



日本映画祭

Japanese
Film
Festival
2019

Sydney 14-24 Nov
Melbourne 21 Nov-01 Dec

Program

JAPAN FOUNDATION 
BRINGING JAPAN TO YOU



About

Welcome to the 23rd Japanese Film Festival (JFF) in Australia!

We're excited to bring you the best Japanese cinema of 2019! This year's program brings new perspectives in Japanese film, reviving the old and giving lesser-known stories a chance in the spotlight. From sensitive portrayals of modern everyday life to wild and vibrant alternate worlds, JFF 2019 celebrates the multifaceted landscape of Japanese cinema.

The JFF is presented by The Japan Foundation, Sydney and tours major cities and regional centres across Australia. Thank you to our delightful audiences, generous sponsors, and wonderful volunteers for 23 years of celebrating Japanese film!

Japanese Film Festival Programmers

Yurika Sugie, Susan Bui, Simonne Goran, Anne Lee, Aurora Newton and Jessica Chow

Assisted by

Mai Le



JFF is part of the Japanese Film Festival Asia Pacific Gateway.

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Opening Film



Masquerade Hotel マスカレード・ホテル

Director: Masayuki Suzuki
2019 • 132mins

Unclassified: all ages

Everyone at this hotel wears a mask of some kind... And anyone could be a killer

In this adaptation of Keigo Higashino's best-selling novel, Detective Kosuke Nitta (Takuya Kimura) goes undercover in a high-end Tokyo hotel after a code of numbers found at three seemingly unrelated murders lead him to believe the next murder will take place there. When he's assigned the front desk, hotel employee Naomi Yamagishi (Masami Nagasawa; *Your Name*) is not happy. She's dedicated to upholding the highest standards for guests of the hotel, and Kosuke's scruffy appearance and single-minded focus on his detective work are not exactly front desk material. Will the two be able to learn to work together before the killer strikes again?

© 2019 Masquerade Hotel Film Partners
© Keigo Higashino/Shueisha



Detective Conan: The Fist of Blue Sapphire

名探偵コナン 紺青の拳 (フィスト)

Director: Tomoka Nagaoka
2019 • 110mins

Unclassified: all ages

Conan takes his detective skills to Singapore in his first overseas film adventure!

When Conan's friends travel to Singapore, he's forced to stay back in Japan because he doesn't have a passport. But there's no rest for this detective, as he's transported to Singapore against his will by his nemesis, the charismatic thief Kaitō Kid. The two begrudgingly agree on a temporary truce and soon find themselves embroiled in a case involving a martial arts tournament and a mysterious blue sapphire. When Kaitō Kid is framed for stealing the blue sapphire and women are turning up dead, suddenly Conan's lack of a passport is the least of his problems!

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Ride Your Wave きみと、波にのれたら

Director: Masaaki Yuasa
2019 • 95mins

Unclassified: all ages (contains mild themes)

Diving fearlessly into the flames of love!

Surf's up every day for free-spirited Hinako after she moves to the seaside! When her apartment block catches ablaze and courageous firefighter Minato comes to the rescue, sparks of romance fly and soon the two are blissfully catching waves together and singing into the sunset. Their happiness is cut tragically short when Minato runs into trouble while rescuing a stranger at the beach, leaving Hinako heartbroken, singing their song and clinging to precious memories. The sun-drenched, vivid spectacle of Masaaki Yuasa's animation shines in this imaginative and heartfelt story of bravery and love.



Fantasia International Film Festival
2019 - Satoshi Kon Award Winner
(Best Animated Feature)

© Ride Your Wave Film Partners TOHO



My Dad is a Heel Wrestler パパはわるものチャンピオン

Director: Kyohei Fujimura
2018 • 111mins

Unclassified: all ages

A tenacious nine-year-old grapples with his father's villainous wrestling alter ego

Takashi Omura's career as a professional wrestling champion takes a hard knock when his dramatic final move, the Fly High Slam, results in a knee injury. Ten years later, he hasn't told his son, Shota, about his new persona as a heel wrestler—the despicable Cockroach (*Gokiburi*) Mask. Their relationship is strained when Shota uncovers his father's secret, but opportunity calls when Takashi gets a second chance at the Z1 Climax tournament. Will Takashi overcome his injuries and regain the respect of his son?

© 2018 MY DAD IS A HEEL WRESTLER Film Partners



SAINT☆YOUNG MEN 2nd Century 聖☆おにいさん 第II紀

Director: Yuichi Fukuda
2019 • 54mins

Unclassified: all ages

What if Jesus and Buddha were roommates in modern-day Tokyo?

Based on a popular manga, *SAINT☆YOUNG MEN 2nd Century* imagines a world where Jesus Christ (Kenichi Matsuyama; *Death Note*) and Gautama Buddha (Shota Sometani; *Himizu*) take a vacation on earth and become roommates in an apartment in Tokyo. Hilarity ensues as they attempt to hide their identities and partake in all that modern Japanese society has to offer, including cosplay in the otaku mecca that is Akihabara!

© Nakamura Hikaru, KODANSHA/Jesus and Buddha committee



Fly Me to the Saitama

翔んで埼玉

Director: Hideki Takeuchi
2019 • 107mins

Unclassified: all ages

If you're not from Tokyo, you can't sit with us!

In a reality where people from neighbouring prefectures are persecuted for entering Tokyo without a visa, Rei Asami (GACKT), a transfer student and secret Saitama revolutionist, is on a mission to abolish the laws perpetrated against residents of Saitama. Upon entering his new high school, Rei becomes the new favourite among his elite Tokyo classmates, much to the dismay of Momomi Dannoura (Fumi Nikaido; *Himizu*), son of the governor of Tokyo and student council president. It isn't long before Momomi finds out about Rei's secret, and in an unexpected turn of events, Momomi flips from anger to supporting Rei in his quest for equality.

