



手話のまち
東京国際ろう芸術祭
TOKYO INTERNATIONAL
DEAF ARTS FESTIVAL 2025



秋の劇場18



手話のまち

東京国際ろう芸術祭

TOKYO INTERNATIONAL DEAF ARTS FESTIVAL 2025

2025
11.6 THU 木 — 9 SUN 日

Venue : ZA-KOENJI and more

Main Organizer : Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan / Deaf Arts Society of Japan

Partnership With : NPO Creative Theatre Network / ZA-KOENJI Public Theatre

Joint Sponsors : Suginami City / Suginami Association for the Deaf / Totto Foundation / NPO Theatre Accessibility Network
IGENGO Lab. / IMAGINUS (Congrès Inc.)

Supported By : Japan Federation of the Deaf / Tokyo Federation of the Deaf /
Research Center for Advanced Science and Technology at the University of Tokyo

Special Thanks : Tokyo Koenji Awa-Odori / Shizuoka x Cannes Film Project

Grants : Arts Council Tokyo, Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture [Grant for Artistic City / Grant for Accessibility]

Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan (2025 Project for Promotion of Cultural and Artistic Activities by People with Disabilities)

Contact : Deaf Arts Society of Japan info@shuwanomachi.jp

Tickets are on sale now!
For details, check out the website!



<https://shuwanomachi.jp/>

Shuwanomachi



This project is in cooperation with the "All Welcome Tokyo" campaign, which aims to create a Tokyo that everyone can enjoy regardless of disability, language, or cultural differences.

Schedule Fri, Oct 17

	9:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00	23:00
6 Surrounding area of JR Koenji Station											★ 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (Activity) Clean-up with Japanese Sign Language! (Collaboration I Green Bird Koenji Team)				

Schedule Thu, Nov 6

	9:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00	23:00
1 ZA KOENJI									5:00 PM - 5:30 PM (Performance) Mark of A Woman						
ZA-KOENJI 2		10:00 AM - 11:50 AM (Film) "Two Threads, One Weave" followed by a meet-and-greet		12:30 PM - 3:15 PM (Film) "The Way We Talk" followed by Q&A with the director							7:15 PM - 8:45 PM Opening Ceremony				
Awaodori Hall		10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (Workshop) VV (Visual Vernacular) Workshop							5:30 PM - 6:50 PM (Immersive Theatre) *Intersection		7:50 PM - 9:10 PM (Immersive Theatre) *Intersection			*On the day, the meeting place will be Café Henri Fabre	
Gallery Asobiba		★ 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM (Gallery) TIDAF Imaginary / Commentary : 3:45 PM - 4:15 PM													
Front of ZA-KOENJI Public Theatre		★ 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM (Gallery) Towards Inclusive Filipino Literature: Recognition of Filipino Sign Language (FSL) Literature													
5 The Den		★ (Market) Sign Language Market 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM : Vendor Booths, Workshops 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM / 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM : Food Trucks													
											8:00 PM - 11:00 PM (Social) TIDAF x Flat Time (Collaboration I Interaction Flat Time)				

Schedule Fri, Nov 7

	9:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00	23:00
1 ZA KOENJI			10:20 AM - 11:10 AM (Performance) Mark of A Woman					4:30 PM - 5:30 PM (Theatre) On the Edge			7:30 PM - 8:30 PM (Theatre) On the Edge				
ZA-KOENJI 2			11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (Theatre) Legend			2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (Theatre) Legend		4:10 PM - 6:10 PM (Film) "The Tuba Thieves" followed by Q&A with the director			7:30 PM - 8:30 PM (Battle) SIGNSLAM Qualifiers				
Awaodori Hall		10:10 AM - 11:20 AM (Workshop) Ikebana Flower Arranging Workshop		★ 12:25 PM - 1:15 PM (Performance) Feel Together: Lily		★ 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (Talk) Mira Zuckermann : Building a Theatre		5:30 PM - 6:50 PM (Immersive Theatre) *Intersection			*On the day, the meeting place will be Café Henri Fabre				
Gallery Asobiba		★ 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM (Gallery) TIDAF Imaginary													
Front of ZA-KOENJI Public Theatre		★ 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM (Gallery) Towards Inclusive Filipino Literature: Recognition of Filipino Sign Language (FSL) Literature / Commentary : 2:30 PM - 3:15 PM													
2 Koenji Mashita		★ 11:00 AM - 6:00 PM TIDAF Square *Food truck available ★ 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM (Live Painting) The "Now" of TIDAF, Painted by a Deaf Artist from Australia													
5 The Den											5:30 PM - 8:30 PM / 8:30 PM - 11:30 PM (Social) TIDAF x Flat Time (Collaboration I Interaction Flat Time)				
6 Surrounding area of JR Koenji Station											★ 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (Activity) Clean-up with Japanese Sign Language! (Collaboration I Green Bird Koenji Team)				

Schedule Wed, Oct 15 – Sun, Nov 30

This autumn, stroll along Koenji Shopping Street while collecting various Sign Language Cards.

7 Koenji Shopping Street	Sign Language Card Rally (Prize Redemption Period : Thu, Nov 6 - Sun, Nov 30)
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TOKYO INTERNATIONAL DEAF ARTS FESTIVAL 2025
『Sign Language Card Rally』
Period: Oct 15 – Nov 30

If you make a purchase at any of the participating stores, you'll receive an original card with a sign language illustration and QR code linking to a video showing that sign.

※ Each store's sign language cards are available only while supplies last.

