

### ABOUT THE FESTIVAL

The Japanese Film Festival (JFF), widely known and appreciated in the Philippines as EIGASAI, is presented and run by the Japan Foundation, Manila and held annually from July, in celebration of the Philippine-Japan Friendship Month. Launched in 1997, JFF| EIGASAI has grown to one of the largest and popular film festivals attracting over 25,000 audiences every year, showcasing a vast variety of cinematic delights from drama, anime, mystery to recently released films. EIGASAI also brings guests from Japan for special talks and discussions.

For more details, please visit our website at [www.jfmo.org.ph](http://www.jfmo.org.ph) and Facebook at [jfmanila](https://www.facebook.com/jfmanila).

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JAPANESE  
FILM  
FESTIVAL

# EIGASAI

日本映画祭



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The information stated here is subject to change

July 3  
- August 25  
**2019**



## SAMURAI MARATHON サムライマラソン

OPENING FILM 2019 | 104 min | Action/Adventure, Drama, Historical | Color



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Directed by:  
BERNARD Rose

Cast:  
SATOHI Takeru, KOMATSU Nana,  
MORIYAMA Mirai

Historical drama directed by Bernard Rose of *Immortal Beloved* and produced by Jeremy Thomas of *The Last Emperor*. Based on Dobashi Akihiro's novel *Bakumatsu Marathon Samurai* about the Ansei Tooashi, known as Japan's first marathon.

Annaka feudal lord Itakura Katsukira (Hasegawa Hiroki) holds a run across mountain roads to get his samurai warriors into shape. However, the Bakufu central government views it as a rebellion and dispatches assassins to the castle. Meanwhile, Annaka domain accountant Karasawa Jinnai (Satoh Takeru) senses that something is amiss with the Bakufu.

## THE HOUSE WHERE THE MERMAID SLEEPS 人魚の眠る家

CLOSING FILM 2018 | 120min | Drama, Mystery | Color



©2018 "The House Where the Mermaid Sleeps" Film Partners

Directed by:  
TSUTSUMI Yukihiro

Cast:  
SHINOHARA Ryoko,  
NISHIJIMA Hidetoshi

In this mystery based on the novel by *Into the White Night* and *Suspect X* author, Higashino Keigo, a couple is confronted by a tragedy involving their beloved child and ultimately must make a difficult choice. Tsutsumi Yukihiro of *Sanada 10 Braves* and the *TRICK* series directs.

Kazumasa (Nishijima Hidetoshi) and Kaoruko (Shinohara Ryoko) are in a troubled marriage and have agreed to divorce once their daughter's elementary school entrance exams are over. However, just before they are to rehearse for the family oral interview, they are informed of their daughter drowning in a pool. Rushing to the hospital, Kazumasa and Kaoruko are met with a heartbreaking situation.

## AFTER THE STORM 海よりもまだ深く

DIRECTOR KORE-EDA FILM 2016 | 117 min | Color



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Directed by:  
KORE-EDA Hirokazu

Cast:  
ABE Hiroshi, MAKI Yoko,  
KIKI Kilin

Directed by Kore-eda Hirokazu, internationally renowned for films including *Our Little Sister*, this film was selected in the Un Certain Regard section at the 69th Cannes Film Festival. Dwelling on his past glory as a prize-winning author, Ryota (Abe Hiroshi) wastes the money he makes as a private detective on gambling and can barely pay child support. After the death of his father, his aging mother (Kiki Kilin) and beautiful ex-wife (Maki Yoko) seem to be moving on with their lives. Renewing contact with his initially distrusting family, Ryota struggles to take back control of his existence and to find a lasting place in the life of his young son (Yoshizawa Taiyo) - until a stormy summer night offers them a chance to truly bond again.

**2016 FILM FESTIVALS, AWARDS**  
Cannes Film Festival, Un Certain Regard  
San Sebastian International Film Festival, Pearls  
Taipei Film Festival, Visions

## YAKINIKU DRAGON 焼肉ドラゴン

2018 | 126 min | Drama | Color



©2018 "YAKINIKU DRAGON" Film Partners

Directed by:  
CHONG Wishing

Cast:  
MAKI Yoko, INOUE Mao,  
OIZUMI Yo

Film adaptation of the play that has been honored with numerous theater awards. Warm portrayal of the joys and sorrows of a Korean family living in Japan, set in the Kansai region when Japan's economy was booming. Playwright Chong Wishing wrote the screenplay and makes his directorial debut with this film. In 1970, the Kansai region is jubilant over the World Expo in Osaka. Ethnic Korean Yong-gil (Kim Sang-ho) runs a yakiniku barbecue restaurant in a squatter settlement on government property. With a wife, three daughters and one son, he lives with bravado but is gradually bombarded by the tides of the times.

