

Academy Awards® Qualifying and One of the Largest International Short Film Festivals  
SHORT SHORTS FILM FESTIVAL & ASIA

## Which film captured the hearts of the audience this year!? SSFF & ASIA 2025 Audience Awards, Most Viewed Awards and Best Actor Awards were Announced

SSFF & ASIA 2025, one of Asia's largest international short film festivals and an Academy Awards® accredited festival, concluded on June 30.

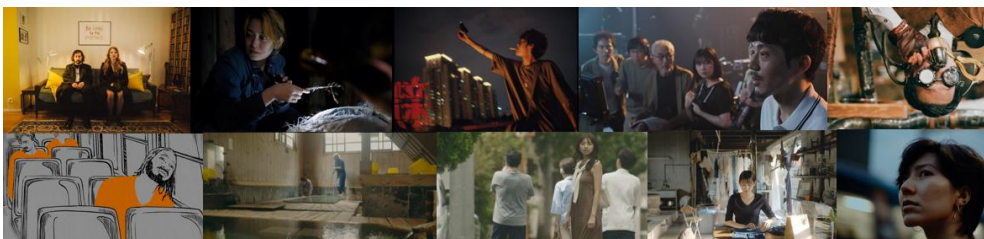
The festival announced the winners of the Audience Award—chosen by audience votes from the nominees in the Live Action Competition's International, Asia International, and Japan categories—as well as the Best Actor Award, recognizing the most captivating performances, and the Most Viewed Award, given to the most-watched film at the Online Grand Theater.

For the Audience Award, the following films received the most support from audiences at the Tokyo venue and Online Grand Theatre: International Category: "I See You" (New Zealand), directed by Briar March, Asia International Category: "Dandelions Girl" (Iran), directed by Azadeh Meshizadeh, Japan Category: "NOVA", directed by Yuma Terada.

The Best Actor Award went to: International Category: Amal Omran for her performance in "Future is Panorama" (Germany), Asia International Category: Jo Han-chul for his role in "TRAP" (Korea), Japan Category: Miyu Yoshimoto for her performance in "ABYSS".

Additionally, the Most Viewed Award was presented to 10 films, including the Grand Prix / George Lucas Award winner Torn Pantyhose, for being the most watched among the competition films streamed online. All award-winning films are scheduled to be screened at the SSFF & ASIA 2025 Screening in Autumn, to be held in October.

URL : <https://www.shortshorts.org/2025/awards/>



## Audience Award International Category

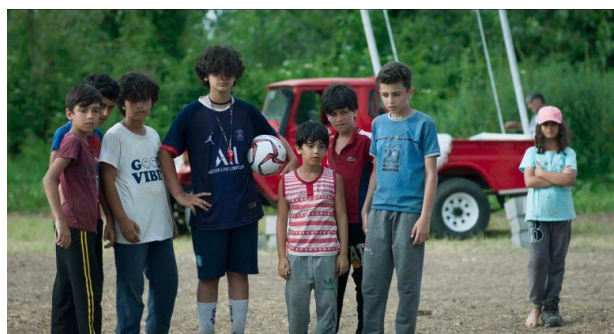


### 『I See You』

**Director : Briar March/17:09/ New Zealand /Drama/2024**

In a world where having the perfect baby is becoming a choice, a young mother is struggling to love and accept her daughter for who she is.

## Audience Award Asia International Category



### 『Dandelions Girl』

**Director : Azadeh Masihzadeh / 0:19:43 / Iran / Drama / 2025**

Set in northern Iran, 11-year-old Roja, who dreams of playing soccer, she convinces the boys to let her play with them. Showing great talent as a goalkeeper, frustrated Kubar, pushes her and causes her head hit the goalposts. Believing she is lifeless, Kubar's father forces everyone to rewrite the story to save his son from consequences.

## Audience Award Japan Category



### 『NOVA』

**Director : Yuma Terada / 0:25:00 / Japan / Drama / 2025**

Jessica, a Japanese Brazilian, dreams of becoming a painter but loses her job due to the rise of AI. One day, her long-estranged father, Carlos, appears before her. He has lost his job and has come to see his daughter. Despite their conflicts, the two set off on a journey to find work .

## Best Actor Award International Category



### Award : Amal Omran

#### 『Future is Panorama』

**Director : Muschirf Shekh Zeyn / 0:15:04 / Germany / Thriller / 2024**

When Siham, an immigrant in Germany, discovers her daughter is hiding from danger at the hands of right-wing terrorists, she plunges into a desperate quest to save her, despite police inaction.

<Reason for award> Amal Omran's Portrayal embodies the complexity of a working immigrant mother: tough, tired, and devoted beyond measure. The camera rarely leaves her, appearing in nearly every scene, and it is through these close-ups that she brings not only her fear and desperation but also the anguish of her daughter on the other end of the phone. Her portrayal is emotionally layered, and the character's journey feels so authentic and relatable. Omran carries the entire film with remarkable presence, her expressions showing exhaustion, resilience, and maternal love.

## Best Actor Award Asia International Category



**Award : Jo Han-chul**

**『TRAP』**

**Director : Eunyoung OH / 0:15:59 / South Korea / Thriller / 2024**

On a dark night, taxi driver Young-ho picks up a suspicious passenger heading to a reservoir. The passenger's cryptic remarks unsettle Young-ho.

