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PASSES

BOX **OFFICE**

BOX OFFICE CONTACT & HOURS

The Online Box Office is currently open. The physical Box Office will open on September 8th at 10:00 AM in Cineplex Park Lane, 5657 Spring Garden Road

- Telephone: (902) 334-1420
- Email: boxoffice@atlanticfilm.ca
- Location: Cineplex Cinemas Park Lane, 5657 Spring Garden Road (from Sept 8th onward)

Dates and Hours

Sept. 8 - 9, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM Sept. 10 - 17, 10:00 AM - 10:00 PM

Should you need to contact the Box Office team before Sept. 8, you can reach us via email or phone during our regular office hours, which are 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

For a full guide to our venue accessibility please visit 2025aiff.eventive.org/events. or email accessibility@atlanticfilm.ca.

Please note that the 2025 AIFF program and schedule is subject to change. Visit atlanticfilmfestival.ca for updates.

	Regular	Under 25/Senio
Opening Night Gala (Includes Screening + Celebration)	\$25	\$21.50
Opening Night Gala Celebration* (Does not include screening)	\$15	\$1!
Gala Ticket	\$20	\$1
General Admission Ticket	\$15	\$12.7
Panels & Live Events	FREE	FRE
Junior Cinephile Ticket (15 and under)	\$8	N/A
4 Ticket Package**	\$55	\$50
6 Ticket Package**	\$80	\$7!
12 Ticket Package**	\$150	\$140

IAGGEG		
	Regular	Under 25/ Senior
Festival Pass Full access to all of AIFF's in-cinema programming as well as AIFF Online and our live events and parties. (Does not include the Opening Night Gala Screening but can be used for access to the Opening Night Gala Celebration)	\$200	\$180
The Weekender Access to all of AIFF's weekend programming, beginning 5:00 PM on Friday and ending with the last screening on Sunday. (Does not include AIFF Online or Galas)	\$100	\$90

Service fees and taxes apply to non-member and member prices online, phone and in-person Member discounts are applicable to screening tickets only and exclude ticket packages and passes

AIFF MEMBERSHIPS		
	Regular	Under 25
AIFF Insider 2 complimentary tickets (General Admission tickets only) 2 tickets to the Opening Night Gala Celebration 15% discount on additional single tickets FREE access to AIFF Online	\$80	\$4!

AIFF Insider		
2 complimentary tickets (General Admission tickets only)		
2 tickets to the Opening Night Gala Celebration	\$80	\$45
15% discount on additional single tickets		
FREE access to AIFF Online		
AIFF Patron • 4 complimentary tickets (General Admission tickets only) • 2 Tickets to the Opening Night Gala Screening • 2 tickets to the Opening Night Gala Celebration • 15% discount on all tickets and passes	\$500+	NA
 FREE access to AIFF Online Name recognition in the AIFF Program Guide & Website Tax Receipt (representing the donation portion of the fee) Invitation for two to the AIFF VIP Welcome Reception 		

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PREMIER OF NOVA SCOTIA

On behalf of the Province of Nova Scotia, I'm pleased to welcome you to the 45th Atlantic International Film

This beloved festival continues to shine a spotlight on outstanding new films from here at home and around the world. From buzzworthy premieres to insightful panels and memorable red carpet moments, AIFF has become a highlight of the cultural calendar, drawing film lovers and industry professionals alike.

Nova Scotia's filmmakers and storytellers are helping to shape the future of film and are sharing our province's unique perspective with audiences far and wide. We're proud of their work, which is why we invested \$77 million last year to support 89 film and TV productions—generating over \$200 million in local spending.

That kind of success reflects the strength of our creative community and the continued momentum of events

Thank you to the organizers, filmmakers and volunteers who make the Atlantic International Film Festival such a success. Enjoy the show!

Yours truly,

Honourable Tim Houston, M.L.A. Premier of Nova Scotia



MAYOR OF HALIFAX

As Mayor of Halifax and on behalf of Halifax Regional Council, I'm thrilled to welcome you to the 2025 Atlantic International Film Festival, our region's flagship celebration of film and media from across the globe.

We begin by acknowledging that we are gathered on the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people in the district of Mi'kma'ki. We honour the Peace and Friendship Treaties signed on this land and recognize that we are

For 45 years, this Festival has been a cornerstone of Atlantic Canada's cultural life. It amplifies bold voices, showcases powerful stories, and connects local audiences with global talent. It plays a vital role in advancing the creative economy and nurturing our incredible community of filmmakers, artists, and cultural workers here in Halifax and

Whether you're catching an in-theatre premiere, taking in one of the curated regional programs,or connecting with industry leaders, the festival continues to offer unforgettable experiences that deepen our collective appreciation for

A heartfelt thank you to the Board of Directors, the talented Festival team, dedicated volunteers,and generous partners whose work and support make this event possible. Enjoy the 2025 Festival and all the inspiration it brings. Kindest regards,

Andy Fillmore

Mayor



TELEFILM

Festivals like the Atlantic International Film Festival play a vital role in connecting Canadian cinema with audiences at home and abroad. They showcase our stories, our artists and our creativity, while strengthening the bond between filmmakers and audiences around the world. Canadian cinema plays a key role in shaping and promoting our cultural identity. As audiences seek out stories that resonate with them, festivals bring us together.

At Telefilm Canada, our core mission is to invest in and highlight the importance of film. We support productions every step of the way, from development to distribution, so that Canadian stories are seen and celebrated. By working with our industry partners, we contribute to a strong and vibrant film ecosystem.

Beyond their screenings, festivals are places of dialogue, collaboration and exchange. They bring together professionals, emerging and established talent, as well as film lovers and audiences of all kinds. In pursuing our mission to support Canadian cinema, we recognize that festivals are essential to the vitality of our industry.

We're proud to partner with AIFF to celebrate the unifying power of cinema. Enjoy the festival!

Julie Roy

Executive Director and CEO, Telefilm Canada



CANADA MEDIA FUND

It's an honour for the Canada Media Fund (CMF) to support and celebrate the 45th Atlantic International Film Festival (AIFF). Year after year, the AIFF shines a spotlight on the powerful storytelling, creative excellence, and rich diversity of voices defining Atlantic Canada's screen-based industries.

At the CMF, we're proud to support the festival's mission of showcasing stories from New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland and Labrador. Since 2010, the CMF has invested in more than 1,200 audiovisual and interactive digital media projects from the four provinces.

In 2024-2025 alone, our funding to projects developed and produced in the region exceeded \$25M and generated a GDP contribution of over \$145M. That same funding helped create more than 1,300 full-time equivalent jobs. These are not just numbers; they represent livelihoods, communities, and the strength of a regional industry that continues to punch well above

Atlantic Canada has produced some of this country's most compelling content-shows like Trailer Park Boys, Diggstown, Moonshine, Sullivan's Crossina, Saint-Pierre, and This Hour Has 22 Minutes continue to connect with audiences nationwide and beyond. The CMF is proud to have fueled these hits, and many more, at every step of the creative process.

Congratulations to the AIFF team on this milestone year. And to everyone bringing their work to the festival: thank you for continuing to tell stories that reflect the heart and soul of our beautiful East Coast. Enjoy the festival!

Valerie Creiahton

President and CEO, Canada Media Fund



CHAIR OF THE BOARD

At the festival this year, we are celebrating the 45th year of AIFF. Anniversaries such as this are a good opportunity to reflect on history and traditions, and it comes as no surprise to realize that much has changed in both the industry and the region since the festival first opened its doors, whether it's changing demographics, marketing, or even things as fundamental as how films are viewed.

However, despite these wholesale changes, many of the core goals of the festival have not changed. Throughout this time, AIFF has endeavored to highlight the films of our region, provide support for our filmmakers, and provide the opportunity for celebration within our community.

While the faces have changed over 45 years, this year's festival is made possible our exceptional current team, led by Executive Director, Martha Cooley (recently on parental leave) and Acting Executive Director and Director of

On behalf of the board of directors of AIFF, thank you to Lisa, Martha and rest of our team for all of your hard work, and to the rest of our community, from sponsors and volunteers, thank you for making this 45th year possible..

Marc Reardon

Chair of the Board, Atlantic International Film Festival



INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Welcome to the 45th Atlantic International Film Festival. As we mark this milestone year, we're proud to continue what AIFF has done best for over four decades: champion bold storytelling, amplify Atlantic Canadian talent, and present audiences with inspiring films from across Canada and around the world.

This year's program features exciting world and regional premieres, never-before-seen stories, and bold new voices in cinema. From debut filmmakers to internationally acclaimed directors, the 2025 lineup is a dynamic mix of fresh talent and celebrated storytellers. Expect powerful documentaries, daring narratives, and unforgettable characters. With over 100 films presented over the course of 8 days, there is something for everyone to enjoy. And beyond the screen, AIFF welcomes you to vibrant festival events, engaging industry panels, and the chance to hear directly from the creators behind the work.

This 45th edition is a testament and a celebration of the filmmakers, industry guests, audiences, partners, volunteers, and festival teams who have made AIFF what it is today. Thank you for being part of the story.

Whether you're a longtime festival-goer or a first-time attendee, we invite you to join us, discover something new, make meaningful connections, and celebrate the joy of cinema together. Enjoy the festival!

Lisa Haller

Interim Executive Director, Atlantic International Film Festival

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Skite'kmujue'katik (At the Place of Ghosts)

Wednesday, Sept. 10, 7:00PM - Park Lane, Theatre 7 & 8





Siblings Mise'l (Blake Alec Miranda) and Antle (Forrest Goodluck) were close confidants as children, but have drifted apart as adults. When a malevolent spirit begins tormenting them, the siblings are forced to reunite and journey into Skite'kmujue'katik, a primordial forest that exists outside of time, to confront their violent past. As long-buried wounds resurface, the siblings must face their trauma and the spectral echoes of their ancestors. Shot on location in Atlantic Canada and produced by Jason Levangie, Marc Tetreault, Diana Elbaum, and Martin Katz, the film features stunning cinematography by Guy Godfree (Maudie; Wildhood) and an evocative score by Polaris and Juno-winning Jeremy Dutcher. Two-Spirit L'nu writerdirector Bretten Hannam (Wildhood) merges grounded storytelling with atmospheric mystery to deliver a haunting, genre-bending drama that affirms Hannam as a singular talent.

Writer: Bretten Hannam

Producers: Jason Levangie, Marc Tetreault, Martin Katz, Diana

Cast: Forrest Goodluck, Blake Alec Miranda, Glen Gould, Cherish

Country: Canada Province: Nova Scotia

Little Lorraine

Saturday, Sept. 13, 7:00PM - Park Lane, Theatre 8



Special showcases of highly-anticipated titles from near and



Set against the rugged beauty of coastal Nova Scotia, and inspired by true events that saw a remote mining and fishing town on Cape Breton turn into a hub for one of the largest cocaine smuggling operations in Canadian history, Little Lorraine marks the highly anticipated feature debut of Grammy-nominated Nova Scotian director Andy Hines. When a coal mining disaster leaves the town reeling and a devoted family man out of work, desperation and disillusionment lead him into a criminal underworld that threatens to unravel both his family and his community. Featuring a powerful lead performance by Stephen Amell and a standout cast including Sean Astin, Nova Scotian actors Stephen McHattie, Steve Lund, and Auden Thornton, and Colombian music icon J Balvin, Little Lorraine weaves a dramatic story of hardship, corruption, loyalty, and resilience. With a visual style shaped by a decade of directing for Missy Elliott, Logic, Luke Combs, and Keith Urban, Hines brings his full musical sensibility to this richly textured crime drama, and announces himself as a bold new voice in Canadian cinema.

Director: Andy Hines

Writer: Andy Hines, Adam Baldwin

Producers: James van der Woerd, Tim Doiron, Michael Volpe

Cast: Stephen Amell, Sean Astin, Matt Walsh, Rhys Darby

Country: Canada

Province: Nova Scotia

Runtime: 115 minutes



Opening Night Gala Celebration

Stardust Bar + Kitchen, 1688 Barrington Street Wednesday, Sept. 10, 9:00 PM - 12:00 AM

The first night of the Festival means it's time to celebrate and mingle with filmmakers, industry folks and audience members!

