

Announcement

“Asia Lounge” Conversation Series Co-presented by The Japan Foundation Asia Center & Tokyo International Film Festival Full Lineup and Program Schedule Announced

From November 1 to 8, the Japan Foundation and Tokyo International Film Festival (TIFF) will present the conversation series “Asia Lounge.” The program will feature daily online conversations between leading film directors from various Asian countries and regions and their Japanese peers, as part of the 33rd TIFF to be held from October 31 to November 9.

We are pleased to announce the full lineup and program schedule. Registration is now open at TIFF’s official website: www.tiff-jp.net

In the “Asia Lounge” series, Asian filmmakers will share the directions they will take as a result of the limits imposed on international travel by the current circumstances, and their thoughts about the drastic effects the coronavirus pandemic has had on film production and theatrical releasing, and interaction and collaboration between filmmakers. We hope you can join us for these exciting and insightful conversations.

Project Title: “Asia Lounge” Conversation Series

Co-presented by The Japan Foundation Asia Center and Tokyo International Film Festival

Organizers: The Japan Foundation Asia Center, Tokyo International Film Festival

Program:

November 1, 18:30-20:00 KIM Bora and HASHIMOTO Ai
November 2, 18:30-20:00 HUANG Xi and KORE-EDA Hirokazu
November 3, 18:30-20:00 Apichatpong WEERASETHAKUL, TOMITA Katsuya, and AIZAWA Toranosuke
November 4, 18:30-20:00 Special session “The Future of Cinema and Streaming”
November 5, 18:30-20:00 Mouly SURYA and YANG Yonghi
November 6, 18:30-20:00 TSAI Ming-Liang and KATAGIRI Hairi
November 7, 13:00-14:30 JIA Zhang-Ke and KUROSAWA Kiyoshi
November 8, 18:30-20:00 Rithy PANH and YOSHIDA Yoshishige (Kijū)

Notes:

- 1) All times are listed in Japan Standard Time (JST).
- 2) Interpretation into Japanese and English will be provided except for the event on November 4, which will be available in Japanese only.
- 3) Please note the event on November 7 will be earlier, from 13:00 to 14:30 (JST).

How to register:

All programs can be watched free of charge by registering for the respective Zoom Video Webinar.

Please visit the following website to register: www.tiff-jp.net

For further details, including profiles of the guest speakers, please visit the Japan Foundation Asia Center website: <https://jfac.jp>

Press inquiries :

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KIM Bora and HASHIMOTO Ai 【November 1, 18:30 -20:00】**KIM Bora Filmmaker**

Born in 1981 in Seoul. After graduating from Dongguk University with a degree in film, Kim Bora left for New York and received an MFA in film directing from Columbia University. Her short film *The Recorder Exam* (2011) won numerous awards including the Best Student Filmmaker Award from The Directors Guild of America. Her debut feature, *House of Hummingbird* (2018), premiered at the Busan International Film Festival, where it won the NETPAC Award and the KNN Audience Award. The film went on to collect more than 50 awards, including the Grand Prix of the Generation 14plus at the Berlinale and a Blue Dragon award —Korea's equivalent of an Oscar.

**HASHIMOTO Ai Actress**

Born in 1996 in Kumamoto. Hashimoto Ai garnered attention for her acting debut in *Confessions* (2010; dir. NAKASHIMA Tetsuya). She starred in *The Kirishima Thing* (2012; dir. YOSHIDA Daihachi) for which she won the Kinema Junpo Award for Best New Actress and the Japan Academy Prize for Newcomer of the Year. She was also awarded an Elan d'or Award for her supporting role in the NHK morning drama series *Ama-chan* (2013). Hashimoto made her first overseas appearance at the Berlinale in 2015 with the two films, *Little Forest* (2014; dir. MORI Junichi) and *Wonderful World End* (2015; dir. MATSUI Daigo). She is active in various fields, ranging from TV drama to anime to theater. In 2021, she will star in the NHK historical drama series *Seiten wo Tsuke*.

● Moderator: **KORE-EDA Hirokazu Filmmaker**

HUANG Xi and KORE-EDA Hirokazu 【November 2, 18:30 -20:00】

Photo courtesy of Taipei
Golden Horse Film Festival
Executive Committee

HUANG Xi Writer / Director

Born in 1975 in Taipei, Huang Xi graduated from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. Returning to Taiwan from New York in 2001, Huang joined Sino Movie. Worked as a production assistant on many of HOU Hsiao-Hsien's early classic TV commercials and the film *Goodbye South, Goodbye* (1996). Later worked as an assistant director on Hou's *The Assassin* (2015). Huang's directorial feature debut, *Missing Johnny* (2017), received many awards from major film festivals, including the Taipei Film Festival and Taipei Golden Horse Film Festival.