Plus, if you collect all 12 cards from the participating stores, and perform the sign that appears from the collection at the ZA KOENJI 2F Ticket Box, you'll receive a **special clear file** designed with all 12 sign language illustrations.

Prize Redemption Period : Thu, Nov 6 - Sun, Nov 30



Card Rally Info & Store Map:
See here for details

Schedule Sat, Nov 8

		9:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00	23:00
1 Z A I K O E N J I	ZA-KOENJI 1							3:00 PM - 4:00 PM Theatre A Hundred Years of Sleep			6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Theatre A Hundred Years of Sleep					
	ZA-KOENJI 2		10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Theatre Legend		12:30 PM - 1:30 PM Theatre Legend		2:15 PM - 3:45 PM Film "Idle Hands" "Inori" "The Silenced" followed by a meet-and-greet		"Oh girl, it hurts" "GOJYUJI -finger kanamoji-" "Andi does it!" "Rite of Identity" "The Search of Self and Silence" "MINT" "Interpretation" followed by a meet-and-greet			7:30 PM - 8:30 PM Battle SIGNSLAM Finals				
	Awaodori Hall				★ 12:25 PM - 1:15 PM Performance Feel Together : Lily		★ 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Panel Discussion Sign Language Supervisor and DASL Insights from the Field			5:30 PM - 6:50 PM Immersive Theatre *Intersection						
	Gallery Asobiba		★ 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM Gallery TIDAF Imaginary													
	Front of ZA-KOENJI Public Theatre		★ 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM Gallery Towards Inclusive Filipino Literature: Recognition of Filipino Sign Language (FSL) Literature / Commentary : 4:45 PM - 5:30 PM													
2	Koenji Mashita			★ 11:00 AM - 6:00 PM Interaction TIDAF Square *Food truck available		★ 2:00 PM - 2:30 PM Performance Visual Deaf Expression! Eddy's Captivating VV Performance				★ 4:30 PM - 5:10 PM Performance Reach for Heartbeat's Connection! The Moment When Lives Resonate						
3	IMAGINUS Workshop Room A	9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Workshop Making Food Samples		11:15 AM - 12:15 PM Workshop Making Food Samples		1:45 PM - 2:45 PM Workshop Making Food Samples		3:30 PM - 4:30 PM Workshop Making Food Samples								
4	Koenji Underpass Vacant Warehouse				★ 11:30 AM - 12:10 PM Film "Breaking Language" "Medal Chase" "a love letter to the light"			★ 11:00 AM - 6:00 PM Interaction TIDAF Kura (Collaboration I Kurabi Nomitai)								
5	The Den										5:30 PM - 8:30 PM / 8:30 PM - 11:30 PM Social TIDAF × Flat Time (Collaboration I Interaction Flat Time)					

Schedule Sun, Nov 9

		9:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00	23:00
1 Z A I K O E N J I	ZA-KOENJI 1			11:30 AM - 12:30 PM Theatre A Hundred Years of Sleep			2:30 PM - 3:30 PM Theatre A Hundred Years of Sleep			5:15 PM - 6:15 PM Closing Ceremony						
	ZA-KOENJI 2		10:00 AM - 11:45 AM Film "The Power of Goodbye" "I'm Sori, I'm Sorry" "Room 13" followed by a meet-and-greet		12:45 AM - 3:45 AM Film "The Chatterboxes" followed by a meet-and-greet						6:30 PM - 8:10 PM Film "NAME ME LAWAND"					
	Awaodori Hall	★ 10:00 AM - 10:40 AM Performance Reach for Heartbeat's Connection! The Moment When Lives Resonate		★ 11:10 AM - 12:25 PM Lecture Deaf Arts Academy		★ 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Panel Discussion Deaf Actors in Japan - Present and Future		★ 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM Talk Teater5005: Creating Theatrical Arts with Sign Language		5:30 PM - 6:50 PM Immersive Theatre *Intersection						
	Gallery Asobiba		★ 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM Gallery TIDAF Imaginary													
	Front of ZA-KOENJI Public Theatre		★ 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM Gallery Towards Inclusive Filipino Literature: Recognition of Filipino Sign Language (FSL) Literature													
2	Koenji Mashita			★ 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM Live Painting The "Now" of TIDAF, Painted by a Deaf Artist from Australia			★ 11:00 AM - 6:00 PM TIDAF Square *Food truck available			★ 4:30 PM - 5:00 PM Performance Shuwa no Machi Ren and Tatsu no Otoshigo Ren: Awa Odori by people who perceive the world visually!						
3	IMAGINUS Workshop Room A	9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Workshop Making Food Samples		11:15 AM - 12:15 PM Workshop Making Food Samples		1:45 PM - 2:45 PM Workshop Making Food Samples		3:30 PM - 4:30 PM Workshop Making Food Samples								
	Multipurpose Room		10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Workshop Visual Sign Language Expression			1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Workshop How to Host a JSL SLAM										
4	Koenji Underpass Vacant Warehouse			★ 11:00 AM - 6:00 PM Interaction TIDAF Kura (Collaboration I Kurabi Nomitai)						★ 5:00 PM - 5:40 PM Film "Breaking Language" "Medal Chase" "a love letter to the light"						
5	The Den										5:30 PM - 8:30 PM / 8:30 PM - 11:30 PM Social TIDAF × Flat Time (Collaboration I Interaction Flat Time)					

Schedule Sat, Nov 22

		9:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00	23:00
4	Koenji Underpass Vacant Warehouse	★ 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM Screening Home Video Presentation (Collaboration I Metote Lab) / Commentary : 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM - 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM														

Theatre · Performance

50 min | Performance | UK | Japan Premiere



Language of Performance: BSL
Subtitles: Japanese(with audio description), English Age Guidance: 14+

Mark of A Woman

Chisato Minamimura

Projection, animation and performance trace the relationship between women's bodies and tattooing practices.

