

For Press

Full line-up of SKIP CITY INTERNATIONAL D-Cinema FESTIVAL 2016 announced!!

The Festival will be held from July 16 to 24.

Opening Gala: "Good Bye, Talking Dog"

Special Presentation: "Crosscurrent", "I Phone You"

Launched in 2004 as one of the world's first film festivals to focus solely on films shot on digital in order to discover and nurture emerging talent, SKIP CITY INTERNATIONAL D-Cinema FESTIVAL introduced to Japan, Nuri Bilge Ceylan, winner of three awards including Palme d'Or at the Cannes International Film Festival, and also numerous new Japanese talents like Kazuya Shiraishi (upcoming *Twisted Justice* and award-winning *The Devil's Path*) and Ryota Nakano (upcoming *Her Love Boils Bathwater* and internationally-acclaimed *Capturing Dad*).



The 13th edition of the Festival will be held over 9 days from Saturday, July 16, to Sunday, July 24. The press conference was held on Thursday, June 2, at the Todofuken Kaikan in Nagata-cho, Tokyo, to announce its full line-up. The details are as follows. Please kindly cover on your magazine as we are sure to discover more newcomers at this year's festival.

The Opening Gala Film is produced by the Festival Committee giving the opportunity to make a feature debut to talented filmmaker Madoka Kumagai. The film, *Good Bye, Talking Dog*, is a human anthem starring Miho Tsumiki and Reiko Tajima.

This year's Opening Gala Film, *Good Bye, Talking Dog*, is the first feature film from Director Madoka Kumagai, whose short film *When The World Tastes Gritty* was selected to the Short Length Competition of SKIP CITY INTERNATIONAL D-Cinema Festival 2013, and is produced by the Festival Committee. The film depicts a mother, who suffers from Lewy body dementia and sees visions of her old pet dog, and daughter, who has struggled throughout her acting career. Their struggles and challenges reflect the dreams and realities of everyone. Leading actors, Miho Tsumiki, Reiko Tajima and Hidekazu Mashima will appear on the stage at the Opening Gala screening. At today's press conference Director Madoka Kumagai, Miho Tsumiki and Reiko Tajima spoke about their passion for the film.



Good Bye, Talking Dog (2016/Japan/World premiere)

Director: Madoka Kumagai

Cast: Miho Tsumiki, Reiko Tajima/Hidekazu Mashima, Yuki Konoe

Seeing Beyond a Mother's Visions

**For Everyone Who Has Dreamed of an Alternative Life,
A Celebration of Humanity with Humor and Tears**

Reiko, an aspiring actress, gets an offer to star in a film from Mita, her old friend and a popular actor. But her mother Yukie develops Lewy body dementia and starts seeing visions of her old pet dog Chiro. Reiko struggles to take care of her mother and get her acting career off the ground.

Two Chinese films including this year's Berlinale Silver Bear winner *Crosscurrent* will have their Japan premieres in the Special Presentation section.

Special Presentation, one of this year's new sections, presents *Crosscurrent*, an epic love story set on the Yangtze River, for which cinematographer Mark Lee Ping-Bin received the Silver Bear for Outstanding Artistic Contribution, and a China-Germany co-produced romantic comedy *I Phone You*. Both films will have their Japan premiere.

It is said that the Chinese film business could go beyond that of the USA and become the biggest in the world in 2017 at the earliest. Wang Yu, who is one of the Jury members of the Feature Length Competition and actively makes international co-productions, produced these two films. There will be a Q&A session with Mr. Wang following the screening of *Crosscurrent* on Friday, July 23. It will be a good opportunity for us to learn about the rapidly-expanding Chinese film industry, and learn more about the background and making of *Crosscurrent*.



Crosscurrent Director: Yang Chao



I Phone You Director: Tang Dan

12 challenging films from around the world, including some countries participating for the first time, were nominated in this year's Feature Length Competition section. The line-up features the Japan premieres of the Los Angeles Film Festival winner *Out of My Hand* and the award-winning film of Venice International Film Festival *Tanna* !

The Feature Length Competition (international competition) section presents *Out of My Hand*, which received the US Film Award at Los Angeles Film Festival and was nominated for the John Cassavetes Award from the first-ever Japanese director, and a tragic love story *Tanna*, which was the first film entirely shot in Vanuatu in the South Pacific and won the Audience Award Pietro Barzisa as Best Film in the International Film Critics Week of Venice International Film Festival. Also the first Indian film, *The New Classmate* and the first Kyrgyz film, *Under Heaven* for SKIP CITY INTERNATIONAL D-Cinema FESTIVAL, will be screened. All these four films will have their Japan premieres.

