

# **Borders, Boundaries, Edges, and Fringes in Japanese Film (Studies)**

A 3 day Kinema Club conference at the University of Sheffield, United Kingdom

June 12-14th 2024

Co-Organisers: Julia Alekseyeva (UPenn) and Jennifer Coates (Sheffield)

Host institution: University of Sheffield

## **Conference Theme**

“Borders, Boundaries, Edges, and Fringes in Japanese Film (Studies)” brings together presentations in a variety of formats that consider Japanese cinema from refreshing and unusual perspectives. The conference will run parallel to Sheffield DocFest 2024 (June 12-17th) to allow the opportunity to interrogate Japanese nonfiction cinema and media within the context of global film and the international film festival circuit.

## **Conference Format**

The format of this conference includes a variety of presentation types and styles. We have two streams of parallel panels on Day 1 and Day 2, before coming together for closing roundtable sessions each day. Day 3 is devoted to ‘lightning round’ presentations with nothing scheduled in parallel.

## **Conference Schedule at a Glance**

### **Day 1 (June 12th)**

Coffee and Tea available from 08:45

Welcome: 9:00-9:05

Panels 1&2: 9:05-10:35

Break: 10:35-10:45

Panels 3&4: 10:45-12:15

Lunch 12:15-13:00

Roundtable 1: 13:00-14:30

Break for DocFest screenings (optional) 14:30-19:00

Welcome Buffet at The Mowbray 19:00

### **Day 2 (June 13th)**

Coffee and Tea available from 08:45

Panels 5&6: 9:00-10:30

Break: 10:30-10:45

Panels 7&8: 10:45-12:15

Lunch 12:15-13:00

Roundtable 2: 13:00-14:30

Break for DocFest screenings (optional) 14:30-19:00

Free evening

### **Day 3 (June 14th)**

Coffee and Tea available from 08:45

Lightning Round 1: 9:00-10:30

Break: 10:30-10:45

Lightning Round 2: 10:45-12:15

Lunch 12:15-13:00

Lightning Round 3: 13:00-14:30

Break for DocFest screenings (optional) 14:30-19:00

Closing Pizza Party at Picture House Social at the Abbeydale Picture House 19:00

## **Presentation Sessions**

### **Panel Presentations**

#### **Panel 1: “Rethinking Film Exhibition”**

Wednesday June 12th, 09:05-10:35

Room G03, Jessop West Building, Ground Floor, University of Sheffield

Presentations:

Lucie Rydzek, “Film Festivals in the Evaluation of Japanese Films’ Quality: The French Case of Kinotayo and Cannes”

Kota Nakamura, “Silent Film Screenings Reframed: Post-Pandemic ‘Live Cinema’ Practices in Japan”

#### **Panel 2: “Contemporary Auteurs”**

Wednesday June 12th, 09:05-10:35

Seminar Room 8, Jessop West Building, Third Floor, University of Sheffield

Presentations:

Adhy Kim, “Shinkai Makoto, Sekai-kei Anime, and Speculative Natural Histories”

Daniel Lik Hang Chan, “On the Verge of Throwing a Punch: The Somatic Aesthetics of Tetsuya Mariko”

Su Yue, “Kore-eda Hirokazu: Through the Lens of Liquid Kinship”

#### **Panel 3: “Ghosts of War”**

Wednesday June 12th, 10:45-12:15

Room G03, Jessop West Building, Ground Floor, University of Sheffield

Presentations:

Earl Jackson, “War over Meaning: the Interpretational Crisis in Imperial Film Culture”

Marcos Centeno, “Haneda Sumiko at the Crossroad of Memory, Gender and Diasporic Cinema through Japanese Settlers in Manchuria (2008)”

Min-kyoo Kim, “Traces of Trauma in Hiroshima: Narrating Japanese and non-Japanese experiences in Ryusuke Hamaguchi’s Drive My Car (2021)”

#### **Panel 4: “Queering Japan and Other Subversions”**

Wednesday June 12th, 10:45-12:15

Seminar Room 8, Jessop West Building, Third Floor, University of Sheffield

Presentations:

