30TH VANCOUVER Queer FILM FESTIVAL

AUGUST 9-19, 2018

UNCEDED COAST SALISH TERRITORIES



30TH ANNIVERSARY PRESENTING SPONSOR





#VQFF2018 QUEERFILMFESTIVAL.CA



Let's Make Someday Happen™

That's why we're helping to bring people together to share in the LGBTQ+ stories that make our communities beautiful and diverse. We are proud to be the 30th Anniversary Presenting Sponsor of the **Vancouver Queer Film Festival**. Join us August 9-19, 2018.





Territorial Acknowledgement

The Vancouver Out On Screen Film and Video Society is an organization historically steered by non-Indigenous people operating on the unceded, traditional, and ancestral territories of the xwmə\text{0}kwəy'\text{0}m (Musqueam), Skwxw\u00e47mesh (Squamish), and Səl'ilwəta/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations. As an organization that travels throughout BC, we are also guests on the lands of many other First Nations. Out On Screen recognizes the governance authority of these Nations for their territories, and seeks to abide by their protocols and laws.

We seek to be in right relations with Indigenous people of these lands and recognize that we have much to learn and a responsibility to share our collective histories.



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Accessibility

Our Commitment to a More Accessible Festival

We're proud to continue our commitment to ensuring that all of our venues are assessed for accessibility of entrances, washrooms, parking, and seating allotment for people who use wheelchairs, scooters or other mobility aides. For more detailed accessibility info visit queerfilmfestival.ca or email info@outonscreen.com.

Washrooms

We prioritize venues with washrooms that are physically accessible and permit all-gender access during Festival dates. We've been placing gender-inclusive signs on washroom doors at all venues for most of our Festival's history.

Courtesy Seating

Look for Accessibility Volunteers at each venue who can assist you with courtesy chairs while you wait in line or to gain priority access to the venue.

Free Companion Seating

Available for companions of people with disabilities (subject to availability, please inquire at the venue Box Office).

Let's Be Friends

Stay informed for the latest schedule updates! Subscribe to our eNewsletter, follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, or visit our website.





VancouverQFF

queerfilmfestival.ca





#VQFF2018

street

Vancouver Playhouse

Entrance: street ramp

Wheelchair: 4-5 spaces

VIFF Vancity Theatre

Wheelchair: 2-4 spaces

Washrooms: fully accessible

Entrance: via ramp

Washrooms: fully accessible

Address: 600 Hamilton St @ Dunsmuir St

Parking: underground paid and metered

Address:1181 Seymour St @ Davie St

Parking: nearby metered street only

Festival Theatres

Cineplex Odeon International Village Cinemas

@queerfilmfest

Address: 3rd floor, 88 W Pender St Parking: underground, free while seeing

a film

Entrance: 3rd floor, via elevator Wheelchair: 4-6 spaces

Washrooms: accessible, 2nd floor

SFU's Goldcorp Centre for the Arts

Address: 149 W Hastings St @ Cambie St Parking: metered street and paid lots Entrance: via ramp and via elevator

Wheelchair: 4-6 spaces Washrooms: fully accessible

York Theatre

Address: 639 Commercial Dr

Parking: street parking, metered and free

Entrance: street level Wheelchair: 6 spaces Washrooms: fully accessible

Community Tickets

We issue over 500 complimentary tickets and memberships to local community groups for individuals who face financial and other barriers to attending. Email info@outonscreen.com if you'd like to add your group next year.

American Sign Language

ASL interpretation is available at select screenings as indicated on the schedule. Subtitled films also noted.

Childcare Subsidies

Parents or guardians can receive \$10 per screening at the venue to assist with childcare costs. Generously supported by The Law Offices of barbara findlay QC.

Be Scent Sensitive!

Please join us in making the Festival more accessible to people with scent sensitivities and allergies by avoiding the use of scented products at all Festival screenings and events.

Transit Information

translink.ca | 604.953.3333

For information about HandyDART services, visit translink.ca/en/Rider-Guide/Accessible-Transit or call 604.953,3680.



Festival Party Venues

šx^wtexən Xwtl'a7shn Plaza

Address: 695 Cambie St

Parking: metered street and paid lots Entrance: curb cut at drop-off on Hamilton, street level ramp Wheelchair: fully accessible Washrooms: fully accessible (via

Playhouse lobby)

The Junction Pub

Address: 1138 Davie St

Parking: metered street and paid lots

Entrance: street ramp Wheelchair: fully accessible Washrooms: full accessible

The Charles Bar

Address: 136 W Cordova St

Parking: metered street and paid lots

Wheelchair: accessible

Washrooms: accessible/low barrier

Single Ticket Pricing

Regular & Gala Films	Standard \$12
negulai & Gala i IIIIIs	Access \$8

Where to buy

Online: queerfilmfestival.ca | Visa/MasterCard/AmEx

Little Sister's | 1238 Davie St | JUL 12 - JUL 31 & AUG 6 - 8 | Daily: 9am-11pm | Wheelchair accessible | Service charges apply

Black Dog Video | 1470 Commercial Dr | JUL 13 - AUG 9 | 12pm-10pm | Wheelchair accessible | Service charges apply

VQFF Street Team | Cash or Visa/MasterCard/AmEx, or Visa debit. Look for our Festival Street Team at various community events, like the Dyke March and Sunset Beach Festival. Spot our Street Team wearing Festival volunteer t-shirts.

At the Door Venue box office opens 45 minutes prior to the first screening of the day. For that day and venue only. Cash, Visa/MasterCard/AmEx, or VISA debit accepted

Ticket Pack Pricing

	Standard	Access
Regular Six Pack	\$66	\$42
Youth Six Pack	\$30	
(24 yrs & under, valid for youth-rated	films only)	

Where to buy

Online: queerfilmfestival.ca Six tickets for you to use any way you want, subject to availability. Visa/MasterCard/AmEx, or Visa debit accepted

Memberships

To see any films presented at the VQFF, you must become a member of the Vancouver Out On Screen Film and Video Society. The Festival presents films in compliance with the Motion Picture Act and Consumer Protection BC. Your membership demonstrates support of our mission to celebrate, illuminate and advance queer lives through film, education and dialogue.

Adult Membership (18 yrs & up)	\$5
Youth Membership (17 yrs & under, valid for youth-rated films only)	\$2

Purchase online or at each venue's Membership Table. Photo ID required. You must show your membership card at every screening. If you lose or forget your card, you'll need to purchase a new one.

Membership Perks Show your 2018 membership for access to select post-film parties (19+ only). Enter for a chance to win a 2019 Festival Pass or two Six Packs. Adult members are entitled to attend and vote at our AGM.

Ticket Information

Access pricing Reduced prices are available for students, seniors, and underemployed. No discounts on memberships.

Why wait? Buy early! Don't you hate it when you miss a soldout show? Tickets may be purchased online up to 1 hour before the screening.

Sold Out? Odds are, we'll still have a few tickets to sell just before show time. Join the **Hope Line** and we hope you'll be in luck.

Mobile/Print-at-home Skip the Will Call line and receive your tickets on your mobile device or print your tickets from home. Forgot your phone? Visit the venue box office and they will print your tickets for you.

Will Call Online orders available for pick-up at the venue for your first screening. Bring your ID and arrive 30-45 minutes before the screening time.

Refunds and Exchanges Only issued if a screening is cancelled because of technical problems.

Watch two screenings in a row! Got your ticket or screening slip for the next film? Wait for us to verify your ticket, then get comfy or head out for some popcorn!



The Scotiabank Super Pass Pricing

Early-bird sales: JUL 5 - JUL 20	\$140
Regular Pass	\$165
Access Pass	\$135

Gives you access to all films and galas with front-of-line privileges, membership, and access to select events and parties. 19+ only, photo ID required.

Make it count! Scotiabank will match **ALL** Scotiabank Super Pass purchases with a donation to the Festival.

Where to buy

Scotiabank | Robson branch | 1205 Robson St, Vancouver | From JUL 5 Mon-Wed 930am to 5pm, Thu-Fri 930am to 6pm, Sat 930 to 4pm. Passes bought in-branch are available at the early-bird rate while supplies last.

Or online: queerfilmfestival.ca

Passholders must collect a screening slip before each screening to gain admission (slips are available 30-45 minutes before each screening at the Passholder Table). A generous allotment of seats are reserved for Passholders; however, seating is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Passes are non-transferable. ID is required.

Questions?

Call the Box Office info line

778.875.8363. Powered by TELUS



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Festival Welcome



Chief Ian Campbell Squamish Nation



It is my honour to welcome the 30th Vancouver Queer Film Festival to the shared territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations.

We are vibrant and dynamic Coast Salish Nations, with a strong culture, rich history, and bright future. We have existed and prospered within our traditional territories since time immemorial. Our society is, and always has been, organized and sophisticated, with complex laws and rules governing all forms of social relations, economic rights, and relations with other First Nations. We have never ceded or surrendered title to our lands, rights to our resources or the power to make decisions within our territory.

We recognize Out On Screen's efforts to follow our protocols and establish right relations. We see the value in building relationships based in mutual respect and reciprocity. We look forward to continuing to build those relationships with Out On Screen and the Vancouver Queer Film Festival.

We wish the Festival a happy 30th birthday and look forward to the Festival continuing to celebrate culture and showcasing two-spirit people. Two-spirit people are common in today's society and are respected as fundamental and valued parts of many Indigenous cultures and societies.

You have our best wishes for a strong and successful film festival.

Chen kwen mantumi (I thank you),



Hon Dr Hedy Fry MP Vancouver Centre

Welcome to the 30th Vancouver Queer Film Festival, the second largest film festival in Vancouver.

I've had the pleasure of being a long-time supporter of this event and I can assure you that the spectacle of the films shines through the titles. This year's films focus on the struggles, trials, and experiences of young queer individuals.

One exciting example is the opening film, 1985, a striking tale of a closeted gay man who goes home to inform his conservative family of his alarming health condition due to AIDS. Another film I'm anticipating is the Centrepiece Gala film, White Rabbit, which gives us insight into the life of a Korean-American artist and her fight to be heard through her numerous identities. Last but not least, The Miseducation of Cameron Post, which won the Grand Jury Prize at the Sundance Film Festival, is set in 1993 and dramatically details a teen's experience in a gay conversion therapy centre.

Each situation, setting, and story is different and since the inception of the Festival in 1988, the Vancouver Queer Film Festival has beautifully highlighted and illuminated the life changing moments that queer people experience. It is an absolute treat to view these films on the big screen. Of course, you don't have to be queer to attend. Regardless of background, a good film is a good film with the ability to educate, entertain, and excite.

Have a great time and enjoy the Festival! Sincerely,



Gregor Robertson Mayor

On behalf of the citizens of Vancouver and my colleagues on City Council, I want to extend my warmest greetings to the 30th Vancouver Queer Film Festival.

