

SKIP CITY INTERNATIONAL D-Cinema FESTIVAL, as a gateway for young creators, has screened new films by up-and-coming filmmakers from Japan and abroad, and will celebrate its 20th anniversary this year. To express our gratitude to the many filmmakers and audience members, we will present an even richer lineup this year. Many guests will join us! Please enjoy the unique film experience at our physical and online hybrid screenings!

Opening Gala

This year's festival will open with *Confetti*, a feel-good friendship drama produced to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the film festival and the 90th anniversary of Kawaguchi City. The film is the feature debut of Naoya Fujita, who won the 2020 Japanese Short Film Competition Best Picture with *Stay*, a short film that was later released theatrically. Please watch out for the performances of the new actors selected through auditions!

Confetti 映 7:15(Sat)14:00



Junior high school student Yuki, a member of a traveling theater troupe, changes schools to match his performance schedule. On his first day at a new school, he declares that because he's serious about his art, he doesn't want friends, but when he meets Ken, who is not attending school, his determination begins to falter....

- 2023/Japan/80min.
- Director: Naoya FUJITA
- Cast: Shion MATSUFUJII, Jun SAITO, Sara HAYAMA, Hirona MURATA, Hanamaru ICHIKAWA, Toru KIZU, Soran TAMOTO / Hinako SAEKI / Reiko TAKASHIMA

Director: Naoya FUJITA
Born 1991 in Hokkaido, Graduated from Meiji University School of Law. Started making mainly experimental films on his own while in university. His short film *Stay* (19) won Best Picture in the 2020 Japanese Short Film Competition, and was commercially screened in cinemas nationwide, which is exceptional for a short film. Fujita directed *LONG-TERM COFFEE BREAK* (22) at ndjc 2021, and the film was released in cinemas. In 2022, he was selected as a member of Japan Film Overseas Expansion Enhancement Project by Agency for Cultural Affairs and studied in NY.

New Wave of Chinese Cinema ~KATSUBEN Selection~

This program introduces a yet-to-be released film recommended by the web channel "Katsuben Cinema Club". *A New Old Play* will have its Japan premiere in the program. This debut feature epic by Jiongjiong Qiu won the Special Jury Prize at Locarno IFF and is regarded as one of the best Chinese films of recent years.

A New Old Play Screening 映 7:20(Thu)10:30 Talk Event HD 7:20(Thu)14:00



Qiu Fu, a renowned Sichuan opera actor, has passed away. On his way to the underworld, he looks back on his life with the troupe in a quest for love and art, while struggling with the turbulent times.

- 2021/Hong Kong, France/179min.
- Director: Jiongjiong QIU
- Cast: Sicheng YI, Nan GUAN, Zhimin QIU

Japanese Film Competition

Drama, comedy, horror, science fiction, animation — This year's competition attracted more films of various genres than ever before. Each is the crystallization of the director's unique explorations. Don't miss this chance to experience the talents that will lead the future of Japanese cinema!

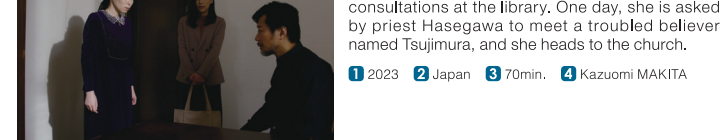
Feature Length (60min. or more)

Alien's Daydream 映 7:18(Tue)17:30 映 7:22(Sat)15:40



Reporter Uto has a strong sense of justice and hates lies. When he receives news about an alien abducting a university student in Hakui, Ishikawa, aka UFO Town, he begins an investigation to uncover the lies, but is drawn into a swamp of unexplained incidents.

1 2023 2 Japan 3 99min. 4 Yoshiki MATSUMOTO



Shiori, a psychotherapist, resigns from her clinic after her daughter's death and begins free consultations at the library. One day, she is asked by priest Hasegawa to meet a troubled believer named Tsujimura, and she heads to the church.

1 2023 2 Japan 3 70min. 4 Kazuomi MAKITA

Short Length (15min. or more / less than 60min.)

Keiko-san and I



Set in a Japan where humanoid AI is common after the spread of infectious diseases. Keiko Nogami, the humanoid who has long served the Koyama family, taking care of their daughter Airi and doing household chores, has recently been making many errors. Mother Riko wants to replace the humanoid with a new model, but Airi refuses.

