

A film by HIDETO SONODA REICIEL STUDIO presents

# LOVE SUPREME

## Dialogue with Xi Jinping





## LOGLINE

An animation filmmaker, enticed into making a biographical film for Xi Jinping, faces a looming dominance of fear, and at its peak, he ultimately chooses to devote himself to God and live in love.

## STORY

Yoshiki Aragami, an animation filmmaker once denounced and imprisoned for a massive embezzlement scandal, is presented with a stunning offer: to create a biographical film for Xi Jinping.

Seeking refuge from the public eye, Aragami retreats to the Japanese countryside. As the deadline for the script looms, he finally resolves to confront the daunting task of depicting the Chinese leader.

During the creative process, an imaginary dialogue unfolds within the depths of his subconscious. Xi – appearing as “the Emperor” – reveals his life story to Aragami, reflecting on the untold and shadowed history of the Chinese Communist Party, including the Cultural Revolution, the Tiananmen Square Massacre, and the Uyghur Genocide.

As the Emperor weaves his tale, he and Aragami engage in a fierce metaphysical debate, which includes the following points:

- Fear is the essence of Xi Jinping's true nature.
- Aragami is also gripped by fear.
- Fear stifles human growth and strips life of its ultimate meaning.
- Atheists are uniquely vulnerable to the corrosive power of fear.
- After the Tiananmen Square Massacre, Xi transformed from one who resisted fear to one who weaponized it.
- Fear is another name for human desire.

As the discussions progress, Aragami is forced to face the embarrassing facts of himself. In this process, he realizes that he, too, has been ruled by fear and has lost purified love.

# Director's notes

## MOTIVATIONS FOR MAKING THIS WORK

### **First, I wanted to present a philosophy for overcoming the crisis of civilization.**

Humanity is almost dominated by fear – a byword for the CCP – and is unable to create a new ideal for our times.

People are controlled, living in fear, and living only for money.

I believe that now is the time for humanity to remember the human values we have inherently possessed, such as love, prayer, and faith. These spiritual values have nothing to do with AI or any such technology.

This work is about overcoming fear, which is Xi Jinping's weapon, through the power of prayer.

I want humanity to regain the human spirit that they have almost forgotten.

### **Second, I wanted to portray Xi Jinping.**

There are no authentic biographies of Xi Jinping, and even if they exist, they are full of fabrications. Because the Chinese Communist Party lacks transparent documents, scholars will never be able to definitively describe his character.

However, I am an artist, and as I researched Xi Jinping's life, I became convinced of one thing:

around the time of the Tiananmen Square incident, he transformed from "one who resists fear" to "one who produces fear."

This is like the story of Darth Vader turning to the dark side; Xi Jinping's life seems to me to be exactly that.

By presenting my perspective as an artist, I want to draw attention to the fear he is spreading around the world.

### **Third, I wanted to connect with Taiwan and Hong Kong through the power of art.**

A certain kind of butterfly appears in this work. It is a rare species called the Chestnut Tiger, which originates in Japan and migrates to Taiwan and Hong Kong.

This butterfly travels as if to surround China, where harm is unleashed upon the world through the power of fear.

I have a pure hope that, like this beautiful butterfly, Japan, Taiwan, and Hong Kong will unite through the power of culture.

I am Japanese, with a Wansei mother (Japanese people born in Taiwan), and I feel a sense of mission to build civilization together with my fellow Asians.

I wanted to join forces with artists from Taiwan, Hong Kong, and around the world to counter the tyranny of the Chinese government.

## CENTRAL THEME of LOVE SUPREME

Fear is the essence of the pathologies of our modern age, and we can overcome it by having faith in the Love of God.

## THE WAY OF EXPRESSION

The film provides an overview of the history of the Chinese Communist Party through dialogues between “the Emperor” and the leading character, “Aragami”. In those cinematic dialogues, documentary footage based on historical facts and animated recreations of Xi Jinping's life appear.

