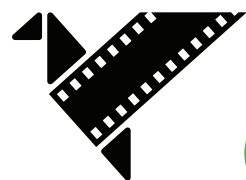


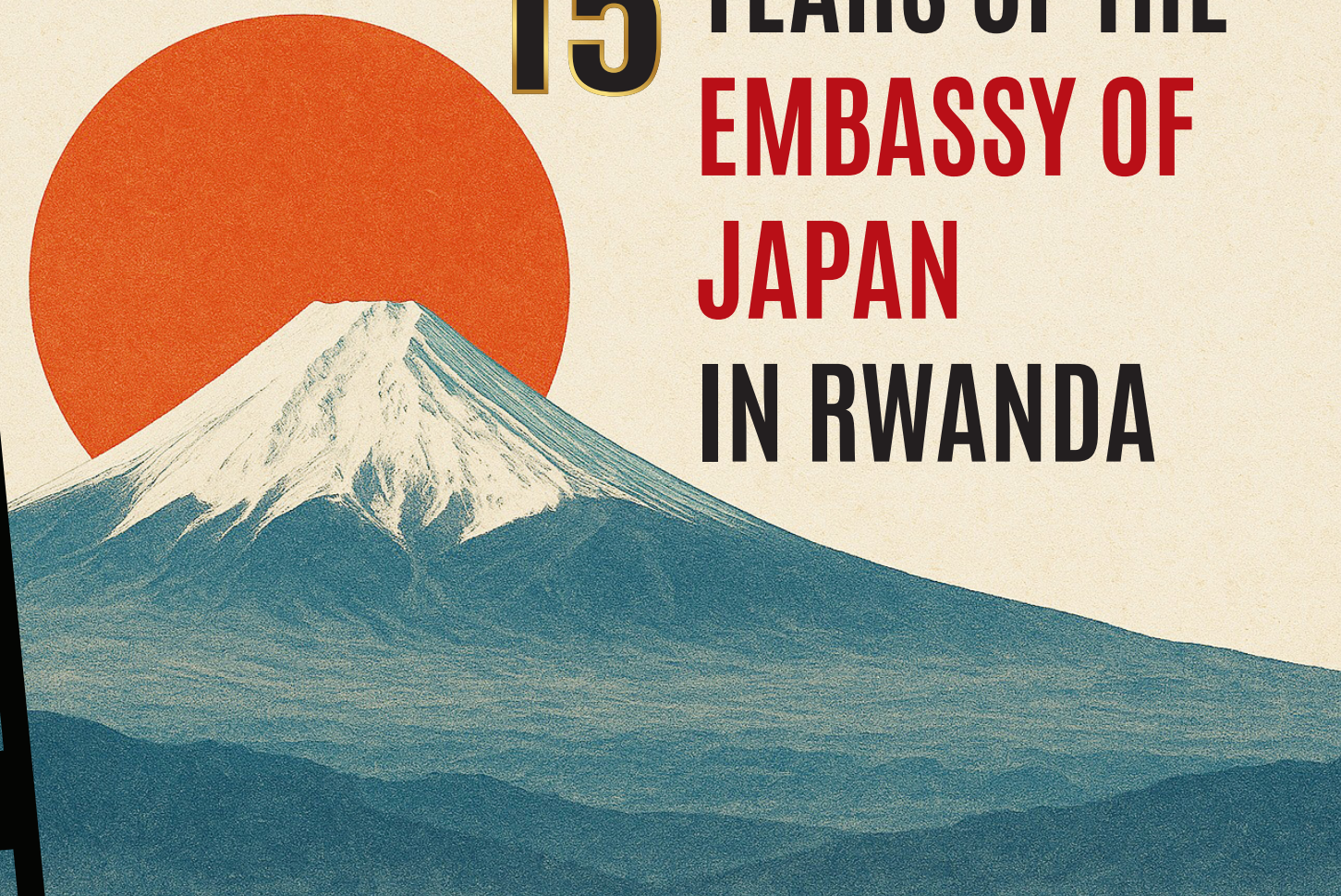
THE EMBASSY OF JAPAN PRESENTS



JAPANESE FILM FESTIVAL AFRICA 2025 / 2026

In Collaboration with Centre Culturel Francophone du Rwanda

15 YEARS OF THE EMBASSY OF JAPAN IN RWANDA



16th DEC
19th DEC

📍 : Centre Culturel Francophone du Rwanda
(25 KG 624 St. Rugando, Kigali)
📞 : +252 500 884 (EMBASSY OF JAPAN)
✉ : rw.emb-japan@kq.mofa.go.jp

