

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE NOVEMBER 15, 2019

## <u>Aniplex of America Announces Sword Art Online Alicization Season 1</u> <u>Complete Blu-ray Set!</u>



# SWORD ART ONLINE

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### Sword Art Online Alicization Season 1 is coming to Blu-ray!

SANTA MONICA, CA (November 15, 2019) – Aniplex of America is elated to announce the release of the *Sword Art Online Alicization* Season 1 Complete Blu-ray Set, available on April 21, 2020. The complete Blu-ray set will include both English and Japanese audio, 6 Blu-ray Discs, bonus contents such as trailers, commercials, textless openings and ending and audio commentary. This highly anticipated box set features art by abec (Original Illustrator/ Character Design Concept) with package illustrations by Go Suzuki, Tomoya Nishiguchi (Character Design/ Chief

Animation Directors) and character designer Shingo Adachi. The package will also include a special booklet, illustration card set, original soundtrack CD, and an exclusive Bushiroad Weiß Schwarz promotional card, while supplies last. Bonus contents are subject to change. The *Sword Art Online Alicization* Complete Blu-ray Set is now available for pre-order on rightstufanime.com.

Hailed as "the best and longest arc" of the series, this long-awaited season of *Sword Art Online Alicization* rewards fans with action and mystery, wonderful and complex character relationships, and gorgeous animation by the celebrated A-1 Pictures studio. IGN states "Alicization offers exciting drama for new and old fans alike: it's a perfect spot to jump into the series if you haven't started before since Kirito is all by himself, and it's an even more intense arc to look forward to if you've been up to date with all the previous ones." All episodes of season 1 as well as the current season, *Sword Art Online Alicization War of Underworld* are available to stream on Hulu, HIDIVE (*War of Underworld* only), Crunchyroll and FunimationNow, but fans will soon be able purchase season 1 and own it for themselves!

The *Sword Art Online* franchise has become a global phenomenal, recently celebrating its 10-year anniversary since publication. After the success of the first and second seasons of the TV series produced by A-1 Pictures, the franchise expanded with a feature length film in 2017 with *Sword Art Online the Movie –Ordinal Scale*–, which grossed over \$40 million in box office ticket sales globally.

For more information, please visit the official website at: <u>sao-alicization.com</u>





#### <Disc Specs>

• Spoken Languages: English & Japanese

• Subtitles: English

• Aspect Ratio: 16:9 HD Widescreen 1920x1080p

• Episodes: #1-24 + #18.5

Number of Discs: 6 Blu-ray DiscsTotal Run Time: Approx. 650 minutes

• Rating: 16 UP

#### <Bonus Contents>

- Trailers and Commercials
- Textless Openings and Endings
- Audio Commentary
- \* Bonus content subject to change.
- \* Bonus content includes English subtitles.

#### < Bonus Materials & Package>

- Box art by abec (Original Illustrator/ Character Design Concept)
- Package illustrations by Go Suzuki, Tomoya Nishiguchi (Character Design/Chief Animation Directors) and Shingo Adachi (Character Design)
- Special booklet
- Illustration card set
- Original Soundtrack CD
- Exclusive Bushiroad Weiß Schwarz promotional card (While supplies last.)

#### Product number and UPC bar code:

Title	Street Date	SKU#	UPC	SRP	Store Price
Sword Art Online Alicization Complete Blu-ray Set	4/21/2020	AOA-13001	816546022556	\$314.98	\$249.98

#### About Sword Art Online Alicization:

"Where...am I...?"

Before he knows it, Kirito has made a full-dive into an epic, fantasy-like virtual world. With only a murky recollection of what happened right before he logged in, he starts to wander around, searching for clues. He comes upon an enormous, pitch dark tree called the Gigas Cedar, where he encounters a boy.

"My name is Eugeo. Nice to meet you, Kirito."

Although he is supposedly a resident of the virtual world –an NPC– the boy shows the same array of emotions as any human being.

<sup>\*</sup> Bonus materials subject to change.

