

VMFA Tattoo Arts and Film Festival

To complement our special exhibition, *Japanese Tattoo: Perseverance, Art, and Tradition*, VMFA will present the first-ever major *Tattoo Arts and Film Festival* in Virginia. Honoring the rich history and tradition of tattooing and its enduring and evolving impact on contemporary visual culture, the two-day festival will include feature films plus a session exploring Japanese anime, talks by world-renowned experts, gallery tours, and more.

Dates: Fri, Sep 4, 3 – 9:30 pm
Sat, Sep 5, 10:30 am – 5 pm; Reception for Festival Pass holders: 5 – 7 pm

Cost: All-inclusive Festival Pass*: \$25 (VMFA members \$18)
**Festival pass includes admission to all programs, exhibition, and cash-bar reception.*
Costs for individual events below.

SCHEDULE of EVENTS (subject to change)

Fri, Sep 4

3 – 5 pm **Film**

Leslie Cheek Theater

Cost: \$8 (VMFA members \$5) **Eastern Promises** (2007, 100 min, rated **R**)

Viggo Mortensen was nominated for an Oscar for his portrayal of Nikolai, a shrewd criminal trying to rise in London's Vory v Zakone Russian Mafia, where tattoos are earned for status and respect. A nurse (Naomi Watts) becomes tenuously intertwined in this sinister underworld. Veteran director David Cronenberg, noted for his edgy, visceral images, delivers.

5 & 6 pm **Tours**

Permanent collection galleries

Cost: Free, no tickets required **Tattoo-themed Tours with VMFA Docents** (30 min)

6 – 7:30 pm **Performance**

Atrium

Cost: Free, no tickets required **Secretly Y'all**

Secretly Y'all, an organization committed to bringing people together through storytelling, will present a selection of tattoo-themed stories from audience participants. From heart-warming episodes to comedic gems, a Secretly Y'all experience is unique and not to be missed.

7:30 – 9:30 pm **Film**

Leslie Cheek Theater

Cost: \$8 (VMFA members \$5)

Tattoo Nation: The True Story of the Ink Revolution (2013, 86 min. Not rated; content may not be suitable for children.)

Special guest speakers: Takahiro Ryudaibori (formerly Horitaka) Kitamura, exhibition artist, tattooer, and curator; and Timothy Hoyer, exhibition artist and tattooer

How did tattoos go from being *something that someone puts on you* to *something that comes from within you*? This groundbreaking documentary, screening for the first time in Central Virginia, tells the story of how three artists from one L.A. tattoo shop revolutionized the art of tattooing. With Don “Ed” Hardy, Freddy Negrete, Travis Barker, and Danny Trejo.

Sat, Sep 5

10:30 am – 12:30 pm **Film**

Leslie Cheek Theater

Cost: \$8 (VMFA members \$5)

Utamaro and His Five Women **ウタマロをめぐる五人の女** (1946, 91 min, B&W. Not rated; mature content.)

Special guest speaker: Takahiro Ryudaibori (formerly Horitaka) Kitamura, exhibition artist, tattooer, and curator

This Japanese classic is a fictionalized portrait of the famed 18th-century Ukiyo-e artist Utamaro and his relationship with five courtesans who inspire his work. Artists of all types will connect to director Kenji Mizoguchi’s study of passion and determination. In a highly evocative scene, Utamaro sketches a picture on the back of his beautiful model who is honored to have it tattooed into her skin.

1:15 – 2 pm **Performance**

Atrium

Cost: Free, no tickets required

River City Taiko Drummers

Performance followed by visitor participation.

Experience the Japanese tradition of taiko drumming that dates back to the 6th century with the River City Taiko Drummers. The evolution of this percussion can be traced throughout history—from the battlefield to the theater and to religious ceremonies. Come learn how taiko is used today with Alasdair Denvil of the University of Richmond and his

community ensemble. After the performance, take advantage of the rare opportunity to play the different drums yourself!

1:30 – 2:15 pm **Gallery Talk**

Japanese Tattoo exhibition

For Festival Pass holders only

Gallery Talk with Tattoo Artists

Join Timothy Hoyer, exhibition artist, tattooer, and painter; Brian Bruno, Richmond tattoo artist and owner of Absolute Tattoo; and Takahiro Ryudaibori (formerly Horitaka) Kitamura, exhibition artist, tattooer, and curator for an informal gallery conversation about works in the special exhibition.

2:30 – 4:30 pm **Anime Shorts**

Leslie Cheek Theater

Cost: \$8 (VMFA members \$5)

Japanese Anime Tattoo Traditions

(Some content may not be suitable for children.)

VMFA and VSU faculty specialist in animation, Anh Do, discusses technique and style of Japanese anime along with connections to manga and tattoos. Excerpts of several anime series will be shown.

5 – 7 pm

Reception

Reception with cash bar

Atrium

For Festival Pass holders only

To reserve tickets, please call 804.340.1405 or visit vmfa.tattoo.