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LANDMARK 35TH EDITION OF THE EUROPEAN FILM FESTIVAL OPENS WITH NEW PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

[Watch the festival trailer](#)

Singapore, 19th March 2026 - The 35th edition of the European Film Festival (EUFF) returns to Singapore with a compelling programme celebrating the richness of contemporary European cinema and deepening cultural collaboration. Running from **9th April to 24th May 2026**, the festival presented by the European Union (EU) Delegation to Singapore features **29 screenings** from **23 European countries** across three venues. Marking this milestone year, EUFF introduces several inaugural collaborations and new screening locations that expand the festival's reach to new audiences and communities.

EUFF 2026 highlights include:

- Opening at the historic Capitol Theatre, Singapore's first purpose-built cinema, celebrating EUFF's 35-year legacy.
- First film festival presented at Filmhouse, Singapore's newly launched independent cinema at Golden Mile Tower.
- EUFF@GESS, the festival's first collaboration with a school, bringing European cinema directly to students through special screenings at the German European School Singapore. The programme opens with the Oscar-winning animated film *Flow*.
- New partnership with the Earth In Focus Singapore Nature Film Festival, advancing the EU's green and sustainability agenda.
- Deepening long-standing partnerships with the Singapore Film Society and film schools.



European Union Ambassador to Singapore Artis Bērtulis says: “The 35th edition of the European Film Festival marks an important milestone in the arts and cultural ties between Europe and Singapore. For more than three decades, EUFF has connected our audiences through the universal language of cinema. This year’s festival is particularly special. Our opening at the historic Capitol Theatre honours Singapore’s cinematic heritage while celebrating EUFF’s enduring legacy.

At the same time, we are expanding the festival’s reach through new collaborations — bringing European films to students and youth through EUFF@GESS and partnering with Earth In Focus Singapore Nature Film Festival to highlight the EU’s green and sustainability agenda through the powerful lens of cinema. Together with our new screening venue Filmhouse, our Team Europe festival reflects our commitment to keeping EUFF vibrant, accessible and relevant to younger generations and connecting even more deeply with audiences in Singapore.”

Celebrating European Cinema: EUFF 2026 presents a curated selection of films spanning drama, comedy, documentary, animation, musical and family-friendly cinema, showcasing distinctive voices from across Europe. This year’s festival features films from **23 countries:** Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Ukraine.

Established in 1991, EUFF is one of Singapore’s longest-running foreign film festivals and continues to serve as a platform for cultural exchange, artistic discovery and dialogue through film. Full programme details and screening schedules are available at www.euff.com.sg.

Opening Film: *Horseshoe* (Ireland)

Ireland is the Featured Country for EUFF 2026 with the opening film *Horseshoe* (M18), screening on 9th April at Capitol Theatre. Directed by Edwin Mullane and Adam O’Keeffe, the film is a poignant exploration of family, loss and the ties that bind us. Four estranged siblings return to their childhood home in the West of Ireland following their father’s death, each at a crossroads in their own lives. Fragile family bonds are tested as they are trapped in their childhood home with their father’s presence looming in every shadow.

Opening Night at [Capitol Theatre](#): To commemorate the 35th anniversary, the festival opens at the historic Capitol Theatre on 9th April. Built in 1929 as Singapore’s first purpose-built cinema, the venue has long been considered a cultural landmark. Carefully restored and reopened in 2015, it provides a fitting setting to celebrate EUFF’s enduring legacy of bringing European storytelling to Singapore audiences.

Screenings at Filmhouse: Following the opening night, festival screenings will take place at Filmhouse at Golden Mile Tower on Beach Road, making this the first film festival to be presented at the newly launched independent cinema. Located at the iconic Golden Mile Tower, Filmhouse is Singapore’s newest dedicated space for moving image culture. The venue continues the cinematic legacy of the site, which once housed Golden Theatre, the largest cinema in Singapore and Malaysia in the 1970s, and later The Projector, Singapore’s beloved independent cinema. More than just a screening venue, Filmhouse aims to foster dialogue, creativity and community through film.