As Kirito bonds with Eugeo, he continues to search for a way to log out of this world. Meanwhile, he remembers a certain memory deep down within him.

He remembers racing through the mountains with Eugeo as a child... A memory that he should not have in the first place. And in this memory, he sees someone other than Eugeo, a young blond girl. Her name is Alice. And it is a name that must never be forgotten...

#### **STAFF**

Written by Reki Kawahara (Dengeki Bunko)

Original Illustration / Character Design Concept: abec

Director: Manabu Ono

Assistant Director: Takashi Sakuma

Character Design: Shingo Adachi, Go Suzuki, Tomoya Nishiguchi

Chief Animation Directors: Go Suzuki, Tomoya Nishiguchi

Prop Design: Asami Hayakawa, Kiminori Ito

Monster Design: Toshiya Kouno

Action Scene Animation Directors: Yoshihiro Kanno, Tetsuya Takeuchi

Art Directors: Yukako Ogawa, Keito Watanabe Art Setting: Kenichi Morioka, Yuho Taniuchi

Color Setting: Naomi Nakano

Directors of Photography: Kentaro Waki, Kenta Hayashi

Motion Graphics Designer: Hiromu Oshiro

CG Director: Ryuta Undo Editing: Yuji Kondo

Sound Director: Yoshikazu Iwanami

Effects: Yasumasa Koyama Sound Production: sonilude

Music: Yuki Kajiura

Produced by EGG FIRM, Straight Edge Animation Production: A-1 Pictures

Production Committee: SAO-A Committee

#### **CAST** (Japanese / English)

Kirito (Kazuto Kirigaya): Yoshitsugu Matsuoka / Bryce Papenbrook

Asuna (Asuna Yuuki): Haruka Tomatsu / Cherami Leigh

Alice: Ai Kayano / Kayli Mills

Eugeo: Nobunaga Shimazaki / Brandon Winckler Lisbeth: Ayahi Takagaki / Sarah Anne Williams Silica: Rina Hidaka / Christine Marie Cabanos

Klein: Hiroaki Hirata / Kirk Thornton

Agil: Hiroki Yasumoto / Patrick Seitz

Leafa: Ayana Taketatsu / Cassandra Lee Morris

Yui: Kanae Ito / Stephanie Sheh

Sinon: Miyuki Sawashiro / Michelle Ruff

Selka: Kaori Maeda / Jackie Lastra

Ronie Arabel: Reina Kondo / Deneen Melody Tiese Schtrinen: Kaori Ishihara / Kimberly Woods

Cardinal: Sakura Tange / Lizzie Freeman

Administrator: Maaya Sakamoto / Maureen Price Rinko Koujiro: Sanae Kobayashi / Jennifer Losi

Seijirou Kikuoka: Toshiyuki Morikawa / Matt Mercer

Deusolbert Synthesis Seven: Hikaru Hanada / Armen Taylor Fanatio Synthesis Two: Hitomi Nabatame / Laila Berzins Bercouli Synthesis One: Junichi Suwabe / Imari Williams

English Voice Director / ADR Script Writer: Alex von David

#### **About Aniplex of America Inc.**

Aniplex of America, Inc. (Santa Monica, California) is a subsidiary of Aniplex, Inc. (headquartered in Tokyo, Japan), a division of Sony Music Entertainment (Japan), Inc., and a leading provider of anime content and music production and distribution in Japan. The company's ever-growing lineup of shows includes: Sword Art Online, FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST: BROTHERHOOD, Fate/stay night [Unlimited Blade Works], Fate/Zero, Puella Magi Madoka Magica, March comes in like a lion, Blue Exorcist, KILL la KILL, Gurren Lagann, Monogatari series, anohana -The Flower We Saw That Day-, Cells at Work!, The Promised Neverland, and Demon Slayer: Kimetsu No Yaiba. In 2017, the company released the English version of the popular mobile game, Fate/Grand Order, followed by the release of mobile game, Magia Record: Puella Magi Madoka Magica Side Story's English version in the U.S. and Canada in June of 2019.

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