



**MEDIA RELEASE: THURSDAY 15 OCTOBER**

## **THE JAPANESE FILM FESTIVAL RETURNS WITH FREE VIRTUAL EDITION THIS DECEMBER**

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The **Japanese Film Festival (JFF)** returns for its 24<sup>th</sup> year from **4 December to 13 December**, with **JFF Plus: Online Festival**, a free streaming event available to audiences across Australia and New Zealand.

From enchanting anime adventures to thought-provoking drama, breathtaking romance, mesmerising musicals and inspiring documentaries – JFF Plus will feature an expertly curated selection of films sure to satisfy all cinematic tastes.

“We are thrilled to bring JFF online, uniting first time viewers and seasoned Festival goers alike to come together in celebration of fan-favourites from past JFFs to the latest in contemporary Japanese cinema,” said **Japanese Film Festival Programmer, Susan Bui**.

“Gather your loved ones and let the stories of Japan’s foremost auteurs inspire and delight from the comfort of your very own home,” said **Japanese Film Festival Director, Yurika Sugie**.

JFF Plus will be complemented by the Festival’s annual Classics stream coming to cinemas in Canberra (NFSA), Brisbane (QAGOMA) and Sydney (AGNSW), as well as a free touring Satellite program that will visit regional centres.

Full program to be announced on 6 November, further information available at: [www.japanesefilmfestival.net](http://www.japanesefilmfestival.net).

### **FESTIVAL DETAILS:**

**WHAT:** JFF Plus: Online Festival

**WHEN:** 4 Dec – 13 Dec, 2020

**WHERE:** Streaming online in Australia & New Zealand

**TICKETS:** FREE, registration required

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### **Stay up to date with JFF:**

Website: [www.japanesefilmfestival.net](http://www.japanesefilmfestival.net)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/japanesefilmfest](https://www.facebook.com/japanesefilmfest)

Twitter: [www.twitter.com/japanfilmfest](https://www.twitter.com/japanfilmfest)



Instagram: [www.instagram.com/japanesefilmfest](https://www.instagram.com/japanesefilmfest)

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### **EDITOR'S NOTES**

#### **ABOUT JFF**

The Japanese Film Festival (JFF) in Australia is an annual film festival that has been presented by The Japan Foundation, Sydney since 1997. In 2019, JFF was held in 58 cities across 12 countries, reaching an audience of over 170,000 people.

2020 marks the 24th year of JFF Australia, which spans three programs: Classics, offering rare 35 and 16mm film screenings for free, Satellite, which tours a hand-picked selection of films across Australia, and JFF Plus: Online Festival, a brand-new online program for 2020 streaming free films in 20 countries, including Australia and New Zealand.

#### **ABOUT THE JAPAN FOUNDATION, SYDNEY**

The Japan Foundation, Sydney is the Australian arm of the Japan Foundation, which was established by the Japanese government to promote cultural and intellectual exchange between Japan and other nations. It runs a diverse range of programs and events, including exhibitions, talk events, grant programs and Japanese language courses for all levels from beginner to advanced. The Japan Foundation was established in 1972 with a global network of 25 offices in 24 countries. The Australian office was founded in 1978.