1 2023 2 Japan 3 23min. 4 Yuriko YAMAMOTO

Short ① (Total 109min.)

Keiko-san and I

Wandering Memories



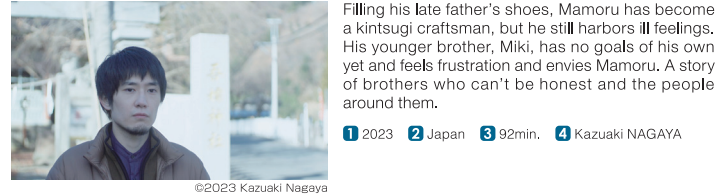
Shiori, who has been searching for her missing son, meets an information pawnbroker who is able to exchange the information you want for an equivalent memory. Despite her father's concern, Shiori entrusts her own precious memory to the pawnbroker....

1 2023 2 Japan 3 25min. 4 Yuta NOGUCHI

President of Jury Ryota NAKANO (Japan) / Film Director
Jury Members Misa WADA (Japan) / Actress
Mark SCHILLING (USA, Japan) / The Japan Times, Critic / Variety, Japan Correspondent

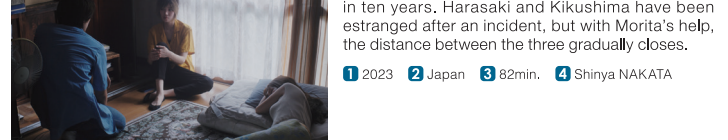
Online Screenings Also Available

Mending Cracks 映 7:16(Sun)14:20 映 7:19(Wed)11:00



Filling his late father's shoes, Mamoru has become a kintsugi craftsman, but he still harbors ill feelings. His younger brother, Miki, has no goals of his own yet and feels frustration and envies Mamoru. A story of brothers who can't be honest and the people around them.

1 2023 2 Japan 3 92min. 4 Kazuaki NAGAYA



Harasaki, Kikushima, and Morita, who left their hometown to live in the city, reunite for the first time in ten years. Harasaki and Kikushima have been estranged after an incident, but with Morita's help, the distance between the three gradually closes.

1 2023 2 Japan 3 82min. 4 Shinya NAKATA

Short ② (Total 111min.)

To a Hard Life



Takeshi spends the day trolling others on social media to ease his frustration. One morning, he wakes up as a completely different, unknown person. Although he isn't satisfied with his appearance, he thinks he is better than he used to be and goes out to meet girls....

1 2023 2 Japan 3 40min. 4 Kentaro NAGASATO

Short ③ (Total 111min.)

Hunting Results

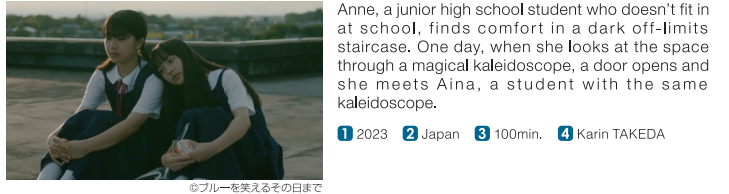


Patriarchal husband Naotaro takes his wife Yuko on a hunting trip. Naotaro can't accept the fact that their daughter is gay and takes his frustrations out on Yuko. In the meantime, his hunting rifle happens to fall into Yuko's hands.

1 2023 2 Japan 3 30min. 4 Minami IKEMOTO

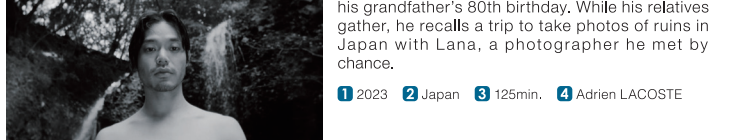
Online Screenings Also Available

Till the Day I Can Laugh about My Blues 映 7:17(Mon)17:30 映 7:21(Fri)14:20



Anne, a junior high school student who doesn't fit in at school, finds comfort in a dark off-limits staircase. One day, when she looks at the space through a magical kaleidoscope, a door opens and she meets Aina, a student with the same kaleidoscope.

1 2023 2 Japan 3 100min. 4 Karin TAKEDA



Seijiro, born into a family of renowned architects, returns home after studying in Mexico to celebrate his grandfather's 80th birthday. While his relatives gather, he recalls a trip to take photos of ruins in Japan with Lana, a photographer he met by chance.