© 2019 "Fly me to the Saitama" Film Partners

Off the Reel

Melbourne 24 Nov
Film screening followed by
talk and Q&A with guest



Dr Emerald L King
Lecturer at La Trobe
University

Learn more about the manga behind *Fly Me to the Saitama* with our guest researcher Dr Emerald L King (La Trobe) in a discussion about 80s manga and forgotten classics. Join us for the screening of *Fly Me to the Saitama* at The Capitol Theatre Sunday 24 November, 6:30pm and the post-film discussion.

Presented with

SATURDAY PAPER



Kingdom キングダム

Director: Shinsuke Sato
2019 • 134mins

Unclassified: 15+

An action-packed take on a tumultuous period of Chinese history

Based on the bestselling manga series of the same name, director Shinsuke Sato's live-action adaptation is a historical adventure about the warring states of China during 475-221 BC. The tale follows two boys orphaned by war, Shin (Kento Yamazaki) and Hyou (Ryo Yoshizawa; *Gintama*). They're determined to become the greatest army generals the world has ever seen! They're working towards their dream, but the young men are suddenly separated when Hyou is summoned to protect the king. After a series of tragic events, Shin is faced with a treacherous journey to restore justice and fulfil his destiny.

©Yasuhisa Hara/SHUEISHA
©2019 "KINGDOM" Film Partners



Samurai Shifters 引っ越し大名!

Director: Isshin Inudo
2019 • 120mins

Unclassified: all ages

Moving house is always stressful, but moving your whole town?!

Socially awkward Katagiri Harunosuke (Gen Hoshino) is a samurai bookworm who is stuck between a rock and the entire samurai clan. Threatened with *harakiri*, he is forced to take charge of a large-scale mission to relocate his whole town across the water and over 500 kilometres away. Thankfully Oran Itakura (Mitsuki Takahata), daughter of the former relocation chief, understands the difficulties ahead and offers to help the pitiful Katagiri. Now, with the assistance of Oran and a very tight budget to work with, Katagiri must come up with ingenious ways to fund the move and persuade fellow civilians to pack light—including a decluttering approach Marie Kondo would adore.

© 2019 "Samurai Shifters" Film Partners



Melancholic メランコリック

Director: Seiji Tanaka
2018 • 113mins

Unclassified: 15+ (contains strong themes and violence)

Scrubbing tiles and tubs is murderous work

Despite having a degree from a prestigious university, Kazuhiko is unemployed and living with his parents with no plans for the future. Having no work experience and a lacklustre attitude toward life, the strange, awkward and socially inept Kazuhiko eventually finds a job scrubbing tiles at the local bathhouse. While the job makes his days rosier (and his wallet fuller), interactions between his boss and coworker make him suspicious about his workplace outside of hours. One night, he witnesses a yakuza execution in the bathhouse. What begins as a film about a lonely ill-fitting man drifting along the outskirts of society quickly develops a cross-genre edginess that is viscerally thrilling, darkly funny, and heartwarming.



Tokyo International Film Festival
2018 - Japanese Cinema Splash
Winner (Best Director)

© One Goose



A Girl Missing よこがお

Director: Koji Fukada
2019 • 111mins

Unclassified: 15+

Belonging to a family means being guilty by association

Diligent homecare nurse Ichiko is a fixture of her client's family life; nursing the ailing grandmother and warmly supporting the granddaughters. After a seemingly normal day, the youngest granddaughter fails to return home and vanishes without a trace. Ichiko's devastation deepens when she learns her own nephew was arrested for the crime. However, Ichiko is convinced by the victim's older sister to keep it secret, and attempts to maintain her respectable identity while her world steadily begins to crumble. Director Koji Fukada and actress Mariko Tsutsui return after Cannes award-winning *Harmonium* in this consuming, slow-burn portrait of demise.

© 2019 YOKOGAO FILM PARTNERS
& COMME DES CINEMAS



Sea of Revival

凧待ち

Director: Kazuya Shiraishi
2019 • 125mins

Unclassified: 15+

The chains of addiction are not easily broken

Ikou is a 40-year-old punter living with his kind-hearted partner Ayumi and her angsty teenage daughter from a former relationship. When Ayumi's father is diagnosed with stage IV cancer, the trio decide to relocate to her small coastal hometown in Miyagi to provide support. They finally have an opportunity for a fresh start, but their struggles follow them. When a shocking death brings Ikou to the attention of the police, the pressure drags him deeper into the underworld of his illegal sports gambling addiction.

© 2018 "Sea of Revival" Film Partners



Born Bone Born

洗骨

Director: Toshiyuki Teruya
2018 • 111mins

Unclassified: 15+

A dysfunctional family comes together for an unorthodox Okinawan tradition

Four years after Emiko's death, her family reunites for an Okinawan funerary ritual known as a *senkotsu* (bone washing) ceremony. Since her death, her husband has become an alcoholic and her daughter is heavily pregnant and single. Nothing has been easy for this family, and now they are forced to deal with each other's problems, as well as their own. *Born Bone Born* is beautifully strange and universally human, taking a melancholic story and spinning it into a light-hearted, comedic drama about how family will always be there for you—even if they have to be dragged, kicking and screaming.