Celebrating the best in independent gueer cinema, the Vancouver Queer Film Festival is Vancouver's second largest film festival and the largest queer arts event in Western Canada. Vancouver is fast emerging as a true creative powerhouse on the world stage, and the Vancouver Queer Film Festival is a leading contributor to the strength of our vibrant arts and cultural community. The diversity that thrives in our community and our city is so tremendously enriched by the economic, cultural, and social contributions of our lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender residents. The Vancouver Queer Film Festival sheds light on these contributions and shares compelling stories of LGBTQ activism, experiences, struggles, and aspirations from every corner of the globe.

As Mayor, I would like to thank all the film makers, entertainers, Festival organizers, and volunteers who contribute to the success of this unique and important festival.

Yours truly,

This and Englas

Chief Ian Campbell Xálek'/Sekyú Siyám Squamish First Nation



The Honourable Dr Hedy Fry, PC, MP Member of Parliament for Vancouver Centre



Gregor Robertson Mayor, City of Vancouver



John Horgan
Premier of British Columbia

As Premier of the Province of British Columbia, it gives me great pleasure to welcome everyone to the 30th Vancouver Queer Film Festival (VQFF).

Over three decades, VQFF has grown to become the second largest film festival in Vancouver and Western Canada's largest queer arts event. The arts play an important role in reflecting back to us the conditions and circumstances of our societies-the powerful medium of film has a capacity to provide a mirror to understand ourselves and our communities. We live in a diverse province, and VQFF plays an integral role as it fosters inclusion and raises awareness not only through the stories being shared on the screen, but also through social events, workshops, and panel discussions. I have no doubt that these eleven days will be inspiring, entertaining, and thought-provoking for everyone.

I would like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of the organizers, sponsors, and volunteers who continue to make VQFF the success that it is. This festival is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate with our friends in the LGBTQ2S+ community and mark the great strides in equality in our society.

Enjoy the Festival and congratulations to VQFF on thirty successful years!



Spencer Chandra Herbert Vancouver West End-Coal Harbour

Dear friends,

As the MLA for the heart of British Columbia's queer community, it's my pleasure to welcome you to the Vancouver Queer Film festival.

Today, just as it has been for hundreds of years, queer voices have been at the forefront of artistic expression. We continue to lead the way in building inclusive communities that reflect the true diversity of our culture. Governments can change laws to build equality, but only communities of people of good will and strong hearts like you can change attitudes. Thank you for choosing the Vancouver Queer Film Festival. I extend my very best to you, the amazing Festival staff, and the always rock star volunteers for making it all happen.

All the best,



Hon Mélanie Joly Minister of Canadian Heritage Ministre du Patrimoine Canadien

Welcome to the 2018 Vancouver Queer Film Festival!

Canada's diversity is a source of strength and pride, and it is reflected in our vibrant arts and culture. The arts—including film—offer bold and exciting ways to tell our stories, and provide new perspectives on our everchanging world. For the past three decades, through the power of film, the Vancouver Queer Film Festival has shined a light on the LGBTQ2 community as well as its stories, people, history and challenges in Canada and beyond. It continues to give emerging and established filmmakers a chance to share their vision, inspiration, and talent. The diverse line-up promises to entertain and engage Vancouver audiences of all backgrounds.

As Minister of Canadian Heritage, I would like to thank all the organizers, filmmakers and volunteers who made this year's festival possible. Our government is proud to support events like this that combat homophobia, transphobia, and racism as they foster dialogue within and across communities.

Best wishes on the Festival's 30th anniversary. Enjoy the films!

Premier of British Columbia

John Horgan

John J. Horgan

Spencer Chandra Herbert, MLA Member of Legislative Assembly for Vancouver West End-Coal Harbour The Hon Mélanie Joly Minister of Canadian Heritage Ministre du Patrimoine Canadien

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Festival Welcome



Stephanie Goodwin *Executive Director*

Happy 30th birthday! Out On Screen is officially adulting.

As the Vancouver Queer Film Festival turns 30, I reflect on the role of queer film festivals. I recently watched a film that did a deep dive into the lives of four trans men. More than once I found my movie partner crying hard because he saw himself in these carefully woven and beautifully told stories. In that moment I saw the validation and humanity that comes with visibility and representation, particularly of identities not often seen on the big screen.

This experience shows me that queer film festivals remain important and accessible platforms for films that queer the narrative, for films that illuminate and celebrate LGBT2Q+ lives in all their dimensions and complexity. It is these queer and trans films that are breaking through one-dimensional narratives of queerness and centering stories of LGBT2Q+ people that most often go underrepresented or erased completely. It is these films that are defining and transforming our lives and social landscape by helping us see ourselves in the fullest expression of our imagination. I am proud the Vancouver Queer Film Festival forefronts queer stories at the intersections of sexuality, race, gender, ability, and class. These stories catalyze conversations and change.

Our theme this year is **To the Moon and Back...30 years of uplifting queer stories**. With lots to celebrate, please be my guest and fall in love with this year's films. We are particularly proud to spotlight the lives of artists, young people, trans women, and two-spirit identities. See more artists engaging with you in new ways. Connect with friends, new and old. And dance your face off at parties that celebrate you.

We asked you last year to share with us words that describe the Festival. You told us queer, inclusive, fun, and community. We are honoured that these words describe what we've created together for last three decades and we promise to use queer film to entertain, titillate, and expand your horizons for the next thirty years.



James Ong **Board Chair**

The Year of the Queer proclamation was conducted in Council Chambers on May 23, 2018 at Vancouver's City Hall. Various local Indigenous, advocacy, community, cultural, and service organizations were provided with an opportunity to share details of their work, their history, and their contributions to Metro Vancouver's rich and vibrant queer landscape. In celebrating our 30th anniversary, Out On Screen marks 30 years of uplifting queer cinema and queer stories. This is the Year of the Queer.

It is with deep gratitude to so many that Out On Screen is able to celebrate this milestone. We thank the Indigenous Peoples of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh whose land we have occupied for these past 30 years. We request to be granted another 30 years to be able to continue our work on these lands. We thank our founders for their vision of bringing a cultural component to the Gay Games through the power of queer film. We thank our alumni of board, staff, volunteers, donors, sponsors, attendees, and community and education partners who have nurtured and grown the organization. We thank our current board, staff, volunteers, donors, sponsors, attendees, and community and education partners.

Milestones are perfect opportunities to reminisce. I think it was in 1994 that I attended my first Festival screening. I did not consider myself a part of this community, but found myself lined up at Robson Square awaiting the screening of the men's sexy shorts program. From beginning to end, this was one of my most nerve-wracking yet exciting experiences. Years later, I saw a transit shelter ad that had "QUEER" in large bright red letters on it. I felt a hint of that same nervous excitement, but this time there was also a sense of pride in seeing "QUEER" take up public space. I decided to volunteer as a venue coordinator at Video In. This was the beginning of my journey—the finding of strength in community and the feeling of belonging.

For 30 years, uplifting queer stories has been the heart and soul of our work. Film sparks discourse. It unifies us through shared experiences and by witnessing each other's stories. It challenges our way of thinking and expands our ability to understand each other's perspectives. Film sparks change. Out On Screen is not the same organization now than it was 30 years ago and it will continue to evolve and mature over the next 30 years. Together we have laid a strong and resilient foundation.

To the moon and back! Here's to you.

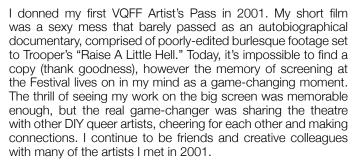
One the most magical parts of this job is that it gives me the opportunity to meet accomplished, risk-taking artists from all over the world. This year we've invited eleven visiting artists to accompany their films, and engage our audiences in enthusiastic discussion. Here are a few of my favourites: **White Rabbit** (p. 22) was one of the first films I watched, fresh from it's premiere at Sundance. I was immediately charmed by Vivian Bang's awkward portrayal of a struggling artist asking uncomfortable questions and navigating the world, her own insecurities, and the sometimes ambiguous lines between platonic and romantic relationships. Join us for a conversation with her after our Centrepiece Gala.

Debalina's two films ...and the unclaimed and If You Dare Desire... (p. 40) deeply impacted me as a queer South Asian. Her sensitive and artistic portrayal of the impacts of homophobia on women in India, and what possibilities could be imagined for brown queer women is unlike anything I have ever seen on screen before.

I'm also thrilled we'll be hosting Canadian art darling Sook-Yin Lee and her gorgeous, spooky feature **Octavio is Dead!** (p. 45). PJ Raval's moving documentary **Call Her Ganda** (p. 39) confronts the intersection of transmisogyny and American imperialism in the Philippines.

Check out our Visiting Artists (p. 53), including **Thirza Cuthand, Visiting Artist in Residence** (p. 27) for a look at her twenty plus year filmmaking career from a decolonial lens, and more. We are so fortunate to be in this global community together.

Anoushka Ratnarajah **Artistic Director**



I witness these connections between local artists and audiences grow every year. My greatest hope for the Festival is that we continue to gather our creative minds and hearts together, dream together, rage together, plot future possibilities and art projects together. This year, we've dedicated several programs to local artists and creative gatherings. Our beloved annual short film program **The Coast Is Queer** (p. 40) is gaining a baby sibling with **The Coast Is Genderqueer** (p. 39), a showcase of local shorts that celebrate trans, non-binary and gender-creative identities. Artists of many disciplines, from poetry to digital archiving, share their inspirations and experiences in our live storytelling show, **The Root** (p. 46). And **Local Artists In Residence, Love Intersections** (p. 29) unveil their newest short documentary series, as well as invite you, our Festival audience, to contribute to their **Community Digital Storytelling** workshop.

Please check out all our Local Artists (p. 56) and get ready to congratulate, cheer on and connect with the remarkable creative talent right here in our own communities.

Amber Dawn

Artistic Director



This past October, VQFF sent me on a programming trip to Toronto for the 18th Annual imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival. Inspired by that trip, my goal in programming this year's **decolonizing discipline(s): a two-spirit showcase** (p. 32) was to show audiences work that subverted settler knowledge around two-spirit identity and existence. Many of the filmmakers approach their work in a way that challenges traditional forms of filmmaking, furthering knowledge sharing between Indigenous creatives and carving out space to share unseen stories.

Indigiqueer Shorts from Turtle Island & Aotearoa (p. 44) is a mash up of short films that differ in style, story, and experience. Terry Jones' autobiographical experimental film [untitled & unlabeled] (p. 44), a deeply personal short comprised of a mixture of recorded footage and voice over, will surely transform audiences. The films Hard Out and Paskwâw Mostos Iskwêsis (p. 44) were both produced as part of an International Indigenous Two-Spirit Filmmaking project with the Asinabka Festival (Ottawa), Mispon Film Festival (Regina), and the Wairoa Maori Film Festival (New Zealand)—with filmmakers Howard Adler, Candy Fox, Jessie Short, Chris Wong, Craig Commanda, and Leo Koziol.

Join me in celebrating the work of late filmmaker Clint Alberta with a free community screening of his Gemini Award winning documentary **Deep inside Clint Star** (p. 41).

