

NETFLIX

**JAPAN
LIVE-ACTION SLATE 2025**



Updated as of February 12, 2025

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UPCOMING SERIES AND FILM RELEASES BY DATE

Q1 2025

[ASURA](#)

Series • Now Streaming

[DEMON CITY](#)

Series • February 27

[OFFLINE LOVE](#)

Unscripted • February 18

Q2 2025

[BULLET TRAIN EXPLOSION](#)

Film • April 23

Q3 2025

[GLASS HEART](#)

Series • July

[ALICE IN BORDERLAND SEASON 3](#)

Series • September

[SOUL MATE](#)

Series • August

Q4 2025

[ROMANTICS ANONYMOUS](#)

Series • October

[10DANCE](#)

Film • December

[LAST SAMURAI STANDING](#)

Series • November

REST OF 2025

[BADLY IN LOVE](#)

Unscripted

[FINAL DRAFT](#)

Unscripted

[WELCOME, NOW GET LOST](#)

Unscripted

SERIES



ALICE IN BORDERLAND SEASON 3

On Netflix September 2025 | Series

Based on Haro Aso's manga series of the same name, *Alice in Borderland* follows the story of Arisu, who is transported to a parallel universe where he has to play and win games to stay alive. The games are divided into four categories, represented by the suits in a deck of playing cards. The Joker card has now appeared, marking the triumphant return of *Alice in Borderland*. Fans can expect an adrenaline-fueled rollercoaster ride as the series continues to explore profound themes of humanity, sacrifice and the pursuit of a meaningful existence.

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|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| BASED ON THE MANGA: | "Alice in Borderland" by Haro Aso |
| DIRECTOR: | Shinsuke Sato |
| PRODUCERS: | Akira Morii, Tomoki Takase |
| PRODUCTION COOPERATION: | THE SEVEN |
| DEVELOPMENT/PRODUCTION: | ROBOT |
| COPYRIGHT: | © Haro Aso, Shogakukan / ROBOT |
| KEY CAST: | Kento Yamazaki, Tao Tsuchiya |



ASURA

Now Streaming | Series

One winter day, the four Takezawa sisters — ikebana teacher Tsunako (Rie Miyazawa), housewife Makiko (Machiko Ono), librarian Takiko (Yu Aoi) and waitress Sakiko (Suzu Hirose) — get together for the first time in a while. Takiko suspects that their aging father, Kotaro, has a lover and a child. While the other sisters find this unbelievable, they agree to keep this from their mother, Fuji. However, this revelation brings to light various conflicts and secrets that lurk in the women's lives.

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|---|--|
| ORIGINAL WORK AND SCREENPLAY: | Kuniko Mukoda |
| DIRECTOR, SCREENWRITER AND EDITOR: | Hirokazu Kore-eda |
| DEVELOPER AND PRODUCER: | Yasuo Yagi |
| PRODUCERS: | Miyuki Fukuma, Eiji Kitahara, Hijiri Taguchi |
| MUSIC: | fox capture plan |
| PRODUCTION: | Bunbuku |
| KEY CAST: | Rie Miyazawa, Machiko Ono, Yu Aoi, Suzu Hirose |



GLASS HEART

On Netflix July 2025 | Series

Glass Heart tells the story of Akane Saijo (Yu Miyazaki), a college student and aspiring drummer, who finds herself suddenly kicked out of her band. However, things take a turn when the brilliant musician Naoki Fujitani (Takeru Satoh) stumbles upon her talent and invites her to join his new ensemble. The series sets a new benchmark in Japanese drama with its massive filming scale, including scenes featuring tens of thousands of extras for music performances. Prepare to be swept off your feet by the passion, music and drama of *Glass Heart*.

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|----------------------------|---|
| BASED ON THE NOVEL: | "Glass Heart" by Mio Wakagi |
| SCREENPLAY: | Mari Okada, Tomoko Akutsu, Shiho Kosaka, Anna Kawahara |
| DIRECTORS: | Kensaku Kakimoto, Kotaro Goto |
| PRODUCERS: | Takeru Satoh, Gô Abe |
| PRODUCTION: | ROBOT |
| KEY CAST: | Takeru Satoh, Yu Miyazaki, Keita Machida, Jun Shison, Masaki Suda |



LAST SAMURAI STANDING

On Netflix November 2025 | Series

Set in the late 19th century during the Meiji period, as the age of the samurai approached its end, *Last Samurai Standing* takes place at the Tenryuji Temple in Kyoto. Come nightfall, 292 samurai warriors gather, lured by the promise of a grand prize of 100 billion yen. Among them is our protagonist, Shujiro Saga (Junichi Okada), who enters this dangerous game with one goal: to save his ailing wife and child. Based on the widely praised “Ikusagami” series of novels by Shogo Imamura, winner of the 166th Naoki Prize in 2021, this series depicts the life-and-death games of samurai, heralding a new era for Japanese dramas.

BASED ON THE NOVEL:

“Ikusagami” by Shogo Imamura, originally published by KODANSHA LTD.

