

## Academy Awards® qualifying and one of Asia's largest international short film festivals Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia 2019 starts from Wed, May 29<sup>th</sup> to Sun, June 16<sup>th</sup>

A lineup of about 200 works selected from approximately 10,000 entries from 130 countries and regions around the world to be announced!

**4 Best Short Award winners eligible for nomination at the 2020 Academy Awards®**

**Japan Premiere shorts to be screened including 91<sup>st</sup> Academy Award-winning & nominated works!**

The lineup of works to be screened at the 2019 Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia (SSFF & ASIA), Academy Awards® qualifying and one of Asia's largest international short film festivals has been finalized. For the festival's 21<sup>st</sup> year, about 10,000 entries have been submitted from 130 countries and regions worldwide. Approximately 200 works carefully selected from the entries submitted will be screened in 10 competitions to decide on works qualifying for Awards of Excellence in each category, alongside special programs divided into theme-specific categories such as Diversity, War and the Power to Live, Child Actors and more at Tokyo venues and Online.

The newly established Ladies for Cinema Project focuses on female directors in the world, and the U-25 Project supported by Nihon Safety Co., Ltd. introduces talented young filmmakers in Japan.

Furthermore, award-winning and nominated works from the 91<sup>st</sup> Academy Awards® including "Skin", "Black Sheep", and "Weekends" will be screened at the film festival, one of the only Academy Awards®-accredited film festivals in Japan.

"Roma" director Alfonso Cuarón's earliest short film, which was made when he was 22, is also a must-see.

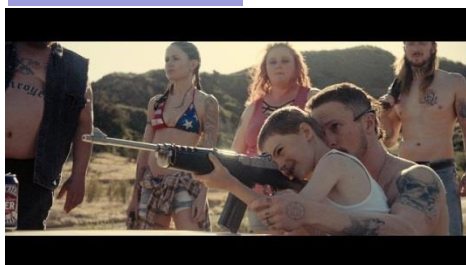
"Jose's Tour de Tokyo" directed by a female Japanese filmmaker, funded by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government, shot in Tokyo and starring Diego Cataño ("Narcos"), will have its world premiere in the "Cinematic Tokyo Program". The trailer is available on YouTube as of today.

Except for some events where an admission fee is charged, all programs are free and shown in both English and Japanese.

Some awards will be announced at the Opening Ceremony on Wed, May 29<sup>th</sup>, and at the Award Ceremony on Sunday, June 16<sup>th</sup> where the Best Short Awards and Grand Prix of the Official Competition will be announced.

### Information on Notable Works

### Japan Premiere screening of 91<sup>st</sup> Academy Award®-winning & nominated works from the Short Film category!



Academy Awards® 2019  
Best Live Action Short Film Winner  
『Skin』



Academy Awards® 2019  
Best Short Documentary nominee  
『Black Sheep』



Academy Awards®2019  
Best Animation Short nominee  
『Weekends』

Sharing TOKYO's appeal with the world!! Tokyo Metropolitan Government and SSFF & ASIA proudly present  
a short film about TOKYO starring Diego Cataño ("Narcos")



### 『Jose's Tour de Tokyo』

Director: Kimie Tanaka Cast: Diego Cataño, Nash Edgerton, Mitsuru Fukikoshi/ Japan / 15:09 / Comedy / 2019

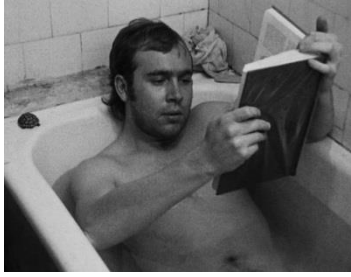
"Jose's Tour de Tokyo" is a story of a young Mexican man, Jose, and his first visit to Tokyo as he works for a social media influencer, Alex.

Running around town in an attempt to fulfill his demands, Jose discovers the charms of the city.

The trailer launches on April 24<sup>th</sup> 2:00pm URL: [https://youtu.be/4eQ\\_C7tjOpA](https://youtu.be/4eQ_C7tjOpA)

New Project  
Starts for 2020

SSFF & ASIA and the Governor of Tokyo starts the "Cinema Sports Project" leading up to 2020. A short film will be produced and screened at SSFF& ASIA 2020. It will showcase the various charms of Tokyo, where international sports festivals will be held. It will also be introduced at film festivals in Japan and abroad, and will be used for promotional purposes.



