



INTERNATIONAL MOTION PICTURE CO., INC.

Hattori Bldg., 2-11-4 Kyobashi, Chuo-ku, Tokyo Japan

Cable: IANMUTSU Tokyo

TEL: 563-1341~4

ロス・アンゼルス 誌

## Japan Screen Topics

ISSUE No. 82-2

### ARTISTRY IN THE SHADOWS

93feet 2min. 35sec.

1. ("YOSHITSUNE MONOGATARI") This is a performance of a classical Japanese drama based on the story of a young feudal warrior. But rather than live actors, the drama employs only shadows to relate the tale.
2. (FUJISHIRO; MAKING PROPS, ETC.) Jeune Peintre, the shadow drama group, is the creation of master silhouettist Seiji Fujishiro. The company stages elaborate silhouette dramas, using a variety of props made of wood, cardboard, paper and colored cellophane.  
Fujishiro organized his Puppet & Silhouette Theater in 1947 in Tokyo.
3. (YOKOHAMA) Jeune Peintre is seen here holding rehearsals and live performances of several dramas they will present to audiences around the world.
4. (MOVEMENTS, ETC.) The most important thing young members of the company study is the art of moving backscreen so as to simulate natural movement on the screen. It is a difficult task, since the silhouettist must often move in unnatural ways in order to produce natural movement.

Years of practice and training allow the various members to work together smoothly. Each performance is a stunning display of silhouette art.

The troupe is highly popular in Japan, particularly for its dramatizations of ancient legends.

The group employs a wide variety of techniques, but always tries to include new ideas, such as this animated crane projection to gain greater authenticity and audience appeal.

#### DRIVER-LESS CAR

64feet 1min. 42sec.

1. (ROAD, CAR) At the Tsukuba Mechanical Engineering Laboratory north of Tokyo, engineers and researchers have been working on a revolutionary driver-less car. This development has been made to decrease the number of car accidents with the help of a self-operated automobile which 'sees' an obstacle a driver might not notice.

2. (NO DRIVER; CAMERAS) An advanced computer pilots this car, along a fixed program.

3. (COMPUTER; CAR; CAMERAS) Two special video cameras mounted on the car ahead search for obstacles. The computer 'sees' a special image relayed by the cameras, and controls the car so as to bypass any obstacles.

All controls are handled by the computer, including steering, acceleration and brakes. What is involved here are highly advanced video and computer programming techniques... The computer has full control over the car's operation.

Automated controls must be equipped for feedback to prevent the computer from 'overcontrolling'.

4. (PATTERN) This is the video pattern, which the computer 'reads'. If clear, the computer allows the car to continue. If some obstacle appears, the car is told to stop, or bypass it.

5. (TEST RUN; OBSTACLE) In this test run, the car will travel along the road, at a pre-determined distance from the guardrail. At the point where the car gets close to the guardrail, the computer steers around, then returns the car to its original path.

#### BONSAI : NATURE IN MINIATURE

118feet 3min. 17sec.

1. (PINE IN POT) The Japanese treasure the wonders of nature... and go to great lengths to bring nature into their daily lives. This venerable pine tree is decades old. It, and others like it, are examples of one of Japan's most famed arts, Bonsai.

2. (KATO) This is Saburo Kato, one of Japan's foremost masters of the art of recreating perfect miniatures of nature through the cultivation of Bonsai trees.

3. ( PINE, LARGE) This particular pine is Kato's masterpiece. More than 120 years old, it is a bit larger than average Bonsai, but its form is so perfect, so like a Jewel..., that Kato treasures it above all others. Every day he carefully inspects it, noting just what has to be done to maintain its growth and shape.

4. (PREPARING TOOLS, WORKING) A pair of shears, string, wire, support rods --- these are the only things needed to turn an ordinary sapling into a masterpiece of Bonsai art ---- these, along with decades of dedicated work.

5. (TEACHING CALSS) Kato teaches his art to students from all over Japan, and all over the world, at the Mansei-en Bonsai Garden just outside Tokyo. It takes, Kato says, fully ten years to master all of the intricate techniques needed to become truly proficient at Bonsai.



Students learn how to prepare soil, plant and then begin forming the Bonsai as soon as it sprouts. Kato offers his advice and encouragement.

6. (JAPANESE QUINCE, OTHER BONSAI) Bonsai masters strive for a tree which reflects precisely the form of a natural tree after centuries of growth. Gnarled, twisted limbs are prized for their symbolic indication of weathering and age.

Indeed, the finest Bonsai display a beauty which is of character, rather than simply of prettiness.

#### LASER EXPERIMENTS FOR MORE ENERGY

80feet 2min. 13sec.

1. (INTRO; LAB) Important research toward the goal of achieving controlled thermonuclear fusion is being conducted at the Institute of Laser Engineering at Osaka University.

Scientists here study fusion reaction using the apparatus called "GEKKO IV", the world's largest phosphate Glass Laser to create and test the conditions required for a sustained, fully controlled fusion reaction.

2. (TESTING; PHOTO) Before each series of tests, all the equipment must be carefully checked and calibrated to insure absolute accuracy.

3. (LOADING TARGET CHAMBER) The first step in every experiment is the loading of the target pellet. Various types of target pellets are employed, depending on the amount of power to be used.

4. (COMPUTER; CENTERING TARGET) Absolute accuracy is required in the centering of the target so that both beams of high-intensity light from the twin lasers of Gekko IV will strike at the same instant. Accuracy here is measured to within thousandths of a millimeter.

5. (READY, FIRE) Finally the moment arrives and the "Fire" button is pressed. In millionths of a second, a complicated series of events occurs which provide invaluable data for the research team.

6. (DATA MONITORS; PATTERN) These laser experiments are proving invaluable in determining the proper paths toward a controlled fusion reaction. The data accumulated in this project will eventually lead to a virtually limitless supply of energy for mankind.