Thu, Nov 6, 5:00 PM
Fri, Nov 7, 10:20 AM



60 min | Theatre | Japan | World Premiere



Language of Performance: Nonverbal

A Hundred Years of Sleep

Japanese Theatre of the Deaf & Deaf Puppet Theatre Hitomi & Company DERASHINERA Joint Production

Don't be tripped up and confused! This silent play starts with sleep and takes inspiration from Grimm's fairy tale, "Sleeping Beauty".

Sat, Nov 8, 3:00 PM / 6:30 PM
Sun, Nov 9, 11:30 AM / 2:30 PM



90 min | Performance



Interpretation: International Sign, Japanese Sign Language, Japanese (Spoken/Text), English (Text)

Opening Ceremony

Tetsuya Izaki / Hideaki Nasu / Shuwa no Machi Ren / Japan Deaf Drum Club / Others

Tokyo International Deaf Arts Festival
Opening Ceremony and Celebration

Thu, Nov 6, 7:15 PM



80 min | Immersive Theatre | Japan | World Premiere



Language of performance: JSL, Japanese, IS
Partial Information Accessibility: Japanese, English, IS

Intersection

IGENGO Lab.

Travel beyond time to change your destiny as a space-time detective. Presented by IGENGO Lab. - an unprecedented communicative and immersive theatre experience where Japanese Sign Language, International Sign, and Japanese intersect!

Thu, Nov 6 5:30 PM / 7:50 PM
Fri, Nov 7 - Sun, Nov 9 5:30 PM



60 min | Theatre | Denmark | Asia Premiere



Language of Performance: IS, Spoken English Subtitles: Japanese, English
Age Guidance: 12+

On the Edge

Teater5005

Niels, a theatre worker, is torn between reality and fantasy in this sign language play that depicts the spiritual world.

Fri, Nov 7, 4:30 PM / 7:30 PM



60 min | Theatre | Japan



Language of Performance: Japanese Sign Language
Subtitles: Japanese, English

Legend

Legend Production Committee

Dedicated to many Deaf people - a timeless masterpiece that traces the history of the Deaf has arrived.

Fri, Nov 7, 11:00 AM / 2:00 PM
Sat, Nov 8, 10:00 AM / 12:30 PM



60 min | Performance



Languages: Japanese Sign Language, Japanese Sign Language, and others
Interpretation: International Sign, Japanese Sign Language, Japanese (Spoken/Text), English (Text)

Closing Ceremony

Eri Nasu / Olivier Calcada / Eddy

Tokyo International Deaf Arts Festival
Closing Ceremony

Sun, Nov 9, 5:15 PM



60 min | Battle



Hosted Language: Japanese Sign Language, International Sign
Japanese interpretation not provided.

SIGN SLAM Qualifiers

Douglas Ridloff / Mitsuo Itabashi / Others

Anything goes as long as it's expressed through Sign Language! YOU, the audience, decide the winner! Improvisation and expressive power are put to the test in this international SIGN SLAM!

Fri Nov 7, 7:30 PM Qualifiers
Sat, Nov 8, 7:30 PM Finals



Film

132 min | Film | Invitation Category | Hong Kong | Tokyo Premiere



2024 | Drama | Screening Languages: Hong Kong Sign Language, Cantonese
Subtitles: Japanese, English

The Way We Talk

Adam Wong

One who signs, one who speaks, and one who combines both—Three coming-of-age stories woven by three Deaf individuals from different backgrounds.

Thu, Nov 6, 12:30 PM,
Followed by Q&A with director Adam Wong



92 min | Film | Invitation Category | USA | Asia Premiere



2023 | Experimental | Documentary | Screening Language: American Sign Language,
English, Spanish | Subtitles: Japanese, English

The Tuba Thieves

Alison O'Daniel

When sound is stolen, explore what remains and what is lost in this experimental film that delves into the very act of "listening" itself.

Fri, Nov 7, 4:10 PM

Followed by Q&A with director Alison O'Daniel



143 min | Film | Invitation Category | Japan | Preview Screening



2025 | Drama
Presentation Languages: Japanese Sign Language, Japanese, Kurdish (Planned)
Interpretation/Subtitles: International Sign, Japanese Sign Language, Japanese (Spoken/Text), English (Text)

The Chatterboxes

Ken Kawai

The Koga family, consisting of a Deaf father and his Deaf younger brother who have lived in the town for many years, clash with a newly arrived Kurdish family over minor misunderstandings - a comedy about an endangered language!

Sun, Nov 9, 12:45 PM

Followed by post-screening talk with director Ken Kawai
and cast Itsuaki Nagasawa, Kazuyoshi Kozuka,
Ouki Fukuda, Yıldırım Fırat, Murat Çiçek, others



90 min | Film | Invitation Category | UK | Preview Screening



2022 | Documentary
Languages: Kurdish, English, British Sign Language
Subtitles: Japanese, English

NAME ME LAWAND

Edward Lovelace

Documentary chronicling the turbulent life and remarkable growth of a young Kurdish Deaf boy who travels to the UK as a refugee.

