

Asian Studies Center Presents

American Culture Through a Japanese Lens: A Discussion with Shinichiro Watanabe



Thursday, February 9
4:00 PM, 303 International Center

Best known for his *Cowboy Bebop* television series (1998), which combined elements of traditional American westerns, 40's crime films, and a classic jazz score, Shinichiro Watanabe will discuss the aesthetic and technical aspects of his works. His newest series, *Samurai Champloo* (2004), tells the story of a ronin samurai, a womanizing warrior, and a teahouse waitress who band together to search for a "samurai who smells of sunflowers." *Samurai Champloo* harnesses the kinetic poetry of classic "chambara" sword epics, but is also wildly anachronistic with a musical score recorded by contemporary Japanese hip-hop artists. The evening will be a rare opportunity to meet one of the world's most innovative and important anime directors working today.

This event is sponsored by the Japan Foundation in cooperation with the Consulate General of Japan in Detroit and the Asian Studies Center.



For details, please call the Asian Studies Center at 517-353-1680
Or email asiansc@msu.edu