JAPAN CUTS 2018 -
Audience Award Winner

© 2018 "Senkotsu" Production Committee



Riding Uphill

ガチ星

Director: Kan Eguchi
2018 • 106mins

Unclassified: 15+ (contains mild gore)

Get into gear for Tokyo 2020 with this story of perseverance

Pro baseballer Hamajima is kicked out of the league for his wavering performance, and after he wastes away the family savings with his gambling addiction, his marriage crumbles and he loses his family. The only way out of his downward spiral is a total change of pace: a new life as a professional cyclist—at the age of 39. But when you're starting from rock bottom, there's a long climb ahead, and learning to give it your best is the challenge of a lifetime.

© Koo-Ki/Pylon



Brave Father Online - our story of FINAL FANTASY XIV

劇場版 ファイナルファンタジーXIV 光のお父さん

Directors: Teruo Noguchi / Kiyoshi Yamamoto
2019 • 114mins

Unclassified: all ages

A heartwarming story that proves you're never too old to play video games

For Akio (Kentarō Sakaguchi), interacting with strangers in online multiplayer games is far easier than talking to his own father, Akira. But when his father (Kotaro Yoshida) announces his retirement, Akio realises it's the perfect opportunity to rekindle his bond with the emotionally-distant Akira. Remembering the fun times he had with his father playing the original *Final Fantasy* video game as a child, he gifts Akira a copy of *Final Fantasy XIV: A Realm Reborn* with a quest in mind—anonously befriend his father in the virtual world!

© 2019 "Brave Father Online - our story of FINAL FANTASY XIV" Project © Maid/SQUARE ENIX



Blue Hour

ブルーアワーにぶっ飛ばす

Director: Yuko Hakota
2019 • 92mins

Unclassified: 15+

A whimsical and bittersweet homecoming

30-year-old Sunada seems to have it all: a successful career as a director for TV commercials, a kind husband, and a stylish Tokyo apartment far from her loathed countryside hometown. But behind the scenes, she's having an affair and grows increasingly anxious about the longevity of her career, venting to her free-spirited friend Kiyoura after breakdowns at karaoke. Childhood memories of muddy fields and napping on tatami mats draw Sunada to her backwater hometown in Ibaraki for an overdue visit to her frail grandma, but returning to fraught family relationships proves far from simple.

© 2019 BLUE HOUR Film Committee

Special Guest Session

Sydney 16 Nov

Film screening followed by Q&A with guest



Yuko Hakota
(Director)

While men still largely dominate the film industry, female directors are carving out a space for themselves. This is especially true for writer/director Yuko Hakota, who began her career directing Japanese and international television commercials. Using her hometown as the backdrop for her debut film, Hakota highlights the unrealistic gender expectations pervasive in modern society.



A Banana? At This Time of Night?

こんな夜更けにバナナかよ 愛しき実話

Director: Tetsu Maeda
2018 • 120mins

Unclassified: 15+

Based on a true story about the importance of friends, laughter, and hope

Yasuaki Shikano (Yo Oizumi; *YAKINIKU DRAGON*) suffers from muscular dystrophy and is confined to a wheelchair. Rather than heeding the advice of his concerned doctor to remain in hospital, he chooses a more radical lifestyle in his one bedroom apartment, one where he is surrounded by a cohort of volunteer carers who are at his every beck and call. When beautiful stranger Misaki (Mitsuki Takahata) turns up out of nowhere, Yasuaki becomes smitten, but little does he know that she is the girlfriend of one of his carers!

© 2018 "A Banana? At This Time of Night?" Film Partners



My Father, the Bride

おいしい家族

Director: Momoko Fukuda
2019 • 95mins

Unclassified: all ages

Here comes dad, dressed in white!

Returning home for her mother's second memorial service was never going to be easy for Tohka. Needless to say, she's confused and in shock when she's greeted by her father wearing her mother's dress. At the family dinner table, he introduces his new fiancé—the local handyman. While everyone else is delighted with her dad's decisions, Tohka simply can't accept her dad becoming her mum. Infused with a quirky pop sensibility, the heartwarming appeal of home cooking, and the simplicity of everyday life, 28-year-old female director Momoko Fukuda perfectly captures the meaning of family.

© 2019 "My Father, the Bride" Film Partners



SAKE
SHOP

Lucky Door Giveaway

Your chance to win a Sake Shop gift voucher!



And Your Bird Can Sing

きみの鳥はうたえる

Director: Sho Miyake
2018 • 106mins

Unclassified: 15+

Clinging to the end of summer in Hakodate

When enigmatic Sachiko forms a 'no-drama relationship' with her slacker bookstore colleague and meets his unemployed roommate, Shizuo (Shota Sometani, *Himizu*), the three young adults' lives become intimately entangled. Wasting away evenings together drinking, burning through cash, playing billiards and clubbing 'til sunrise, a muted magnetism grows between Sachiko and Shizuo. Committing only to living in the moment, the trio drift around Hakodate—knowing, but never mentioning, that summer will eventually end. Atmospheric and authentic, Sho Miyake's second feature film delivers superb performances, sensitivity and melancholic charm.

© HAKODATE CINEMA IRIS



Moonless Dawn

暁闇

Director: Harika Abe
2018 • 60mins

Unclassified: 15+
(contains strong themes and sexual violence)

A simple, breathtakingly beautiful debut that connects existential youth through music

Three junior high school students deal with the difficulties of adolescence in Harika Abe's debut feature film. Kou is adrift in life, with no sense of purpose or direction, Yuka fills the void inside her by dating strangers she meets on the street, and Saki is stuck in the middle of never ending fights between her parents, unable to feel comfortable at home or in school. For Yuka and Saki, music by their favourite artist is a welcome escape from their everyday lives, until one day it is all taken offline. Without a soundtrack to immerse themselves in, the girls seek out the producer and discover life beyond the music.

