

Academy Awards® accredited Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia 2016

Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia 2016: Award Ceremony Grand Prix went to “Sing” from Hungary!!

Thank you for your interests in Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia (SSFF & ASIA) 2016. The Award Ceremony for SSFF & ASIA was held on June 13th at Meiji-Jingu Kaikan (Shibuya-ku, Tokyo). The festival’s highest honor, the Grand Prix, was awarded to Hungarian film “Sing”. We would be thankful if you could spread this great news through your media! SSFF&ASIA will be closed on June 26th. For the details of the film, please check our official website: <http://shortshorts.org/2016/en/>



SSFF & ASIA 2016 Grand Prix / International Competition Best Short Award



【Director Profile】

Kristof Deak made a career as an editor before studying directing at the Westminster Film School. He works in London and Budapest and directs fiction short films and TV programs. He is currently developing his first feature film.

“Sing”

Kristof Deak / Hungary / 24:58 / Drama / 2015

Quiet 10-year-old Zsofi has just changed schools. Feeling out of place at first, she is quickly admitted to the school’s famous choir and befriends her popular classmate Liza. Soon, they have to stand up united against their choir master, who isn’t quite the friendly and inspirational teacher they first thought she was.

Director’s comment:

Thank you for this award. Thank you for organizing this festival. Thank you for my wonderful crew and my cast. The kids will be very happy about this. It’s amazing. Thank you very much. Wow. This is a surprise. It’s very hard to talk right now. I would again like to thank my entire crew and my cast, especially the kids. They will be very happy about this. This trophy is quite heavy, so I may have to upgrade myself on my way home. Anyway, thank you so much. This is the best film festival.

Official Competitions: submissions and screening summary

	No. of submissions	No. of works selected to screen
① International Competition	4,314 (from 119 countries/regions)	35 (from 19 countries/regions)
② Asia International Competition	807 (from 37 countries/regions)	19 (from 11 countries/regions)
③ Japan Competition	344	17

Best Short Award Prize Money: 600, 000 JPY

※One Best Short Award is given to one stand out film selected from amongst the nominees for each of the three official competitions (International, Asia International, Japan).

Asia international Competition Best Short Award (Governor of Tokyo Award)



【Director Profile】

In 2008, Kim Geon entered the Korea National University of Arts and filmed "Keep Going" as his graduation project. His past works, "I'm Sorry, I'm Late," and "Pokerface Girl," were selected for several film festivals.

“Keep Going”

Geon Kim / South Korea / 19:47 / Sci-Fi / 2015

Yeonhee has a broken implanted artificial heart, and Margo is a robot who has Yeonhee's broken heart connected to his body. The two head toward the boundary to survive in an inseparable destiny...

Director's comment:

I would like to tell my mother about this. I didn't know I was receiving this award, so I didn't dress properly. This is my senior thesis film and it gave me a wonderful opportunity to keep my career going. Thank you.

Japan Competition Best Short Award / Governor of Tokyo Award



【Director Profile】

Originally from Akita, Takeshi Yashiro graduated from the Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music and currently works as a TV commercial director. On top of visual art production and animation, he is especially talented with stop-motion animation.

“Moon of Sleepless Night “

Takeshi Yashiro / Japan / 25:00 / Animation / 2015

When the moon gets stuck in a tree and leaves the town in eternal night, a Squirrel of the Moon and a young boy of the forest embark on a journey to help free the moon.

Best Short Award Prize Money: 600, 000 JPY

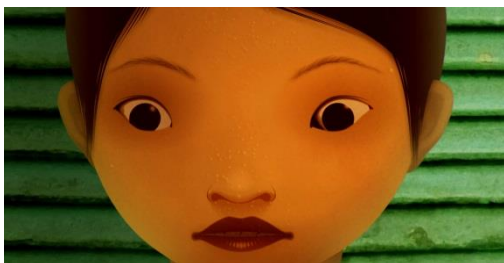
Director's comment:

Many different people worked on this film for one and a half year to complete it. So I would like to thank my crew for this award. Also, I would like to extend my gratitude to my wife, children, and my parents for teaching me about sense of home, which is the theme of this film. Thank you.