Sam Warnock, “Challenging the System: The Subversive Films of Yoshida Kijū and Okada Mariko”

Jonathan Mark Hall, “Turning Queer Circles in Japanese Film Studies”

Rio Katayama, “(De)Constructing ‘Japan-ness’ through the Depiction of the ‘New Normal’”

#### **Panel 5: “Transnational Cosmopolitanisms”**

Thursday June 13th, 09:00-10:30

Room G03, Jessop West Building, Ground Floor, University of Sheffield

Presentations:

Mieko Anders, "In the Ikiru Mode': Akira Kurosawa and the Contemporary Anglophone Novel"

Kevin McKiernan, "1960s Japanese Cinema through a Tricontinental Framework"

Claire-Akiko Brisset, "'Japanese Cinema' as seen from France: 1910-1939"

### **Panel 6: "Pop Culture and its Affects"**

Thursday June 13th, 09:00-10:30

Seminar Room 8, Jessop West Building, Third Floor, University of Sheffield

Presentations:

Yuki Watanabe, "Con Games and Cinematic Celebration of Triumph and Conquest: Exploring the Boundaries in Post-colonial Japan through the 'Confidence Man JP' Trilogy"

Erica Ka-yan Poon, "A Cosmopolitan Dimension of 'Japanese' Cinema: Manhunt Adopts Nikkatsu Borderless Film Style"

Moe Fujiwara, "Who/What is Sadako? Connections Between Meiji Women, J-Horror Ghosts, and Pop Culture Icons"

### **Panel 7: "Mixed Media and the Extra-Cinematic"**

Thursday June 13th, 10:45-12:15

Room G03, Jessop West Building, Ground Floor, University of Sheffield

Presentations:

Irena Hayter, "On Clothes and Japanese Film: Three Fragments from a Fashionable Discourse"

Colleen Laird, "Japanese Cinema and Videographic Scholarship"

Stephen Sarrazin, "Group Sounds: a Chronology of Dissonance"

### **Panel 8: "The Politics of Solidarity"**

Thursday June 13th, 10:45-12:15

Seminar Room 8, Jessop West Building, Third Floor, University of Sheffield

Presentations:

Alejandra Armendariz-Hernandez, "Transnational Film Connections between Japan and Latin America Cinema, Revolution and Cuban Japanese co-productions"

Antonella Morgillo, "Cinematic Narratives of Indigeneity: Ainu Culture in Ethnographic Film"

Kosuke Fujiki, "Compassion for the Okinawan Other: Sociopolitical References in the Film Adaptation of The Pig's Retribution"

### **Lightning Round Presentations**

#### **Lightning Round 1: "Time, Space, Atmosphere"**

Friday June 14th, 09:00-10:30

Room G03, Jessop West Building, Ground Floor, University of Sheffield

Presentations:

Kirsten Seuffert, "Archives, Atmospheres, and Alcohol: Cruising the Mediated Casual in Tokyo Bar Culture"

Brooke McCallum, "Checking In on Hotel Hibiscus: Peripheral Identities and Internalized Threat in Millennial Okinawan Cinema"

Junko Yamazaki, "Anachronism as Method"

**Lightning Round 2: "Rethinking (Cinema-)Truth"**

Friday June 14th, 10:45-12:15

Room G03, Jessop West Building, Ground Floor, University of Sheffield

Presentations:

Ran Wei, "A Film of the People, By the People, and For the People: Social Justice and Community Building in The Kamagasaki Cauldron War (2017)"

Caitlin Casiello, "Sex/Art/Youth Document: Sexploitation Documentary as a Peek at Japan's 1960s"

Eleanor Xuhui Zhang, "Alienated Apparatus, Dangerous Ambition: Microscope and the Search for Vision in Shōhei Imamura's *Dr. Akagi* (1998)"

**Lightning Round 3: "The Nation and Its Discontents"**

Friday June 14th, 13:00-14:30

Room G03, Jessop West Building, Ground Floor, University of Sheffield

Presentations:

Lola Martinez, "Hollywood Does Japan"

Aaron Gerow, "War and Theory: The Case of Tsumura Hideo"

Paride Stortini, "Between Japan and India, Mythology and Anime: The 1992 Anime *Ramayana, The Legend of Prince Rama*"

**Roundtable Presentations**

**Roundtable 1: "Writing Difference"**

Wednesday June 12th, 13:00-14:30

Room G03, Jessop West Building, Ground Floor, University of Sheffield

Presenters: Markus Nornes; Becca Voelcker; Julia Alekseyeva; Anne McKnight

**Roundtable 2: "The Boundaries of Space and Place in Japanese Cinema"**

Thursday June 13th, 13:00-14:30

Room G03, Jessop West Building, Ground Floor, University of Sheffield

Presenters: Alastair Phillips; Colleen Laird; Jasper Sharp

## Conference Information

### Catering

All breaks will have tea and coffee, and lunch provided. Please let us know about any dietary requirements you may have at [KinemaClub2024@gmail.com](mailto:KinemaClub2024@gmail.com) before **May 25th 2024**.

A welcome buffet will be offered from 19:00 on Wednesday 12th June at The Mowbray on Kelham Island: <https://themowbray.co.uk/parties-and-gatherings>

Our closing pizza party will take place in the games room and cinema space at the Picture House Social in Abbeydale Road Picture House from 19:00  
<https://www.picture-house-social.co.uk/>

### Getting to Sheffield

By train:

Please remember to book your train tickets in advance – you can book an ‘anytime return’ ticket if you’re unsure which exact train you will take. Train tickets can be booked online via <https://www.thetrainline.com/>. There’s also a Trainline app that allows you to save the ticket to your phone.

From Manchester Airport:

It will take ca. 1h20m to get from Manchester Airport to Sheffield by train, with a transfer at Manchester Piccadilly. (There are also some slower connections.) Alternatively, participants arriving late or in groups may wish to share an airport taxi: Onward Travel Solutions Ltd offers advance taxi bookings priced at £70 one way from Manchester airport or £130 return trip: [www.airporttaxi-uk.co.uk](http://www.airporttaxi-uk.co.uk)

From Heathrow Airport (London):

It will take between 3h18m to 3h50m to get from Heathrow Airport to Sheffield by train, with 2-3 transfers depending on the connection. The fastest route is the Heathrow Express train from Heathrow to Paddington Station, transfer to the Hammersmith and City or Metropolitan underground lines to Kings Cross, and then take a direct train from neighbouring St Pancras rail station to Sheffield (ca. 2 hrs).

### Accommodation

The following hotels are within walking distance of both the University and the main DocFest venues:

- [The Mercure St Pauls Sheffield](#)
- [The Leopold Hotel](#)
- [Premier Inn Sheffield City Centre \(St Mary's Gate\) hotel](#)
- [Novotel Sheffield Centre](#)
- [Leonardo Hotel Sheffield](#)

### Getting Around

Sheffield is largely walk-able but quite hilly so good walking shoes are recommended! If DocFest doesn’t tempt you, you may want to spend free afternoons exploring the Peak District National Park, which can be accessed by bus or on foot from Endcliffe Park. While

