

September 10, 2020



September is full of events at the JFT - sign up now while there is still space for our two September lectures, one on **September 17**, and the other taking place on **September 30**. Only **8 days** remain before the **Manga Hokusai Manga exhibition** wraps up! Go to our website and book a time slot to see the exhibition before it's gone. This week we highlight two films that are part of the **Japanese Film Festival ONLINE Vol.2**, which continues for the entire month. **TIFF 2020** begins today! Watch two feature films by critically acclaimed Japanese female directors **KAWASE Naomi** and **NISHIKAWA Miwa**. Next week's **'Sawakai' for Japanese Teachers** welcomes a new language advisor, **Ms. Yoshikawa**. Register for a chance to chat with her and other teachers around Canada. For more information about exciting JFT events as well as online recommendations, see **further details below >**

Schedule at a Glance

July 23 - September 18	Gallery	Manga Hokusai Manga Exhibition
August 21 - September 30	Film Screening	JFF ONLINE Vol.2: MOOSIC LAB X Japanese Film Festival
September 10 - September 19	Film Screening	Toronto International Film Festival 2020
September 16	Teachers' Professional Development	18th 'Sawakai': The new Japanese-Language Education Advisor has arrived!
September 17	Online Lecture	The Many Lives of a Japanese Classic
September 30	Online Lecture	Re-engineering Reproductive Futures in Japanese Science Fiction
October 3 - October 22	Film Screening	Toronto Japanese Film Festival 2020
November 5	Library	JFT Book Club Online - <i>Breasts and Eggs</i> by KAWAKAMI Mieko

JFT NEWS

Film Screenings

JFF ONLINE Vol.2: MOOSIC LAB X Japanese Film Festival

Friday, August 21 - Wednesday, September 30



Japan Foundation has launched the second version of the popular MOOSIC LAB X Japanese Film Festival where viewers from all over the world can enjoy works by emerging Japanese filmmakers for free. The 10 works produced by MOOSIC LAB are new works based on fusion of film and music. The first volume attracted 95K views in 3 months and had a great amount of positive feedback. Each week we will highlight some of the films from Vol. 2. [More details](#)

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DEAD VACATION デッドバケーション

Director: YAWATA Kimi; Music: GALAXIEDEAD
Duration: 30 min. (2018); Fantasy Drama

A summer fantasy that follows heartbroken Mitsuko struggling to let go of her ex, and musician Keisuke, a ghost unable to rest in peace.

[Watch here >](#)



GEEK BEEF BEAT

Director: TORIKAWA Sasami, Music: Kitsunebi
Duration: 55 min. (2019); Comedy

Catch some dope beats in this comedic drama about 36 year old HIGASHINO Haruo who internally raps to silently release the stress of being considered a failure.

[Watch here >](#)



Online Lecture **Re-engineering Reproductive Futures in Japanese Science Fiction**

**Wednesday, September 30, 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM
(EDT)**

@ONLINE, registration required

Aliens, cyborgs, and bio-engineered bodies - tune in for a talk with Dr. Kazue Harada (Miami University) on how Japanese female science fiction authors use the genre to critique reproductive futurism, which is the idea that humans must reproduce to ensure a stable future. Hear how these authors use nonhuman perspectives and entities to re-engineer alternative futures of reproductive bodies and reproductive family to critique the extant heterosexual and patriarchal family system.

Authors to be discussed include MURATA Sayaka, JFT's guest for the 2018 Toronto International Festival of Authors, and UEDA Sayuri, winner of the 32nd Japan Science Fiction Award in 2011.

[Details and registration here >](#)



Online Teachers' Professional Development JFT Online 'Sawakai' for Japanese Teachers

18th 'Sawakai': Wednesday, September 16, 6:00 PM -
6:40 PM (EDT)

Topic: The new Japanese-Language Education
Advisor has arrived!

@ONLINE, admission free, registration required

The JFT Online 'Sawakai' for Japanese Teachers is a place where teachers can share with others how their online classes are going. All topics are welcome, including if you have any ideas you would like to try out, anything you feel a little stuck on, etc. Why not take the opportunity to talk with other teachers from across Canada?. (*These gatherings will be conducted in Japanese.)

[Click here for details >](#)



Calendar 2020-2021 School Calendar: Linguistic Variation in Japan

Each year the Japan Foundation, Toronto creates a school calendar to show our appreciation to the institutions in Canada that teach the Japanese language. We also now have it up on our website if you are interested in downloading our most recent calendar, which showcases the diverse languages and dialects in Japan!

[Details >](#)



Library News September New Arrivals

New Arrivals for September! New titles include *Breasts and Eggs* by KAWAKAMI Mieko, one of the featured guest authors for Toronto International Festival of Authors 2020 whose work will be discussed during our upcoming Book Club Online in November, a book about "Zen and the Art of Farming," and many more! They are now available for circulation. Please contact the library at library@jftor.org to place a hold for pick up.

