



FESTIVAL DE CANNES
2026 OFFICIAL SELECTION
UN CERTAIN REGARD

B I T T E R S E N D presents

ALL THE LOVERS IN THE NIGHT

SYNOPSIS

Fuyuko lives quietly, working as a freelance proofreader, her days largely free of contact with others except for occasional outings with an outgoing colleague. Accustomed to solitude, she moves through her days without expectation. Her only personal ritual is walking alone through the city at midnight on her birthday. A subtle shift begins when she meets Mitsutsuka, a reserved high school physics teacher, at a local culture center. Drawn to his gentle manner and his words—"Next time, let's talk about light"—Fuyuko begins meeting him regularly at a café. As their encounters slowly accumulate, a fragile sense of connection takes shape. Yet both carry things they do not easily reveal.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

All the Lovers in the Night is a film based on the novel by Mieko Kawakami.

It tells the story of a woman experiencing her first love, but alongside the beauty of romance, it also explores the contradictions, paradoxes, and deceptions inherent in human nature. This is not to dismiss love with a cynical “that’s just how it is,” but rather to approach larger questions that touch upon the truths of the world.

What is “light”?

If something is not visible, does it cease to exist?

Is everything we think, say, and feel simply a quotation of something else?

If so, is what we are feeling now, in some sense, fake?

What, then, is truly original within us?

These are questions that apply to anyone and perhaps all the more so to those who make or watch films.

“Light” is one of the film’s central motifs. From the very beginning of the project, I was determined to shoot on film, and we were fortunate enough to do so on 16mm. I believe every member of the crew felt the same way: a story about light had to be captured on film.

The light scattered across the city at night, the blinding light of midday, the quiet glow of a single candle — how can cinema express two lovers drawing closer through their conversations about light? Exploring that question was a deeply joyful process.

This film was created by connecting these points of light, as if to draw a constellation.

I wonder what shape it will take in the eyes of those who see it.

Yukiko Sode



DIRECTOR

YUKIKO SODE

Born in 1983 in Nagano, Japan, Yukiko Sode is a filmmaker and screenwriter whose work has established her as one of the most distinctive voices in contemporary Japanese cinema. She won two awards at the Pia Film Festival for her debut feature *Mime-Mime* (2008), which went on to screen at the Vancouver International Film Festival. Her second feature *Good Stripes* (2015) earned her the Kaneto Shindo Award, one of Japan's most prominent newcomer prizes. *Aristocrats* (2021) — a sharply observed portrait of women navigating class and identity in Tokyo — premiered at the International Film Festival Rotterdam and became a significant arthouse success in France, drawing over 71,000 admissions. She also wrote and directed the Disney+ series *Because We Forget Everything* (2025).

CAST

YUKINO KISHII as Fuyuko



Born in 1992 in Kanagawa, Japan, Yukino Kishii made her acting debut in 2009 and has since established herself as one of the leading actresses of her generation, known for her nuanced and emotionally resonant performances across film and television.

She gained early recognition with her first leading role in *Goodbye, Grandpa!* (2017, dir. Yukihiro Morigaki), for which she received the Best Newcomer Award at the 39th Yokohama Film Festival. Her profile continued to rise with *Just Only Love* (2019, dir. Rikiya Imaizumi), which premiered at the Tokyo International Film Festival and earned her the Newcomer of the Year Award at the Japan Academy Film Prize.

She achieved widespread international critical acclaim for her performance in Sho Miyake's *Small, Slow But Steady* (2022), which premiered at the Berlin International Film Festival. Her portrayal of a deaf professional boxer — described by *Variety* as “extraordinary” and by *Cineuropa* as “dazzling” — earned her the Best Actress Award at the Japan Academy Film Prize, among numerous other accolades.

Her recent film credits include *The Young Strangers* (2024, dir. Takuya Uchiyama), *At the Bench* (2024, dir. Yoshiyuki Okuyama), *SINSIN AND THE MOUSE* (2025, dir. Koki Makabe), and *Sato and Sato* (2025, dir. Chihiro Amano).

CAST

TADANOBU ASANO as Mitsutsuka

Born in 1973 in Yokohama, Japan, Tadanobu Asano made his film debut in *Swimming Upstream* (1990) and has since built one of the most internationally expansive careers of any Japanese actor, collaborating with acclaimed filmmakers across Japan, Asia, Europe, and Hollywood.

A defining presence in Japanese arthouse cinema, he has worked with many of the country's most celebrated directors, including Hirokazu Kore-eda, Nagisa Oshima, Shinji Aoyama (*Eureka*, 2000 — FIPRESCI Prize at Cannes), Kiyoshi Kurosawa (*Journey to the Shore*, 2015 — Un Certain Regard Best Director at Cannes), Koji Fukada (*Harmonium*, 2016 — Un Certain Regard Jury Prize at Cannes), and Takeshi Kitano (*Zatoichi*, 2003 — Silver Lion at Venice; *Kubi*, 2023). He won the Upstream Prize for Best Actor at Venice for *Last Life in the Universe* (2003, dir. Pen-Ek Ratanaruang), and the Best Actor Award at the Moscow International Film Festival for *My Man* (2014, dir. Kazuyoshi Kumakiri).

His international credits include the lead role in Sergei Bodrov's Oscar-nominated *Mongol* (2007), the Marvel Cinematic Universe's Thor films (2011–2017), and Martin Scorsese's *Silence* (2016), among others.