DIRECTORS:

Michihito Fujii, Kento Yamaguchi, Toru Yamamoto

WRITERS:

Michihito Fujii, Kento Yamaguchi, Risa Yashiro

PRODUCER:

Kosuke Oshida

PRODUCTION:

Office Shirous

LEAD CAST, PRODUCER AND

ACTION CHOREOGRAPHER:

Junichi Okada

CAST:

Junichi Okada,
Yumia Fujisaki, Kaya Kiyohara, Masahiro Higashide,
Shota Sometani, Taichi Saotome, Yuya Endo, Yasushi Fuchikami, Jyo Kairi,
Takayuki Yamada, Wataru Ichinose, Riho Yoshioka, Kazunari Ninomiya,
Hiroshi Tamaki, Hideaki Ito



ROMANTICS ANONYMOUS

On Netflix October 2025 | Series

This romantic comedy features an Asian ensemble cast, with Shun Oguri as Sosuke, a man unable to have physical contact with others, and Han Hyo-joo as Hana, a woman who fears eye contact. Their mutual love for chocolate brings them together. Joining them are Jin Akanishi as bar owner and love interest Hiro, and Yuri Nakamura as Irene, a therapist Irene. The world's finest creative talent have also come together behind the scenes, including director Sho Tsukikawa (*Yu Yu Hakusho*), production designer Lee Ha-jun (*Parasite*), editor Yang Jin-mo (*Parasite*), and Dalpala for the music. This is the first Japanese series developed and produced by YONG FILM (*Believer 2*, *The Call*, *20th Century Girl*, *My Name is Loh Kiwan*), a studio renowned for its skillfully crafted and diverse projects.

BASED ON THE FILM:

"Les Émotifs Anonymes", directed by Jean-Pierre Améris and co-written by Jean-Pierre Améris and Philippe Blasband, based on Améris's original idea. Courtesy of STUDIOCANAL

DIRECTOR:

Sho Tsukikawa

WRITER:

Kim Ji-hyun

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER:

Lim Seung-young

DEVELOPED BY:

Park So-yeon

PRODUCERS:

Kim Yong-eun, Choi Gi-young, Kim Keum-sil, Takuro Nagai, Mao Osaki

PRODUCTION:

YONG FILM

KEY CAST:

Shun Oguri, Han Hyo-joo, Yuri Nakamura, and Jin Akanishi



SOUL MATE

On Netflix August 2025 | Series

After unintentionally destroying the life of a close friend, Ryu Narutaki leaves everything behind in Japan and escapes to Berlin. While visiting a local church, Ryu gets caught in a fire and is saved by a Korean boxer named Johan Hwang. The two young men, both bearing deep wounds, cross paths in a once-in-a-lifetime encounter and discover that they share a unique and inexplicable bond — but the more they desire to be together, the more cruelly their relationship is tested.

Ryu is played by Hayato Isomura, known for his work in the Netflix series *Alice in Borderland* Season 2. Johan is played by Ok Taec-yeon of the Korean boy band 2PM.

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|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| WRITER/DIRECTOR: | Shunki Hashizume |
| PRODUCER: | Koichi Murakami |
| CO-PRODUCER: | Shinji Nomura |
| PRODUCTION: | ROBOT |
| KEY CAST: | Hayato Isomura, Ok Taec-yeon |

FILMS



10DANCE

On Netflix December 2025 | Film

The film is directed by Keishi Otomo, who is known for his work on the live-action *Rurouni Kenshin* movies. Otomo skillfully brings to life the gorgeous world of this comic while capturing its dynamism and subtleties. Starring Ryoma Takeuchi and Keita Machida, the film follows the story of two dancers named Shinya. Takeuchi plays Shinya Suzuki, Japan's Latin dance champion, who is skilled enough to compete globally but remains fixated on domestic competitions. Machida plays Shinya Sugiki, the Japanese champion and second-ranked dancer in the world in the Standard Ballroom category, who invites Suzuki into the world of the 10Dance Competition.

As these two Shinyas — hailing from entirely different worlds with clashing personalities — form an unlikely duo, aiming to win the 10Dance Competition, they develop feelings for each other along the way.

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|----------------------------|--|
| BASED ON THE MANGA: | "10DANCE" by Inouesatoh, originally published by KODANSHA LTD. |
| DIRECTOR: | Keishi Otomo |
| WRITER: | Tomoko Yoshida, Keishi Otomo |
| PRODUCER: | Takako Miyauchi, Kota Ishizuka |
| PRODUCTION: | Episcope |
| KEY CAST: | Ryoma Takeuchi & Keita Machida |



BULLET TRAIN EXPLOSION

On Netflix April 23, 2025 | Film

This film is a reboot of the original movie *The Bullet Train*, from 50 years ago which inspired the Hollywood blockbuster *Speed*. Director Shinji Higuchi, known for merging spectacular visuals with human drama in works like *Shin Godzilla*, creates another panic-suspense thriller, depicting the intense struggles of those racing to save lives under extreme conditions. This film stars Tsuyoshi Kusanagi, reuniting with director Higuchi after *Doomsday: The Sinking of Japan*. With special cooperation from the East Japan Railway Company, the production used real bullet trains and railway facilities to craft extremely realistic visuals, which were seamlessly enhanced with cutting-edge visual effects. Packed with non-stop suspense, this high-stakes thriller will keep audiences breathless from start to finish.

