

# Outside the Box: The Tsukuba MultiLingual Forum

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Beethoven's Ninth Symphony for Matsue and the locals as thanks for their kindness. It was the first performance in Japan of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony. This movie is based on fact.

Of course I did not know about the Bandō prison camp, and I did not even know the fact that Germans had lodged in prisoner's camps in Japan. I think it is necessary for us to know

Morikawa, M. (2009). [Review of the movie Baruto no Gakuen]. *OTB Forum*, 2(1), 49-50.

more about the history of world wars. By understanding what happened in the war and how destructive the war was, we will realize how much the humanitarian attitude of a person such as Commander Matsue was appreciated. Then we can have a strong will of pacifism.

**About the author:** *Manami Morikawa is* currently a student at the University of Tsukuba. Her major is historical archaeology.

"The Edukators" (2004). Director: Hans Weingartner. Main actors: Daniel Brühl, Stipe Erceg and Julia Jentsch. Reviewed by Noriyuki Murata.

In this movie, "The Edukators", Jan and Peter try to "educate" rich persons not to live in much luxury. In order to do so, they break into rich houses and leave a message. One day, Jan and Jule (Peter's girlfriend) break into a house. Since Jule knows the owner and is in trouble because of him, they ransack the house badly. And the owner, named Hardenberg, surprises Jule ransacking the house. Then Jan, Peter, and Jule hold Hardenberg as a hostage, and run away.

It was a very exciting movie. Stage effects or acting are good, and especially the scenario appeals to me. The scene in which Hardenberg finds Jule breaking into his house excites me, because Peter, Jan, and Jule seem to have no choice except to surrender themselves to the police but they escape with Hardenberg as a hostage. Thus, I could not predict the ending of the movie.

In addition to the story, the movie is good also for its characters. It describes each character in detail and with reality. Jan and Peter have both a dream and a complaint. On one hand, they get very angry with authority, and carry a movement against rich persons. On the other hand, I think they actually know their movement is in vain, at least not effective. But they cannot help doing something, even if they know their disability to get rid of economic differences among people. They are in dilemma of contenting to low level life or doing useless resistance to society. Also, Jule shows her weakness,

Murata, N. (2009). [Review of the movie The Edukators]. *OTB Forum*, *2*(1), 50.

which makes her look like a real girl. Especially, the scene which she scratches a parking car shows her complex feeling, anger and sadness for their poor economic condition and rich person's luxury. Moreover, Hardenberg was not only a character who plays a necessary role in the story, but also has a warm heart and acts as a discrete person. He has some chances to escape from the lodge in which he has been placed in confinement, but he didn't. He understands their will and talks about his past. This situation describes him as a human being with memories of his younger days.

In addition to this, Hardenberg plays an even more important role in the movie. He helps me understand Jan, Peter and Jule more deeply. Without Hardenberg, we cannot understand what the young's movement and relationship will be like in the future. He said that he was once against authority, but now he forgets having joined a passionate student movement and supports a conservative party. This comment shows the youngs will likely be similar to Hardenberg in the future, but now they are desperately against authority. I think this contrast emphasizes their youth.

I was really moved by this movie. Jan and Peter's passion, Jule's distress and Hardenberg's warm heart make them look like real humans. I will recommend this movie to my friends.

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