1 2023 2 Japan 3 125min. 4 Adrien LACOSTE

Short ④ (Total 111min.)

A nu: In True Colors



Chiharu is on the way to see his girlfriend Yuka, who is moving to Tokyo the next day to enter university. He recalls the turbulent White Day two years before, after which they began their relationship.

1 2023 2 Japan 3 18min. 4 Takanobu KOGA

Short ⑤ (Total 111min.)

Flashback Before Death



In the early Showa era, Kikuo returns to Japan after studying in France and receives a letter from his sister, Tsuruha, who is supposed to be dead. When Kikuo arrives at Tsuruha's house in the middle of nowhere, he finds his sister living with a doll that looks exactly like her daughter Hinano.

1 2022 2 Japan 3 31min. 4 Rii ISHIHARA, Hirayuki ONOGAWA

Short ⑥ (Total 111min.)

Don't Go



Set in a world in which, through a special device, people can see the memories of the dead. A family decides to enter the memory of their father, who has been killed in a car accident in a seaside town, to learn why he had to hide his destination from his family.

1 2023 2 Japan 3 25min. 4 Daichi AMANO

International Competition (60min. or more)

We have again this year a selection of excellent films from around the world, including films from Azerbaijan and Syria, which are not easily seen in theaters. Many guest filmmakers will attend the festival. Please come and enjoy the best of what only an international film festival can offer.

Online Screenings Also Available

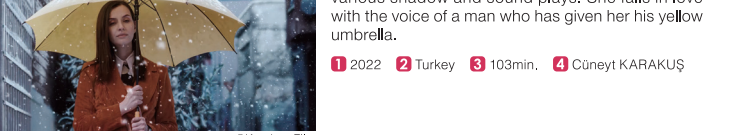
Banu 映 7:18(Tue)13:50 映 7:22(Sat)11:00



Accused of being an unfit mother by her influential husband, Banu fights for the custody of her son amid the chaos of the final days of the Second Nagorno-Karabakh War. She has four days to find a single voice to speak on her behalf.

1 2022 2 Azerbaijan, Italy, France, Iran 3 90min. 4 Tahmina RAFAELLA

Eflatun 映 7:17(Mon)11:00 映 7:20(Thu)17:30



Eflatun, who takes up her father's profession, has been able to get hold of her life with the help of his various shadow and sound plays. She falls in love with the voice of a man who has given her his yellow umbrella.

1 2022 2 Turkey 3 103min. 4 Cüneyt KARAKUŞ

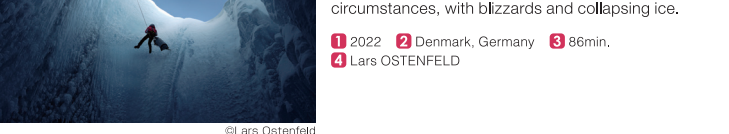
I Woke Up with a Dream 映 7:17(Mon)17:00 映 7:20(Thu)14:20



Felipe, who takes acting classes behind his mother's back, is told by the teacher that his father was an actor. Given the opportunity for a film audition, he goes to meet his grandmother, with whom he lost contact after his father's death.

1 2022 2 Argentina, Uruguay 3 76min. 4 Pablo SOLARZ

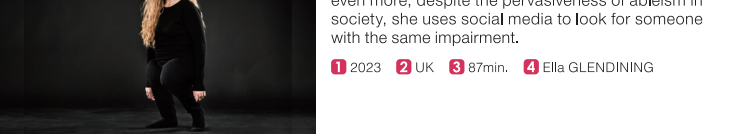
Into the Ice 映 7:16(Sun)13:50 映 7:19(Wed)17:00



Lars Ostenfeld travels with three scientists on their expeditions to the inland ice of Greenland. They collect data to decipher global warming in deadly circumstances, with blizzards and collapsing ice.

1 2022 2 Denmark, Germany 3 86min. 4 Lars OSTENFELD

Is There Anybody Out There? 映 7:16(Sun)17:00 映 7:19(Wed)10:30



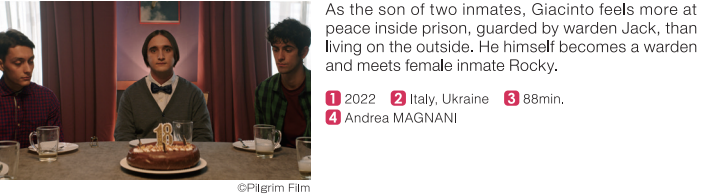
Filmmaker Ella Glendining has a very rare impairment. To learn what she needs to love herself even more, despite the pervasiveness of ableism in society, she uses social media to look for someone with the same impairment.