\$15 or free for Passholders and Opening Night Screening ticket holders. 19+

Atlantic Gala Party

The Garden, 1446 Queen Street Saturday, Sept. 13, 9:00 PM - LATE

Find out why the Maritimes have a reputation for legendary hospitality at the Atlantic Gala Party! Open to Passholders and Atlantic Gala Ticket Holders. 19+

Reel East Coast Shorts Gala

Sunday, Sept. 14, 7:00PM - Park Lane, Theatre 8

These eight short films offer a spotlight on established and emerging talent from across the Atlantic region.





talking to humans about the end of the world.

As global crises intersect, dovetail, and cascade on the horizon during one hot summer on Prince Edward Island, the humans on one small island cradled in the Atlantic pursue the habits and necessities of life in a late-stage capitalist milieu.

Director: Millefiore Clarkes Country: Canada Province: PEI Runtime: 21 minutes Language: English



Louis

Louis follows Kalpen, a young boy in Nova Scotia grappling with the death of his pet hamster. His father, Avneesh, silently carries the weight of his own father's death as he struggles to support his son emotionally.

Director: Akshay Shirke Country: Canada Province: Nova Scotia Runtime: 10 minutes Language: English, Tamil



Imprint

Duncan Major met artist Tara Bryan at 13, discovering a shared passion for letterpress printing. Imprint serves as Duncan's heartfelt tribute to Tara, using material she passed down to him for a film of vibrant hand-printed animation and rich, atmospheric soundscapes.

Director: Duncan Major **Country:** Canada

Province: Newfoundland & Labrador
Runtime: 5 minutes
Language: English



A Soft Touch

Ellen, an 81-year-old woman living in senior's housing and facing health challenges, is persuaded to lend a friend some money. When the friend then disappears, Ellen is forced to make a heartbreaking decision in this deeply felt short from acclaimed Nova Scotian filmmaker Heather Young.

Director: Heather Young Country: Canada Province: Nova Scotia Runtime: 20 minutes Language: English



Dike Bar

An archive of queer and trans experiences in the town of Sackville, New Brunswick, weaving several strands of thought through intimate conversation: a children's folktale, queer rurality, rising sea levels, and anti-queer legislation.

Director: Amy Siegel Country: Canada Province: New Brunswick Runtime: 5 minutes Language: English



Wolverine and Little Thunder: An Eel Fishing Story

While fishing, Wolverine and Little Thunder come face to face with a legendary giant eel. Celebrated Mi'kmaw artist Alan Syliboy's newest film is a heartwarming tale of bravery and the enduring bond between the Mi'kmaq and one of their most sacred food sources.

Director: Alan Syliboy Country: Canada Province: Nova Scotia Runtime: 9 minutes Language: English



A Place to Wait and Watch

Nestled in her home by the ocean, Ash is creating wedding dresses for herself and the woman she's about to marry. With every stitch, Ash moves closer to the life she envisions, but a premonition thrusts her into a world of mystery and loss.

Director: Vaida Nairn
Country: Canada

Province: Newfoundland & Labrador **Runtime:** 7 minutes **Language:** English



The Muse

The Muse is a short documentary that opens our eyes to the beauty of the unconventional, exploring the friendship between an unlikely pair and set against the compelling landscape of Newfoundland's coastline.

Director: Wanda Nolan Country: Canada Province: Nova Scotia Runtime: 17 minutes Language: English



Kiss of the Spider Woman

Wednesday, Sept. 17, 7:00PM - Park Lane, Theatre 8



The first big-screen version of the hit Broadway musical - itself based on both Manuel Puig's controversial novel and on the Oscar-winning 1985 film adaptation - *Kiss of the Spider Woman* is an extraordinary reimagining that fuses historical drama with show-stopping musical spectacle. Set in 1980s Argentina, Molina (Tonatiuh) is a flamboyant window dresser who shares a cell with political prisoner Valentín (Diego Luna). Their unlikely friendship blossoms as Molina recounts his favourite film and Hollywood musical star, played by the captivating Jennifer Lopez. Director Bill Condon (*Gods and Monsters; Dreamgirls*) pairs this extravagant vision with beloved songs from the legendary composer-lyricist team of John Kander and Fred Ebb (*Cabaret; Chicago*) for a bold, tender, and visually sumptuous film, a feast for audiences who hunger for the days of the grand film musical.

Director: Bill Condon

Writer: Bill Condon

Producers: Barry Josephson, Tom Kirdahy, Greg Yolen

Cast: Jennifer Lopez, Diego Luna, Tonatiuh, Tony Dovolani

Country: USA

Runtime: 128 minutes





The Blue Trail (O Último Azul)

Sunday, Sept. 14, 7:30PM - Theatre 3 / Tuesday, Sept. 16, 8:45PM - Theatre 6

To maximize economic productivity, the government orders the elderly to relocate to distant Director: Gabriel Mascaro housing colonies. Tereza, 77, refuses, instead embarking on a life-affirming journey through the Amazon. Winner of the Grand Jury Prize at this year's Berlinale, Gabriel Mascaro's entrancing feature is a timely, inventive, and affecting satire that establishes the Brazilian director as one of the most vital filmmaking voices of his generation.

Writers: Gabriel Mascaro, Heitor Loreaa

Producers: Rachel Daisy Ellis, Giancarlo Nasi, Sandino Saravia Vinav.

Cast: Denise Weinberg, Rodrigo Santoro, Miriam

Country: Brazil, Mexico, Netherlands, Chile Language: Portuguese Runtime: 85 minutes



Dancing on the Elephant

Saturday, Sept. 13, 4:45PM - Theatre 4

When Nora (Sheila McCarthy of Women Talking) is begrudgingly placed in the Shady Pines Retirement Home, she feels adrift and uncertain about the next phase of her twilight years - until the bawdy and rambunctious Edna (Mary Walsh of This Hour Has 22 Minutes) brings new adventure into Nora's world. Threatened by medical and bureaucratic factors, Nora takes matters into her own hands in this dramedy of newly kindled friendship, which explores the complexity, beauty, pain, and laughter that comes with aging.

Cast: Mary Walsh, Sheila McCarthy, Amanda Brugel Kevin Kincaid



Country: Canada Province: Nova Scotia Language: English Runtime: 94 minutes



Blueberry Grunt

Thursday, Sept. 11, 7:15PM - Theatre 4

In writer-director Sherry White's highly anticipated drama, a marriage begins to unravel under the weight of a shared trauma. Joel Thomas Hynes and Liisa Repo-Martell shine as Vivian and Harold, spouses who embark on an annual camping and blueberry picking trip to celebrate their anniversary. Deep tensions boil into a fight, and when the couple is faced with a life-ordeath situation, both Vivian and Harold are forced to come to terms with their own familial anxieties.

Cast: Joel Thomas Hynes

Country: Canada

Province: Newfoundland and Labrador Language: English Runtime: 85 minutes



Dreams (Sex Love)

Thursday, Sept. 11, 7:00PM - Theatre 7 / Wednesday, Sept. 17, 8:00PM - Theatre 5

Winner of the Golden Bear at Berlinale, this tender coming-of-age story follows 17-year-old Johanne as she confides an unrequited crush on a teacher into her diary. Pouring her heart out with increasingly sweeping detail, Johanne's sexual awakening is complicated when her family attempts to elevate her diary to published status. With its cozy Oslo setting and its fluctuating levels of truth and fantasy, Dreams (Sex Love) is a story of sexual discovery in all its bewildering compromises and unexpected rewards.

Director: Dag Johan Writer: Daa Johan

Cast: Ella Øverbve, Selome Emnetu, Ane Dahl Torp

Country: Norway **Language:** Norwegian, English, French

Runtime: 110 minutes





Hangashore

Friday, Sept. 12, 8:00PM - Theatre 7

Haunted by recurring dreams, Vera (Hera Hilmar) journeys from Iceland to a remote Newfoundland fishing village in search of her missing father. Drawn by Jack (James Frecheville), a mysterious seal hunter, to uncover buried secrets, Vera immerses herself in the rugged and eerie community. The latest from Newfoundland writer-director Justin Oakey, *Hangashore* is a Tania Sarra visually arresting thriller, steeped in folklore and superstition.



Cast: Hera Hilmar, James Frecheville, Stephen Oates Country: Canada

Condon, Justin Oakey,



Province: Newfoundland and Labrador Language: English, Icelandic

Runtime: 87 minutes



The History of Sound

Thursday, Sept. 11, 8:45PM - Theatre 8 / Sunday, Sept. 14, 5:45PM - Theatre 4

In the winter of 1920, Lionel (Paul Mescal), a talented singer from rural Kentucky, joins his charming Boston Conservatory classmate David (Josh O'Connor) on a fact-finding mission through the forests and islands of Maine, archiving Appalachian folk and bluegrass songs for future generations. As Lionel moves on to a new and ostensibly happy life, memories of David Ciufetti, Thérèsa Ryan-van come flooding back. Featuring a scene-stealing bit from Chris Cooper, *The History of Sound* is Graan, Oliver Hermanus, a wistful romance and a subtle argument for the perseverance of physical media.

Director: Oliver Hermanus Writer: Ben Shattuck

Andrew Kortschak, Lisa

Cast: Paul Mescal, Josh O'Connor, Chris Cooper Country: USA Language: English Runtime: 127 minutes



It Was Just an Accident

Tuesday, Sept. 16, 8:30PM - Park Lane, Theatre 4

What begins as a minor accident sets in motion a series of escalating consequences in the latest from seminal Iranian filmmaker Jafar Panahi (The White Balloon; The Circle; No Bears), which won the Palme d'Or at this year's Cannes Film Festival. Filmed without permits, and drawing from the director's own experiences during his second incarceration in 2022, It Was Just an Accident is a tense, propulsive thriller that examines pressing questions of justice and retribution, set against the backdrop of systemic oppression.

Producers: Jafar Panahi, Cast: Vahid Mobasseri

Mariam Afshari, Ebrahim Azizi Hadis Pakhaten Country: Iran, France, Luxembourg



Köln 75

Saturday, Sept. 13, 6:30PM – Theatre 7 / Monday, Sept. 15, 4:00PM – Theatre 5

Set in 1975, Köln 75 tells the remarkable true story of Vera Brandes, who, at the age of 18, staged a now famous concert by jazz pianist Keith Jarrett. Director Ido Fluk captures both the cultural pulse of 1970s Europe and the tension behind a legendary concert that almost didn't happen. The film is a tribute to youthful audacity, artistic brilliance, and the transformative power of music.

Writer: Ido Fluk

Producers: Sol Bondy, Fred

Cast: Mala Emde, John Magaro, Michael Chernus, Alexander Scheer

Country: Germany, Poland,

Language: English, German Runtime: 112 minutes

Language: Persian

Runtime: 103 minutes



Lovely Day (Mille secrets mille dangers)

Sunday, Sept. 14, 6:30PM - Theatre 7 / Monday, Sept. 15, 4:45PM - Theatre 4

On the day of his wedding, the ghosts of Alain's past plunge him into a deep anxiety that leads Director: Philippe Falardeau Country: Canada him with one goal: to survive the happiest day of his life. Acclaimed Quebec filmmaker Philippe Falardeau's spirited feature deftly weaves generations of thorny family history into a frenetic day of celebration. An expansive, joyous, and heartfelt look at the scars we carry from our past, Luc Déry and the enduring familial bonds that can withstand tremendous strain.

Writers: Philippe Falardeau, Language: French, English,

Cast: Neil Flias, Hassan Mahbouba Rose-Marie Perregult, Hiam Abou

Runtime: 119 minutes



The Love That Remains (Astin sem eftir er)

Tuesday, Sept. 16, 8:15PM - Theatre 7 / Wednesday, Sept. 17, 6:00PM - Theatre 6

Tracking a year in the life of an Icelandic family whose parents are navigating their separation, The Love That Remains juggles playful and heartfelt moments of magical realism, ravishing scenery, a touching score, and a scene-stealing performance from a dog named Panda. Hlynur Pálmason's follow-up to his acclaimed *Godland* is a bittersweet dramedy of failed love, Cast: Saga Garðarsdóttir, told through shared memories and changing seasons.