Awakening my creativity and spirit, this past October VQFF sent me on a programming trip to Toronto for the 18th Annual imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival. Thank you for giving me the chance to share these stories!

I look forward to seeing you all at the Festival.

Justin Ducharme

Festival Programmer

Festival Team

Staff Stephanie Goodwin, Executive Director Anoushka Ratnarajah, Artistic Director Amber Dawn, Artistic Director Justin Ducharme, Festival Programmer Sam Snobelen, Development Director Naheed Jadavji, Engagement Officer Jeff Van Leuven, Corporate Relations Officer Brandon Yan, Education Director Gavin Somers. Out In Schools Program Coordinator Mateo Zepeda. Operations and HR Coordinator Mickey Brazeau, Temporary Operations & HR Coordinator Jessica Somers. Bookkeeper Nicole Hamilton, Bookkeeper Victoria Yeung, Festival Manager Yasmin Majdnia,

Public Events Coordinator
Ervin Wong,

Marketing and Distribution Coordinator
Serene Carter,

Volunteer Coordinator
Kaen Seguin,

Box Office Coordinator

Paige Smith
Box Office Assistant
Jessica Han,
Technical Director
Jamie Rokovetsky,
Technical Coordinator
Rick Clark,
Graphic Designer

Board of Directors

James Ong,
Chair
Catherine Wong,
Vice Chair
Rudolph Korompis,
Treasurer
Chad Clark,
Development Liaison
Melinda Johnston
Lori MacIntosh
Gerhard Maynard
Melanie Matining
Aimee Beauchamp

Festival Publicist

Teresa Trovato PR

Programming Committee

Roger Blenman Josie Boyce Mono Brown Alex Grove Ed Lee Matías Contreras León Rama Luksiarto Novia Shih-Shan Chen Alli MacKay Kelsey McWilliams Harley Morrow Umair Parvez Steven Porter Edward Rea Sebastiane Seggie Brigitte Slaughter Raven Salander Bran Schaffer Neelam Swann

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Ben Saccone Jessie Lavery

Festival Photography

Luis Guillermo Brian Elliot belle ancell

Copy Editors

Brigitte Slaughter Bran Schaffer

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Office Support

Rosy Deol Anna Vander Munnik Robyn McTague Brett Clark

Festival Trailers

Seven25 Jessica Han Jamie Rokovetsky Chantal Beaulne



Back row I to r: Amber Dawn, Justin Ducharme, Stephanie Goodwin, Gavin Somers, Sam Snobelen, Brandon Yan, Jeff Van Leuven. Front row I to r: Yasmin Majdnia, Naheed Jadavji, Jessica Han, Victoria Yeung, Anoushka Ratnarajah. Absent: Mateo Zepeda, Mickey Brazeau, Jessica Somers, Nicole Hamilton, Ervin Wong, Serene Carter, Rick Clark, Kaen Seguin, Jamie Rokovetsky.

Out In Schools Facilitators

Danny Lybbert Miranda Rutty Serene Carter

Emily Percival-Paterson

Meghan Brady Andy Holmes Jen Sung

Lee Newman Q Lawrence

Frankie McGee Kharis Lund

Avery Shannon Odera Igbokwe

Special thanks to:

All our amazing volunteers!

Laiwan

Anne Riley

Vanessa Kwan and the team at

Grunt Gallery
Jade Baxter
Meaghan Potts
Taran Kootenhayoo
Howard Adler and
The Asinabaka Festival

Shane Sable
Catherine Veitch
Tamara Ivis
Ki Wight

Daniel Heath Justice Melinda Johnston Chief Byron Longclaws Chief Terry Red Thunder Shamentsut Amanda Nahanee

lee williams boudakian

HK Lee Tenay Hall Flora Ware Peter Quin-Conroy

Past Out In Schools presenters and

facilitators
Stevie Nguyen
Joanne Tsung
Dia Devina
Jasper McMath

Out In Schools Advisory Committee

Leila Toledo
Matthew Sproat
Karl Chen
Ciara O Donnell
Russell Keller
Jackie Hoffart
Marco Fratarcangeli
Layla Cameron
Mickey Brazeau
Ken Tomilson

Little Sisters Book and Art Emporium

Black Dog Video
Gordon Melvin
Lisa Loutzenheiser
Heather Mitchell
Kevin Sarrazin
Matt Corker
Marwan Taliani
Brent Faber
Mark Vonesh and

Mutya Macatumpag, Reel Youth Jen Sung and David Ng,

Love Intersections

Brett Clark

Festival Creative Designer





Amelia Sutjiadi is a QPOC illustrator, graphic designer and web developer, who believes in using her creative power for social good. She started Artovermatter in 2007 and has helped clients with a variety of projects from developing brand identities, designing marketing materials to building custom websites. She loves working on projects that have a social impact and is passionate about social justice, diversity and inclusion. View her work at artovermatter.com.

Website Designer

S[V]N25

When you put the humans you are aiming to serve at the core of your process, you create better solutions. Better solutions make for better lives.

Seven25 helps values-based organisations use design to create services, brands and products that matter. Let's talk about how we can support your work.

seven25.com



@queerfilmfest

About Us



At Out On Screen, donors, supporters, volunteers, and film-lovers like you believe that film has the power to effect change and shape social landscapes. For 30 years, we have curated the latest in queer film and knowledge, and have shared stories from LGBT2Q+ communities because when we see ourselves represented in film and society, we experience a sense of belonging and are inspired to enact social change at home and around the world.



CURATE





CATALYZE

CONVENE



After the Festival, the Out In Schools program continues to share stories of LGBT2Q+ lived experiences year round. We are the only program working at all levels of BC's education system using film and LGBT2Q+ role models to spark dialogue and create inclusive classrooms across the province, enabling youth to be their full selves in their schools.

Visit us online at outinschools.com to learn more about how you can support authentic representation of queer, trans, and two-spirit lives year round.



Legacy Gift

Out On Screen lost a close friend in 2017. **Ken David Tomilson** was a beloved member of our festie family and someone who embodied our values of art and celebration. Ken's legacy lives on in this year's Festival and his gift is bring LGBT2Q+ stories to people across BC. Ken's legacy has supported this year's artists, helped create new positions in the Out In Schools program, and provided firm financial ground on which we can stride boldly forward.

Speak with us at the Donor Services table in the lobby or contact our offices to learn how you can make a gift to Out On Screen in your will.

604.844.1615

donorservices@outonscreen.com





2 GUILD-ONLY EVENTS PER YEAR

GO DEEPER

We LOVE our Directors Guild to the Moon and Back!

Thank you to our community of dedicated change-makers that make a multi-year commitment to advancing queer, trans, and two-spirit lives! Our Directors Guild is telling our LGBT2Q+ stories across the province and increasing queer representation in media and society year after year. Thank you for your commitment to creating a world where all gender and sexual diversity thrives!

If you are interested in joining the Directors Guild please email our Engagement Officer at naheed@outonscreen.com or come visit our Donor Services table, tell your story, and transform queer lives!

Donal Armstrong
Nancy Austin
Gary Baker &
Amin Ghaziani
Javier Barajas &
Kasey Reese
Linda Blaine &
Sandy Silver
Shawn Brunemeijer &
Mark Wirtz
Robert Capar
David Chare &
Tony Edgecombe
Peter Cheng &
Vincent Wheeler

Chad Clark
David Clarke &
Dr Fraser Norrie
Pamela Cohen & Pat Hall
Dr Trevor Corneil &
Dr Leyton Schnellert
Linda Corrigan &
Nancy Duff
Su Craik & Lisa Heddema
Tamas Cseza
Monica Dare
Drew Dennis
Michel Duprat
Mark Gilbert &
Dave Matte

James Goodman &
Garry Wolfater
Stephanie Goodwin
Ken Gracie &
Philip Waddell
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Forming the connections I made at the Festival and continue to make, is what keeps me going, its who you create for, its vital.

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queerfilmfest 15



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* 5–9 years of giving
** 10+ years of giving

* 20+ years of giving

Based on donations between June 1, 2017 and June 6, 2018. If we have missed you, please know you are in our hearts.

Lynn Thorsell*

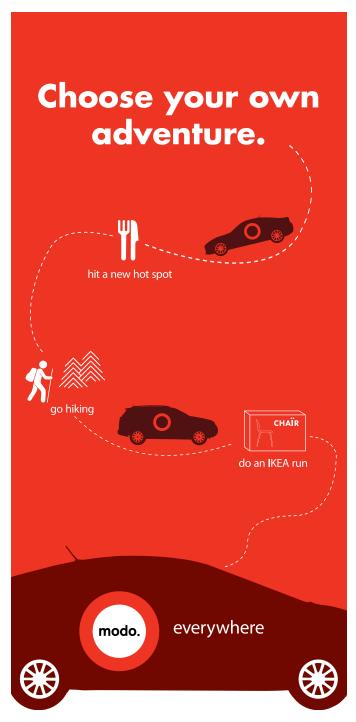
Inclusion makes us **stronger**.

Scotiabank is proud to sponsor the **Vancouver Queer Film Festival**. Congratulations on your 30th Anniversary.





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Congratulations to **Out On Screen** for 30 years of illuminating, celebrating and advancing queer communities through film, education, and dialogue.

Vancity is honoured to have worked with the Vancouver Queer Film Festival for over 17 years. As a values-based financial services cooperative and Reconciliation Canada founding partner, we're committed to inclusivity. We pride ourselves on being able to say we're the first Canadian financial institution to lend to women without a co-signer and offer benefits to same sex partners.

Learn more about how we support positive social impact at vancity.com.

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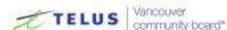




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Interior Sept 20-23 Design 2018 Show Vancouver



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1985

In 1985, President Ronald Reagan publicly acknowledged AIDS for the first time, after more than 5,000 people in the United States, mostly gay men, had already been killed by the disease. It is during this milestone year that director Yen Tan sets his fifth feature film, assembling an outstanding cast to bring his critically-observed period piece to life.

Adrian (Cory Michael Smith from Gotham) returns to his small Texan hometown to spend the Christmas holidays with his working-class Christian family. His homecoming is marked by a silent anguish with his father (Michael Chiklis), a wounded attachment to his mother (Virginia Madsen), and a broken relationship with his high school best friend (Jamie Chung). Under Tan's poignant direction, 1985's characters bring tension and an uneasy tenderness into each and every scene. Tan's unique choice to shoot in black-and-white 16mm film furthers the atmosphere of strained intimacy.

Vancouver Queer Film Festival audiences will remember Yen Tan's previous features Pit Stop (2013) and Ciao (2009). His acclaimed body-of-work helps to reaffirm and celebrate the power and purpose of gueer coming-out and identity narratives. Yen Tan joins us for our Opening Gala, and for an intimate repeat screening on Friday, August 10.

