

**From a 90-year-old grandma to a newborn baby.
The key is lovable, if somewhat bothersome relatives.**



A Japanese family will save the world.

SUMMER WARS

Filmmaker Mamoru Hosoda, famous for his animated version of "The Girl Who Leapt Through Time" presents an exciting hot film for the summer of 2009.

INTRODUCTION

This is a story about one big family who are abruptly challenged by a global crisis on the internet of the future.

Family bonds are the strongest of networks, no matter how advanced the high-tech networks of the internet are. I would like to create a film with a story which will be accepted by a wide range of people without reference to age or sex. I would like to make a film which you can enjoy as an adventure for your whole family, a fresh film just right for summer movie theaters.

By Filmmaker Mamoru Hosoda

"The Girl Who Leapt Through Time" directed by Mamoru Hosoda has received 23 awards in total all over the world, including "Best Animation" from the 39th Sitges International Film Festival of Catalunya, and the "Special Distinction Award of 2008" from the Anncey Animation Film Festival.

Filmmaker Hosoda and the staff of "The Girl Who Leapt Through Time" return for "SUMMER WARS," a story about one big family whose lives are thrown for a loop by a global crisis emerging from the Internet! A new type of war is about to begin!!

Awards list of "The Girl Who Leapt Through Time"

Events	Awards
39 th SITGES Festival Internacional de Cinema de Catalunya	Gertie Award (the best animation award)
Japan Academy Prize	Animation of the year
61 st MAINICHI FILM AWARDS	Best Animation Award
2008 Festival du Film d'Animation du Annecy	Feature films:Special distiction
Anima 2008 Brussels International Animation Festival	BeTV Award
OACC 2008 (China)	Golden dragon award

and 17 more awards in Japan.

STORY

In the near future, the creation of virtual city of OZ has made possible for everyone to access Internet from anywhere and anytime. Users control their avatars on OZ to shop, pay their bills, and have fun. Kenji, a normal high school student, spends his summer holidays idly working as a part-timer, maintaining the OZ system. But then the girl of his dreams, Natuski invites him to accompany her back to Nagano, her hometown! When they arrive, Kenji is bewildered when Natsuki asks him to pretend to be her fiancé, so that she can make her elderly grandmother happy.

His first night in Nagano, Kenji receives an e-mail with a strange mathematic riddle from a mysterious sender. Kenji, a math whiz, is intrigued by this riddle and when he finally solves the answer, the world is completely changed.

The next morning, on a TV news reports about a story about a lawless avatar in OZ. Kenji is astonished to see that it is his avatar! The innocent Kenji is maligned as an OZ criminal, and before he knows what is happening, he is thrown into a battle with the fate of the world in the balance.