Writer: Hlynur Pálmason Svansson, Katrin Pors

Sverrir Gudnason, Ída Mekkín Hlynsdóttir, Þorgils



Country: Iceland, Denmark, France, Finland, Sweden Language: Icelandic Runtime: 109 minutes



The Mastermind

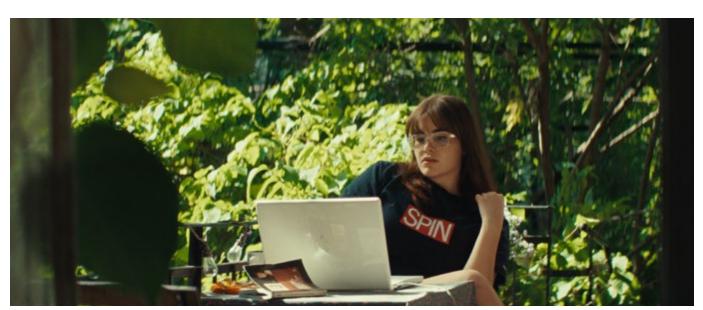
Friday, Sept. 12, 3:00PM - Theatre 4 / Saturday, Sept. 13, 7:45PM - Theatre 4

Kelly Reichardt continues her astonishing run of sombre but seductive character dramas (Meek's Cutoff; Certain Women; First Cow) in The Mastermind, starring Josh O'Connor as an unemployed carpenter and wavering family man who attempts a double life as a professional art thief in sleepy Massachusetts. With a twitchy tension that mirrors the societal anxieties of its early-'70s setting, The Mastermind depicts an American lower middle class in spiritual crisis, and cements Reichardt as one of the finest of all contemporary filmmakers.

Producers: Neil Kopp,

Cast: Josh O'Connor Alana Haim, John Magaro, Amanda Plummer

Country: USA Language: English Runtime: 110 minutes



Mile End Kicks

Saturday, Sept. 13, 1:45PM - Theatre 8 / Tuesday, Sept. 16, 8:00PM - Theatre 3

Chandler Levack's follow-up to her sleeper debut hit I Like Movies follows 24-year-old Grace, an aspiring rock critic who moves to Montreal in the summer of 2011 to write a book about Alanis Morissette's Jagged Little Pill. Grappling with romantic obsession while finding her voice as a writer, Grace falls for two men in the same struggling indie rock band. Based partly on Levack's own experiences as a young rock critic, Mile End Kicks shows the Montreal rock scene in its heyday of scruffy activity.

Director: Chandler Levack Writer: Chandler Levack

Cast: Barbie Ferreira, Jay

Language: English



My Son Came Back to Disappear (Mon fils ne revint que sept jours)

Thursday, Sept. 11, 6:30PM - Theatre 3

Suzanne's life is turned upside down by the return of her middle-aged son, Mathieu, who she hasn't seen in over 15 years. Mathieu wishes to visit the peat bog where they used to go when he was a child. Hesitant at first, she finally agrees, and the two reconnect – if only for a moment. The second narrative feature from Quebec filmmaker Yan Giroux is a startling and evocative meditation on maternal love and the pain of letting a loved one go.

Director: Yan Giroux Writer: Yan Giroux Producers: Yan Giroux,

Louis-Emmanuel Gagné Cast: Marie-France Marcotte, Francis Lahave Country: Canada Language: French Runtime: 80 minutes



Nirvanna the Band the Show the Movie

Friday, Sept. 12, 8:45PM - Theatre 4 / Monday, Sept. 15, 8:30PM - Theatre 8

Matt Johnson's follow-up to his acclaimed BlackBerry (and lead role in last year's Matt and Director: Matt Johnson Mara) is the wildest and funniest ride at this year's festival. Expanding their cult series into a feature film, Johnson and partner Jay McCarrol dunk on late-'00s hipster-era Toronto using wily raccoons, bewildered bystanders, CN Tower stunts, and a time-traveling RV, all in the name of their all-important and Sisyphean quest: to land a gig at the Rivoli.

Writers: Matt Johnson, Jay

Cast: Matt Johnson, Jay



Country: Canada Language: English Runtime: 98 minutes



Nouvelle Vague

Saturday, Sept. 13, 4:30PM - Theatre 8 / Monday, Sept. 15, 6:15PM - Theatre 8

The eclectic Richard Linklater (Dazed and Confused; Before Sunrise) dramatizes the making of a cinematic milestone: Jean-Luc Godard's Breathless. While Godard (Guillaume Marbeck) confounds actors and infuriates investors with his rule-busting approach to the form, Linklater immerses in the intellectual and artistic environs that gave rise to the French New Wave. With a lively period authenticity reinforced by striking black-and-white cinematography - and popons from François Truffaut, Eric Rohmer, Agnès Varda, and Claude Chabrol - Nouvelle Vague shows how seemingly impulsive artistic decisions can reverberate for generations.

Writers: Holly Gent, Vincent Palmo Jr., Michèle Halberstadt, Laetitia

Cast: Zoey Deutch, Guillaume Marbeck, Aubry WORLD

CINEMA A diverse selection of festival favourites and bold filmmaking perspectives

Country: France, USA Language: French, English Runtime: 105 minutes



Peak Everything (Amour Apocalypse)

Sunday, Sept. 14, 4:30PM - Theatre 8 / Tuesday, Sept. 16, 6:00PM - Theatre 4

For Adam, a kennel owner with a myriad of anxieties, a call to the support line of a therapeutic solar lamp supplier leads to an unexpected bond with a woman hundreds of kilometres away that sets both of their lives on a new path. Premiering in Directors' Fortnight at this year's Cannes Film Festival, and anchored by a remarkable, soulful performance by Patrick Hivon, Peak Everything is a delightful odyssey into the yearning for human connection and a spiritual return to nature.

Director: Anne Émond Writer: Anne Émond Cast: Patrick Hivon, Piper Perabo, Gilles Renaud,

Country: Canada

Language: French, English Runtime: 100 minutes



A Poet (Un poeta)

Thursday, Sept. 11, 4:00PM - Theatre 3 / Friday, Sept. 12, 7:30PM - Theatre 3

A darkly funny and refreshingly unconventional satire of the literary world, Simón Mesa Soto's Director: Simón Mesa Soto second feature follows Oscar (Ubeimar Rios), a once-successful poet now struggling for work, estranged from his daughter, and battling alcoholism. While teaching poetry to mostly disinterested high-schoolers, Oscar spots the talents of the precocious Yurlady (Rebeca Manuel Ruiz Montealegre Andrade) and takes it upon himself to coach her toward a prestigious poetry competition. A Cast: Ubeimar Rios, Poet is a scathing indictment of literary careerism and a compassionate study of personal and professional failure.

Rebeca Andrade Guillermo Cardona, Allison Correa

Country: Colombia, many, Sweden Language: Spanish Runtime: 120 minutes



A Private Life (Vie privée)

Thursday, Sept. 11, 6:15PM - Theatre 8 / Tuesday, Sept. 16, 7:45PM - Theatre 8

In this French-language mystery-comedy, renowned psychiatrist Lilian Steiner (Academy Award-winner Jodie Foster) suspects foul play when one of her patients mysteriously disappears. As Lillian mounts her own investigation, A Private Life suspends itself somewhere between mordant comedy and a classic whodunit, featuring supporting roles from celebrated Producer: Frédéric Jouve character actors Mathieu Amalric, Daniel Auteuil, and even a rare cameo from legendary Cast: Jodie Foster, Daniel documentary filmmaker Frederick Wiseman.

Director: Rebecca Zlotowski Writers: Anne Berest. Rebecca Zlotowski, Gaëlle

Auteuil, Virginie Efira, Country: France

Language: French Runtime: 100 minutes



Raptures (Rörelser)

Sunday, Sept. 14, 5:00PM - Theatre 3

In the far north of 1930s Sweden, Rakel, a devout Christian, is thrust into a spiritual dilemma when her husband Teodor forms a sectarian movement - with directions straight from God. As Teodor's eccentricities become more and more dangerous, Rakel tries to keep her stepdaughter safe while weighing the implications of her own beliefs. The first feature ever shot with its main dialogue spoken in the obscure Finnish dialect of Meänkieli, Raptures is a slowburn psychological drama of fanaticism spreading through a community.

Producers: Andreas Cast: Jessica Grabowsky. Jakob Öhrman, Samuli Niittymäki, Hannes

Country: Finland, Sweden Language: Meänkieli, Finnish, Swedish Runtime: 108 minutes





Sentimental Value (Affeksjonsverdi)

Monday, Sept. 15, 7:30PM - Theatre 4

Joachim Trier follows The Worst Person in the World with another acutely-observed dramedy, winner of the Grand Prix at Cannes. After their mother's death, sisters Nora and Agnes reunite with their estranged father, Gustav (Stellan Skarsgård), a once-renowned filmmaker who offers Nora a role in what he hopes will be his comeback film. Both sisters must navigate their own complicated relationships with their father – and deal with an American star (Elle Fanning) dropped in the middle of this fraught dynamic. With evocative cinematography and layered narratives, Sentimental Value is a masterful exploration of familial bonds and artistic legacy.

Director: Joachim Trier Writers: Eskil Vogt, Joachim

Andrea Berentsen Ottmar Cast: Renate Reinsve, Stellan Skarsgård, Inga

Country: Norway, France, Germany, Denmark, Sweden, UK

Language: Norwegian,

Runtime: 135 minutes



Sound of Falling (In die Sonne schauen)

Sunday, Sept. 14, 2:15PM - Theatre 4 / Wednesday, Sept. 17, 5:00PM - Theatre 7

Shifting back and forth over four generations on a north German farmstead, Sound of Falling takes the stone walls, wooden barns, and open fields to uncover the joys, fears, and desires of four young girls who view the possibility of a next generation as tenuous. Winner of the Jury Prize at Cannes, Mascha Schilinski's second feature has the effect of a half-remembered painting, historically meticulous but universal in its depiction of quiet struggle through the ages.

Writers: Louise Peter,

Producers: Burkhard Althoff, Melvina Kotios, Lasse Scharpen, Lucas Schmidt

Cast: Luise Heyer, Lena Urzendowsky, Claudia Geisler-Bading, Hanna

Country: Germany Language: German Runtime: 149 minutes



The Things You Kill

Monday, Sept. 15, 8:00PM - Theatre 7 / Wednesday, Sept. 17, 8:45PM - Theatre 4

Tension boils over in this psychological thriller when Ali (Ekin Koç) learns about the mysterious death of his mother. Rejecting his father's tidy explanation of the case, Ali becomes increasingly suspicious while facing hostility from his resentful siblings, finally enlisting the help of his gardener (the magnetic Erkan Kolçak Köstendil) to investigate. With a shocking turn of events that flips the narrative on its head, The Things You Kill steers its characters into the surreal and sublime.

Producers: Elisa Sepulveda Cast: Ekin Koc, Erkan Kolcak Köstendil, Hazar Ergüçlü, Ercan Kesal

Country: Turkey, France, Poland, Canada Language: Turkish Runtime: 114 minutes

WORLD CINEMA A diverse selection of festival favourites and bold filmmaking perspectives



Steal Away

Saturday, Sept. 13, 12:45PM - Theatre 7 / Monday, Sept. 15, 7:00PM - Theatre 6

Clement Virgo's gothic drama follows Fanny (Angourie Rice of The Bequiled and Mare of Easttown), a young aristocrat whose mother routinely takes in refugee families from around the world. With the arrival of Cécile (the electrifying Mallori Johnson), Fanny strikes up a friendship that grows troubled when Cécile begins dating Rufus (Idrissa Sanogo), and sex and Damon D'Oliveira, Peter De violence threaten to upend the estate. Blending magic and ritual with carnal desire, Steal Away Maegd, Tom Hameeuw, considers the tangled legacies of colonialism, sexuality, nationalism, and reproduction.

Writers: Tamara Berger.

Producers: Jeff Brownell,



Cast: Angourie Rice, Mallori Johnson, Lauren Lee Smith, Idrissa Sanogo Bamba Country: Canada, Belaium Language: English, French,

Lingala Runtime: 113 minutes



Uiksaringitara (Wrong Husband)

Saturday, Sept. 13, 1:30PM - Theatre 5 / Monday, Sept. 15, 4:30PM - Theatre 6

Set in Igloolik, Nunavut in 2000 BCE, Wrong Husband tells the story of Kaujak and Sapa, two young lovers who are torn apart when tragedy and betrayal strike their families. As dark forces and an evil shaman conspire against their passion, Kaujak's unyielding spirit and hope for Sapa's return ignite a timeless tale of love, strength, and destiny.

