

Kitano Takeshi Zatoichi & More

with
JONATHAN WROOT



On this episode of the *Japan Station* podcast, Dr. Jonathan Wroot tells us about the movies of Ktano Takeshi, the fascinating history of the Zatoichi films, and more..

About Dr. Jonathan Wroot

Dr. Jonathan Wroot is a senior lecturer in Film Studies at the University of Greenwich and the author of the book *The Paths of Zatoichi: The Global Influence of the Blind Swordsman*.

Topics Discussed

- About the boom in Japanese films in the early to mid 2000s
- About Kitano Takeshi and his films
- On studying Asian cinema
- About Kitano Takeshi's *Violent Cop*
- About Kitano Takeshi's remake of Zatoichi
- About the Zatoichi films and their history
- Jidaigeki vs chanbara
- About the influence of Zatoichi on film and pop culture around the world

- The influence of Zatoichi on *Daredevil*
- About Shintaro Katsu
- About some of the differences in the Zatoichi films
- The Zatoichi TV show
- The original Zatoichi short story in which Zatoichi first appears
- The crazy finale of the Zatoichi film directed by Hiroshi Teshigahara
- About dubs and subtitling
- Voice actors in Japan that always do the same voices of Western actors
- Crazy Japanese commercials featuring Western celebrities
- And much more!

Listen to Japan Station on

[Apple Podcasts](#) [Google Play](#) [Stitcher](#) [Spotify](#) [Tunein](#) [iHeartRadio](#) [PodBean](#) [Overcast](#)

Support on Patreon & Ko-fi

If you enjoy *Japan Station* and want to ensure that we're able to produce more episodes, then please consider becoming a patron on Patreon.com. For a minimum pledge of \$1 a month you'll get early access to all JapanKyo podcasts, bonus content, and more. And for \$3 a month, you'll get access to *Japanese Plus Alpha*, a podcast produced by me (Tony Vega) that focuses on the Japanese language and all of its fascinating quirks. Also, all pledges get a shout-out on the show and my undying gratitude. Thank you in advance!

Links, Videos, Etc.

To pick up a copy of *The Paths of Zatoichi*, you can use the link below. Remember to use the discount code LXFANDF30 to get 30% off (valid until the end of 2022).

- [The Paths of Zatoichi: The Global Influence of the Blind Swordsman](#)
- [30 Zatoichi films in 30 Days](#)

Here is Dr. Wroot's ranking of the Zatoichi films.

- [From Best To Worst – My Opinions on the Zatoichi films](#)

Don't forget to check out the latest episode of *Ichimon Japan*.

- [What is a famiresu? \(About Japanese "Family Restaurants"\) | Ichimon Japan 61](#)

Follow Japankyo on Social Media