

## **Keita Hijikata, as a Soviet Cinema Introducer during the Occupation Period and the 1950s**

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This paper will examine the postwar activities of Russian language speaker Keita Hijikata, who lived in Moscow in the prewar period as a son of the director Yoshi Hijikata, especially shed light on the aspect of the introduction of Soviet cinema. Hijikata worked at Hokusei Shoji, which distributed the Soviet cinema from 1949, and a year after, he participated in editing the magazine *Sobieto Eiga* which the same company published. In this essay, I clarified the three aspects that Hijikata contributed as an introducer to Soviet cinema. Firstly, how the policy of Hokusei Shoji deciding on the distribution of Soviet cinema changed was largely affected by the presence of Hijikata. He actively participated in promoting Soviet cinema by editing the magazine. Secondly, Hijikata proposed the framework for defining Soviet cinema for a better understanding of them by the ordinary audience. However, after the 1950s, fictional films regarded less Marxism ideology were mainly allowed to be on screen in Japan. Thirdly, under the quarter system for importing foreign films introduced by the Japanese government, Soviet film import did not expand even after the 1950s. *Sobieto Eiga* continued to advocate for independent screenings. Those activities conducted by Hijikata led to the introduction of Soviet films from the 1960s onward.