

September 21, 2023

Toronto International Festival of Authors (TIFA) 2023 Guest Author



漫画読書会
Let's chat about manga!



Exclusive video message from YUKIMURA Makoto himself will be shared just for JFT Book Club participants!

JFT BOOK CLUB (HYBRID)

Thursday, September 28 2023

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM (EDT)

Dive deep into the art of Japanese storytelling with the thought-provoking sci-fi manga by YUKIMURA Makoto!

*In-person slots are now FULL, but there's still room for online participation!



There are only a few spots left for our upcoming [JFT Hybrid Book Club](#) on **September 28!** We will discuss internationally renowned manga creator YUKIMURA Makoto's award-winning science fiction series **Planetes**, available in both English and Japanese at our Library.

Don't forget YUKIMURA Makoto will be in-attendance at the [Toronto International Festival of Authors](#) on **September 23** for an inspiring conversation about his bestselling manga series **Vinland**

Saga. [Yukimura-sensei's talk at JFT](#) on **Friday, September 22 is currently fully booked, but a rush line will be available depending on availability. Rush tickets will be released at 5:45 PM.**

Lastly, there is a little over one month to watch all of the films from [JFF+ Independent Cinema 2023!](#) Step into Japan with twelve unique indie films curated by mini-theatres and filmmakers from around the world. Available to watch worldwide.

For more upcoming JFT events, community news, as well as online resources, **see details below.**

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

Now	JAPANESE LANGUAGE CLASSES	Registrations Open
September 15 - December 16	GALLERY EXHIBITION	Contemporary Wood-Carved NETSUKE
September 22	IN-PERSON TALK	The Pursuit of Purpose: Charting Vinland with YUKIMURA Makoto
September 28	LIBRARY EVENT	JFT Book Club (Hybrid) - Manga: <i>Planetes</i> by YUKIMURA Makoto
October 4	ONLINE TEACHERS' PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Online 'Sawakai' for Japanese Teachers
October 15	JAPANESE LANGUAGE SEMINAR	Let's Raise Them in Japanese!
October 18	JAPANESE LANGUAGE CLASSES	Virtual Study Space Game Room (3)
Now - October 31	ONLINE FILM SCREENINGS	JFF+ Independent Cinema 2023

UPCOMING EVENTS



Gallery Exhibition **Contemporary Wood-Carved NETSUKE**

Now Open until Saturday, December 16, 2023
Admission Free | Open on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays

Netsuke is a delicate and whimsical art form unique to Japan which fits on your palm intimately. In the 17th and 18th century Netsuke developed rapidly in the kimono fashion culture. For kimonos, which had no pockets, Netsukes acted as toggles providing daily-life convenience for carrying things such as pouches, medicine cases, and smoking pipe cases.

Since Japanese fashion had been westernized in the mid-19th century, Netsuke receded from practical use, but still attracted artistic interest not only within Japan but worldwide. In this exhibition, 65 contemporary pieces which are all wood-carved are on display. SAITŌ Bishū, a master Netsuke carver,

describes the charm and attraction of Netsuke as “Freedom amidst constraints.” Netsukes are made under certain restrictions, such as needing two holes to run the cord through and requiring it to be round to avoid getting caught. The carvers express themselves as freely as possible under these constraints, which, in the end, magically stimulate the imaginations of both creators and viewers.

[Details here](#)

[Book your visit](#)



The Pursuit of Purpose: Charting Vinland with YUKIMURA Makoto

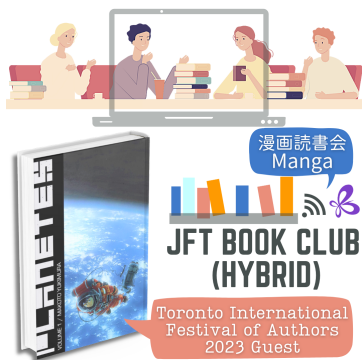
Friday, September 22, 6:00 PM – 7:15 PM (ET)

In-Person @ JFT Event Hall | Admission Free | Registration required

Please note that this event is now full. Rush tickets will be released depending on availability 15 minutes prior to the start of the event. Yukimura-sensei will also appear at [Toronto International Festival of Authors \(TIFA\) 2023](#) on Saturday, September 23.

