

# best anime this 2025

The best anime this 2025 promises an exhilarating year for animation enthusiasts, offering a diverse slate of returning favorites, highly anticipated sequels, and groundbreaking new series. From epic fantasy adventures and mind-bending sci-fi narratives to heartfelt slice-of-life dramas and adrenaline-pumping action spectacles, the landscape of Japanese animation in 2025 is set to captivate audiences worldwide. This comprehensive guide will delve into the most promising anime titles, exploring the genres, studios, and potential plotlines that are generating significant buzz. Whether you're a seasoned otaku or new to the world of anime, prepare to discover the must-watch series that will define the year.

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## Highly Anticipated Returning Anime Series

The year 2025 is poised to deliver a treasure trove of eagerly awaited continuations for beloved anime franchises. Fans have been on the edge of their seats, speculating about the next arcs and character developments for series that have already cemented their place in animation history. The return of these established titles often signifies a renewed commitment from studios to deliver high-quality animation, compelling storytelling, and the same emotional depth that captivated audiences in previous seasons.

Several major shonen powerhouses are rumored to be making significant returns or continuing their epic journeys in 2025. These series, known for their expansive worlds, intricate power systems, and strong character bonds, consistently draw massive global viewership. The anticipation surrounding these sequels is not just about more action, but about seeing how beloved characters evolve and overcome increasingly challenging obstacles. The animation quality is expected to be at its peak, with cutting-edge techniques likely to be employed to enhance the visual spectacle.

## Sequels Garnering Significant Fan Excitement

Among the most talked-about returning anime, certain titles stand out due to their immense popularity and the cliffhangers they left audiences with. The continuation of these narratives is a testament to their enduring appeal and the dedicated fanbases that eagerly await every new episode. Discussions often revolve around potential plot twists, the introduction of new antagonists, and the resolution of long-standing character arcs. The impact of these sequels can be felt across various media, from merchandise to fan conventions, underscoring their cultural significance.

Furthermore, the return of critically acclaimed seinen series is also a major highlight for 2025. These anime often delve into more mature themes, complex psychological landscapes, and nuanced character studies. Their continued presence in the anime landscape signifies a growing appreciation for diverse storytelling within the medium. The artistic direction and philosophical undertones of these series are often subjects of intense analysis and debate among fans and critics alike, promising intellectual stimulation alongside engaging plots.

## **Resurgence of Classic Franchises**

Beyond new seasons, 2025 might also witness the revival or reimagining of classic anime franchises that hold a special place in the hearts of long-time fans. These revivals can take various forms, from faithful adaptations of original source material to entirely new interpretations that cater to modern sensibilities while respecting the legacy of the original work. The return of such iconic series often sparks nostalgia and introduces a new generation of viewers to timeless stories and characters.

The successful revitalization of older properties depends heavily on the studio's ability to capture the essence of the original while modernizing its presentation. This includes updating animation techniques, refining character designs, and ensuring the narrative pacing resonates with contemporary audiences. When done right, these revivals can become the best anime of the year, bridging generational gaps and celebrating the rich history of anime.

## **Groundbreaking New Anime Releases**

While sequels dominate much of the conversation, the most exciting aspect of any given anime year is often the emergence of entirely new intellectual properties that capture the zeitgeist. 2025 is expected to be no different, with a fresh wave of original anime and adaptations of manga that have yet to grace the screen. These new series have the potential to introduce unique worlds, innovative concepts, and characters that will resonate with audiences for years to come.

The potential for originality in anime is boundless, and 2025's new releases are likely to push creative boundaries. This includes exploring uncharted narrative territories, experimenting with novel animation styles, and tackling themes that are relevant to current societal discussions. The success of these new ventures often hinges on the courage of studios and creators to take risks and present something truly fresh and engaging.

## **Original Series with Innovative Concepts**

Original anime series, free from the constraints of existing source material, offer creators a blank canvas to explore imaginative ideas. In 2025, we anticipate seeing more ambitious original projects that might blend unexpected genres, feature avant-garde visual aesthetics, or present narratives that challenge conventional storytelling tropes. These series often become cult classics or breakout hits precisely because of their distinctiveness and willingness to break the mold.

The appeal of original anime also lies in the fact that there are no prior expectations based on manga or light novels, allowing viewers to experience the story and characters with a sense of pure discovery. This can lead to a more immediate and impactful connection with the series, as audiences are not comparing it to something they have already consumed.