■ Official Competitions Jury (in order of the Japanese alphabet):

Masaya Kato (Actor), Hitomi Kuroki (Actress), Claudette Godfrey (SXSW Short Film Programmer & Operations Manager), Shinsuke Sato (Film Director), Terry Ito (Producer – Director)

CG Animation Competition Best Short Award



“Cold Coffee”

François Leroy, Stéphanie Lansaue/France/14:44/2015

Saigon, Vietnam. After her mother's death, a young girl has to quit her studies to take over the family cafe. Facing a radical change of life, loneliness, and sorrow, she grows confused...

【Director Profile】

Francois Leroy studied animation and Stephanie Lansaue has worked as an art director for magazine and edition. In 2002, their first travel to Asia inspired the film Goodbye Mister Chu, which talks about Vietnamese traditions and the lost soul's festival. Cafe Froid is their fourth short film. They use to be technicians and directors for TV series, video clip and feature films as well.

■ CG Animation Competition

No. of Submissions : 195 No. of films screening : 34 (excluding special presentations) No. of Countries/Regions : 15

■ Prize Money: 600,000 JPY

■ CG Animation Competition Jury (in order of the Japanese alphabet):

Kozue Akimoto (Model) , Keiichi Sato (Film Director) , Tomoyuki Sugiyama (President, Digital Hollywood University)

Producer's comment:

I'm very happy to be here in Tokyo and thank you for the fabulous hospitality. Let me tell you for my directors that I really thank you for this.

Fashion Short of the Year 2016

This award will be given to the most cinematic short film produced by a fashion brand.

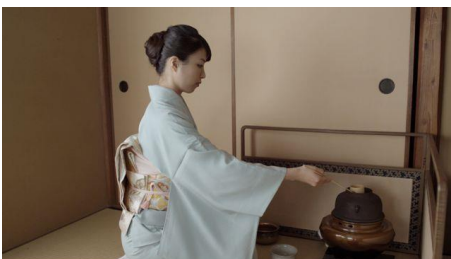


“Comfort”

Grant Curatola & Louis Levy / 4:47 / A.P.C. / 2015

Brillia New Luxury Award

This award will be given to a film which Comfort / Open/Story/ Experience /With, five element sare effectively appeared, under the concept of New Luxury, of Brillia brand of Tokyo Tememono.



【Director Profile】

Yo was born in 1973. His 2003 film, "Mars", received the Cultural Affairs Agency's Media Arts Festival Entertainment Award. "Raise the Castle", which he wrote and directed, was screened nationwide for six months. He is now producing the feature film, "Seichi-e!"

“Another Tea?”

Yo Kohatsu / Japan / 8:25 / Comedy / 2009

A grandmother with burns on her hands teaches her novice granddaughter the tea ceremony. How hospitable can they be to the foreign VIPs? Directed by Yo Kohatsu, who made his directorial debut with photographer R. Kirishima in "Raise the Castle!," which received critical acclaim.

Director's comment

Thank you for liking my film.



【Director Profile】

Writer - Director Mr. Vizcaya's short film "Dreamers" was selected at film festivals including Cartagena, Morelia and Cambridge. "Arara," his animation project about the Amazon Rainforest, was selected for the Carrefour de la Créacion at Annecy, won the Producer's Meetings in Cartagena, and the Ibermedia-Fundacion Carolina script residence.

"Will and Charity"

Vlamy Vizcaya / Columbia / 8:25 / Drama / 2015

Everyday, a humble man in a metropolis writes down a list of requests from his neighbors. His day job is his way to help the community. He's in love with the teacher. One day the teacher walks to his front door, and the two of them experience the best surprise ever.

Hikari TV Award

This award will be presented to a director from the Japan Competition. The winner will be chosen based on who they consider has the best ability to deliver the allure of 4K. The chosen winner will be given the chance to direct a 4K original short film with NTT Plala.



