

One of Asia's Largest Short Film Festivals in Tokyo,  
 accredited by the Academy Awards®  
**Presenting Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia 2021!**  
 From Friday June 11<sup>th</sup> to Monday June 21<sup>st</sup>  
 Global Online Screening from Tuesday April 27<sup>th</sup>

**Special support from Sony for the Official Competition,  
 gateway to the Academy Awards®, continues and  
 Over 900 filmmakers have entered the  
 Newly Started Smartphone Film Competition**

We are thrilled to officially present Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia (SSFF & ASIA) 2021, taking place in Tokyo and online, from Friday, June 11<sup>th</sup> to Monday, June 21<sup>st</sup> (global online screening will begin on Tuesday, April 27<sup>th</sup>).

This year's theme is "CINEMADventure" – a blend of the words CINEMA, AD (advertisement), ADVENTURE, and VENTURE. How are filmmakers around the world creating and embracing the world of *cinema*? How are they *venturing* to make *adventurous*, daring films? In recent years, many filmmakers have even branched out into the world of *ads*, or advertising. As an international short film festival, we hope to bring together all filmmakers, audiences, and supporters to experience our "CINEMADventure".

**SSFF & ASIA's Official Competition supported by Sony is an opportunity for filmmakers to be considered for the Short Films category at the Academy Awards. With a total of 10 categories including the Official Competition supported by Sony, we have received over 6000 entries from about 120 different countries and regions. The Smartphone Film Competition supported by Sony is a new category, and yet in this age of technology, it has caught the attention of many filmmakers. We have received over 900 submissions from all over the world, the largest number of entries a new category at SSFF & ASIA has ever received.**

The pandemic has changed so much of our everyday lives as well as what we value in life. Despite the darkness the world may seem to be in, many filmmakers are optimistic and are welcoming new challenges everyday. The 23<sup>rd</sup> SSFF & ASIA will also welcome these new challenges to bring hope to our society through the visual language that is film.

This year, we are proud to be collaborating with Sony once again, the sole supporter of the Official Competition (International, Asia International, and Japan competitions). Sony has long supported the dreams of creators as an entertainment company powered by the latest technology.

## OFFICIAL COMPETITION

supported by **SONY**

Additionally, Sony Mobile Communications supports the Smartphone Film Competition, an opportunity to push the limits of creativity and redefine filmmaking. We are happy to announce that Sony Mobile Communications will be supporting this competition again in 2022.

**Smartphone  
 Film Competition**  
 supported by **SONY**

### [Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia 2021]

- SSFF & ASIA President: Tetsuya Bessho
- Date : Friday, June 11<sup>th</sup> to Monday, June 21<sup>st</sup>  
 (Online screenings from Tuesday, April 27<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday, June 30<sup>th</sup>)
- Locations: Screening venues across Tokyo and online
- Entry fee: Free of charge with the exception of some events  
 (pre-booking is scheduled to begin May 8th)
- Enquiries: 03-5474-8844
- Homepage: <https://www.shortshorts.org/en> \*2021 website will be open on April 27th
- Organizer : Committee for Short Shorts / Committee for Short Shorts Film Festival Asia

\* Program details are subject to change.



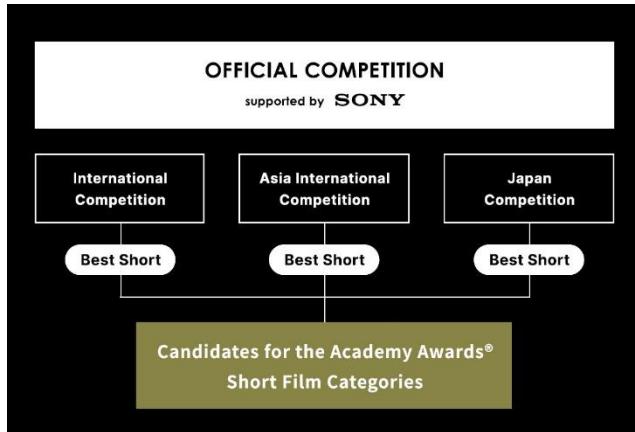
<Official Visual of Festival>

## Official Competition (International, Asia International, and Japan competitions) supported by Sony

This year we are proud to be collaborating with Sony once again, the sole supporter of the Official Competition (International, Asia International, and Japan competitions). The competition may serve as an opportunity for filmmakers to secure a spot in the Academy Awards' Short Film category.

For this year's 93<sup>rd</sup> Academy Awards, the following short films from last year's Official Competition selections have been nominated: "White Eye" by Tomer Shushan and "The Present" by Farah Nabulsi.

### <Structure of Official Competition>



★There are more than 130 film festivals recognized by Academy Awards® in the world.

With a grand prix and/or nominations from these film festivals, films will be eligible to compete in the following year's Academy Awards.

SSFF & ASIA is the only international short film festival in Asia with the eligibility to nominate 3 films.

**Find out more about the joint project between SSFF & ASIA, Sony, and Sony Mobile Communications in the link below:**

**URL:** <https://www.shortshorts.org/sony/en>

### <Other Awards and Competitions>

The GRAND PRIX, George Lucas Award will be awarded to the Best Short winners of the Official Competitions (International, Asia International, and Japan). The Governor of Tokyo Award will be awarded to the respective Best Short winners of the Asia International and Japan categories. In addition to the Official Competition winners, the Best Short winner of the Non-fiction category will be eligible for the Academy Awards the following year.

Throughout the duration of the festival, we will also be awarding filmmakers in the following categories: CG Animation, Cinematic Tokyo, Branded Shorts, Musical Short Film Pitch, Shibuya Diversity, U-25 Project, Book Shorts, Visual Tourism, Save the Earth, Biogen, Spotlight, Best Actor, and Audience.

### History of SSFF & ASIA



Actor and member of the Screen Actors Guild (SAG), Tetsuya Bessho founded the festival in 1999 to introduce Japanese audiences to short films – a form of expression many people in Japan were unfamiliar with. In 2001, the festival became officially known as Short Shorts Film Festival (SSFF), and was recognized by the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences®. In the same year, Short Shorts Film Festival Asia (SSFF ASIA) was established with support from the Tokyo Metropolitan Government to introduce new Asian video culture and nurture young filmmakers from the region.

Today the festival is known as SSFF & ASIA. In 2018, we celebrated our 20<sup>th</sup> festival, and the Grand Prix prize was renamed the George Lucas Award. In January 2019, we held our first "SSFF in Hollywood" as part of our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, and director Jason Reitman, winner of the SSFF Audience Award in 2001, was given an Honorary Award.

From 2019, a total of 4 winners from the Official Competition (International, Asia International, & Japan categories) and the Non-Fiction category have been eligible to be nominated for the Academy Awards.

SSFF & ASIA will continue to support young filmmakers through this festival.

Web: <https://www.shortshorts.org/eng>

※The website for SSFF & ASIA 2021 is scheduled to launch in April 27<sup>th</sup> of 2021.

### PRESS ENQUIRIES

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PR assets can be downloaded here (From March 24<sup>th</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>)

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/12B1zJKjx0J-nuaeuiQPWpUY4oAZd7Fp2?usp=sharing>