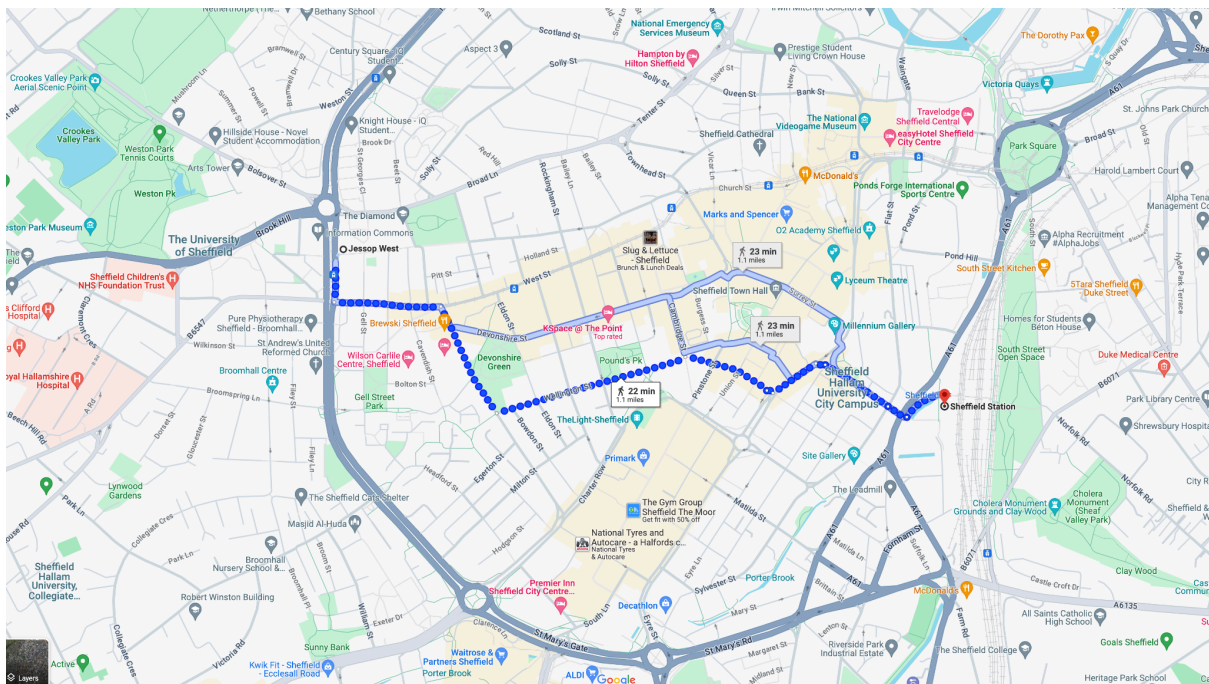
we hope for good summer weather, the UK can be unpredictable so rainwear may be a good idea for those intending to walk or hike.

### Sheffield DocFest Film Festival

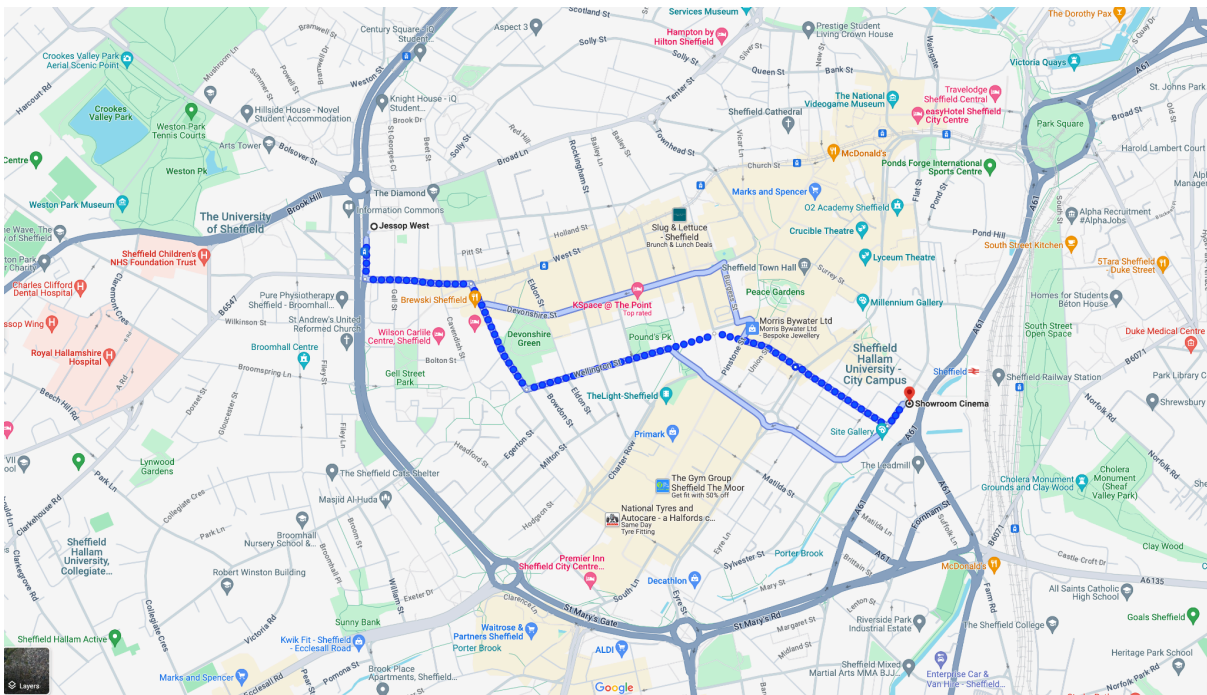
The conference will end at 14:30 each day to enable participants to visit the film festival, which takes place in central Sheffield from 12-17th June. The festival schedule will be announced in May 2024. Tickets and passes are available here, with ‘concessions’ for over 60s, students, and other categories: <https://sheffdocfest.com/attend/tickets-passes>  
Passes are refundable until April 2024, and you can purchase a block of 10 tickets or individual tickets for specific films and talk events subject to availability.