© 2018 Harika Abe/MOOSIC LAB



Tower of the Sun

太陽の塔

Director: Kosai Sekine
2018 • 112mins

Unclassified: all ages

Taro Okamoto's philosophy and protest behind the *Tower of the Sun*: a message for us today

Fondly thought of as the Picasso of Japan, Taro Okamoto worked as a prolific avant-garde artist, philosopher, and writer until his death at 85 years old. Kosai Sekine's colourfully ambitious debut documentary is a fantastic opportunity to learn about the roots of Okamoto's iconic work, *Tower of the Sun*, constructed for the government-organised Expo '70 in Osaka, themed 'Progress and Harmony for Mankind'. Conversely, the artist's 70-metre tall tower was the antithesis to this message and a comment on Okamoto's political and social concerns for the future of Japan. Get to know the artist behind the one-of-a-kind *Tower of the Sun* in this beautiful and powerful documentary.

© 2018 "Tower of the Sun" Film Partners



Rent a Friend

月極オトコトモダチ

Director: Mayu Akiyama
2018 • 78mins

Unclassified: all ages

You can't buy love—but you can rent friendship

A chance encounter with Sota, a charming rental friend, offers columnist Nasa a saucy new article series—testing the romantic boundaries of platonic friendship between a man and a woman. When Nasa's roommate also finds an easy connection with Sota through their shared passion for music, a messy triangle of blurred friendship and love emerges. Nasa begins to question how much of Sota's hired friendship is authentic and how much is the performance of a professional. Most importantly, who in the friendship group will be the first to 'cross the line'?

© 2018 MAYU AKIYAMA / MOOSIC LAB



Little Nights, Little Love アイネクライネナハトムジーク

Director: Rikiya Imaizumi
2019 • 119mins

Unclassified: 15+

Love is the one thing we all have in common, and it ties us together

Sato is hopelessly single, waiting for that perfect meet-cute moment with the girl of his dreams. Minako is seeing a client's brother, but they only talk on the phone, never meeting in person—until she discovers that he'll ask her to be his official girlfriend if the world boxing contender from Japan wins the championship. The problem is, Minako doesn't even like boxing! Based on the collected short stories of Kotaro Isaka, *Little Nights, Little Love* follows Sato, Minako and those around them over a 10 year period, showing how love, hope and friendship bring together the most unlikely of people.

© 2019 "LITTLE NIGHTS, LITTLE LOVE" FILM PARTNERS



Just Only Love 愛がなんだ

Director: Rikiya Imaizumi
2018 • 123mins

Unclassified: all ages

The trials and tribulations of being young and hopelessly in love

Love has never been simple and for Teruko Yamada, a 20-something office worker. Finding a potential partner is always easy, but getting them to reciprocate is proving a challenge. With everyone around her seemingly happily in love, Teruko is stuck in a one-sided love with the aloof, shaggy haired and unremarkable magazine designer Mamoru Tanaka. As the saying goes, 'the fruits of your labour will be rewarded' and eventually Teruko and Mamoru form an ambiguous maybe-relationship. With her work and personal life spiralling out of control, Teruko continues to fall further into the depths of love with almost nothing left to lose.

© 2019 'Just Only Love' Film Partners



Dance With Me ダンスウィズミー

Director: Shinobu Yaguchi
2019 • 103mins

Unclassified: all ages

Is it weird if you're the only one dancing?

Musical meets road trip in this lighthearted comedy with an outstanding performance by Ayaka Miyoshi! Shizuka is climbing the corporate ladder while trying to keep her crush on her charming boss a secret. Envious of her lucky-in-love friends, she decides to visit a fortune teller to see if she'll ever get married. On the way, she meets with a girl going to see a hypnotist (Akira Takarada), desperate to cure her shyness so she can star in a musical. When they arrive, the hypnotist confuses the two, cursing Shizuka to dance whenever she hears music! Shizuka, desperate to break the curse, embarks on a hunt for the shifty hypnotist, dancing the whole way.

© 2019 "DANCE WITH ME" FILM PARTNERS



Little Love Song 小さな恋のうた

Director: Kojiro Hashimoto
2019 • 123mins

Unclassified: 15+

There's no such thing as a *little* love song

An Okinawan high school band is on the precipice of getting their big break in Tokyo when one of the members is tragically killed in a hit-and-run accident. The band dissolves, political tensions on the island rise, and grief-stricken loved ones are left behind, until one day Mai Fukumura uncovers a never-before-heard song by the deceased band member. The band gets back together to play it, allowing his spirit to live on through the melody. Inspired by the songs of MONGOL800, this coming of age film will make you believe in the power of music.

© 2019 LITTLE LOVE SONG Film Partners



Kakegurui

映画 賭ケグルイ

Director: Tsutomu Hanabusa
2019 • 119mins

Unclassified: 15+

Winning is everything—nothing else matters!

Forget grades at Hyakkaou Private Academy, an elite school for the rich. Here, gambling is the only way to succeed. Blackjack, poker, rock-paper-scissors—as long as you bet, it doesn't matter! This year, the ultimate prize is up for grabs: a 'blank future' that allows the winner to do whatever they want after graduation, rather than have their life's path decided for them. Everyone knows the student council president will win—that is, until transfer student Yumeko Jabami enters the equation. She seems to love nothing more than taking risks, but can she topple the president?