Director: Zacharias Kunuk Writers: Zacharias Kunuk. Sam Cohn-Cousineau

Producers: Jonathan Franz, Sam Cohn-Cousineau, Carol Kunnuk

Cast: Theresa Kappianaq, Haiden Angutimarik, Leah

Panimera, Mark Taqqaugaq Country: Canada Language: Inuktitut Runtime: 100 minutes



What We Dreamed of Then

Presented by NS Human Rights Commission

Friday, Sept. 12, 5:30PM - Park Lane, Theatre 4

Once a vibrant young father and husband, Gideon (Halifax writer-director Taylor Olson) is Director: Taylor Olson now invisibly houseless, living out of his van and trying to maintain his relationship with his estranged daughter. Told through a non-linear narrative, the drama weaves between past and present, revealing the fragility of hope and the resilience needed to survive in isolation. Award-winning alumni Taylor Olson's third feature is a refreshingly vulnerable portrait of a Burke, Parveen Kaur man trying to hold his family and the fragments of his life together.

Country: Canada Province: Nova Scotia Language: English Runtime: 118 minutes





Agatha's Almanac

On her ancestral farm, fiercely

independent 90-year-old Agatha Bock

moves through a world of her own

making, where heirloom seeds whisper

of seasons past. Without modern tools

- no phone, no internet, no running

water - her quiet and deliberate rituals

defy the coldness and rapid pace of

contemporary life. Winner of the Hot Docs

Best Canadian Feature Documentary

award, director Amalie Atkins crafts a

tender portrait with intimacy and care.

Saturday, Sept. 13, 12:00PM - Theatre 6 Tuesday, Sept. 16, 3:00PM - Theatre 7

The Dating Game

Saturday, Sept. 13, 6:45PM - Theatre 5 Monday, Sept. 15, 9:00PM - Theatre 5

Step inside the challenging world that is Director: Violet Du Feng dating in modern China, where eligible men greatly outnumber women and technology is changing who and how people date. The Dating Game follows three serial bachelors in an intensive seven-day dating camp, led by one of China's most sought-after dating coaches, in what may be their last-ditch effort to find love.

Producers: Violet Du Fena Joanna Natasegara, Mette Cheng Munthe-Kaas, James

Director: Amalie Akins

Producers: Amalie Akins

Writer: Amalie Akins

Country: Canada

Language: English

Runtime: 86 minutes

Country: USA, United Kingdom,



Another Light on the Road: Robert Frank & June Leaf's **Canadian Home**

Monday, Sept. 15, 6:00PM - Theatre 3

Another Light on the Road reflects on the later life of Robert Frank, one of the key photographers of the 20th century, as he settled in Mabou, Cape Breton with his wife, the abstract artist June Leaf. Welcoming friends and neighbors, June reminisces on their lives in Nova Scotia (including Frank's beloved film work with Rudy Wurlitzer) and the ways in which their adopted home shaped their art.

Director: Kathryn Whalen, John

Writer: Kathryn Whalen, John

Producers: Sara Driver Runtime: 78 minutes



The Eyes of Ghana

Saturday, Sept. 13, 2:00PM - Theatre 4

Two-time Oscar-winning documentarian Ben Proudfoot follows The Last Repair Shop with the immersive and deeply moving story of Kwame Nkrumah, a political theorist and leader who became Ghana's first president. Before his fall in a CIA-backed coup d'état in 1966, Nkrumah's galvanizing rhetoric and personal life was captured in a small library of previously-unseen footage by his personal cinematographer, Chris Hesse, who unveils this footage in an electrifying portrait of political conviction.

Director: Ben Proudfoot Producers: Nana Adwoa Frimpong, Ben Proudfoot, Anita Afonu, Moses Bwayo, Brandon Somerhalder, Ethan Lewis,

Country: United States, Ghana,

Language: English, Twi, Ga





Folktales

Sunday, Sept. 14, 4:15PM - Theatre 5 Tuesday, Sept. 16, 6:30PM – Theatre 6

On a gap year at an alternative high Director: Heidi Ewing, Rachel school in Norway, three teenagers learn doa mushina and outdoor survival skills. growing into the land and into their country: USA, Norway deeper selves. The bonds between the Language: English, Norwegian students - and particularly between them and the Arctic dogs along for the adventure - inspires an effect of healing and a re-building of community and confidence in a harried world.

Producers: Heidi Ewing, Rachel

Runtime: 106 minutes



Ghosts of the Sea

(Les enfants du large)

Sunday, Sept. 14, 5:15PM - Theatre 6 Tuesday, Sept. 16, 4:30PM - Theatre 5

Virginia Tangvald's quest to uncover the truth about her brother's disappearance at sea transforms into a haunting journey through her family's turbulent past. As Frédéric Corvez, Maéva she dives into the enigmatic life of her father, renowned sailor Peter Tangvald, hidden histories and long-buried secrets rise like ghosts from the deep.

Director: Virginia Tanavald Producers: Isabelle Couture. Élaine Hébert, Nathalie Cloutier,

Country: Canada, France Language: English, French Runtime: 97 minutes





Lilith Fair: Building a Mystery Sunday, Sept.14, 2:00PM - Theatre 8

Tuesday, Sept. 16, 3:15PM - Theatre 4

Drawing on over 600 hours of never-beforeseen footage, Lilith Fair. Building a Mystery chronicles the rise of the trailblazing allfemale music festival - helmed by Halifax's own Sarah McLachlan - which gave rise to Fiona Apple, Erykah Badu, and Sheryl Crow. Directed by Ally Pankiw (I Used to Be Funny) and featuring interviews with Lilith Fair alumni (Bonnie Raitt; Emmylou Harris; Jewel) as well as younger artists inspired by the festival (Olivia Rodrigo; Brandi Carlile), this doc is an infectious time capsule and a rousing story of collective female empowerment.

Director: Ally Pankiw Producers: Dan Levy, Christina

Friday, Sept. 12, 4:45PM - Theatre 6 Sunday, Sept. 14, 10:45AM – Theatre 5

time filmmaker Kani Lapuerta follows Karla from late childhood into her teenage years, as she grapples with the complexities, joys, and uncertainties of coming-of-age as a transgender person.

space to tell her story.

Niñxs

In a small provincial Mexican town, first-

Bañuelos, Rocío Aranda, Ólive Country: Mexico, Germany

The result is a charming, personal, and Language: Spanish Runtime: 86 minutes collaborative portrait that gives Karla the

Director: Kani Lapuerta

Writer: Kani Lapuerta

Cast: Karla Bañuelos Assur



John Candy: I Like Me

Tuesday, Sept. 16, 5:45PM - Theatre 8 Wednesday, Sept. 17, 4:00PM - Theatre 8

From his early days on Second City Director: Colin Hanks Television through beloved films like Planes, Trains, and Automobiles and Spaceballs, John Candy established himself as one of the liveliest, most raucous, and most sensitive comic performers of the 1980s. A passion project of director Colin Hanks, John Candy: I Like Me explores the troubled but ultimately life-affirming legacy of one of the great screen comedians.

Producer: Colin Hanks Sean Stuart, Glen Zipper, Ryan Reynolds, George Dewey, Johnny Pariseau, Shane Reid

Runtime: 113 minutes

Life After

Saturday, Sept. 13, 11:00AM - Theatre 5 Wednesday, Sept. 17, 4:30PM - Theatre 3

A bold, confrontational documentary that reframes dominant narratives around assisted suicide and people with disabilities. In this powerful call for justice and self-determination, director Reid Davenport (I Didn't See You There) traces cases like Elizabeth Bouvia's to reveal how capitalism, neglect, and systemic failure often shape what society presents as an ostensibly individual choice.

Producer: Colleen Cassingham

other players to build something that has never existed: a professional women's soccer league in Canada. Their journey Language: English becomes a modern David and Goliath story as they take on institutional power, doubt, and inertia. Directed by awardwinning documentary filmmaker Michèle Hozer, The Pitch offers rare access to this fight to change the game: a universal story of resilience and rewriting the rules.



Monday, Sept. 15, 5:30PM - Theatre 7 Tuesday, Sept. 16, 5:15PM - Theatre 3

When Olympic soccer star Diana Director: Michèle Hozer Matheson retires, she sets out alongside

The Pitch



Writer: Michèle Hozer



Shari & Lamb Chop

Saturday, Sept. 13, 11:30AM - Theatre 4 Wednesday, Sept. 17, 3:30PM - Theatre 6

Before Mister Rogers or Sesame Street, there was Shari Lewis: a ventriloquist, educator, and one-woman showbiz revolution. From Love, Gilda director Lisa D'Apolito, Shari & Lamb Chop is a charming tribute to an uncompromising talent whose genius, grit, and beloved puppets shaped generations. The film illuminates a feminist legacy that's often overlooked but, like Lewis's most famous song, one that doesn't end.

Writer: Lisa D'Apolito Cassidy Hartmann, Andrea Lewis

Producers: Cassidy Hartmann. Lisa D'Apolito, Douglas Warner, Nicholas Ferrall, Morris Ruskin

Language: English Runtime: 92 minutes

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Videoheaven

CUMENTAR

Thursday, Sept. 11, 3:15PM – Theatre 7 Saturday, Sept. 13, 10:30AM – Theatre 8

Fresh off the success of his unorthodox Director: Alex Ross Perry hybrid doc Pavements, Alex Ross Perry delivers Videoheaven – a hypnotic, three-hour love letter to video rental stores (RIP). Cycling through decades Country: USA of film and TV clips with wry narration Language: English courtesy of Maya Hawke, Videoheaven operates simultaneously as a nostalgiafueled video essay, cinematic séance, and elegy for a lost paradise of movie obsession.

Writer: Alex Ross Perry

Producers: Andrew Adair, Jake



Yanuni

Friday, Sept. 12, 6:15PM - Theatre 8 Sunday, Sept. 14, 11:00AM - Theatre 8

In this breathtaking documentary, Juma Director: Richard Ladkani Xipaia, the first woman elected chief in Brazil's Middle Xinau, emerges from her community to the frontlines of climate justice. As her husband leads raids on Davisson, Phillip Watson attempts, motherhood, and bureaucracy. Produced by Leonardo DiCaprio, Yanuni Language: Portuguese blends everyday intimacy with high- Runtime: 112 minutes stakes drama in an urgent story of love, power, and Indigenous-led defiance.

Writer: Richard Ladkani Producers: Anita Ladkani, Leonardo DiCaprio, Jennifer Country: Australia, Brazil, United States, Canada, Germany



Blue Heron

Thursday, Sept. 11, 5:30PM - Theatre 6 Friday, Sept. 12, 2:30PM - Theatre 7

A Hungarian family's fresh start on Vancouver Island is disrupted by the growing volatility of their eldest son in Sophy Romvari's stunning debut feature, which follows closely on a Criterion Channel retrospective of her acclaimed **Country:** Canada, Hungary shorts. Framed through the youngest child's eyes, this quietly radical comingof-age drama explores fragmented memory and familial complexity with raw intimacy, compassion, and remarkable emotional precision.

Director: Sophy Romvari Writer: Sophy Romvari Producers: Daisuke Kadoya, Cast: Eylul Guven, Iringó Réti, Ádám Tompa, Edik Beddoes Language: English, Hungarian Runtime: 90 minutes



DJ Ahmet

Saturday, Sept. 13, 4:00PM - Theatre 7 Tuesday, Sept. 16, 3:30PM - Theatre 6

A Yuruk teenager from a remote **Director:** Georgi M. Unkovski Macedonian village pursues his DJ dreams amid parental expectations, societal conservatism, and forbidden love. Winner of both the Special Jury Award for Creative Vision and the World Cinema Dramatic Audience Award at this year's Sundance Film Festival, writerdirector Georgi M. Unkovski's coming-of- Macedonian, English age drama is an endearing ode to the Runtime: 99 minutes power of music.