『**Quartet for the End of Time**』 (International Program)

Director: **Alfonso Cuarón** / Mexico / 23:48 / Drama / 1983

The story of a young man who lives alone in his house, and his indifference and solitude with the world around him.

22 year-old Cuarón made his earliest short film as a student.



『**Hello, Again**』 (Online Screening)

Director: Tom Ruddock / 11:34 / UK / Drama / 2014 Starring: **Naomi Scott**

A drama about Owen. After a sleepless night from his Mother's funeral the day before, he decides to avoid his father and visit her grave.



『**ORDEAL**』 (International Program)

Director: Sacha Barbin / France / 15:00 / Comedy / 2017 Starring: **Gaspard Ulliel**

Karl wants to die but doesn't know how to do that.



『**I Wish For You**』 (Save the Earth! Program supported by RINREI)

Director: Stuart Rideout / UK / 5:05 / Drama / 2016 Starring: **Jeremy Irons**

A letter of hope and love from one generation to another.

Special Programs

**[War and The Power to Live Program supported by Red Cross] \*Some titles are also available Online**

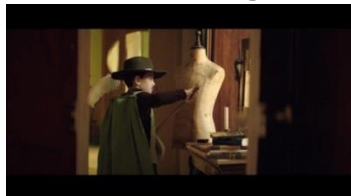


『**Imaginary Bullets**』

Director: Sean Oliver / USA / 12:50 / Fantasy / 2018

Think. Point. Shoot.

**[Child Actors Program supported by THEATRE ACADEMY] \*Only Online**

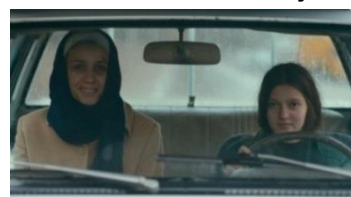


『**The Musketeer**』 )

Director: Vito Palumbo / Italy / 19:00 / Drama / 2018

Based on a true story, Giovanni Falcone was a fighter since he was a child.

**[Ladies for Cinema Project] \*Some titles are also available Online**



『**She**』

Director: More Raça / Kosovo, France / 12:27 / Drama / 2018

To escape an early marriage arranged by her father, Zana has to make a courageous decision.



『**Pick Me Up**』

Director: Loyal Akiki / Lebanon / 14:44 / Drama / 2018

Sally juggles tasks before a shoot with the help of the pickup truck driver.

# Competition & Programs

## Competition Structure:

The programs are centered around competitions in which one winner is chosen for each category. The 3 official categories are “International”, “Japan” and “Asia International”. Each category winner will be eligible for an Academy Awards® nomination in the short film category the following year.

\*Additional to the winners of the Official Competition categories, the winner of the “Non-Fiction Competition supported by Yahoo Japan Corporation”, will also be eligible for nomination in the Academy Awards® short film category.

In addition to the Official Competition and Non-Fiction categories, other categories form the screening offering of SSFF & ASIA 2019. They are “Cinematic Tokyo Competition”, “Save The Earth! Competition supported by RINREI”, “CG Animation Competition”, “Visual Tourism Award”, “Branded Shorts Competition” and the “U-25 Project supported by Nihon Safety”.

## “Special Program”:

Special Programs including “Ladies for Cinema Project”, collaborated programs with Korean and Taiwanese film festivals and “War and the Power to Live Program supported by Red Cross” will be screened at Tokyo venues and online venues.

