

For Immediate Release,
Monday, January 30, 2006

filmswelike
Presents

THE SUN

a film by Alexander Sokurov, director of Russian Ark

**Opening across Canada including
Montreal, Toronto, Vancouver**

Toronto Press Screening - Friday February 3

THE SUN by acclaimed Russian filmmaker Alexander Sokurov is the third in a trilogy on pivotal historic figures that have held "ultimate power". Following Moloch (on Hitler) and Taurus (on Lenin), this bold new work takes as its subject Emperor Hirohito (Issey Ogata), in the summer of 1945 during the Allied occupation of Japan.

On the 15th of August, 1945 millions of Japanese heard the voice of their Emperor for the first time when he made an appeal to his army and his people to cease all fighting. He publicly renounced his divine lineage as the 124th descendant of the 'Goddess of Sun Amaterasu' thereby saving the lives of millions of Japanese who were prepared to die for their divine Emperor. The film reproduces the Emperor's meetings with the American Commander-in-chief, General Douglas MacArthur (Robert Dawson). In his memoirs, MacArthur wrote that the Emperor was prepared to accept responsibility for the actions of his government and his army * although he was well aware that the consequences for him would be trial and death.

Alexander Sokurov's unique style has been credited to visual splendour, hermetic intensity and a sense of suspended time found within his films. Sokurov has over 30 features, documentaries and shorts to his credit, including Russian Ark (2002). Hailed as a masterpiece, and set in The Hermitage in St. Petersburg, the film is a lush meditation on history, art and Russia, with all of the film's 97 minutes shot in one single, unyielding take.

filmswelike is a Canadian distribution company dedicated to bringing contemporary film classics to Canadian audiences.

The Sun opens across Canada beginning:
MONTREAL Jan 27 - Feb 2, Cinema du Parc
TORONTO Feb 10 * 14, Cinematheque Ontario
TORONTO Opens Feb 17, The Varsity VIP
VANCOUVER Feb 17 * 22, Vancity Theatre
HAMILTON March 24 * 30, Hyland Cinema
EDMONTON March 31 * April 3, Metro Cinema

Toronto Press Screening
Friday February 3 - 2 p.m.
Toronto International Film Festival Group Screening Room
2 Carlton Street - Suite 1600 (College and Yonge)

Advance Screening Copies available upon request.
Media information, trailer and photo downloads available at:
<http://www.filmswelike.com/pages/thesun.html>
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