Writer: Georgi M. Unkovski Producers: Ivan Unkovski Ivana Shekutkoska

Cast: Arif Jakup, Agush Agushev, Dora Akan Zlatanova, Aksel Mehmet

Country: North Macedonia, Czech Republic, Serbia, Croatia Language: Turkish,





Follies (Folichonneries)

Saturday, Sept. 13, 9:00PM - Theatre 7 Wednesday, Sept. 17, 8:15PM - Theatre 7

After sixteen years and two kids, and no longer able to connect intimately, François and Julie decide to open up their relationship. Over the course of several months, they explore different Cast: Éric K. Boulianne, types of relationships and witness the repercussions on their love. Éric K. Boulianne's feature directorial debut Language: French, English delivers some of the biggest laughs - Runtime: 101 minutes and the biggest heart - at this year's festival.

Director: Éric K. Boulianne Writers: Alexandre Auger, Éric K. Roulianne

Producers: Laurie Pominville, Hany Ouichou, Éric K. Boulianne Catherine Chabot, Florence Blain Mbaye, Étienne Galloy Country: Canada



For Worse

Thursday, Sept. 11, 4:30PM - Theatre 4 Sunday, Sept. 14, 8:15PM - Theatre 4

Lauren, a newly divorced and sober mom, feels like she has a new lease on life after joining her first acting class and starting a fling with her hot young scene partner. However, when they attend their Gen Z classmate's wedding together, things begin to fall apart, and Lauren finds herself behaving like a drunk 25-year- Language: English old bridesmaid. After a disastrous night, she stumbles into a new day and a new beginning.

Director: Amy Landecker Writers: Amy Landecker

Producers: Bradley Whitford, Amy Landecker, Valerie Stadler, Jenica Bergere, James

Cast: Amy Landecker, Bradley Whitford, Nico Hiraga, Missi Pyle Country: USA

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Runtime: 90 minutes



Lucky Lu

Monday, Sept. 15, 8:15PM – Theatre 3 Wednesday, Sept. 17, 7:15PM - Theatre 3

A New York City delivery driver, whose Director: Lloyd Lee Choi long-separated family is arriving imminently, races against time and the city's indifference to recover what he's Bongiovi lost after his bike is stolen. Premiering in Directors' Fortnight at this year's Cannes Film Festival, Brooklyn-based Korean-Canadian filmmaker Lloyd Lee Choi's arresting feature debut is a heartbreaking, expertly-crafted, intensely kinetic story of sacrifice, resilience, and tenacity.

Producers: Tony Yang, Destin Daniel Cretton, Nina Yana

Cast: Chang Chen, Fala Chen, Carabelle Manna Wei Runtime: 103 minutes



Mad Bills to Pay

(or Destiny, dile que no soy malo)

Thursday, Sept. 11, 8:00PM - Theatre 6 Saturday, Sept. 13, 7:30PM - Theatre 3

Winner of a Sundance Special Jury **Director:** Joel Alfonso Vargas Award for Ensemble Cast, Mad Bills to Pay is a vibrant vérité-style Bronx drama thrumming with lived-in authenticity. Spotlighting first-time actors, it follows Rico, a teen slinging boozy beach "nutcrackers," as he stumbles into unexpected fatherhood amid the charming chaos of his Dominican American home. Raw, nonjudgmental storytelling, steeped in community pride.

Writer: Joel Alfonso Vargas Producers: Paolo Maria Pedullà

Cast: Juan Collado, Destiny Checho, Yohanna Florentino, Nathaly Navarro Language: English, Spanish



My Father's Shadow

Friday, Sept. 12, 5:15PM - Theatre 7 Sunday, Sept. 14, 3:30PM - Theatre 7

Nigeria's first-ever Cannes selection Director: Akinola Davies Jr. and winner of a Caméra d'Or Special Mention, My Father's Shadow is a tender, dreamlike odyssey told through Funmbi Ogunbanwo a child's perspective. As two brothers Cast: Sope Dirisu, Godwin travel with their distant father while political unrest looms, Akinola Davies Jr.'s debut becomes a vibrant ode to Language: English Lagos: immersive, emotionally rich, and Runtime: 94 minutes alive with striking 16mm visuals and a resonant score.

Writers: Akinola Davies Jr. Wale

Country: UK, Nigeria



Pinch

Friday, Sept. 12, 7:15PM - Theatre 6 Sunday, Sept. 14, 8:00PM - Theatre 6

Aspiring travel influencer Maitri retaliates Director: Uttera Singh after her landlord gropes her on a bus, igniting a community scandal that quickly spirals out of control. With sharp Faissal Sam Shaib, Jenna wit, writer-director-star Uttera Singh delivers a dark comedy full of bite, verve, and opinionated aunties. It's a cheeky, Cast: Uttera Singh, Geeta refreshing debut that tackles assault Agrawal, Sunita Rajwar, Sapna with nuance and marks Singh as a unique voice in Indian cinema.

Writers: Uttera Singh Adam

Producers: Jan Bejouska, Cavelle, Anirudh Sinah, Akanksha Jain, Pranav Soni,

Country: India

Language: Hindi Runtime: 83 minutes



Sleepless City (Ciudad sin sueño)

Saturday, Sept. 13, 8:00PM - Theatre 6 Monday, Sept. 15, 3:00PM - Theatre 7

Guillermo Galoe's debut feature, a Critics' Director: Guillermo Galoe Week selection at Cannes, is a visually sumptuous portrait of life in Madrid's Roma shantytown, La Cañada Real. Featuring nonprofessional actors playing Cast: Antonio Fernández themselves, the film follows 13-yearold Toni as his world teeters between connection and displacement. Sleepless Language: Spanish City is a richly textured meditation on Runtime: 97 minutes place, identity, and what's lost in the name of progress.

Writers: Guillermo Galoe, Víctor Producers: Justin Pechberty,

Gabarre, Bilal Sedraoui, Jesús Fernández Silva, Luis Bertolo Country: Spain, France



A Useful Ghost (Pee Chai Dai Ka)

Thursday, Sept. 11, 8:30PM - Theatre 5 Wednesday, Sept. 17, 5:45PM - Theatre 4

The first Thai film to win the Grand Prix at Cannes Critics' Week, A Useful Ghost is a hilarious, tender, and defiantly queer magical realist gem from breakout director Ratchapoom Boonbunchachoke. When a widower falls for his dead wife - now reincarnated as a Himmarat, Apasiri Nitibhon vacuum (why not?) - it sparks a wild tale **country:** Thailand of grief, marginalization, and class war. Language: Thai Brilliant, bonkers, and unlike anything you've seen.

Writer: Ratchapoom Paosrijaroen, Soros Sukhum, Cast: Davika Hoorne, Witsarut Runtime: 130 minutes



Vermilion

Sunday, Sept. 14, 1:30PM - Theatre 5

Two women spark an unexpected romance and set off for a summer of van life, chasing freedom, intimacy, and the quiet ache of knowing it can't last. Canadian-Ukrainian filmmaker Cast: Lyndie Greenwood, Amy Amy Trefry's narrative feature debut is a gentle, introspective, ardent road romance across the majesty of British Columbia's countryside, and an inspiring testament to microbudget filmmaking and the magic of collaboration.

Director: Amy Trefry Writers: Amy Trefry, Lyndie Producers: Katerina Bakolias,

Trefry, Katarina Bakolias

Lanauaae: Enalish



LATE

NIGHT

VISIONS



Honey Bunch

Thursday, Sept. 11, 9:30PM - Theatre 7 / Wednesday, Sept. 17, 8:30PM - Theatre 6

When Diana (Grace Glowicki) suffers an accident that leaves her with significant memory loss, her husband Homer (Ben Petrie) takes her to a remote experimental medical facility. As hallucinations set in, Diana begins to suspect something nefarious. With a distinctly 1970s aesthetic, Honey Bunch collides science fiction and body horror for a dreamlike fable on the limits of memory, trust, and love at the threshold of madness.

Directors: Dusty Mancinelli, Writers: Madeleine Sims-

Fewer, Dusty Mancinelli Producers: Becky Yeboah, Madeleine Sims-Fewer,

Cast: Grace Glowicki, Ben Petrie, Jason Isaacs, India

Country: Canada Language: English, French **Runtime:** 113 minutes



If I Had Legs I'd Kick You

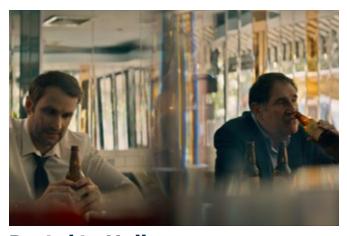
Saturday, Sept. 13, 9:15PM - Theatre 5 Tuesday, Sept. 16, 9:30PM - Theatre 5

Rose Byrne (Insidious; Bridesmaids) delivers Director: Mary Bronstein a career-best performance as Linda, a psychiatrist whose professionalism is severely tested by the chaos that envelops Safdie, Eli Bush, Conor Hannon, her family life. Finding little solace in a Richie Doyle disgruntled therapist (Conan O'Brien) or a drug-loving convenience store clerk (A\$AP Rocky), her behaviour grows increasingly **Country:** USA reckless - punctured by moments of dark Language: English comedy and drug-induced fantasy before boiling into a thrilling climax.

Producers: Sara Murphy, Ryan

Cast: Rose Byrne, Conan

Runtime: 113 minutes



Portal to Hell

Friday, Sept. 12, 9:30PM - Theatre 5 Sunday, Sept. 14, 9:15PM - Theatre 7

When the titular portal opens in, of all places, his local laundromat's dryer, Dunn (Trey Holland) and the laundromat manager (Romina D'Ugo) contend with the dryer's insatiable appetite for human flesh - and a demon named Chip (the hilarious Richard Kind). All well and good – until Dunn's neighbour (the legendary Keith David, a John Carpenter favourite) is placed on the infernal maw's hitlist.

Producers: Trey Holland, Lucas Cast: Trey Holland, Romina D'Ugo, Keith David, Richard Kind,

Language: English Runtime: 93 minutes

Shorts Programme 1

Thursday, Sept. 11, 6:00PM - Park Lane, Theatre 5



Debaters

Anubhav is terrified of speaking in his first debate tournament, but when a bitter judge puts him on the spot, he must prove himself in front of a bloodthirsty chamber of debaters.

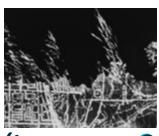
Director: Alex Helle Country: USA Runtime: 10 minutes Language: English



Paradaïz

Welcome to a place where the houses have holes, tomatoes are ticking time bombs, and snails wander the streets in search of a safe space. Paradaïz uses absurdist animation, archival images, and slippery childhood memories to explore the real meaning of home.

Director: Matea Radic Country: Canada Province: Ouebec Runtime: 9 minutes



(for once I dreamed of you

As night falls over the fields, a woman looks into unknown areas: the space after a poem; the distance between map and territory; the darkness between film frames. Shot on 16mm and then re-photographed with flashlight contact-printing, this short turns a pastoral nocturne inside out.

Director: Kate Solar Country: Canada Province: Nova Scotia Runtime: 6 minutes Language: English



Astro

Emily just started working as a telephone psychic for a morally ambiguous spiritual call center. In a series of conversations with callers from varying walks of life, she discovers that perhaps there is something spiritual inside or around her.

Director: Tim Ewalts Country: Netherlands Runtime: 17 minutes Language: Dutch



Disco Fever

In this short from Halifax comic filmmaker Kevin Hartford, Cal makes a drunken pit stop at a greasy diner for some latenight eats, only to find himself witnessing what appears to be a dance-fueled zombie attack.

Director: Kevin Hartford Country: Canada Province: Nova Scotic Runtime: 6 minutes Language: English



Power

Flirting leads to something far more sinister in this short film, based on real events.

Director: Jordan Canning Country: Canada Province: Ontario Language: English



Pidikwe (Rumble)

Integrating traditional and contemporary dance from Indigenous women of various generations, Pidikwe is an audiovisual whirlwind that straddles the border between film and performance, between past and future.

Director: Caroline Monnet Country: Canada **Runtime**: 10 minutes



Oh Yeah!

Immortalized in Ferris Bueller's Day Off, "Oh Yeah" remains one of the most recognizable and enduringly odd songs of the '80s. This doc explores the Swiss duo behind it, Yello, and their surrounding avant-garde music and videos of nearly 50 years.

