

WAGAMAMA  
GIRL



2003



# 01 INTRODUCTION

## WHAT'S WAGAMAMA?

WAGAMAMA IS JAPANESE WORD,  
WHICH MEANS SELFISH.  
IN THIS FILM, A GIRL DOES A LOT OF WAGAMAMA  
BEHAVIORS TO HER BOYFRIEND.  
SHE CALLS HIM IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT,  
SHE HITS HIM HAVING A BAD DREAM,  
AND SO ON...

BUT SOMETIMES WAGAMAMA GIRLS LOOK  
CHARMING, TOO.  
DON'T YOU THINK SO?

THE T-SHIRT THAT SHE WEARS IN THE FILM  
IS LONDON'S NOODLE RESTAURANT  
WAGAMAMA'S.



## 02 STORY

THIS IS A STORY ABOUT A JAPANESE BOY  
AND HIS FRENCH GIRLFRIEND.

THEY ARE GETTING ALONG BUT HE HAS A WORRY.  
THAT IS SHE'S WAGAMAMA. SHE ALWAYS BEHAVES  
LIKE THE WORLD TURNS AROUND HER  
AND NEVER CARES ABOUT HIM.

BUT LATELY SHE LOOKS DIFFERENT, QUITE ORDINARY.  
AND SOMETIMES SHE'S CRYING DURING SLEEPING.  
WHAT'S THE PROBLEM WITH HER?  
IT IS BECAUSE HE WILL GO BACK TO JAPAN SOON.  
SHE USUALLY DOES WHATEVER SHE LIKES, BUT THERE'S  
ONE THING THAT IS DIFFICULT FOR HER TO SAY;  
THAT'S THEIR FUTURE.  
IT SEEMS DIFFICULT FOR HER TO BE HONEST  
AND SHE'S JUST AFRAID TO ASK.

AT LAST SHE DECIDES TO SAY SOMETHING TO HIM.  
WHAT'S HER DECISION AND WHAT DOES IT REALLY MEAN?  
AND WHAT'S HIS ANSWER TO IT??



# 03 SCENES





# 04 DIRECTOR'S NOTE

**WAGAMAMA GIRL** IS MY FIRST 16MM COLOR FILM AND MY FINAL PROJECT OF INTENSIVE FILM PRODUCTION WORKSHOP AT NEW YORK UNIVERSITY IN FALL 2003.

BEFORE I JOINED THIS WORKSHOP, I DIDN'T HAVE ANY KNOWLEDGE OR EXPERIENCES OF FILMMAKING. I SHOT IT FOR THREE DAYS WITH THREE OF THE CREW, BUT TWO OF THEM PLAYED AS AN ACTOR, TOO.

IN THIS FILM, I WANTED TO SHOW SIMPLE IMAGES AND DIDN'T CARE ABOUT REALITY. I WANTED TO CREATE A LESS ORDINARY SPACE. THAT'S WHY I USED THE SAME INTERIOR SET MANY TIMES WITH THE SAME CAMERA POSITION. AND I ERASED THE BACKGROUND BY USING FLAT WHITE SHOWCARDS.

I ALSO WANTED TO MAKE IT AN AGGREGATION OF PIECES OF IMAGE AND SCENE. I USED STILL PHOTOGRAPH, TOO.

IT'S NOT IMPORTANT FOR ME TO HAVE ONE STREAM WHICH LEADS THE STORY TO AN OBVIOUS DRAMATIC CLIMAX.

OR RATHER I TRIED NOT TO SHOW THE EMOTION ON THE SURFACE AND LET THE STORY GO COOLLY AND DISPASSIONATELY. SO I TOOK NARRATIVE STYLE. BUT IT'S SURE THERE'S A CERTAIN INTENTION AND FEELING. I JUST WANTED EACH OF THE AUDIENCE TO FEEL.

IN THIS FILM, THEY ARE GROWING ON EACH OTHER BUT ON THE OTHER HAND, THE STORY MET THE UNEXPECTED ENDING.

THEY BROKE UP EVEN THOUGH NEITHER WANTED TO.

ABOUT THE ENDING, I THINK THERE ARE TWO POSSIBILITIES OF THE INTERPRETATION. ONE IS THAT SHE CANT BE HONEST TO HER HEART AND CANT HELP ACCEPTING TO HIS ANSWER.

AND THE OTHER IS THAT SHE'S TRULY SELFISH.

WHICH ONE DO YOU THINK IS TRUE??



# 05 DATA

## CAST

A GIRL ★ ZOE GABILLET  
A BOY ★ TATSUMA KYONO  
HER NEW BOYFRIEND ★ MARK PARSIA

## CREW

ZOE GABILLET  
SANDRA JIMENEZ  
TATSUMA KYONO

PHOTOGRAPH  
CINEMATOGRAPHY  
EDITING  
WRITTEN  
AND DIRECTED

BY  
AKEMI MUROKAWA

WAGAMAMA ★ GIRL  
2003/16MM/COLOR/9MIN44SEC

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