

Cinema Kabuki Screenings and Hands-on Workshops to Be Held in 7 Countries

Free Streaming of Kabuki Titles in 119 Countries via JFF Theater



The Japan Foundation (JF) will launch **JFF Discover Kabuki Tour & Online**, a project combining Cinema Kabuki screenings, workshops, and online streaming of Kabuki performances.

With the cooperation of Shochiku Co., Ltd., JF will hold touring Cinema Kabuki screenings and workshops in seven countries — the Philippines, Peru, Chile, Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, and Egypt — from October to November 2026.

In addition, starting August 5, 2026, seven **Kabuki titles will be streamed free of charge with subtitles in nine languages on JFF Theater**, JF's online platform for streaming Japanese films and videos. The programs will be available in 119 countries worldwide, mainly in Global South regions including Southeast Asia, South Asia, Latin America, the Middle East, and Africa.

Through this project, JF will introduce the appeal of Kabuki to overseas audiences — including those experiencing Kabuki for the first time — in a clear and approachable way, by combining in-person screenings, workshops and online streaming. The workshops will include a **"Kumadori" Body-painting Experience** related to the Cinema Kabuki title *Renjishi (The Father and Son Shishi Lions)*, as well as a **Kabuki Costume Demonstration & Photo Experience** using costumes actually worn on stage, connected to *Ninin Fuji Musume (Two Wisteria Maidens) / Nihon Furisode Hajime (Japan's Origin of the Torn Sleeve)*.

The event in the Philippines will be held as a commemorative project marking the 70th anniversary of the normalization of diplomatic relations between Japan and the Philippines, while the event in Argentina will be held as part of the commemorations marking the 140th anniversary of Japanese immigration to Argentina.

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Cinema Kabuki Screenings and Workshops

JFF Discover Kabuki Tour

1. Overview

Country	Schedule	Title	Workshop
Philippines	1) Early October 2026 2) Late November 2026	1) Renjishi 2) KABUKI 「KAZE NO TANI NO NAUSICAÄ」Part1, Part2	1) “Kumadori” Body-painting Experience and Kabuki Costume Dressing Demonstration & Photo Experience 2) None, screening only
Peru	Early October 2026	Ninin Fuji Musume /Nihon Furisode Hajime	Kabuki Costume Dressing Demonstration & Photo Experience
Chile	Mid-October 2026	Ninin Fuji Musume /Nihon Furisode Hajime	Kabuki Costume Dressing Demonstration & Photo Experience
Argentina	Mid-October 2026	Ninin Fuji Musume /Nihon Furisode Hajime	Kabuki Costume Dressing Demonstration & Photo Experience
Brazil	Late October to early November 2026	1) Renjishi 2) Migawari Zazen	“Kumadori” Body-painting Experience
Mexico	Early November 2026	Renjishi	“Kumadori” Body-painting Experience
Egypt	Mid- to late November 2026	Ninin Fuji Musume /Nihon Furisode Hajime	Kabuki Costume Dressing Demonstration & Photo Experience

2. Cinema Kabuki Titles

1) Renjishi (The Father and Son Shishi Lions)

Written by: KAWATAKE Mokuami

Directed by: YAMADA Yoji

Main Cast: NAKAMURA Kanzaburō, NAKAMURA Kankurō, NAKAMURA Shichinosuke,
KATAOKA Kamezō, BANDŌ Yajurō

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Cinema Kabuki Release Year: 2008

2) Ninin Fuji Musume (Two Wisteria Maidens) /Nihon Furisode Hajime (Japan's Origin of the Torn Sleeve)

Ninin Fuji Musume (Two Wisteria Maidens)

Main Cast: BANDŌ Tamasaburō, NAKAMURA Shichinosuke

Nihon Furisode Hajime (Japan's Origin of the Torn Sleeve)

Written by: CHIKAMATSU Monzaemon

Main Cast: BANDŌ Tamasaburō, NAKAMURA Yonekichi, NAKAMURA Kankurō

Cinema Kabuki Release Year: 2015

3) KABUKI 「KAZE NO TANI NO NAUSICAÄ- Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind」 Part1

Original graphic novel by MIYAZAKI Hayao

Script: NIWA Keiko & TOBE Kazuhisa

Directed by: G2

In cooperation with Studio Ghibli

Main Cast: ONOE Kikugorō VIII, NAKAMURA Shichinosuke, ONOE Matsuya,
BANDŌ Minosuke, ONOE Ukon, NAKAMURA Yonekichi, ICHIMURA Kitsutarō,
KATAOKA Kamezō, KAWARASAKI Gonjurō, ICHIMURA Manjirō,
NAKAMURA Kinnosuke, NAKAMURA Matagorō, ICHIKAWA Chūsha (voice
appearance)

Cinema Kabuki Release Year: 2020

4) KABUKI「KAZE NO TANI NO NAUSICAÄ- Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind」 Part2