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SCREENING SCHEDULE

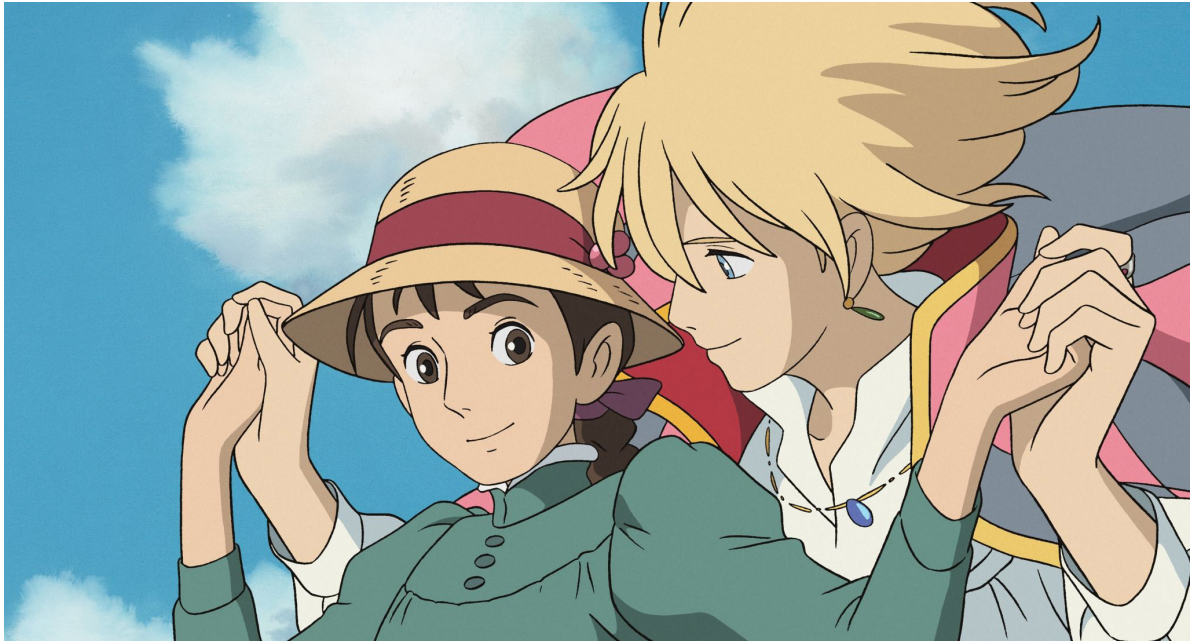
DATE	5:30 PM ~	8:00 PM ~
Dec 16th (Tue)	Howl's Moving Castle © 2004 Diana Wynne Jones/Hayao Miyazaki/Studio Ghibli, NDDM	Dreaming of the Meridian Arc
Dec 17th (Wed)	The Imaginary	The Fish Tale
Dec 18th (Thu)	Poupelle of Chimney Town	ITO
Dec 19th (Fri)	The Lines That Define Me	AKIRA



THE EMBASSY OF JAPAN PRESENTS

Howl's Moving Castle

(Hauru no Ugoku Shiro)



Director	MIYAZAKI Hayao
Original Story	Diana Wynne Jones
Producer	SUZUKI Toshio
Year	2004
Runtime	119 min
Music	HISAISHI Joe
Cast	BAISHO Chieko, KIMURA Takuya, MIWA Akihiro



© 2004 Diana Wynne Jones/Hayao Miyazaki/Studio Ghibli, NDDMT

18 year-old Sophie was born and raised in a town on the edge of a wasteland, and runs her late father's hat shop. One day, she meets a beautiful young man on the street, who invites her to join him on a brief walk in the skies. The dream-like experience captivates her heart, but that night, she is cursed by the Witch of the Waste and transformed into a 90 year-old. Unwilling to accept her condition, she leaves home and takes up residence in the moving castle of wizard Howl as his cleaning lady.

Dreaming of the Meridian Arc

"The witty historical drama rewriting Japanese history!"



