Ōmori Kumiko Profile

◆活動写真弁士　大森くみこ  
2012年弁士デビュー。日本全国での無声映画上映会、寄席、国内外の映画祭等に多数出演。2019年のアメリカ公演「The Art of the Benshi」にも参加し、和製ベティ・ブープのようだと好評を得る。  
新作無声映画「I AM JAM ピザの惑星危機一髪」(2022年)では出演と活弁を担当。2023年大阪松竹座開場100周年記念映画祭ではオープニングアクトを務める。コメディポップな作品からシリアス作品まで硬軟問わずの語りが持ち味。ラジオパーソナリティー、ナレーターとしても活躍している。日本女子体育大学卒業の力持ち。

Since debuting as a *benshi* in 2012, Ōmori Kumiko has narrated silent films at screenings and film festivals across Japan and overseas, taking on works of all sorts from the comedic to the somber. In 2019, she joined Kataoka Ichirō and Sakamoto Raikō as one of three *benshi* featured in the first *The Art of the Benshi* program, which the Yanai Initiative and the UCLA Film & Television Archive co-presented at the Billy Wilder Theater at the Hammer Museum, UCLA; writing at the time, *Wall Street Journal* film critic David Mermelstein praised her “Betty Boop appeal.” In 2022, she both appeared in and did *benshi* narration for the new silent film *I Am Jam: Crisis on Pizza Planet*; the following year, she performed as the opening act at the centennial anniversary of the opening of the Osaka Shōchikuza Theater. A muscular graduate of Japan Women’s College of Physical Education, she is also popular as a radio personality and television narrator.