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For immediate release

UTSA's East Asia Institute Presents "Cast Me if You Can"

2:00 p.m.- 4:30 p.m. at UTSA's Main Campus
(MB 0.106)



February 1, 2013- The East Asia Institute (EAI) in collaboration with the Japan America Society of San Antonio (JASSA) will co-host a public screening of "Cast Me if You Can" on Sunday, February 24, 2013 UTSA's Main Building room 0.106. This event is free and open to the public and will begin at 2:00 p.m. and last until 4:30 p.m.

After the viewing there will be a Q&A session with the director of the film, Atsushi Ogata. Ogata is a Japanese film director, born in Japan and raised partly in the United States. He is a graduate of Harvard College and

the Center for Advanced Visual Studies of Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Most of his filmography includes short films like *Eternally Yours*, and *Champagne*, though *Cast Me if You Can* became his feature-film directorial debut. The awards for his short films include Best Short Film Award in 2007 at Bangkok International Film Festival, the Seahorse Award Best Short Film at the Moondance International Film Festival in 2007, and the Indie Soul Best Story Line Award at the Boston International Film Festival in 2008.

The film follows Hiroshi living in the shadow of his famous playwright father, Kenta. Hiroshi has seemingly bad luck since he is constantly mistaken for someone else, while constantly being marginalized both at work and in his personal life. When Hiroshi finally has the role of his dreams in his reach, he is mistaken for a man having an affair with the wife of a member of

parliament and is left feeling with little hope. After being stuck in rut, Hiroshi meets a beautiful, young, energetic actress by chance, falls in love with her and learns to rediscover himself.

UTSA East Asia Institute's mission is to promote appreciation and understanding of East Asian societies and cultures both on campus and in the community through research, networking, outreach, education, student/faculty exchange, business development, and cooperation. The East Asia Institute organizes seminars, workshops, lectures, conferences, film festivals, visual art exhibitions as well as hosting performing arts groups from China, Japan, Korea, and other Asian nations. It also encourages faculty research collaborations both within UTSA and with participating East Asian university researchers.

The Japan America Society of San Antonio was established in 1985 to foster increased understanding and cooperation between the citizens of San Antonio and the citizens of Japan. As a non-profit, educational and cultural group it has tried in numerous ways to make Japanese culture become better known in San Antonio.

For more information on this event, please contact the East Asia Institute (210.458.4943, eai@utsa.edu or see the EAI's homepage at <http://www.utsa.edu/eai>) or JASSA (info@jas-sa.org; <http://www.jas-sa.org/>)