[Details >](#)



JFT Book Club Online

Thursday, November 5, 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (EDT)
@ONLINE, RSVP required

For our next Book Club, we will discuss *Breasts and Eggs* (夏物語) written by KAWAKAMI Mieko, one of the featured guest authors for Toronto International Festival of Authors 2020. *Breasts and Eggs* paints a portrait of contemporary womanhood in Japan and recounts the intimate journeys of three women as they confront oppressive mores and their own uncertainties on the road to finding peace and futures they can truly call their own. Please email library@jftor.org to reserve your spot.

[Details >](#)



Exhibition Re-Opening: By Appointment Only Manga Hokusai Manga

July 23, 2020 - September 18, 2020 <-- **Extended date!**
Curated by Professor Jaqueline Berndt, Kyoto Seika University



Before visiting our gallery, check out the British Museum's most recent acquisition: more than 100 rare Hokusai drawings, [万物絵本大全図 \(Great Picture Book of Everything\)](#).

The Manga Hokusai Manga exhibition is back with extended exhibition dates. Visits to the Gallery are by appointment only. Please visit our [website](#) for details.

Unlike past exhibitions of Hokusai's work, Manga Hokusai Manga approaches the Hokusai Manga from the perspective of contemporary Japanese comics, focusing on genre, pictorial storytelling and participatory culture rather than the integration of word and image or the role of popular characters. And instead of aiming at a historiographic verification of influences, the exhibition invites viewers to ponder their own notions about manga by comparing works from different periods while exploring the diversity therein.

[Details >](#)



Preparatory drawing (hanshita-e) for an illustrated book, mounted on card. Virudhaka (Ruri) being struck by lightning. Ink on paper.

Online Lecture

The Many Lives of a Japanese Classic

Thursday, September 17, 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM (EDT)
@ONLINE, registration required

Space is running out!

The large corpus of literary works by accomplished and highly educated women writers that emerged during the Heian period (794-1185) in Japan played an important role in the creation of a national literary tradition.



This talk by Dr. Gergana Ivanova (University of Cincinnati) considers the fixed images of Japanese women writers of the distant past and the constructed nature of their writing focusing on one text, *The Pillow Book* (*Makura no sōshi*, early 11th c.). It examines interpretations of the work and images of its author Sei Shōnagon that emerged in the years between the 17th century and the early 20th century and shows that although they were not shaped through references to historical documents and direct interactions with *The Pillow Book*, these views still linger in contemporary scholarship and popular culture.

[Details and registration here >](#)

Performing Arts Japan

Deadline November 2, 2020

The Japan Foundation is now accepting project proposals for Performing Arts Japan (PAJ) touring and collaboration grants for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. To apply for the program, please read the guidelines carefully and complete the application procedures.



[More details here >](#)

JFT Library Re-open

The JFT Library is now open with reduced hours and modified services. Visitors are allowed to return or pick-up library items. Please make a request for items you wish to borrow before visiting the library. For more information: [Library Visitor Policy](#).



Japanese Language Proficiency Test



Due to COVID-19 restrictions the December 2020 JLPT in Canada has been cancelled. For more information, please visit the websites of the individual test sites:

[Ottawa \(Carleton University\)](#)
[Toronto \(York University\)](#)
[Edmonton \(University of Alberta\)](#)
[Vancouver \(Langara College\)](#)

Japanese Language Classes Registration Now Open!

Are you interested in joining a Japanese language class? We offer online courses for everyone from complete beginners (Starter A1) to intermediate speakers (Intermediate B1).

This year we have two formats to choose from:

- [JFT Online MARUGOTO Japanese Language Courses](#): Term-based Japanese language courses using the textbook series Marugoto: Japanese Language and Culture, which was developed by the Japan Foundation. Students will meet once a week, and over the course of the three terms students will cover one level of our textbooks.
- [JFT Online Teacher-Support Japanese Language Courses](#): Students will have an online meeting three times a term to practice what they have learned with their classmates and instructor, and at the end of each term will be evaluated on what they have learned. During the rest of the term, students will study and complete assignments on their own using the Japan Foundation's online e-learning website [Minato](#).



JAPAN FOUNDATION SUPPORTED EVENTS

Toronto International Film Festival 2020

Thursday, September 10 - Saturday, September 19

The 45th edition of the Toronto International Film Festival, taking place September 10-19, is tailored to fit the moment, with physical screenings and drive-ins, digital screenings, virtual red carpets, press conferences, and industry talks. This year's selection comprises a lineup of 50 new feature films, including films by two critically acclaimed female directors from Japan.