©2022 "Dreaming of the Meridian Arc" Film Partners

Director	NAKANISHI Kenji
Screen writer	MORISHITA Yoshiko
Original story	TATEKAWA Shinosuke
Year	2022
Runtime	112 min
Genre	Drama
Cast	NAKAI Kiichi, MATSUYAMA Kenichi, KITAGAWA Keiko



©2022 "Dreaming of the Meridian Arc" Film Partners



A team in Katori-city office, Chiba, launches a project to bring a great figure of the town into NHK historical drama to revitalize the town. A figure they chose is Ino Tadataka, who is known for completing the first map of Japan. But during the development of the script, the team finds out and gets panicked by the staggering fact that Ino had died before the map was completed. Back in 1818, after Ino passed away, his pupils decide to conceal their master's death and carry out a secret operation to finish the map to honor their master. The truth behind the first map of Japan now reveals.

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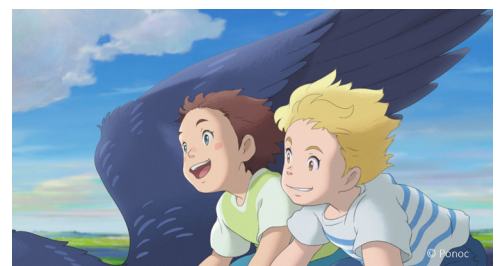


The Imaginary

"Never disappear, protect each other and never cry"



Director	MOMOSE Yoshiyuki
Producer	NISHIMURA Yoshiaki
Year	2023
Runtime	108 min
Genre	Animation/Adventure
Cast	TERADA Kokoro, SUZUKI Rio, ANDO Sakura



Studio Ponoc's new animated feature film *The Imaginary* is a wondrous adventure that portrays the depths of humanity and creativity through the eyes of young Amanda and her imaginary companion, Rudger, a boy no one can see imagined by Amanda to share her thrilling make-believe adventures. But when Rudger, suddenly alone, arrives at The Town of Imaginaries, where forgotten Imaginaries live and find work, he faces a mysterious threat.

Directed by renowned animator Yoshiyuki Momose (*Spirited Away* and other Studio Ghibli films), *The Imaginary* is an unforgettable adventure of love, loss and the healing power of imagination.

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The Fish Tale

"Keep loving what you love. That makes life worth it!"



Director	OKITA Shuichi
Screenwriter	OKITA Shuichi, MAEDA Shiro
Original Story	Sakana-kun
Year	2022
Runtime	139 min
Genre	Drama
Cast	Non, YAGIRA Yuya, Kaho



A love for fish that is deeper than the ocean. The film is based on an autobiography written by a celebrity marine biologist known as Sakana-kun. Everyone in Japan, both young and old, know him; a mild-mannered and humorous man with an unchallenged knowledge of fish.

The movie follows Meebo, Sakana-kun's fictional counterpart, for whom life is all about fish and nothing else. Meebo single-mindedly goes after this passion, no matter what the obstacle! With Sakana-kun as the Advising Fish Expert, principal photography commenced in the summer of 2021. The production relocated from one coastal town to another, in search of perfect environment to photograph fish. In accordance with the film's focus, the filmmakers' attitude was "Fish first, people second."

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Poupelle of Chimney Town

"There's another world outside the smoke of Chimney Town"



© Akihiro Nishino / "Poupelle of Chimney Town" Production Committee

Director	HIROTA Yusuke
Executive Producer	NISHINO Akihiro (Story / Screenplay)
Year	2020
Runtime	100 min
Genre	Animation
Cast	KUBOTA Masataka, ASHIDA Mana, TATEKAWA Shinosuke

The townsfolk of Chimney Town are getting ready for Halloween when all of a sudden, a Garbage Man made of old scrap metal and a broken umbrella turns up unannounced, causing everyone to wonder where on earth he came from. The mechanical figure made of garbage bumps into the lonely boy Lubicchi who renames him "Poupelle" and the two become instant friends, spending more and more time together, before gradually uncovering the secrets of Chimney Town.



© Akihiro Nishino / "Poupelle of Chimney Town" Production Committee

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ITO

*"A supreme paean to humanity for an uncertain age.
A masterpiece by Aomori-born director Satoko Yokohama."*



Director	YOKOHAMA Satoko
Screenwriter	YOKOHAMA Satoko
Year	2021
Runtime	116 min
Genre	Drama
Cast	KOMAI Ren, TOYOKAWA Etsushi

Ito, a high school student in far north Tsugaru, plays the Tsugaru shamisen as a hobby. She learned it from her late mother, a master player in her own right. While Ito can express herself through music, talking is a little harder due to shyness caused by her strong Tsugaru dialect. So she has a few friends, but has a strong inner spirit which leads her to take on a big challenge — working at a maid cafe.



