

Academy Awards® Qualifying International Short Film Festival

# Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia 2022

## Screening in Autumn

**Award winning 15 Short Films are Globally Streamed  
at Online Venue starts from Sep.29**

**Audience of the online venue and the people who come to  
the festival will receive an original SSFF & ASIA 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary NFT.**

Academy Awards® qualifying and one of the largest film festivals in Asia, Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia (SSFF & ASIA) is going to have a screening in Autumn from September 29<sup>th</sup> to October 23<sup>rd</sup> at Online Venue & Tokyo Photographic Museum of Art.

URL : <https://shortshorts.org/2022autumn/en/>



SSFF & ASIA have received 5,720 films from 126 countries and regions for the 24th SSFF & ASIA this June.

For the Screening in Autumn, winner of the Grand Prix, George Lucas Award "Warsha" by Dania Bdeir, "Skin & Bone" starring Amanda Seyfried, "Sweet Tooth" starring Timothée Chalamet, and other short films that won SSFF & ASIA 2022 will be showcased.

16 Award Winning Shorts including "THE LIMIT Taxi Girl" (Japan Competition), "Nuisance Bear" (Non-Fiction Competition), Dark Yellow (Asia Competition Audience Award), Tokyo Rain (Cinematic Tokyo Competition), "Barefoot Empress" (Biogen Award), "Final Deathination" (Animation Competition), "Borekas" (International Competition Best Actor Award), "sparklers" (Japan Competition Best Actor Award), "AIM" (Branded Shorts of the Year Japan Category) will be globally streamed online.

Audience of the online venue and the people who come to the festival will receive an original SSFF & ASIA NFT. With this NFT, you will be invited to the special anniversary event of the SSFF & ASIA 2023 in next June.

# [SSFF & ASIA 2022 Screening in Autumn Lineup of Global Streaming]



## “THE LIMIT Taxi Girl”

### Japan Competition Best Short Award

Director: Masaya Yoshida / 23:23 / Japan / Drama / 2021

Saki, a lawyer, gets into a waiting cab to go to the airport. But the driver of the cab was her sister Satomi, who had been waiting for her, and against her sister's wishes, drove her to the hospital where her mother was in critical condition.



## “Nuisance Bear”

### Non-Fiction Competition Best Short Award

Director: Jack Weisman & Gabriela Osio Vanden / 13:52 / Japan / Non-Fiction / 2021

Churchill, Manitoba, is a famous destination for photographing polar bears. We've seen the majestic images and classic wildlife series captured here - but what do these bears see of us? Through a shift in perspective, Nuisance Bear reveals an obstacle course of tourist paparazzi and wildlife officers whom bears must navigate during their annual migration.



## “Final Deathination”

### U-25 Project Best Short Award

Director: Marika Tamura / 02:05 / United States / Animation / 2021

A suicidal man encounters "Death" who is a "travel agent" to find the best place to die.



## “Tokyo Rain”

### Cinematic Tokyo Competition Best Short Award / Governor of Tokyo Award

Director: Michel Wild & Robert Schneider / 12:07 / Switzerland / Fantasy / 2021

Heavy rain has been hitting the facades of Tokyo. Masahiro is alone in his office. He calls his wife, who doesn't seem to be excited about her husband's overtime. He falls asleep on the computer during his monotonous paperwork. He has a nightmare. When he wakes up, nothing seems the way it used to be.



## “EYES”

### Smartphone Film Competition supported by Sony's Xperia Best Short Award

Director: Olga Azhnakina / 08:08 / Russia / Drama / 2020  
Kolya is died. A good man, a son, a husband, a friend, a neighbour. Everybody loved him, but at the wake it turns out that no one knew him indeed.



### **“Borekas”**

#### **Best Actor Award (International Competition)**

Director: Saleh Saadi / 15:00 / Palestine / Drama / 2020

A breakdown on the way to the airport provides a father and son with an opportunity to reconnect.



### **“Dark Yellow”**

#### **Audience Award (Asia International Competition)**

Director: Hye-sun Koo / 22:14 / Korea / Fantasy / 2021

He wonders about her.

What lies deep inside her?



### **“Sparklers”**

#### **Best Actor Award (Japan Competition)**

Director: Yudai Chiba / 24:50 / Japan / Drama / 2022

I'm always on your side." A woman and a man are enjoying camping. They are not lovers but more than just friends, and not family. The relationship that was supposed to last a lifetime is gradually twisted by the man's words... What lies in the future for the two of them?



### **“Barefoot Empress”**

#### **Biogen Award**

Director: Vikas Khanna / 15:32 / India / Non-Fiction / 2021

96-year-old Karthiyani Amma lived a life sweeping temples in India. Decades later she broke with tradition returning to school. There, she shattered expectations, earning the top score in her class. Her inspirational story is proof that it's never too late to realize your dreams.



### **“SAMURAI SWORDFISH”**

#### **Cinema Sports Project Special Production Short**

Director: Hiroki Horanai / 24:58 / Japan / Drama / 2022

A young blind samurai travels back in time from Balimatsu, the end of the Edo period to fulfill a promise he made to his late best friend in Edo, and together with a young man who is his descendant, they encounter para-swimming in modern Tokyo.



### “AIM”

#### **National Competition Branded Shorts of the Year**

Director: GAZEBO. / 21:54 / Japan

Withdrawn since her mother's death, Mai spends her days playing online games and sleeping. Concerned, her father seeks advice.



