



JAPAN FOUNDATION

The Japan Foundation presents

# Summer Explorers!

## Japanese Anime Screenings 2



Tamako Love Story



After School Midnighters



Princess Arete



Mind Game



Hanakappa

Following the popularity of last year's Summer Explorers, we have come back with many more anime films to brighten your summer days!

Saturday, 30 July: BAFTA, London - 195 Piccadilly, London W1J 9LN

Part One



**Hanakappa: Adventure in the Butterfly Kingdom** 11.00am (English subtitles, suitable for ages 8+)

Hanakappa is a character created by the award-winning illustrator Tadashi Akiyama. In his big screen debut, Hanakappa discovers that his and his friends' mothers have all been kidnapped and sets off on a journey to the "Butterfly Kingdom" to rescue them. Enduring a tough trip through the changing seasons, they are joined by a boy called Pol. Will they manage to find their mothers and who is this mysterious young boy? A fun story of courage, friendship and the bonds between parents and their children.

Dir. Kazumi Nonaka, 2013, 60min | Image: © 2013 Akiyama Tadashi/ HANAKAPPA movie project



**Princess Arete** 12.30pm (English subtitles, suitable for ages 8+)

Kept in a castle by her father, Princess Arete spends her days watching the world go by outside her window while wealthy suitors vie for her hand in marriage. She wants nothing more than to experience the world around her with own eyes, rather than just live her life locked away. One day a wizard called Boax offers to marry her and take her away, but will Princess Arete finally be free or will she just be imprisoned by another keeper? *Princess Arete* is a charming animated twist on the conventional fairy tale princess story, directed by Sunao Katabuchi (*Mai Mai Miracle*).

Featuring an introduction by Japanese anime expert Helen McCarthy

Dir. Sunao Katabuchi, 2001, 105min | Image: © ARETE PROJECT



**Tamako Love Story** 3.00pm (English subtitles, suitable for ages 12+)

*Tamako Love Story* is a sequel to the hit TV anime *Tamako Market*, produced by Kyoto Animation. A ligh-hearted depiction of the ordinary but fun life of Tamako, the daughter of a mochi (Japanese rice cake) shop owner, and her blossoming romance with a childhood friend, Mochizo. The film reunites the principal staff from the major hit *K-On! Movie* including the film's director, Naoko Yamada.

Dir. Naoko Yamada, 2014, 83min | Image: © Kyoto Animation/Usagiya Shopping Street

Saturday, 6 August 2016: Rich Mix, London - 35-47 Bethnal Green Road, London E1 6LA

Part Two



**After School Midnighters** 12.45pm (English subtitles, age classification TBC)

An exciting and original anime following the unlikelyst of heroes; Kunstlijk, a naked anatomical model that stands in a school's science room, and who comes to life at night. One day, when three naughty students decide to vandalise and dress him up in silly clothes, Kunstlijk, alongside the school's resident skeleton model Goth, plots a plan for revenge named the "After School Midnight Party" involving all the other "midnighters" in the school. Unbeknownst to the naughty schoolchildren, a scary, crazy and secret game is just beginning... A colourful, boisterous and bold ride through school in the afterhours by director Hitoshi Takekiyo, and featuring the voice-acting talents of Koichi Yamadera and Hiromasa Taguchi.

Dir. Hitoshi Takekiyo, 2012, 95min | © AFTER SCHOOL MIDNIGHTERS PARTNERSHIP



**Mind Game** 2.40pm (English subtitles, suitable for ages 18+)

The feature-length directorial debut of gifted animator Masaaki Yuasa, *Mind Game* is a psychedelic, experimental and mind-bending film fusing live action with both 2D and 3D animation. The story follows wannabe cartoonist Nishi, who is given a second chance at life and is reunited with his high school crush. A typical love story it may seem, but things take a strange turn! After feeling a skirmish with the yakuza, the pair end up in the belly of a huge whale where they encounter an old bearded man called Jonah, who has been trapped inside for years. A wonderfully surreal and aesthetically defying film, *Mind Game* is a brave inspiring work of art unlike anything you have seen before!

Dir. Masaaki Yuasa, 2004, 103min | © 2004 MIND GAME Project

**Booking:** These screenings are free to attend but booking is essential. To book a place via Google Forms, please visit the following links:

[Booking for Part One](#)  
Sat 30 July - BAFTA, London

[Booking for Part Two](#)  
Sat 6 August - Rich Mix, London