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The Lines That Define Me

"A story of a young man who finds his wounded soul restored" through the world of Sumi-e, a traditional style of black ink painting.



©Hiromasa Togami / KODANSHA ©2022 "The Lines that Define Me" FILM PARTNERS

Director	KOIZUMI Nori
Screenwriter	KATAOKA Sho
Year	2022
Runtime	106 min
Genre	Drama
Cast	YOKOHAMA Ryusei, KIYOHARA Kaya, HOSODA Kanata, KAWAI Yuumi

Sosuke, who is suddenly invited to apprentice for a famous Sumi-e painter, immediately becomes engrossed in the art. At the same time, Sosuke is carrying a deep emotional burden that he has not been able to overcome. He begins to slowly change when he meets the master painter's granddaughter. A story of a young man's recovery through the deep allure of Sumi-e ink painting, which renders the natural world and life itself in shades of black and white. Featuring popular young stars, YOHOHAMA Ryusei and KIYOHARA Kaya and directed by KOIZUMI Nori, known for his hit film Chihayafuru.

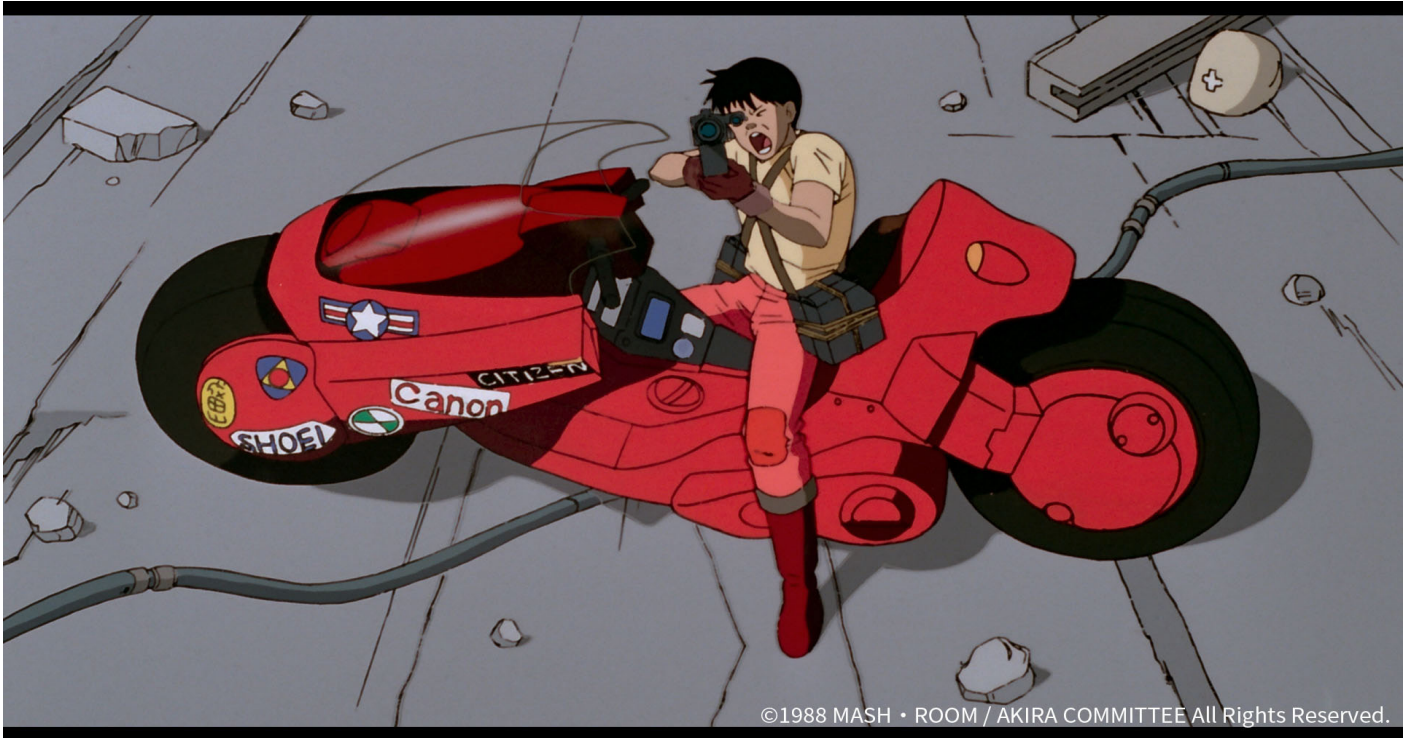


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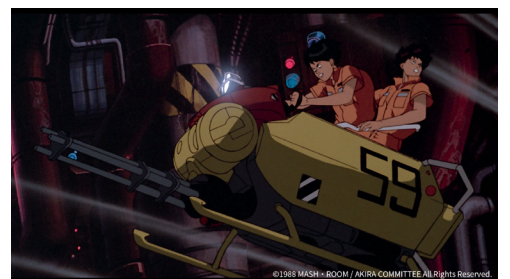
AKIRA

"A historic masterpiece of Japanese animation!"



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Director	OTOMO Katsuhiro
Producer	SUZUKI Ryohei, KATO Shunzo
Year	1988
Runtime	124 min
Genre	Animation
Cast	IWATA Mitsuo, SASAKI Nozomu, KOYAMA Mami



July, 1988— World War III breaks loose. Then, in 2019, in megalopolis Tokyo...

As the leader of a group of young robust delinquents, Kaneda spent his nights tearing through the urban wastes, racing his motorbike against rival groups. One night while riding with his gang, his friend Tetsuo suddenly encounters a strange boy— the product of human experimentation— and is injured in the ensuing crash. Shortly thereafter, a military squadron appears to take the boy and Tetsuo away to an army research facility. Determined to free Tetsuo from capture, Kaneda sneaks into the army research lab. However, a regimen of extreme experimental procedures has awakened a new power in his friend, and now he is consumed by madness.

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IN COLLABORATION WITH



The French Institute of Rwanda is a vibrant, multifaceted space: a language center, a library, a bar, as well as a cultural venue.

Its mission is to promote the French language and literature, while fostering international artistic collaboration. The Institute is proud to host the Japanese Film Festival in 2025!