JK Rock

JK☆ROCK

Director: Shunji Muguruma
2019 • 92mins

Unclassified: all aages

Has-been heart-throbs and rookie girl rockers

On the cusp of fame, the rock band the JoKers mysteriously splits up. One year later, vocalist Jyo Koduki has debuted in the U.S., while guitarist Jyo Kaieda is a miserable, entitled, handsome university student with only a purple sports car to show for his former glory days. When begged by an eccentric rock café owner to mentor the new all-girl high-schooler rock band Drop Doll, Jyo Kaieda begrudgingly starts training the rookie rockers. As they master their sound, the girls start to love playing together—and their passion for rock is simply infectious!



The Legend of the Stardust Brothers

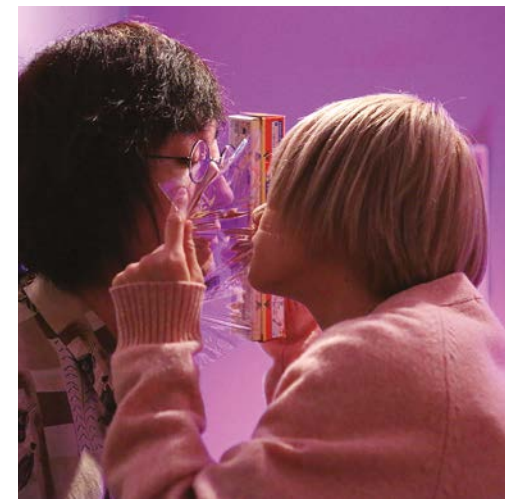
星くず兄弟の伝説

Director: Macoto Tezka
Original 1985 / Remastered
Director's Cut 2018 • 100mins

Unclassified: 15+

80s boy band madness—the cult classic you didn't know you wanted

The corporate pop music machine sucks in wide-eyed rival wannabes Kan and Shingo and spits out the bedazzled and fabulous Stardust Brothers. Propelled to instant fame, their catchy lyrics 'once you reach No. 1, you can only go down' soon take on a new meaning. At only 23, director Macoto Tezka (son of manga and anime legend Osamu Tezuka) crafted the film around an existing soundtrack. Resurrected from obscurity, this 8mm cult classic is an invitation to embrace the cringe and creativity, marvel at low budget 80s special effects and costuming, and tally the endless celebrity cameos.



NOISE

ノイズ

Director: Yusaku Matsumoto
2018 • 115mins

Unclassified: 15+

Akihabara's dark side shown in a new light

A playground for anime, gaming and idol subcultures, Akihabara is also home to a shady underbelly riddled with exploitation and isolation out of tourists' view. Eight years after the Akihabara massacre, the ripple effects of trauma manifest in the lives of three young adults: Misa, (whose mother was killed in the incident) an underground idol and JK masseuse; Rie, who secretly dropped out of school to hang with the wrong crowd; and Ken, a young man dragged into debt by his own mother, with a festering violent streak waiting to be unleashed.



Siblings of the Cape

岬の兄妹

Director: Shinzo Katayama
2018 • 89mins

Unclassified 18+ (Contains strong themes, moderate violence, high impact sex scenes and nudity)

A visually-stunning depiction of desperation, family values, and reclaiming agency

Yoshio lives with his sister Mariko, who has a disability that requires his constant care. They already struggle to make ends meet, and when Yoshio loses his job due to his own disability, and then finds out that Mariko has been having sex, he succumbs to forcing Mariko into illegal sex work. But Mariko proves to be defiant against her brother's controlling behaviour and enjoys these frequent encounters with the 'local clientele'. Whilst Mariko explores her sexual freedom as a sex worker, Yoshio's questionable and exploitative attempts to make money begin to fall apart.

© SHINZO KATAYAMA

Special Guest Session

Sydney 17 Nov
Film screening followed by Q&A with guest



Shinzo Katayama
(Director)

Before making his directorial debut, Shinzo Katayama served as DA for filmmakers such as Joon-ho Bong and Nobuhiro Yamashita. *Siblings of the Cape* is a project that has been ten years in the making, and reflects Katayama's approach to film. With every element of the script written with each season, Katayama kept the cast and crew on their toes, not even knowing himself where the film would lead.



What is the
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The Marugoto Japanese Online Course is a course for learning Japanese language skills comprehensively.

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JFF Classics

Grief and Vengeance: Otherworldly Tales

Free admission. All films are in 35mm, in Japanese with English subtitles.
Sydney 2-23 Oct (Art Gallery of NSW). Melbourne 25 & 26 Nov (The Astor Theatre).
 See japanesefilmfestival.net for the full program, schedule and booking details.
 Sydney will also show *The Adventures of Tobisuke*.



The Bride from Hades 牡丹燈籠

Dir: Satsuo Yamamoto
1968 • 89mins • Colour

Unclassified: 15+

One night during the Obon lantern festival, Shinzaburo meets a mysterious, beautiful woman named Otsuyu. He falls desperately in love with the alluring woman, and they decide to spend the remaining nights of Obon together. However, there are rumours spreading throughout town that a courtesan named Otsuyu recently committed suicide over accepting an unwanted man as a patron.



Jigoku (Hell) 地獄

Dir: Nobuo Nakagawa
1960 • 101mins • Colour

Unclassified: 15+

A young theology student finds himself in strife after a hit and run incident leaves him guilt-ridden and stuck with a mysterious counterpart who won't stop tormenting him. In the experimental, shocking and gory final scenes of the film, Director Nobuo Nakagawa transports viewers to the underworld, where the film's characters undergo the wrath of hell for their sins in a visual sequence that is equally breathtaking and disturbing.



Kwaidan 怪談

Dir: Masaki Kobayashi
1964 • 182mins • Colour

Unclassified: 15+

Based on stories from Lafcadio Hearn's collections of Japanese folk tales, *Kwaidan* is an anthology of four separate, chilling tragedies of the supernatural and ghostly worlds. From a man on the brink of death who is saved by a snow goddess to an impoverished samurai who leaves his wife to marry a woman from a wealthier family, each unsettling story is depicted with colourful, surrealist imagery.