Original graphic novel by MIYAZAKI Hayao

Script: NIWA Keiko & TOBE Kazuhisa

Directed by: G2

In cooperation with Studio Ghibli

Main Cast: ONOE Kikugorō VIII, NAKAMURA Shichinosuke, ONOE Matsuya,
NAKAMURA Kashō, BANDŌ Minosuke, ONOE Ukon, NAKAMURA Tanenosuke,
NAKAMURA Yonekichi, NAKAMURA Kichinojō, ARASHI Kitsusaburō,
KATAOKA Kamezō, NAKAMURA Kinnosuke, NAKAMURA Karoku,
NAKAMURA Kichiemon (voice appearance)

Cinema Kabuki Release Year: 2020

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5) Migawari Zazen (The Zen Substitute)

Written by: OKAMURA Shikō

Main Cast: NAKAMURA Kanzaburō, MATSUMOTO Kōshirō, BANDŌ Minosuke,
BANDŌ Shingo, BANDŌ Mitsugorō

Cinema Kabuki Release Year: 2010

Special Kabuki Streaming Program

JFF Discover Kabuki Online

Streaming Platform: JFF Theater URL: <https://en.jff.jp/go.jp/>

Available Regions: Southeast Asia, South Asia, Latin America, the Middle East, and Africa

Viewing Fee: Free of charge, account creation required

Subtitle Languages: English, Arabic, French, Indonesian, Burmese, Portuguese, Latin American
Spanish, Thai, and Vietnamese — 9 languages in total

Streaming Titles

Title	Streaming Period*	Main Cast	Performance Date/Theater
Welcome to the Kabukiza	Aug 5, 2026 – May 12, 2027	NAKAMURA Toranosuke	November 2024 Kabukiza Theater
The Stone Bridge	Aug 5 – Nov 4, 2026	ONOE Shōroku, NAKAMURA Mantarō, NAKAMURA Tanenosuke, NAKAMURA Fukunosuke, NAKAMURA Toranosuke	November 2024 Kabukiza Theater
Pulling the Carriage Apart	Nov 4, 2026 – Feb 3, 2027	MATSUMOTO Kōshirō, ICHIKAWA Somegorō, ONOE Sakon, ŌTANI Hirotarō, MATSUMOTO Hakuō	September 2025 Kabukiza Theater
The Five Thieves	Nov 4, 2026 – Feb 3, 2027	ONOE Ukon, BANDŌ Minosuke, NAKAMURA Hayato, NAKAMURA Yonekichi, NAKAMURA Hashinosuke, NAKAMURA Fukunosuke, BANDŌ Kamesaburō, ICHIMURA Kitsutarō, BANDŌ Hikosaburō, NAKAMURA Tōzō	May 2022 Kabukiza Theater

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Heron Maiden	Nov 4, 2026 – Feb 3, 2027	NAKAMURA Shichinosuke	December 2024 Kabukiza Theater
The Maiden at Dōjōji Temple	Feb 3 – May 12, 2027	NAKAMURA Kazutarō, ŌTANI Hirotarō, NAKAMURA Tamatarō	January 2024 Kabukiza Theater
Battle of Ideas for Saké	Feb 3 – May 12, 2027	NAKAMURA Takanosuke, ICHIKAWA Somegorō, NAKAMURA Hashinosuke	January 2025 Asakusa Public Hall

*All streaming periods begin and end at 11:00 a.m. JST.



About the Japan Foundation

The Japan Foundation (JF) is an incorporated administrative agency that promotes “arts and cultural exchange,” “Japanese-language education,” and “Japanese studies and global dialogue” based on its mission of “cultivating friendship and ties between Japan and the world.”

With 26 overseas offices in 25 countries, JF creates opportunities for people-to-people exchange through a wide range of projects and information-sharing initiatives, working to deepen mutual understanding between the people of Japan and people around the world.

JF organizes the Japanese Film Festival (JFF) and Japanese film screenings around the world, sharing the appeal of Japanese cinema and introducing diverse aspects of Japanese culture and society through film. In fiscal year 2025, JF brought Japanese films to approximately 265,000 audience members in 80 countries and regions.

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JFF Theater is an online streaming service that distributes Japanese films and videos worldwide with multilingual subtitles, all free of charge. Since its launch in August 2024, the platform has gained more than 230,000 registered users worldwide as of July 15, 2026. The website is available in 17 languages, and film subtitles are available in up to 19 languages. Titles are rotated periodically, and 71 films have been streamed to date, including *Under the Open Sky*, *The Great Passage*, and *JUNGLE EMPEROR LEO*, aka *KIMBA THE WHITE LION*.



*Availability of countries, regions, and subtitle languages may vary by title. Content available in Japan is limited.

In April 2026, JF co-organized **MEET KABUKI — The Art of “Onnagata” Europe Tour 2026** —, a touring performance by NAKAMURA Takanosuke presented by Shochiku Co., Ltd. The tour was held at Japanese cultural institutes operated by the Japan Foundation in Paris, Rome, and Cologne.

Building on these experiences, this project aims to further develop international cultural exchange by introducing the appeal of Kabuki and Japanese culture in an accessible way in Global South regions where Kabuki is still not widely known.

Japan Foundation's Website: <https://www.jpff.go.jp/>

JFF Theater's Website: <https://en.jpfftheater.jp/>

JFF Theater SNS:



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