1 2023 2 UK 3 87min. 4 Ella GLENDINING

President of Jury Masao TESHIMA (Japan) / Director of ASMIK ACE, INC., Producer
Jury Members Naomi AKASHI (Japan) / ROBOT COMMUNICATIONS, INC., Producer
Patrice NEZAN (France) / Producer

Online Screenings Also Available

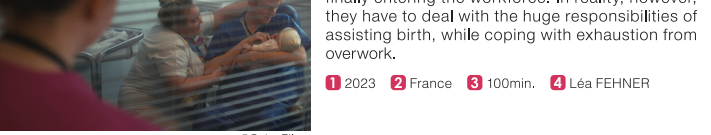
Jailbird 映 7:18(Tue)17:00 映 7:22(Sat)14:20



As the son of two inmates, Giacinto feels more at peace inside prison, guarded by warden Jack, than living on the outside. He himself becomes a warden and meets female inmate Rocky.

1 2022 2 Italy, Ukraine 3 88min. 4 Andrea MAGNANI

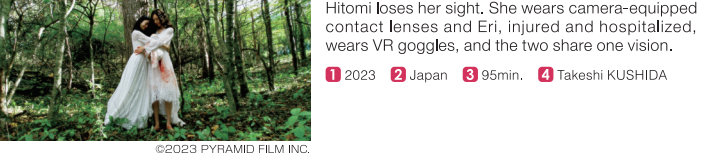
Midwives 映 7:17(Mon)14:20 映 7:19(Wed)14:20



After five years of training as midwives, "the most beautiful job in the world", Louise and Sofia are finally entering the workforce. In reality, however, they have to deal with the huge responsibilities of assisting birth, while coping with exhaustion from overwork.

1 2023 2 France 3 100min. 4 Léa FEHNER

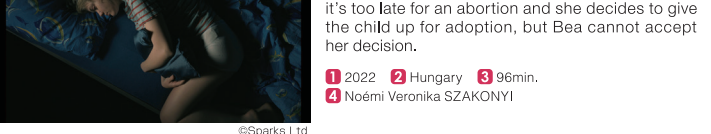
My Mother's Eyes 映 7:16(Sun)17:30 映 7:20(Thu)11:00



Both Hitomi and her daughter Eri are cellists. One day, they are involved in a traffic accident and Hitomi loses her sight. She wears camera-equipped contact lenses and Eri, injured and hospitalized, wears VR goggles, and the two share one vision.

1 2023 2 Japan 3 95min. 4 Takeshi KUSHIDA

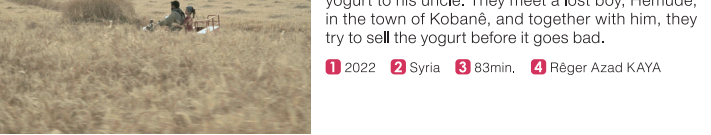
Six Weeks 映 7:16(Sun)10:30 映 7:19(Wed)13:50



Highschooler Zsófi is a promising table tennis player who lives with her unstable mother, Bea, and little sister, Mesi. When Zsófi discovers she is pregnant, it's too late for an abortion and she decides to give the child up for adoption, but Bea cannot accept her decision.

1 2022 2 Hungary 3 96min. 4 Noémi Veronika SZAKONYI

When the Seedlings Grow 映 7:18(Tue)10:30 映 7:22(Sat)17:30



Hüseyin, a yogurt vendor living in a Syrian village, takes his daughter Zelal on his motorbike to deliver yogurt to his uncle. They meet a lost boy, Hemudé, in the town of Kobané, and together with him, they try to sell the yogurt before it goes bad.

1 2022 2 Syria 3 83min. 4 Régér Azad KAYA

Access

- 3-12-63, Kamiaoki, Kawaguchi, Saitama
- **Free Parking** (with the QR code display at screening venue)
- There are **free shuttle buses** during the festival from the **West Exit** of JR Kawaguchi Station on the JR Keihin-Tohoku Line.

Free Shuttle Bus Schedule ■ JR Kawaguchi (West Exit) → SKIP CITY Approx. 18min.

