

Kitano: Even when my film was selected for the French Film Week, when I saw the poster, it said "Samurai" in big letters, and I was happy to see my face on the poster as well, but I am not a samurai [laughs]. But I'm not a samurai [laughs].

If it weren't for that, there would be no way to critique the film. It's the entrance. In this day and age, there are too many people who do things in a vulgar and straightforward manner, and even doing things that are a little embarrassing to know about might be considered "rebellion" in this day and age.

My mother was very strict. When she saw people standing in line at stores selling at discount prices, she would say, "No matter how little money you have, don't do that". Everyone else would stand in line without a care. And when I said, "I can't wait for this", they would say "Why are you so rebellious?".

I don't think it's rebellion, but the mainstream of the world has changed. From a certain point of view, some people might think, "How twisted!"

Do you have a longing and a fear of falling, of being corrupted ?

Yamamoto: I think the words like "dejection" and "depravity" are cool, and I sometimes want to live that way, but I can't quite do it. If saying "falling low" simply includes the meaning of "poor" or "inedible," it is absurd. I think that if you live, you can somehow eat if you do something. So, it is absurd to say that people are poor and can't eat.

Kitano: "Depravity" and "falling low" are romantic and good, but I am too brazen, so I would fall low while being watched over by everyone [laughs]. I don't want to fall low so far that no one will watch over me. That is why I always have insurance.

Yamamoto: [laughs].

Kitano: The other day, I was talking with a friend and said, "You know, there is something I want to do. My dream is to live in a 20,000 yen apartment in Nakano for the rest of my life with 200,000 yen a month". At that time, I thought that it would be fine if people said, "Why is he doing such a thing when he has so much money?" but it would not be so cool if it was because I had no choice.

Yamamoto: No [laughs].

Kitano: When I was a student, there was a time when I longed to hitchhike across the country dressed almost like a homeless. I actually hitchhiked to Atami and at Atami I met a "real homeless". The real homeless even bought me a bowl of katsudon [pork cutlet on rice] [laughs]. This is totally different. I don't think I could ever aspire to this. I thought to myself, "I don't have the stamina for this" [laughs].

Yamamoto: I think Takeshi-san is the same way, but in the end, we did not follow the usual rules, and we ended up like this while we were doing it all along by saying that we were against the rules. I won't say it again, but I have my own rules or morals. I guess that's the beauty of it.

Kitano: Naturally, I think that getting old ruins all of one's senses, and I am afraid of that, but I have recently been able to let go of that fear, and I think that what I could accomplish with concentration when I was young will just take a long time to accomplish. For example, what I could come up with in two hours, I can do slowly over the course of a day. I am sure