

## Herskovitz and Zwick to Develop English-language Action Film Based on Japanese Manga ‘SOUL ReVIVER’

LOS ANGELES, Calif.; July 30th, 2014 – Fields Corporation and All Nippon Entertainment Works (ANEW) announced today that they will partner with renowned filmmakers Edward Zwick and Marshall Herskovitz (*The Last Samurai*, *Blood Diamond*) and their Bedford Falls Company to create a live action English-language film based on the popular Japanese manga "SOUL ReVIVER".



"SOUL ReVIVER" is a supernatural action series created by Tohru Fujisawa and Manabu Akishige and featured in HERO'S, a monthly Japanese comic magazine. The "ReVivers" in the title have the ability to move between the worlds of the living and the dead, in order to bring certain people back whose mission on earth was not complete.

The Bedford Falls Company, Fields Corporation and ANEW will produce jointly, Herskovitz and Zwick will write the screenplay, and Zwick will direct.

"Many of our films take you to a different time or place," said Herskovitz. "In 'SOUL ReVIVER' I'm excited by the idea of exploring a vastly different world existing in the same space as our own." Zwick added, "Japanese cinema has always been a touchstone for me. I'm excited to extend that relationship to this new and vital part of Japanese culture."



From Left: Edward Zwick, Tohru Fujisawa and Marshall Herskovitz

## **Writers / Director**

### **About Marshall Herskovitz**

Marshall Herskovitz is a writer, producer, and director in Los Angeles who has won many awards for his work in television and film. In 1975 he attended the American Film Institute where he met his longtime creative partner Edward Zwick. With Zwick he created such TV series as *thirtysomething* and *My So-Called Life*, and among the films he has produced are *Legends of the Fall*, *Traffic*, *The Last Samurai*, and *Blood Diamond*. Herskovitz also directed *Jack the Bear* and *Dangerous Beauty*. He is a past president of the Producers Guild of America.

### **About Edward Zwick**

Born in Winnetka, Illinois, Edward Zwick began directing and acting in high school, before attending Harvard, receiving a Rockefeller Fellowship, and arriving at the American Film Institute in Los Angeles in 1975. In his long and distinguished career he has directed or produced many Academy Award-winning films including *Glory*, *Legends of the Fall*, *Shakespeare in Love*, *Traffic*, and *The Last Samurai*. He also won several Emmys for his work in television including the series *thirtysomething* and *My So-Called Life*. Zwick most recently directed and produced *Pawn Sacrifice*, starring Tobey Maguire and Liev Schreiber. He serves on the Board of Governors of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

## **Original Authors**

### **About Tohru Fujisawa**

Tohru Fujisawa is an acclaimed manga author who has written several hit manga series in Japan, including *GTO* (*Great Teacher Onizuka*), for which he won the 22nd annual Kodansha Manga Award (Boys' Category), and *GTO Shonan 14 Days*. His current ongoing series are *Kamen Teacher Black*, published in Shueisha's 'Weekly Young Jump', as well as *GTO Paradise Lost* featured in 'Weekly Young Magazine' by Kodansha. In addition, he pens original manga stories and character designs.

### **About Manabu Akishige**

Manabu Akishige debuted in 1992, in the Shogakukan weekly magazine, 'Big Comic Spirits'. He adapted Kazuki Kaneshiro's novel *Fly, Daddy, Fly* to a comic, which was subsequently adapted as a Japanese live action feature film with young starring Junichi Okada. Akishige is also known for his work on *D-ASH* by Miya Kitazawa.



THE BEDFORD FALLS COMPANY

### About the Bedford Falls Company

Founded in 1985, and named after the town in Frank Capra's *It's A Wonderful Life*, Bedford Falls has been the home for Edward Zwick's and Marshall Herskovitz's prolific partnership in movies and television. In addition to their many award-winning films and television series, it's been their privilege to collaborate with some of the industry's greatest talents, including Steven Soderbergh, Tom Stoppard, Brad Pitt, Leonardo DiCaprio, Denzel Washington, Anne Hathaway, John Logan, and many others.



### About Fields Corporation

"The greatest leisure for all people" is a corporate philosophy unprecedented in the entertainment industry. Fields Corporation's unique business model incorporates this philosophy into the creation of intellectual property across comics, animation, movies and TV. These properties create a wide range of merchandising, including the game of pachinko and Pachislot.

<http://www.fields.biz/ir/e/>



### About HERO'S Inc.

HERO'S Inc. launched the monthly magazine 'HERO'S' on November 1, 2011. The magazine, found at Seven-Eleven stores nationwide, specializes in hero manga and spans across the genre, including properties like *Ultraman*, the Eiichi Shimizu and Tomohiro Shimoguchi hit comic (the series has sold over one million volumes), and *Hero Company*, penned by Kazuhiko Shimamoto of *All-Out Nine*.

<http://www.heros-web.com/en/>



### About All Nippon Entertainment Works

All Nippon Entertainment Works (ANEW) is a global entertainment studio that adapts, co-develops and produces the best creative properties and brands from Japan into English language properties in partnership with established Hollywood Studios and world-class filmmakers.

<http://www.an-ew.com/en/aboutus/>

To learn more about SOUL ReVIVER, visit <http://www.heros-web.com/en/works/soul.html#>

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#### **【Please direct your questions to】**

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