	7.15(Sat)	7.16(Sun)	7.17(Mon)	7.22(Sat)	7.18(Tue) - 7.21(Fri)	7.23(Sun)
9				25 45	15 35 55	45
10		05	25		15 35	05 25
11				45		
12	05 25	05	25 45		35 55	
13				05 25 45	15 35 55	
14				35 55		
15		40		35 55		45
16	10 30 40	15	35 55		05 25 45	
17				30 50	05	
18		10	30*			

*July 16 (Sun) and 17 (Mon) only.

■ SKIP CITY → JR Kawaguchi (West Exit)

	7.15(Sat)	7.16(Sun)	7.17(Mon)	7.22(Sat)	7.18(Tue) - 7.21(Fri)	7.23(Sun)
12				15 35 55	05 25 45	
13				15 35 55	05 25 45	15 35 55
14				15 35 55	05 25 45	15 35 55
15				05 25 45	55	15
16				05 25 45	15 35 55	
17	15 35 55	05 25 45	15			45
18	15 35 55	05 25 45				45
19	15 35	05 25 45	05 25 45			
20		05 25 45	05 25 45			
21		05				

Free Shuttle Bus Stop **Near Kawaguchi Station West Exit Bus Rotary**



The location of the bus stop has changed from previous years.
*The arrival time may vary depending on traffic.
*Public buses are also available from Kawaguchi Station, Nishi-Kawaguchi Station (JR line) and Hatogaya Station (SR line). SKIP CITY is a 5 minute walk from the Kawaguchi Shiritsu-Koko bus stop.

Official Sponsors

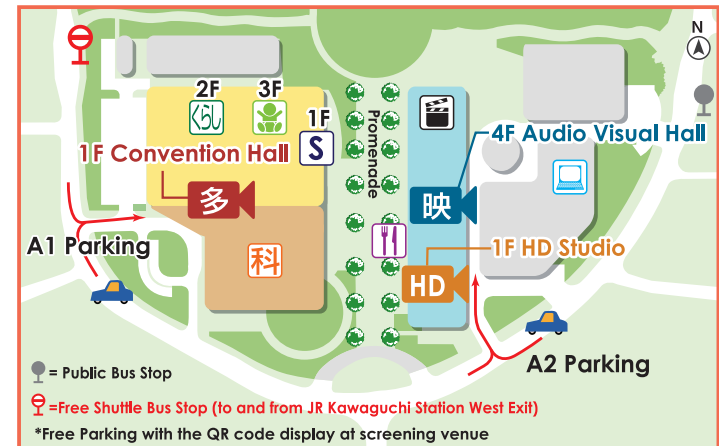
SONY, 清水建設, TAKENAKA, 埼玉県トラック協会, アサヒファナリティス, Saitama Resona Bank, The Musashino Bank, Ltd., 埼玉県信用金庫, 伊藤園, 公益財団法人 埼玉県公園緑地協会, FV ジャパン 株式会社, DyDo, 埼玉経済同友会, しまむら, SAPPORO, 埼玉高速鉄道, Kokusai Kogyo Bus, 株式会社レントローパー, ROYAL PINES HOTEL URAWA

Supporter
The Citizens' Circle to Support SKIP CITY INTERNATIONAL D-Cinema FESTIVAL

Co-associates
Cinema Discoveries, Azione Co., Ltd.

Organized by Saitama Prefecture, Kawaguchi City, SKIP CITY INTERNATIONAL D-Cinema FESTIVAL Committee
Co-associated by CINEMA DISCOVERIES, Azione
Co-sponsored by Sony Marketing, Shimizu Corporation, Takenaka Corporation, Saitama Trucking Association, Shimizu BLC, Asahi Facilities, Saitama Resona Bank, The Musashino Bank, The Saitamakeri Shinkin Bank, ITO EN, Saitama Parks and Greenery Land Association, FV Japan, DyDo DRINKO, SAITAMA KEIZAI DOYUKAI, SHIMAZU, SAPPORO BREWERIES, Saitama Railway, Kokusai Kogyo Bus, Rentceiver, Royal Pines Hotel Urawa, The Citizens' Circle to Support SKIP CITY INTERNATIONAL D-Cinema FESTIVAL
Supported by Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Agency for Cultural Affairs, Motion Picture Producers Association of Japan, Federation of Japanese Films Industry, UNIJAPAN, Foreign Film Importer-Distributors Association of Japan, Japan Association of Audiovisual Producers, Motion Picture and Television Engineering Society of Japan, All Nippon Producers Association, Directors Guild of Japan, Japanese Society of Cinematographers, Japan Film Makers Association, Japan Association of Theatre Owners, Saitama Association of Theatre Owners, Digital Content Association of Japan, Visual Industry Promotion Organization, NHK, FM NACK5, THE SAITAMA SHIMBUN
With the Association of The Kawaguchi Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Junior Chamber International Kawaguchi, Kawaguchi Ginza Shotengai, Hatogaya Society of Commerce and Industry, J.COM, Japan Visualmedia Translation Academy (in no particular order)