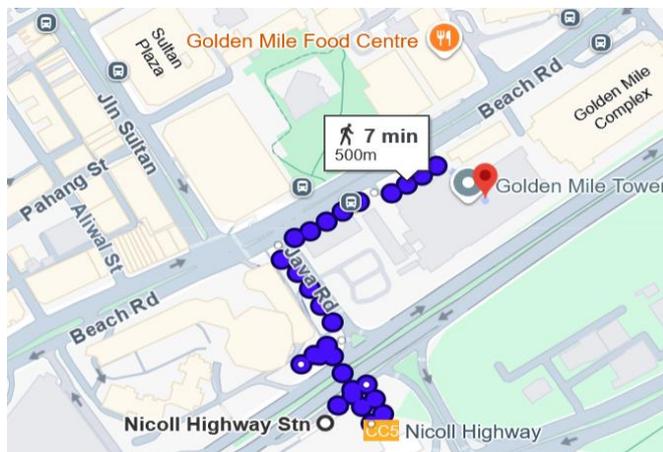
EUFF@GESS: Bringing European cinema to students and youth - The EUFF@GESS initiative marks the festival’s first collaboration with a school, partnering with the [German European School Singapore \(GESS\)](#). This marks an exciting new chapter for the EU Delegation to Singapore and GESS as we take our partnership further through the landmark 35th edition. To celebrate this, a specially curated showcase of outstanding cinema from Europe will reach the school community directly, connecting students and youth with strong storytelling and universal perspectives. The inaugural screening features the Academy Award-winning animated film *Flow* - a powerful and visually striking story reflecting the creativity and emotional depth of European animation. The programme complements GESS’s BeyondClassrooms initiative, which prepares students for the future through academic excellence alongside resilience, adaptability and global awareness.

Tickets and Festival Information

Dates: 9th April- 24th May 2026

Ticket Price: \$16.50. **Ticket sales open on 26th March** and will be available at: <https://euff.com.sg/tickets> (for movies that have received their ratings)

Concessions: Available for Senior Citizens, Students and NSFs



Main Screening Venue:

Filmhouse

Golden Mile Tower, 6001 Beach Road,
#05-00, Singapore 199589

Follow the Festival

Website: www.euff.com.sg

Instagram: EUSingapore

WHAT OUR PARTNERS SAY

Singapore Film Society



“As I look back on 35 years of the European Film Festival in Singapore, I vividly remember its inception, even before the European Union was formed. The European Community Film Festival (ECFF), as it was originally known in 1991, had significantly fewer participating countries and films, and couldn’t even be held in an actual cinema as such facilities were not readily available to cultural event organisers.

Over the years, EUFF has steadily grown, taken root and flourished in our best cinemas, with a local audience base whose size, loyalty, fervour and diversity have all developed far beyond the boundaries of just ‘European’. EUFF is also the only annual film festival in Singapore that includes, as an integral and recurring part of each year’s line-up, a representative selection of student short films from Singapore’s best film schools. The festival’s unique platform of exposure and exchange is an unparalleled window of insight, enjoyment and enrichment, as the cultures, stories, people and settings of Europe find resonance amongst Singapore’s movie aficionados. Onwards and upwards, as cinema lives and thrives!” - **Kenneth Tan, Chairman, Singapore Film Society**

School of Film & Media Studies, Ngee Ann Polytechnic



“Ngee Ann Polytechnic has been a proud partner of the European Film Festival since 2011. This year, three short films from our school have been selected to screen alongside illustrious European feature films. The fact that one of our student short films will screen at Opening Night is a testament to how committed the organizers are to providing a platform for the next generation of local filmmakers. EUFF has always set itself apart by pairing a local short film before each of its features, raising greater awareness and appreciation for the festival’s Singapore setting.

Making a short film is a difficult and thankless endeavour; getting it screened for the public is even more challenging. To see your work reach the big screen - and before such a welcoming crowd - remains an elusive dream for many of our students. Thank you for celebrating their works with them and giving them the encouragement and incentive to make their next movie.” - **Craig McTurk, Senior Lecturer, School of Film & Media Studies, Ngee Ann Polytechnic**

The Capitol Kempinski Hotel Singapore



“It is a profound honour for us to host the opening of the European Film Festival 2026 at the iconic Capitol Theatre. Built in 1930, this landmark has stood for nearly a century and remains fondly remembered by many as Singapore’s last standalone picture palace. This year is exceptionally special for us as the silver screen flickers back to life for the first time since the theatre’s grand restoration in 2015, coinciding with the launch of our new ‘Classics at Capitol’ programme.

Cinema has always been a powerful cultural ambassador, inviting us to explore the rich tapestry of global histories and traditions. To us, and to many who cherish memories made here, the Capitol Theatre is more than just a cinema; it is a bridge that unites cultures and celebrates our shared human experience.

It is an absolute privilege for us to see our iconic landmark – once a stage for film’s biggest stars – revived to inspire a new generation of film lovers. We are honoured to work with the European Union Delegation to Singapore and other dedicated partners in these cross-cultural dialogues, while reinforcing our commitment to keeping the magic of the big-screen experience alive in Singapore.” - **Andras Biro, General Manager, The Capitol Kempinski Hotel Singapore**

Filmhouse



“Just two months after our opening, Filmhouse is delighted to host the 35th edition of the European Film Festival, a partnership that underscores the cinema’s deep-rooted commitment to the independent film and cultural scene. Beyond entertainment, Filmhouse operates on the firm belief that cinema possesses a unique ability to foster human connection and encourage profound emotional introspection. Through our curated programming and cultural collaborations, we strive to nurture a vibrant community of film enthusiasts, providing a dedicated space where audiences can find a sense of belonging.