1985 | Yen Tan | USA | 2018 | 85 min

Director in attendance

30th Anniversary Presenting Sponsor

Opening Gala Party:

A Black and White Affair

Celebrate director Yen Tan's

black and white cinematic

triumph by dressing up in

style. Black and white attire

encouraged! Our Opening Gala party venue, DJs and

performers can be found on

930pm | šx"texən Xwtl'a7shn

our parties page (p. 59).

Repeat Screening



Plaza









Alaska Is A Drag

Glamourous daydreamer Leo and his sardonic sister Tristen sashay and vogue through their small Alaskan town, clinging to each other and their dreams of moving away to a bigger and brighter city. They are at odds with their closeted evangelical father, and share a frustrated heartache for their absentee mother (Nia Peeples from Pretty Little Liars).

To save up for their big move, Leo works extra shifts at a cannery, slinging fish guts and dodging homophobic attacks from some of his co-workers. When the cannery boss notices Leo's talent for getting into and out of fights, he offers to train Leo for an upcoming boxing match—but it's on the same night that Leo will compete in a drag performance. Determined that he can both kick ass and be fabulous, Leo accepts and is surprised when flirty and troubled newcomer Declan (Matt Dallas) offers to be his sparring partner. As Leo prepares for the match and his drag stage debut, he'll have to face his inner and outer conflict head on. Featuring a cameo by comedian Margaret Cho as the ornery owner of the local gay bar, come cheer for this tough and tender film with writer-director Shaz Bennet in attendance.

Alaska Is A Drag | Shaz Bennet | USA | 2017 | 90 min

Director in attendance

Alaska Is A Drag is preceded by the short film The Kweenz of Kelston, about group of fa'afafine, transgender and takatāpui students as they compete in an inter-school talent contest.

The Kweenz of Kelston | Todd Karehana | New Zealand | 2016 | 15 min

Repeat Screening

SAT | AUG 11 | 7pm | GCA | 🕦





Screening Sponsors: Delta Air Lines

30th Anniversary Presenting Sponsor





White Rabbit

Sophia (comedian Vivian Bang) is a struggling artist living in LA, trying to make meaningful work and pay her bills while working as a "task rabbit" doing other people's errands. Reeling from a recent break up and wondering if her work matters to anyone beyond herself, Sophia stubbornly performs wherever she can: in supermarkets, malls, parks, on the side of the road, and in front of her computer screen. Her public performance work mostly engages with her uncomfortable and incomplete thoughts around the heightened racial tensions between African Americans and Korean Americans after the 1992 LA riots, sparked by the death of Rodney King at the hands of police.

One day she has a messy encounter with another woman, Victoria (Nana Ghana), who she then begins to see everywhere. The two strike up an unlikely and intimate friendship. Victoria is a photographer and artist herself, ambitious, funny, and insightful. She pulls Sophia out of her own head and into conversations about race, gender, art, and family. But when Victoria leaves on a trip to follow her own artistic dreams, Sophia's feelings for her intensify. Will she be able to hold it together, in love and her own creative work?

This delightfully odd and complex comedy premiered at Sundance and has been screening at queer film festivals across the world.

White Rabbit | Daryl Wein | USA | 2018 | 71 min Writer/actress Vivian Bang in attendance

WED | AUG 15 | 7pm | VPH | 🛕



Repeat Screening



Screening Sponsors: Delta Air Lines, OUTtvGo

30th Anniversary Presenting Sponsor





The Miseducation of Cameron Post

Closing Gala Party:

Gather together to see our 30th Festival come to a bright and momentous close. Let's make some collective wishes for the next 30 years. Our Closing Gala party venue, DJs and performers can be found on our parties page (p. 59).

9pm | The Junction

Based on the novel of the same name and set in the early '90s, our closing film follows high school senior Cameron Post (Chloë Grace Moretz), who is caught in a small town scandal when she's discovered having a secret relationship with her best friend. Deemed a sinner, Cameron is sent by her conservative aunt and guardian to a Christian conversion therapy camp called Promises.

At Promises, Cameron and other queer youth are placed in the care of brother-sister team, Dr Lydia Marsh (Jennifer Ehle) and Reverend Rick Marsh (John Gallagher Jr). The Marsh siblings control every aspect of the youth's lives in an attempt to "correct" their "inappropriate gendered behaviour." But independent minded Cameron remains defiant to their efforts to re-educate her. Instead, she forms a close bond in particular with the sarcastic and rebellious duo of Jane Fonda (Sasha Lane) and Adam Red Eagle (Forrest Goodluck). Their friendship becomes the heart of a highly nuanced story of discovery, rage, heartbreak, joy, and clear determination.

This stunning sophomore feature from Desiree Akhavan (whose debut, Appropriate Behaviour, screened at the Festival in 2014) is sure to mark Akhavan's place as one of cinema's most talented queer directors. The film won the 2018 Grand Jury Prize for US Drama at Sundance, the festival's highest honour.

The Miseducation of Cameron Post | Desiree Akhavan | USA | 2018 | 90 min



SUN | AUG 19 | 7pm | VPH | 14A)





Proud to support the Out In Schools program.

We are working together with the Vancouver Out On Screen Film and Video Society to make a difference in our communities.

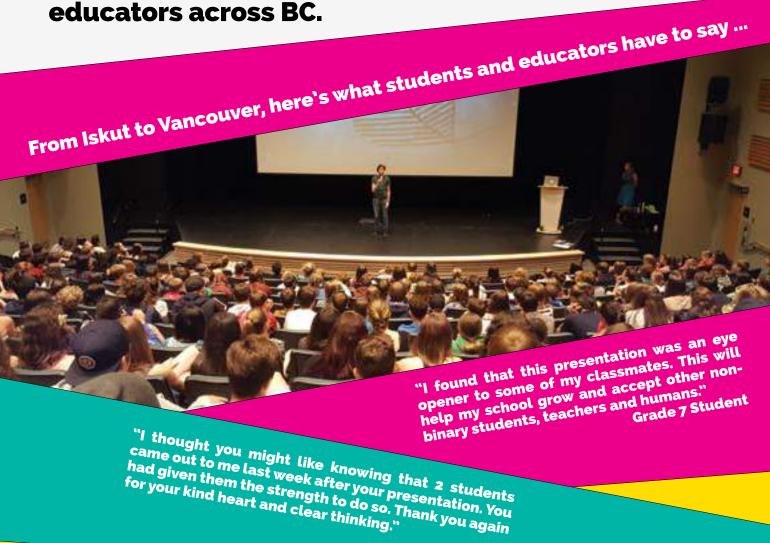


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Out In Schools brings films into classrooms to engage youth through film in the promotion of safer and more inclusive learning environments, free from homophobia, transphobia and bullying. Out In Schools works with school boards, educators, community organizations and student-run Gay Straight Alliances to reduce isolation, foster belonging and increase the safety of learning environments for all youth in our communities.

In the 2017/2018 school year, Out In Schools reached over 26,000 students and educators across BC.



Teacher

"I have known that I was bi for a long time and I do not want to come out, but this presentation made me feel a little more ready."

Grade 10 Student

outinschools.com



Awards

Gerry Brunet Memorial Award

Value \$2500

Our annual juried prize for the Festival's best BC short film was established in 1997 in recognition of Gerry Brunet, a lifelong contributor to the arts and an early board member of Out On Screen. Linnea Ritland won in 2017 for *Violet and June*. The 2018 winner will be announced at our Closing Gala presentation on August 20.

This award is generously supported by Su Craik and Lisa Heddema, and the Directors Guild of Canada – BC.



Gerry Jury



Linnea Ritland is a writer-director, who specializes in comedy, youth, and queer films. She has a BFA from the UBC Film Production program, in which she wrote and directed the short bouncy lesbian romcom *Violet and June*. Upcoming work includes a short queer minimalist drama, *Amateur Dramatics*, and a short coming-of-age comedy-drama about parental alcoholism, messy relationships and pubic hair, *Everything's Great!*.



Rama Luksiarto is a filmmaker and designer with a passion to tell stories about queer communities and social causes. He graduated from the MA in Media Production program at Ryerson University in 2016 where he directed and produced his first documentary *Crossing Bridges*. The film screened at the Vancouver Queer Film Festival in 2017 and other festivals and events in Indonesia, Canada, US, and the UK. Since then, Rama has produced a video for *Media Democracy Day 2017* in Vancouver, and assisted in the production of CBC's *Canada is a Drag* docu-series. He is currently developing his next queer film.



Véronique Noelle (Boulanger) creates obscure indie music, makes tasty food, nerds out on raising native plants, spends far too much time on Twitter, and loves film. Having been a VQFF screening volunteer for several years, Véronique is honoured and excited to be part of the jury evaluating short films by local filmmakers.

Anniversary Media Artist Award

Inspired by our 20th anniversary in 2008, multimedia artist Paul Wong gathered a jury of prominent local artists and arts purveyors—Dana Claxton, Chris Adkins, Wendy Oberlander and Debora O—to found the Anniversary Media Arts Award. This per-decade award recognizes a queer media artist with a body-of-work that spans a decade or more and is rooted, in part, here in Vancouver. The inaugural recipient was interdisciplinary artist, writer, and activist Laiwan.

Ten years later, Laiwan gathered her own jury of local, interdisciplinary artists—Anne Riley and Vanessa Kwan—to revive this prestigious award and select the 2018 winner: Thirza Cuthand. This recognition and \$2000 award will be presented at Thirza Cuthand: New and Retrospective.

"Thirza Cuthand is a maverick artist who unapologetically has forged a definitive voice and style, rich with embodied humour, curiosity, playfulness, and depth of resilience. Over the years, since 1995, Thirza's work has consistently explored fearless uncharted queer territories; so unstereotypical that we as viewers find ourselves not knowing which direction a work will go, courageous in sexuality and empowered in Indigeneity. Her ease in staging the uncomfortable while at the same time bridging space between worlds guarantees an existential depth that avoids any one-liner. Thirza's palette deftly mixes irony, parody, tongue-in-cheek, satire, and humour with a sophistication that makes it all look easy and innocent while avoiding being easily appropriated or consumed. Her steadfast tenacity, conviction and mastery in developing such uniqueness while displaying a lightness and delightfulness of touch absolutely makes her worthy for this award."

Laiwan 2008 Recipient of the Vancouver Queer Film Festival Media Artist Award



OUTtvGo People's Choice Award for Best Feature

Value \$750

Join OUTtvGo in supporting queer film by casting your vote for your favourite feature-length film. *Baka Bukas (Maybe Tomorrow)* directed by Samantha Lee, who visited us from the Philippines, took home the coveted OUTtvGo People's Choice for Best Feature in 2017.

OUTtvGo People's Choice Award for Best Short

Value \$500

This award goes to the audience's selection for exceptional short film. Support independent directors by voting at the Festival! Last year's award went to *Do I Have Boobs Now?* co-directed by Joella Cabalu and Milena Salazar.



Volunteer Service Award

Our new Out On Screen Volunteer Service Award is an annual award to recognize significant contribution to LGBT2Q+ communities through volunteer service with Out On Screen and its programs, the Vancouver Queer Film Festival and Out In Schools, and other exceptional acts of service in our community.