**2018 FILM FESTIVALS, AWARD**  
Jeonju International Film Festival, Opening Film

## LYING TO MOM 鈴木家の嘘

2018 | 133 min | Color



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Directed by:  
NOJIRI Katsumi

Cast:  
KISHIBE Ittoku, HARA Hideko,  
KIRYU Mai, KASE Ryo,  
KISHIMOTO Kayoko, OMORI Nao

A drama mixed with humor depicting a family attempting to recover from sorrow. Nojiri Katsumi, who worked as an assistant director on *The Great Passage* and *The Lies She Loved* among others makes his directorial debut from his own original script.

Without warning the Suzuki family's eldest son Koichi (Kase Ryo) one day takes his own life. The mother, Yuko (Hara Hideko), is so shocked she loses her memory. So for her sake, Yuko's husband Sachio (Kishibe Ittoku) and daughter Fumi (Kiryu Mai) decide to tell a once-in-a-lifetime lie.

**2018 FILM FESTIVALS, AWARDS**  
Tokyo International Film Festival, Japanese Cinema Splash,  
Best Picture Award, Gemstone Award (Kiryu Mai)

## THE TEARS OF MALUMPATI セカイイチオイシイ水 マロンパティの涙

2019 | 91min | Drama | Color



©2019 "The Tears of Malumpati" Film Partners

Directed by:  
MEGURO Keita

Cast:  
TSUJI Miyu, AKAI Hidekazu,  
ARAI Yusuke, HANAFUSA Rie,  
Bong CABRERA, Sue PRADO,  
Miel ESPINOZA

A heartwarming drama based on a true story of the Pandan Water Pipeline Project where Japanese and Filipinos work together while overcoming various hardships.

Every year more than 1 million children die because they do not have access to clean drinking water. In Pandan, a rural village on the Panay Island, many people were suffering from kidney disease because they did not have access to clean drinking water. The project was started with the aim to solve this problem by building a 10 kilometer pipeline. Asuka (Tsuji Miyu), a college student, joins the project without giving it much thought when asked by a friend. After she arrives she quickly realizes things are worse than she expected. The labor is intense because they have no funds and the local people are hostile toward the Japanese. But amid the hardship, a five year old girl called Amy (Miel Espinoza) welcomes her kindly. The two become good friends through a picture book and Origami.



## THE 8-YEAR ENGAGEMENT 8年越しの花嫁 奇跡の実話

2017 | 119 min | Drama, Romance | Color



©2017 "The 8-Year Engagement" Film Partners

Directed by:  
ZEZE Takahisa

Cast:  
SATOH Takeru, TSUCHIYA Tao

Zeze Takahisa of *Six Four* directs this film adaptation of the non-fiction book *8 nen goshi hanayome Kimi no me ga samet-anara*. Satoh Takeru of the *Rurouni Kenshin* series and Tsuchiya Tao of *Orange* star as the couple struggling with chronic illness. Hisashi (Satoh) and Mai (Tsuchiya) are engaged to be married and are completely happy, but Mai falls ill three months before their wedding. She has a cardiac arrest and falls into a coma, and Hisashi prays for her recovery. Mai gradually regains consciousness, but then another challenge awaits her.

## THE CRIMES THAT BIND 祈りの幕が下りる時

2018 | 119 min | Mystery | Color



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Directed by:  
FUKUZAWA Katsuo

Cast:  
ABE Hiroshi, MATSUSHIMA Nanako,  
MIZOBATA Junpei

Series finale for the feature film *The Wings of Kirin* and TV drama *Shinzanmono*. Based on the novel by Higashino Keigo and directed by Fukuzawa Katsuo, who helmed the TV dramas *Hanzawa Naoki* and *Shitamachi Rocket*. A strangled female corpse is discovered in an apartment, and the apartment's resident has vanished. The investigation hits rough waters, but soon they learn about female theater director Asai (Matsushima Nanako). Detective Matsumiya (Mizobata Junpei) forges ahead with the investigation while questioning whether a charred corpse discovered in the vicinity is related to the case, but then Kaga (Abe Hiroshi) learns of a fact that leaves him stunned.