Sun, Nov 9, 6:30 PM



69 min | Film | Competition Category | Japan | Tokyo Premiere

ZA-KOENJI 2



2023 | Human Drama | Presentation Language: Japanese Sign Language
Interpretation, Transcription: International Sign, Japanese (Voice/Text), English (Text)

◎Two Threads, One Weave Katsutoshi Idoue

Asuka, a Deaf woman grappling with the fear of losing her sight, finds hope through an encounter with a DeafBlind individual - A DeafBlind directed and starred human drama.

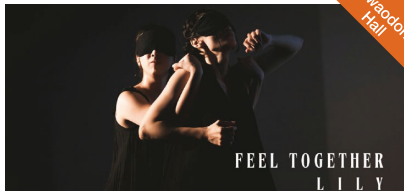
Thu, Nov 6, 10:00 AM,

Followed by a meet and greet with director Katsutoshi Idoue and cast Yuki Imamoto, Atsushi Kobayashi



50 min | Fringe | Performance | Taiwan

Awaodori Hall



Performance Language: Chinese, Taiwanese Sign Language, Japanese, Japanese Sign Language Subtitle: Japanese

★◎Feel Together: Lily

Duck Art Studio

A performance by a Deaf dancer and an ADHD hearing dancer explores what it means to be free in body and mind.

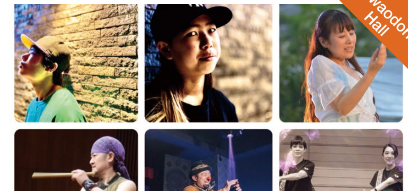
Free
(Tickets at the door)



Fri, Nov 7, 12:25 PM
Sat, Nov 8, 12:25 PM

40 min | Fringe | Performance | Japan

Awaodori Hall



Language: Japanese Sign Language, with some International Sign
Interpretation: Spoken Japanese

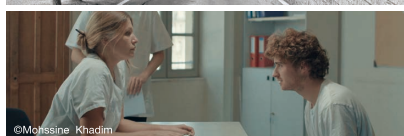
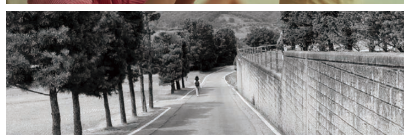
★◎Reach for Heartbeat's Connection! The Moment When Lives Resonate

Yumenko | Performers Collaborative Creation

Taiko Drums, dance, sign language, and clowns combine to create a performance filled with smiles and prayers for the future.

Sun, Nov 9, 10:00 AM

Free
(Tickets at the door)



©Mottssine Khadim

73 min | Film | Competition Category | France·South Korea

ZA-KOENJI 2

◎The power of goodbye / Audrey Sangla

A mother learns that her daughter, suffering from a degenerative disease, wants to end her life, and is forced to confront a profound challenge to her maternal love.

2025 | Drama | 23 min | Tokyo Premiere
Language: French Sign Language Subtitles: Japanese, English

◎I'm Sori, I'm Sorry / Han Sori

My first name is 'Sori'. It means "sound" or "voice" in Korean and it sounds like the English word "sorry". This is the story of how my voice ('sori') tormented my mother following my grandfather's funeral.

2025 | Documentary | 28 min | Black & White | International Premiere
Language: Korean Subtitles: Japanese, English

◎Room 13 / Lea Damian

In a psychiatric hospital, one of the patients hears strange noises, which no one can hear. Dr. Las will try to unravel this mystery.

2022 | Drama | 22 min | Japan Premiere
Language: French Sign Language, French Subtitles: Japanese, English

Sun, Nov 9, 10:00 AM

Followed by post-screening talk with directors Audrey Sangla, Han Sori, Lea Damian



75 min | Fringe | Lecture | Canada

Awaodori Hall



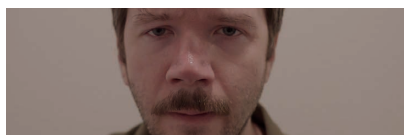
Language: International Sign
Interpretation: Japanese Sign Language, Spoken Japanese

★◎Deaf Arts Academy - Canada Deaf Arts Professional Training Canadian Cultural Society of the Deaf (CCSD) | Deaf Arts Academy

Introduction and discussion for a professional training program designed specifically for Deaf artists.

Sun, Nov 9, 11:10 AM

Admission: Free
(Tickets at the door)



61 min | Film | Competition Category | USA·Japan·France

ZA-KOENJI 2

◎Idle Hands / Douglas Ridoff

The story of a Deaf father struggling with his relationship with his son, while confronting the pain of his past, steps forward to his family's future.

2023 | Human Drama | 21 min | Japan Premiere
Language: American Sign Language, English Subtitles: Japanese, English

◎Inori / Mika Imai

An intimate story about Mao, a Deaf actress, who confronts the memories of her childhood through acting lessons and re-examines herself through dialogue with her mother.

2025 | Human Drama | 17 min | Silent | World Premiere
Language: Japanese Sign Language, Japanese Subtitles: Japanese, English

◎The Silenced / Julien Bourges

A documentary that follows six Deaf individuals who broke the silence to expose abuse at a school for the Deaf, depicting their courage as they confront past pain and speak their truth.

