

NOTE AND GLOSSARY

Japanese names throughout are given in the traditional Japanese order of family name followed by Christian name. The system of romanisation employed in this book is the British Standards Institute Specification for the Romanization of Japanese. Thus when the names of Japanese people, places, production companies, etc. are mentioned in the text they are not italicised and long vowels are not marked (Oshima rather than *Ōshima*, etc.). However the titles of films, books and less familiar Japanese terms (*giri*, *ninjō*, *seishun*, etc.) are italicised and long vowels are marked with a macron. Where English titles include Japanese words long vowels are not marked – thus Japanese *Zatōichi* but English *Zatoichi*, etc.

<i>aimai</i>	<i>ambiguity</i> : custom pertaining to the centrality of ambiguity in social interaction as a means of avoiding confrontation or hostility
<i>Aum Shinrikyo</i>	group that carried out Tokyo subway attack in 1995
<i>bakufu</i>	shogunate of the Edo period (1603–1867)
<i>Bunraku</i>	Japanese puppet theatre
<i>chambara</i>	swordplay
<i>chinpira</i>	little pricks (typically a reference to new yakuza recruits)
<i>etchi</i>	sexually provocative soft-core erotica
<i>gaijin</i>	foreigners (used most often to refer to Westerners)
<i>gendai-geki</i>	contemporary drama
<i>giri</i>	obligation
<i>ie</i>	system of family registration

<i>jidai-geki</i>	period drama
<i>jitsuroku eiga</i>	'true account film' – subset of the yakuza genre
<i>kaidan eiga</i>	ghost story
<i>kokusaika</i>	internationalisation
<i>kokutai</i>	national body
<i>koseki</i>	family registration
<i>kurogo</i>	handlers in Bunraku
<i>naniwabushi</i>	traditional song-based entertainment
<i>ninjō</i>	personal feelings or inclinations
<i>ninkyō eiga</i>	chivalry film
<i>onnagata</i>	male actor playing female role
<i>onryō</i>	female ghost
<i>oyabun</i>	boss
<i>riaruna eiga</i>	'realistic film' pertaining to the documentary
<i>sakura</i>	cherry blossom
<i>samurau</i>	verb: to serve
<i>seishun eiga</i>	youth film
<i>sempai-kōhai</i>	family hierarchy
<i>seppuku</i>	ritual suicide by disembowelling
<i>shinjū</i>	double suicide
<i>shinsengumi</i>	special police force from end of Edo era working for Tokugawa Shogunate
<i>shishosetsu</i>	I-novel
<i>shiteki dokumentari</i>	personal documentary
<i>shomin-geki</i>	genre of film focusing on ordinary working people and middle classes
<i>tatami</i>	domestic mat
<i>tateyaku</i>	loyal hero
<i>thanatos</i>	death