It also offers a new perspective on the inner spiritual journey of Xi himself.

The main plot centers on a disgraced animation filmmaker, who overcomes his deep-seated fear and purifies his soul through faith in God.

## STORY SETTING

The dialogues between Aragami and the Emperor unfold on an imaginary volcanic island within Aragami's subconscious realm.

The Emperor leads Aragami through lava rivers, desolate coasts, mountains, deserts, and forests, recounting his life story to persuade him to complete the biopic.

However, the Emperor's true aim lies beyond the film: he intends to lead Aragami into the presence of a being that even the Emperor himself fears.



# Director's biography

**Hideto Sonoda** was born in Japan in 1970.

After graduating from Waseda University School of Letters, Arts and Sciences (Department of Philosophy), he started his career as a filmmaker and established his own production company REICIEL STUDIO Inc..

While producing over 400 corporate videos and TV commercials, he has simultaneously focused on the creation of narrative feature films. All of the filmmaker's works to date have centered on the theme of Love.

He has a deep respect for former Taiwanese President Lee Teng-hui, who was the subject of his previous film, *"Philosopher King"*, and he screened the film at the 39th United Nations Human Rights Council in 2018, where he gave a speech calling for the eradication of dictatorial rule.



# Production notes

In the summer of 2020, when the COVID-19 pandemic was raging, Director Sonoda felt continuous intuition that he had to create a work of art about Xi Jinping and on October of that year, he began writing the screenplay.

In the summer of 2021, the production team launched a crowdfunding campaign to raise funds for production. We called for support mainly through social media and YouTube, and were successful in obtaining a portion of the funds.

We filmed the Wakayama part in the fall of that year. In the spring of 2022, we once again achieved crowdfunding.

We shot the remaining parts that summer in Izu Oshima, Niijima, Shizuoka, Gifu, Chiba, Saitama, Tokyo, and Kanagawa.

In early 2023, we failed in their third crowdfunding attempt to raise funds for post-production, but were able to continue production with a donation from a benefactor.

We aimed to complete the film in the fall of 2023, but delays in animation production put the project on hold.

We resumed post-production in early 2025. The film was completed in the summer of that year.



## CAST

AERKEY HEAT / MICHIRO IIDA /  
MUTSUKI BANDO / MISUZU MATSUMOTO /  
MAIKA KANEKO / AIRI SATO / and others

## CREW

Director & Scriptwriter HIDETO SONODA  
Producers HIDETO SONODA / YUTA SUZUKI /  
REIKO SONODA  
Co-Producer YUKIHISA OIKAWA  
With the cooperation of TSUKASA SHBUYA  
Cinematography RAIKI HASHIDA  
CG RIKI HAN-YA  
Animation TAKA-AKI ISHIYAMA  
Sound SHOICHIRO TAKEUCHI  
Music NAOYUKI TABATA  
Hair & Makeup/Costume NATSUKO IWAHASHI  
Art Director MIYU SHIOKAWA

2025 | Japan | Japanese | 134 min |  
LOVE SUPREME: Dialogue with Xi Jinping

# Toronto World Premiere

## LOCATION

**Innis Town Hall**, 2 Sussex Ave, Toronto, ON M5S 1J5, Canada

## DATE & TIME

**Saturday, March 14th, 2026**

Doors Open: 6:00 PM

Show Begins: 7:00 PM (Film Duration: 2h 14m)

Event Ends: 10:00 PM

## PROGRAM

**World Premiere Screening: "LOVE SUPREME: Dialogue with Xi Jinping" (Presented with English Subtitles)**

**Director Q&A:** A live appearance and interactive discussion with Hideto Sonoda, taking place immediately following the film.

## TICKETS

Prices are in CAD and subject to applicable taxes.

**General Admission: \$20**

**Double Ticket (Admission for 2): \$36**

Student: \$16 (Valid student ID required at the door)

Seating: General Admission | Free seating

Refund Policy: All sales are final. No refunds or exchanges.