The Living Koheiji 怪異談 生きてゐる小平次

Dir: Nobuo Nakagawa
1982 • 78mins • Colour

Unclassified: 15+

Set during the Edo period, *The Living Koheiji* is director Nobuo Nakagawa's final film. In this theatrical ghost story, unpopular kabuki actor Kohata Koheiji is desperately in love with his best friend's wife. After a jealous feud leads to Koheiji's unexpected death, he hauntingly reappears to his best friend Nako Takuro, whose grief and guilt leave him adrift in a world between dreams and reality—testing the strength of his wife's love.



The Ghost Story of Yotsuya 東海道四谷怪談

Dir: Nobuo Nakagawa
1959 • 76mins • Colour

Unclassified: 15+

This adaptation of the 19th century kabuki masterpiece by Nanboku Tsuruya is a tale of a greedy ronin samurai, Iemon Tamiya, who will stop at nothing to get what he wants—especially if it involves killing. While murder may serve him well in the short term, he must eventually pay the price when his disfigured wife comes back to haunt him.



Black Cat Mansion 亡霊怪猫屋敷

Dir: Nobuo Nakagawa
1958 • 69mins • Part colour

Unclassified: 15+

Dr Kuzumi and his wife Yoriko relocate to the countryside for a healthier environment to help cure Yoriko's illness. Not long after moving into the old mansion, Yoriko has uneasy feelings about her new abode which are soon confirmed by frightening apparitions of a haggard old woman. As the visitations become more threatening, the couple learn about the mansion's violent history and a curse that was placed on Yoriko's ancestor.

Venues and Ticketing

Festival Dates and Venues

Sydney	Melbourne
14-24 November	21 November-01 December
<p>Event Cinemas George Street 505-525 George St Sydney NSW</p> <p>Box office open 10am-9:30pm (02) 9273 7300</p> <p>The Art Gallery of NSW Art Gallery Rd, Sydney NSW</p> <p>Open during JFF one hour before the first film screening of each day.</p>	<p>The Capitol Theatre 113 Swanston St, Melbourne VIC</p> <p>Open during JFF one hour before the first film screening of each day.</p> <p>Treasury Theatre Lower Plaza, 1 Macarthur St, Melbourne VIC</p> <p>Open during JFF 30 minutes before the first film screening of each day.</p>
	<p>The Astor Theatre Corner Chapel St & Dandenong Rd, St Kilda VIC</p> <p>Open during JFF one hour before the first film screening of each day. (03) 9510 1414</p>

Ticket Prices

Adult	\$18.50
Concession	\$16.50
5 Film Pass*	\$75
Group Bookings (10+)*	\$14

5 Film Pass

Save money when you book 5 tickets in one transaction. Share with friends or mix and match film sessions for yourself.*

*Excludes Opening Film and Special Events. Available only via box office and all tickets must be purchased in one transaction.

Buy your tickets

Online
japanesefilmfestival.net
(Booking fees apply)

Box Office
Please call the box office first
to confirm if tickets are on sale

The JFF also tours:
Canberra 16-20 October
Brisbane 23-27 October
Perth 30 October-03 November

JFF Classics Schedule

Art Gallery of NSW Sydney 02-23 October

Date	Time	English Title	Japanese Title	Genre
02 Oct • Wed	14:00	The Bride From Hades	牡丹燈籠	CLASSIC
02 Oct • Wed	19:15	Jigoku (Hell)	地獄	CLASSIC
05 Oct • Sat	14:00	The Bride From Hades	牡丹燈籠	CLASSIC
06 Oct • Sun	13:30	Kwaidan	怪談	CLASSIC
09 Oct • Wed	14:00	Jigoku (Hell)	地獄	CLASSIC
09 Oct • Wed	19:15	The Living Koheiji	怪異談 生きてゐる小平次	CLASSIC
12 Oct • Sat	14:00	The Living Koheiji	怪異談 生きてゐる小平次	CLASSIC
13 Oct • Sun	14:00	The Adventures of Tobisuke	エノケンのとび冒険旅行	CLASSIC
16 Oct • Wed	14:00	The Adventures of Tobisuke	エノケンのとび冒険旅行	CLASSIC
16 Oct • Wed	19:15	Black Cat Mansion	亡霊怪猫屋敷	CLASSIC
19 Oct • Sat	14:00	Black Cat Mansion	亡霊怪猫屋敷	CLASSIC
20 Oct • Sun	14:00	The Ghost Story of Yotsuya	東海道四谷怪談	CLASSIC
23 Oct • Wed	14:00	Kwaidan	怪談	CLASSIC
23 Oct • Wed	19:15	The Ghost Story of Yotsuya	東海道四谷怪談	CLASSIC

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(Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind) *****
(Spirited Away) *****

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SYDNEY 16 NOV
Sydney State Theatre
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Event Cinemas George Street