### Maps

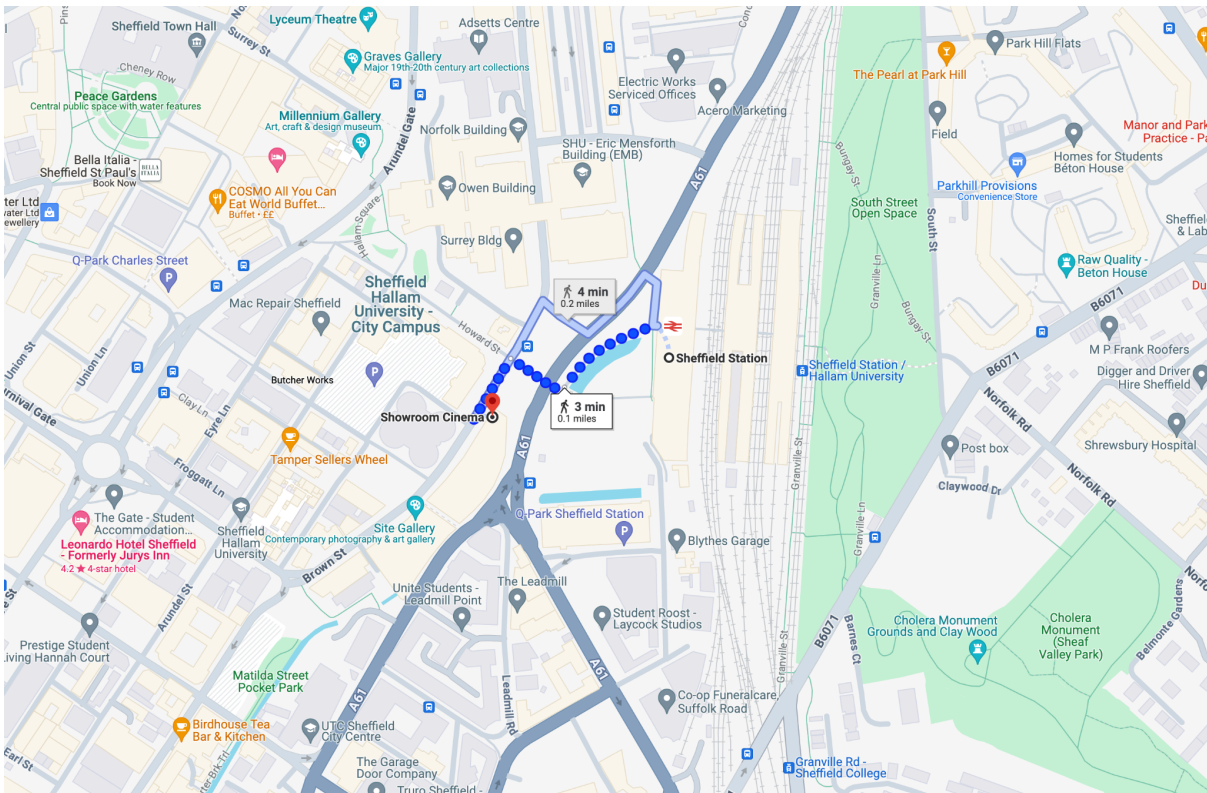
#### Sheffield Train Station to Jessop West Building Conference Venue (24 minutes walk)



