

The Japan Film Festival

The 15th Annual Japan Film Festival is aimed at enlightening South Africans about Japanese culture and society. Dates for the festival are as follows:

- 27 February – 1 March: V&A Nouveau (CT)
- 13 March – 15 March: Brooklyn Nouveau (PTA)
- 20 March – 22 March Rosebank Nouveau (JHB)

All the films are in Japanese with English subtitles. Free tickets will be available at the box office on the day of the screening.

V&A Nouveau			
	14h00	17h30	20h15
27-Feb		Kamikaze Girls	Madadayo
28-Feb		A Stranger of Mine	Breathe In, Breathe Out
01-Mar	Kamikaze Girls	Madadayo	A Stranger of Mine

Brooklyn Nouveau			
	14h00	17h30	20h15
13-Mar		Kamikaze Girls	Madadayo
14-Mar		A Stranger of Mine	Breathe In, Breathe Out
15-Mar	Kamikaze Girls	Madadayo	A Stranger of Mine

Rosebank Nouveau			
	14h00	17h30	20h15
20-Mar		Kamikaze Girls	Madadayo
21-Mar		A Stranger of Mine	Breathe In, Breathe Out
22-Mar	Kamikaze Girls	Madadayo	A Stranger of Mine

This year's selection includes the following films:

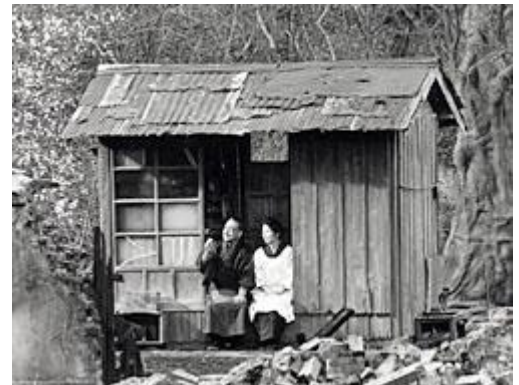
Kamikaze Girls

Kamikaze Girls centres around the special, yet unlikely, bond that forms between two girls, Momoko ([Kyoko Fukada](#)) and Ichigo ([Anna Tsuchiya](#)), who are from completely different backgrounds: one dresses in doll-like ‘Lolita’ garb and the other is a surly black-lipsticked biker. The film is a mildly surreal and comic journey into Japan’s youth subcultures.



No, Not Yet! (Madadayo)

No, Not Yet! (Madadayo) is a simple, yet engrossing, tale based on the life of Japanese academic and author, [Hyakken Uchida](#) (1889–1971). Resigning as professor of German in the period immediately before the Second World War, the plot of the film is centred on his relationship with former students, who care for him in his old age during the harsh post-war period. *Madadayo* is the final film made by renowned director Akira Kurosawa.



Breathe In, Breathe Out (Shinkokyu no hitsuyo)

Breathe In, Breathe Out (Shinkokyu no hitsuyo) is set in the picturesque southern islands of Okinawa. The film details the experiences of a group of young Japanese who work on a plantation cutting sugarcane. Trouble befalls the group as the deadline to harvest 70,000 sugarcane plants approaches, and they must work as a team to make up the shortfall and ensure that their kind hosts do not face financial ruin.



A Stranger of Mine (Unmei ja nai hito)

In *A Stranger of Mine (Unmei ja nai hito)* we witness the events of a single night at a restaurant from the point of view of five different characters. This thrilling and heartwarming tale of fate is an innovative love story that comically depicts the innocence of men and the tenacity of women.



This year ANIMAX is proud to be part of the 2009 Japan Film Festival. Each feature film will be preceded by an episode of the popular animé series Last Exile – airing weekdays at 17:45 on ANIMAX (Channel 126). www.animaxtv.co.za

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