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KORE-EDA Hirokazu Filmmaker

Born in 1962 in Tokyo. After graduating from Waseda University in 1987, Kore-eda Hirokazu joined TV Man Union, where he directed several prize-winning documentaries. In 2014, he launched his production company, BUN-BUKU. His debut feature, *Maborosi* (1995), was selected for the Venice International Film Festival. Kore-eda went on to receive seven nominations at the Cannes Film Festival, with *Nobody Knows* (2004) making 14-year-old YAGIRA Yuya the youngest winner of the Best Actor Award in Cannes history, *Like Father, Like Son* (2013) winning the Jury Prize, and *Shoplifters* (2018) capturing the Palme d'Or as well as an Academy Award nomination for Best Foreign Language Film. His first feature shot outside Japan, *The Truth* (2019), with French film legends Catherine Deneuve and Juliette Binoche, was selected as the opening film at Venice. His latest feature will be his first Korean film, *Baby, Box, Broker* (working title), to be shot next year.

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Apichatpong WEERASETHAKUL, TOMITA Katsuya, and AIZAWA Toranosuke
[November 3, 18:30 -20:00]


Photo by Sean Wang

Apichatpong WEERASETHAKUL Filmmaker

Born in 1970 in Bangkok, Apichatpong Weerasethakul grew up in Khon Kaen in north-eastern Thailand. He began making film and video shorts in 1994, and completed his first feature in 2000. He has also presented exhibitions and installations in many countries since 1998. Often nonlinear and with a strong sense of dislocation, his works deal with memory, subtly addressed personal politics, and social issues. His art projects and feature films have won widespread recognition and numerous prizes, including two (the Special Jury Prize, and Palme d'Or) at the Cannes Film Festival. In 2016, a retrospective of his films was presented at Tate Modern, London. His ongoing project includes *Fever Room*, a projection performance about displaced consciousness, presented at major art festivals around the world. His latest film in 2020, *Memoria*, is set in Colombia and features actress Tilda Swinton.



Photo by Takahiro Yamaguchi

TOMITA Katsuya Director

Born in 1972 in Yamanashi. Together with filmmaker and screenwriter AIZAWA Toranosuke, Tomita Katsuya founded Kuzoku, a production group that “makes and shows films the way we want to.” His most notable works include *Off Highway 20* (2007), about the dead-end lives of the youth living in rural Japan, and *Saudade* (2011), which portrays the decline of the Japanese economy through blue-collar laborers, migrants, and a local hip-hop community. Shot during extended stays in Thailand and Laos, his film *Bangkok Nites* (2016) traces the legacies of the 20th-century conflicts that plagued the Indochinese Peninsula, in the process holding a mirror up to contemporary Japan.


AIZAWA Toranosuke Director / Screenwriter

Born in 1974 in Saitama, Aizawa Toranosuke was a member of Waseda University's Cinema Circle before he joined the production group Kuzoku. Aizawa co-wrote *Off Highway 20* (2007), *Saudade* (2011), *Chiang Rai Girl* (2012), *Bangkok Nites* (2016), and *Tenzo* (2019) with Tomita Katsuya. His directorial works include *Babylon 2 -THE OZAWA-* (2012). Aizawa's screenplay for *The Chrysanthemum and the Guillotine* (2018), co-written with filmmaker ZEZE Takahisa, was awarded the Kinema Junpo Award for Best Screenplay.

- Moderator: **ISHIZAKA Kenji** Senior Programmer, Tokyo International Film Festival / Professor, Japan Institute of the Moving Image

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Special session “The Future of Cinema and Streaming” [November 4, 18:30 -20:00]

● Panelists:

KAWAMURA Mitsunobu	Chief Executive Officer, Star Sands, Inc.
KORE-EDA Hirokazu	Filmmaker
LIM Kah-Wai	Filmmaker
MATSUOKA Hiroyasu	Managing Director, TOHO Co., Ltd.
SAKAMOTO Kaata	Content Acquisition Director, Netflix
YUKISADA Isao	Filmmaker

● Moderator: **ONDA Yasuko** Deputy Editor, Culture News Department, The Yomiuri Shimbun

※This program will be available in Japanese only.

