



SCAN FOR MORE INFO



KinoFest

THE GERMAN FILM FESTIVAL

OCTOBER 15 TO 18, 2026

**GH Ortigas Cinema
Greenhills Mall**
Free admission

 www.goethe.de/manila/kinofest

 [/goetheinstitut.philippinen](https://www.facebook.com/goetheinstitut.philippinen)

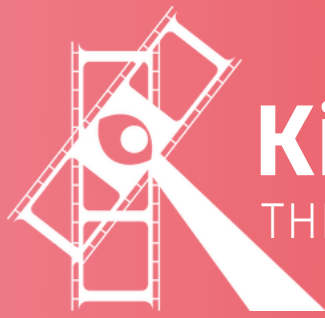
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**GOETHE
INSTITUT**

Sprache. Kultur. Deutschland.

GH
GREENHILLS

 **FILM
DEVELOPMENT
COUNCIL OF THE
PHILIPPINES**



KinoFest
THE GERMAN FILM FESTIVAL



WHAT: Kinofest, the German Film Festival

WHEN: October 15-18, 2025

WHERE: Greenhills Mall, GH Ortigas Cinema, Cinema 1 & The Screening Room

“GERMAN FILM FESTIVAL RETURNS: KINOFEST 2026 EXPLORES BELONGING, RESILIENCE, AND THE SPACES THAT SHAPE OUR LIVES”

MANILA, PHILIPPINES – The Goethe-Institut proudly presents the fifth edition of **KinoFest**, its annual German film festival, taking place across Southeast Asia and the Pacific from October to November 2026. In Manila, KinoFest returns from **October 15 to 18, 2026**, and will be held at **GH Ortigas Cinema, Greenhills Mall** for the first time, bringing Filipino audiences some of the newest and most acclaimed films from Germany's dynamic cinema landscape.

This year's program explores how our lives are shaped by the spaces we move through and the burdens we carry, from our families and workplaces to our communities and the histories we inherit. Across stories of faith, memory, justice, care, and belonging, the films ask a central question: *How do we create lives of our own when the realities around us are often imposed upon us?*

Opening KinoFest 2026 is **Rose** (2026), the latest film by **Markus Schleinzer**, featuring award-winning actress **Sandra Hüller** in a remarkable lead performance. Presented in striking black and white, the film follows a woman striving to shape her own destiny within the rigid constraints of a historical society, exploring themes of identity, freedom, and self-determination. Hüller's powerful performance sets the tone for a festival that reflects on resilience, agency, and the search for belonging.

The main lineup brings together a diverse selection of films, including **I Understand Your Displeasure** (*Ich verstehe Ihren Unmut*), **Sound of Falling** (*In die Sonne schauen*), **In Good Faith** (*Gotteskinder*), **Prosecution** (*Staatsschutz*), **Trial of Hein** (*Der Heimatlose*), **The Family Approach** (*Im Prinzip Familie*), **Circusboy** (*Zirkuskind*), **Luisa**, and **Heidi - Rescue of the Lynx** (*Heidi - Rettung der Luchse*). Together, these films offer contemporary perspectives on work, family, belief, community, and the ways individuals navigate the social and institutional forces around them.

A special highlight of this year's Manila program is **KinoFest Special: Intersections** on **October 17, 2026, at 6:30 PM in Cinema 1, GH Ortigas Cinema, Greenhills Mall**. Bringing contemporary Philippine cinema into conversation with the German lineup, the program features **Invisible Labor** by **Joanne Cesario**, **Raging** (*Rumaragasa*) by **Ryan Machado**, and the Philippine premiere of **Body Count** by **Cris Bringas**. Together, the films explore themes of memory, labor, trauma, intimacy, and place, demonstrating how the questions raised throughout the festival resonate far beyond national borders.

The screening will be followed by an **in-person talkback with the filmmakers**, moderated by Julian Fuchs, Director of the Goethe-Institut Philippines, inviting audiences to engage in a conversation about the stories and experiences that connect people across cultures.

