

## The Japan Foundation Asia Center & Tokyo International Film Festival to Showcase Cinema with Music of Southeast Asia

The Japan Foundation Asia Center will present CROSSCUT ASIA, the Asian film showcase series during the 31st Tokyo International Film Festival (TIFF), which will be held from Thursday, October 25 through Saturday, November 3. CROSSCUT ASIA series was jointly launched by the Asia Center and the TIFF in 2014. The fifth edition this year will showcase Asian films focusing on a rich variety of musical genres with the series entitled **Soundtrip to Southeast Asia**.



The works include a HIP HOP from the Philippines, popular Isan band music from Thailand that has drawn much attention when the film **Bangkok Nites** was introduced in 2017, and Cambodian pop songs, reflecting historical and present-day Southeast Asia. One eye-opener in the lineup, **Season of the Devil, is the latest film from Filipino auteur Lav Diaz**. His subsequent films received much critical attention and many awards from leading festivals. *From What Is Before* earned him the Golden Leopard at Locarno in 2014, *A Lullaby to the Sorrowful Mystery* took the Silver Bear at Berlin in 2016, and *The Woman Who Left* won the Golden Lion at Venice, also in 2016. Diaz's must-see new **Season of the Devil** features a *cappella* songs that resonate against the black-and-white cinematography.

### <Program Outline>

[Title] The Japan Foundation Asia Center presents CROSSCUT ASIA #05: Soundtrip to Southeast Asia  
[Organized by] The Japan Foundation Asia Center, Tokyo International Film Festival

### <Outline of the 31st Tokyo International Film Festival>

[Dates] Thursday, October 25 – Saturday, November 3, 2018  
[Venues] Roppongi Hills, EX Theater Roppongi, and other venues in Tokyo  
[Official website] <http://www.tiff-jp.net/en/>

### Outline of the past cases

CROSSCUT ASIA series showcase Asian films with a focus on specific countries, directors, or themes. Following the first three editions, which featured works from Thailand, the Philippines, and Indonesia, the fourth edition encompassed a larger area of Southeast Asia, with works from young filmmakers in Southeast Asia recommended by maestros such as Brillante Ma Mendoza (Philippines), Tran Anh Hung (Vietnam) and Apichatpong Weerasethakul (Thailand).

### The Japan Foundation Asia Center <http://jfac.jp/en/>

The Japan Foundation is Japan's principal independent administrative institution dedicated to carrying out cultural exchange initiatives throughout the world. The Asia Center, established in April 2014, is a division within the Foundation that conducts and supports collaborative initiatives with its Asian —primarily ASEAN—counterparts. Through interacting and working together in Japanese-language education, arts and culture, sports, and grassroots and intellectual exchange, the Asia Center aspires to develop the sense of kinship and coexistence as neighboring inhabitants of Asia.

### Tokyo International Film Festival (TIFF) <http://www.tiff-jp.net/en/>

The Tokyo International Film Festival (TIFF) started in 1985 as Japan's first major film festival and the only Japanese film festival accredited by the International Federation of Film Producers Associations (FIAPF). Since then, TIFF has grown to become one of the leading film festivals in Asia. Every year in October, filmmakers and film fans of all ages gather in Tokyo to enjoy excellent films from around the world and TIFF's many colorful events. These include TIFF's affiliated media content market TIFFCOM, seminars for students, professionals, and business people, and symposiums and workshops for networking with the world's film industries, developing international co-productions, and promoting the global film business.

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