## AFTER-PARTY

Following the event, we invite you to join us for a casual Social Gathering at a nearby pub, **Duke & York** (39 Prince Arthur Ave, Toronto), just a short walk from the venue.

It's a wonderful opportunity to continue the dialogue and meet the team in a relaxed setting. Please note that as this is an informal get-together, **food and drinks will be available for purchase at your own expense (no-host bar)**.

## ORGANIZATION

Host: Unpublished Media

Presenter: REICIEL STUDIO Inc.

Supporting Unit: Torontonian HongKongers Action Group



# Director's comments

## WHY I CHOSE TORONTO FOR THE WORLD PREMIERE

While *LOVE SUPREME* is a film that directly confronts issues surrounding China, its true heart lies in the exploration of the human spirit.

Conventionally, problems related to the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) are discussed within the contexts of politics, society, or international relations. Consequently, most artworks on this subject focus on these tangible "phenomena" -the real-world harms and chaos. In my home country, Japan, there is also certainly a strong demand for works that depict such phenomena.

So, I intentionally chose not to hold the world premiere in Japan. This is because I believed that this film - which focuses on the "inner world of the soul" - should first be embraced by those who have been directly persecuted by the CCP or who hold the most profound emotions regarding these issues.

My wish was to premiere this film for those who truly need *LOVE SUPREME*. This is why I was so deeply moved when a group of HongKongers in Toronto responded so powerfully to this work. In that moment, I felt I had found the very audience that this film was meant for.

My choice of Toronto as the starting point for this film came from this very natural realization. Together with the people of Toronto, I want to explore what it is that we, as human beings, must reclaim to overcome fear. I look forward to reflecting on this together as we watch *LOVE SUPREME*.



HOST OF THE SCREENING

# Unpublished Media



## INTRODUCTION

*“All life is politics”*

Learning the lessons of how authoritarian regimes control information and suppress opposition, and why western mainstream media has become increasingly polarized, Unpublished Media helps Canadians break through the echo chambers that prevent information from flowing freely in our democracy. By providing a platform of tools that facilitate and encourage public engagement in politics and current affairs, Unpublished Media is empowering Canadians to shape the future of our shared

experience and the future of our beautiful country.

Whether you like to write, record or just read and listen, the Unpublished.ca platform provides users the opportunity to learn about the political issues that concern them most, and share their ideas and opinions with others.

Help empower democratic change-Have your say on the Unpublished Media Network at [Unpublished.ca](http://Unpublished.ca)!



**SUPPORTING UNIT**

# **Torontonian HongKongers Action Group**



## **INTRODUCTION**

The Torontonian HongKongers Action Group (THKAG) is a grassroots, volunteer-run collective formed in 2019 in response to Hong Kong's pro-democracy movement. It brings together Canadian Hongkongers and allies to raise awareness of how the Chinese government's actions affect communities worldwide, defend democratic values, and support those displaced to Canada.

THKAG has organized public awareness campaigns, cultural programming and policy advocacy - from Lennon Walls and t-shirt campaigns to national roundtables and parliamentary petitions. In 2022, it co-presented

The Fade of Human Rights: From Hong Kong to the World, a Toronto art exhibition that used visual storytelling and community dialogue to show the erosion of civil liberties in Hong Kong and its global implications.

THKAG continues to work across arts, media, civic engagement, and community resilience to ensure displaced voices are heard and protected. All initiatives are community-driven, non-profit, and free from government or political-party funding.

For more information, visit [fb.com/thkag](https://fb.com/thkag) or follow [@thkag\\_can](https://@thkag_can) on X, [@thkag](https://@thkag) on Instagram, subscribe our channel on Telegram <https://t.me/thkag>



# Contacts

## Film production

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- X: <https://x.com/LOVESUPREME>

## Toronto screening

Unpublished Media

- Web: <https://unpublished.ca/>

Torontonian HongKongers Action Group

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