【Director Profile】

A.T., or Asai Takeshi, was born in 1970. He has been working mainly with television commercial production.

"Sociopaths"

A.T. / Japan / 5:24 / Mystery / 2015

A girl encounters an android on the street. She finds something strange about the experience and decides to follow the android to give it a "message."

Director's comment

I was told I'm the first one to receive this award. I'm very honored.

Comments from Tetsuya Bessho, Festival CEO and LiLiCo, Festival Ambassador

Tetsuya: This is our 18th edition. For our first edition, we got an endorsement from George Lucas and that's how we began. So I would like to thank everyone here for your continuing support.

Lilico: Well the festival is not over yet. It continues until June 26th at various venues, so I hope you will catch some of the shorts.

Tetsuya: There are plenty of wonderful feature films, but shorts is also an exciting medium where the essence of cinema is packed, so I hope you will enjoy them as we move onto the 19th and 20th editions.

■ **Schedule / Venue** ※Opening Ceremony and Awards Ceremony are not open for general admission.

		SHIDAX CULTURE HALL	iTSCOM STUDIO & HALL	Brillia Short Shorts Theater
6/14	Tue			●
6/15	Wed			●
6/16	Thu	●		●
6/17	Fri	●		●
6/18	Sat	●		●
6/19	Sun	●		●
6/20	Mon			
6/21	Tue			●
6/22	Wed			●
6/23	Thu	●	●	●
6/24	Fri	●	●	●
6/25	Sat	●	●	●
6/26	Sun	●	Closing Ceremony	●

	Venue	Schedule
TOKYO	SHIDAX CULTURE HALL	6/16 (Thu) ~19 (Sun) , 23 (Thu) ~26 (Sun)
	Andaz Tokyo Andaz Studio	6/6 (Mon) ~10 (Fri)
	iTSCOM STUDIO & HALL	6/23 (Thu) ~26 (Sun)
YOKOHAMA	Brillia Short Shorts Theater	6/14 (Tue) ~19 (Sun) , 21 (Tue) ~26 (Sun)

■ **All Screenings and Events in Tokyo and Yokohama are Free Admission, with the exception of a few selected events.**

• Advance Reservations for both Paid Admission and Free Admission Screenings and Events can be made as of 15:30 on 19 April (Tue). ※ Advance Reservations can be made via the official festival website.

Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia (SSFF & ASIA)

This Japan born, Academy Awards® accredited festival is one of the largest film festivals in Asia. The festival was started by actor Tetsuya Bessho, a native of Japan and SAG member, as he wanted to introduce Japanese audiences to short film - a format that many people in Japan were unfamiliar with. The first ever festival was held in the Harajuku neighborhood of Tokyo in 1999. Six short made back when George Lucas – the director best known for the “Star Wars” series - was still a student were screened. Since then we have received an annual letter of support from the Mr. Lucas.

In 2001 the festival became known officially as Short Shorts Film Festival (SSFF), and in 2004 was accredited as a qualifying festival for the Academy Awards®. This means that the winner of the festival Grand Prix is eligible to be nominated in one of the short film categories of the Academy Awards® held the following year. This opportunity offers a bridge between Japan and the Oscars, so that young talents may realize their dreams.

Furthermore, Short Shorts Film Festival Asia (SSFF ASIA) was established with support from Tokyo Metropolitan Government in 2004. The new festival was a way to introduce new Asian film culture and nurture young filmmaking talents from the region. To this day, the two festivals are held together as Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia. Aside from the three Official Competitions, there are categories and programs compiled around “music,” “environment” and “CG animation” related shorts.

The short film specialist theater Brillia Short Shorts Theater was established in the Minatomirai area of Yokohama in 2008. Whilst providing one of the festival’s annual venues, the theater has welcomed over 320,000 audience members to date. As the festival expands its activities in Japan, spreading the word of short film, it will also continue to support young creators and provide a springboard into the film industry.

【Inquiries for PR】

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(From Left to Right)
1999: SSFF & ASIA Festival President meets Director George Lucas at a party held at the Embassy of the United States.
2015: AWARD Ceremony.