Artist In Residence: Thirza Cuthand

The Festival is proud to welcome our Anniversary Media Art Award recipient, Thirza Cuthand, as this year's Artist In Residence. Connect with Thirza at her three residency appearances: a body-of-work short film program, QTBIPOC Artist in Conversation workshop (both below), and a live storytelling appearance in **The Root** (p. 46).

With support from: Vancity, Skwachays Lodge





Thirza Cuthand: New and Retrospective

For over 20 years Thirza Cuthand (Plains Cree and Scot) has been producing videos that take up issues of sexuality, madness, youth, love, and race. Her innovative and prolific DIY practice blends an incomparable wit with incisive critique while tackling issues at the intersection of queerness, Indigeneity, and living in Canada's settler colonial society. Thirza will share a program of her early and most recent films that will leave you alternatively howling with laughter and questioning how you think about and live in this world.

My Sister | 1996 | 5 min Untouchable | 1998 | 4 min Helpless Maiden Makes An "I" Statement | 1999 | 6 min You Are A Leshian Vampire | 2008 | 3 min

You Are A Lesbian Vampire | 2008 | 3 min Sight | 2012 | 3 min

Lessons in Baby Dyke Theory | 1996 | 5 min

Boi Oh Boi | 2012 | 9 min Just Dandy | 2013 | 7 min

2 Spirit Introductory Special \$19.99 | 2015 | 5 min

Thirza Cuthand is an Indian Within the Meaning of the Indian Act | 2017 | 9 min

Total running time: 56 min

SAT | AUG 11 | 4:30pm | GCA

Spotlight Sponsor: Vancity

QTBIPOC Artists in Conversation with Thirza Cuthand

Join Artist In Residence Thirza Cuthand for a candid talk and about her 20-year long video and performance practice, followed by an interactive discussion specifically for Indigenous Artists and Artists of Colour. Gain insider knowledge about media art production, financing, editing, and presentation from Thirza herself, and share your own stories of artmaking and identity. Participants are encouraged to bring questions about any aspect of indie film or video making.

Free

SUN | AUG 12 | 12pm | GCA With support from: **Creative BC**









Local Artists In Residence: Love Intersections

with Jen Sungshine and David Ng

Love Intersections has been called a creative love note, penned by a group of hopeful millennials. Co-founded in 2014 by Jen Sungshine and David Ng, both gueer and Chinese/Taiwanese artist-activists based in Vancouver, Love Intersections, like all families, is a work in progress an ongoing story that is told by many voices. Grounded by an ethos of collective care, and expressed through the medium of film, Love Intersections aims to deepen the mainstream narrative of our differently interconnected lives fueled by empathy and extraordinary nuance.





Love Intersections: New and Retrospective

Join Love Intersections as they premiere their new 6x6 "Finding" short film series with TELUS Storyhive (listed below), as well as past films from the Love Intersections Anthology showcasing the depth of their body-of-work. Expect a few surprises, and guest appearances from co-collaborators, film subjects and local queer magic makers: a Love Intersections 4D experience!

Finding the Origin Story Finding Queer History **Finding Queer Dance Finding Queer Disability Language Finding Queer Sports** Finding Family & Hope

Films in this program are closed captioned in English, and also will be ASL interpreted.

SAT | AUG 18 | 2pm | GCA | 🛕 🎉



Screening Sponsors: Vancouver Frontrunners, English Bay Swim Club

Community Digital Storytelling with Love Intersections

What began as a wild idea of simply wanting to tell their own stories became a collaborative filmmaking journey that transformed how we understand community, queerness, and creative collaboration.

Love Intersections invites you to think about this vital connection between relationships, representation, and story. Come prepared to share your own wild ideas and stories in front of the camera with hosts Jen Sungshine and David Ng and work together to think through these questions: how do you see yourself, your friends and chosen family, and your communities all show up in film and media? What stories are still waiting to be told? More deeply, how do we develop elastic relationships in community with one another and cultivate social trust?

Relationships in community can be beautiful, broken, on the mend, in process, in historical resonance and in future. We can't wait to brainstorm with you in collaborative solidarity.

Free

SAT | AUG 11 | 2pm | GCA

Screening Sponsors: Creative BC, 24 Frames With support from: ACFC West, Local 2020 Unifor



Festival S	Schedul	e			
	Thursday 09	Friday 10	Saturday 11	Sunday 12	Monday 13
	6		p 49	p 27	
12 PM			Screenwriter's Workshop	QTBIPOC Artists In Conversation w/ Thirza Cuthand	
		0.00	GCA	GCA p 47	
2 PM			p 29 Community Digital Storytelling w/ Love Intersections	Talk the Ting	
\\\\			GCA	GCA	
			p 27		
430 PM		7 * ()	Thirza Cuthand: New and Retrospective		
			GCA		
			p 42	p 43	
5 PM			Faith	The Fruit Machine	
			IV		
6 PM	*			Ancestral Inheritance	
	p 20	p 20	p 42		p 48
		1985 (repeat)	Extra Terrestres	Alaska is A Drag	Troublemakers
- DV	Opening Gala	6g ♠ GCA	lo d	"	€g A VCT
7 PM	1985	p 45 Octavio is Dead!	p 21 Youth Gala		p 45 Miss Rosewood
	A VD⊔	ıv.			IV
	VFN	V	GCA	p 46	IV
ODI				The Deat	
8 PM				GCA	
	P 27 Thirza Cuthandt: New and Retrospective GCA P 42 P 38 Ancestral Inheritance GCA P 48 Alaska is A Drag (repeat) P 45 Octavio is Dead! VPH VOH VPH VP				
		Every Act of Life			
9 PM					
			p 47 Tinta Bruta		p 46 Shakedown
			6 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	_	N/
	p 59	© IV	© IV	IV	IV IV
930 PM	Opening Gala Party @ šx**texən Xwtl'a7shn Plaza				

	Tuesday 14	Wednesday 15	Thursday 16	Friday 17	Saturday 18	Sunday 19
		*				
					p 29	
					Love Intersections: New and Retrospective	
					69 GCA	
				p 39	p 44	
*				The Coast is Genderqueer	Leitis in Waiting	
				€9 <u>A</u> GCA	<u>∳</u> GCA	
	p 40	p 22	p 39	p 47	p 38	p 23
	and the unclaimed w/ Debalina	Centrepiece Gala White Rabbit	Call Her Ganda	#TransWomenAre Beautiful	Apricot Groves	
	p 38 VCT	p 45	GCA p 41	GCA p 48	69 © 1 GCA p 44	Closing Gala
	Al Berto	A Moment in the Reeds (repeat)	Dykes, Camera, Action!	We Are the Vancouver Men's Chorus	Indigiqueer Shorts from Turtle Island & Aotearoa	The Miseducation of Cameron Post
_	© IV	(repeat)	⚠ IV	<u>↑</u> YT	YT	<u>♪</u> VPH
	p 40 If You Dare Desire	p 39	p 46	p 42	p 44 Malila: The	
	w/ Debalina	Bixa Travesty	Saturday Church	The Feels	Farewell Flower	
	p 45 VCT	© IV	p 22	p 40	p 41	p 59
	A Moment in the Reeds	•	White Rabbit (repeat)	The Coast is Queer	Deep Inside Clint Star Free!	Closing Gala Party
	IV		<u>i</u> V	YT	YT	The Junction
	GCA			YT York Theatre		
	Legend IV VCT		rnational Village Cinemas	Closed Captionin Salar ASL Interpretation		
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decolonizing discipline(s): a two-spirit showcase



Colonization has tried to erase the ways in which Indigenous peoples celebrate and value two-spirit identity and queerness. For years, Indigenous artists and creators have been doing the work to undo this erasure, decolonizing their artistic discipline to fully encompass the realness of two-spirit/Indigiqueer stories and experiences.

This year's two-spirit showcase brings an array of Indigenous film and live performance that defies the settler knowledge surrounding two-spirit and Indigiqueer identities.

Join us for a free archival screening of late director Clint Alberta's award winning film **Deep Inside Clint Star** (p. 41), a documentary that subverted the way young Indigenous people express sexuality through identity. **Leitis in Waiting** (p. 44) reveals what it means to strive towards acceptance in deeply religious and conservative surroundings without giving up the things that make you who you are.

Thirza Cuthand (p. 27) shares insight into her 20+ year filmmaking career with a new and retrospective artist in conversation talk. **Ancestral Inheritance** (p. 38) explores the ways in which Indigenous artists incorporate familial lineage into their artistic practice.

At the core of this Spotlight is **Indigiqueer Shorts from Turtle Island & Aotearoa** (p. 44). Programmed by filmmaker and Festival Programmer Justin Ducharme, this collection of versatile shorts showcases the ways in which two-spirit/Indigiqueer folks express queerness.

And a warm shout out to director Desiree Akhavan and actor Forrest Goodluck for the nuanced and much needed representation of two-spirit identity in **The Miseducation of Cameron Post** (p. 23).

Features

Deep Inside Clint Star (p. 41) **Leitis in Waiting** (p. 44)

Shorts:

Hard Out (p. 44) **I Like Girls** (p. 44)

Kweenz of Kelston (p. 21)

Mohawk Midnight Runners (p. 44)

Muxes (p. 44)

Paskwâw Mostos Iskwêsis (p. 44)

Positions (p. 44)

The Promise of Piha (p. 44)

Strange Territory (p. 44) [untitled & unlabeled] (p. 44)

Tsanizid (Wake Up) (p. 44)

Thirza Cuthand:

New and Retrospective (p. 27)

Live Performers: Edzi'u (p. 38) Evan Ducharme (p. 38) Jody Okabe (p. 38)

Presented by:





Trans Women on Screen



Features:

Bixa Travesty (p. 39) Call Her Ganda (p. 39) Freelancers Anonymous (p. 43) Miss Rosewood (p. 45)

Shorts

Atlantic is a Sea of Bones (p. 47) Fran This Summer (p. 47) Happy Birthday, Marsha (p. 47) Pre-Drink (p. 47) "Anytime you give a trans person an opportunity, especially an opportunity to be ourselves, you are promoting a shift in the way society sees us." -Trace Lysette.

Criticisms of Hollywood's bias for casting cisgender male actors as trans women are well known, with vocal trans actresses like Laverne Cox and Trace Lysette speaking up. Hollywood's ongoing casting choices not only perpetuate inauthentic and often dangerous portrayals of trans women—they also monopolize our gaze, distracting us from the wide breadth of trans women talent and stories that exist in marginalization.

Trans women artists and activists make commanding appearances in this year's documentaries. See Pinay author and LGBT staff writer for Buzzfeed Meredith Talusan fight for trans justice and anti-imperialism in **Call Her Ganda** (p. 39). Brazilian musician Linn da Quebrada lights up São Paulo stages and airwaves in **Bixa Travesty** (p. 39). And **Miss Rosewood** (p. 45) gets us up close to one of New York's most controversial and adored stage performers.

