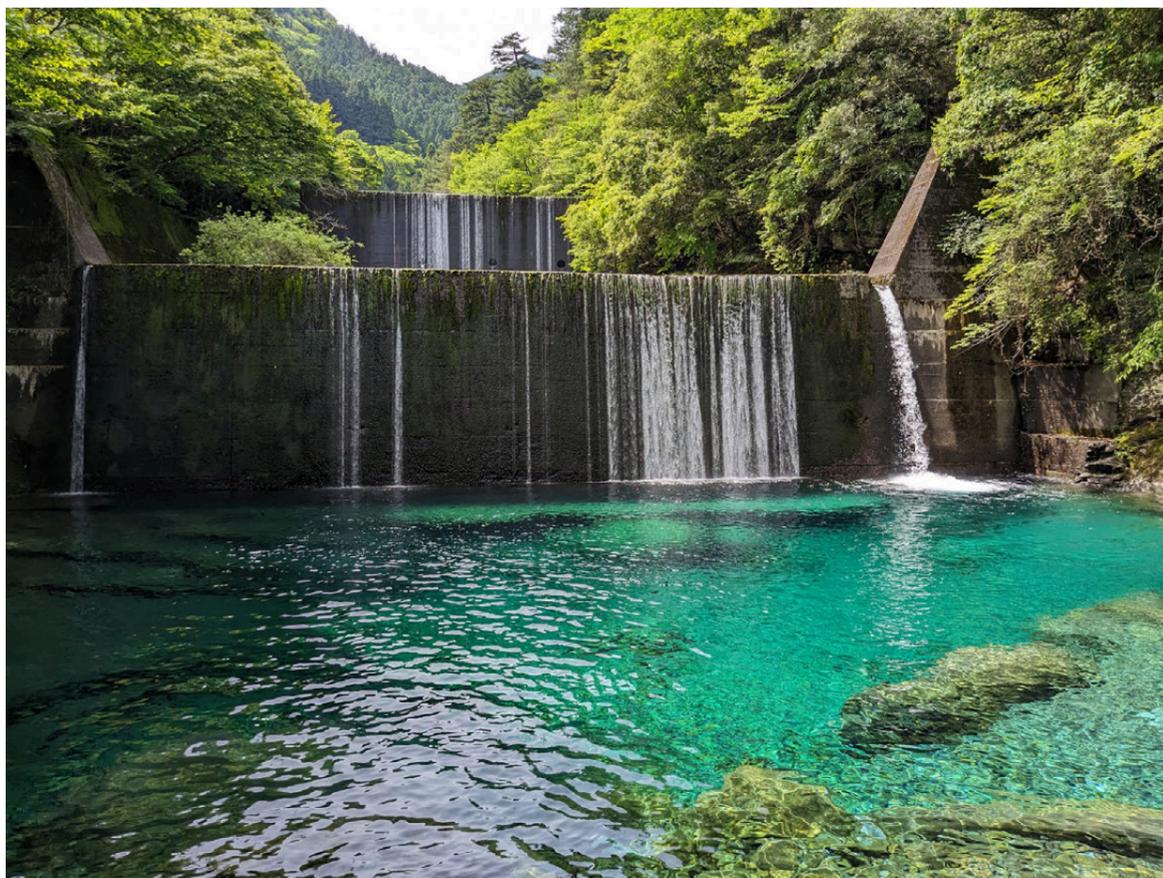


# CHILDREN OF THE RIVER

川の子どもたち

Lisa Takeba / JAPAN, ITALY



## GOALS AT TOKYO GAP-FINANCING MARKET

Signing the co-production agreement, finding other potential partners, sales, distributors and funders. Also find new partners for new projects.

### PROJECT TYPE

Feature Film - Fiction

### SHOOTING FORMAT

4K Digital

### RUNTIME

90'

### BASED ON

Original screenplay

### LANGUAGE

Japanese

### LOCATION

Japan

### BUDGET in \$

US\$ 550,000

### FINANCING IN PLACE in \$

US\$ 330,000

### PRODUCTION COMPANY

ANTROPICA

### CO-PRODUCTION COMPANY

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### PARTNERS ATTACHED

ATRIO MEDIA, Rabbit House Corporation, Fourier Films

### CURRENT STATUS OF PROJECT

Development

### CREATIVE TEAM

Lisa Takeba, *Director and Writer*  
Shozo Ichiyama, Chow Keung, Muneco Miyagawa, *Producers*  
Parsifal Reparato, *Co-Producer*  
Aziz Zhambakiyev, *DoP*  
B6, *Composer*