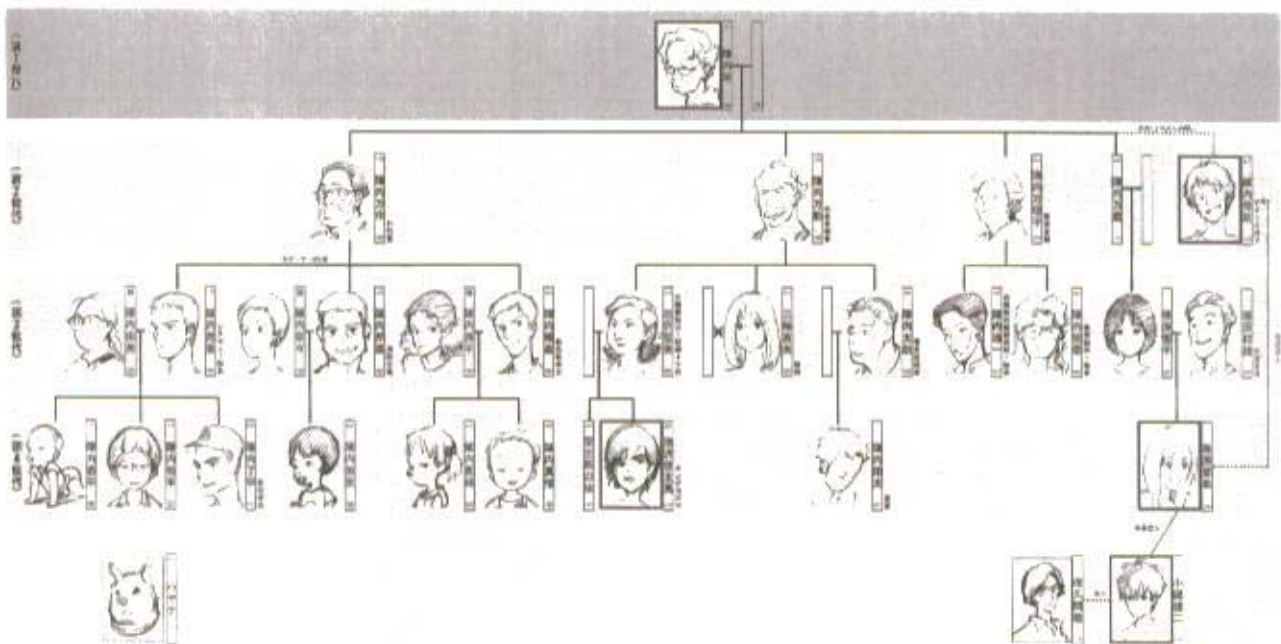
"The whole family will work to sort out any problem caused by our own!"

Natsuki's grandmother gives the order, and Kenji, Natsuki, and Natsuki's relatives join together to try to save the world!!



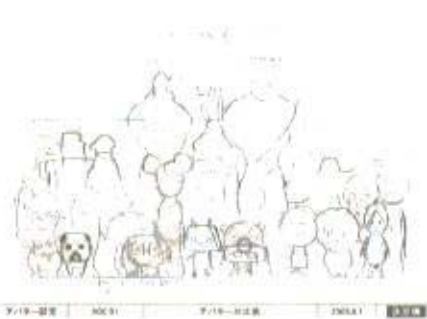
Grandma's birthday is a major event for the Jinnouchi Family

The Jinnouchi Family can trace its ancestry back to a 16th century feudal warlord in the Muromachi period. The family is slated to celebrate the birthday of Natsuki's grandmother, an alpha earner. A variety of relatives gather to celebrate her 90th birthday and they include a doctor, fisherman, firefighter, waterworks engineer, electronics store owner, policeman and an officer in the Self-Defense Forces. In addition to heads of households, there are also wives and children, from new-borns to high schoolers, all attending this major family event. Kenji is bewildered when Natsuki asks him to pretend to be her fiancé, but she only does so because she wants to make her grandmother happy.



An avatar, an alter ego, transcends generations

In the virtual world of OZ, users transform themselves into avatars. They can be assumed any identity regardless of their actual age or sex in the real world. Some even choose to become animals or imaginary characters. In this virtual mirror of the real world, even a primary school girl can assume the identity of a male professional wrestler in the city of OZ. Avatars of great individuality are also major attraction of this film.



The enemy is "Love Machine," with the power of 400,001,200 people.

An evil avatar calling itself "Love Machine" appears in the virtual city of OZ. Love Machine is a super version of Artificial Intelligence that freely breaks into networks including life lines, life-saving systems and even military networks which are separate from OZ. Love Machine infiltrates and manipulates countless accounts at will and dominates the world of OZ. Its unending rage finally enmeshes the real world.

How was Love Machine born? Who is pulling the string behind it? What is its purpose?



CAST 1

Kenji Koiso, 17 years old

Kenji is in the 2nd grade at Kuonji High School in Tokyo. He is good at math and science subjects and belongs to the extra-curricular Science Club. Alongside selected classmates, he works part-time maintaining the OZ network system. Kenji ends up traveling to Ueda, a small city in Nagano prefecture, with Natsuki Shinohara, his dream-girl who is a senior in the Science Club. Natsuki has to go to the annual family gathering and she takes Kenji along to meet her 90 year old grandmother.