At the centre of this Spotlight is the **#TransWomenAreBeautiful** (p. 47) program, a collection of highly-accomplished shorts that rightfully position trans women as desirable and beautiful.

Shout outs to Alexandra Billings (*Transparent*) for her comical supporting role in **Freelancers Anonymous** (p. 43), and to model/actress Indya Moore and singer/actress Mj Rodriguez for supporting roles in **Saturday Church** (p. 46).

Cultural Partner:





RISE: Youth Spotlight



Youth rise like the moon, uplifted by fearlessness and flair, friendship and family. Even when faced with uncertainty and opposition, the youth throughout this spotlight shine bright as their fullest selves.

Our Youth Gala, **Alaska Is A Drag** (p. 21), shows the strength of sibling love as brother-sister team Leo and Tristen shake up their small Alaskan town with their unstoppable fierceness. Meanwhile, in New York City, fourteen-year old Ulysses finds solace from school bullies and family tensions at a vibrant queer and trans drop-in called **Saturday Church** (p. 46). The protagonists in both films share a passion for music, dance and drag, and will leave you cheering for and singing along with them.

Visiting director Debalina conscientiously addresses the gravity of queer teen suicide in ...and the unclaimed and If You Dare Desire... (p. 40)—a reimagining of a double suicide in West Bengal in which two teenage girls, Swapna and Sucheta, get to live and love together.

Our local short film program **The Coast Is Genderqueer** (p. 39) features the documentary **Beauty**, which celebrates the lives of five gender-creative kids, including 2017 Pride Grand Marshals and trans activists, Tru Wilson, and her family. In the same program, local filmmakers under 30, Alli MacKay and Yue Xia, utilize eye-popping animation to explore the many possibilities of gender. QTBIPOC youth share their stories in the **Love Intersections: New and Retrospective Short Documentary Program** (p. 29) with Local Artists in Residence Jen Sungshine and David Ng. And **Troublemakers** (p. 48) is back! Once again we've paired local aspiring youth filmmakers up with inspiring troublemakers for our home-grown 3.0 edition of short documentary films.

Features:

Alaska Is A Drag (p. 21) ...and the unclaimed (p. 40) If You Dare Desire... (p. 40) Saturday Church (p. 46) The Miseducation of Cameron Post (p. 23)

Shorts:

Beauty (p. 39) Flash Flood (p. 39) The Decision of Riley (p. 39) Hole (p. 39) Polymorph (p. 39) Troublemakers 3.0 series (p. 48) Love Intersections series (p. 29)



Spotlight on The Artist



Features:
Al Berto (p. 38)
Dykes, Camera, Action! (p. 41)
Every Act of Life (p. 41)
50 Years of Fabulous (p. 43)
Malia: The Farewell Flower (p. 44)
Shakedown (p. 46)
Talk the Ting (p. 47)
Tinta Bruta (p. 47)
White Rabbit (p.22)

Live Performers: David Ly (p. 46) Richard O'Donnell (p. 46) Tien Neo Eamas (p. 46) Tara Roberston (p. 46) What is queer art? Is it the creation of anyone who is queer, trans, or two-spirit? Does queer art exist to celebrate or provocate our sexualities, genders, races, classes, cultures, abilities, and origins? Should queer art disrupt dominant notions of normality or cultivate an effort to fit into the mainstream? Should queer art make viewers uncomfortable or foster a sense of belonging? Or perhaps queerness lies with how the art is made—with emphasis on inclusive and non-hierarchical collaborations?

This year's **Spotlight on The Artist** is sure to speak to your interpretations of and love for the broad spectrum of queer art. Disrupt and daydream with Vivian Bang, in her role as a Korean American performance artist in **White Rabbit**, our Centrepiece Gala film (p. 22). Consort with poet Alberto Raposo Pidwell Tavares and his sexy bohemian friends in the biopic **Al Berto** (p. 38). Swirl in the nuanced, neon-bright love story of **Tinta Bruta** (p. 47). And contemplate the traditional art of Thai Bai Sri, the spiritual practice of sculpting jasmine flowers in **Malila: The Farewell Flower** (p. 44)

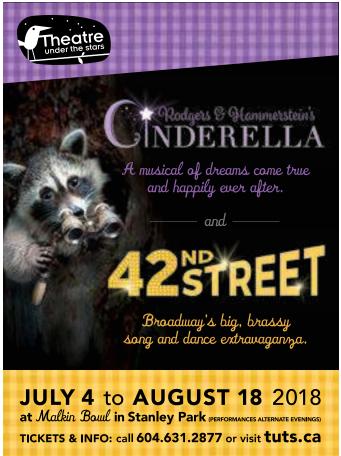
The documentaries in this Spotlight are equally varied. **Every Act of Life** (p. 41) commemorates five decades of work from playwright Terrence McNally. **Dykes, Camera, Action!** (p. 41) spotlights the evolution of queer women on screen and in the director's chair. And the entertainers in **Shakedown** (p. 46) form a Black sex-positive performance scene that is uniquely their own, free of the white mainstream gaze.

To compliment this Spotlight's film program, five local artists share a live storytelling stage in **The Root** (p. 46) to talk candidly about their own creative practices, from drag queen styling to novel writing.













Films



Al Berto

Poet Alberto Raposo Pidwell Tavares (pen name Al Berto) is widely acclaimed across Southern Europe for authoring nearly twenty books between 1977 and the year of his death in 1997.

Director Vicente Alves do Ó transports us to the seaside town of Sines during the summer of 1975, where a young Al Berto returns after the recent fall of Portugal's dictatorship. Al Berto has grand plans for his homecoming: opening an independent bookstore, transforming his abandoned familial home into a bohemian headquarters, and drawing the ruggedly handsome João Maria into his bed each night. But even during this progressive time of change, the locals are reluctant to accept Al Berto and his band of free-spirits into their small community.

Known for his lavish historic biopics, Alves do Ó recreates time and place with rich and sensual detail.

Al Berto | Vicente Alves do Ó | Portugal | 2017 | 109 min | Portuguese with English

TUE | AUG 14 | 7pm | IV | CC

Screening Sponsors: Modo the Car Co-op, Vancouver Frontrunners



Ancestral Inheritance with Edzi'u, Jody Okabe & Evan Ducharme

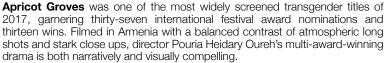
Familial lineage has its hand in shaping the work that artists and creators give life, whether it's obvious or not. Ancestral Inheritance explores and showcases the ways in which three Indigenous artists explore their familial influence, through fashion and music.

Composer and musician Edzi'u shares her evolving sound, sonically painting vessels of history, tradition, and adaptation; a record of Indigenous experience through a contemporary Indigenous lens. Musician Jody Okabe explores story, creative process and decolonizing through sound and song. Fashion designer Evan Ducharme shares how his deep and nuanced connection to his Métis family and ancestors have influenced his work in the fashion medium.

SUN | AUG 12 | 6pm | GCA

Spotlight Sponsor: Vancity





Aram is an Iranian-Armenian who has lived in America since childhood and returns to Armenia to complete two important journeys; the first is to meet his girlfriend's family and ask permission to marry her, and the second is to finally receive gender affirming surgery in Iran. Over the course of one day, Aram embarks on an intense emotional journey to the border dividing the two nations, driven by his older brother, Vartan, who offers advice, Armenian proverbs, and cultural nuances—doing his best to try and mentor his brother forward.

Apricot Groves | Pouria Heidary Oureh | Armenia | 2017 | 78 min | Armenian and Farsi with English subtitles









Screening Sponsor: Modo the Car Co-op, Saltwater Law

Bixa Travesty (Tranny Fag)

Black, transgender singer Linn da Quebrada, born and raised in the favelas of São Paulo, is a force of nature in this documentary that interrogates and joyfully explores the possibilities of the trans-feminine body and art politic. The film follows da Quebrada on a personal and artistic journey as she carves out a space for herself on Brazil's stages and airwaves, along with fellow trans performer Jup do Bairro, channeling her rage through her music and a biting sense of humour towards the very patriarchy that would kill her.

Filmmakers Claudia Priscilla and Kiko Goiffman capture the electricity of da Quabreda's live performances juxtaposed with tender scenes of Linn's life at home with her mother and chosen family. **Bixa Travesty** is an intimate portrait of a complex and evolving performer, whose very body is an act of resistance and whose voice is a megaphone for empowerment.

Bixa Travesty (Tranny Fag) | Claudiá Priscilla, Kiko Goifman | Brazil | 2018 | 75 min | Portuguese with English Subtitles

WED | AUG 15 | 9pm | IV | CC

Spotlight Partner: SFU Woodward's Cultural Programs Screening Sponsor: Cineplex

Call Her Ganda

In 2014, Jennifer Laude, a Filipina trans woman, was killed by a US Marine. Her case created an outcry and galvanized activists locally and internationally.

PJ Raval's moving documentary follows three women intimately involved in Jennifer's case: her mother, who is relentless in her pursuit of justice: American-Filipina trans journalist Meredith Talusan; and the family's lawyer Virgie Suarez, who's faced with the task of not only proving a murder case, but also taking on the Visiting Forces Agreement, which dictates that the US government retains jurisdiction over military personnel accused of crimes in the Philippines.

This riveting film shows the ways in which American imperialism and the violence against women like Jennifer are inextricably linked, and raises complex questions about sovereignty, justice, and the right to self-determination.

Content Advisory: graphic images and descriptions of a crime scene

Call Her Ganda | PJ Raval | Philippines | 2018 | 80 min | English and Tagalog with **English Subtitles**

Director in Attendance

THU | AUG 16 | 7pm | GCA |



Spotlight Partner: SFU Woodward's Cultural Programs Screening Sponsor: Hospital Employees Union

The Coast is Genderqueer

The Festival is proud to present our first short film program that showcases local transgender, genderfluid, and non-binary stories. With an emphasis on youth on screen and emerging filmmakers behind the camera, these BC-made shorts depict expansive expressions of gender through animation, experimentation, and artful documentation. This program is as visually alluring as it is critically engaging, demonstrating the powerful overlap between art and activism.

Flash Flood | Alli MacKay | Canada | 2017 | 6 min Polymorph | Mike Hooves | Canada | 2017 | 5 min The Decision of Riley | Yue Xie | Canada | 2017 | 4 min Hole | G Goletski | Canada | 2018 | 6 min Beauty | Christina Willing | Canada | 2018 | 24 min

Total running time: 45 min Directors in attendance

The Genderqueer shorts series will be preceded by 2018 Vancouver GSA student films: Q, by Prince of Wales Secondary School; Gender Non Conforming Me, by David Thompson Secondary; and Spirit, by Britannia Secondary.











The Coast is Queer

Our made-in-Vancouver program launched in 1997, morphed into Code V in 1999, and finally became our beloved local short film program, The Coast is Queer, in 2000. More than two decades strong, The Coast Is Queer continues to showcase alluring animation, provoking dramas, wonderfully peculiar experimental films, and uplifting documentaries.