## **Adaptations of Popular Manga and Light Novels**

The adaptation of popular manga and light novels continues to be a fertile ground for producing compelling anime. For 2025, several highly acclaimed literary works are rumored to be receiving their anime treatment. These adaptations benefit from pre-existing fanbases, offering a built-in audience eager to see their favorite stories brought to life with dynamic animation and voice acting. The challenge for studios lies in faithfully translating the spirit and artistic vision of the original work.

When an adaptation is done well, it can introduce a beloved story to a much wider audience, boosting the popularity of the original manga or light novel and creating a cultural phenomenon. The selection of which series to adapt is crucial, with publishers and studios often looking for titles that have strong narrative potential and a distinct visual style that can be translated effectively into animation.

## **Diverse Genres to Explore in 2025 Anime**

The beauty of the anime medium lies in its incredible genre diversity, and 2025 is shaping up to be a banner year for fans of all tastes. Whether you crave heart-pounding action, soul-stirring romance, or thought-provoking science fiction, there will be something to satisfy every viewer. This year's offerings are expected to showcase a wide spectrum of storytelling, from the lighthearted to the profound.

The global popularity of anime means that studios are increasingly catering to a broad international audience, leading to a more diverse range of genres and thematic explorations. This inclusivity ensures that anime continues to evolve and remain relevant to a global community of fans. The following genres are particularly expected to shine in 2025.

### **Action and Adventure Blockbusters**

The adrenaline-fueled world of action and adventure anime is always a crowd-pleaser, and 2025 is set to unleash a barrage of titles designed to thrill. From epic fantasy quests with sprawling world-building to high-octane battles in futuristic settings, these series promise non-stop excitement. Expect to see incredible fight choreography, explosive visual effects, and narratives that keep viewers on the edge of their seats.

These genres often feature protagonists who embark on challenging journeys, facing formidable adversaries and discovering their inner strengths. The sense of progression and the growth of the

characters are key elements that draw audiences in, making each victory and defeat feel significant.

## **Thought-Provoking Sci-Fi and Fantasy Narratives**

For those who prefer to engage with complex ideas and imaginative worlds, 2025's science fiction and fantasy offerings will not disappoint. This year is anticipated to bring us series that delve into the philosophical implications of technology, explore alien civilizations, or craft intricate magic systems within richly imagined realms. These genres often tackle universal themes through unique lenses, prompting viewers to contemplate humanity and existence.

The intricate lore and detailed world-building characteristic of these genres are often a major draw, inviting viewers to immerse themselves completely in the story. The exploration of societal structures, ethical dilemmas, and the boundaries of reality are common threads that make these anime so compelling.

## **Heartwarming Slice-of-Life and Romance**

Not all anime needs to be about saving the world; the gentle charm of slice-of-life and romance genres provides a welcome balance. 2025 is expected to feature more anime that focus on the everyday lives of characters, their relationships, and personal growth. These series often offer relatable scenarios, endearing characters, and a comforting narrative pace that appeals to a broad audience. They provide an escape into relatable human experiences.

The appeal of these genres lies in their ability to explore the nuances of human connection, the joys of simple moments, and the development of meaningful relationships. They often leave viewers with a warm feeling and a sense of optimism about the human spirit.

## **The Impact of Studio and Creator Teams**

The quality of an anime series is inextricably linked to the talent and vision of the studio and the creative team behind it. In 2025, certain animation studios and acclaimed directors are already generating significant buzz for their upcoming projects. Their track record of producing visually stunning and narratively compelling anime makes their new ventures highly anticipated.

Understanding which studios are behind the most promising titles can provide valuable insight into the potential quality and style of the anime. Renowned studios often have a distinct aesthetic and a commitment to pushing animation boundaries, which fans have come to trust and admire. Likewise, the influence of a visionary director can elevate even a familiar genre into something extraordinary.

# Leading Animation Studios and Their Projects

Several leading animation studios are expected to play a pivotal role in shaping the anime landscape of 2025. These studios have consistently delivered high-quality productions, earning them a reputation for excellence. Their upcoming projects are eagerly awaited by fans who appreciate their signature animation styles, attention to detail, and ability to bring diverse stories to life.