2023 | Documentary | 23 min | Silent | Japan Premiere
Language: French Sign Language, French Subtitles: Japanese, English

Sat, Nov 8, 2:15 PM - 3:45 PM

Followed by post-screening talk with director Julien Bourges and cast Kumi Kyodo, Leo, Yu Tanabe



120 min | Talk | Norway

Awaodori Hall



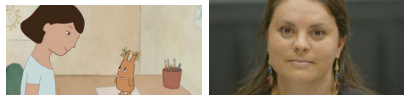
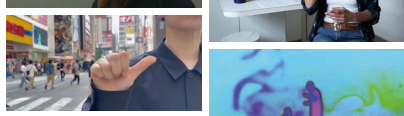
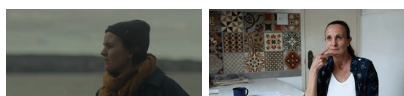
Presentation Language: International Sign
Interpretation and Transcription: Japanese Sign Language, Japanese (Spoken/Text), English (Spoken/Text)

★Mira Zuckermann: Building a Theatre Mira Zuckermann

Supported by the Norwegian government, "Teater Manu" is a public theatre for the Deaf. Director Mira Zuckermann recounts the journey of the theatre's founding and in collaboration with the Norwegian Association of the Deaf, its many achievements.

Fri, Nov 7, 2:00 PM

Admission: Free
(Tickets at the door)



86 min | Film | Competition Category | Norway·Japan·Austria·USA·Brazil·Poland

ZA-KOENJI 2

◎Oh girl, it hurts / Pernille Vogt

These attempts to accept her queer identity. But what challenges await her after she meets a woman for whom she is finally able to open her heart?

2024 | Norway | Drama | 17 min | Asia Premiere
Language: Norwegian Sign Language Subtitles: Japanese, English

◎GOJYUBI. -finger kanamoji- / Kazumi Sano

An experimental visual work exploring the nature of finger spelling—distinct from Sign Language—and its meaning for the contemporary Deaf community.

2025 | Experimental | 8 min | Silent | World Premiere
Language: Japanese Sign Language (Fingerspelling)

◎Andi does it! / Christoph Kopal

The filming of a sign language navigation app descends into utter chaos, plagued by demanding staff and a crippling budget shortage?

2023 | Comedy | 11 min | Asia Premiere
Language: Austrian Sign Language Subtitles: Japanese, English

◎Rite of Identity / Youmee Lee

A 2D animation depicting a Deaf child's journey of self-discovery amidst the struggles of navigating an auditory world.

2022 | Animation | 14 min | Japan Premiere
Language: American Sign Language Subtitles: Japanese, English

◎The Search of Self and Silence / Giuliano Robert

A hearing mother and her Deaf son navigate linguistic misunderstandings to find a profound form of connection within the language of sign and the comfort of silence.

2021 | Brazil | Documentary | 20 min | Asia Premiere
Language: Brazilian Sign Language Subtitles: Japanese, English

◎MINT / Tomasz Grabowski

A quiet, poetic world that travels into the inner lives of Deaf people, linked through dreams, memory, and Sign Language.

2025 | Poland | Experimental | 18 min | Silent | World Premiere
Language: Polish Sign Language Subtitles: Japanese, English

◎Interpretation / MJ Kiego

It's the first day of classes, and an ASL interpreter has to confront a myopic professor and a cocky student.

2023 | Brazil | 8 min | Asia Premiere
Language: American Sign Language Subtitles: Japanese, English

Sat, Nov 8, 4:30 PM

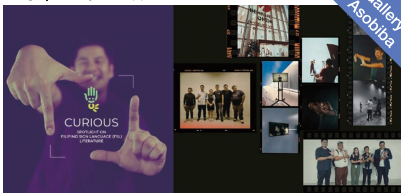
Followed by post-screening talk with directors Pernille Vogt, Kazumi Sano



Exhibition

Fringe | Gallery | Philippines

Gallery
Asobiba



Exhibition Language: Filipino Sign Language, Tagalog Translation: Japanese, English
Commentary Language: International Sign Interpretation: Japanese Sign Language, Spoken Japanese

★Towards Inclusive Filipino Literature: Recognition of Filipino Sign Language (FSL) Literature Benilde Deaf Team

Present and future of Deaf-created Filipino literature. Admission: Free

Thu, Nov 6 - Sun, Nov 9

10:00 AM - 8:00 PM

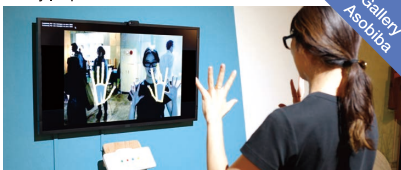
Commentary | Fri, Nov 7, 2:30 - 3:15 PM

Sat, Nov 8, 4:45 - 5:30 PM



Gallery | Japan

Gallery
Asobiba



Exhibition Language: Japanese Sign Language Interpretation: Japanese, English
Commentary Language: International Sign, Japanese Sign Language
Interpretation: Japanese Sign Language, Spoken Japanese, International Sign

★TIDAF Imaginary TIDAF Creation Team

An interactive exhibition where the "image" of Sign Language takes shape. Focusing on its CL (Classified) system, this exhibition introduces the creativity and expressive potential of sign through video and installation art.

Thu, Nov 6 - Sun, Nov 9

10:00 AM - 8:00 PM

Commentary : Thu, Nov 6, 3:45 - 4:15 PM

Admission: Free



120 min | Panel Discussion | Japan・USA

Awaodori
Hall



Presenter and MC Languages: Japanese Sign Language, American Sign Language
Interpretation and Transcription: Japanese Sign Language, International Sign,
Japanese (spoken/text), English (text)

★Sign Language Supervisor and DASL Insights from the Field

Douglas Ridloff / Mayumi Ishimura / Mika Imai /
Satoshi Ezoe / Kentaro Hayase

Bringing together four professionals with proven experience in film and stage production, this panel will share experiences on set and the potential of Sign Language Supervisors and Directors of Artistic Sign Language, and unravel the intersection of language and direction.