Join us to welcome globally acclaimed manga artist YUKIMURA Makoto to Toronto! Widely recognized as the genius behind the science fiction series *Planetes* (『プラネテス』) and the Viking epic *Vinland Saga* (『ヴァインランド・サガ』), YUKIMURA Makoto has captivated fans around the world with his attention to historical accuracy, intricate battle scenes, compelling characters, and complex themes.

[Details here](#)



Library News

JFT Book Club (Hybrid) - Manga: *Planetes* by YUKIMURA Makoto (Toronto International Festival of Authors 2023)

Thursday, September 28, 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Online & In-Person @ JFT Library | Admission Free | Registration Required

Love reading manga (Japanese comics) or sci-fi? Join us in person or online to discuss YUKIMURA Makoto's *Planetes*, Volume 1 (原書: 『プラネテス』 1~2巻), an award-winning sci-fi manga series with a remarkably realistic depiction of space exploration and a moving story filled with rich human drama! The artist YUKIMURA Makoto is making his first visit to Canada as a featured guest at [the Toronto International Festival of Authors 2023](#)! Let's enjoy this thought-provoking story together with other manga lovers from different cultural backgrounds! For those new to the book club or if you just want to listen this time, we also have a small number of “Observer” slots!

P.S. A special video message from Mr. YUKIMURA will be exclusively shared with book club participants!

[Details here](#)

ONGOING EVENTS



[See full list here](#)



libbyapp.com/library/jf

Library News

September New Arrivals

[Visit the library](#) to borrow newly arrived titles! Explore the poignant journey of an influential postwar poet ISHIGAKI Rin through her [This Overflowing Light](#), a collection of poems that inspire resilience in the face of challenging circumstances; dive deep into the Japanese idol culture with USAMI Rin's Akutagawa award-winning novella [Idol, Burning](#), a compelling exploration of fandom and identity in the age of social media; master practical Japanese communication skills through real-life scenario conversations with [Tsunagu Nihongo : Shokyū-1 & 2](#) [つなぐにほんご : 初級 1 & 2](#) (if you are a Japanese teacher, check out [教師用マニュアル](#)); and more!

[Place a hold for pickup](#)

Library News

JF Canada Digital Library: Newly Added Ebooks and Audiobooks

Check out new ebooks and audiobooks just added to [JF Canada Digital Library](#)! For those interested in the nuances of postwar Japan, MISHIMA Yukio's novel [Silk and Insight](#) is a mesmerizing exploration of Japan's historically significant labour strife, delivering an intimate portrayal of power dynamics against a backdrop of social change; those hungry for an engaging read that challenges historical worldviews should check out [African Samurai](#) by Thomas Lockley and Geoffrey Girard; [Yamamba: In Search of the Japanese Mountain Witch](#) by Rebecca Copeland and Linda C. Ehrlich is an enchanting collection of myth, scholarship and creative arts recommended for anyone interested in the intersection of folklore, culture, creativity, and feminism; and more!

Apply for a new library card or renew your expired card [here](#).

[Browse other ebooks and audiobooks](#)



@ the Japan Foundation, Toronto

Japanese Language Classes

Continue Learning Japanese with us!

Looking for somewhere to continue studying Japanese? Registration for our September 2023 language courses is now open! We offer online courses for everyone from complete beginners (Starter A1) to intermediate speakers (Intermediate B1/JLPT N3 level).

[Details here](#)



Japanese Language Classes **JFT Virtual Study Space**

Online Space | Admission Free | Registration Required

Looking for a space to practice the Japanese language outside of class? Want to connect with fellow learners from all over Canada (or study alone if you wish)? Our free online 24/7 JFT Virtual Study Space is now open to all learners of Japanese in Canada. Here, learners can practice speaking, complete weekly language challenges, play games, chill, study together or alone, and more.