***Under the Open Sky* すばらしき世界**

Director: NISHIKAWA Miwa

Duration: 126 min. (2020); Drama

In her complex and brilliantly textured redemption drama *Under the Open Sky*, NISHIKAWA Miwa explores the tensions, insecurities, small joys, and frustrations of Mikami (YAKUSHO Koji), a middle-aged ex-yakuza who must adjust to his "new normal" when he is released from prison after serving a 13-year sentence for murder.

[Details and Tickets here >](#)

[Trailer >](#)



***True Mothers* 朝が来る**

Director: KAWASE Naomi

Duration: 139 min. (2020); Drama

The latest from acclaimed director KAWASE Naomi - a candid force in contemporary Japanese cinema - is a touching family story of love and adoption. The film is a powerful visual adaptation of a 2015 novel by TSUJIMURA Mizuki, crafted with the rich texture of the director's unique style, which combines sensuous filmmaking with tactile, vibrant storytelling.

[Details and Tickets here >](#)

[Trailer >](#)



The Toronto Japanese Film Festival Moves Online for 2020



Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre's 9th annual Toronto Japanese Film Festival will be held online from October 3 to 22 and features over 20 films using the SHIFT72 festival platform. Screening will also take place live in Japan during the same period in Tokyo Hibiya Midtown Centre. The festival has now grown into the largest film event of its kind in North America and is recognized by the Japanese film industry as a vital conduit for bringing Japanese film to the world.

[Click here](#) to find out the full line up of films announced for TJFF 2020.

ONLINE RESOURCE RECOMMENDATIONS

Performing Arts Recommendation Bunraku Puppet Theatre: *Poisoning of Kiyomasa*

Streaming on YouTube until September 17, *Poisoning of Kiyomasa*, [full title: *Hachijin Shugo no Honjō (Eight Battle Arrays to Protect Honjō Castle)*] will be available to watch for free.

Duration: 1 hr 29 min.

No English subtitles

The streaming covers only scenes IV and V:

02:35 Scene IV: Kazuenosuke's Hurried Visit

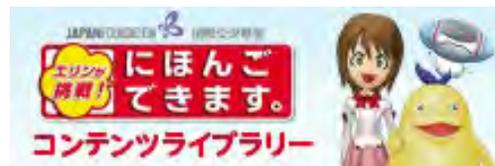
26:47 Scene V: In the Keep of the Inner Castle of Masakiyo



[Click here for synopsis in English >](#)

[Click here to watch >](#)

New Japanese Language Resource "Erin's Challenge! I can speak Japanese" Contents Library



While the "Erin's Challenge! I can speak Japanese" website closed at the end of July, there is a new "Erin's Challenge! I can speak Japanese" Contents Library where you can view all the videos from the website!

All 200 videos from the web version of "Erin" are available for viewing, and educational materials can be downloaded to support the study of Japanese and increase cultural understanding.

Both teachers and learners of Japanese should check it out!

[Details >](#)

Gallery Recommendations

Masterpiece of the Week

Each week, we will feature one of Japan's National Treasure and Important Cultural Properties

Important Cultural Property

Dōmaru Armor with Light Blue Lacing, Helmet, and Wide Arm Protectors

縹糸威胴丸 兜・大袖付はなだいとおどしどうまる かぶとおおそでつき

Muromachi Period / 15th Century

[Click here](#) for a detailed guide and complete images in high resolution which you can zoom in for details



Future and the Arts: AI, Robotics, Cities, Life - How Humanity Will Live Tomorrow

Mori Art Museum 3D Walk-through

In this exhibition presented by the Mori Art Museum, you will be able to take a look at the not-too-distant future with its potential for enormous changes thanks to advances in technology.

The exhibition combines not only contemporary art with historical and scientific objects, it also includes exhibits not confined to the contemporary art genre, but also including urban theory and architecture, design and product innovation, bio-art, and even movies and manga, in an endeavor to develop a unique style of art exhibition. There is much to see with over 60 artists and collaborators presenting.



You can now walk through this exhibition virtually which originally ran November 2019 - March 2020. Selected works in the walk-through are explained in Japanese by NANJO Fumio, curator of this exhibition and Senior Advisor of Mori Art Museum.

[Virtual walk-through here >](#)

[More details >](#)

COMMUNITY NEWS

Consulate-General of Japan in Toronto Invites Submissions to the Moonlight Haiku Challenge

To all poets and poets at heart: the Consulate-General of Japan is inviting you to submit a haiku poem as part of its Moonlight Haiku Challenge.

From **September 1 to 30**, the Consulate-General of Japan in Toronto will be accepting submissions of original haiku honouring the Harvest Moon, this year on October 1. At a time when life presents countless distractions, this is an opportunity to collectively breathe, admire the beauty of the moon, and enjoy the old Japanese custom of Tsukimi (autumn moon viewing).



[Details >](#)

Stay Connected