While the upcoming European Film Festival marks the first film festival for the Filmhouse, the event represents a homecoming of sorts for our venue itself. Having been hosted at the iconic Golden Mile Tower under the previous operator, The Projector, the festival returns to a space filled with history and familiarity for long-time attendees and collaborators alike. This sense of continuity is further strengthened by several key members of the Filmhouse team who have previously worked with the festival, and are excited to pick up the mantle once again.

The Filmhouse team is deeply honoured to be one of the chosen venues for this 35th milestone edition. We look forward to building a partnership with the European Union Delegation to Singapore and the participating countries. Ultimately, Filmhouse hopes that by bridging cultures through the silver screen, the European Film Festival will allow local and international audiences to share perspectives and emotions, fostering a more empathetic and connected community. ” – **Walter Navarro, Head of Programming**

German European School Singapore (GESS): The school will present the inaugural edition of EUFF at GESS from 13th to 22nd May.



“GESS is honoured to host the European Film Festival at the school for the first time, marking a vibrant new chapter in our long-standing partnership with the EU Delegation to Singapore. By bringing four EUFF screenings to our campus, we are taking learning **#BeyondClassrooms** and offering our students a direct window into contemporary European cinema.

This collaboration is more than just a showcase of film; it is an invitation for our youth to engage in a global dialogue. We are proud to provide a platform where our students can connect with the diverse cultural narratives and artistic heritage of modern Europe. ” – **Kirsten Mönch, Head of Marketing, GESS**

Earth In Focus Singapore Nature Film Festival



“We are excited to embark on this partnership with the European Film Festival. This collaboration reflects more than a shared programme. It is our collective commitment to shaping a planet-positive future through the transformative power of cinema.

Film is a universal language. It transcends borders, politics and cultures, creating space for dialogue, reflection and connection. Through this partnership, we are not only presenting powerful stories about our environment but also fostering cultural exchange and mutual appreciation between communities in Europe and Asia.

At Earth In Focus, our mission has been to move beyond awareness and into action. We hope that through artful storytelling, we can move hearts and minds, sparking conversations that extend beyond the theatre and into everyday life. When audiences see themselves reflected in these stories, when they feel both the fragility and resilience of our planet, that is when change begins.

Together, we believe cinema can inspire courage, responsibility and collective action for the future of our shared home.” - **Daphne Ong, Festival Director, Earth In Focus Singapore Nature Film Festival**

About the European Union: The European Union (EU) is a political and economic union of 27 Member States. Together, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. With the help of over 140 diplomatic representations around the world, the EU cooperates closely with its Member States to promote the values and interests of the EU and establish networks and partnerships, promoting multilateral-based solutions to common challenges. The EU is the largest trade block in the world, as well as the world's main source and the top global destination of foreign direct investment.

In 2012, the EU was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for advancing the causes of peace, reconciliation, democracy and human rights.

The 27 Member States of the EU are: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, The Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden.

About the European Union Delegation to Singapore: The European Union Delegation to Singapore opened on 30th June 2004. Since then, the EU's diplomatic representation has worked to promote closer ties between the EU and Singapore. The wide-ranging relationship has further strengthened and expanded in its scope over the years. In close coordination with the diplomatic missions of the EU Member States, the Delegation ensures consistency and effectiveness of the EU's external action in Singapore.

With 27 countries and nearly 450 million people, the EU is one of the largest economic blocs in the world and is forging an ever-closer relationship with Singapore, especially since the entry into force of the EU-Singapore Free Trade Agreement in 2019, and the elevation of its relationship with ASEAN to a Strategic Partnership in 2020.

The Delegation's activities and programming cover a range of issues such as foreign policy, security, trade, climate change, environment, transport, industrial policy, research, science, technology as well as innovative education and cultural projects, which include the national award-winning arts project SEA AiR (Studio Residencies for Southeast Asian Artists in the European Union).

Follow the EU Ambassador to Singapore Artis Bērtulis on X: [@ArtisBertulis](https://twitter.com/ArtisBertulis)

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About the EU Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI): The European Film Festival (EUFF) 2025 is funded and supported by the European Union’s Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI). FPI puts EU foreign policy into action as part of a comprehensive geopolitical vision, in line with the EU’s foreign policy priorities. Under the Public Diplomacy and Policy Dialogue Facility, the FPI regional team works with the EU Delegation to Singapore to enhance EU-Singapore engagement through regular events, outreach, engagement and exchanges.

#EUFF2026 #EUFFSG35 🎬🌐 #EuropeanFilmFestival #Culture #Cinema #Arts #CinemaAcrossBorders #EUForeignPolicy

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