Director: Nick Canfield Country: United States, Switzerland, Great Britain

Runtime: 17 minutes Language: English

SHORTS Short films, big talent. See the best and brightest in new short-form storytelling

Shorts Programme 2

Friday, Sept. 12, 6:00PM – Park Lane, Theatre 5



The Loon (Le huard)

When Dodo finds out that her best friend Clara has a crush, she struggles to accept their new dynamic. Orchestrating destructive situations to avoid being left behind, she threatens to spoil their idyllic lakeside holiday.

Director: Paula Bourgie Country: Canada Province: Quebec Runtime: 19 minutes Lanauage: French



Hypersensitive (Hypersensible)

Rich in symbolism inspired by plant life and by filmmaker Martine Frossard's own childhood memories Hypersensitive turbulent and surreal journey of a young woman struggling to understand her own singular take on the

Director: Martine Frossard Country: Canada Province: Ouebec Runtime: 7 minutes



Elvira

In a sleepy seaside community, a woman obsessed with mystery novels becomes convinced that her chicken can solve crimes. Miss Marple meets Doctor Doolittle, Elvira is a strange, dark, and comedic ride; feathers are going to be ruffled.

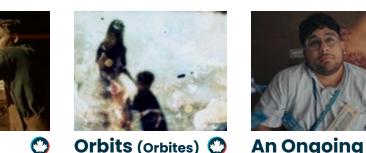
Director: Sarah Segal-Lazar Country: Canada Province: PEI Runtime: 10 minutes Language: English



Ramón Who Speaks to **Ghosts**

After a volcanic eruption, Ramón walks the island of La Palma with his microphone, looking for

Director: Shervin Kerman Country: Spain Canada Mexico Language: Spanish



Eel

In this short thriller, a young man turns to illegal eel fishing to support his family.

Director: Wayne Burns Country: Canada Province: Nova Scotia, Ontario Language: English

Orbits (Orbites)

Marie-Christine, who lost her sight some years ago, explores life through her fingertips. Drawing from highly textured analogue images and a rich tapestry of sound, Orbits journeys into the sensorial depths of Marie-Christine's memory, pondering the essence of love and legacy.

Director: Sarah Seené Country: Canada Province: Ouebec Runtime: 23 minutes Language: French



List of Things Found in the **Library Book Drop, Usually Being Used as**

Bookmarks In the quiet lull of a suburban library, library worker Daniel catalogs a strange assortment of forgotten objects left in returned books - and daydreams of the stories they tell.

Director: Kayla Abuda Galana Country: USA Runtime: 4 minutes Language: English



And, Scene

A determined co-captain must live up to her older sister's legacy by leading her team to victory at the Regional Improv Games.

Director: Brianna Russell Country: Canada Province: Ontario, Newfoundland Language: English



No Matter the Weather (Beau temps, mauvais temps)

When Renée, 83, breaks her granddaughter Florence steps into the role of caregiver. Their relationship becomes closer than ever before, but inevitably confronts both of them with the reality of Renée's decline.

Director: Florence Lafond Country: Canada Province: Quebec Runtime: 14 minutes Language: French



Dish Pit

Shorts Programme 3

Saturday, Sept. 13, 4:15PM - Park Lane, Theatre 5

A former cook turned reclusive dishwasher decides to cook a meal after hours. Just as he settles in for what he thinks will be a solitary experience, he realizes that he's not alone.

Director: Anna Hopkins Country: Canada Province: Ontario **Runtime: 14** minutes Language: English



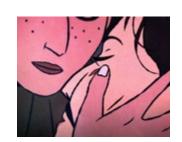
Promise in the Ground

Kevin Graham knows the hard work that's necessary for a farm to bear fruit. After a particularly difficult year, the 76-year-old owner of Oakview Farm finds the resilience to push forward in the face of the harsh realities of age

Directors: Linus Mulherin, Ally Bowes, Ariel Mackenzie Country: Canada Province: Nova Scotia

Runtime 8 minutes Language: English

and time.



Scars We Love (Les belles cicatrices)

Gaspard is still very much in love with Leïla. Meeting in a crowded bar a month after she left him, their conversation goes awry and Gaspard seeks refuge under the tablecloth, away from prying eyes and closer to his memories.

Director: Raphaël Jouzeau Country: France Runtime: 15 minutes Language: French



Sweetie

Tensions rise as a young girl (Polly Gallant-MacLean) creeps through the stillness and shadows of her home. Certain that she has discovered a monster under her bed, she seeks her father's help.

Director: Taylor Olson Country: Canada Province: Nova Scotia Runtime: 3 minutes Language: English



Beneath Which Rivers Flow

In the marshlands of southern Iraq, Ibrahim and his family live isolated from the rest of the world, with the quiet and withdrawn Ibrahim finding solace only in his buffalo. One morning, Ibrahim senses an ominous shift in the land.

Director: Ali Yahya Country: Iraq Runtime: 16 minutes Lanauaae:



Retirement Plan

Apathetic with his life, Ray (Domhnall Gleeson) dreams of the beauty and joy he hopes to find in retirement.

Director: John Kelly Country: Ireland Runtime: 7 minutes Language: English



Zari

As she prepares for her sister's wedding in India, young American Neelu forges an unexpected connection with Zeyb, a quiet sari store clerk who moonlights as an internet drag queen.

Director: Shruti Parekh Country: USA India Runtime: 19 minutes Language: English, Hindi

Shorts Programme 4

Monday, Sept. 15, 6:30PM - Park Lane, Theatre 5



SHORTS

Short films, big talent. See the best and

brightest in new short-form storytelling

Ordinary Life (Futsu no seikatsu)

Delicate moments of daily life unfold in soft hues. Subtle movements, gentle touches, and fleeting breaths intertwine, creating a sensual tapestry of ordinary experiences that float and dissolve in a pastel-coloured world.

Director: Yoriko Mizushiri **Country:** France, Japan **Runtime:** 10 minutes



Mourning Rituals

A young woman sees her deceased friend in the faces of strangers, remembering moments of their shared past through fragmented vignettes. Haunted by these memories, she faces the lonely reality of an unresolved grief that continues to shape her world.

Director: Annaka Gale Country: Canada Province: Nova Scotia Runtime: 9 minutes Language: English



The Spin Disturber (L'empêcheuse de tourner en rond)

On Prince Edward Island, vinyl is making a comeback as an act of resistance in the digital age. Blending nostalgia and authenticity, this cinematic essay explores the beauty of the tangible and the magic of etched sound.

Director: Helene Lebon Country: Canada Province: PEI Runtime: 10 minutes Language: French



She Raised Me 😷

When a struggling writer discovers he's dating the son of his favourite actress, he'll do anything to make (and keep) a meaningful connection.

Director: Ben Lewis Country: USA, Canada Runtime: 14 minutes Language: English



A Bear Remembers

A mysterious metallic sound haunts a rural village from the hills, leading a lonely boy and an elderly woman on a journey to uncover its source.

Director: Zhang + Knight **Country:** United Kingdom **Runtime:** 20 minutes **Language:** English



More Than Happy

Shorts Programme 5

Tuesday, Sept. 16, 7:00PM - Park Lane, Theatre 5

In a queer utopia, two couples sit in conversation at a restaurant, waiting for service that will never arrive. As hunger grows, they talk about time and happiness. One dreams of a mother's blessing, another of ghosts in the past.

Director: Wei Keong Tan Country: Singapore Runtime: 7 minutes Language: English



Anita Louise and the Wild Women

Anita Louise Martinez devoted 50 years of her life to photographing Nova Scotia's queer and trans communities. This doc explores Martinez's legacy, particularly in relation to the Wild Women Don't Get the Blues lesbian camping weekends that she captured in

Director: Arena Alamino Country: Canada Province: Nova Scotia Runtime: 12 minutes Language: English

the 1980s and 1990s.



Brenda and Baxter

Canadian comedy darling Aurora Browne (Baroness Von Sketch) stars in this comedic love story about a woman named Brenda and her adoring dog Baxter. Life seems to be hunky dory for the happy pair, until Brenda's unresolved issues bring about an unexpected turn.

Director: Leah Johnston Country: Canada Province: Nova Scotia Runtime: 7 minutes Language: English



Oliver

When a rising star chef known for his use of garlic is bitten by a vampire, he must reinvent himself in time for the most important review of his career.

Director: Andrew Strickland
Country: Canada
Province: Newfoundland & Labrador
Runtime: 13 minutes
Language: English



Feed

Struggling to breastfeed her newborn, a new mother finds comfort in a soothing nipple cream given to her by an older woman. But when the old woman reveals the secret recipe, the young mother is horrified at the cost of comfort.

Director: Nancy Urich Country: Canada Province: Nova Scotia Runtime: 6 minutes Language: English



Year of the Dragon

A devoted immigrant mother sets out to deliver a cake for her son's birthday, but as the day unravels, she is forced to confront the reality of her son's situation.

Director: Giran Findlay Liu
Country: Canada
Province: Ontario
Runtime: 12 minutes
Language: English, Mandarin



La Mayordom 😂

In Xochimilco, a borough of Mexico City, families take turns caring for Baby Jesus icons at home in one-year terms. Such stewardship is believed to bring miracles and good fortune, prompting decades-long waits for the opportunity.

Director: Martin Edralin Country: Canada Province: Ontario Runtime: 23 minutes Language: Spanish



Le tour de Canada

This rowdy live-action/animation hybrid follows two buffoonish cyclists who face off in a bizarre and harrowing trans-Canadian bike race. Equal parts love letter and satire, *Le tour de Canada* is a wild ride through national myth, identity, and the theatre of sport.

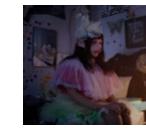
Director: John Hollands
Country: Canada
Province: British Columbia
Runtime: 5 minutes
Language: English



Bread Will Walk

A devoted sister races to save her brother, who begins zombifying after eating a loaf of government-rationed bread. A hungry mob pursues, mouths agape, as streets twist into mazes and reason crumbles. Can love defy appetite?

Director: Alex Boya Country: Canada Language: Quebec Runtime: 11 minutes Language: English



Rat + Cammie 😂 = Forever

Cammie is a security webcam who dreams of becoming a live-streamer. Rat is a lonely rodent-girl who spends her days isolated in her room. Meeting on a digital self-help app and united by unrealized aspirations, their latenight conversations develop into a profound connection.

Director: Marissa Sean Cruz Country: Canada Province: Nova Scotia Runtime: 12 minutes Language: English



Susana

Susan, a middle-aged American tourist, finds herself alone in Mexico City. When she encounters a group of young Americans, she jumps at the opportunity for a little adventure, discovering just how powerful her dollars can make her.

Director: Amandine Thomas, Gerardo Coello Escalante

Country: Mexico, USA
Runtime: 15 minutes
Language: English, Spanish



Anne of Green Gables

Sunday, Sept. 14, 1:00PM - Theatre 6

Now 40 years since its premiere, the **Director:** Kevin Sullivan most treasured screen adaptation of Lucy Maude Montgomery's classic of Atlantic Canadian literature returns to Kevin Sullivan the big screen. Megan Follows stars as Cast: Megan Follows, Colleen Anne Shirley, a spirited orphan whose arrival transforms life in Avonlea. Starring renowned theatrical actress Colleen Dewhurst and an unforgettable role for **Runtime:** 200 minutes + 10 the beloved character actor Richard Farnsworth (as Mr. Hammond) this Emmy-winning miniseries continues to charm and captivate audiences of all



Writer: Kevin Sullivan, Joe Producers: Ian McDouaall.

Dewhurst, Richard Farnsworth,

Province: Prince Edward Island



Closet Monster

Saturday, Sept. 13, 5:15PM – Theatre 6

A visually daring and emotionally raw Director: Stephen Dunn debut, Closet Monster returns for its 10-year anniversary. Oscar's tale of internalized fear, embodied aa sizzling performance by Connor Jessup, fuses body-horror metaphor, dry Newfoundland wit, and uncanny fantasy, complete with Isabella Rossellini's voice as the wisecracking hamster Buffy. An AIFF favourite, and winner of Best Canadian Feature at TIFF in 2015, Closet Monster blends gutting trauma with dark whimsy and stylish visuals, and remains a standout among queer coming-of-age stories.