SKIP CITY Location Map



Saitama Prefectural Center for Consumer Affairs (2F)

An exhibition of interactive installations on the theme of consumer affairs. Children and adults can enjoy learning in the exhibition zone and theater. Various summer events are held during the film festival.

- 9:30 - 17:00 (Entry until 16:30)
- Free admission
- TEL: 048-261-0993

Visual Museum (2F)

The hands-on facility allows visitors to learn the history and principles of movies and the filmmaking process. Through weekend craft workshops, screenings and exhibitions on various themes, visitors can learn and experience the fascination of moving images.

*Admission free upon presenting the QR code on paper or your mobile during the festival.

- 9:30 - 17:00 (Entry until 16:30)
- Fee: Adult ¥520, Child ¥260
- TEL: 048-265-2500

Kawaguchi Science Museum (1F)

A creative and insightful museum with an observatory, a planetarium and a science exhibition room.

- 9:30 - 17:00 (Entry until 16:30)
- Science Exhibition: Adult ¥210, Child ¥100
- Planetarium: Adult ¥410, Child ¥210
- TEL: 048-262-8431

*It will be closed on July 18 (Tue).

Audio Visual Library (2F)

The largest audio-visual archive in the country run by NHK and Saitama Prefecture. You can view images and films on historical and cultural properties of Saitama as well as popular NHK programs from the past.

- 9:30 - 17:30 (Entry until 17:15)
- Free admission
- TEL: 048-268-8000

Nursery Service (3F) - Reservation Required -

Enjoy films while leaving your children in the care of our nursery.

- During film screenings from 7/16 (Sun) to 7/22 (Sat)
- For parents who attend screenings in Audio Visual Hall and Convention Hall with children older than 3 months
- Fee: ¥300 (per screening)
- Inquiries: Mama Mate TEL & FAX: 048-752-7711
- Reservation: Mon - Fri 9:00 - 18:00 or call 090-3658-4093

*Please reserve at least two days before the required service.

SADECO SHOP (1F)

Come by and shop for various design and rare food products manufactured by the members of a vocational aid center.

- 11:00 - 22:00
- 16:00 - 24:00

*SKIP MART has closed.

Physical Screenings

The ticket is a fixed-date-and-time and reserved-seat ticket.
One ticket purchase (or reservation) is required for each screening.

Type of Ticket	Advance	Same-day
Single Competition Film	¥600	¥800
Competition Screening Pass including access to online screenings	¥4,500	—
Competition Screening Pass	¥3,500	—
Opening Ceremony & Opening Gala: Confetti	¥800	¥1,000
Closing Ceremony & Grand Prize Winner Screening	¥800	¥1,000
Special Screening	¥1,000	¥1,200
SKIP CITY Alumni Reunion : <i>Winnie, The Lump in My Heart, She is Me, I am Her, Missing, The Asadas</i>	¥800	¥1,000
New Wave of Chinese Cinema ~KATSUBEN Selection~ : <i>A New Old Play</i>	¥1,000	¥1,200

*Children under the age of 6 will not be allowed to enter screenings except "Camera Crayon" and "Outdoor Screening".
*Admission free other than the above programs.

Advance tickets

Advance sales are only available online. Please access the ticket sales site from the QR code on the right to purchase tickets.

<https://dss.sboticket.net/>

Reserved tickets for screenings other than Competition Screening Pass

On sale: From 10:00, 6/24 (Sat) to 23:59 of the day before each screening.

Competition Screening Pass (with or without online screening access)

On sale: From 10:00, 6/21 (Wed) until the passes are sold out.
For seat reservation: From 10:00, 6/24 (Sat) to 23:59 of the day before each screening.
*Limited number of passes are available.
*The sales site of Competition Screening Pass is available in Japanese only.