KinoFest 2026 is jointly organized by the Goethe-Instituts in Southeast Asia and the Pacific and continues its commitment to fostering intercultural dialogue through film. By bringing German and Filipino perspectives together on screen, the festival invites audiences to reflect on how we love, care, belong, and imagine new possibilities for the future.

All screenings of KinoFest 2026 will take place from **October 15 to 18, 2026**, at **GH Ortigas Cinema, Greenhills Mall, Cinema 1 and The Screening Room**. Admission is **FREE** on a first-come, first-served basis. Tickets may be claimed at the KinoFest booth near Cinema 1 beginning one (1) hour before each screening.

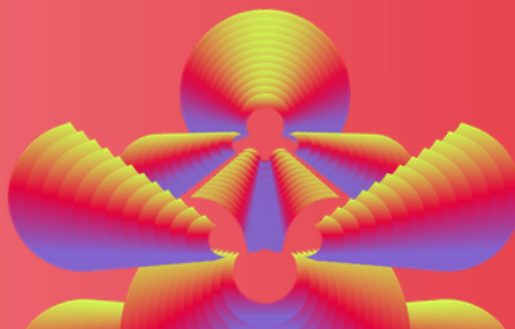
For full program details, visit: www.goethe.de/manila/kinofest.



ABOUT THE GOETHE-INSTITUT

The Goethe-Institut is the Federal Republic of Germany's cultural institute, promoting the study of the German language abroad, and encouraging international cultural exchange. Since 1961, the Goethe-Institut Philippines has been providing a comprehensive picture of Germany here in the Philippines. It continues to actively promote German language to Filipinos who want to increase their opportunities through the language. It has also activities in the field of cultural exchange which include projects on education, preparation of qualified Filipino immigrants to Germany, film, fashion, music, architecture, and design.

#KinoFestPh



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Screening Schedule

CINEMA 1

THE SCREENING ROOM

**15
OCT**

6:00PM

Rose
*RECEPTION FOLLOWED
BY A SCREENING

**16
OCT**

1:30PM

**I understand your
displeasure**

3:00PM

Prosecution

5:30PM

**The Family
Approach**

7:30PM

Sound of Falling

**17
OCT**

12:00PM

**Heide: The Return
of the Lynx**

12:30PM

Trial of Hein

2:00PM

Circusboy

3:00PM

Luisa

4:00PM

KinoFest Special
FILM SCREENING FOLLOWED BY
A FILM TALK
**Raging
Body Count
Invisible Labor**

5:00PM

Prosecution

7:30PM

In Good Faith

**18
OCT**

1:00PM

Circusboy

1:00PM

Rose

3:00PM

**Heide: The Return
of the Lynx**

3:00PM

Sound of Falling

5:00PM

Luisa

5:30PM

**I understand your
displeasure**

7:00PM

Trial of Hein

7:00PM

**The Family
Approach**



Cinema 1 & The Screening Room
GH Ortigas Cinema
Greenhills Mall



FREE ADMISSION
on a first-come,
first-served basis

Rose

2026 | Drama, Historical, Queer | 93 mins | **Rating: R16**



© Schubert, ROW Pictures, Walker+Worm Film, Gerald Kerkletz

October 15 (Thursday)
6:00 PM | Cinema 1
Opening Night

October 18 (Sunday)
12:00 PM | Cinema 1

In 17th-century Germany, a scarred stranger arrives in a village claiming to be heir to a farmstead. Despite initial suspicion, he's accepted as a hardworking, God-fearing man—his belonging built on a lie. The true story of a con artist born a woman who deceived an entire village.



First Steps Award



**Hong Kong International
Film Festival**



**Diagonale - Austrian
Film Festival**

I understand your displeasure

2026 | Drama, Labour | 93 mins | **Rating: PG**



© Films Boutique

October 16 (Friday)
12:00 PM | Cinema 1

October 18 (Sunday)
4:30 PM | The Screening Room

Heike, 59, manages a cleaning company team under constant pressure to satisfy clients and her boss. When a powerful subcontractor threatens to pull his support unless she gives his team more work, Heike must decide whether to sacrifice one of her own employees to survive the job's demands.



