

Launch of New Pachinko Machine *Sumapachi SSSS.GRIDMAN*

Our consolidated subsidiary FIELDS CORPORATION announces the launch of a new pachinko machine, *Sumapachi SSSS.GRIDMAN*.



This machine will appear as a smart pachinko (“Sumapachi”) machine.

■ *SSSS.GRIDMAN*

SSSS.GRIDMAN (“Work”) is an animated TV series broadcasted in 2018, based on the special effects TV program *Denkou Choujin Gridman* (produced in 1993 by Tsuburaya Productions). In collaboration by animation studio “TRIGGER,” which is highly acclaimed in Japan and internationally for its edgy action and delicate character portrayal, and Tsuburaya Productions, a member of our group, they combined all their efforts to produce this Work.

The Work was directed by Mr. Akira Amemiya, who has worked on numerous TRIGGER productions including *Kill la Kill* and *Gurren Lagann*, and was written by Mr. Keiichi Hasegawa, who has also worked on numerous episodes of the Heisei Ultraman series. The music production was by Shiro Sagisu from the *Evangelion* series and *Shin Godzilla*, and the voice of Gridman was by Hikaru Midorikawa, who also voiced Gridman in *Denkou Choujin Gridman*.

While the characters and storyline have been completely renewed from *Denkou Choujin Gridman*, this Work has attracted attention for its spectacular battle action between the hero Gridman and monsters, which unfolds to the theme song as background music; the Gridman transformation and robot merging scenes; and the tilt shift* cuts that express the gigantic size of Gridman and the monsters. The Work has attracted attention for its production and visual expressions reminiscent of special effects. The passionate drama of the main characters’ human relationships and friendship with Gridman added depth to the story, garnering tremendous support from a wide range of people, from animation fans to special effects fans, and in 2019 this Work won the media category of the *Seiun Awards*, the longest-running science fiction work award in Japan.

*Tilt shift: way of taking pictures of a subject from bottom to top

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In 2021, the TV anime *SSSS.DYNAZENON* was produced and broadcasted as a work based on *Denkou Choujin Gridman*, and in 2023, a completely original film *Gridman Universe* (“Film”) was released, which crossover the characters and worldview of the two works *SSSS.GRIDMAN* and *SSSS.DYNAZENON*. This Film was ranked second in the ‘First Day Satisfaction Ranking’ on the movie review site Filmmarks, and received very high ratings on other review sites such as Yahoo!, and Eiga (Movie) Land. These buzzes led to an increase in the number of theaters showing the Film, an extension of the screening period, and nationwide cheering screening events, making the Film a favorite among many fans. It is a very popular film that has been developed in various ways, including merchandise, manga, and novels, as well as in the form of visual images.

(Reference) The official TV anime *SSSS.GRIDMAN* website can be found at: <https://gridman.net/> (Japanese language only)

Sumapachi SSSS.GRIDMAN is not only for pachinko and pachislot enthusiasts but a wide range of people, including anime fans. The machine is scheduled for delivery in November 2024 to pachinko halls throughout Japan.

For inquiries or further information please contact

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