

International Bestselling Author KAWAGUCHI Toshikazu to Embark on North American Tour  
— Engaging with Readers in Canada and the U.S. Through Talk  
Events from September 26 to October 2 —

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The Japan Foundation (JF), as a collaboration project of its Toronto, New York, and Los Angeles offices, dispatches writer KAWAGUCHI Toshikazu to the United States and Canada. This project is co-presented by the Toronto International Festival of Authors (TIFA), Hanover Square Press / HarperCollins Publishing, Japan Society, and the University of Toronto, Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library.

TIFA, now running for its 45<sup>th</sup> year, is one of the world's most prestigious international literary festivals. The Japan Foundation, Toronto has a long history of inviting Japanese authors for the festival.

After the festival appearance in Toronto, Canada, Mr. Kawaguchi will travel to New York and Los Angeles in the United States, participating in events at each location. While Mr. Kawaguchi has proactively engaged with fans worldwide, this will be his first time attending events in North America.

Born in Osaka, Japan in 1971, Mr. Kawaguchi is a playwright, director, and author. His play *Before the Coffee Gets Cold* won the grand prize at the 10<sup>th</sup> Sugunami Drama Festival. The novel adaptation of the play was nominated for the 2017 Japan Booksellers' Award and was adapted into a Japanese feature film the following year. In 2021, a Hollywood studio acquired the adaptation rights to the novel. The novel series has now reached its fifth volume and has been translated into over 30 languages, with total sales exceeding 5 million copies.

This tour offers an excellent opportunity to understand how Japanese novels are received by international fans. North American readers and literary enthusiasts can expect to learn more about the author and his journey, as Mr. Kawaguchi shares his unique insights as a playwright, director, and author.



URL: <https://festivalofauthors.ca/book-author/toshikazu-kawaguchi/>

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**Press inquiries :**

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## Outline

### **Project Titles, Dates, Venues:**

[Toronto, Canada]

Curtain Up to a New Chapter: KAWAGUCHI Toshikazu's journey of storytelling across genres

Thursday, September 26, 2024 6:00 PM

The Japan Foundation, Toronto (2 Bloor St. East, Suite 300, Toronto, ON, Canada)

The Secrets of a Time-Traveling Café (Toronto International Festival of Authors)

Friday, September 27, 2024 7:00 PM

Harbourfront Centre (235 Queens Quay West, Toronto, ON, Canada)

[New York, USA]

Author Talk and Signing: Toshikazu Kawaguchi

Saturday, September 28, 2024 5:00 PM

Japan Society (333 E 47th St, Manhattan, NY, U.S.A.)

[Los Angeles, USA]

Before YOUR Coffee Gets Cold: Meet Author Toshikazu Kawaguchi

Wednesday, October 2, 2024 7:00 PM

The Japan Foundation, Los Angeles (5700 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 100, Los Angeles, CA, U.S.A.)

**Co-presenters :** The Japan Foundation, Toronto, The Japan Foundation, New York, The Japan Foundation, Los Angeles, Toronto International Festival of Authors, Hanover Square Press / HarperCollins Publishing, Japan Society, University of Toronto, Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library

**Co-presenting Organizers: The Japan Foundation** <https://www.jpf.go.jp/>



**JAPAN FOUNDATION**

The Japan Foundation (JF) is Japan's only Institution dedicated to carrying out comprehensive international cultural exchange programs throughout the world. It was established in 1972 as a non-profit, special legal entity under the auspices of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and legally transformed into an Independent Administrative Institution on October 1, 2003. Through "Culture", "Language" and "Dialogue", the Japan Foundation creates global opportunities to foster friendship, trust and mutual understanding.

The Japan Foundation has a global network consisting of the Tokyo headquarters, the Kyoto Office, two Japanese-language institutes (the Japan Foundation Japanese-Language Institute, Urawa, and the Japan Foundation Japanese-Language Institute, Kansai), and 26 overseas offices in 25 countries.

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**Toronto International Festival of Authors** <https://festivalofauthors.ca/>

Toronto International Festival of Authors (TIFA) is one of the world's leading international literary festivals, featuring 200 authors from dozens of countries and attracting 20,000 visitors each year during the two-week festival period.

Japanese authors have been invited almost every year since 1985, starting with ŌE Kenzaburō, the first Japanese participant. To date, 30 esteemed Japanese authors have been invited to the festival.

**Hanover Square Press / HarperCollins Publishers** <https://www.harpercollins.com/>

HANOVER  
SQUARE  
PRESS

Hanover Square Press publishes compelling fiction and nonfiction across a broad range of genres, including the New York Times bestsellers *Hurricanes* and *The Perfect Day to Boss Up* by Rick Ross and *Lincoln's Last Trial* by Dan Abrams and David Fisher, as well as the international bestseller *Before the Coffee Gets Cold* by Toshikazu Kawaguchi. For more information, please visit [HanoverSqPress.com](https://HanoverSqPress.com) or on Instagram @hanoversquarepress.

**Japan Society** <https://japansociety.org/> (Co-presenting the event on September 28<sup>th</sup>)

Japan Society (JS) is the premier organization connecting Japanese arts, culture, business, and society with audiences in New York and around the world. Japan Society is inspired by the Japanese concept of *kizuna* (絆)–forging deep connections to bind people together. It is committed to telling the story of Japan while strengthening connections within New York City and building new bridges beyond. In over 100 years of work, it has inspired generations by establishing itself as pioneers in supporting international exchanges in arts and culture, business and policy, as well as education between Japan and the U.S.

**University of Toronto, Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library** <https://east.library.utoronto.ca/>

(Co-presenting the event on September 26<sup>th</sup>)



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO  
LIBRARIES

**CHENG YU TUNG EAST ASIAN LIBRARY**

Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library houses a collection of materials in Asian languages at the University of Toronto. With approximately 200,000 Japanese-language materials, the library has been a vital resource centre for the East Asian Studies community.

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