## KAKEGURUI 賭ケグルイ

2019 | 119 min | Drama | Color



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"KAKEGURUI MOVIE" Project

Directed by:  
HANABUSA Tsutomu

Cast:  
HAMABE Minami, IKEDA Elaiza,  
TAKASUGI Mahiro

Hyakkaou Private Academy is a common elite school for the rich-except that it has a peculiar tradition: gambling skill is all it takes under the rigorous hierarchy and the student council oversees all gambling activities. A transfer student Yumeko Jabami (Hamabe Minami), seemingly graceful but actually a "compulsive gambler" who finds pleasure in taking risks, gets entangled in the most intense gambling battles to win the position of student rep that whole school is vying for.

## LAUGHING UNDER THE CLOUDS 曇天に笑う

2018 | 94 min | Action/Adventure, Drama | Color



©2018 Laughing Under the Clouds Film Partners

Directed by:  
MOTOHIRO Katsuyuki

Cast:  
FUKUSHI Sota, NAKAYAMA Yuma,  
FURUKAWA Yuki, KIRIYAMA Ren

Live action adaptation based on Karakarakemuri's popular comic, which has also been adapted as an animated feature film and TV anime series. Directed by Motohiro Katsuyuki of *When the Curtain Rises* and *Ajin*. Lead role played by Fukushi Sota of *Strobe Edge* and *My Tomorrow, Your Yesterday*.

Otsu in Shiga Prefecture after the Meiji Restoration. This is the year for the resurrection of the Orochi snake demon that wreaks havoc on mankind, which happens once every 300 years. The three Kumo brothers consist of the oldest son Kumo Tenka (Fukushi), who is in charge of the Kumo Shrine, followed by Soramaru (Nakayama Yuma) and Chutarō (Wakayama Kirato), and they rise up to block the snake demon.

## LU OVER THE WALL 夜明け告げるルーのうた

2017 | 112 min | Adventure, Drama, SciFi/Fantasy, Children/Family, Animation | Color



©2017 Lu Film partners

Directed by:  
YUASA Masaaki

Cast:  
TANI Kanon, SHIMODA Shouta,  
SHINOHARA Shinichi

The first, completely original theatrical film by director Yuasa Masaaki. This tale of the encounter and separation of a young boy and a young mermaid is composed of careful depictions of life and delicate emotional portrayals rendered through animation bursting with briskness and energy.

Middle school student Kai (voice: Shimoda Shouta) ends up in a declining fishing town as a result of his parents' divorce. Depressed, he is one day invited by a classmate to join their band. Kai reluctantly goes to the practice site on Mermaid Island where he meets Lu (voice: Tani Kanon), a young mermaid.

### 2017-2018 FILM FESTIVALS, AWARDS

2017 Anecy International Animation Film Festival, Feature Film Competition, Cristal for a Feature Film  
2017 Fantasia International Film Festival, Audience Award (Silver)  
2018 Sundance Film Festival

## MIRAI 未来のミライ

2018 | 98 min | Children/Family, Animation | Color



©2018 STUDIO CHIZU

Directed by:  
HOSODA Mamoru

Cast:  
KAMISHIRAIHI Moka,  
KUROKI Haru, HOSHINO Gen

*MIRAI* is an animated feature film produced by Studio Chizu. The film is originally written and directed by Mamoru Hosoda who also directed *The Girl Who Leapt Through Time*, *Summer Wars*, *Wolf Children* and *The Boy and the Beast*.

Kun (voice: Kamishiraishi Moka), a spoiled little boy, has a new baby sister. Ever since her arrival, he misses his parents' affection, and becomes jealous of her. Then one day, he encounters his sister Mirai (voice: Kuroki Haru) as a teenager, who came from the future, and embarks on a journey to know the story of his family and life.

### 2018 FILM FESTIVALS, AWARDS

Cannes Film Festival, Director's Fortnight  
Anecy International Animation Film Festival, Competition  
Sitges International Fantastic Film Festival, Best Animated Feature Film



## MIXED DOUBLES ミックス。

2017 | 119 min | Comedy, Drama | Color



©2017 "MIXED DOUBLES" Film Partners

Directed by:  
ISHIKAWA Junichi

Cast:  
ARAGAKI Yui, Eita

Popular screenwriter, Kosawa Ryota, writes an original story depicting the rejuvenation of love and life through table tennis which is brought to screen by Ishikawa Junichi, director of *April Fools*. Tamako (Aragaki Yui), who was once known as a "table tennis girl wonder", was in a relationship with Ejima (Seto Koji), the ace of her company's table tennis club, until another table tennis player, Airi (Nagano Mei), steals him away. Returning to her hometown, Tamako meets the members of the table tennis club her deceased mother operated, including Hagiwara (Eita), and together they begin practicing hard to defeat the pair of Ejima and Airi.

