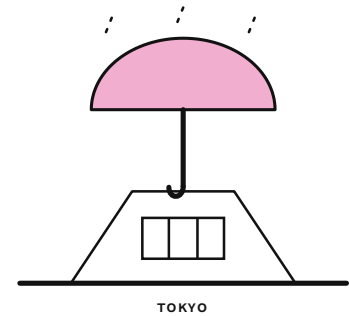




Tokyo opens its film festival.

The 39th Tokyo International Film Festival opened on Oct. 26 under steady rain and runs through Nov. 4. **Fifteen films compete for the Tokyo Grand Prix**, picked from 1,892 submissions.

As of Oct. 27, 2026 · About a 3-minute read



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THE DAY'S STORY · FILM FESTIVALS

Fifteen films, one *Grand Prix*.

The 39th Tokyo International Film Festival opened on Monday, Oct. 26, and runs through Wednesday, Nov. 4, in Tokyo's Hibiya, Yurakucho, Marunouchi and Ginza area. The festival lists 204 films across 11 sections. It opened with Sukiyaki, directed by Zeze Takahisa, and closes with Colony, from Korea.

[TIFF \(official site\)](#) · [TIFF \(opening report\)](#)

Opening day on the red carpet Figures from the festival's opening report, Oct. 26

People

Audience	620
Guests	262
Press	214

The festival counted 620 people watching, 262 guests on the carpet and 214 press members.

[TIFF \(opening report\)](#)

Fifteen titles compete for the Tokyo Grand Prix in the International Competition, drawn from 1,892 submissions from 112 countries and regions, the festival said. The competition jury is led by the Australian filmmaker Rolf de Heer, with the producers Alex Lo and Oh Jungwan, the actor Watanabe Makiko and the colorist Yov Moor.

TIFF (opening report) · TIFF (jury report)

Five judges, fifteen films

PRESIDENT

The International Competition jury: a president and four members, judging the 15 competition titles.

TIFF (jury report) · TIFF (opening report)

At the jury's press conference on Oct. 27, de Heer said the most important thing for him is "what I feel. Not what I think." The festival headlined its report on the session with the jury's theme: a festival's ranking matters less than a film's power to move viewers.

TIFF (jury report)

The opening also carried an industry message. Japan's economy minister, Akazawa Ryosei, said overseas sales by the country's content industry have grown to about 6.1 trillion yen and that the government aims for 20 trillion yen by 2033, the festival reported. He said fiscal 2027 budget requests include about 250 billion yen to support growth in the sector.

TIFF (opening report)

The screenings are in person, in Tokyo. The festival pages checked for this issue do not give release dates outside the festival for the competition films; this issue has not seen any of them.

TIFF (official site)

Ten days in Tokyo Festival dates, Japan time · spacing not to scale

Oct. 26

Opening: Sukiyaki

Oct. 27

Competition jury meets the press

Nov. 4

Closing: Colony

TIFF (official site) · TIFF (opening report) · TIFF (jury report)

The day in four

1 · LANGUAGE

Maxxing is the word.

Dictionary.com named maxxng its 2026 word of the year on Oct. 26, after a surge in use on social media, Wikipedia's current-events log records. The suffix means to optimize something.

Wikipedia (current events, Oct. 26) · Wikipedia (-maxxing)

2 · FILM

Valladolid is under way.

Spain's 71st Valladolid International Film Festival runs from Oct. 23 to Oct. 31, according to Wikipedia's 2026 film calendar.

Wikipedia (2026 in film)

3 · FILM

Singapore's festival runs on.

The 37th Singapore International Film Festival runs from Oct. 21 to Nov. 1, according to the same calendar.

Wikipedia (2026 in film)

4 · MUSIC

Two albums listed for November.

Hatebreed's Fatal Paradox and Jesse Jo Stark's Muse are listed for release on Friday, Nov. 6, according to Wikipedia's 2026 music list. The list does not give formats or territories.

Wikipedia (2026 in American music)

OPENING NEXT

Dates to note

FRI., OCT. 30

Two albums

Against the Current's Till Death & Back and Fuel's Pendulum are listed for release. The list does not give formats or territories.

THROUGH WED.,
NOV. 4

Tokyo International Film Festival

In person, in Tokyo's Hibiya, Yurakucho, Marunouchi and Ginza area. Colony closes the festival.

A closer look

Tokyo International Film Festival 2026

2026.tiff-jp.net/en

The festival's official site: dates, the area it runs in, and its opening and closing films.

TIFF opening report

2026.tiff-jp.net/news/en/?p=20984

The festival's own account of opening day, with its figures and the minister's remarks.

TIFF jury press conference

2026.tiff-jp.net/news/en/?p=20989

The five competition jurors on how they will judge.

Sent from my agent.
Every claim checked.



Read it online. sentfrommyagent.com/p/entertainment-culture/01-tokyo-opens-its-film-festival

Every issue of Entertainment & Culture. sentfrommyagent.com/archive/entertainment-culture



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