-minute film, available uncut for the first time in North America.



ABOUT MASAYUKI SUO

After a childhood spent living and breathing movies and baseball, Tokyo-born Suo entered Rikkyo university to study French Literature. It was there that lectures by esteemed movie critic, Shigehiko Hasumi inspired him to become a film director. After an initial foray into independent movies, he got a leg up when he summoned the nerve to ask director Banmei Takahashi, for a job. The legendary director, who happened to be a regular customer at a bar where Suo's friend was working, gave Suo unpaid unemployment at the telephone switchboard. Suo went on to become an Assistant Director on as many as 10 movies a year for Takahashi as well as other directors in his stable such as Koji Wakamatsu and Kazuyuki Izutsu.

When Takahashi founded the Director's Company in 1982, Suo took the opportunity to open Unit 5, his own filmmaking collective with colleagues Isumichi Isomura, Yoshiho Fukuoka, Toshiyuki Mizutani and Akira Yoneda. He was soon churning out scripts and in 1984 his debut as a director was made with *Abnormal Family – My Brother's Bride*, a well-received homage to his hero, Yasujiro Ozu, which put him on the map. In 1986 he directed the adaptation of a popular novel *Salaryman Classroom* for TV. His momentum increased when he was entrusted with making the behind-the-scenes documentary of the filming of Juzo Itami's *Taxing Woman* in 1987. This lead him to team up with former Daiei employee, Shoji Masui who produced Suo's *Fancy Dance* in 1989. This film debuted the super star actor, Motohiro Motoki and gave Suo the clout to take on *Sumo Do, Sumo Don't* in 1992, which won Best Film at the Japanese Academy Awards.

In 1993 Suo and Masui created their own production company, Altamira Pictures. 1996's *Shall We Dance?* swept nearly every category of the 20th Japanese Academy Awards and became a social phenomenon, inspiring a Hollywood remake starring Richard Gere and Jennifer Lopez. 2007's *I Just Didn't Do It* won a raft of awards and helped catalyze a shift in attitudes within Japan's legal system. Suo changed gears with *Dancing Chaplin* in 2011, a low-budget documentary about ballet which garnered international festival exposure. In 2012, he reunited the two lead actors from *Shall We Dance?* For *A Terminal Trust*, a love story set in the context of terminal hospital care. In 2014 Suo returned to his signature style with *Lady Maiko*, a light-hearted look at a country girl's ambitious bid to enter the cloistered world of Kyoto's apprentice geisha.

CAST

Shohei Sugiyama
Mai Kishikawa
Tomio Aoki
Toyoko Takahashi
Tokichi Hattori
Macho
Tamako Tamura
Masako Sugiyama
Detective Miwa
Masahiro Tanaka

Koji Yakusho
Tamio Kusakari
Naoto Takenaka
Eriko Watanabe
Yu Tokui
Hiroshi Miyasaka
Reiko Kusamura
Hideko Hara
Akira Emoto
Hiromasa Taguchi

CREW

Written & Directed by
Produced by
Cinematographer
Lighting
Production Designer
Sound Recording
Editor
Musical Score

Masayuki Suo
Shoji Masui / Yuji Ogata
Naoki Kayano
Tatsuya Nagata
Kyoko Heya
Yasushi Yoneyama
Junichi Kikuchi
Yoshikazu Suo



ABOUT FILM MOVEMENT

Founded in 2002, Film Movement is a North American distributor of award-winning independent and foreign films based in New York City. It has released more than 300 feature films culled from prestigious film festivals worldwide including the Oscar-nominated films *Theeb* (2016) and *Corpus Christi* (2020). Film Movement's theatrical releases include American independent films, documentaries, and foreign-language arthouse titles. Its catalog includes works by directors such as Ryusuke Hamaguchi, Lee Isaac Chung, Hirokazu Kore-eda, Maren Ade, Jessica Hausner, Ciro Guerra, Bertrand Bonello and Mélanie Laurent.

In 2015, Film Movement launched its reissue label Film Movement Classics, featuring new restorations released theatrically as well as on digital platforms, Blu-ray and DVD, including films by such noted directors as Ang Lee, Chen Kaige, Luchino Visconti, Stanley Kwan, Peter Greenaway, Bille August, Marleen Gorris, Takeshi Kitano, Arturo Ripstein, King Hu, Lee Chang Dong, Hideo Gosha and Sergio Corbucci.

For more information, please visit: www.filmmovement.com.