Banana | Andrew Gillingham | Canada | 2018 | 11 min

EQ | Anika Syskakis | Canada | 2018 | 6 min

Pass the Salt | Panta Mosleh, Hayley Gray | Canada | 2018 | 10 min

The Common Fag | Michael V Smith | Canada | 2018 | 5 min

Lionhood | Jason Karman | Canada | 2018 | 2 min The Pigeon | Shireen Dalbey | Canada | 2018 | 1 min

Cosmetics | Nic Peerson | Canada | 2018 | 2 min Run | Jessica Han | Canada | 2018 | 8 min

Fat Hiking Club | Layla Cameron | Canada | 2018 | 14 min

Colors | Yuki Chen | Canada | 2018 | 6 min

Macho Man | Dominic Chan | Canada | 2018 | 3 min

Total running time: 68 min Directors in attendance

FRI | AUG 17 | 9pm | YT

Screening Sponsors: Creative BC, Telefilm Venue Sponsor: York Theatre



Debalina: Documenting, Dreaming

On February 21, 2011, two young girls committed suicide in a village in West Bengal. Their names were Swapna and Shucheta. In the days following their deaths, the story of their relationship unfolds, revealing a deep love that remained steady in the face of violence and discrimination. Visiting director Debalina beautifully explores their story in both documentary and narrative form with her films. Join her for a double bill of ...and the unclaimed and If You Dare Desire...

...and the unclaimed delves into the aftermath of Swapna and Shucheta's deaths, as well as the social conditions that led to their choice. "The unclaimed" refers both to the fact that neither of their families came forward to claim their bodies, but also to the tenuous state of existence of queer and trans folks in India. Interviews with Swapna and Shucheta's families and neighbours are interspersed with the stories of ordinary Indian gueer and trans people, as well as activists and advocates, all of whom are dealing with their own experiences of the label "unclaimed", while fiercely fighting for their rights to live and love.

Debalina will give introductory remarks.

...and the unclaimed | Debalina | India | 2014 | 63 min | English and Bengali with English subtitles

Director in attendance

TUE | AUG 14 | 7pm | VCT | CC | 6g





Screening Sponsors: Delta Air Lines, Downtown Vancouver BIA

If You Dare Desire... imagines the life Swapna and Shucheta could have had together, as they travel far from their village into the unknown. A departure from the "happliy ever after" story; the girls endure poverty and fear the constant threat of being found out. Still, their determination and the kindness from the people they meet on their journey offers them the chance to carve out a small world for their love and survival. Gorgeous shots of lonely landscapes and suffocated cities are juxtaposed with scenes of tenderness between the two lovers, tempering grief with hope.

If You Dare Desire... | Debalina | India | 2017 | 52 min | English and Bengali with English subtitles

Director in attendance Q&A to follow









Screening Sponsors: Delta Air Lines, Downtown Vancouver BIA

Deep Inside Clint Star

At the turn of the millennium, director Clint Alberta invited us into conversations from the hearts and minds of fellow young Indigenous Canadians around Toronto. Stylish and subversive, this documentary provides a look at Indigenous sexuality through identity with an anarchist approach to documentary filmmaking. Hugo is a punk rocker who doesn't care what you think. Tawny has aspirations to attend university and "live happily ever after". Harvey feels that his life has just begun after coming out. Michael's got an iron fist grip on his cultural and sexual identity. Becky is ready to find love again, and Gerhard is here for the ride-letting life take him where it may. Watch as they explore issues of identity, sexuality, and intimacy with a director who was not about conforming to society's demands. Premiering at the Sundance Film Festival in 2000 and going on to win the Gemini Award for Best Documentary Feature, **Deep Inside Clint Star** is an (extra) ordinary doc about life, sex, love, and truths despite 500 years of oppression.

Opening comments from filmmakers Justin Ducharme and Jade Baxter.

Deep Inside Clint Star | Clint Alberta | Canada | 2000 | 88 min Free

SAT | AUG 18 | 9pm | YT

Spotlight Sponsor: Vancity Venue Sponsor: York Theatre



Dykes, Camera, Action!

Lesbians didn't always get to see themselves on screen, and when they did, their storylines almost always ended in death. But between Stonewall and the experimental cinema of the 1970s, filmmakers Barbara Hammer and Su Friedrich overthrew the lesbian-tragedy narrative and developed their own highly stylized gueer visual languages. Momentum and audiences grew-in 1992 Latin American and gueer film scholar B Ruby Rich coined the term New Queer Cinema to describe gueer-themed, gueer-made cinema. Queer film with women directors rose to become Sundance and Berlinale hits, including Rose Troche's Go Fish, Cheryl Dunye's The Watermelon Woman, and Desiree Akhavan's Appropriate Behavior.

Debut director Caroline Berler chronicles the incredible change-making impact queer women directors have had on cinema, and the ways we tell lesbian stories.

Dykes, Camera, Action! | Caroline Berler | USA | 2018 | 53 min



THU | AUG 16 | 7pm | IV |

Presenting Sponsor: RBC

Screening Sponsors: Cineplex, IATSE Local 891

Every Act of Life

Playwright Terrence McNally is best known for Love! Valour! Compassion!, Kiss of the Spider Woman, and Ragtime: all Tony award winners that premiered in the 1990s.

Long before his widespread success, McNally made the bold choice that many of his colleagues and lovers (including playwright Edward Albee and actor Robert Drivas) could not - he came out. This revealing documentary follows his groundbreaking career and his fight for visibility within theatre from the 1960s to the present day.

Every Act of Life is a theatre-lover's delight, with interviews from Broadway and screen actors Angela Lansbury, Larry Kramer, Nathan Lane, Chita Rivera, John Slattery, Rita Moreno-among others-as well as the voices of Bryan Cranston (as John Steinbeck) and Meryl Streep (as Terrence's high school English teacher).

Every Act of Life | Jeff Kaufman | USA | 2018 | 92 min



FRI | AUG 10 | 9pm | GCA |

Presenting Sponsor: RBC

Screening Sponsors: OUTtvGo, James Goodman





Extra Terrestres (Extra Terrestrials)

What happens when Teresa, an astrophysicist, and Daniela, an astronomer, fall in love? They align their wedding day with the first intergalactic supernova to be seen by the human eye. This romantic plan has only one setback—Teresa wants to come out to her family first. Upon returning to Puerto Rico to announce her engagement, she is quickly swept up in a crisis as the family's poultry farm is being threatened by local corruption and unjust laws from the USDA. The struggle to save the farm brings the family together in ways that make Teresa soon realize that she's not the only one with a secret to reveal.

This impressive debut from filmmaker Carla Cavina is at once a lesbian love story, a family drama, and an ode to the magic of the vast and unknowable cosmos. **Extra Terrestres** won the Audience Choice award at the Puerto Rico Queer Film Festival.

Extra Terrestres (Extra Terrestrials) | Carla Cavina | Puerto Rico | 2017 | 112 min | Spanish with English subtitles

SAT | AUG 11 | 7pm | IV | CC



Screening Sponsors: Cineplex, Scotiabank



This intimate documentary follows one woman on her journey with her family back to the homeland that had once rejected her. Growing up in Kenya, where homosexuality is still criminalized, Faith was forced to keep her identity hidden. When she is targeted for being queer, she flees Kenya and moves to America as a refugee where she builds a new life for herself.

Years later, Faith, her Jewish wife Jenny, and their son Hayden travel back to Kenya for the first time together. Through interviews with Faith's family and friends, this documentary paints a complex portrait of LGBTQ life in Kenya, and the sometimes uncomfortable culture shock and interpersonal dynamics of a mixed race, cross-cultural queer relationship. Audiences will be charmed by Faith and her family, and deeply moved by her journey to bridge her many worlds and bring them into the same universe.

Faith | Molly Pelavin | USA | 2017 | 53 min

Director in attendance

SAT | AUG 11 | 5pm | IV

This presentation is part of Migrant Voices, presented by: Carl Meadows and Les Dick Screening Sponsors: Xtra, Northwest Kennels & Daycare



From The Big Chill to American Pie to Bridesmaids, every decade offers a new array of party-themed comedies. But where are the lesbians in these fun and raunchy films? Lesbians like to party too! Or at least that's what brides-to-be, Lu (Angela Trimbur, UCB Comedy Originals) and Andi (Constance Wu, Fresh Off The Boat) set out to do on their bachelorette weekend getaway. The couple soon discover that it's going to take more than a few bottles of pinot grigio to bring together their eclectic group of guests. What begins as a mild clashing of personalities builds into molly-dropping, clothing-stripping, jealousy-making, secret-spilling drama. Like all good party comedies, the characters in **The Feels** have more than their hangovers to contend with on Sunday morning.

Ever Mainard was awarded Outstanding Performance at both LA Outfest and Long Beach Q Festival for her hilarious role of Regular Helen.

The Feels | Jenée LaMarque | USA | 2017 | 90 min



50 Years of Fabulous

50 Years of Fabulous recounts the rich history of the Imperial Council in San Francisco, one of the oldest and most influential queer organizations in the world. Director Jethro Patalinghug follows the Council from its genesis with founder José Julio Sarria, to its vital role in the advocacy for LGBT2Q+ human rights by battling discrimination, HIV/AIDS, and homelessness.

A mix of interviews with past Emperors and Empresses, commentary from historians, and archival footage make this timely documentary a fascinating and (as the title suggests) truly fabulous viewing experience. Come see where our own forty-seven year strong Imperial Court of Vancouver gets its roots.

50 Years of Fabulous | Jethro Patalinghug | USA | 2018 | 75 min

Canadian Premiere Director in attendance



MON | AUG 13 | 9pm | VCT | Screening Sponsors: Xtra, West End BIA

Freelancers Anonymous

Written, directed, and starring an ensemble cast of women, this quirky indie certainly passes the Bechdel test with its refreshing take on the romantic comedy.

Billie and her partner Gayle (Natasha Negovanlis) should be enjoying a romantic engagement, except Billie hates her crappy office job and sadistic boss (Alexandra Billings, Davina on *Transparent*). Despite the pending wedding bills pilling up, Billie makes the knee-jerk move to branch out on her own. A series of goofy missteps lead her to a group of other unemployed misfits—together they form a promising tech start-up company. But will their business plan and financial backers come together in time to save Billie's wedding day?

Freelancers Anonymous | Sonia Sebastián | USA | 2018 | 90 min



SUN | AUG 12 | 9pm | IV

Spotlight Partner: SFU Woodward's Cultural Programs

Screening Sponsor: Cineplex

The Fruit Machine

"Today we acknowledge an often-overlooked part of Canada's history. Canada's role in the systemic oppression, criminalization, and violence against the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and two-spirit communities." - Prime Minister Justin Trudeau

LGBT2Q+ Canadians received an historic apology from Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on November 28, 2017, but what is the true depth of the actions for which he was apologizing? Survivors of the four decades-long homosexual witch hunt recount their personal stories of betrayal at the hands of the Canadian government. At times sharp and funny, more often heart-wrenching, **The Fruit Machine** reveals sobering details of our national history that must not be forgotten. Director Sarah Fodey has worked on film and digital storytelling for over twenty years. **The Fruit Machine** is her first feature-length documentary.