Same-day tickets

Same-day tickets will be on sale at the venues from the doors-open time of the first screening of each day.
*No same-day tickets are available when advance tickets are sold out.
*Payment is cash only.

Online Screenings

All competition films will be available on the streaming site "CINEMA DISCOVERIES" (Registration is required on the site).
Term: From 10:00, 7/22 (Sat) to 23:00, 7/26 (Wed).

Type of Ticket	Fee
Competition Film (Single)	Feature Length: ¥300, Short: ¥100
Competition Films Pass (Unlimited)	¥1,480

*Payment is credit card only (VISA / MASTER / JCB / AMEX / DINERS).

Please access the festival's official website from the QR code on the right.
*The streaming site is available in Japanese only.
www.skipcity-dcf.jp

Schedule

*Physical screenings may be canceled depending on the situation. The latest information will be announced on the festival's official website and social media.

	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00
Jul.15 (Sat)					13:40 / 14:00 Opening Ceremony & Confetti						
16 (Sun)		10:40 / 11:00 Utakata		10:10 / 10:30 Six Weeks	12:50 / 13:10 Mending Cracks			17:10 / 17:30 My Mother's Eyes			
17 (Mon)		10:40 / 11:00 Eflatun		10:10 / 10:30 Short ①	13:30 / 13:50 Short ②			17:10 / 17:30 Till the Day I Can Laugh about My Blues			
18 (Tue)		10:10 / 10:30 When the Seedlings Grow		10:40 / 11:00 Hierophanie	13:30 / 13:50 Banu			16:40 / 17:00 Jailbird			
19 (Wed)		10:10 / 10:30 Is There Anybody Out There?		10:40 / 11:00 Mending Cracks	13:30 / 13:50 Six Weeks			16:40 / 17:00 Into the Ice			
20 (Thu)		10:10 / 10:30 A New Old Play		10:40 / 11:00 My Mother's Eyes	13:30 / 13:50 Utakata			17:10 / 17:30 Eflatun			
21 (Fri)		10:10 / 10:30 Short ②		10:40 / 11:00 She is Me, I am Her	13:30 / 13:50 The Lump in My Heart			16:40 / 17:00 Short ①			
22 (Sat)		10:10 / 10:30 Ten Years + One Day		10:40 / 11:00 Banu	12:50 / 13:10 Hierophanie			16:40 / 17:00 Alien's Daydream			
23 (Sun)		10:40 / 11:00 Closing Ceremony & Grand Prize Winner Screening						17:10 / 17:30 When the Seedlings Grow			

映 Audio Visual Hall
 多 Convention Hall
 HD HD Studio
 映 Opening Ceremony & Gala
 映 Closing Ceremony
 映 International Competition
 映 Japanese Film Competition
 映 Special Screening
 映 SKIP CITY Alumni Reunion
 映 New Wave of Chinese Cinema ~KATSUBEN Selection~
 映 Related Events

Open / Start Title Duration

*Subtitled screenings (English language films will be screened with Japanese subtitles, Japanese language films will be screened with English subtitles. Films in all other languages will be screened with Japanese and English subtitles. A New Old Play will be screened with Japanese, Chinese and English subtitles.)
Screenings marked with "" contain post screening Q&A sessions, stage greetings or talk events with special guests. Please note this may change depending on the circumstances.
*Special Screening, SKIP CITY Alumni Reunion and Related Events are not listed in this leaflet because they will only be presented in Japanese.

Admission Method (How to use QR code)
Please display the QR code from the purchase (reservation) completion email that is automatically sent after purchase, and scan it over the QR code reader installed at the theater.
*Issuing a ticket is not necessary to enter. If the QR code is not displayed, or if you wish to have a ticket issued, please use the ticketing machine installed at the theater.

20th Anniversary

20th Anniversary

20TH ANNIVERSARY

SKIP CITY INTERNATIONAL D-Cinema FESTIVAL 2023

ONSITE	7.15(SAT)-7.23(SUN)
ONLINE	7.22(SAT)-7.26(WED)

SCHEDULE ENGLISH

venue **SKIP CITY** SKIP CITY INTERNATIONAL D-Cinema FESTIVAL Office (Saitama, Japan) TEL : 048-263-0818 www.skipcity-dcf.jp