[Register here](#)

JAPAN FOUNDATION SUPPORTED EVENTS

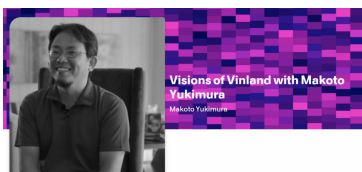


Ottawa International Animation Festival **Mindgames: A Tribute to Masaaki Yuasa**

Wednesday, September 20 to Sunday, September 24
Film Festival | Paid Admission: Prices Vary

Internationally renowned animator and filmmaker YUASA Masaaki will be attending the [2023 Ottawa International Animation Festival](#) this September, where a comprehensive retrospective of his body of work will be presented, from his acclaimed feature films to his lesser known works in television. The co-founder of Science SARU will also join OIAF Artistic Director Chris Robinson for a deep dive into Yuasa's unique and diverse career. Supported by The Japan Foundation, Toronto's grant program.

[Details here](#)



Toronto International Festival of Authors **Visions of Vinland with Makoto Yukimura**

Saturday, September 23, 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM
In-person in Toronto, ON | Paid Admission: Ticket Prices Vary

The internationally renowned Manga creator, Makoto Yukimura comes to Canada for the first time, offering a rare glimpse behind the scenes of the vivid, vicious world of ***Vinland Saga***, the bestselling books that inspired the hugely popular Netflix adaptation.

Spanning 13 volumes, Thorfinn's quest to avenge his father and find peace in a new land takes him on an epic journey from Iceland to England, Denmark, the Byzantine Empire and back again, facing battle, brutality & betrayal every step of the way. Now, it's finally time for Thorfinn to discover the land he's dreamed of since he first sat at the feet of the great Leif Ericson – Vinland. Join Makoto Yukimura in conversation with Miles Baker, Managing Director of the Toronto Comic Art Festival for an unique and inspiring event.

[Details here](#)



Festival du nouveau cinéma
Monster 怪物

Saturday, October 7, 2:00 PM (ET)

Thursday, October 12, 8:30 PM (ET)

Film screenings in Montreal | Paid Admission: Prices Vary |
Presented in Japanese with French subtitles

When her young son Minato starts to behave strangely, his mother feels that there is something wrong. Discovering that a teacher is responsible, she storms into the school demanding to know what's going on. But as the story unfolds through the eyes of mother, teacher and child, the truth gradually emerges.

Directed by the great KORE-EDA Hirokazu, *Monster* won Best Screenplay and the Queer Palm at the 2023 Cannes Film Festival. Co-presented by the Japan Foundation, Toronto.

[Details here](#)



Audain Art Museum (Whistler)

Manabu Ikeda: Flowers from the Wreckage

Dates: Now to Monday, October 9

Hours: Thursday to Monday, 11:00 AM - 6:00 PM (PT)

Exhibition in Whistler, BC | Paid Admission: Ticket Prices Vary

Following a trip to the Canadian Rockies in the summer of 2012, Manabu Ikeda produced a large-scale drawing, 'Meltdown' (2013). This work is Ikeda's personal reflection on catastrophic events in Japan in 2011. 'Meltdown' uses imagery of the majestic Canadian landscape to convey the impact of our way of life on the forces of nature.

Curated by Kiriko Watanabe, the Audain Art Museum's Gail & Stephen A. Jarislowsky Curator, this is Ikeda's first solo retrospective in North America showcasing over sixty works from national and international collections.

[Details here](#)



Japan Foundation

JFF+ Independent Cinema 2023

Now to Tuesday, October 31

Online Film Screenings | Free Admission

The Japan Foundation has launched a special program called *JFF+ Independent Cinema 2023* to shed light on the mini theaters that support the cinema culture of Japan. The lineup of streamed films includes those recommended by mini theaters throughout Japan, as well as by international film critics and film festival directors. Videos that introduce each participating mini theater, their communities, and the

feelings of their staff, will also be produced and streamed. Together these will introduce the current state of cinema culture and regional culture in Japan from multiple angles.

