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Academy Awards® qualifying and one of the Asia's largest International Short Film Festivals

## **Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia 2017**

Premiering "Cinema Fighters" a collaborative project between HIRO (EXILE) and Tetsuya Bessho including "Parallel World" starring Anna Ishii, Takayuki Yamada, directed by Naomi Kawase, music by Sandaime J Soul Brothers "Unfair World"

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TOKYO, JAPAN – March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – [Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia \(SSFF & ASIA\)](#), a qualifying film festival for the annual Academy Awards® and one of Asia's largest international short film festivals, will be held from June 1st to June 25th, 2017.

Marking its 19th year, the festival has received over 9,000 short films sent from over 140 countries and regions, and only 250 will be shown at the festival.

### **【Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia 2017】**

- Founder of the Festival: Tetsuya Bessho
- Festival Ambassador: LiLiCo
- Duration: June 1st to June 25th, 2017
- Venues: 5 venues in Tokyo, 1 in Yokohama (TOTAL: 6 venues)

<TOKYO> OMOTESANDO HILLS SPACE O, LAFORET MUSEUM HARAJUKU,  
Andaz Tokyo, Andaz Studio, iTSCOM STUDIO & HALL, Futagotamagawa rise,  
Ebisu act\*quare

<YOKOHAMA> Brillia Short Shorts Theater

- Price: Free Admission
  - ※Reservation is scheduled to start late April. Some events may require payment
  - ※You can reserve tickets through Peatix, and there will be a limited number of day-of-screening tickets available
- Official Website: <http://www.shortshorts.org/>
- Organizer: Committee for Short Shorts / Committee for Short Shorts Film Festival Asia

### **【Highlight】**

**“Cinema Fighters” Collaborative project between SSFF & ASIA and LDH produced by HIRO (EXILE) - A total of 6 works will be premiered during the festival**

LDH & SSFF & ASIA have collaborated with “EXILE TRIBE,” a leading group of artists in the Japanese entertainment industry, to present 6 short films.

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**“Parallel World”**

Director: Naomi Kawase

Music: Sandaime J Soul Brothers “Unfair World”

Cast: Anna Ishii, Takayuki Yamada and others

Story: Toru revisits the astronomical observatory in his old school for the first time in 15 years. He finds a notebook in the room that remained unchanged and frozen in time. "Thanks for watching me." It was a message from Maya, a member of the school dance club, who he had feelings for. The feelings he had and never said arrives at a dead end as tears run down from his eyes. Memories from 15 years ago and the present begin to intertwine. If only he could turn back the hands of time...

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**<Composition of the Festival>**

Programs shown at the festival are separated into two programs;

**Special Program:** Programs centered around trending themes from around the world.

**Competition:** Programs centered around a competition where one winner is chosen for each category.

The 3 official competitions will be for the 3 categories: “International”, “Japan” and “Asia International.”

The Grand Prix winner will be eligible for an Academy Award® nomination in the short film categories the following year.

2016’s Grand Prix winner, “Sing”, directed by Kristof Deak, won the Oscar at the 89th Academy Awards in the Short Film Live Action category, which marks the first time that an SSFF & ASIA-winning film has received an Academy Award®.

The best film for each category will be announced at the Award Ceremony, which will take place on June 11th, 2017. The Opening Ceremony will be held on June 1st, 2017.\* Invitation Only

**SSFF & ASIA 2017 Main Theme**

**cinemaTIC! cinemaTEC!**

Cinema culture bloomed in the 20th century and has been entertaining people for generations. Nowadays, digital arts and technology have enhanced and created a modern cinematic culture. As the years go by, the world of cinema has evolved but at the same time, the concept of entertaining one another through film has stayed the same.

This year’s theme “**cinemaTIC! cinemaTEC!**” covers the timeless feeling one can get from watching an entertaining piece, and how to approach filmmaking in a time where technology is constantly evolving.

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