



*Presents*

From Executive Producers Will Ferrell & Adam McKay

# OH LUCY!

A film by Atsuko Hirayanagi



**Best First Feature & Best Female Lead**



USA & Japan / 2017 / Comedy, Drama / English, Japanese with English Subtitles  
96 min / 1.85: 1 / 2.0 and 5.1 Surround Sound

PRESS

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ASSETS

Official Trailer: <https://youtu.be/n3Uv-9mvgis>

Downloadable hi-res images: <http://bit.ly/2mNsMp0>

## **SYNOPSIS**

OH LUCY! follows Setsuko, (Shinobu Terajima, in an Independent Spirit Award-nominated performance), a single, emotionally unfulfilled woman, seemingly stuck with a drab, meaningless life in Tokyo. At least until she's convinced by her niece, Mika (Shioli Kutsuna, *Deadpool 2*), to enroll in an unorthodox English class that requires her to wear a blonde wig and take on an American alter ego named "Lucy." The new identity awakens something dormant in Setsuko, and she quickly develops romantic feelings for her American instructor, John (Josh Hartnett, Showtime's "Penny Dreadful"). When John suddenly disappears from class, Setsuko travels halfway around the world in search of him, and in the outskirts of Southern California, family ties and past lives are tested as she struggles to preserve the dream and promise of 'Lucy.'

## **SHORT SYNOPSIS**

Setsuko is a single, emotionally unfulfilled woman, seemingly stuck with a drab, meaningless life in Tokyo. At least until she's convinced by her niece, Mika, to enroll in an unorthodox English class that requires her to wear a blonde wig and take on an American alter ego named "Lucy." When her English-instructor John suddenly disappears from class, Setsuko travels halfway around the world in search of him to the outskirts of Southern California.

## **LOGLINE**

When her English-instructor John suddenly disappears from class, Setsuko travels halfway around the world in search of him to the outskirts of Southern California.



## SELECT PRESS FOR *OH LUCY!*

"Terajima is irresistible in the lead role, shifting from painfully childlike vulnerability to rapier nastiness on a dime"

- Andrew Barker, *Variety*

"Has an idiosyncratic charm that pays off in an unexpectedly touching ending."

- David Rooney, *The Hollywood Reporter*

"Seems to play like a standard culture clash comedy but reveals itself to run significantly deeper... has moments of genuine emotional poignancy."

- Nikki Baughan, *Screen International*

"A touching tale of a middle-aged Japanese woman (Shinobu Terajima) who has a wild adventure chasing her English teacher crush (Josh Hartnett) to California. While the film totally delivers on the promise of that raucous sounding pitch, Hirayanagi offers so much more in the subtleties of small character moments, even when there are very unsubtle (and totally fun) plot developments playing out."

- Ryland Aldrich, *Screen Anarchy*

"A disarming, sweetly compelling culture-clash story..."

– Tomris Laffly, *Film Journal International*



# CREDITS

## CAST

<b>Setsuko</b>	Shinobu Terajima
<b>John</b>	Josh Hartnett
<b>Mika</b>	Shioli Kutsuna
<b>Ayako</b>	Kaho Minami
<b>Hannah</b>	Megan Mullally

## CREW

<b>Director</b>	Atsuko Hirayanagi
<b>Executive Producers</b>	Will Ferrell Adam McKay
<b>Producers</b>	Atsuko Hirayanagi Han West Jessica Elbaum Yukie Kito
<b>Screenplay</b>	Atsuko Hirayanagi
<b>Cinematography</b>	Paula Huidobro
<b>Editor</b>	Kate Hickey
<b>Music</b>	Erik Friedlander
<b>Costumes</b>	Masae Miyamoto
<b>Production Design</b>	Norifumi Ataka Jason Hougaard



## DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Atsuko Hirayanagi was born in Nagano and raised in Chiba, Japan. She is a graduate of NYU Tisch School of The Arts with an MFA in Film Production. Her second year project, *MO IKKAI*, won the Grand Prix at the 2012 Short Shorts Film Festival in Asia. Her thesis short film, *OH LUCY!*, received a First Prize Wasserman Award and also won more than 25 awards around the globe, including prizes at Cannes, Sundance and the Toronto International Film Festivals. Her feature-length version of *OH LUCY!* was a recipient of the 2016 Sundance / NHK Award. She was recently named one of the "20 Rising Women Directors You Need to Know" by IndieWire.

## FILMOGRAPHY

- 2017 – OH LUCY!
- 2014 – OH LUCY! (short)
- 2012 – MO IKKAI (short)
- 2010 – WAKE (short)
- 2009 – LINK (short)

## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I believe that the more quiet and obscure a person is, the more things that person has to say. I can't help but imagine what it would be like for them to shout and scream if given the right opportunity or permission.

*Oh Lucy!* Is a result of this imagination. In this feature, I want to explore how far the lead character, Setsuko, will go if given this permission to be free. I feel the desire to be heard is so inherent in human nature, so much so that we're born screaming. As a storyteller, I feel the urge to find the quieted ones and let them be heard.



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## SELECT FESTIVALS

- 2017 Cannes Film Festival – Nominated, Golden Camera & Critic’s Week Grand Prize
- 2017 Toronto International Film Festival
- 2017 Sao Paulo International Film Festival
- 2017 Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival
- 2017 Hamptons International Film Festival – Nominated, Golden Starfish Award
- 2017 Chicago International Film Festival
- 2017 Philadelphia Film Festival
- 2017 San Diego Asian Film Festival
- 2017 Hawaii International Film Festival
- 2017 Virginia Film Festival
- 2018 Victoria Film Festival
- 2018 Palm Springs International Film Festival



### **ABOUT FILM MOVEMENT**

Film Movement is a North American distributor of award-winning independent and foreign films based in New York City, which recently celebrated its 15th Anniversary with a month-long film series at the Museum of the Moving Image. As a company, Film Movement has released more than 250 feature films and shorts culled from prestigious film festivals worldwide, and last year it had its first Academy-Award®-nominated film, Naji Abu Nowar’s THEEB. Film Movement’s theatrical distribution strategy has evolved to include promising American independent films, documentaries, and an even stronger slate of foreign art house titles. Its catalog includes titles by directors such as Hirokazu Kore-eda, Maren Ade, Jessica Hausner, Andrei Konchalovsky, Andrzej Wajda, Diane Kurys, Ciro Guerra and Melanie Laurent.