### ATTENDEE

Parsifal Reparato

### DELEGATE PRODUCTION COMPANY

ANTROPICA

### MAIN CONTACT PERSON

Parsifal Reparato

### CONTACT EMAIL

antropicafilm@gmail.com

### ADDRESS

Via Eudo Giulioli, 3, Roma, 00173, Italy

### WEBSITE

<https://www.antropica.org/>

## LOG-LINE

Ryoka, a university student who has lost her twin sister Kaya, begins to see her boyfriend Gaku, and also Eito, a high school student who idolizes Kaya, while pretending to be her.

## DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Japanese film director and writer. Her 1st feature film *The Pinkie* (2014), won the Grad Prix at the Yubari IFF, Selected at the Rotterdam IFF and the Sitges IFF. Her 2nd feature film, *Haruko's Paranormal Laboratory*, was also acclaimed at the Rotterdam and Sitges Film Festivals and Moscow IFF. *Signal 100* (2020) was invited to festivals such as the Sitges Film Festival and the Brussels IFF. The first-ever Japan-Kazakhstan co-production film *The Horse Thieves* (2020) was selected as the opening film of the Busan IFF, marking a remarkable achievement for Japan for the first time in 16 years.

## PRODUCTION COMPANY PROFILE

Antropica srl is a cinema production and distribution company, based in Italy and Vietnam. Antropica deals with ethnographic filmmaking and creative documentary. The mission of Antropica is the innovation of the way of making cinema and the creation of training opportunities, through the creation of products with quality contents and containers, to disseminate and analyze topics of anthropological, social and cultural interest with a language attractive to the common viewer and never predictable for the scientific world. Antropica builds bridges between Europe and the Far East.

## MAIN FILMOGRAPHY OF PRODUCER

Shozo Ichiyama  
2024 *Feng liu yi dai* / Jia Zhang-ke  
2021 *Ji feng wan lai* / Qi Wang  
2019 *Aru sendo no hanashi*, Joe Odagiri  
Parsifal Reparato  
2022 *The Redeemer of Rio* / Henri Guereschi  
2022 *One million Italians* / Maurizio Braucci  
2022 *Ámará* / Giulia D'Elia

## SYNOPSIS OF PROJECT

Ryoka (19), a student at an art college in Kochi, feels inferior to her twin sister Kaya (19). However, in Niyodo River, her own private hideaway, she meets Gaku (23), a ceramics student, and a small love begins to grow. Ryoka ends up living with her older sister and begins to live alone. Ryoka enjoys spending time with Gaku.

However, one rainy day, she calls Kaya to tell her about him, but Kaya is involved in a car accident and suddenly passes away. Ryoka, burdened with the lost twin bond, sinks into a deep melancholy. Gaku silently supports her by her side. While sorting through her belongings at Kaya's house, a letter arrives. The sender is a high school student named Eito (17), who writes about his pure feelings for Kaya. Ryoka and Gaku agonize over the cruelty of telling Kaya of her death.

When Ryoka visits Eito posing as Kaya, it is revealed that he is a young carer, taking care of his mother and attending high school. Ryoka rashly promises Eito that they will go on a summer vacation together, and a bond gradually begins to form between them.

## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Women are always compared to others, and people constantly strive to become someone they are not. I believe that every human is both good and evil, embodying dual personalities. The twin sisters in this work are defined as one person, prompting the audience to ask, "Who are you?" through the protagonist. Film directors consistently face the question, "Who are you?" This story is about the protagonist, Ryoka, who ultimately discovers herself in response to the question, "Who am I?" My aim is to make viewers experience this kind of natural baptism through the film. The young characters are overseen by the river, hence the title *Children of the River*. In the final scene, the characters each confront their losses by the river, and resolve to live their new lives. Ryoka comes to terms with her sister's death, and Eito accepts his mother's death. People in Kochi prefecture, my home town living by the river undergo a subconscious spiritual purification through the river, because this is a famous pilgrimage site in Southern Japan. Haruki Murakami's novels also adapted, *Shikoku island*, a spiritual cleansing place. In my work, nature serves as a parent to all parentless children.



Lisa Takeba  
*Director and Writer*



Parsifal Reparato  
*Co-Producer*