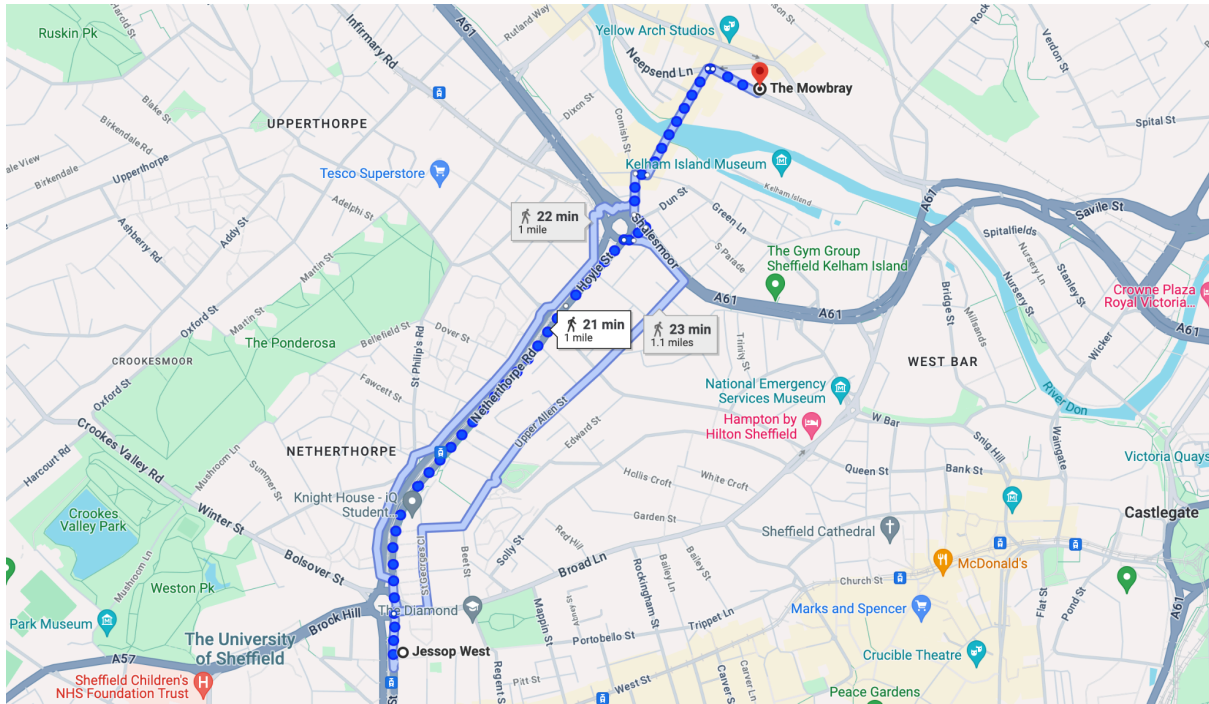
## Jessop West Building Conference Venue to Showroom Cinema Headquarters for DocFest (20 minutes walk)



## Sheffield Train Station to Showroom Cinema Headquarters for DocFest (4 minutes walk)



Jessop West conference venue to The Mowbray opening night buffet (21 minutes walk)



Jessop West conference venue to Abbeydale Road Picture House Social closing night pizza party (37 minutes walk or 12 minutes drive)