BASED ON THE FILM:

The Bullet Train directed by Junya Sato and produced by Toei

DIRECTOR:

Shinji Higuchi

SCREENPLAY:

Kazuhiro Nakagawa / Norichika Oba

PRODUCER:

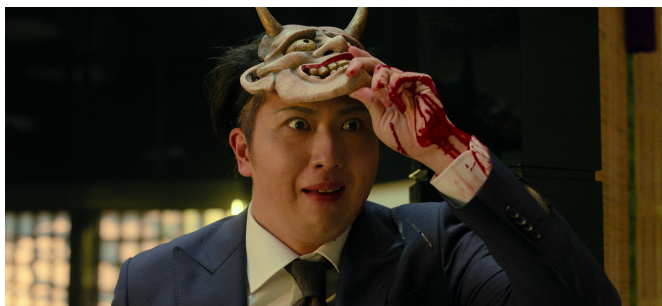
Kota Ishizuka

PRODUCTION:

Episcope

KEY CAST:

Tsuyoshi Kusanagi



DEMON CITY

On Netflix February 27 | Film

Based on the comic "Oni Goroshi," which ran until 2024, this revenge tragedy unfolds in the provincial city of Shinjo, following a hitman seeking vengeance after losing his wife and daughter. Known for its intense and brutal depiction of violence, the comic captivated readers and is now being brought to life on screen.

Just as hitman Shuhei Sakata is about to clean up his act for his family, the mysterious organization Kimen-gumi murders his wife and daughter, pinning the blame on him and sullyng his name. Shot in the head, he miraculously survives but falls into a coma. Twelve years later, the Kimen-gumi attacks him again, but his dormant killer instinct awakens, setting him on an epic course of revenge. However, what awaits him is a truth that threatens to completely alter his destiny.

BASED ON THE MANGA:

DIRECTOR, SCREENWRITER:

PRODUCERS:

PRODUCTION:

MUSIC:

KEY CAST:

"Oni Goroshi" by Masamichi Kawabe (Nihon Bungeisha)

Seiji Tanaka

Yasuhiro Masaoka, Takeshi Sawa

Amuse, Digital Frontier

Tomoyasu Hotei

Toma Ikuta, Matsuya Onoe

UNSCRIPTED

BADLY IN LOVE

On Netflix 2025 | Unscripted

Produced by Megumi, a former “yankee” (delinquent), wildly authentic romance reality show brings together true outsiders. They love their friends and hometowns, and are willing to risk everything for the ones they love Get ready for a fiery, pure-love reality show about open and honest delinquents.

PRODUCER: Megumi



FINAL DRAFT

On Netflix 2025 | Unscripted

This is the first Japanese Netflix survival reality series featuring former professional athletes. Twenty-five athletes who ended their first careers, either involuntarily or by choice, try to knock one another down and be the last one standing as they compete for a 30-million-yen grand prize that can be used to explore and fund a second career. While struggling with near-impossible competitions that push them to the brink, they must face not just their rivals but also their own physical limits. The stage is set for this survival game that combines strategy, one-upmanship and psychological battles featuring athletes aiming to once again capture a life in the spotlight.

SHOWRUNNER: Kazuaki Hashimoto
PRODUCTION: The Far Eastern TV Entertainment, Inc.



OFFLINE LOVE

On Netflix February 18, 2025 | Unscripted

Following the success of popular reality romance series like *The Boyfriend* and *Love Village*, *Offline Love* offers a fresh take on dating reality shows. Ten men and women embark on a journey to find love in the picturesque city of Nice, without using digital devices. But there's a twist: they only have 10 days to meet and connect. Despite no guarantee of crossing paths, chance meetings and inevitable encounters suggest that they might be destined for love. Will the participants find their soulmates and experience true love? The series features studio commentary from Kyoko Koizumi and the comedy duo Reiwa Roman, both making their debut as emcees for a dating reality show.

COMMENTATORS: Kyoko Koizumi, Reiwa Roman
THEME SONG: Gracie Abrams – us. (feat. Taylor Swift)
PRODUCTION COOPERATION: EAST INC.



WELCOME, NOW GET LOST

On Netflix 2025 | Unscripted

Outbursts of anger and bursts of laughter erupt as insulted comedians navigate a most unwelcoming village! Originally created by Nobuyuki Sakuma — the mastermind behind *Last One Standing* and *Lighthouse* — for the popular YouTube channel NOBROCK TV, where it earned 15 million views, the series is coming to Netflix with a new host, Koji Higashino.

COMMENTATOR: Koji Higashino
PRODUCER/DIRECTOR: Nobuyuki Sakuma
BASED ON THE SHOW: "BATOUMURA" created by RIDIC