Mouly SURYA and YANG Yonghi [November 5, 18:30 -20:00]



Photo courtesy of Five Flavours Film Festival

Mouly SURYA Filmmaker

Born in 1980 in Jakarta. Mouly Surya has won numerous awards locally and internationally since her directorial debut, *Fiction*. (2008). Her latest film, *Marlina the Murderer in Four Acts* (2017), premiered in Cannes at the Directors' Fortnight and has been theatrically released in 14 countries, including USA, Canada, and Japan. The film received the 18th TOKYO FILMeX Grand Prize and was also Indonesia's submission for Best Foreign Language Film at the 91st Academy Awards.



©Emi Naito

YANG Yonghi Filmmaker

Born in 1964 in Osaka as a second-generation Korean resident, Yang Yonghi studied at Korea University in Tokyo and then New School University in New York, where she obtained her MA in Media Studies. In 1995, Yang started to work as a producer of TV documentaries and news programs about Asian countries. Her documentary film *Dear Pyongyang* (2005) won the Special Jury Award at Sundance Film Festival and the NETPAC Award at the Berlinale. She released her second documentary film, *Sona, the Other Myself* (2009), followed by her first feature film, *Our Homeland* (2012), which received the CICAIE Art Cinema Award at the Berlinale, and awarded numerous major prizes in Japan. The film was also Japan's submission for Best Foreign Language Film at the 85th Academy Awards.

● Moderator: **ISHIZAKA Kenji** Senior Programmer, Tokyo International Film Festival / Professor, Japan Institute of the Moving Image

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TSAI Ming-Liang and KATAGIRI Hairi 【November 6, 18:30-20:00】


Phot by Claude Wang

TSAI Ming-Liang Filmmaker

Born in Kuching, Malaysia in 1957, Tsai Ming-Liang moved to Taiwan in 1977 and graduated from Chinese Culture University. He premiered his debut feature, *Rebels of the Neon God*, at the Berlinale in 1992. His sophomore film, *Vive L' amour* (1994), won the Golden Lion at the Venice International Film Festival, while *The River* (1997) won the Jury Award at the Berlinale. Tsai has also received attention in the art world; in 2009, *Face* became the first film to be included in the collection of the Louvre Museum. In 2012, he began his "Slow Walk" series and has since completed eight short films. *Stray Dogs* (2013) won the Grand Jury Prize at the Venice International Film Festival, whereas his latest film, *Days* (2020), won the Teddy Award at the Berlinale.


KATAGIRI Hairi Actor

Born in Tokyo in 1963, Katagiri Hairi started her acting career when she was a student at Seikei University while working as a part-time ticket taker at a movie theater. She made her film debut with *No More Comics!* (1986; dir. TAKITA Yojiro). Her recent films include *Kamome Diner* (2006; dir. OGIGAMI Naoko), *Oh Brother, Oh Sister!* (2014; dir. NISHIDA Masafumi), *Silence* (2016; dir. Martin Scorsese), *Listen to the Universe* (2019; dir. ISHIKAWA Kei) and *Hold Me Back* (2020; dir. OHKU Akiko). In 2010, Katagiri published her own essay, *Thanks Again for Tonight, Ticket Taker (Mogiri yo Konya mo Arigatou)*, a book filled with her love for cinema and movie theaters. She is also active in various fields, ranging from TV to theater.

● Moderator: **ICHIYAMA Shozo** Director, TOKYO FILMeX

JIA Zhang-Ke and KUROSAWA Kiyoshi 【November 7, 13:00 -14:30】


Photo courtesy of Xstream Pictures

JIA Zhang-Ke Director / Producer / Writer

Born in 1970 in Fenyang, Shanxi. Jia Zhang-Ke graduated from Beijing Film Academy. His first feature film, *Xiao Wu* (1998), created as his graduation project, received the Wolfgang Staudte Prize and the NETPAC Award at the Berlinale, followed by the New Currents Award from the Busan International Film Festival and the Golden Montgolfiere from the Nantes Three Continents Festival. In 2006, *Still Life*, a feature film depicting human drama set in the backdrop of the Three Gorges Dam, won the Golden Lion in the Venice International Film Festival. His other works include *Platform* (2000), *Unknown Pleasures* (2002), *The World* (2004), *24 City* (2008), *Mountains May Depart* (2015), *Ash Is Purest White* (2018), and *Swimming Out Till the Sea Turns Blue* (2020).


KUROSAWA Kiyoshi Director

Born in 1955 in Kobe. After graduating from Rikkyo University, where he began creating 8 mm films, Kurosawa Kiyoshi made his commercial directorial debut in 1983. He first achieved international acclaim with *Cure* (1997). His film *Pulse* (2001) received the FIPRESCI Award at the Cannes Film Festival and *Bright Future* (2002) competed for the Palme d'Or. Two subsequent films won awards in the Un Certain Regard section at Cannes: the 2008 *Tokyo Sonata* (Jury Prize) and 2014 *Journey to the Shore* (Best Director). In 2016, he directed his first French film, *Daguerrotype*. His latest work is *Wife of a Spy* (2020), for which he won the Silver Lion at the 77th Venice International Film Festival.

