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Contact: Greg Sorvig
Phone: 317.402.5876

Email: gsorvig@trulymovingpictures.org

“THE WIND RISES” COMPLETES MIYAZAKI LEGACY, WINS TRULY MOVING PICTURE AWARD

Hayao Miyazaki’s final animated feature film honored by Heartland Truly Moving Pictures

(INDIANAPOLIS) – Studio Ghibli’s “The Wind Rises” has been recognized with the Truly Moving Picture Award by nonprofit arts organization Heartland Truly Moving Pictures.

“‘The Wind Rises’ is another extraordinary film from one of the best directors of the past few decades,” said Heartland’s Artistic Director Tim Irwin. “Beautifully realized, with evocative, gorgeous animation in every frame, the film manages to weave a complex and engaging story dealing with themes that are immediately intimate and sweeping. We are honored to present the Truly Moving Picture Award to ‘The Wind Rises’.”



In “The Wind Rises,” Jiro dreams of flying and designing beautiful airplanes, inspired by the famous Italian aeronautical designer Caproni. Nearsighted from a young age and unable to be a pilot, Jiro joins a major Japanese engineering company in 1927 and becomes one of the world’s most innovative and accomplished airplane designers. The film chronicles much of his life, depicting key historical events, including the Great Kanto Earthquake of 1923, the Great Depression, the tuberculosis epidemic and Japan’s plunge into war. Jiro meets and falls in love with Nahoko, and grows and cherishes his friendship with his colleague Honjo. Writer and director Hayao Miyazaki pays tribute to engineer Jiro Horikoshi and author Tatsuo Hori in this epic tale of love, perseverance, and the challenges of living and making choices in a turbulent world.

An A-list roster of voice talent has been assembled for the English-language version of Studio Ghibli’s “The Wind Rises,” including Joseph Gordon-Levitt, John Krasinski, Emily Blunt, Martin Short, Stanley Tucci, Mandy Patinkin, Werner Herzog, William H. Macy, and more. The film opens in select North American theaters on Feb. 21, 2014, expanding wide on Feb. 28, 2014, under the Touchstone Pictures banner. The film marks director Hayao Miyazaki’s final feature, as the legendary animation veteran announced his retirement in September 2013.

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About Heartland Truly Moving Pictures

Heartland Truly Moving Pictures, a nonprofit arts organization, seeks to inspire filmmakers and audiences through the transformative power of film. Its flagship event, the Heartland Film Festival®, launched in 1991 and runs each October in Indianapolis, screening independent films from around the world. Each year, the Festival awards more than \$115,000 in cash prizes and presents its Festival Awards to the top-judged submissions. Heartland has awarded more than \$2.6 million to support filmmakers during the last 23 years. The organization’s Truly Moving Picture Award was created to honor films released theatrically that align with Heartland’s mission. By bestowing this award seal to honored films, the award allows studios and distributors to inform audiences of a film’s transformative power and appeal. Heartland is also dedicated to cultivating youth, and thus created the Heartland Institute to provide innovative educational and outreach programs that enrich the minds and lives of youth and aspiring filmmakers. Heartland also shares inspiring films year-round in the community through the Heartland Roadshow. For more information, visit TrulyMovingPictures.org.