Sydney 14-24 November

Date	Time	English Title	Japanese Title	Genre
14 Nov • Thu	19:15	 Masquerade Hotel	マスカレード・ホテル	MYSTERY
15 Nov • Fri	18:00	SAINT☆YOUNG MEN 2nd Century	聖☆おにいさん 第Ⅱ紀	COMEDY
15 Nov • Fri	18:30	Just Only Love	愛がなんだ	ROMANCE
15 Nov • Fri	21:00	Ride Your Wave	きみと、波にのれたら	ANIME
16 Nov • Sat	10:30	A Banana? At This Time of Night?	こんな夜更けにバナナかよ 愛しき実話	DRAMA
16 Nov • Sat	13:00	JK Rock	JK☆ROCK	YOUTH
16 Nov • Sat	13:00	Dance With Me	ダンスウィズミー	MUSICAL
16 Nov • Sat	15:25	Kakegurui	映画 賭ケグルイ	YOUTH
16 Nov • Sat	18:00	Rent a Friend	月極オトコトモダチ	ROMANCE
16 Nov • Sat	18:30	★ Blue Hour	ブルーアワーにぶっ飛ばす	DRAMA
16 Nov • Sat	20:00	And Your Bird Can Sing	きみの鳥はうたえる	SLICE OF LIFE
16 Nov • Sat	20:30	Kingdom	キングダム	PERIOD DRAMA
16 Nov • Sat	20:45	Melancholic	メランコリック	CRIME & SUSPENSE
17 Nov • Sun	11:00	Riding Uphill	ガチ星	DRAMA
17 Nov • Sun	12:30	Just Only Love	愛がなんだ	ROMANCE
17 Nov • Sun	13:15	Born Bone Born	洗骨	DRAMA
17 Nov • Sun	15:30	My Dad is a Heel Wrestler	パパはわるものチャンピオン	COMEDY
17 Nov • Sun	16:00	Fly Me to the Saitama	翔んで埼玉	COMEDY
17 Nov • Sun	17:30	★ Siblings of the Cape	岬の兄妹	INDIE
17 Nov • Sun	18:40	Masquerade Hotel	マスカレード・ホテル	MYSTERY
17 Nov • Sun	18:45	Brave Father Online - our story of FFXIV	劇場版 ファイナルファンタジーXIV 光のお父さん	DRAMA

20 Nov • Wed	18:00	A Banana? At This Time of Night?	こんな夜更けにバナナかよ 愛しき実話	DRAMA
20 Nov • Wed	20:30	Melancholic	メランコリック	CRIME & SUSPENSE
20 Nov • Wed	20:45	Samurai Shifters	引っ越し大名!	PERIOD DRAMA
21 Nov • Thu	18:00	Little Love Song	小さな恋のうた	YOUTH
21 Nov • Thu	18:30	Tower of the Sun	太陽の塔	DOCUMENTARY
21 Nov • Thu	20:30	Sea of Revival	皿待ち	CRIME & SUSPENSE
21 Nov • Thu	20:45	Moonless Dawn	暁闇	SLICE OF LIFE
22 Nov • Fri	18:00	Little Nights, Little Love	アイネクライネナハトムジーク	ROMANCE
22 Nov • Fri	18:15	Dance With Me	ダンスウィズミー	MUSICAL
22 Nov • Fri	20:30	Rent a Friend	月極オトコトモダチ	ROMANCE
22 Nov • Fri	20:30	The Legend of the Stardust Brothers	星くず兄弟の伝説	CULT
22 Nov • Fri	20:45	Kingdom	キングダム	PERIOD DRAMA
23 Nov • Sat	11:00	My Dad is a Heel Wrestler	パパはわるものチャンピオン	COMEDY
23 Nov • Sat	13:15	SAINT☆YOUNG MEN 2nd Century	聖☆おにいさん 第Ⅱ紀	COMEDY
23 Nov • Sat	13:30	Detective Conan: The Fist of Blue Sapphire	名探偵コナン 紺青の拳 (フィスト)	ANIME
23 Nov • Sat	15:45	And Your Bird Can Sing	きみの鳥はうたえる	SLICE OF LIFE
23 Nov • Sat	18:00	Sea of Revival	皿待ち	CRIME & SUSPENSE
23 Nov • Sat	18:15	Born Bone Born	洗骨	DRAMA
23 Nov • Sat	20:45	Fly Me to the Saitama	翔んで埼玉	COMEDY
23 Nov • Sat	21:00	NOISE	ノイズ	INDIE
24 Nov • Sun	10:30	Little Love Song	小さな恋のうた	YOUTH
24 Nov • Sun	11:00	Brave Father Online - our story of FFXIV	劇場版 ファイナルファンタジーXIV 光のお父さん	DRAMA
24 Nov • Sun	13:25	Samurai Shifters	引っ越し大名!	PERIOD DRAMA
24 Nov • Sun	13:40	Ride Your Wave	きみと、波にのれたら	ANIME
24 Nov • Sun	15:30	◆ My Father, the Bride	おいしい家族	DRAMA
24 Nov • Sun	15:45	JK Rock	JK☆ROCK	YOUTH
24 Nov • Sun	18:30	 A Girl Missing	よこがお	CRIME & SUSPENSE

 OPENING / CLOSING  Special Guest  Includes Lucky Door Prize

All films are in Japanese with English subtitles.
Schedules may be subject to change. For the most updated schedule, visit japanesefilmfestival.net