The synergy between a studio's technical expertise and its artistic direction is crucial. For example, some studios are known for their fluid action sequences, while others excel in detailed character animation or breathtaking environmental design. This specialization often influences the type of stories they are best suited to tell.

## Visionary Directors and Their Unique Styles

The impact of a director's vision cannot be overstated in the world of anime. Acclaimed directors often bring a unique artistic sensibility, a particular approach to storytelling, and a signature visual style that distinguishes their work. Their involvement in a project can be a strong indicator of its artistic merit and narrative depth. In 2025, several such visionaries are rumored to be helming new projects.

These directors often have a deep understanding of the medium and a passion for exploring complex themes. They can infuse even familiar genres with fresh perspectives, pushing the boundaries of what anime can achieve creatively and emotionally. Their presence often guarantees a level of artistry that resonates with discerning viewers.

## Emerging Trends in Anime Storytelling

As the anime industry continues to evolve, so too do the storytelling conventions and thematic preoccupations within the medium. 2025 is likely to see a continuation and expansion of several emerging trends that reflect contemporary interests and technological advancements. These trends offer a glimpse into the future of anime narratives and the kinds of stories that will captivate audiences.

The global nature of anime consumption means that creators are increasingly mindful of diverse cultural perspectives and a desire for more inclusive narratives. This openness to new ideas and themes is what keeps anime fresh and dynamic. Identifying these trends can help viewers anticipate the kind of content that will define the year.

## Increased Focus on Inclusivity and Representation

A significant and welcome trend in modern anime is the growing emphasis on inclusivity and representation. 2025 is expected to continue this trajectory, with more series featuring diverse casts

of characters, exploring a wider range of identities, and tackling themes related to social justice and equality. This commitment to reflecting the complexities of the real world within fictional narratives resonates deeply with a global audience.

This trend is not just about ticking boxes; it's about creating richer, more nuanced stories that reflect the diverse experiences of people from all walks of life. When characters and narratives are more representative, they tend to be more relatable and impactful, fostering a deeper connection with viewers.

## **Exploration of Complex Psychological Themes**

Beyond grand adventures and lighthearted romances, anime has always had a strong tradition of delving into complex psychological themes. 2025 is anticipated to see a continuation of this, with more series exploring the depths of the human mind, the nuances of mental health, and the intricacies of character psychology. These anime often offer profound insights into the human condition.

These explorations can be challenging but incredibly rewarding, offering viewers a space to reflect on their own experiences and emotions. The sophisticated character development and thematic depth found in such anime are often what elevate them to critical acclaim and lasting legacy.

## **How to Discover Your Next Favorite Anime of 2025**

With such a vast and exciting array of anime set to grace screens in 2025, discovering your next favorite series can feel like an adventure in itself. To navigate this exciting landscape, it's beneficial to employ a few strategic approaches that cater to your personal preferences while remaining open to the unexpected.

The key to finding the best anime of 2025 is to combine informed research with a willingness to explore. By utilizing various resources and understanding what you're looking for, you can ensure a year filled with captivating animated experiences. Whether you're searching for a specific genre or a new studio to follow, these methods will help guide your discovery.

## **Utilizing Online Resources and Communities**

The internet is an invaluable tool for anime fans. Websites dedicated to anime news, reviews, and databases are essential for keeping track of upcoming releases and gauging audience reception. Online communities, such as forums and social media groups, are also excellent places to find recommendations and engage in discussions with fellow enthusiasts. These platforms often provide early insights into what's generating buzz.

By actively participating in these communities and following reputable anime news outlets, you can

stay informed about trailers, cast announcements, and critical reviews. This proactive approach helps ensure you don't miss out on potentially exceptional titles.

## **Following Key Studios and Creators**

As mentioned previously, the reputation of a studio or director can be a strong indicator of quality. Make a habit of following the output of studios and creators whose previous works you have enjoyed. Their new projects in 2025 are likely to align with their established strengths and artistic sensibilities, offering a high probability of satisfaction.

This method allows for a more curated approach to discovery. If you appreciated the intricate world-building of Studio Bones or the character-driven narratives of a particular director, actively seeking out their 2025 releases can be a highly effective way to find your next beloved series. Keeping a list of your favorite studios and creators and monitoring their announcements will undoubtedly lead you to some of the best anime this 2025.