## ONE CUT OF THE DEAD カメラを止めるな!

2018 | 96 min | Action/Adventure, Comedy, Horror | Color



©Enbu Seminar

Directed by:  
UEDA Shinichiro

Cast:  
HAMATSU Takayuki, HIGURASHI  
Mao, SHUHAMA Harumi,  
NAGAYA Kazuaki

Unique horror film produced by ENBU Seminar Cinema Project became a social phenomenal hit when the theatrical run exploded from two theaters in Tokyo to a wide-scale release in response to the peculiar structure including a 37-minute opening cut, despite using a no-name cast. An indie film crew is shooting a zombie film in an abandoned building deep in the mountains. The uncompromising director (Hamatsu Takayuki) drives the production relentlessly and gets to 42 takes. Then, real zombies appear and attack the crew, but the director is thrilled and keeps the camera rolling.

### 2018 FILM FESTIVALS, AWARDS

Fantasic Fest "AUDIENCE AWARD" Winner,  
"HORROR" FEATURES Best Director  
Fantaspoa, Competition, Best Film  
Far East Film Festival, Competition, Silver Mulberry Audience Award

## PERFECT WORLD パーフェクトワールド 君といる奇跡

2018 | 102 min | Drama, Romance | Color



©2018 "Perfect World" Film Partners ©R/K

Directed by:  
SHIBAYAMA Kenji

Cast:  
IWATA Takanori, SUGISAKI Hana

The live-action adaptation of Aruga Rie's similarly titled manga depicting the romance between a protagonist left handicapped by an accident and the heroine who cares deeply for him. In the director's chair is Shibayama Kenji of *Nagareboshi ga Kienai Uchini*. Architect Ayukawa Itsuki (Iwata Takanori) is left paralyzed from the waist down by a sudden accident and is confined to using a wheelchair. Kawana Tsugumi (Sugisaki Hana) works at an interior design company who one day runs into the senior she had a crush on during high school, Itsuki. Tsugumi is charmed by Itsuki and endeavors to optimistically live life together.

## THE THIRD MURDER 三度目の殺人

DIRECTOR KORE-EDA FILM 2017 | 124 min | Drama | Color



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Directed by:  
KORE-EDA Hirokazu

Cast:  
FUKUYAMA Masaharu,  
YAKUSHO Koji, HIROSE Suzu

*Our Little Sister* director Kore-eda Hirokazu turns his own original script into this psychological thriller. Making his first appearance in a Kore-eda film, Yakusho Koji co-stars with Fukuyama Masaharu, who reteams with Kore-eda for the first in four years since *Like Father, Like Son*.

Misumi (Yakusho), who had been previously convicted of murder, is once again indicted for killing and setting on fire the president of the company which laid him off. His lawyer, Shigemori (Fukuyama), begins investigating Misumi in order to file for life imprisonment instead of the death penalty. However, as his investigation continues, an uncomfortable feeling slowly develops within Shigemori.

### 2017 FILM FESTIVALS, AWARDS

Venice International Film Festival, Competition  
Toronto International Film Festival, Masters  
San Sebastian International Film Festival, Pearls  
Busan International Film Festival,  
Gala Presentation

## SHOPLIFTERS 万引き家族

SPECIAL SCREENING AT UPFI 2018 | 120 min | Drama, Family | Color



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Directed by:  
KORE-EDA Hirokazu

Cast:  
Lily Franky, ANDO Sakura,  
MATSUOKA Mayu, KIKI Kilin

Drama interweaving emotional ties that transcend family, directed by *The Third Murder's* Kore-eda Hirokazu. Won the Palme d'Or in competition at the 71st Cannes International Film Festival.

Day-laborer father Shibata Osamu (Lily Franky) and his son Shota (Jyo Kairi) shoplift with brilliant teamwork. On the way home, they can't bear the sight of a girl shivering in the cold on the first floor of an apartment block and they end up taking her home. The Shibatas have been enjoying themselves, but then a certain incident exposes the family's secrets.

### 2018 FILM FESTIVALS, AWARDS

Cannes Film Festival, Competition, Palme d'Or  
Melbourne International Film Festival  
Telluride Film Festival  
Toronto International Film Festival  
San Sebastian International Film Festival, Donostia Award  
(Kore-eda Hirokazu)  
Filmfest Munchen, CineMasters Competition, ARRI/Osram Award  
International Antalya Film Festival, Best Director Award  
Vancouver International Film Festival, Most Popular  
International Feature  
Slemani International Film Festival, Jury Award Feature Film  
Tokyo International Film Festival, Japan Now