<Reason for award> Jo Han-chul delivers a chilling, masterfully layered performance in The Trap. Presenting a likable, soft-spoken driver whose warmth hides something far more dangerous, he plays this duality with precision. His small physical gestures, checking the mirror, tapping the steering wheel, and slight shifts in expression, reveal emotions that words alone cannot express. This performance demands not only technical skill but also emotional control and incredible expression. Jo Han-chul handles it with quiet brilliance, keeping the audience captivated until the very last moment.

## Best Actor Award Japan Category



**Award : Miyu Yoshimoto**

**『ABYSS』**

**Director : Tekkou Nogami / 0:14:16 / Japan / Drama / 2024**

UTA, a delivery man living on an isolated island in Japan, arrives at the scene with his cowherd TAKESHI to clean up after his girlfriend NANA, who has committed murder. The three go into the forest to remove the body and dump it in a bottomless pit that TAKESHI saw when he was a child.

<Reason for award> In Abyss, the performance of Miyu Yoshimoto as Uta portrays a character with a dark and complex human form. It's wonderful how this dark side is believable and portrayed as a natural aspect of her personality throughout all of her acting. Miyu Yoshimoto brings precision and control to one of the most intimate scenes, where her character uses her body not as a weakness, but as a means of agency. With restrained vulnerability after the intimate act, her face and emotions through her eyes tell everything. She embodies emotional contradictions, which are difficult to transmit as an actor: calculating yet caring, dark yet radiant, composed yet raw.

## Most Viewed Award



**『Pantyhose』**

**Director : Fabian Munsterhjelm / 0:14:30 / Finland / Drama / 2024**

A couple are about to attend an important gala. They have their keys, phones and invitations, but there is a hole in their tights.

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『The Burning Night』

Director : Demon Wong / 0:20:08 / Hong Kong / Drama / 2024

Speeding through the late-night streets of Guangzhou in 2008, teenagers vented their frustration with the external world. The troubles they caused unexpectedly dissipated amidst the bright fireworks welcoming the Olympics, and the fervour inspired by the nationwide celebration.



『Retake』

Director : Eisuke Ohga / 0:19:57 / Japan / Drama / 2024

An astronaut traumatized by his past failure is invited to consult on a space-themed movie set. As the unique crew seeks his advice, he is forced to confront the painful memories he has avoided. Using his experience, he brings authenticity to the film and begins to heal himself.



『UPSIDE-DOWN GENIUS』

Director : Ryotaro Nishi / 0:05:52 / Japan / Experimental / 2024

Dr. Noboru Sakai was a genius, but an odd one who, for some reason, always conducted his research hanging upside-down. One day, a new secretary named Margaret arrives at his laboratory. Claiming to be "perfect," she begins a strange life alongside the "upside-down genius" doctor.



『Inside, The Valley Sings』

Director : Nathan Fagan / 0:14:59 / Ireland / Non-Fiction / 2024

Trapped in the never-ending horror of prolonged solitary confinement, three prisoners seek comfort and escape in the boundless vistas of their own imaginations.



『A Walk With You』

Director : Saori Kouzuki / 0:16:14 / Japan / Drama / 2025

The Kojimas run an onsen, hot spring inn. The husband decided he wanted a dog, but the wife tried to talk him out, saying he couldn't look after the dog. To prove he can look after a dog, he starts to take a stuffed dog for a walk.



『I'm Leaving.』

Director : Takumi Koike / 24:58 / Japan / Drama / 2024

Saori returns home after hearing that her parents' house is to be demolished. She is stunned to see the house being prepared for the move, but her parents don't care about the demolition. At that time, Saori's partner suddenly arrives and her father, Masaki got angry and went somewhere.



『Ai wo Tateru ~ Stand for Love~』

Director : Kazuhiro Taira / 0:25:00 / Japan / Drama / 2024

Chica, who works at an indigo dyeing workshop that has been passed down for generations in Motobu town, meets Yuto, a wealthy man, on a matchmaking app. Yuto becomes an apprentice at an indigo dyeing workshop in order to please Chica, but Yuto has a secret.



『GAJJIN』

Director : Michele Motzo / 0:18:30 / Japan / Experimental / 2025

"GAJJIN" by Michele Motzo is a short film featuring seven brief stories in Tokyo. A fragmented, surreal, philosophical narration guides the short film, jumping from one story to another. All the while, a giant head fluctuates in the night sky, wondering about human beings.

【Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia 2025 Outline】

■Festival President : Tetsuya Bessho

■Schedule :

April 24 – June 30 Online Grand Theater

\*Streaming programs vary depending on the period.

May 28, Opening Ceremony @ TAKANAWA GATEWAY CITY

May 29 – June 1 TAKANAWA GATEWAY CITY

June 3, 4 Akasaka Intercity Conference

June 6 – 10 WITH HARAJUKU

June 6 - 8 LIFORK HARAJUKU

June 11 Award Ceremony LINE CUBE SHIBUYA

■General Inquiry : [info@shortshorts.org](mailto:info@shortshorts.org)

■Official Site : <https://www.shortshorts.org/2025>

■Host : Committee for Short Shorts / Committee for Short Shorts Asia



【Press Inquiry】

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

【Still images are available here】

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1WYvoxftcyeptST96URmXxigrdRqYqiz8l?usp=sharing>