Sat, Nov 8, 2:00 PM

Admission: Free

(Tickets at the door)



90 min | Panel Discussion | Japan

Awaodori
Hall



Language: Japanese Sign Language
Interpretation: International Sign, Japanese (Spoken/Text), English (Text)

★Deaf Actors in Japan - Present and Future

Akiko Oshidari / Atom Sunada /
Akito Imai / Eri Nagai

Actors who have shaped history and the young actors who will lead the future—the history and challenges of Deaf actors in Japan.

Sun, Nov 9, 1:00 PM

Admission: Free

(Tickets at the door)



70 min | Fringe | Workshop | Japan

Awaodori
Hall



Language: Spoken Japanese
Interpretation: Japanese Sign Language, International Sign

●Ikebana Flower Arranging Workshop

Tokyo Society for the Hard of Hearing and Late-Deafened (NPO) Ikebana Class

Learn the beauty and joy of Ikebana, a Japanese tradition, through this workshop.

Fri, Nov 7, 10:10 AM



90 min | Talk | Denmark

Awaodori
Hall



Languages: International Sign
Interpretation and Transcription: Japanese Sign Language, Japanese (spoken/text), English (text)

★Teater5005: Creating Theatrical Arts with Sign Language

Teater5005

Join us for a talk about "On the Edge," which the Danish theatre company Teater 5005 will perform at this festival, along with an introduction to Teater 5005's philosophy, past works, and creative process.

Sun, Nov 9, 3:00 PM

Admission: Free

(Tickets at the door)



Collaboration | Social

The Den



TIDAFxFlat Time

Flat Time

Japan's largest sign language social event! No advance registration needed. Come and go anytime, everyone's welcome!

Thu, Nov 6, 8:00 PM - 11:00 PM

Fri, Nov 7 - Sun, Nov 9

① 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM ② 8:30 PM - 11:30 PM

Admission : ¥1,200
/ per person
(includes one drink)



Collaboration | Screening

Koenji
Underpass
Vant Wardhouse



Exhibition Language: Japanese Sign Language Transcription: Japanese
Commentary Language: Japanese Sign Language Interpretation: Spoken Japanese

★Home Video Presentation Metote Lab

See the natural living culture of the Deaf community through the home videos of people connected to Suginami City, showcasing the daily lives, family conversations, and domestic scenes of sign language users.

Sat, Nov 22, 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Commentary : Sat, Nov 22,

① 10:30 - 11:30 AM ② 2:00 - 3:00 PM

Admission: Free



Activity · Workshop ·

180 min | Workshop | Mexico

Awaodori
Hall



Presentation Language: International Sign Interpretation: Japanese Sign Language Target Audience: Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals (Hearing individuals are not eligible) / University students and adults

VV fundamentals workshop with VV performer Eddy.

Instructor: Eddy

Visual Vernacular (VV) is an internationally recognized "visual common language" in Deaf art. Join acclaimed VV performer Eddy as he provides a comprehensive introduction to the fundamentals of VV.
Thu, Nov 6, 10:00 AM



90 min | Workshop | USA

IMAGINUS



Language: American Sign Language Interpretation: Japanese Sign Language
Target Audience: Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals
Eligibility: Adults only. Students are not eligible, except for working adult students.

How to Host a JSL SLAM

Instructor: Douglas Ridloff Moderator: Mitsuo Itabashi

Are you interested in hosting a JSL SLAM in your region? Come and learn directly from Douglas Ridloff, the host of SIGN SLAM, about how to organize and run an event! We will provide practical know-how, carefully explaining the rules, progression, and how to get the crowd going during a JSL SLAM event.
Sun, Nov 9, 1:00 PM



Market

ZA
KOENJI
Front Plaza



★Sign Language Market

Connecting people, objects, and the city through sign language. Encounters by signs, writing, and gestures at this marche.

Thu, Nov 6 - Sun, Nov 9

11:00 AM - 7:00 PM

Vendor Booths, Food and Beverage,

Activities: 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Food Trucks: 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM / 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Admission: Free



60 min | Collaboration | Activity

JF Koenji
Station



★Clean-up with Japanese Sign Language!

Green Bird Koenji Team

Take on a cleanup challenge around ZA KOENJI, the venue for TIDAF, communicating in Japanese Sign Language!

Fri, Oct 17, 7:00 PM

Fri, Nov 7, 7:00 PM

Participation Fee:

Free



120 min | Workshop



Language: American Sign Language Interpretation: Japanese Sign Language
Target Audience: Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals (hearing individuals are not eligible) Eligibility: Junior high school students and above

Visual Sign Language Expression
Instructor: Douglas Ridloff Moderator: Mitsuo Itabashi

Join a visual sign language expression workshop led by Douglas Ridloff, the host of SIGN SLAM. This workshop offers content for all skill levels, from beginners exploring playful hand-shapes to experienced participants creating their own visual sign language expressions.

Sun, Nov 9, 10:00 AM



60 min | Workshop



Instruction Language: Spoken Japanese
Interpretation: Japanese Sign Language, International Sign
Target Audience: School aged children and adults *Children in 2nd grade and below must be accompanied by a guardian.

Making Food Samples
IMAGINUS | Suginami Association for the Deaf

Japanese Sign Language and International Sign Language interpretation provided! Come and create incredibly realistic food replicas using wax!