The Japan Foundation (JF) is the only specialized institution in Japan that comprehensively conducts international cultural exchange projects in all regions of the world.

Through a wide range of programs and information-sharing initiatives, JF fosters people-to-people exchange to deepen mutual understanding between the people of Japan and those around the world.

With 26 offices in 25 countries, JF operates across Asia, Oceania, the Americas, Europe, the Middle East, and throughout Africa, working in close partnership with Japanese diplomatic missions and related organizations in each country.

SPONSORS

Tombo Japanese Foods



A Japanese-owned store in Kacyiru offering Japanese foods such as Tofu, Miso, and Natto, as well as Japanese Sandwiches and hot snacks like Karaage. The owner is a former co-founder of Japanda Restaurant.

JAPANDA



"Japanda, founded in 2015 by Japanese Couple. Japanda is a renowned Japanese Restaurant in Kigali, Kacyiru, KG16# 586, Now led by Mr. Daniel Niyogushimwa. A Goodwill Ambassador for Japanese Cuisine in Rwanda, Celebrating 10 years of serving the best and most delectable Japanese dishes, including our famous Yakitori".

ASIAN KITCHEN



Open since 2015, Asian Kitchen serves your favorite Asian dishes from Japanese sushi to Thai curries. With vegetarian options, a children's playground, and great deserts, it's the perfect place to go with families or friends for casual lunches or cozy dinners. Dine-in, take-away, or delivery are available.



An Online Streaming Platform for Japanese Films and Other Video Content



(<https://www.jff.jp/jpf.go.jp/>)

A platform operated by the Japan Foundation that distributes Japanese films and videos worldwide for free with multilingual subtitles. Since its launch in August 2024, the number of registered users worldwide has reached approximately 100,000. The website supports 17 display languages, and the film subtitles are available in up to 19 languages. The lineup of streaming films is rotated periodically, and as of July 15, a total of 46 titles have been made available, including *Under the Open Sky*, *The Great Passage*, and *JUNGLE EMPEROR LEO*, aka *KIMBA THE WHITE LION*.

**Available countries/Regions and subtitle languages may vary depending on the film. Certain titles may not be available for streaming within Japan.*

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