Producers: Edward J. Martin. Fraser Ash Kevin Krikst Cast: Connor Jessup, Aaron

Country: Canada Province: Newfoundland &



Parsley Days

Saturday, Sept. 13, 2:45PM – Theatre 6

Now marking its 25th anniversary, **Director:** Andrea Dorfman Parsley Days stands as a bold, witty, and deeply local gem that blends magical realism with intimate storytelling and Halifax's artsy spirit. At its heart is Kate, a Shannon Cunningham bike mechanic navigating an unplanned Country: Canada pregnancy and the quiet unraveling Province: Nova Scotia of a long-term relationship. Andrea Dorfman's debut remains a milestone of Canadian indie cinema, inviting viewers to revisit and celebrate her daring, singular voice.

Producers: Andrea Dorfman Cast: Megan Dunlop, Michael Leblanc, Marcia Connolly,

Runtime: 75 minutes



Shadow Men (Nos Hommes dans L'Ouest)

Tuesday, Sept. 16, 5:30PM - Theatre 7

Directed by acclaimed New Brunswick Director: Renée Blanchar filmmaker Renée Blanchar, this poignant documentary, winner of the Best Atlantic Documentary and Best Cinematography Country: Canada awards at AIFF 2018, explores the human cost **Province:** New Brunswick of economic migration. Centered on Acadian Runtime: 80 minutes families split by work in Fort McMurray, Shadow Men explores exile, life choices, ecology, and our consumer society. With striking visuals and intimate access, the film reveals what's lost when livelihood demands distance away from home.

Producers: Marvse

ATLANTIC FEATURES JURY



Ann Bernier



Steve Gravestock



Siljá Somby

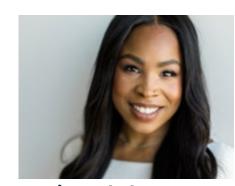
ATLANTIC SHORTS JURY



Inga Diev



Lindsay Blair Goeldner



Martina Kelades

AIFF Filmmaker Lab

Presented by RBC Foundation and Warner Brothers Discovery Access

The AIFF Filmmaker Lab is an incubator program designed to help emerging filmmakers as they bring their short films to the festival circuit. Through a combination of workshops, industry panels and one-on-one meetings, the AIFF Filmmaker Lab inspires, educates and connects filmmakers as they move forward on their artistic journeys.



EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

NFB / Telefilm Open House

5475 Spring Garden Rd, Suite 201 Wednesday, Sept. 10, 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

If you work or are interested in the film industry, we'd love to meet you. Light refreshments will be served.

Free and open to all

CMPA Welcome Reception

Lord Nelson Hotel, Georgian & Admiral Rooms Wednesday, Sept. 10, 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Kick off the festival at this lively gathering of delegates, VIPs, filmmakers, sponsors, and special guests.

Available to Passholders, Invited Guests

Opening Night Gala Celebration

Stardust Bar + Kitchen, 1688 Barrington St. Wednesday, Sept. 10, 9:00 PM - 12:00 AM

The first night of the Festival means it's time to celebrate and mingle with filmmakers, industry folks and audience members!

\$15, or free for Passholders and Opening Night Screening ticket holders 19+

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

NFB Next Generation Meet-Up

NFB Office, 5475 Spring Garden Road - Thursday, Sept. 11, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Join us at a National Film Board next generation meet-up for directors 30 and under. Learn about a new, upcoming initiative and other opportunities to collaborate with us!

Please RSVP to b.tierney@nfb.ca

WIFT-AT Mussel Bar Happy Hour

902 Post, 5475 Spring Garden Road Thursday, Sept. 11, 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Join us for WIFT-AT's annual Mussel bar reception. Raise a glass, indulge in delicious mussels and enjoy networking during AIFF!

WIFT-AT Members and Passholders only



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Post Production: Beyond the Edit, Presented by PurpleDog Post Production

Cineplex Cinemas Park Lane, Cinema 3 Friday, Sept. 12, 9:00 AM - 9:45 AM

From dailies to final deliverables, attendees will gain an insider's view into what really happens after picture lock.

Free and open to all

Northern Lights: A Co-Production Dialogue

Cineplex Cinemas Park Lane, Cinema 3 Friday, Sept. 12, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Join Solveig Ræstad (President, Nordic Film Commissions), Julie Blondin (Directrice Nationale, Relations d'affaires & Coproductions – National Director, Business affairs & Coproductions

Telefilm) and Laura Churchill (Chief Executive Officer & Film Commissioner at PictureNL) for an insightful conversation exploring international co-production opportunities between Canada and the Nordic region. Get practical advice on navigating partnerships, funding structures, and cultural collaboration.

Free and open to all

Echoes from the Land: Sámi & Indigenous Stories On Screen

Cineplex Cinemas Park Lane, Cinema 3 Friday, Sept. 12, 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

This dynamic panel brings together: Melanie Hadley (VP, Industry, Partnership & Growth, Indigenous Screen Office), Silja Somby (Writer, Director, International Sámi Film Institute), Lisa-Marie Kristensen (Producer, Forest People), and Kati Eriksen (Producer, Home River Media) for a conversation on storytelling, sovereignty, and screen representation. Moderated by Stephanie Joline.

Free and open to all

Sunbelt Rentals Presents: The Partners Pitch Competition

Cineplex Cinemas Park Lane, Cinema 3 Friday, Sept. 12, 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Five exciting film and TV projects will be pitched to a jury of industry experts. With \$20,000 worth of prizes from Sunbelt Rentals and PurpleDog Post Production on the line, it's a high-stakes showcase of standout talent.

Dream Weavers: Crafting Cinematic Worlds with Virtual Production.

Cineplex Cinemas Park Lane, Cinema 3 Friday, Sept. 12, 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM

Explore how cutting-edge virtual production is transforming storytelling. From set design to post, this panel dives into the creative and technical possibilities shaping the future of filmmaking. Guests: Brian Nitzkin (VP of Business Affairs, Orbital Studios), Randall Okita (Lockpicker Productions), Moderated by Natalie Davey (VP, Ceres Productions)

Free and open to all

AFCOOP Open House

AFCOOP Office, 1800 Argyle Street, Suite 303 Friday, Sept. 12, 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

AFCOOP staff and members welcome you to an Open House, where you can learn more about their year-round programs and workshops.

Free and open to all

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13,

Meet the Festivals Panel

Cineplex Cinemas Park Lane, Cinema 3 Saturday, Sept. 13, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Meet the leaders of regional film festivals! Featuring: Jenn Brown (St John's Women's Film Festival), Tori Fleming (Halifax Independent Filmmakers Festival), Jenna MacMillan (Charlottetown Film Festival) and Walter Forsyth (Lunenburg Doc Fest). Moderated by Katie Bignell from Festival Formula.

Free and open to all

IPF Info Session

Cineplex Cinemas Park Lane, Cinema 3 Saturday, Sept. 13, 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Learn how to access funding and support for short-form digital series through the Independent Production Fund. This session will cover eligibility, application tips, and success stories. Hosted by Jon Taylor (IPF)

Free and open to all

Artist to Artist: Stephen Dunn and Amy Trefry

Cineplex Cinemas Park Lane, Cinema 3 Saturday, Sept 13, 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

Join Stephen Dunn (*Closet Monster*, 2015) and Amy Trefry (*Vermilion*, 2025) as they discuss their creative processes and Queer stories on screen with AIFF Programmer and Writer: Kevin Chabot.

Free and open to all

In Conversation with Bretten Hannam

Cineplex Cinemas Park Lane, Cinema 3 Saturday, Sept 13, 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

 ${\it Wildhood}$ writer & director Bretten Hannam discusses the art of filmmaking and their new film ${\it Sk+te'kmujue'katik}$ (At the Place of Ghosts).

Free and open to all

Atlantic Gala Party

The Garden, 1446 Queen St Saturday, Sept. 13, 9:00 PM - LATE

Find out why the Maritimes have a reputation for legendary hospitality at the Atlantic Gala Party!

Open to Passholders and Atlantic Gala Ticket Holders



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

The Stormy Haul: Little Lorraine Panel

Cineplex Cinemas Park Lane, Cinema 3 Sunday, Sept. 14, 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Cape Breton icons Justine Williamson and Greg Vardy host the crew behind *Little Lorraine* including: Director, Andy Hines, Auden Thornton and Adam Baldwin.

Free and open to all

Making an Impact: How the NFB Produces and Distributes Docs That Drive Change

Cineplex Cinemas Park Lane, Cinema 3 - Sunday, Sept 14, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

From programming to production to rollout, discover how the National Film Board of Canada brings impact documentaries to the right audiences. Liz Cowie (Producer) and Jamie Hammond (Senior Marketing Advisor) share case studies and real-world strategies from recent campaigns—offering practical insights for filmmakers, producers and changemakers.

Free and open to all

ACTRA Maritimes Presents: "Scripts! Out Loud!" 80's Flashback Edition

Cineplex Park Lane, Cinema 3 - Sunday, Sept. 14, 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Get ready to rewind! This high-energy table read brings actors: Anthony Jackson, Martina Kelades, Gil Anderson, and Reid Price on stage to breathe life into nostalgic scenes. Proudly sponsored by ACTRA Maritimes.

Free and open to all

AIFF & Linda Joy Awards

The Blue Building Gallery, 2482 Maynard St. - Sunday, Sept. 14, 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Join us as we celebrate the outstanding talent showcased throughout the festival. This special event honours and celebrates the Atlantic filmmakers, performances, and projects that moved audiences and captured juries' attention.

Free and open to all

AIFF Filmmaker Lab Screening of 'Works in Progress'

Carbon Arc Cinema, 1747 Summer St. - Sunday, Sept. 14, 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM

Check out bold new voices at Carbon Arc Cinema as participants from this year's AIFF Filmmaker Lab debut their Q & A skills as they screen their 'works in progress'.

Free and open to all

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

DOC Atlantic Oyster Party

902 Post, 5475 Spring Garden Road - Monday, Sept. 15, 7:00 PM - 11:00 PM

Join members of DOC Atlantic for this long-standing and beloved evening of oysters and community

DOC Members, Passholders and film community

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 10						
TIME	EVENT	RUNTIME	ТҮРЕ	LOCATION	PAGE	
3:00 - 5:00 PM	TELEFILM/NFB OPEN HOUSE		Event	NFB Office	40	
5:00 PM- 7:00 PM	CMPA WELCOME RECEPTION (PARTNERS & VIP ONLY)		Event	Lord Nelson Hotel	40	
7:00 PM	SK+TE'KMUJUE'KATIK (AT THE PLACE OF GHOSTS)	87 min	Gala	Theatre 7 & 8	8	
9:00 PM - Late	OPENING NIGHT GALA CELEBRATION		Event	Stardust	40	
	THURSDAY SEPTEMBEI	R 11				
10:00 AM	NFB NEXT GENERATION MEET-UP		Event	NFB Office	40	
3:15 PM	VIDEOHEAVEN	173 min	Documentary	Theatre 7	28	
4:00 PM	A POET	120 min	World Cinema	Theatre 3	20	
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM	WIFT-AT MUSSEL BAR HAPPY HOUR		Event	Post 902	40	
4:30 PM	FOR WORSE	90 min	Narrative New Waves	Theatre 4	29	
5:30 PM	BLUE HERON	90 min	Narrative New Waves	Theatre 6	29	
6:00 PM	SHORTS PROGRAMME 1	92 min	Shorts	Theatre 5	33	
6:15 PM	A PRIVATE LIFE	100 min	World Cinema	Theatre 8	20	
6:30 PM	MY SON CAME BACK TO DISAPPEAR	80 min	World Cinema	Theatre 3	18	
7:00 PM	DREAMS (SEX LOVE)	110 min	World Cinema	Theatre 7		
7:15 PM	BLUEBERRY GRUNT	85 min	World Cinema	Theatre 4	12	
8:00 PM	MAD BILLS TO PAY (OR DESTINY, DILE QUE NO SOY MALO)	101 min	Narrative New Waves	Theatre 6	30	
8:30 PM	A USEFUL GHOST	130 min	Narrative New Waves	Theatre 5	31	
8:45 PM	THE HISTORY OF SOUND	127 min	World Cinema	Theatre 8	14	
9:30 PM	HONEY BUNCH	111 min	Late Night Visions	Theatre 7	32	
	FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 1	2				
9:00 AM - 9:45 AM	POST PRODUCTION: BEYOND THE EDIT, PRESENTED BY PURPLEDOG POST PRODUCTION		Event	Theatre 3	40	
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	NORTHERN LIGHTS: A CO-PRODUCTION DIALOGUE		Event	Theatre 3	40	
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	ECHOES FROM THE LAND: SÁMI & INDIGENOUS STORIES ON SCREEN		Event	Theatre 3	40	
1:30 - 3:30 PM	SUNBELT RENTALS PRESENTS: THE PARTNERS PITCH COMPETITION		Event	Theatre 3	40	
1:30 PM	SEVEN SAMURAI	207 min	Classics	Theatre 5		
2:30 PM	BLUE HERON	90 min	Narrative New Waves	Theatre 7	29	
3:00 PM	THE MASTERMIND	110 min	World Cinema	Theatre 4	17	
4:00 PM - 4:45 PM	DREAM WEAVERS: CRAFTING CINEMATIC WORLDS WITH VIRTUAL PRODUCTION		Event	Theatre 3	40	
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM	AFCOOP OPEN HOUSE		Event	AFCOOP Offices	40	
4:45 PM	NIÑXS	86 min	Documentary	Theatre 6	27	
5:15 PM	MY FATHER'S SHADOW	94 min	Narrative New Wavess	Theatre 7	30	
5:30 PM	WHAT WE DREAMED OF THEN	104 min	World Cinema	Theatre 4	24	

	FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 12 (CON	TINUED)			
TIME	EVENT	RUNTIME	ТҮРЕ	LOCATION	PAG
6:00 PM	SHORTS PROGRAMME 2	93 min	Shorts	Theatre 5	34
6:15 PM	YANUNI	112 min	Documentary	Theatre 8	28
7:15 PM	PINCH	83 min	Narrative New Wavess	Theatre 6	30
7:30 PM	A POET	120 min	World Cinema	Theatre 3	20
8:00 PM	HANGASHORE	87 min	World Cinema	Theatre 7	14
8:45 PM	NIRVANNA THE BAND THE SHOW THE MOVIE	98 min	World Cinema	Theatre 4	18
9:30 PM	PORTAL TO HELL	93 min	Late Night Visions	Theatre 5	32
	SATURDAY SEPTEMBE	R 13			
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	MEET THE FESTIVALS PANEL		Event	Theatre 3	41
10:30 AM	VIDEOHEAVEN	173 min	Documentary	Theatre 8	28
11:00 AM	LIFE AFTER	99 min	Documentary	Theatre 5	26
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	IPF INFO SESSION		Event	Theatre 3	41
11:30 AM	SHARI & LAMB CHOP	92 min	Documentary	Theatre 4	27
12:00 PM	AGATHA'S ALMANAC	83 min	Documentary	Theatre 6	25
12:45 PM	STEAL AWAY	113 min	World Cinema	Theatre 7	22
1:30 - 2:30 PM	ARTIST TO ARTIST: STEPHEN DUNN AND AMY TREFRY		Event	Theatre 3	41
1:30 PM	WRONG HUSBAND	100 min	World Cinema	Theatre 5	23
1:45 PM	MILE END KICKS	110 min	World Cinema	Theatre 8	17
2:00 PM	THE EYES OF GHANA	90 min	Documentary	Theatre 4	25
2:30 - 3:30 PM	CMF PRESENTS: IN CONVERSATION WITH BRETTEN HANNAM		Event	Theatre 3	41
2:45 PM	PARSLEY DAYS	79 min	In Focus	Theatre 6	38
4:00 PM	DJ AHMET	99 min	Narrative New Wavess	Theatre 7	29
4:15 PM	SHORTS PROGRAMME 3	96 min	Shorts	Theatre 5	35
4:30 PM	NOUVELLE VAGUE	86 min	World Cinema	Theatre 8	19
4:45 PM	DANCING ON THE ELEPHANT	94 min	World Cinema	Theatre 4	13
5:15 PM	CLOSET MONSTER	90 min	In Focus	Theatre 6	38
6:30 PM	KÖLN 75	115 min	World Cinema	Theatre 7	15
6:45 PM	THE DATING GAME	89 min	Documentary	Theatre 5	25
7:00 PM	LITTLE LORRAINE	115 min	Gala	Theatre 8	9
7:30 PM	MAD BILLS TO PAY (OR DESTINY, DILE QUE NO SOY MALO)	101 min	Narrative New Waves	Theatre 3	30
7:45 PM	THE MASTERMIND	110 min	World Cinema	Theatre 4	17
8:00 PM	SLEEPLESS CITY	97 min	Narrative New Waves	Theatre 6	31
9:00 PM - Late	ATLANTIC GALA PARTY		Event	The Garden	41
9:00 PM	FOLLIES	101 min	Narrative New Waves	Theatre 7	29
9:15 PM	IF I HAD LEGS I'D KICK YOU	113 min	Late Night Visions	Theatre 5	32

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 14						
TIME	EVENT	RUNTIME	ТҮРЕ	LOCATION	PAGE	
10:45 AM	NIÑXS	86 min	Documentary	Theatre 5	27	
11:00 AM	YANUNI	112 min	Documentary	Theatre 8	28	
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	THE STORMY HAUL: PANEL WITH THE TEAM BEHIND Little Lorraine		Event	Theatre 3	41	
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	MAKING AN IMPACT: HOW THE NFB PRODUCES AND DISTRIBUTES DOCS THAT DRIVE CHANGE		Event	Theatre 3	41	
1:00 PM	ANNE OF GREEN GABLES	210 min	In Focus	Theatre 6	38	
1:30 PM	VERMILION	76 min	Narrative New Wavess	Theatre 5	31	
2:00 PM	LILITH FAIR: BUILDING A MYSTERY	99 min	Documentary	Theatre 8	27	
2:15 PM	SOUND OF FALLING	149 min	World Cinema	Theatre 4	22	
2:30 PM - 3:30 PM	ACTRA MARITIMES PRESENTS: "SCRIPTS! OUT LOUD!" 80S FLASHBACK EDITION		Event	Theatre 3	41	
3:30 PM	MY FATHER'S SHADOW	94 min	Narrative New Wavess	Theatre 7	30	
4:15 PM	FOLKTALES	106 min	Documentary	Theatre 5	26	
4:30 - 6:30 PM	AIFF & LINDA JOY AWARDS		Event	The Blue Building Gallery	41	
4:30 PM	PEAK EVERYTHING	100 min	World Cinema	Theatre 8	19	
5:00 PM	RAPTURES	108 min	World Cinema	Theatre 3	21	
5:15 PM	GHOSTS OF THE SEA	97 min	Documentary	Theatre 6	26	
5:45 PM	THE HISTORY OF SOUND	127 min	World Cinema	Theatre 4	14	
6:30 PM	LOVELY DAY	119 min	World Cinema	Theatre 7	16	
7:00 PM	REEL EAST COAST SHORTS GALA SCREENING	89 min	Gala	Theatre 8	10	
7:30 PM - 9:30 PM	AIFF FILMMAKER LAB SCREENING OF WORKS IN PROGRESS		Event	Carbon Arc Cinema	41	
7:30 PM	THE BLUE TRAIL	85 min	World Cinema	Theatre 3	12	
8:00 PM	PINCH	83 min	Narrative New Wavess	Theatre 6	30	
8:15 PM	FOR WORSE	90 min	Narrative New Waves	Theatre 4	29	
9:15 PM	PORTAL TO HELL	93 min	Late Night Visions	Theatre 7	32	
	MONDAY SEPTEMBER	15				
3:00 PM	SLEEPLESS CITY	97 min	Narrative New Waves	Theatre 7	31	
4:00 PM	KÖLN 75	115 min	World Cinema	Theatre 5	15	
4:30 PM	WRONG HUSBAND	100 min	World Cinema	Theatre 6	23	
4:45 PM	LOVELY DAY	119 min	World Cinema	Theatre 4	16	
5:30 PM	ТНЕ РІТСН	98 min	Documentary	Theatre 7	27	
6:00 PM	ANOTHER LIGHT ON THE ROAD	78 min	Documentary	Theatre 3	25	
6:15 PM	NOUVELLE VAGUE	86 min	World Cinema	Theatre 8	19	
6:30 PM	SHORTS PROGRAMME 4	98 min	Shorts	Theatre 5	36	
7:00 PM - 11:00 PM	DOC ATLANTIC OYSTER PARTY		Event	902 Post	41	
7:00 PM	STEAL AWAY	113 min	World Cinema	Theatre 6	22	
7:30 PM	SENTIMENTAL VALUE	133 min	World Cinema	Theatre 4	21	
8:00 PM	THE THINGS YOU KILL	114 min	World Cinema	Theatre 7	23	

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 15 (CONTINUED)						
TIME	EVENT	RUNTIME	ТҮРЕ	LOCATION	PAGE	
8:15 PM	LUCKYLU	103 min	Narrative New Waves	Theatre 3	30	
8:30 PM	NIRVANNA THE BAND THE SHOW THE MOVIE	98 min	World Cinema	Theatre 8	18	
9:00 PM	THE DATING GAME	89 min	Documentary	Theatre 5	25	
	TUESDAY SEPTEMBER	16				
3:00 PM	AGATHA'S ALMANAC	83 min	Documentary	Theatre 7	25	
3:15 PM	LILTH FAIR: BUILDING A MYSTERY	99 min	Documentary Narrative New	Theatre 4	27	
3:30 PM	DJ AHMET	99 min	Wavess	Theatre 6	29	
4:30 PM	GHOSTS OF THE SEA	97 min	Documentary	Theatre 5	26	
5:15 PM	THE PITCH	98 min	Documentary	Theatre 3	27	
5:30 PM	SHADOW MEN	80 min	In Focus	Theatre 7	38	
5:45 PM	JOHN CANDY: I LIKE ME	113 min	Documentary	Theatre 8	26	
6:00 PM	PEAK EVERYTHING	100 min	World Cinema	Theatre 4	19	
6:30 PM	FOLKTALES	106 min	Documentary	Theatre 6	26	
7:00 PM	SHORTS PROGRAMME 5	98 min	Shorts	Theatre 5	37	
7:45 PM	A PRIVATE LIFE	100 min	World Cinema	Theatre 8	20	
8:00 PM	MILE END KICKS	110 min	World Cinema	Theatre 3	17	
8:15 PM	THE LOVE THAT REMAINS	109 min	World Cinema	Theatre 7	16	
8:30 PM	IT WAS JUST AN ACCIDENT	103 min	World Cinema	Theatre 4	15	
8:45 PM	THE BLUE TRAIL	85 min	World Cinema	Theatre 6	12	
9:30 PM	IF I HAD LEGS I'D KICK YOU	113 min	Late Night Visions	Theatre 5	32	
	WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBE	R 17			9 4 19 9 6 26 9 5 37 9 8 20 9 3 17 16 9 4 15 9 6 12 9 5 32 9 6 27 9 8 26 9 3 26 9 7 22	
3:30 PM	SHARI & LAMB CHOP	92 min	Documentary	Theatre 6	27	
4:00 PM	JOHN CANDY: I LIKE ME	113 min	Documentary	Theatre 8	26	
4:30 PM	LIFE AFTER	99 min	Documentary	Theatre 3	26	
5:00 PM	SOUND OF FALLING	149 min	World Cinema	Theatre 7	22	
5:15 PM	AIFF AWARD-WINNER SCREENING			Theatre 5		
5:45 PM	A USEFUL GHOST	130 min	Narrative New Waves	Theatre 4	31	
6:00 PM	THE LOVE THAT REMAINS	109 min	World Cinema	Theatre 6	16	
7:00 PM	KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN	128 min	Gala	Theatre 8	11	
7:15 PM	LUCKYLU	103 min	Narrative New Waves	Theatre 3	30	
8:00 PM	DREAMS (SEX LOVE)	110 min	World Cinema	Theatre 5	13	
8:15 PM	FOLLIES	101 min	Narrative New Waves	Theatre 7	29	
8:30 PM	HONEY BUNCH	III min	Late Night Visions	Theatre 6	32	
8:45 PM	THE THINGS YOU KILL	114 min	World Cinema	Theatre 4	23	