



UMAMI

A film by Slony Sow



UMAMI

Drama | 105 minutes | Japan, France | 2022

Directed by Slony Sow

Written by Slony Sow

Produced by Jean-Maurice Belayche, Lucas Oliver-Frost, Slony Sow

Production Companies Nompaille Production, Slony Pictures

Starring Gérard Depardieu, Pierre Richard, Sandrine Bonnaire, Rod Paradot,
Bastien Bouillon, Kyôko Koizumi, Eriko Takeda

DOP Denis Louis

Edited by Slony Sow



Synopsis

Following a near-death experience France's leading chef throws himself into a quest seeking the flavor that has confounded his life since he was defeated by a Japanese chef's bowl of noodles as a young man.

Director's Statement

I made this movie based on a conversation at a dinner party. At the moment the waitress asked us for our choices. A friend of mine talked about umami. A discussion followed where everyone gave their definition of umami. That was amazing because nobody had the same definition. Suddenly, a chef appeared to me, who, losing his senses, would seek out the metaphysical dimension of this flavor, this part of the unknown necessary for self-fulfillment. This man had the features of Gérard Depardieu. Because who better than him to embody wandering and loss of bearings? The problem was to produce this adventure in two countries that have diametrically opposed systems. I also made the choice to work with a few means and with mixed technical and artistic teams. It was difficult but terribly rich in teaching and creativity. This film, therefore, has a unique flavor for me, because it was built by chance encounters and everything that life put, good or bad, on our way.

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Slony Sow

Slony Sow is a French director, screenwriter, producer and a former actor. He learned Stanislavsky's acting method at Studio Pygmalion for 3 years. He began his acting career as a guest-starring in comedic television programs, films and theaters. Then, he began his career as a director, directing 5 short films and several TV series. In 2011 he directed a short film "Grenouille d'Hiver" (Winter Frog) starring by Gérard Depardieu was officially selected for Cannes International Film Festival. Its film was presented at over 350 international film festivals, and gotten 37 awards. In 2015, he directed and produced his first feature film with Sommerfugl Productions, "Parisienne" which won 2 awards and selected to 10 international festivals. Now he is preparing 3 feature film, two in Japan "A whale in my stomach" and "Umami no tabi" and another one in Africa "Gouffreville".





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