

A Film by Tetsuji Muraoka

M E r r o r

Directed, Written, Produced, Edited, and Starring **Tetsuji Muraoka**

Stand-in **Shunsuke Noguchi** Director of Photography **Ryosuke Nakanishi**

Assistant Director **Deimon Matsudo** Poster & Thumbnail Design **Satoshi Kondo**

Music **Yehezkel Raz** English Subtitles **Yudai Mark Iwasaki**

©2024 Tetsuji Muraoka. All rights reserved.





MError

Production Type Short Film
Runtime 6 min 13 sec
Genre Drama
Completion Date August 31, 2024
Language Japanese / English Subtitles (burned-in)
Country of Origin Japan
Country of Filming Japan
Film Color Color
Format DCP, Digital, 1920x1080, 2.35:1, 24fps, Sound Stereo

Press Contact

Tetsuji Muraoka | Director, Producer | muraoka.tetsuji.japan@gmail.com

LOGLINE

One day, a psychoanalyst is visited by a patient who is the spitting image of himself.

Unable to process what is going on, he continues to question the patient, when a startling truth begins to emerge.

A six-minute closed-room drama about identity and family.

SYNOPSIS

"MError" is a psychological suspense story portraying the inner struggle of "Tomoki" Okano, a psychoanalyst unable to confront himself.

One day, while standing before a mirror, "Tomoki" encounters a patient who looks exactly like him. The patient begins to recount stories that seem to expose Tomoki's past, ultimately confronting him with a harsh reality. Unable to accept it, "Tomoki" hurls a trophy at the patient, only to find that the patient has vanished—leaving only the shattered mirror reflecting the image of Toshiki, the patient.

Through the devoted efforts of his twin brother, Tomoki, Toshiki gradually starts to face his true self. However, just as he is on the verge of accepting reality, Toshiki's expression shifts back to that of "Tomoki," retreating into the illusionary world where he believes he is a doctor.

The title "MError" is a coined term combining "Mirror" and "Me Error," encapsulating the theme of distorted self-perception and acceptance.



DIRECTOR STATEMENT - Tetsuji Muraoka



We live in an era of self-expression, yet our sense of self is increasingly distorted by social media, mass media, and the gaze of others. In the pursuit of success and idealized versions of ourselves, many of us lose sight of who we truly are and what is essential to us, often leading to deep inner struggles. "MError" reflects these modern challenges and the emotional turmoil of navigating self-perception.

The protagonist, Toshiki, clings to the illusion of being a successful psychoanalyst, avoiding the reality of his true self. His fear of confronting his weaknesses, imperfections, and failures mirrors the universal tendency to construct a "perfect self" for others while suppressing our vulnerabilities. The relationship with his twin brother, Tomoki, symbolizes the delicate boundary between reality and illusion, offering a glimmer of hope and the possibility of redemption through love and understanding.

The title MError combines the words "Mirror" and "Me Error," symbolizing the dual role of the mirror as a reflection of both our true selves and how we are perceived by others. This duality underscores the expectations we place on ourselves and the internal conflicts they generate. Through this narrative, I aim to provoke questions: Who am I really? Can I accept myself as I am?

With MError, I strive to explore the modern struggles of self-recognition and emphasize the importance of acceptance and love in overcoming them. My hope is that this film serves as a "mirror" for its audience, offering moments of reflection and insight into their own lives.



DIRECTOR / WRITER / PRODUCER - BIOGRAPHY

Tetsuji Muraoka

Born in Yamanashi, Japan. He completed the New National Theatre Drama Studio in 2016. He obtained a Ph.D. from Tohoku University Graduate School in 2017. After completing training at the Drama Studio, he appeared in various stage productions ranging from Shakespeare to contemporary plays.

In 2020, he formed the family-based creative unit "The Expressive Muraoka Family" and began producing short films featuring his family, based on true stories.

His debut film, "Family Farewell" (2020), was selected and screened at MIRRORLIAR FILMS. His second film, "Family Newgraphy" (2021), won the Special Prize at the Virtual Liberation Zone 2021. Due to the success of this work, he was selected as the director for the PR video "To You Who Fight" (2022) for the Virtual Liberation Zone. This film, "MError"(2024) is the fourth short film.

FILMOGRAPHY

Selected Awards

2021 Special Prize at the Virtual Liberation Zone

Selected Filmography

2022 Who You Who Fight

2021 Family Newgraphy

2020 Family Farewell

CAST



Tetsuji Muraoka

as Toshiki Okano, Patient, Tomoki Okano

Selected Filmography

2023 The Day I Knew Love | directed by Aya Igashi

2022 Mama in the Mirror | directed by Toshio Lee

2019 Hit and Run | Yutaka Mizutani

2018 Farewell, Diamond | Kazuhiro Nakagawa

Selected Theater

2024 Spirited Away | Imperial Theatre

2023 Sanson | Brillia HALL

2022 George Orwell | Station Front Theatre

2021 Rain | Setagaya Public Theatre





CREDITS

CAST

Toshiki Okano

Patient Tetsuji Muraoka

Tomoki Okano

CREW

Director, Writer, Producers, Editor Tetsuji Muraoka

Stand-in Shunsuke Noguchi

Director of Photography Ryosuke Nakanishi

Assistant Director Deimon Matsudo

Poster & Thumbnail Design Satoshi Kondo

Music Yehezkel Raz

English Subtitles Yudai Mark Iwasaki