Sat, Nov 8 • Sun, Nov 9
① 9:30 AM ② 11:15 AM ③ 1:45 PM ④ 3:30 PM



40 min | Performance | Japan



Language: Japanese Sign Language
Interpretation: Spoken Japanese, International Sign

★Shuwa no Machi Ren and Tatsu no Otoshigo Ren:
Awa Odori by people who perceive the world visually!
Shuwa no Machi Ren and Tatsu no Otoshigo Ren

Original Awa Odori dance groups will showcase unique dances incorporating visual expressions!

Sun, Nov 9, 4:30 PM

40 min | Fringe | Performance




Language: Japanese Sign Language, with some International Sign
Interpretation: Spoken Japanese

★Reach for Heartbeat's Connection!
The Moment When Lives Resonate
Yumenko | Performers Collaborative Creation

Experience a dynamic Taiko drum performance that fuses sign language and dance!


Sat, Nov 8, 4:30 PM

★TIDAF Square
(Koenji Mashita)



Performance | Interaction

Admission is free



2025.11.7-9
11:00-18:00
高円寺マシタ広場 Koenji Mashita

The TIDAF performance programme brings together a rich variety of creative forms: live painting by a Deaf artist from Australia, a VV (Visual Vernacular) performance by a Deaf artist from Mexico, a collaborative stage featuring Japanese Taiko drums and sign language, and visually captivating Awa Odori. Be sure to experience "art for the eyes" from artists across Japan and overseas. During non-performance hours, the plaza serves as a relaxing communal space.

Fri, Nov 7–Sun, Nov 9, 11:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Performance | Australia



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★Live Painting
Jaycob Campbell (Gonketa)

A live painting performance by Australian Deaf artist Jaycob Campbell, the creator of the key visual for TIDAF.

Fri, Nov 7 • Sun, Nov 9
11:00 AM – 3:00 PM

30 min | Performance | Mexico




Language: International Sign
Interpretation: Japanese Sign Language, Spoken Japanese

★Eddy's Captivating VV Performance
Eddy

This VV (Visual Vernacular) Performance by Mexican Deaf artist Eddy, showcases Deaf expression, utilizing visual and physical storytelling to convey narratives and emotions.

Sat, Nov 8, 2:00 PM

Food Truck



iVamos!
Food Truck

Experience a culinary world tour prepared by a chef who has traveled the globe!

Fri, Nov 7 – Sun, Nov 9
11:00 AM – 6:00 PM

★ Free ○ Competition ● Fringe

★TIDAF Kura
(Koenji Underpass)
(Vacant Warehouse)



Collaboration | Interaction | Screening

Admission is free

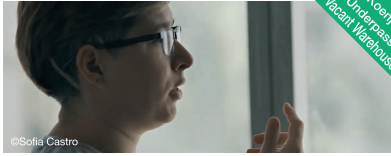


2025.11.8-9
11:00-18:00
高円寺空き倉庫 Koenji Underpass Vacant Warehouse

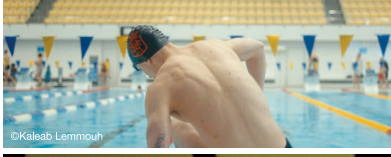
Kurabi Nomitai
TIDAF Craft Beer is here - a collaboration between Kurabinomitai and Egret Brewery! Original collaboration beer will be sold alongside screenings of sign language and Deaf culture themed films. Anyone is welcome - please stop by and experience the "now" of TIDAF!

Sat, Nov 8 • Sun, Nov 9, 11:00 AM – 6:00 PM

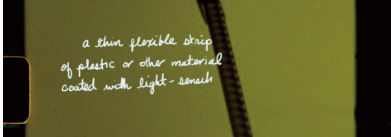
- *You may bring your own food.
- *You may bring water and drinks for infants and children.
- *Non-alcoholic beverages will be available as well (planned).



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a thin, flexible strip of plastic or other material coated with light-sensitive

40 min | Film | Focus Category | Argentina • Sweden • USA

★Breaking Language / Sofia Castro

Documentary that merges Argentinian Sign Language with dance, featuring four Deaf artists who share their perspectives on feminism and the power of artistic expression.

2025 | Documentary | 17 min | Asia Premiere
Languages: Argentinian Sign Language, Spanish Subtitles: Japanese, English

★Medal Chase / Kevin Shiva

A look into the passion and determination of Rudolfs, a world-class Deaf swimmer, as he challenges himself to achieve his dream.


2025 | Documentary | 10 min
Languages: Swedish Sign Language, Swedish Subtitles: Japanese, English

★A love letter to the light / MJ Kiego

The film redefines the essence of cinema by questioning the role of sound, guiding the audience to rediscover the powerful narrative held in cinematic light.

2024 | USA | Experimental | 9 min | Asia Premiere
Languages: American Sign Language, English
Subtitles: Japanese, English