## **Exploring Diverse Genres and Unexpected Gems**

While it's natural to gravitate towards familiar genres, the most rewarding discoveries often come from venturing outside your comfort zone. 2025 will undoubtedly feature a multitude of anime that defy easy categorization or present unique takes on established genres. Be open to trying out a new genre that piques your interest, even if it's not something you typically watch.

Sometimes, the most impactful and memorable anime are the ones that surprise you. These "unexpected gems" can broaden your appreciation for the medium and introduce you to new storytelling possibilities. Embrace the serendipity of discovering something new and wonderful that you might have otherwise overlooked.

## **FAQ**

### **Q: What are some of the most anticipated returning anime series expected in 2025?**

A: Highly anticipated returning series often include sequels to major shonen franchises, critically acclaimed fantasy epics, and beloved slice-of-life dramas. Specific titles are subject to ongoing rumors and official announcements, but fan speculation usually centers on series that have concluded major arcs or left audiences with compelling cliffhangers.

### **Q: Which new anime genres are predicted to gain significant**

## **traction in 2025?**

A: Emerging trends suggest a continued rise in anime that explore complex psychological themes, offer diverse and inclusive representation, and push the boundaries of experimental storytelling. Original sci-fi and fantasy concepts are also expected to attract considerable attention.

## **Q: How can I find out about the best anime releasing in 2025 before they air?**

A: You can stay informed by following reputable anime news websites, participating in online fan communities and forums, and keeping an eye on official announcements from animation studios and distributors. Early trailers and promotional material often provide a good indication of upcoming quality.

## **Q: Are there any specific animation studios known for consistently producing high-quality anime that I should watch out for in 2025?**

A: Yes, studios like MAPPA, Ufotable, Studio Ghibli (for their film releases), Bones, and KyoAni (Kyoto Animation) have established reputations for excellence. Keeping track of their announced projects for 2025 is a good strategy for finding quality anime.

## **Q: What role do manga and light novel adaptations play in the best anime of 2025 predictions?**

A: Adaptations of popular manga and light novels are a major source of anticipated anime. Successful source material often translates into strong narrative foundations, and audiences are eager to see these beloved stories brought to life with high-quality animation and voice acting.

## **Q: Beyond sequels, what kind of original anime concepts should viewers be excited about in 2025?**

A: Original anime in 2025 are expected to feature innovative world-building, unique genre fusions (e.g., sci-fi thrillers with psychological horror elements), and thought-provoking narratives that explore contemporary societal issues through imaginative lenses.

## **Q: How important is the director's vision when determining the best anime of 2025?**

A: The director's vision is paramount. Acclaimed directors often imbue their projects with a distinctive artistic style, narrative flair, and thematic depth that can elevate a series from good to exceptional, making their involvement a key factor in anticipation.



## **Best Anime This 2025**

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you. This guide is more than just pages in a book; it's your companion for an unforgettable adventure, helping you create memories that resonate long after you've returned home. Your journey into the heart of Kyoto begins now.

**best anime this 2025: The Best 390 Colleges, 2025** The Princeton Review, Robert Franek, David Soto, Stephen Koch, Aaron Riccio, 2024-08-27 As seen on the TODAY Show on NBC! • NO ONE KNOWS COLLEGES LIKE THE PRINCETON REVIEW. This comprehensive guide to the nation's best colleges provides in-depth profiles on schools, best-of lists by interest, and tons of helpful student-driven details that will help you or your student choose their best-fit colleges! The Princeton Review's college rankings started in 1992 with surveys from 30,000 students. Over 30 years and more than a million student surveys later, we stand by our claim that there is no single "best" college, only the best college for you... and that this is the book that will help you find it! STRAIGHT FROM STUDENTS TO YOU · 390 in-depth school profiles based on candid feedback from 160,000+ students, covering academics, administration, campus life, and financial aid · Insights on unique college character, social scene, and more · Direct quotes from students about their school's professors, campus culture, career services, and more RANKING LISTS & RATING SCORES · Lists of the top 25 colleges in 50 categories based on students' opinions of academics, campus life, facilities, and much more · Ratings for every school on Financial Aid, Selectivity, and Quality of Life DETAILED ADMISSIONS INFORMATION · The Inside Word on competitive applications, test scores, tuition, and average indebtedness · Comprehensive information on selectivity, freshman profiles, and application deadlines at each school Plus! Free access to 2 full-length practice tests online (1 SAT and 1 ACT) to help you prep for the important admissions-exams part of your admissions journey.