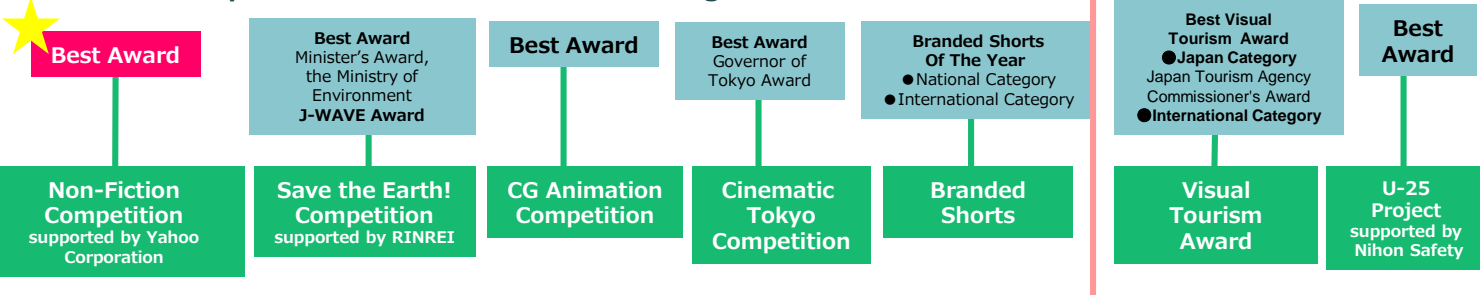
The Best Short winners of each competition and the overall Grand Prix: George Lucas Award, will be announced at the Award Ceremony on Sun, 16<sup>th</sup> June. (Note: some smaller categories do not receive awards.)

The Opening Ceremony marks the start of the Film Festival and will be held on Wed, May 29<sup>th</sup>. Attendance for both the Opening and Awards Ceremonies are by invitation only.

## <Structure of Official Competition>



## <Other Competitions & Public Submission Programs>



## Information

### 【Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia 2019】

- Schedule: Wed, May 29th ~ Sun, June 16th
- Venues: 5 Tokyo venues in total and Online Screening
- ※Schedule is different for each venue and may be subject to change.

Tokyo

- Thu, May 30<sup>th</sup> ~ Sun, June 2<sup>nd</sup> ITSCOM STUDIO & HALL  
Futako Tamagawa Rise
- Thu, June 6<sup>th</sup> ~ Sun, June 9<sup>th</sup> Omotesando Hills Space O
- Tue, June 11<sup>th</sup> Akasaka Intercity Conference the AIR
- Tue, June 11<sup>th</sup> ~ Fri, June 14<sup>th</sup> Andaz Tokyo Andaz Studio
- Thu, June 13<sup>th</sup> ~ Sat. June 15<sup>th</sup> Shidax Culture Hall

Ticket: Free Admission ※except some special programs※

Reservation is available from 2:00pm on Wed, April 24<sup>th</sup> on Peatix.

Same-day tickets are also available at the door. Program schedule subject to change.

■ Official Web: <http://www.shortshorts.org/2019/index-en.php>

■ Organizer: Committee for Short Shorts / Committee for Short Shorts Asia



### 【SSFF & ASIA 2019 Themes】

#### Cinematic Attitude

Having crossed the landmark of 20 successful years of this festival, the theme of our 21st edition marks a new start: Cinematic Attitude. This theme represents the diversity inherent to a film festival and the universal power of cinema and moving images.

In 2019 our country moves into a new era with a change of Emperor. In alignment with our festival continuing to evolve, new components have been added including online streaming, a female filmmakers project and a special project to unearth young talent.

### 【Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia】

This Japan-born, Academy Awards® accredited festival is one of the largest film festivals in Asia. It was founded by actor Tetsuya Bessho, a native of Japan and a SAG member, with the aim of introducing Japanese audiences to short films – a format that many people in Japan were unfamiliar with. The first festival was held in the Harajuku neighborhood of Tokyo in 1999, and screened 6 short films by George Lucas (of Star Wars fame), made during his student days. We have since received a letter of support from the director each year.

In 2001, the festival became officially known as Short Shorts Film Festival (SSFF), and in 2004, was accredited as a qualifying festival for the annual Academy Awards®. This means that the Best Short winners of the Official Competition, as well as the Best Short winner of the Non-Fiction Competition are eligible to be nominated in the short film categories of the Academy Awards® the following year, offering a bridge between Japan and the Oscars.

Furthermore, Short Shorts Film Festival Asia (SSFF ASIA) was established with support from the Tokyo Metropolitan Government in 2004, to introduce new Asian video culture and to nurture young filmmaking talents from the region. To this day, the two festivals are held together as Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia.

### 【Press Inquiry】

Committee for Short Shorts / Committee for Short Shorts Asia

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\*Stills available at

[https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1MIEmMZuqm9H\\_lz20lluw-f8Y\\_nlhHv8](https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1MIEmMZuqm9H_lz20lluw-f8Y_nlhHv8)

(from April 24<sup>th</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>)