[Details here](#)

COMMUNITY EVENTS



Bloor Hot Docs Cinema
Mr. Jimmy

Friday, September 22, 1:00PM (ET)

Film screening | Paid Admission: Prices Vary | Presented in English and Japanese with English subtitles

In snowbound Tokamachi, Japan, teenaged SAKURAI Akio took refuge in his room, escaping to another world with a pair of headphones and a pile of Led Zeppelin records. Moving to Tokyo, Akio worked as a 'salaryman' by day, but by night became Mr. Jimmy, adopting the guitar chops and persona of Jimmy Page. For 35 years, Akio recreated vintage Zeppelin concerts note-for-note in small Tokyo clubs, until Jimmy Page stopped by one night—and Akio's life changed forever. Use promo code **HDMRJIMMY50** for discounted tickets.

[Details here](#)



Japan Society Canada

Book soiree featuring former Wall Street Journal Tokyo Correspondent, Kathryn Graven

Thursday, September 28, 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Ben McNally Books | Admission Free

The Japan Society of Canada and Ben McNally Books are excited that author and former Wall Street Journal Tokyo Correspondent, Kathryn Graven, will discuss her new book, *Memoirs of a Mask Maker* at Ben McNally Books, on Thursday September 28, 2023 from 6:00 pm. Her talk will focus on the important gifts that Japan gave her - masks, umeboshi and more - and how they have shaped her life.

[Details here](#)



Revue Cinema

Almost People

Sunday, October 1 to Thursday, October 5

Film screenings | Paid Admission: Prices Vary | Presented in Japanese with English subtitles

Almost People, directed by four emerging Japanese filmmakers, is the story of four siblings who lack some of their emotions. Hikaru, the eldest brother, who feels no 'joy,' listens to the words people exchange in search of 'words of joy'. The eldest sister, Himiko, is conflicted by her lack of anger and throws herself into the revolution. The second brother, Taiyo, who does not understand what 'joy' is,

repeatedly crosses paths with his girlfriend. Hanako, the second sister who has no feeling of 'loneliness', resonates with her homeroom teacher, Fujimaki, and makes an unexpected decision.

[Details here](#)



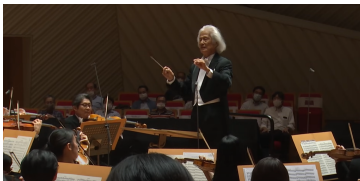
Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre
Unchanging and Changing and Changing

Thursday, October 12
Exhibition Opening & Live Performances | Admission Free

'Unchanging and changing and changing' is a solo exhibition and collaborative Nihon-buyō dance & Taiko drum performance by Alexa Kumiko Hatanaka that features wearable paper artworks that are imbued with the life of the performers alongside the histories of craft and place that inform them. Hatanaka reflects on personal aftershocks from tsunamis, both real and metaphorical. Her work integrates her formative childhood experience in dance at the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre and is steeped with her recent time spent at a fourth generation paper mill in Japan.

[Details here](#)

ONLINE RESOURCE RECOMMENDATIONS



Performing Arts Recommendation
Wagner: *Thanhäuser Overture*

In memory of IIMORI Taijirō, passed away on August 23, 2023

Recorded at MUZA Kawasaki Symphony Hall on August 07, 2020
Tokyo City Philharmonic Orchestra
Conducted by IIMORI Taijirō
17 minutes 50 seconds

[Watch here](#)



Visual Arts Recommendation
Catching a Goldfish with a Gourd

In conjunction with the [Netsuke](#) exhibition at JFT
The hands-on exhibit No. 63 Catfish is based on the national treasure scroll from the 15th century

瓢鮎図, Hyō-nen-zu
The full scroll measures 111.5 cm ×75.8 cm
Painted by the 15th-century artist Josetsu 如拙

[Read more](#)



The Japan Foundation, Toronto | 2 Bloor St. East, Suite 300, P.O. Box 130, Toronto, M4W 1A8
Canada