### “A LOCKDOWN LOVE STORY”

#### **International Competition Branded Shorts of the Year**

Director: Sho Yanagisawa / 02:20 / Netherlands

Heineken launches a new campaign, made for markets opening following the lifting of pandemic restrictions. The campaign entitled, A Lockdown Love Story, is an emotive and optimistic short film that looks ahead to all the new experiences and opportunities that will be unlocked as bars reopen and the world eventually emerges from the pandemic.



### “Ukujima”

#### **The 11th Visual Tourism Award, Japan Tourism Agency Commisioner's Award**

Director: Tekkou Nogami / 04:00 / Japan

Today's travelers follow the path of Iemori Taira that has been passed down to Ukujima, and while thinking about it, they will eventually synchronize as they come into contact with a livelihood for life and culture of the people on the island that are still alive past and future. It is a journey story that encounters a miracle that "people return to themselves".



### “Taking Flight”

#### **Deloitte Digital Award**

Director: Juan Cabral / 01:40 / Japan

Inspire Impossible Stories. Books move the hearts of people all over the world. This is a 100-second story in which various works from Kodansha take off to the world and reach their hearts.



### “The Wish”

#### **Deloitte Digital Award**

Director: Christoph Everk, Alexander Nagel / 03:49 / Germany

A wish list becomes the plea of a generation, when a teenage boy asks his mother what she wants for Christmas, and she answers in the most unusual way: "I wish for you to get your youth back" – along with all the ups and downs of growing up. She wishes for everything her son so deeply missed, during two years of the pandemic and hard restrictions of social life.



### “Unspoken Love”

#### **Deloitte Digital Award**

08:47 / China

Inspired by a true story, the film features a deaf-mute young couple from two far away cities, who met each other from a video social site using their OPPO Reno5 smartphones. Over time, their love grows as they understand each other more by communicating via portrait video everyday until the day they finally decide to meet up in person because they are each other's shining star.



### **“Kindness is also yours”**

**HR Competition supported by Indeed HR Award**

Director: Masaki Miya / 03:24 / Japan

A high school student, who retired from club activities, now start thinking about his future. He has no idea what he would like to do, and worries about his future.



### **“Sunnies”**

Director: Ismail Khan / 11:15 / Australia / Drama / 2021

After roaming the streets of his neighbourhood one morning, Malcolm, a troubled and somewhat delinquent teen, decides to steal a pair of sunglasses from the local shops – an act that is later revealed to be part of a much bigger plan.



### **“Shielded”**

Director: Jan Verdijk / 21:15 / Netherlands / Horror / 2021

Who can be trusted during a worldwide pandemic? Two young sisters forced into isolation are suspicious of a man offering them help.

## **Outline of SSFF & ASIA 2022 Screening in Autumn**

**Dates** : Online : Sept 29 (Thurs) ~Oct 23 (Sun)

Venues : Oct 21 (Fri) ~23 (Sun)

※Screening time may differ for each program. Please check the website for details.

**Venues** : Online & Tokyo Photographic Art Museum

**Programs** : Screenings of Winners of SSFF & ASIA 2022, Horror Short Films, Shocking Collection, Discover Beauty Program. Events include Online seminar with BRANDED SHORTS, Creator’s Seminar, Short Stories Panel Discussion and more.

**Price** : **Online Theater Subscription Passport (5.00USD)** will be on sale from Sept 29th (Thurs)

**Reservations** : Seat reservations for the screening at the Tokyo Photographic Art Museum will be accepted on the website from Sept 29th 14:00~ (Thurs)

**Website** : <https://shortshorts.org/2022autumn/en/>

Organizer : Committee for Short Shorts Film Festival Asia

Co-Organizer : Tokyo Metropolitan Government

Patronage : J-WAVE

Allied Event: The 35<sup>th</sup> Tokyo International Film Festival

※There might be changes in the program due to COVID.

In order to prevent the spread of COVID-19, we will ask all visitors to wear masks and measure their temperature when entering. We will also disinfect doorknobs and chairs thoroughly, ventilate regularly. More details will be posted on the website.

[Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia]



Since 1999, actor Tetsuya Bessho, member of the Screen Actors Guild of America (SAG), has worked to introduce the then new genre, "short films," which he first encountered in the United States, to film fans in Japan as the American Short Shorts Film Festival.

In 2001, the festival was renamed the Short Shorts Film Festival.

In 2004, SSFF was recognized as an Academy Award® accredited film festival.

In the same year, with the aim of promoting new visual culture from Asia and nurturing up-and-coming young filmmakers, the Short Shorts Film Festival Asia (SSFF ASIA, co-sponsored by Tokyo Metropolitan Government) was established and the festival is now known collectively as SSFF & ASIA.

To commemorate the festival's 20th anniversary in 2018, the Grand Prix film was named the "George Lucas Award" in honor of director George Lucas.

In January 2019, the Short Shorts Film Festival in Hollywood was held to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the festival. Beginning with the 2019 festival, in addition to the Official Competitions (International, Asia International, and Japan), the Non-Fiction Competition and this year, the Animation Competition Best Short Award winners have also become eligible for nomination at the Academy Awards the following year. SSFF & ASIA will continue to support young creators through the festival.

[Official website] <https://www.shortshorts.org/index-en.php>

**[PRESS INQUIRY]**

Committee for Short Shorts : Fuyumi Tanaka [press@shortshorts.org](mailto:press@shortshorts.org)

Stills are available here: