



THEY SAY NOTHING STAYS THE SAME  
(Aru Sendo No Hanashi)

Directed by Joe ODAGIRI



2019/Japan/137 min.

## 【Story】

Toichi is a boatman who ferries the villagers to a town on the other side of the river. Besides rowing a boat for the villagers all day long, he barely have a communication with others except Genzo, a young neighbor. In the upstream of the river, a large bridge is being constructed. Everybody is excited, but Toichi has mixed feelings about it. One day, Toichi meets a mysterious young girl. Having no family and no place to go, Toichi let her stay with him but this encounter starts to bring about changes to Toichi's life.....

Teaming up with legendary cinematographer Christopher Doyle and Oscar winning costume designer Emi Wada, an acclaimed actor, Joe Odagiri's original story becomes a film with his own direction.

## 【Director's Note】

First of all, I primarily had a doubt toward the world that is based on capitalism. Capitalism created competitive society, and I had a feeling that we are living with a sense where convenience is valued most and needlessness is totally unnecessary. Or a feeling that the most important thing is swept away but measuring the value by time and money.

This brought me a big uncertainty and vague discomfort about how I am currently living my life.

There are many things vanishing behind the development of civilization. As the world becomes more convenient, the tradition and beautiful culture becomes unneeded. The nature gets destroyed and we lose something precious.

I desired to figure out, what is the true happiness and what is important in life, through a character of boatman.

Joe Odagiri

## 【Director's Profile】

Joe ODAGIRI

Born in 1976 in Okayama, Japan, Joe Odagiri started his career as an actor in 2000, and acted the main role of Kiyoshi Kurosawa's "Bright Future (a.k.a. Jellyfish)", which was selected in the competition of Cannes Film Festival in 2003. Since then he has been acting in various films including the films by world renowned filmmakers, such as Seijun Suzuki's "Princess Raccoon"(2005), Miwa Nishikawa's "Sway"(2006), Katsuhiro Otomo's "Bugmaster"(2006), Kim Kiduk's "Dream"(2007), Yu Lik-wai's "Plastic City"(2007), Tian Zhuang-zhuang's "The Warrior and the Wolf"(2009), Kang Je-gyu's "My Way"(2011), Kohei Oguri's "FOUJITA"(2015), Jenny Suen & Christopher Doyle's "The White Girl"(2017) and Lou Ye's "Saturday Fiction"(2019). In 2009, he directed a middle-length film "Looking for the Cherry Blossoms", which was selected in Rotterdam Film Festival. "THEY SAY NOTHING STAYS THE SAME" is his first feature-length film as the director.

## 【Filmography as the director】

2009 LOOKING FOR THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS (middle-length film)

2019 THEY SAY NOTHING STAYS THE SAME

## 【Cast Profile】

Akira EMOTO (as Toichi)

Born in 1948 in Tokyo. Akira Emoto started his career as an actor in the stage troupe “Jiyu Gekijo”. In 1976, he created his own stage troupe, “Tokyo Kandenchi”, which he serves as the chairperson. Since then he has been active in films, stages and TV dramas. In 1998, he acted the main role of Shohei Imamura’s “Dr.Akagi”, which was selected in Cannes Film Festival, and won the Best Actor Award at the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Japan Academy Awards. In 2003, he acted a supporting role of Takeshi Kitano’s “Zatoichi”, which was selected in Venice Film Festival, and won the Best Supporting Actor Award at 58<sup>th</sup>. Mainichi Film Awards. His recent appearances in the films include “Shin Godzilla”(2016) by Hideaki Anno, “Mukoku”(2017) by Kazuyoshi Kumakiri, “Shoplifters”(2018) by Hirokazu Kore-eda.

## Selected Filmography

1997 “Eel” by Shohei Imamura  
1997 “Doctor Akagi” by Shohei Imamura  
1999 “Bootleg Film” by Masahiro Kobayashi  
2003 “Zatoichi” by Takeshi Kitano  
2003 “Doppelgenger” by Kiyoshi Kurosawa  
2007 “Three for the Road” by Hideyuki Hirayama  
2008 “All Around Us” by Ryosuke Hashiguchi  
2008 “Theachr and Three Children” by Kaneto Shindo  
2010 “Golden Slumber” by Yoshihiro Nakamura  
2013 “The Unforgiven” by Lee Sang-il  
2015 “Journey to the Shore” by Kiyoshi Kurosawa  
2017 “Mukoku” by Kazuyoshi Kumakiri  
2018 “Shoplifters” by Hirokazu Kore-eda  
2019 “They Say Nothing Stays the Same” by Joe Odagiri

## 【Cast】

Akira EMOTO	(as Toichi)
Ririka KAWASHIMA	(as A Girl)
Nijiro MURAKAMI	(as Genzo)
Tsuyoshi IHARA	(as A Man from the Construction Site)
Jun MURAKAMI	(as A Merchant)
Yu AOI	(as Geisha)
Tadanobu ASANO	(as A Regular Customer)
Takashi SASANO	(as A Man with a Cow)
Mitsuko KUSABUE	(as An Woman on the Boat)
Haruomi HOSONO	(as Nihei's Father)
Masatoshi NAGASE	(as Nihei)
Isao HASHIZUME	(as Doctor)

## 【Crew】

Written & Directed by	Joe ODAGIRI
Executive Producer	Naoya KINOSHITA
Producers	Shozo ICHIYAMA Takuro NAGAI Yusaku NAKAJIMA
Director of Photography	Christopher DOYLE
Costume Designer	Emi WADA
Music Composer	Tigran HAMASYAN
Lighting	Kenjiro SO
Sound	Mitsugu SHIRATORI
Production Designer	Takashi SASAKI
Editors	Masaya OKAZAKI Joe ODAGIRI
Produced by	Kinoshita Group

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