



29th TIFF to Open with *Florence Foster Jenkins* and Close with *Satoshi: A Move for Tomorrow*

Tokyo International Film Festival (TIFF) is pleased to announce this year's **Opening and Closing Films**. *Florence Foster Jenkins*, directed by **Stephen Frears** and starring **Meryl Streep** and **Hugh Grant**, will open the festival on October 25, and *Satoshi: A Move for Tomorrow*, directed by **Yoshitaka Mori** and starring **Kenichi Matsuyama**, will close the festival on November 3. *Florence Foster Jenkins* is a warm-hearted drama about the real-life heiress who devoted herself to supporting musical society in New York, and dreamed of being a singer herself despite being unspeakably bad. *Satoshi: A Move for Tomorrow* is also biographical, focusing on the life of shogi (Japanese chess) master Satoshi Murayama, who dedicated himself to the game even as he battled the disease that would cut him down in his prime.

In addition to Roppongi Hills, a new main venue this year will be the **EX Theater Roppongi**. The red carpet will roll out in Roppongi on the first day of the festival, welcoming stars and filmmakers from across the globe, including the stars of the opening and closing films: **Meryl Streep, Hugh Grant, Kenichi Matsuyama** and **Masahiro Higashide**.

Following this page is further information on this year's TIFF, including an introduction to the new **Youth Section** and newly announced details about the **Special Night Event at Kabukiza Theatre**, and more. The 29th TIFF will take place from October 25 to November 3, 2016.

Opening Film: *Florence Foster Jenkins*

The true story of Florence Foster Jenkins, the legendary New York heiress and socialite who obsessively pursued her dream of becoming a great singer, despite having a terrible singing voice.

Director: Stephen Frears

Cast: Meryl Streep, Hugh Grant, Simon Helberg



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Comment from Meryl Streep

It's such an honour that the film has been selected as the opening film. I am very looking forward to visiting Japan again, as I have so much enjoyed meeting the people of Japan, and experiencing the beauty of the city and its art and cuisine on my many previous trips!

Comment from Hugh Grant

It's a great honour that FFJ has been selected as the opening film. And I'm looking forward to being back in Tokyo. I have always had a fantastic time there.

Closing Film: *Satoshi: A Move for Tomorrow*



©2016 "Satoshi no Seishun"

The dramatic story of famed shogi (Japanese chess) master Satoshi Murayama, who passionately pursued the game's highest title while fighting off rivals, as well as an intractable disease.

Director: Yoshitaka Mori

Cast: Kenichi Matsuyama, Masahiro Higashide, Shota Sometani

For further information or inquiries, please contact: TIFF Promotion Group
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Publicity materials are available at www.image.net/ Official Website: www.tiff-jp.net/en/



TIFF's newly created **Youth Section** has been designed to expose teen audiences to as many films as possible, in hopes that cinema might serve as a guiding light in years to come. The experience of seeing youth from different worlds on a big screen is sure to make an indelible impact, and it is TIFF's belief that such experiences will help cultivate a new generation of avid cinemagoers.

The Special Night Event at the Kabukiza Theatre returns for the third year as the highlight of TIFF's Japanese Classics section. This year, we will showcase the Japanese classic *Chûshingura* in a digitally remastered version and *Blood's Up at Takata-no-Baba* with the accompaniment of benshi narration, a tradition of live narration for silent films. There will also be an enchanting performance by Kabuki actor **Onoe Kikunosuke** in the onnagata (female role) dance masterpiece "**Sagi Musume (Heron Maiden)**".



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TIFF is also pleased to announce the title of the first of the Asian omnibus film series being made in collaboration with The Japan Foundation Asia Center, *Asian Three-Fold Mirror 2016: Reflections*, signifying new points of light reflected from the mirrors of history and culture. The episodes of the film are directed by Brillante Ma. Mendoza (Philippines), Isao YUKISADA (Japan) and Sotho Kulikar (Cambodia), and will have its world premiere at this year's TIFF.

During the Tokyo International Film Festival's run from October 26 to 30, open-air screenings will take place at the Roppongi Hills Arena, under the moniker **TIFF Cinema Arena**.

As an event kickoff, there will also be an open-air screening, **Tower Light Cinema**, entitled "**Won't you come talk about cinema?**" which aims to encourage film-loving participants to kickstart discussions on cinema.

Continuing to highlight the latest trends in Japanese animation, TIFF is pleased to announce the **TIFF Ani!! Event**, a special one-day anime gathering to be held on Halloween (October 31) at the Tokyo International Forum, featuring the most "happening" phenomenon in today's Japanimation sphere: "anison" or anime music.

For further information and details including previously announced films and events, please download the Event Outline (as of August 23) here: www.image.net/tiff2016_event_outline_en

***The full lineup of the 29th TIFF will be announced on September 26, 2016.**

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Press Accreditation is now open! Visit www.tiff-jp.net to apply by September 23.
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29th Tokyo International Film Festival

Date: October 25 (Tue) – November 3 (Thu), 2016

Venues: Roppongi Hills and other theaters in Tokyo

Market: TIFFCOM 2016 (Japan Content Showcase 2016) October 25 (Tue) – 27 (Thu)

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