Full list of the feature length competition (Director/Country/Premiere status)

Birds of Passage (Oliver Ringer/Belgium)

Eriko, Pretended (Akiyo Fujimura/Japan)

Hurt (Takahiro Horie/Japan)

Out of My Hand (Takeshi Fukunaga/USA/Japan Premiere)

Sonoda (Masahiro Ota/Japan)

Suburra (Stefano Sollima/Italy, France)

Tanna (Bentley Dean, Martin Butler/Australia, Vanuatu/Japan Premiere)

My Family Jumble (Max Nardari/Italy/World Premiere)

The New Classmate (Ashwiny Iyer Tiwari/India/Japan Premiere)

Under Heaven (Dalmira Tilepbergenova/Kyrgyzstan/Japan Premiere)

Walking Distance (Alejandro Guzmán Álvarez/Mexico/Japan Premiere)

Women in Oversized Men's Shirts (Yngvild Sve Flikke/Norway/Asian Premiere)



Out of My Hand



My Family Jumble



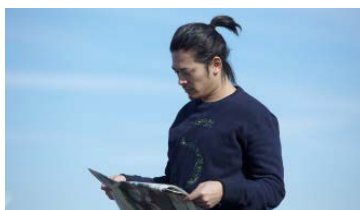
Women in Oversized Men's Shirts

Mahiro Takasugi, Sosuke Takaoka, Kanji Tsuda, Kotaro Shiga, Erisa Yanagi, Sayaka Kaneko are all starring in the Short Length Competition films this year. A variety of stars are appearing in films in the Short Length Competition. A total of 12 films from emerging filmmakers will compete.

The Short Length Competition (domestic competition) shows 12 ambitious films from young filmmakers including *Omokage*, a love story with emerging star Mahiro Takasugi, *FIVE PERCENT MAN*, an inside story about the film industry with Sosuke Takaoka, and *Hypnotism for Love*, a coming-of-age drama with Jyuna Aoki, who became popular as a high-school commentator of a TV show "Widna Show".

**Omokage**

Director : Keigo Kato

**FIVE PERCENT MAN**

Director : Takeshi Tanaka

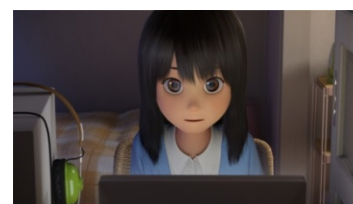
**Ping Pang**

Director : Yoichi Tanaka

In the Animation Competition section, 12 powerful films from Japanese filmmakers will be screened. Also the screenings of two big box-office animations from last year and the barrier free screening of *Our Little Sister* will be held.

Animation Competition: 12 films

This section screens Japanese animations from future-hope animation filmmakers including new films from renowned creators such as Mirai Mizue and Onohana, Youtube-favorite full CG animation *Tokyo Cosmo*, and *Happy Bogeys Episode 11-13* by Takashi Kurihara, who is also a popular manga author.

**Tokyo Cosmo**

Director : Takahiro Miyauchi

Cinema Kabuki: *Shunkyo Kagami Jishi*

This is a film of the repertoire that late Kanzaburo Nakamura had played throughout his lifetime.

Feature Animation Screening:

The Boy and The Beast* and *The Anthem of the Heart

Anime Day, Friday, July 22, will feature screenings of last year's big hit animations.

Barrier Free Screening: *Our Little Sister*

The Best Film winner of the 39th Japan Academy Prize will be screened with Japanese subtitles as well as audio guidance.

**Our Little Sister**

Director : Hirokazu Koreeda

SKIP CITY INTERNATIONAL D-Cinema FESTIVAL 2016 Outline

Date: Saturday, July 16 - Sunday, July 24, 2016 (9 days)

Venue: SKIP City (Audio Visual Hall / Convention Hall) (3-12-63, Kamiaoki, Kawaguchi City)

Sainokuni Saitama Arts Theater (3-15-1, Kamimine, Saitama City) (July 17 & 18 only)

Kounosu Cinema (Elmi Kounosu Annex 3F, 1-2-1, Honcho, Kounosu City) (July 17 & 18 only)

Organizers: Saitama Prefecture, Kawaguchi City, SKIP CITY INTERNATIONAL D-Cinema FESTIVAL Committee, Saitama Audio-Visual Volunteers

Website: www.skipcity-dcf.jp

*Advance tickets: Available through Seven Ticket and Ticket Pia from Friday, June 3 - Friday, July 15

*Please refer to the official website for more details about films and schedules.

*You can retrieve all kinds of press materials including film information and images from [Image.net] URL: www.image.net

<Contact>

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