Prosecution

2026 | Drama, Political | 113 mins | **Rating: R16**



© Lotta Kilian, Jünglinge Film

October 16 (Friday)
3:00 PM | Cinema 1

October 17 (Saturday)
5:00 PM | The Screening Room

Prosecutor Seyo Kim survives a racially motivated attack and, defying official orders, conducts her own investigation. She brings a perpetrator to trial and uncovers a far-right network—and in the process learns just how much the state she serves applies double standards.



Trial of Hein

2026 | Drama, Queer | 122 mins | **Rating: R13**



© Wolfgang Ennenbach/One Two Films

October 17 (Saturday)
12:30 PM | The Screening Room

October 18 (Sunday)
7:00 PM | Cinema 1

After 14 years, Hein returns to his home island - but no one recognizes him, not even his former friend Friedemann. A village court is set to determine who he is. But the more contradictions that surface, the more desperately Hein searches for evidence to support his own memories.



Winner
Jury Award at the
Teddy Awards
2026

Berlinale



Winner
Out in the Silence
Award
2026

**San Francisco
International LGBTQ+
Film Festival**

Luisa

2025 | Drama, Sexual Abuse | 94 mins | **Rating: R16**



© Daniel Pilar

October 17 (Saturday)
3:00 PM | The Screening Room

October 18 (Sunday)
4:00 PM | Cinema 1

LUISA lives in a residential facility for people with disabilities. She is 22 years old and curious about life. Unnoticed, Luisa becomes increasingly quiet; daily life in the residential group continues as usual until it is unexpectedly discovered that Luisa is pregnant. She doesn't tell anyone what happened; she remains silent. Sexual abuse is suspected. A drama. A true crime.



**achtung berlin Film
Festival**



**Braunschweig
International Film
Festival**



51st Hof Film Festival

The Family Approach

2024 | Documentary, Care Work | 91 mins | **Rating: PG**



© Bandenfilm/ Johannes Praus

October 16 (Friday)
5:30 PM | Cinema 1

October 18 (Sunday)
6:30 PM | The Screening Room

Almost like family, but always temporary: caught between parental love, bureaucracy, and child welfare services, three caregivers do everything they can to create a home for the children. A film about the superpower of raising a child and family in all its forms.



Visions du Réel
(Wide Angle Competition),
Nyon



Bavarian Film Award

Circusboy

2025 | Documentary, Family | 86 mins | **Rating: PG**



© Flare Film Julia Lemke 2025

October 17 (Saturday)
2:00 PM | Cinema 1

October 18 (Sunday)
12:00 PM | Cinema 1

Every day is magical, if your playground is the circus.

Santino, a circus kid constantly on the move, listens to his great-grandfather's stories as his own life is just beginning.



Berlinale



German Film Critics' Award

In Good Faith

2024 | Coming of Age, Drama | 117 mins | **Rating: R13**



October 17 (Saturday)
7:30 PM | The Screening Room

Two sheltered siblings from a conservative household face personal revelations that challenge their family's strict beliefs, forcing them to navigate between authenticity and tradition.



exground Film Festival



Warsaw Film Festival

Sound of Falling

2025 | Drama | 154 mins | **Rating: R18**



© FabianGasper and StudioZentral

October 16 (Friday)
7:30 PM | Cinema 1

October 18 (Sunday)
2:00 PM | The Screening Room

Four adolescent girls each spend their youth in the same farmhouse over the last century. Though separated by decades, resonances between their lives emerge: their desires and distress, secrets and truths, encounters with another's gaze and defiant gaze in return.



Cannes Film Festival



**German Film Critics'
Award**

Heidi: Rescue of the Lynx

2025 | Animation, Adventure | 80 mins | **Rating: PG**



October 17 (Saturday)
12:00 PM | Cinema 1

October 18 (Sunday)
2:00 PM | Cinema 1

Free spirited Heidi faces forces beyond her years to protect her Grandfather and the alpine wilderness she loves from a ruthless businessman and the hungry jaws of his new saw mill.