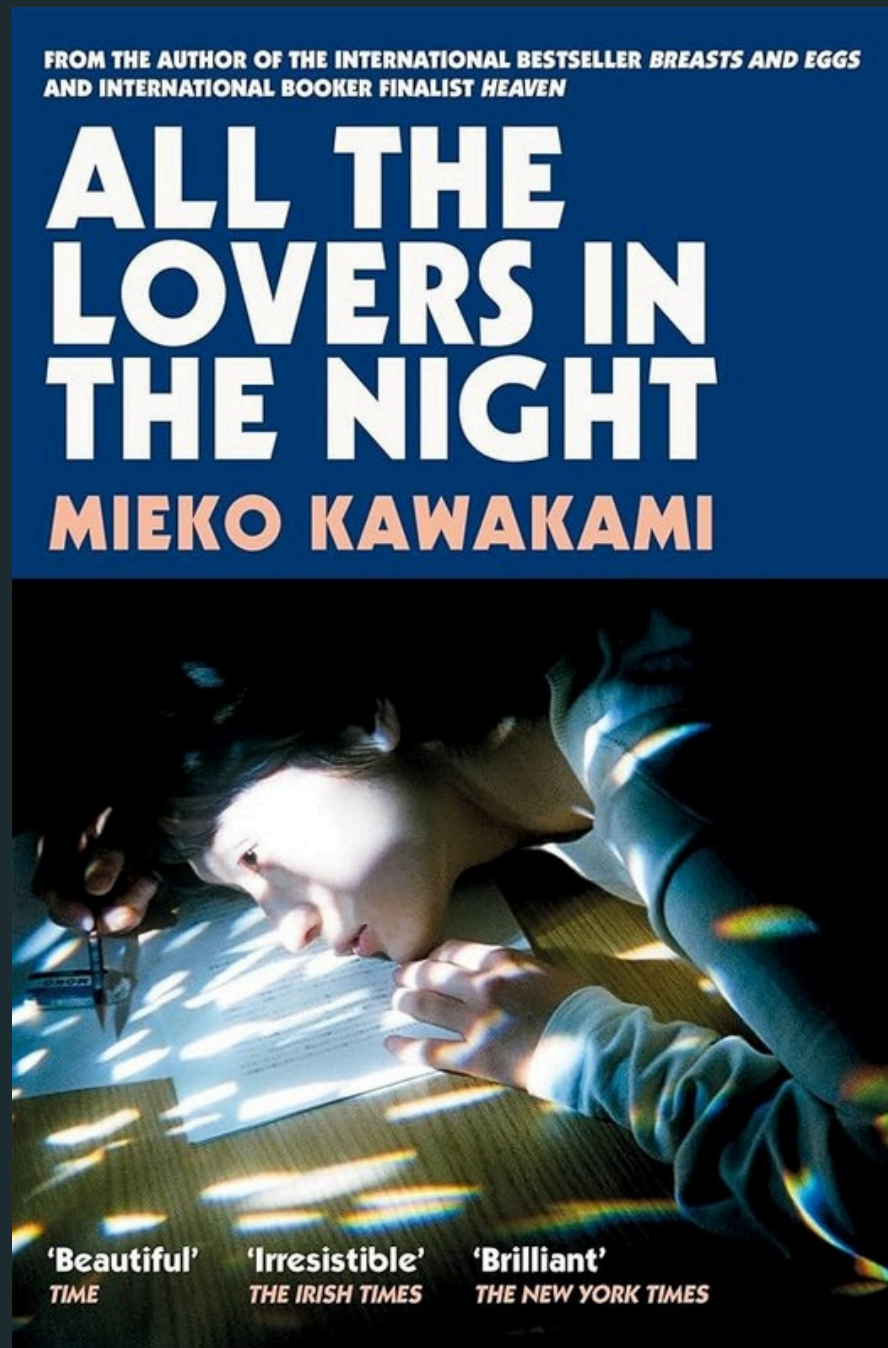
Most recently, he received global acclaim for his role as Lord Kashigi Yabushige in the FX series *Shōgun* (2024), winning the Golden Globe Award for Best Performance by a Male Actor in a Supporting Role on Television and receiving a Primetime Emmy nomination — marking a historic first for a Japanese actor in this category.



BASED ON

ALL THE LOVERS IN THE NIGHT

BY MIEKO KAWAKAMI



A timeless love story by Mieko Kawakami that became an international literary sensation, captivating readers worldwide and becoming the first Japanese novel shortlisted for the U.S. National Book Critics Circle Award.

Translated into multiple languages, including Albanian, Arabic, Chinese(Mainland China, Taiwan), Croatian, Dutch, English(US, UK), Finnish, French, German, Hungarian, Indonesian, Italian, Korean, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Spanish, Swedish, Thai, Turkish.



CREW

Written & Directed by: Yukiko Sode

Based on “All the Lovers in the Night” by Mieko Kawakami

Producers: Toshikazu Nishigaya, Kana Matsuda

Executive producer: Yuji Sadai

Cinematography: Yasuyuki Sasaki

Music: Masato Suzuki

Lighting: Hidenori Nagata

Sound: Shinya Takata

Production design: Norifumi Ataka

Editing: Azusa Yamazaki

CAST

Yukino Kishii as Fuyuko

Tadanobu Asano as Mitsutsuka

Misato Morita as Hijiri

Mai Fukagawa as Noriko

Akihisa Shiono as Ohashi

Yuko Nakamura as Kaori

Mijika Nagai as Restaurant server

Kilala Inori as Nakamura

Tomo Nakai as Young Fuyuko

Yuta Hayashi as Mizuno

Tori Matsuzaka as Narrator

CREDITS

Bitters End presents

In association with All the Lovers in the Night Production committee

A C&I entertainment Production

International Title: ALL THE LOVERS IN THE NIGHT

Original Title: すべて真夜中の恋人たち (Subete Mayonaka no Koibitotachi)

Year: 2026

Country: Japan

Language: Japanese

Running time: 139 min.

Aspect ratio: 1:1.66

Sound Format: 5.1ch

©2026 All the Lovers in the Night Production committee

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