**best anime this 2025: Anime, Religion, and Theology** David Armstrong, Roberto J. De La Noval, 2025-10-02 This book brings together scholars to unpack the religious ideas, themes, motifs, texts, traditions, and practices that suffuse anime. Immensely popular with Western audiences since the 1980s, anime continues to be a prominent medium through which contemporary people, especially younger generations, are engaging ideas about God or ultimate reality, the world, and the self. This volume brings an academic lens to anime and shows the central role that religion plays in the intellectual and visual architecture of many popular shows, including Dragon Ball, Madoka Magica, Gurren Lagann, Sword Art Online, and more.

**best anime this 2025: BeTales** , 2025-04-08 BeTales April 2025 issue is here with fresh new content for the spring season, explore Lisbon-Kashmir-Kyoto , the best spring season destination. While our fashion segment brings forth best vibrant colours for people based on their zodiac signs, while we focus on our strong attention on the importance of Civic Sense, and the new age movies. Making this issue a best possible collection for teens and youth .

**best anime this 2025: Introduction to Anime and Manga** Mari Bolte, 2026-01-01 Anime and manga are global sensations with millions of fans around the world. Browse any bookstore or click through options on your favorite streaming service, and you are bound to find a wide assortment of manga and anime. But what exactly are manga and anime? Manga and anime are two art forms that come from Japan. One is print, and the other is animated. Their genres span from action-packed shonen adventures to heartfelt shojo relationships. Introduction to Anime and Manga: From Magical Girls to Pirate Kings delves into the rich history of manga and anime, from their early beginnings as ukiyo-e woodblock prints and silent films to their modern-day, global popularity as weekly serialized manga and blockbuster anime successes. Explore anime and manga's influence on popular culture, academia, and art; their dedicated fanbases; and their enduring appeal around the world.

**best anime this 2025: Proceedings of the 2025 4th International Conference on Educational Innovation and Multimedia Technology (EIMT 2025)** Heyong Wang, Yinyin Xiao, Mustafa Misir, Dayana Farzeeha Ali, 2025-07-16 This is an open access book. As a leading role in the global megatrend of scientific innovation, China has been creating a more and more open environment for scientific innovation, increasing the depth and breadth of academic cooperation, and building a community of innovation that benefits all. Such endeavors are making new contributions to the globalization and creating a community of shared future. To adapt to this changing world and

China's fast development in the new era, 2025 4th International Conference on Educational Innovation and Multimedia Technology (EIMT 2025) to be held in March 14-16, 2025. This conference takes bringing together global wisdom in scientific innovation to promote high-quality development as the theme and focuses on cutting-edge research fields including Educational Innovation and Multimedia Technology. EIMT 2024 encourages the exchange of information at the forefront of research in different fields, connects the most advanced academic resources in China and the world, transforms research results into industrial solutions, and brings together talent, technology and capital to drive development. The conference sincerely invites experts, scholars, business people and other relevant personnel from universities, scientific research institutions at home and abroad to attend and exchange!

**best anime this 2025:** *Japanese ANIME Story* Seo hyun woong, 2025-05-15 Hello, I am Seohyeon Woong, an author from the Japanese specialty bookstore MeeNii. We often try to define cultures by borders and seek identity within them. However, culture is like water flowing beyond borders, continuously influencing and being influenced by each other without staying in one place. The cultural relationship between Korea and Japan, especially through animation exchange, is a perfect example of this fluidity. The introduction of Japanese animation to Korea starting in the 1960s was not merely the import of foreign content. It was a cultural phenomenon that shaped the imagination of a generation, inspired creativity, and sometimes sparked social debates. While it is widely known that Korean animations like 'Robot Taekwon V' were inspired by Japanese works, the depth and breadth of that influence are far more extensive than one might think. This book explores how Japanese animation has been accepted and transformed within Korean society and culture from the 1960s to the present. Through works spanning generations, from 'Mazinger Z' to 'Your Name,' we will uncover hidden stories of Korean popular culture. This is not just a history of animation but also a cultural history reflecting the changes and growth of Korean society. We aim to revisit Japanese animations from the black-and-white TV era, when parents gathered with neighborhood kids to watch cartoons, to those enjoyed by today's MZ generation. By minimizing technical jargon and complex theories, I hope to guide this journey in a language that everyone can easily understand. Let us begin the journey to discover another aspect of Korean culture through the lens of Japanese animation. Thank you.