The Capitol Theatre

Melbourne 21 Nov – 01 Dec

Date	Time	English Title	Japanese Title	Genre
21 Nov • Thu	19:00	 Masquerade Hotel	マスカレード・ホテル	MYSTERY
22 Nov • Fri	18:30	SAINT☆YOUNG MEN 2nd Century	聖☆おにいさん 第II紀	COMEDY
22 Nov • Fri	20:15	Ride Your Wave	きみと、波にのれたら	ANIME
23 Nov • Sat	12:00	Little Love Song	小さな恋のうた	YOUTH
23 Nov • Sat	15:00	JK Rock	JK☆ROCK	YOUTH
23 Nov • Sat	18:00	Kingdom	キングダム	PERIOD DRAMA
23 Nov • Sat	20:45	Sea of Revival	凧待ち	CRIME & SUSPENSE
24 Nov • Sun	11:30	My Dad is a Heel Wrestler	パパはわるものチャンピオン	COMEDY
24 Nov • Sun	14:00	Blue Hour	ブルーアワーにぶっ飛ばす	DRAMA
24 Nov • Sun	16:15	Moonless Dawn	暁闇	SLICE OF LIFE
24 Nov • Sun	18:00	★ Fly Me to the Saitama	翔んで埼玉	COMEDY
28 Nov • Thu	17:30	And Your Bird Can Sing	きみの鳥はうたえる	SLICE OF LIFE
28 Nov • Thu	19:50	Tower of the Sun	太陽の塔	DOCUMENTARY
29 Nov • Fri	17:30	A Banana? At This Time of Night?	こんな夜更けにバナナかよ 愛しき実話	DRAMA
29 Nov • Fri	20:00	Siblings of the Cape	岬の兄妹	INDIE
30 Nov • Sat	11:30	Born Bone Born	洗骨	DRAMA
30 Nov • Sat	14:30	Samurai Shifters	引越し大名!	PERIOD DRAMA
30 Nov • Sat	17:30	Melancholic	メランコリック	CRIME & SUSPENSE
30 Nov • Sat	20:00	NOISE	ノイズ	INDIE
01 Dec • Sun	11:00	Detective Conan: The Fist of Blue Sapphire	名探偵コナン 紺青の拳 (フィスト)	ANIME
01 Dec • Sun	13:30	Rent a Friend	月極オトコトモダチ	ROMANCE
01 Dec • Sun	15:30	The Legend of the Stardust Brothers	星くず兄弟の伝説	CULT
01 Dec • Sun	18:00	 A Girl Missing	よこがお	CRIME & SUSPENSE

JFF Classics Schedule

The Astor Theatre




Melbourne 25–26 November

Date	Time	English Title	Japanese Title	Genre
25 Nov • Mon	18:00	The Ghost Story of Yotsuya	東海道四谷怪談	CLASSIC
25 Nov • Mon	20:00	The Bride from Hades	牡丹燈籠	CLASSIC
26 Nov • Tue	12:30	Kwaidan	怪談	CLASSIC
26 Nov • Tue	16:30	Black Cat Mansion	亡霊怪猫屋敷	CLASSIC

Treasury Theatre

Melbourne 22 Nov – 01 Dec

Date	Time	English Title	Japanese Title	Genre
22 Nov • Fri	18:30	Rent a Friend	月極オトコトモダチ	ROMANCE
22 Nov • Fri	20:30	Just Only Love	愛がなんだ	ROMANCE
23 Nov • Sat	14:20	A Banana? At This Time of Night?	こんな夜更けにバナナかよ 愛しき実話	DRAMA
23 Nov • Sat	17:30	And Your Bird Can Sing	きみの鳥はうたえる	SLICE OF LIFE
23 Nov • Sat	20:00	A Girl Missing	よこがお	CRIME & SUSPENSE
24 Nov • Sun	14:15	Riding Uphill	ガチ星	DRAMA
24 Nov • Sun	17:30	Born Bone Born	洗骨	DRAMA
24 Nov • Sun	20:00	Brave Father Online – our story of FFXIV	劇場版 ファイナルファンタジーXIV 光のお父さん	DRAMA
26 Nov • Tue	17:15	Little Love Song	小さな恋のうた	YOUTH
26 Nov • Tue	20:00	The Legend of the Stardust Brothers	星くず兄弟の伝説	CULT
27 Nov • Wed	17:30	Dance With Me	ダンスウィズミー	MUSICAL
27 Nov • Wed	19:45	Sea of Revival	凧待ち	CRIME & SUSPENSE
28 Nov • Thu	17:15	Samurai Shifters	引越し大名!	PERIOD DRAMA
28 Nov • Thu	20:00	Masquerade Hotel	マスカレード・ホテル	MYSTERY
29 Nov • Fri	17:15	Little Nights, Little Love	アイネクライネナハトムジーク	ROMANCE
29 Nov • Fri	20:00	Kingdom	キングダム	PERIOD DRAMA
30 Nov • Sat	14:00	Ride Your Wave	きみと、波にのれたら	ANIME
30 Nov • Sat	17:30	My Dad is a Heel Wrestler	パパはわるものチャンピオン	COMEDY
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01 Dec • Sun	14:00	◆ My Father, the Bride	おいしい家族	DRAMA
01 Dec • Sun	17:00	Kakegurui	映画 賭ケグルイ	YOUTH
01 Dec • Sun	19:30	Dance With Me	ダンスウィズミー	MUSICAL

 OPENING / CLOSING  Special Guest  Includes Lucky Door Prize

All films are in Japanese with English subtitles.
Schedules may be subject to change. For the most updated schedule, visit japanesefilmfestival.net



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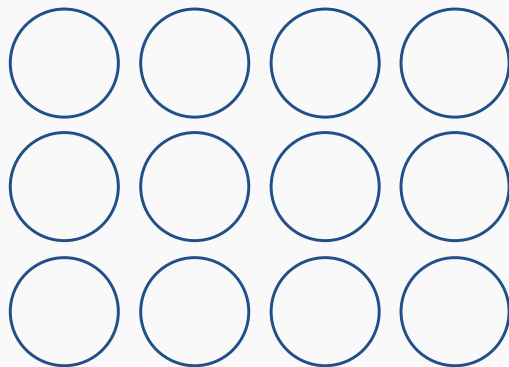


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Prizes

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*Only one ticket will be honoured per booklet for each screening session. Stamps must be collected on the day of the screening.

**Prizes are subject to availability.