KinoFest Special

INTERSECTIONS



KinoFest Special 2026 presents three Filipino films exploring memory, labor, trauma, and intimacy. Join us on October 17, 2026, at 6:30 PM at Cine 1, Greenhills Cinema, followed by a talkback with the filmmakers moderated by Goethe-Institut Director Julian Fuchs.

Part of this year's Intersections program, the lineup features Joanne Cesario's *Invisible Labor*, Ryan Machado's *Rumaragasa (Raging)*, and the Philippine premiere of Cris Bringas' *Body Count*. Together, these films offer powerful reflections on care, violence, memory, and the ways personal and collective histories shape our lives.

Screening followed by an in-person discussion with the directors.



KinoFest Special:
Intersections



October 17 | 4:00 PM onwards
Film Screenings
Panel Discussion

KinoFest Special: Intersections

Raging

2026 | Queer | 87 mins | **Rating: R16**

© Ryan Machado

October 17 (Saturday)
4:00 PM | Cinema 1
Followed by a Film Talk

A young man's quest for truth and justice intertwines with a plane crash mystery, uncovering a sinister plot that propels his desire to be heard but also threatens his community.

Director: Ryan Machado | Tagalog, Romblonon with English Subtitles



Berlinale



**Cinemalaya Philippine
Independent Film
Festival**

KinoFest Special: Intersections

Body Count

2026 | Shortfilm | 18 mins | **Rating: R18**



© Cris Bringas

October 17 (Saturday)
4:00 PM | Cinema 1
Followed by a Film Talk

Paul, a Filipino nurse in Berlin whose brother was killed in Duterte's drug war, hooks up with David, a former IDF soldier who has just fled Israel. They press record. As they tangle in bed, they discover a shared language of queerness and violence. But as their pillow talk deepens, intimacy fails to redeem brutality, revealing the living remains of wars both ongoing and never-ending.

Director: Cris Bringas | English with English Subtitles



IDFA DocLab Forum

KinoFest Special: Intersections

Invisible Labor

2023 | Shortfilm | 21 mins | **Rating: PG**

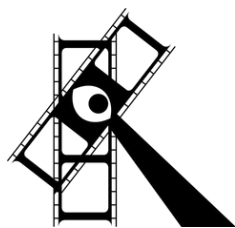


© Joanne Cesario and Mayday Multimedia

October 17 (Saturday)
4:00 PM | Cinema 1
Followed by a Film Talk

Marcos then, Marcos now. Filipino workers unite and lead the struggle for economic and political rights, determined to shape the course of history. In between, a janitor painstakingly rewinds videotapes featuring these struggles, unknowingly aiding in the preservation of history.

Director: Joanne Cesario | Tagalog & English with English Subtitles



WATCH & WIN

Get ready to enjoy KinoFest 2026 and win exciting prizes with our "Watch & Win" raffle!

Every film you watch at the festival gives you a chance to win exclusive Goethe-Institut Loot Bags and Birkenstock gift certificates worth up to PHP 5,000. The more films you watch, the more chances you have to win. Plus, we're giving away KinoFest loot bags to three lucky winners at every film screening!

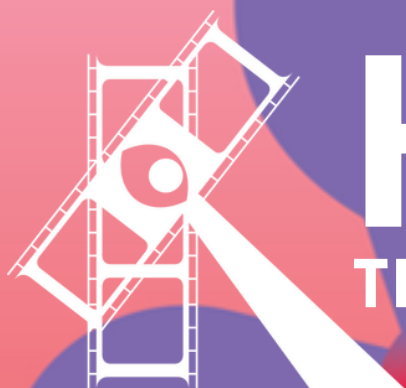
Don't miss out on this amazing opportunity—join the fun, immerse yourself in great cinema, and you might just walk away with some fantastic rewards!

**GET YOUR
RAFFLE TICKET**

**at the KinoFest booth at
GH Ortigas Cinema, Greenhills Mall, Cinema 1!**



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