



# ENEMIES & FRIENDS - GERMAN PRISONERS OF WAR IN JAPAN

by Brigitte Krause



## SYNOPSIS

The story of an extraordinary prisoner of war camp where German soldiers passed on culture and crafts to their Japanese captors, which have since become part of Japan's own distinctive ways of life. Hans-Joachim Schmidt from Kutzhof, Germany, finds in the attic of his new house photos and letters of German prisoners-of-war (PoW) in Japan during World War I. He starts a historical and biographical research project. At the age of 24, Kazue Shinoda learns that she has a German grandfather, who was one of those PoWs in Japan. Her search leads to an unusual family reunion nearly 100 years after the Japanese set up the PoW camps. Renate Bergner, daughter of a former prisoner of war, keeps the scripts and photos of her father for the future generations. The Japanese took almost 5,000 German prisoners when they conquered Tsingtao, then a German colony in China. In the PoW camps in Japan, such as Bando, German culture seeps into the local communities through crafts, exhibitions, lectures and...

## CAST AND CREW

DIRECTOR Brigitte Krause · SCREENPLAY Brigitte Krause

Germany 2013

78 min

ORIGINAL TITLE

FEINDE | BRÜDER

FORMAL CATEGORIES

History, War/Peace

ORIGINAL LANGUAGES

Japanese

PREMIERE

Germany (2013)

FILM LOCATION

Japan

LINKS / REFERENCE

<http://youtu.be/zxH2OTURj0>

<http://www.jffh.de/2013/fei...>