Directed by Akira Kurosawa
Written by Akira Kurosawa, Hideo Oguni and Masato Ide (screenplay), William Shakespeare (play "King Lear")
Produced by Masato Hara and Serge Silberman
Music Tôru Takemitsu
Cinematography Asakazu Nakai, Takao Saitô and Shôji Ueda

Film Editing Akira Kurosawa
Production Design Shinobu Muraki and Yoshirô Muraki
Set Decoration Jiro Hirai, Mitsuyuki Kimura, Yasuyoshi Ototake, Tsuneo Shimura, Osumi Tousho
Costume Design Emi Wada

Academy Awards, 1986
Won Best Costume Design, Emi Wada
Nominated Best Director, Akira Kurosawa
Best Cinematography, Takao Saitô, Shôji Ueda and Asakazu Nakai
Best Art Direction-Set Decoration, Yoshirô Muraki and Shinobu Muraki

Cast
Tatsuya Nakadai…Lord Hidetora Ichimonji
Akira Terao…Taro Takatora Ichimonji
Jinpachi Nezu…Jiro Masatora Ichimonji
Daisuke Ryû…Saburo Naotora Ichimonji
Mieko Harada…Lady Kaede
Yoshiko Miyazaki…Lady Sue
Hisashi Igawa…Shuri Kurogane
Pîtâ…Kyoami
Masayuki Uyi…Tango Hirayama
Kazuo Katô…Ikoma
Norio Matsui…Shumenosuke Ogura
Toshiya Ito…Mondo Naganuma
Kenji Kodama…Samon Shirane
Mansai Nomura…Tsurumaru (as Takeshi Nomura)
Takeshi Katô…Koyata Hatakeyama

AKIRA KUROSAWA (b. March 23, 1910 in Tokyo, Japan—d. September 6, 1998, in Setagaya, Tokyo, Japan) initially trained as a painter (he storyboards his films as full-scale paintings). Kurosawa then entered the film industry in 1936 as an assistant director, eventually making his directorial debut with Sanshiro Sugata (1943). After working in a wide range of genres, Kurosawa made his international breakthrough film Rashomon (1950), which won the top prize at the Venice Film Festival, and first revealed the richness of Japanese cinema to the West. The next few years saw the low-key, touching Ikiru (1952) (Living), the epic Seven Samurai (1954), the barbaric, riveting Shakespeare adaptation Throne of Blood (1957), and a fun pair of samurai comedies Yojimbo (1961) and Sanjuro (1962). After a lean period in the late 1960s and early 1970s, though, Kurosawa attempted suicide. He survived, and made a small, personal, low-budget picture with Dodes’ka-den (1970), a larger-scale Russian co-production Dersu Uzala (1975) and, with the help of admirers Francis Ford Coppola and George Lucas, the samurai tale Kagemusha (1980), which Kurosawa described as a dry run for Ran (1985), an epic adaptation of Shakespeare’s "King Lear." His films are frequently copied and remade by American and European filmmakers. Several of his films have been remade in America as westerns. For instance, Seven Samurai (1954) was remade as The Magnificent Seven (1960), and Yojimbo (1961) ("The Bodyguard") was remade as A Fistful of Dollars (1964). In addition, The Hidden Fortress (1958) was a major inspiration for the "Star Wars" saga, which takes many inspirations from westerns and is often referred to as a space western. He was voted the 6th greatest director of all time by Entertainment Weekly.