Kenji is good at math, but very disappointed that he failed to qualify for the Japanese team at the International Mathematical Olympiad. But we soon see how Kenji's specialized knowledge will cause major chaos in the virtual cyber city OZ.

Voice cast: Ryunosuke Kamiki





Natsuki Shinohara, 18 years old

Natsuki is in the 3rd grade at Kuonji High School in Tokyo. She is a sporty type who belongs to the Japanese fencing club. Summer holidays begin and she travels to her grandmother's home in Nagano prefecture to celebrate her 90th birthday. Natsuki has promised to bring her fiancé when she next visits, so she asks Kenji to pretend he is her chosen one – and she makes it into a business deal.

In the beautiful Japanese countryside, Natsuki looks drastically different from her Tokyo persona. She is so fresh and pretty in her white dress.

Voice cast: Nanami Sakuraba

Sakae Jinnouchi, 90 years old

Sakae is the titular head of the Jinnouchi Family which has lasted for hundreds of years. She is still hale and hearty for an 90-year old and her motto is "I shall have no regrets if I fight with all my might." She has strong personal connections in government and financial circles because of her outgoing, and straightforward personality.

Voice cast: Sumiko Fuji



Kazuma Ikezawa, 13 years old.

Kazuma rarely leaves his room. He looks like a typical gloomy nerd, but he is actually a world champion of beat'-em-up games. His character, King Kazuma, is a grappler king in the cyber world. He is a super player sponsored by a top ten company and he uses his considerable talents to create computer games. He is also a budding businessman who owns several game patents, but no one apart from his master is aware of that fact. Kazuma learns practical fighting techniques from his master and has steadily and confidently upgraded his game skills.

Voice cast: Mitsuki Tanimura



Wabisuke Jinnouchi, 41 years old.

Wabisuke is an illegitimate son of the late Sakae's husband who was the head of the family.

He has been nothing but trouble since he was a boy and he is the undeniable 'black sheep' of the family. At age 30 he ran off with the family assets and has been missing for 10 years until he suddenly turns up for Sakae's 90th birthday party. It appears he has devoted himself to studying Artificial Intelligence. And apparently, he is somehow linked to "Love Machine," the most significant source of major chaos which is despoiling OZ. He is a somewhat of a footloose dreamer but he has a clear head. And he was like a kind elder brother to Natsuki when she was a little girl.