**best anime this 2025: The Nightmare Before Christmas** Filipa Antunes, Brittany Eldridge, Rebecca Williams, 2025-02-20 This edited collection considers *The Nightmare Before Christmas* as a milestone in animation and film history, considering the different layers of meaning and history of the film from pre-production to the present day. *The Nightmare Before Christmas* (Henry Selick, 1993) has become a key point of reference in negotiations of genre and the boundaries between mainstream and cult cultures, both on screen and in the spaces of fandom, and in original and retrospective reception contexts where it often becomes tangled with nostalgia. Contributors to this edited collection consider the film as a cultural object with significant impact on animation, representations of family and horror, and fandom and subcultures. Covering topics including representations of fairy tales, Christmas media, cultural appropriation, family horror, merchandise, theme parks, and food, this work explores the film's ongoing cultural impact.

**best anime this 2025: Villains Unleashed: The Art of Drawing Sinister Characters** Pasquale De Marco, 2025-07-22 Prepare to delve into the captivating world of villains, where darkness and intrigue intertwine. **\*\*Villains Unleashed: The Art of Drawing Sinister Characters\*\*** is a comprehensive exploration of the enigmatic characters that have captivated our imaginations for centuries. Embark on a journey through the labyrinthine minds of villains, understanding their complex motives, their insatiable ambitions, and the moral dilemmas they evoke. This book delves into the psychological profiles of these enigmatic figures, uncovering the forces that shape their malevolent actions. From the archetypal evil overlord to the cunning femme fatale, **\*\*Villains Unleashed: The Art of Drawing Sinister Characters\*\*** examines the diverse spectrum of villains. Each chapter unveils a different facet of villainy, analyzing their backstories, their methods, and the profound impact they have on our society. Explore the portrayal of villains in popular culture, from

the silver screen to the pages of classic literature. Uncover the techniques that authors, filmmakers, and game developers employ to create these enduring characters, leaving an indelible mark on our collective consciousness. **\*\*Villains Unleashed: The Art of Drawing Sinister Characters\*\*** is an essential guide for anyone fascinated by the dark side of human nature. Whether you're a seasoned fan of villains or simply curious about the psychological forces that drive them, this book offers a captivating and thought-provoking exploration. Step into the shadowy world of villains and discover the art, the intrigue, and the profound insights they offer into our own human condition. **\*\*Villains Unleashed: The Art of Drawing Sinister Characters\*\*** is your ultimate guide to the dark side, a journey into the unknown that will leave you forever captivated. If you like this book, write a review!

**best anime this 2025: The Many Worlds of Takahata Isao** Lindsay Coleman, Rayna Denison, David Desser, 2025-08-31 Takahata Isao (1935–2018), often referred to as the “Second Pillar” of the renowned Studio Ghibli, is one of the most esteemed animation directors in the history of the form. He is also the first, and thus far the only, anime director to have a solo exhibition at the prestigious National Museum of Modern Art in Tokyo and was widely recognized for his advocacy of environmental and pacifist causes. Takahata’s distinctive vision and range and diverse contributions in both television and film have left an enduring mark on the genre, earning him a place of high regard among anime enthusiasts and scholars alike. *The Many Worlds of Takahata Isao* is the first English-language book dedicated to exploring lesser-known works and aspects of Takahata’s career and providing in-depth analyses of the films that garnered him international acclaim. Bringing together some of the foremost authorities on anime, it examines his pioneering television work on *World Masterpiece Theater* and its precursors (1974–1979) and *Chie the Brat* (1981–1983), as well as his directorial feature film debut *Horus, Prince of the Sun* (1968) and the documentary *The Story of Yanagawa’s Waterways* (1987), which combines live-action and animation. The book delves into Takahata’s best-known films, including *Grave of the Fireflies* (1988), the intensely moving story of children caught in the fire-bombing of Japan during World War II; the endearing, “Ozu-esque” *Only Yesterday* (1991); *Pom Poko* (1994), known not only for its humor and striking visual effects, but also for its sharp critique of ecological and cultural loss; the stylistically innovative *My Neighbors the Yamadas* (1999); and Takahata’s final feature, *The Tale of Princess Kaguya* (2013), celebrated by many as a masterpiece of animation and storytelling.

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