BLAME! anime trailer revealed, film to debut on Netflix

Tsutomu Nihei's legendary manga that enthralled SF creators and fans worldwide will make its long-awaited animated film debut in 2017

July 23, 2016, San Diego, California—Humanity faces purges and extermination in a dark future, and a wanderer named Killy must carry out a solitary, dangerous mission through a mammoth multi-leveled "city" that continues to expand forever in **Tsutomu Nihei**'s manga masterpiece SF manga <u>BLAME!</u>.

The unique setting, unfathomable scale, and hard, heavy action garnered acclaim from directors and artists both in Japan and abroad, creating hopes that against all odds, a film adaptation might one day happen. Now, twenty years after the original comic began, an animated feature-length film is about to be unleashed upon the entire world.

Directing the film will be **Hiroyuki Seshita**, who brought the world the complex, hard-SF battles of *Knights of Sidonia* and the speedy, thrilling suspense of *Ajin: Demi-Human*. Animation will be handled by Polygon Pictures, known worldwide for their award-winning work on shows like *Star Wars: The Clone Wars* and *Transformers: Prime*, as well as the epic *Knights of Sidonia* series. On top of that, original creator Tsutomu Nihei is providing full creative direction to the project, handling script and character design. The film is set to premiere exclusively on Netflix globally in 2017.

With the staff of the visionary *Knights of Sidonia* reunited and the executive supervision of story creator Tsutomu Nihei, *BLAME!* is ready to shock the world once again with an all-new story!

In the distant technological future, civilization has reached its ultimate Net-based form.

An "infection" in the past caused the automated systems to spiral out of order, resulting in a multi-leveled city structure that replicates itself infinitely in all directions. Now humanity has lost access to the city's controls, and is hunted down and purged by the defense system known as the Safeguard. In a tiny corner of the city, a little enclave known as the Electro-Fishers is facing eventual extinction, trapped between the threat of the Safeguard and dwindling food supplies. A girl named Zuru goes on a journey to find food for her village, only to inadvertently cause doom when an observation tower senses her and summons a Safeguard pack to eliminate the threat. With her companions dead and all escape routes blocked, the only thing that can save her now is the sudden arrival of Killy the Wanderer, on his quest for the Net Terminal Genes, the key to restoring order to the world.

Based on the manga BLAME! (published by KODANSHA Ltd.) by Tsutomu Nihei

Creative Consultant: Tsutomu Nihei

Director: Hiroyuki Seshita

Co-director/CG Supervisor: Tadahiro Yoshihira

Screenplay: Sadayuki Murai

Production Designer: Naoya Tanaka

Director of Photography: Mitsunori Kataama

Character Designer: Yuki Moriyama

Background Art Director: Hiroshi Takiguchi

Color Designs: Hironori Noji

Animation Production: Polygon Pictures Produced by BLAME! Production Committee

About Kodansha Comics

Established in 2008, Kodansha Comics is the U.S.-based manga imprint of Kodansha Ltd., Japan's leading publishing house, headquartered in Tokyo. Since its inception, Kodansha Comics has released such classics as Naoko Takeuchi's *Sailor Moon*, Katsuhiro Otomo's *Akira*, Shirow Masamune's *The Ghost in the Shell*, and the latest #1 comics phenomenon in the world, the postapocalyptic thriller *Attack on Titan*. Kodansha's U.S. subsidiaries include Kodansha USA Publishing, based in New York, and its digital distribution arm, Kodansha Advanced Media, based in San Francisco. More at kodanshacomics.com.

About Polygon Pictures

Founded in July 1983, PPI is one of the largest digital animation studios in Japan and produces cutting-edge entertainment content in keeping with our mission to "do what no other has done, in unparalleled quality, for all the world to see and enjoy." Including our Malaysian subsidiary studio Silver Ant PPI Sdn. Bhd. and visual software development company J Cube Inc., we have brought together over 400 creators from around the world. Together as the Polygon Family, we devote our days to producing digital content for all types of media. Our notable works include *Transformers Prime, Star Wars: The Clone Wars* (both Daytime Emmy award winners), *Tron: Uprising* (Annie award winner), *Knights of Sidonia* (Director: Kobun Shizuno), *Ronia, the Robber's Daughter* (Director: Goro Miyazaki), *Ajin: Demi-Human* (Supervising Director: Hiroyuki Seshita, Director: Hiroaki Ando) and more. By fusing our unrivaled technical and production planning know-how with the internationally recognized quality of Japanese animation, PPI aims to become a leading company in the content business. For more information, visit our website at http://www.ppi.co.jp.

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