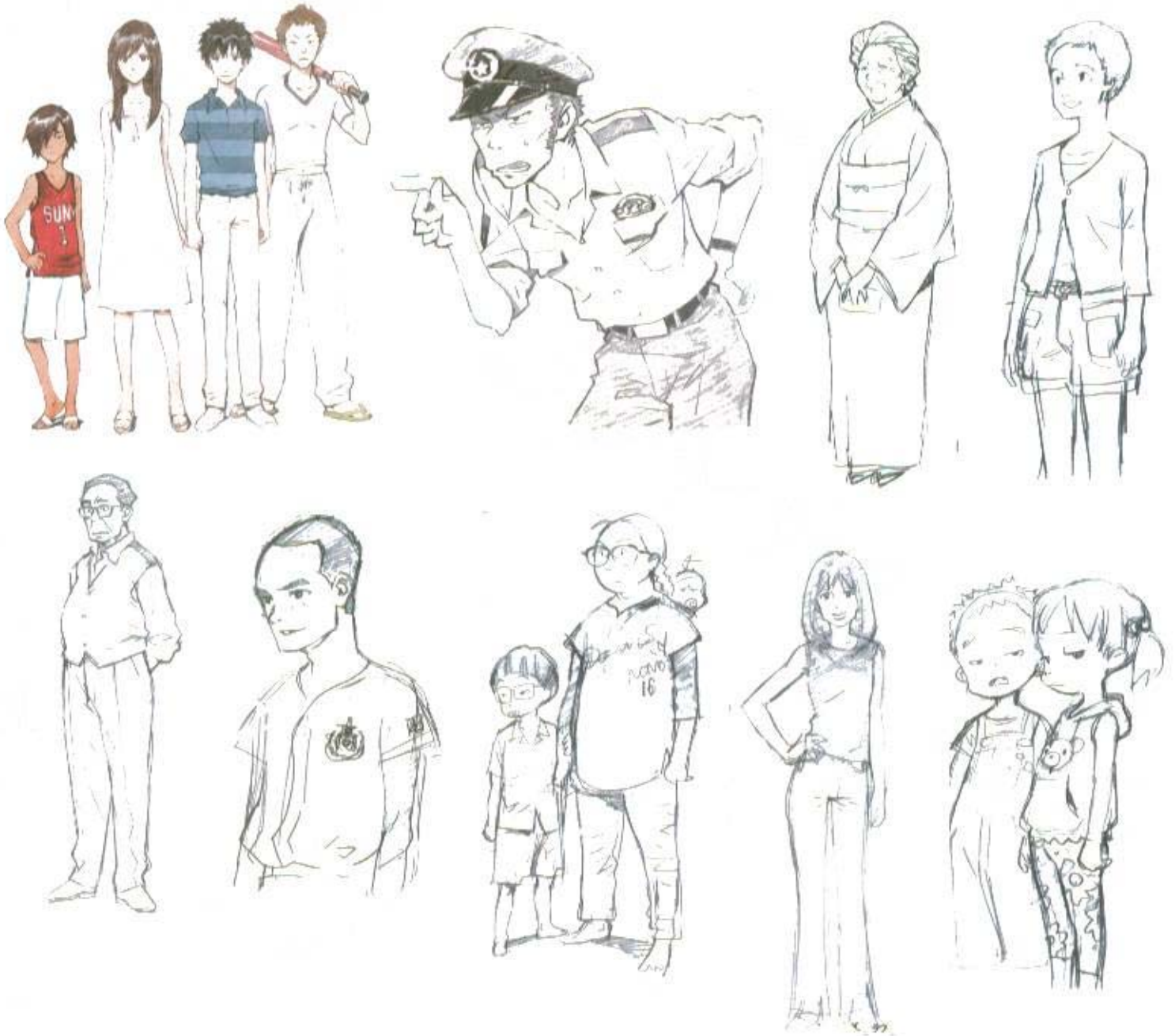
Voice cast: Ayumu Saito



CAST 2

An ordinary, but unique family faces a world crisis

Those who gather for Grandma Sakae's 90th birthday party are just ordinary people of the type you can see anywhere in Japan. But once they are confronted by a world crisis, they band together in wisdom and power to fight against the greatest threat ever faced by mankind.



BACKGROUND

Feel the fresh summer skies of Japan on the big screen

On the outskirts of Ueda City, Nagano Prefecture.

The contrast between the green mountains and the blue skies is perfect.

Youji Takeshige, famous for his works with Studio Ghibli, is in charge of the highland scenery and the artistic, old-fashioned Japanese houses.



The model of the scene is Ueda City, Nagano prefecture where is famous for the feudal warlords of the Sanada Family

We chose Ueda City in Nagano prefecture as the scene for our fresh summer adventure movie. The Sanada Family once governed the land and made famous by the novel "Sanada Taiheiki." The Sanada domain was surrounded by powerful warlords such as Oda, Uesugi, Takeda and Tokugawa, but they managed to maintain their territory for generations by banding together in the face of incredible pressures. We are still deeply impressed by the wonderful story of the Sanada Family after 400 years. The Jinnouchi Family is just like the Sanada Family. They have survived through long, difficult times. Maybe that's the key to the family secret that the 90 year old Grandma received from her ancestors.



Hayabusa, a planetary exploration spacecraft plays a part in the climax

Japan launched Hayabusa, a planetary exploration spacecraft in 2003. It has overcome many difficulties and continued on its journey into deep space. Hayabusa successfully landed on the asteroid Itokawa to obtain surface samples and is scheduled to return to the Earth in 2010. In actual fact there is a satellite dish controlling Hayabusa located in Saku City, very close to Ueda City.

