



Film Trailer: <http://www.bit.ly/bwi-trailer>

Short Synopsis:

On his first day of school in a small Japanese town, a half Japanese half black boy tries to prove to his new classmates that his dark skin is not a disease.

Longer Synopsis:

Living in Tokyo, Keisuke Fujii, a half Japanese half Ghanaian boy, never really considered the color of his skin; but when he and his mother move to rural Japan, the other kids assume that since he is of African descent he must have AIDS. Unsure of how to address these prejudices, Keisuke sets out to find answers and confront the cruel rumors once and for all.



Writer/Director of Born With It

Director's Statement:

My vision for this film was to depict the struggle of a half-Japanese child as he tries to find self-confidence in a world where he feels like he doesn't belong. I hope that this film helps inspire confidence in people of all ages, nationalities and sexualities that feel that they are “different” from those around them.

Biography:

Emmanuel Osei-Kuffour, Jr. was born in Houston, Texas. He received his B.A. in film studies from Stanford University in California and completed *Born With It* as his master's thesis film while attending NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, Asia. He is currently at work in the USA on his debut feature film.

Filmography:

When Doors Open (08), *Infliction* (09), Toei Studios' *The Mistake* (10), *The First Time* (10), and *Born With It* (14).

"Born With It" Previous Festivals:

2015 NBCUniversal Short Film Festival (Best Film & the Social Impact Award)

2015 Toronto Intl Film Festival - Kids Section (Honorable Mention for Best Film)

2015 LA EigaFest (Audience Award)

2014 Short Shorts Intl Film Fest Asia (Ibaraki Short Film Award Finalist)

2015 Clermont-Ferrand Intl Short Film Festival

2015 Heartland Film Festival

2015 Seoul Int'l Youth Film Festival

2015 Nancy-Lorraine Intl Short Film Festival

2015 BronzeLens Film Festival

2014 SKIP City Intl Film Fest

2014 Sapporo Shorts Fest

2014 Kyoto Intl Student Film Festival

Cast List:

Keisuke: Dadie T

Keisuke's Mother: Aoba Kawai

Yutaka(Keisuke's Friend): Ryota Shinoda

Kenta (Bully): Koudai Izumiya

Doctor: Masakazu Saiga,

Teacher: Kyoko Yanagihara

Crew List:

Writer-Director: Emmanuel Osei-Kuffour Jr.

Produced by: Emmanuel Osei-Kuffour Jr., Kaoru Misu, Song Kwang-Gi, Engin Yenidunya

Director of Photography: Jeff Wong

Assistant Director/ Unit Production Manager: Kimie Tanaka

1st Assistant Camera: Brett Rogstad

Line Producer: Naomichi Imai

Sound Recordist: Tsubasa Mano

Boom Operator: Haruka Suzuki

Gaffer: Kazushi Maruyama

Grip: Takafumi Teruya

Production Assistants: Azusa Taguchi, Tomohiko Okasato

Make-up and SFX Artist: Carrie HM; Make-up Assistant: Nobuyuki Takagi

Art Director: Chiaki Kamimura

Interpreter/ Translator: Hyoe Yamamoto

Behind-the-scenes Video: Junpei Arai

Still Photographer: Shinichi Tano

Composer: Kenji Oh

Colorist: Steve Rodriguez, Clarice Lee