



TIFF Unveils Outline for the 33rd Tokyo International Film Festival

As previously announced, the Tokyo International Film Festival (TIFF) is planning to go ahead with a physical edition of the 33rd TIFF, from October 31 through November 9, 2020.

With the coronavirus pandemic continuing, film festivals around the world have been affected and many have been forced to cancel, postpone or shrink. Despite the circumstances, however, TIFF plans to carry out physical screenings in Tokyo theaters, as well as to host symposia and international guest talks online. By staying physical, TIFF will enable audiences to re-experience the joy of watching films on the big screen, which will light a beacon of hope for the future of film. We also believe this will help strengthen international solidarity in the global film industry and reexamine our understanding of visual culture after COVID-19.



However, holding a film festival in the same way as in previous years is very challenging due to such difficulties as restrictions on international travel and the necessity of taking thorough measures against infection.

Therefore, we have created a special section for the 33rd TIFF that goes beyond the boundaries of our usual competitive sections. The **Tokyo Premiere 2020** will combine our international Competition, Asian Future and Japanese Cinema Splash sections into one lineup. Instead of bestowing the usual awards, TIFF will give one Audience Award for all the films nominated in this limited section, allowing us to shine a spotlight on the importance of our audiences. (For more details, please see the outline of the section below. Details on the festival's other sections will be announced at a later date.)

Additionally, we have established a **new selection committee** this year, which will allow TIFF to benefit from the knowledge, diversity and wide-ranging backgrounds of outside experts. **Please see below for the list of committee members.**

This year's TIFF will also see us deepening our ties with **Tokyo FILMeX**, which is traditionally held also in late autumn. We will be forming a relationship similar to that between the Cannes Film Festival and Directors' Fortnight, with the latter held independently within the framework of the Cannes Film Festival. We expect this synergy between our two festivals to also strengthen solidarity in the film industry.

Of course, one absolute condition of holding the 33rd TIFF is that we can guarantee the safety of our audiences, filmmakers and staff. Therefore, if this condition cannot be met as the pandemic situation continues to transition in the future, we will pursue various options, including postponement or cancellation. We appreciate your understanding about any changes that may occur.

About Tokyo Premiere 2020

Focusing on world and Asian premieres, **Tokyo Premiere 2020** will showcase about 30 films from across the globe, by both veterans and emerging directors. Maintaining our usual balance among regions and the selection criteria of TIFF's three main competition sections, this special lineup will allow audiences to enjoy, on an equal footing, a diversity of films from international and Japanese directors in all stages of their careers.

The Committee Members

Kohei ANDO (Emeritus Professor at Waseda University), Shozo ICHIYAMA (Producer), Kenji ISHIZAKA (TIFF Senior Programmer), Yuka KIMBARA (Journalist), Yuko SEKIGUCHI (Journalist) and Yoshi YATABE (TIFF Senior Programmer).



33rd Tokyo International Film Festival

Dates: October 31 (Sat) – November 9 (Mon), 2020

Venues: Roppongi Hills, Ex Theater Roppongi and other venues in Tokyo

Official Website: www.tiff-jp.net

Market: TIFFCOM 2020 November 4 (Wed) – 6 (Fri)

Press conference for the full lineup will be held on **Tuesday, September 29.*

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For further information or inquiries, please contact: TIFF Public Relations Division

Due to current situation in Japan, we are working remotely.

Please contact us by email: tiff-pr2020@tiff-jp.net