# みちのく電記



The Department of English Studies and the Institute of Comparative Culture Sophia University present

## **Documentary film screening of**

# Michinoku Power

with English and Japanese subtitles

Where does your electricity come from? This documentary uncovers the energy crisis in Japan's northeastern region of "Michinoku," ("The end of the road,") and the Global South. In stories overlooked by the mainstream media we follow Gen Z activists striving for a sustainable future.

A Tokyo premiere followed by a talk with director Yu lwasaki and Koichiro Shigihara, environmental activisst and PhD student at Tohoku University Graduate School of Agricultural Science

**July 10**, 2025 (Thu) Event starts at **18:00** (Doors open at 17:30) Sophia University Yotsuya Campus, Bldg. 2, Room 401 Free admission. Registration is NOT required.

### Michinoku Power

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2024/Japan/83min/Japanese, English with Japanese and English Subtitles

This film follows Koichiro Shigihara, a university student from Fukushima who has been actively advocating for climate action. He meets experts and residents at various sites across Miyagi Prefecture including a coal-fired power plant, a palm oil power station marketed as "clean" despite worsening climate change, and a mega solar project that places undue burdens on the local community— all built in the wake of the nuclear disaster. As his perspective broadens globally, Shigihara joins activists from the Global South to protest overseas fossil fuel projects and takes steps toward building truly sustainable local communities through hands-on action.

### **Director Yu Iwasaki**

Iwasaki has directed several documentaries including "Proof of Family" (2019), which follows an Ethiopian asylum seeker in Tokyo and was selected for Nippon Connection, and "Tokyo Wanderer" (2021), which documents a stateless man from former Yugoslavia and won an award at the Sapporo International Short Film Festival.

### **Program**

18:00 Introduction

18:10 Screening of "Michinoku Power"

19:45 Talk and Q&A with Yu Iwasaki and Koichiro Shigihara.

moderated by John Williams, Sophia University

20:30 Closing

This event is organized by John Williams (Professor, DES, Sophia University)

Department of English Studies <a href="https://www.sophia.ac.jp/eng/academics/ug/ug\_fs/ug\_fs\_english/">https://www.icc.gophia.com/</a>

Institute of Comparative Culture <a href="https://www.icc-sophia.com/">https://www.icc-sophia.com/</a>