● Moderator: **ICHIYAMA Shozo** Director, TOKYO FILMeX

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Rithy PANH and YOSHIDA Yoshishige 【November 8, 18:30 -20:00】



DR Bophana Center

Rithy PANH Filmmaker / Writer / Producer

Born in 1964 in Phnom Penh. Rithy Panh graduated from the Institut des Hautes Études Cinématographiques (IDHEC) in Paris. He has directed numerous internationally-acclaimed documentaries and feature films that focus primarily on the genocide committed by the Khmer Rouge, including the influential *S21: The Khmer Rouge Death Machine* (2003). *The Missing Picture* (2013) won the Grand Prix in the Un Certain Regard section at the Cannes Film Festival. His latest work, *Irradiated* (2020), received the Berlinale Documentary Award. He is also a principal founder of the Bophana Audiovisual Resource Center and the Cambodian Film Commission.



YOSHIDA Yoshishige (Kijū) Director

Born in 1933 in Fukui. After graduating from the Department of French Literature, Tokyo University in 1955, Yoshida Yoshishige (or Kijū) entered the Shochiku Studio, working as an assistant director for KINOSHITA Keisuke. Yoshida made his directorial debut with *Good for Nothing* (1960), and as a leader of the “Shochiku Nouvelle Vague,” he directed such films as *Akitsu Springs* (1962), starring OKADA Mariko, who later became his wife. In 1966, Yoshida established his own production company, where he directed numerous feature films and documentaries, including *Eros + Massacre* (1969) and *Coup d’État* (1973). His film *Women in the Mirror* (2002) was screened out of competition at the Cannes Film Festival. In 2008, a retrospective of his work was presented at the Centre Pompidou in Paris. In 2020, Yoshida published a historical novel inspired by the life of Rudolf Hess, Deputy Führer to Adolf Hitler.

● Moderator: **TSUCHIDA Tamaki** Program Coordinator, Yamagata International Documentary Film Festival / Assistant Professor, Waseda University

Asia Lounge

This new initiative was proposed by world-renowned director Kore-eda Hirokazu, who worked with the member of the committee to organize the event. Although originally conceived as a physical lounge where filmmakers from around the world would enjoy free-form conversation and exchange, this year’s event will be held online, inviting a variety of high-profile guest speakers to discuss a myriad of topics.

“Asia Lounge” Curatorial Committee Members

ISHIZAKA Kenji	Senior Programmer, Tokyo International Film Festival / Professor, Japan Institute of the Moving Image
ICHIYAMA Shozo	Director, TOKYO FILMeX
KORE-EDA Hirokazu	Filmmaker
TSUCHIDA Tamaki	Program Coordinator, Yamagata International Documentary Film Festival / Assistant Professor, Waseda University
FUKUMA Miyuki	Producer, BUN-BUKU Inc.

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Press Registration

PRESS PASSES WILL BE REQUIRED

All press members who wish to cover this event are required to register for a press pass. If you have not yet registered, please contact TIFF Press Office and complete your registration immediately.

Press Office: tiff-press@tiff-jp.net

PRE-REGISTRATION IS MANDATORY

To prevent COVID-19 Infections, pre-registration is mandatory for all press members who have been accredited to cover this year's Tokyo International Film Festival. Please fill in the pre-registration form for each press event on the press page on our website by the deadline. If the number of registrations exceeds the limit, seating will be determined by drawing lots. TIFF Press Office will inform you by the time below if your registration must regrettably be cancelled.

Photographers/Journalists

Pre-registration deadline: 3 PM on the day before the event. Cancel notice by 6 PM on the day before the event.

TV Crew/Digital Media Crew

Pre-registration deadline: 6 PM on the day before the event. Cancel notice by 8 PM on the day before the event.

Outline of the 33rd Tokyo International Film Festival

[Dates] Saturday, October 31 - Monday, November 9, 2020

[Venues] Roppongi Hills, EX Theater Roppongi (Minato ward), Hibiya Step Square, Tokyo International Forum (Chiyoda ward) and other venues in Tokyo Metropolitan Area

[Official website] www.tiff-jp.net

The Japan Foundation Asia Center <https://jfac.jp>

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 Japan 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 pursues to develop the sense of kinship and coexistence among Asian neighbors.

Tokyo International Film Festival (TIFF) www.tiff-jp.net

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

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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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