**Biography**

(From *The Films of Juzo Itami*, published by SHINCHOSHA Publishing Co., Ltd.)

Born in Kyoto, Japan, on May 15, 1933, as the eldest son of film director Mansaku Itami. After working as a film actor, designer, essayist, producer of TV documentaries and commercials, and editor-in-chief of the psychoanalytic-themed magazine *MONONCLE*, he made his debut as a film director in 1984 with *The Funeral*. The film earned high acclaim and won numerous awards, including the Japan Academy Film Prize and first place on the Kinema Junpo Best 10 list. From then on, he focused his career on film directing, producing numerous hit films. He directed ten films: *The Funeral, Tampopo, A Taxing Woman, A Taxing Woman's Return, Tales of a Golden Geisha, The Gentle Art of Japanese Extortion, The Last Dance, A Quiet Life, Supermarket Woman,* and *Woman in Witness Protection*. He died on Dec. 20, 1997.