

SGIFF 2026 closes with 27 sold-out screenings as Ah Girl wins Best Film

Description

default watermark

The **SGIFF 2026** curtain has fallen, and the numbers are strong: the 37th Singapore International Film Festival closed on 1 November with 27 sold-out screenings and a new box office record for the fourth year in a row. Singapore feature *Ah Girl* took Best Film in the Asian Feature Film Competition.



Cast of Vintage Violence and SGIFF directors on the red carpet, left to right: Thong Kay Wee, Eugene Kotlyarenko, Kiko Mizuhara, Cole Sprouse and Jeremy Chua. Image: SGIFF

A first dedicated Festival Closing since 2014

The festival ended with the Asian premiere of *Vintage Violence* at Capitol Theatre, the first dedicated Festival Closing since 2014. Director Eugene Kotlyarenko and stars Cole Sprouse and Kiko Mizuhara walked the red carpet, a day after meeting audiences at an In Conversation With session at the National Museum of Singapore.



The cast of Vintage Violence on the red carpet, left to right: producer Riccardo Maddalosso, director Eugene Kotlyarenko, Kiko Mizuhara and Cole Sprouse. Image: SGIFF



Post-screening Q&A with the Vintage Violence cast: Cole Sprouse, Kiko Mizuhara and director Eugene Kotlyarenko. Image: SGIFF

SGIFF 2026 Silver Screen Awards: who won

Ang Geck Geckâ??s *Ah Girl*, set in 1990s Singapore and following a seven-year-old caught between her separated parents, is her feature debut. It was developed at the SGIFF Southeast Asian Film Lab in 2015, so the win closes a loop for the festivalâ??s talent pipeline.

default watermark



All award winners at the 37th Singapore International Film Festival Silver Screen Awards. Image: SGIFF



Best Film winner in the Asian Feature Film Competition: director Ang Geck Geck and the cast of Ah Girl. Image: SGIFF

- **Best Film (Asian Feature Film Competition):** *Ah Girl*, Ang Geck Geck
- **Best Director:** Shahrbanoo Sadat, *No Good Men*

- **Best Performance:** Pushpa Thing Lama, *Elephants in the Fog*, and Putri Marino, *Four Seasons in Java*
- **Special Jury Prize:** *Burn*, Makoto Nagahisa
- **Best Southeast Asian Short Film:** *Golden Island*, Arief Budiman
- **Best Singapore Short Film:** *Singapore God*, EXYL
- **Audience Choice Award:** Singapore Panorama Programme 2: Second Life, Second Skin

default watermark



Audience Choice Award winners, left to right: Thong Kay Wee, Ewan Leong (Encik), Leon Cheo (Orang Minyak), Syahmi Iman (REANIMATOR) and Shara Tay (Kiss Me Climax). Image: SGIFF



Best Southeast Asian Short Film winner Golden Island, with director Arief Budiman. Image: SGIFF

The Audience Choice Award for the best Singaporean film programme or co-production went to Singapore Panorama Programme 2, which brought together five shorts by Shara Tay, Ash Goh Hua, Syahmi Iman, Leon Cheo and Ewan Leong. *Golden Island* and *Singapore God* both received the

SGIFF Film Fundâ??s SEA-SHORTS grant in 2025.



Best Performance winner Pushpa Thing Lama (Elephants in the Fog). Image: SGIFF

Record demand and industry growth

- More than 100 films from over 50 countries screened across twelve days, including more than 25 Singapore productions and co-productions.
- 21 sessions sold out within three weeks of public sales. *Look Back*, the new film from Hirokazu Koreeda, sold out in a single day, and extra seats for *La Bola Negra* went in 15 minutes.
- Aamir Khanâ??s In Conversation With session drew 738 attendees, the highest for a single event in SGIFF history. He received the SGIFF Screen Icon Award, while Koreeda received the Cinema Honorary Award.
- SGIFF Industry Days pass sales more than tripled from 2025, and the Asian Producers Network will expand to the Pacifics in 2027.

The festival also introduced Junior Explorers, its first programme of sensory-friendly, relaxed screenings for young audiences, and expanded live screen-based performances in its Undercurrent section. Looking ahead, the SGIFF Film Fund, backed by the Tan Ean Kiam Foundation, opens this month.

Missed the festival? Catch up on our earlier coverage of the Singapore Panorama short films and the Junior Explorers and Parallax programmes, or see what is on at the vOilah! French Film Festival.

default watermark

Date Created
04/11/2026
Author
priya