



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 15, 2016

Aniplex of America Announces Distribution Schedule for
The Anthem of the Heart (Import)



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*Hit Movie by Creators of the “The Flowers We Saw That Day (Anohana)” Series
Coming this Spring*

SANTA MONICA, CA (January 15, 2016) – At their industry panel at OTAKON Vegas today, Aniplex of America has confirmed their plan to distribute the import version of the heartwarming theatrical feature, ***The Anthem of the Heart: Beautiful Word Beautiful World*** (Japanese title: *Kokoro ga Sakebitagatterunda* lit: *My Heart is Trying to Cry Out*), starting on March 30th. Aniplex of America has confirmed that they will distribute both the limited and standard editions of the film and their release schedule will be simultaneous to that of Japan’s. Pre-orders for both SKUs will begin next Monday (January 18th) on the official U.S. website (www.AnthemoftheHeart.com) and will be available in limited quantities.

The Limited Edition Blu-ray (IMPORT) will include the feature in the original Japanese dialogue with English subtitles. The set will include 3 discs total (feature Blu-ray, bonus disc, audio CD). The feature disc includes audio commentary by the main creative staff members (Nagai, Okada, Tanaka) and Koki Uchiyama who played one of the protagonists, Takumi Sakagami. The bonus disc includes the special programming before the theatrical release, scenes from the greetings on the film’s opening day, promotional videos and commercials. In addition, the exclusive bonus materials will include the original soundtrack CD which will feature not only the memorable sounds of the film but also the songs from the

musical segment and a special voice drama sequence. The set will also come with a deluxe booklet with an exclusive behind-the-scenes look at the corrections made by the Chief Animation Director, a staff roundtable discussion, a visuals collection and the art settings. A mini-sized version of the 52-page theatrical pamphlet will also be included in the set which will all be encased within the exclusive box featuring the artwork by Masayoshi Tanaka (Character Designer).

About *The Anthem of the Heart: Beautiful Word Beautiful World*

The Anthem of the Heart was created by the acclaimed creative staff that brought the anime community the moving “The Flowers We Saw That Day (Anohana)” T.V. series and feature film. The team was led by Director Tatsuyuki Nagai, Writer Mari Okada and Character Designer Masayoshi Tanaka. The beautiful scenes of the simple city of Chichibu, Japan were brought to life by the production team at A-1 Pictures (*Sword Art Online*, *Blue Exorcist*, *Your lie in April*) and coupled with touching music created by Mito (Clammbon). Since its release in Japan, *The Anthem of the Heart* has hit record sales (over a billion yen) at the box office and is the 4th animated film in Japan to ever achieve this record for a totally original title after the Studio Ghibli films, Katsuhiro Otomo’s *Steamboy* and Mamoru Hosoda’s *Summer Wars*. Aniplex of America has released theatrically across the U.S. and Canada starting in November of 2014 and was received equally well as the fans in Japan. Cody Perez of *The Fandom Post* (www.FandomPost.com) lauds the film as being “phenomenal. Like seriously,” and Joseph Luster of *OTAKU USA Magazine* (www.OtakuUSAMagazine.com) agrees that “*The Anthem of the Heart*... sings a beautiful song.”

***The Anthem of the Heart Limited Edition Blu-ray (IMPORT)* features:**

< Features >

- Spoken Language: Japanese
- Subtitles: English (Audio commentary and bonus contents do not include subtitles)
- Audio Commentary (Tatsuyuki Nagai, Mari Okada, Masayoshi Tanaka, Koki Uchiyama)
- Number of Discs: 3 Discs (Feature BD Disc, Bonus Disc, audio CD)
- Total Run Time: Approx. 120 min.
- Rating: 13UP

<Limited Edition Exclusive Bonus Contents>

- Special Programming before Theatrical Release
- Opening Day Greeting
- Promotional Videos and Commercials

<Limited Edition Exclusive Bonus Materials and Special Package>

- CD (Original Soundtrack, Musical Part, Special Voice Drama, etc.)
- Exclusive Box and Digipack Art by Masayoshi Tanaka (Character Designer)
- Deluxe Booklet (Corrections by Chief Animation Director, Staff Roundtable Discussion, Visual Collections, Art Settings, etc.)
- 52-page Theatrical Pamphlet (Mini-sized Version)

**Bonus contents subject to change.*

Product number and UPC bar code

Title	Street Date	SKU #	UPC	SRP	Store price
The Anthem of the Heart Limited Edition (IMPORT)	03/30/2016	ANZX-11701~11703	4534530091482	\$104.98	\$84.98

The Anthem of the Heart Standard Edition Blu-ray (IMPORT) features:

< Features >

- Spoken Language: Japanese
- Subtitles: English (Audio commentary does not include subtitles)
- Audio Commentary (Tatsuyuki Nagai, Mari Okada, Masayoshi Tanaka, Koki Uchiyama)
- Number of Discs: 1 Blu-ray Disc
- Total Run Time: Approx. 120 min.
- Rating: 13UP

Product number and UPC bar code

Title	Street Date	SKU #	UPC	SRP	Store price
The Anthem of the Heart Standard Edition (IMPORT)	03/30/2016	ANZX-11701	4534530091499	\$69.98	\$54.98

For more details on *The Anthem of the Heart: Beautiful Word Beautiful World*, please visit the official homepage: www.AnthemoftheHeart.com

STAFF:

Original Story: CHO HEIWA BUSTERS
Director: Tatsuyuki Nagai
Screenplay: Mari Okada
Character Design: Masayoshi Tanaka
Music: Mito (Clammbon)
Direction: Shinobu Yoshioka
Art Director: Takashi Nakamura
Prop Design: Mariko Oka
Color Setting: Kazuko Nakashima
Director of Photography/CG: Hiroyuki Moriyama
Editing: Shigeru Nishiyama
Sound Director: Jin Aketagawa
Planning/Production: Hiroyuki Shimizu, Mikihiro Iwata
Producer: Shunsuke Saito
Animation Producer: Narumi Kabe
Production: A-1 Pictures
Produced by: The Anthem of the Heart Committee

CAST (Japanese):

Jun Naruse: Inori Minase
Takumi Sakagami: Koki Uchiyama
Natsuki Nito: Sora Amamiya
Daiki Tasaki: Yoshimasa Hosoya

About Aniplex of America Inc.

Aniplex of America Inc. (Santa Monica, California) is a subsidiary of Aniplex Inc. (headquartered in Tokyo, Japan), a group of Sony Music Entertainment (Japan) Inc. and a leading provider of anime content and music production and distribution in Japan. Aniplex of America has launched fan-favorite

Blu-ray and DVD releases including *Sword Art Online*, *KILL la KILL*, *Bakemonogatari*, *Fate/Zero*, *Puella Magi Madoka Magica*, *Blue Exorcist*, *NISEKOI*, *OREIMO 2*, *Magi: The Kingdom of Magic*, *Expelled From Paradise*, *The irregular at magic high school*, *ALDNOAH.ZERO*, *Fate/stay night [Unlimited Blade Works]* and *DURARARA!!*×2. The company's ever-growing line-up of shows includes our most recent titles *Sword Art Online II*, *The Asterisk War*, *OWARIMONOGATARI*, *Your lie in April*, *Charlotte*, *Classroom Crisis*, *WAGNARIA!!3* and *GOD EATER*.

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