



OFFICIAL SELECTION

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TORONTO INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL 2017

VAMPIRE CLAY

血を吸う粘土

A FILM BY **SOICHI UMEZAWA**

MONUMENT
RELEASING

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LOGLINE

Absurdity and gore ensue as a possessed pile of clay begins terrorizing students at an art school.

SYNOPSIS

From Japanese special effects master Soichi Umezawa comes a singular horror experience in a wildly hilarious marriage of *The Blob* and *The Evil Dead*. After studying in Tokyo, Kaori returns to Aina Academy to finish her prep classes for art school. Quickly outshining her jealous classmates, she soon becomes the star of the class when she discovers a bag of old, mysterious clay and uses it for sculpting assignments. Things begin to get strange, however, when students' projects are destroyed and one of Kaori's classroom rivals disappears. As the students uncover that the clay is possessed by a starving artist who died tragically in the building years ago, the school finds itself attacked by a gang of murderous, bloodthirsty clay "vampires." The monsters begin to impersonate - and subsequently devour - the students, thus answering the age-old question: can art be so bad that it kills? Rest assured: you've never experienced a movie like *Vampire Clay*.

TECH SPECS

RUN TIME: 81 min ASPECT RATIO: 1.77:1 SOUND: Stereo
COUNTRY: Japan LANGUAGE: Japanese





DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT



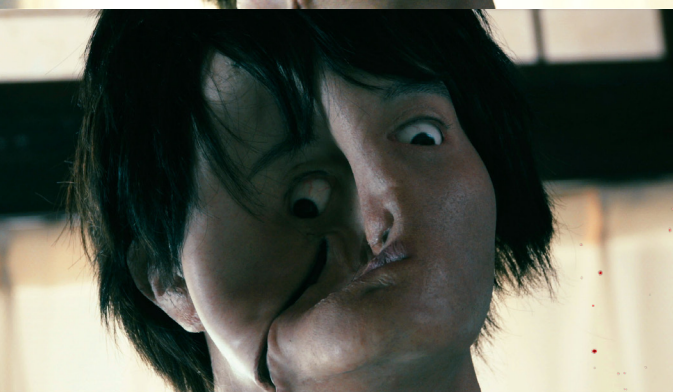
In Japan, if you want to get into the famous art university in Tokyo, you will not only need to study a substantial amount of hours, but you will also need luck. I went to prep school for four years in order to pass the exams for the art university; however, unfortunately, I could not get in. I put the passion (more likely, a grudge) and my longtime dream to “make a movie,” which I’ve been yearning to do for years, into the blood of Mitazuka, the sculptor in the film.

SOICHI UMEZAWA



Soichi Umezawa began shooting independent films using an 8mm camera when he was thirteen years old. Self-studying special effects make-up in high school, he would begin creating moldings after graduation while working at the local movie theater as a projectionist. He continuously sent photos of his creations to Dick Smith and Rick Baker, two legendary Hollywood special effects make-up artists, who gave Umezawa advice. With Baker's recommendation, Umezawa started to work as a make-up artist in Japan. After five years of freelance work, Umezawa became independent and created his own company, Soychiume Co., Ltd. In 2013, he produced and directed a short independent film called *Middle*. It received recognition and he was selected as one of the directors for *ABCs of Death 2*. Afterwards, he produced couple of shorts and made his feature directorial debut with *Vampire Clay*.





CRITICAL PRAISE



"Best movie where people are eaten by sculptures."

The Verge

"Bloody and fun."

Film School Rejects

"Reaches Brian Yuzna-esque heights of giddy absurdity."

The A.V. Club

"Bonkers."

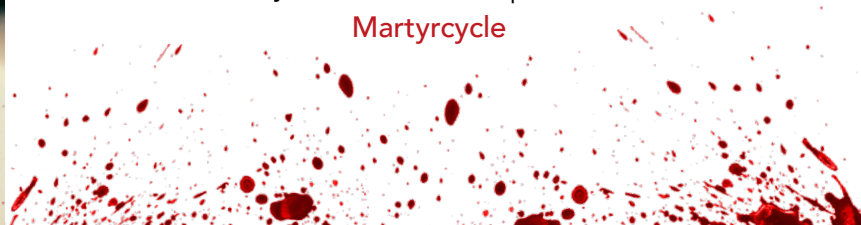
Dread Central

"Absolutely insane (...) a mix between *The Blob*, *The Thing*, and *Evil Dead*."

The Sean Kelly On Movies

"Truly an outlandish experience."

Martyrcycle



CAST BIOS



KYOKA TAKEDA

Kyôka Takeda is a Japanese actress, known for the mini-series *Koibumi Biyori* (2014) and *Kanagawaken Atsugishi: Laundry Chigasaki* (2016). In 2017, she won the Grand Prize at the *Miss ID Grand Prix*, one of the largest beauty and talent competitions in Japan. *Vampire Clay* is her first film.



ENA FUJITA

Ena Fujita is a Japanese actress, singer-songwriter, and bikini model. She starred in the horror film called *Evil Idol Song* (2016), directed by Hajime Ohata. Ena also wrote and sung the theme song for the film *A World Without Me*. In 2017, she won the Cheerz Prize at the *Miss ID Grand Prix*. *Vampire Clay* is her second film.



MOMOKA SUGIMOTO

Momoka Sugimoto is a Japanese model and actress. In 2017, she won a prize at the *Miss ID Grand Prix*. *Vampire Clay* is her first film





YUYU MAKIHARA

Yuyu Makiyara is a Japanese model and actress. In 2017, she won a prize at the *Miss ID Grand Prix*. *Vampire Clay* is her first film.



ASUKA KUROSAWA

Asuka Kurosawa joined a children's theater group when she was ten years old and started her career as an actress. In 2002, won Best Actress at Fantasporto Film Festival and Tokyo Sports Film Awards for his lead performance in *A Snake of June*. She also won the Best Supporting Actress award at the 2010 Yokohama Film Festival for her work in *Cold Fish*, directed by Sion Sono. She's perhaps best known internationally for her recent role as Rodrigues' wife in Martin Scorsese's *Silence*.



RYO SHINODA

Ryô Shinoda is an actor known for the Japanese mini-series *Ashi Girl* (2017) and *Oufukushokan: 15 nen go no hoshû* (2016). *Vampire Clay* is his first film.



KANJI TSUDA

Kanji Tsuda was born on August 27, 1965, in Fukui, Japan. He is an actor and director, known for *Ju-on: The Grudge* (2002), *Audition* (1999), and *Tokyo Sonata* (2008).





CREDITS

CAST

Kaori Hidaka
Aiko Mochizuki
Reiko Tani
Yuka Aoki
Kanji Yamashita
Kyoze Fushimi
Yuri Aina

Kyoka Takeda
Momoka Sugimoto
Ena Fujita
Yuyu Makihara
Ryo Shinoda
Kanji Tsuda
Asuka Kurosawa

CREW

Writer & Director
Production Designers

Cinematography
Lighting
Music

Production Companies

Soichi Umezawa
Noritaka Sasaki
Ai Naito
Shintaro Kuriyama
Norihsa Kofune
Ko Nakagawa
King Records
Nishimura Motion Picture
Model Makers Group
Soychiume Co.