Hosoda, director of this film, heard about the difficulties faced by spacecraft Hayabusa at the Science Fiction Convention last year. This spurred him to feature Hayabusa in his film as a way to offer support to Japan's greatest effort in the world of space exploration. "Summer Wars" is a grand story which ranges from your living rooms to the far reaches of outer space.



STAFF

Mamoru Hosoda, Director

Born in Toyama prefecture, on September 19th, 1967.

He joined Toei Animation in 1991. After worked as an animator, he shifted his carrier and started directing. His directorial works include TV animation series "GE-GE-GE NO KITARO" (1997), "THE SECRET OF AKKOCHAN" (1998), "MAGICAL DOREMI" (2002), "NADJA" (2003), and feature length animations "DIGIMON ADVENTURE" (1999), "DIGIMON SAVERS Ultimate Power! The Burst Mode in Motion!" (2000) and "ONE PIECE Baron Omatsuri and Secret Island" (2005).

In 2003, after he directed SUPERFLAT MONOGRAM (a moving images for Louis Vuitton), he worked for the animation video of the image song for Roppongi Hills 'The Land Song-music for Artelligent City' (Music by Ryuichi Sakamoto).

In 2005, he left Toei Animation and became freelance.

In 2006, he directed "The Girl Who Leapt Through Time" and received many awards.

Satoko Okudera, Screenplay

Born in 1966. After graduated from TOKAI University, she entered a major oil company. In 1991, she left the company and started her carrier as a scriptwriter.

In 1993, she received Scriptwriting Award at MAINICHI FILM AWARDS for "Moving" (directed by Shinji Somai) and Screenplay of the Year at Japan Academy Prize for "Haunted School" in 1995. Her works include "Haunted School 2" "Haunted School 4" "Samurai Resurrection" (directed by Hideyuki Hirayama) and "Hana" (directed by Shinichi Nishitani). This is her second work for animation after "The Girl Who Leapt Through Time".

Yoshiyuki Sadamoto, Character Design

Born in 1962, in Yamaguchi Prefecture. A Comic Artist / Character Designer. His main titles are "Royal Space Force: The Wings of Honneamise" (Animation Film), "Nadia: The Secret of Blue Water" (TV Animation), "Neon Genesis Evangelion" (TV Animation and Film), "FLCL" (OVA), Gunbuster 2 (OVA), "The Girl Who Leapt Through Time" (Animation Film), etc. His comic "Neon Genesis Evangelion" was published serially in a monthly magazine, Shonen Ace, from February 1995. His new book CARMAIN will be published in March 2009.

CREDIT

<Voice Cast>

Ryunosuke Kamiki

Nanami Sakuraba

Mitsuki Tanimura

Sumiko Fuji

<Staff>

Director: Mamoru Hosoda

Screenplay: Satoko Okudera

Music: Akihiko Matsumoto

Theme song: "Bokura no natsu no yume" by Tatsuro Yamashita (Warner Music Japan)

Character Design: Yoshiyuki Sadamoto

OZ Character Design: Takashi Okazaki / Mina Okazaki / Masaru Hamada

Animation Director: Hiroyuki Aoyama / Shigeru Fujita / Kunihiko Hamada / Kazutaka Ozaki

Action Animation Director: Tatsuzo Nishita

Art Director: Youji Takeshige

Cinematography: Yukihiro Masumoto

CG Director: Ryo Horibe

Color Coordinator: Chikako Kamata

Film Editing: Shigeru Nishiyama

Sound Recording: Yoshio Obara

Sound Effects: Yasuyuki Konno

Animation Production: MADHOUSE

Production Companies: NTV / MADHOUSE / KADOKAWA GROUP PUBLISHING CO.,LTD. /
D.N.dreampartners / Warner Bros. Pictures Japan / YTV / VAP

2009 / 114min / screen size 1:1.85 / Color

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