Admission: Free



Sat, Nov 8, 11:30 AM
Sun, Nov 9, 5:00 PM

Audience Awards for the Film Competition and Fringe Category

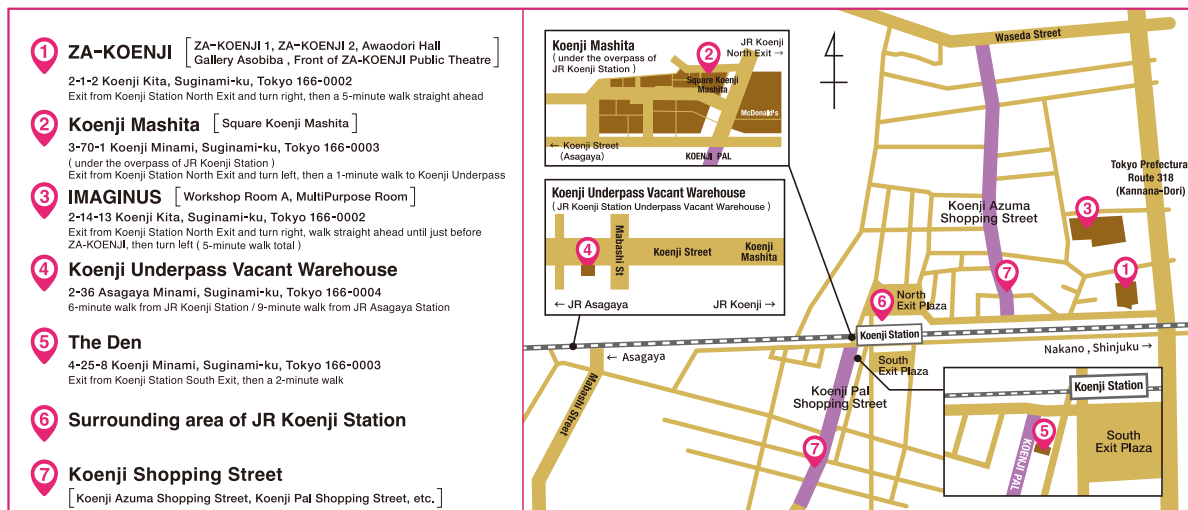
Audience voting will take place, and the awards will be presented after the festival concludes.

~ How to Vote ~

- ◆ Voting boxes will be placed at Za-Koenji from Nov 6-9.
- ◆ Staff will hand out ballots to viewing audiences.
- ◆ Viewers will cast their votes.
- ◆ Votes will be tallied after the festival concludes, and the results will be announced online in mid-November.

The film with the highest score will be presented with the TIDAF Audience Award.

Venue Map



How to Purchase Tickets

※ All tickets will be available for purchase until Wednesday, November 5th, 11:59 pm.
 ※ If advance tickets are sold out, same-day tickets will not be available.

① One-Day Ticket

6 Nov One-Day Ticket ... Adult 6,000 yen Child 3,500 yen

7 Nov One-Day Ticket ... Adult 12,000 yen Child 7,000 yen

8 Nov One-Day Ticket ... Adult 9,000 yen Child 5,000 yen

9 Nov One-Day Ticket ... Adult 6,000 yen Child 3,500 yen

Note: One-day tickets are valid only for selected programs.
 For details, please check the official website.

② 4-Day Ticket 40,000yen

③ Single ticket 500 ~ 4,000yen

Prices vary depending on the program. Please refer to the table on the right.

(1) Official Festival Site Square ①One-Day Ticket / PassMarket ②4-Day Ticket • ③Single Ticket

(2) ZA-KOENJI Ticket Box ③Single Ticket (some programs excluded)

(3) In Person ①One-Day Ticket • ③Single Ticket

- ◆ Children (school-aged) - Please bring age verification identification if you buy a child ticket.
- ◆ Customer-initiated refunds, exchanges, and reissuance of advance tickets will not be provided.
- ◆ Doors will open approximately 30 minutes before each performance and screening. Numbered tickets for queueing will not be distributed.

Ceremony (Opening・Closing)		Adult 1,000 yen Child 500 yen
Theatre		Adult 3,500 yen Child 2,000 yen
Immersive Theater		6,000 yen
Fringe		Free *except Ikebana Workshop, 3000 yen for materials
SIGN SLAM		4,000 yen (2-Day Ticket)
Film	Competition Category	Adult 1,000 yen Child 500 yen
	Invitation Category	Adult 1,500 yen Child 1,000 yen
	Focus Category	Free
Workshop	VV Workshop / How to Host a JSL SLAM	3,000 yen
	Visual Sign Language Expression	1,000 yen
	Making Food Samples	2,800 yen
Gallery Asobiba / Sign Language Market / TIDAF Square / TIDAF Kura are free of charge.		

Please visit the
Official Website
for details.



ACCESSIBILITY

All programmes are accessible.

For details, please check the information for
each specific performance here →



● Thursday, November 6 at 10:00 AM (Preschool Children)

Childcare service is available for pre-school children aged 1 and older for select programmes only
 (Capacity is limited / reservations are required at least one week in advance / ¥1,000 per child, per session / In cooperation with NPO Chiiki Chiiki).

For details on eligible programs and more, please see the Accessibility page.

Please note that preschool children are not permitted to participate in programmes held at ZA-KOENJI 1, ZA-KOENJI 2, or the Awa Odori Hall. However, the following spaces are open to all ages (preschool children must be accompanied by a guardian)

● Blind and Low-Vision Attendees

The following programs are
available with audio guides:

"Two Threads, One Weave" Film ... Thursday, November 6 at 10:00 AM
 "Mark of A Woman" Performance ... Thursday, November 6 at 5:00 PM /
 Friday, November 7 at 10:20 AM
 "The Chatterboxes" Film ... Sunday, November 9 at 12:45 PM

● Deafblind Attendees Accompanied by Interpreter Guides

Please note that interpreter-guides are generally admitted free of charge for up to one person.
 If you require a second guide, please contact us to discuss further details.
 To ensure we can arrange appropriate seating, please let us know by Tuesday, October 28th, at the latest. Depending on seat availability, tickets may become unavailable without prior notice.

● Wheelchair Users

Wheelchair spaces are available (limited capacity / advance booking is required). Please note that there are size restrictions for wheelchair spaces. If you wish to use one, please contact the ZA-KOENJI Ticket Box before purchasing your tickets.