The Fruit Machine | Sarah Fodey | Canada | 2018 | 90 min

The Fruit Machine is preceded by the short film **Button Out!**—a lively homage to the one-inch button.

Button Out! | Kathleen Mullen | Canada | 2018 | 4 min

Directors in attendance

SUN | AUG 12 | 5pm | IV

Screening Sponsors: Scotiabank, Xtra





Tsanizid (Wake Up)

Indigiqueer Shorts from Turtle Island & Aotearoa

"I think I used it because some LGBTQ Indigenous people don't feel as comfortable with the two-spirit title...I know a lot of people don't ID with the Queer label either. But I liked the idea of Indigiqueer" - Thirza Cuthand

Coined in 2004 by Thirza Cuthand, the term Indigiqueer is a way for queer Indigenous folks to identify themselves and their queerness. This cinematic collection showcases how versatile two-spirit/Indigiqueer life is. Join us for a mix of narrative and experimental works that defies colonial expressions of queerness.

Hard Out | Howard Adler, Candy Renae, Jessie Short | Aotearoa | 2017 | 4 min

I Like Girls | Diane Obomsawin | Turtle Island | 2017 | 8 min

Mohawk Midnight Runners | Zoe Leigh Hopkins | Turtle Island | 2013 | 16 min Paskwâw Mostos Iskwêsis (Buffalo Girl) | Howard Adler, Leo Koziol, Candy Renae Fox | Turtle Island | 2017 | 4 min

Positions | Justin Ducharme | Turtle Island | 2018 | 12 min

The Promise of Piha | Hanelle Harris | Aotearoa | 2015 | 16 min

Strange Territory | Jessie Short and Ashley Bedet | Turtle Island | 2018 | 4 min

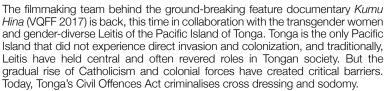
[untitled & unlabeled] | Terry Jones | Turtle Island | 2017 | 3 min Tsanizid (Wake Up) | Beric Manywounds | Turtle Island | 2017 | 6 min

Running time: 73 min Directors in attendance

SAT | AUG 18 | 7pm | YT

Spotlight Sponsor: Vancitv Venue Sponsor: York Theatre





Driven to fight for justice, visibility, and tradition, Joey Joleen Mataele forms the Tongan Leitis Association. Leitis in Waiting follows this newly-founded association as its members advocate for decriminalization and organise their celebrated annual Leitis Pageant.

Leitis in Waiting | Hinaleimoana Wong-Kalu | Tonga | 2017 | 71 min

Leitis in Waiting will be preceded by the short film Muxes, which documents the lives and roles of the "Muxes" of the Zapotec people.

Muxes | Ivan Olita | Mexico | 2017 | 10 min

SAT | AUG 18 | 5pm | GCA |



Spotlight Sponsor: Vancity

Malila: The Farewell Flower

Former lovers, Pitch and Shane, reunite to rekindle their relationship and heal the pain of their lives through Buddhist spiritualism and the traditional art of Thai Bai Sri: a meditative practice of arranging banana leaves and jasmine flowers. When Shane finds out that Pitch is dying, in his grief he decides to be a monk for the rest of his life.

A far cry from fast-paced Western filmmaking, director Anucha Boonyawatana never hurries; there are no narrative short cuts, no montages, no abrupt fades or dissolves. From the tender love scenes, to the delicate action of threading white jasmine, to death itself—all is shown with unflinching detail. Boonyawatana's debut feature The Blue Hour screened at VQFF 2015. Malila: The Farewell Flower earned her the prize for Best Director in the 2017 Singapore International Film Festival and two Asian Film Awards in 2018.

Content Advisory: graphic images of a human corpse.

Malilia: The Farewell Flower | Anucha Boonyawatana | Thailand | 2017 | 94 min | Thai with English subtitles

SAT | AUG 18 | 9pm | GCA | CC



Screening Sponsor: Northwest Kennels & Daycare



Miss Rosewood

Worried that queer art has become too mainstream? Too safe? Miss Rosewood is here to push the envelope and remind us how intense and explicit queer art can be. Hailing from New York City, she is one of the only trans women performers at The Box, the Lower East Side's legendary and controversial theatre nightclub frequented by celebrities like Rihanna and Leonardo DiCaprio (Miss Rosewood may have emptied a condom onto Leonardo DiCaprio's head during a show).

A mixture of performance footage, documentation of her gender-affirming journey, and candid interviews with family and friends, make **Miss Rosewood** a well-rounded and riveting documentary.

Content Advisory: Theatrical (and perhaps real) body fluids, including feces and blood.

Miss Rosewood | Helle Jensen | USA | 2017 | 67 min

MON | AUG 13 | 7pm | IV

Spotlight Partner: **SFU Woodward's Cultural Programs** Screening Sponsor: **Cineplex**



A Moment in the Reeds

Tareq—an architect by profession who has come to Southern Finland from wartorn Syria seeking asylum—is hired by conservative Finnish widower, Jouko, to help restore the family's lake house. Jouko also calls his estranged son Leevi back from Paris to help with renovations. The two young men, speaking their only common language of English, form a connection and shared desire to be tender and close.

Mikko Mäkelä's directorial debut has already earned him international recognition for what Film Inquiry Magazine calls "one of the most moving gay romance stories of recent years." Performances by amateur actors Boodi Kabbani and Janne Puustinen propel the romantic action; Mäkelä asked his co-leads to improvise most of the dialogue, giving the film a sense of authentic intimacy.

A Moment in the Reeds | Mikko Mäkelä | Finland | 2017 | 107 mins | English and Finnish with English subtitles

A Moment in the Reeds is preceded by the sexy and thoughtful men's short Threesome.

Threesome | Jessica King | USA | 2017 | 3 min

TUE | AUG 14 | 9pm | IV

WED | AUG 15 | 7pm | IV

Screening Sponors: Cineplex, Scotiabank With special thanks to: The Charles Bar



Octavio Is Dead!

Filmmaker, broadcaster, musician, activist, and outspoken bisexual, Sook-Yin Lee may be one of Canada's most cherished artists. Lee affirmed her dedication to representing positive and fluid sexualities through her key role in *Shortbus*, the 2006 erotic dramedy by John Cameron Mitchell. We are thrilled to welcome Lee to our Festival to present her sophomore feature film. Starring Sarah Gadon, Rosanna Arquettel, and Raoul Max Trujillo, **Octavio Is Dead!** is a queer, genderbending ghost story with a meaty side of family drama.

On the same day Tyler is fired from her dead-end job, she learns her estranged father, Octavio, has passed away. All her life, Tyler's overbearing mother has lead her to believe her father wanted nothing to do with her, but after a strained meeting with Octavio's lawyer, Tyler finds herself in possession of his decrepit and eccentric apartment—an apartment that both scares her and compels her to change her life.

Octavio Is Dead! | Sook-Yin Lee | Canada | 2018 | 90 min

Director in attendance









Tien Neo Eamas

The Root

Artist In Residence, Thirza Cuthand joins four local artists and innovators to talk about their queer and trans "root" - and what roots them to their creative practices. An energetic and candid storytelling show, The Root features: poet and marketing pro, David Ly; wizard, goldsmith and creative consultant, Tien Neo Eamas; data driven feminist storyteller and rogue librarian, Tara Roberston; and drag wardrobe and wig mistress, Richard O'Donnell.

The Root happens directly after Ancestral Inheritance (p. 38). Spend your Sunday afternoon and evening inspired by local talent.

SUN | AUG 12 | 8pm | GCA

Screening Sponsors: Hastings Crossing BIA, OUTtvGo



Saturday Church

Saturday Church tells the story of fourteen-year-old Ulysses, an introspective and creative teen who finds himself thrust into heightened responsibility when his father dies in combat overseas. His heartbroken single mother, Amara (Margot Bingham), z leaves Ulysses and his younger brother in the care of their judgmental Aunt Rose (Regina Taylor). To survive, Ulysses imagines that life is a musical—the film breaks out into dreamy, dynamic song and dance numbers with stellar performances by the young cast.

With the tension in his house building, Ulysses is driven out of his home, finding his way to the Christopher Street Piers where he meets a group of queer and trans youth who introduce him to the drop-in centre known as Saturday Church. Ulysses faces heartbreaking challenges but in this new world, with this new group of friends, he finds ways to stand gloriously in his self-determination.

Saturday Church features a charming cameo from Kate Bornstein as well as Indya Moore and Mj Rodriguez in strong supporting roles.

Saturday Church | Damon Cardasis | USA | 2017 | 82 min

THU | AUG 16 | 9pm | GCA |



Screening Sponsor: Scotiabank



"Shakedown" was a series of underground parties created by and for Black women in Los Angeles that featured go-go dancing and strip shows for the Black lesbian community. Inspired by trans woman Mahogany (the mother of the ball scene in 1980s LA) and run by charismatic butch Ronnie Ron, these parties were a rare place for lesbians and communities of colour to gather, celebrate and experiment. The Shakedown Angels are represented in all their gender bending, high femme, studly, and acrobatic glory by director Leila Weinraub.

Weinraub captures a moment in time, using archival footage and interviews from 400 hours of footage captured over years as a Shakedown family member. This film is a look at female desire and performance rarely seen in cinema.

Shakedown | Leila Weinraub | USA | 2018 | 70 mins



MON | AUG 13 | 9pm | IV Screening Sponsor: Cineplex

Talk the Ting

Talk the Ting tells the love story of London-based podcasting trio SISTREN. The topics of their podcast cover a spectrum contemporary issues, but what's garnered them an audience of international listeners is the intimate relationship they maintain with each other. Shot over the course of a week, director Shelby Zoe Coley lovingly captures the three sister-friends dishing on their African upbringing, queer Black sisterhood, self-care, and how they love themselves and each other.

Talk the Ting | Shelby Zoe Coley | UK | 2018 | 45 min

Talk the Ting is preceded by the ground-breaking short film/new media project, **Reality Fragment 160921** by 七个木 Qigemu 七個木— a duo consisting of lovers and collaborators April Lin and Jasmine Lin, who explore the interstices of movement, visual language, identity, and Asian diaspora.

Reality Fragment 160921 | April Lin, Jasmine Lin | UK, USA | 2018 | 12 min | English and Cantonese with English subtitles



SUN | AUG 12 | 2pm | GCA

Screening Sponsors: Dr Langston Raymond, Northwest Kennels & Daycare

Tinta Bruta (Hard Paint)

In public, androgynous and socially anxious Pedro is painfully isolated and frequently bullied. In private, Pedro becomes NeonBoy, an erotic webcam artist, adored by his online following for his vivid and charismatic performances. But Pedro's artistic vision and livelihood are threatened when copycat artist, Boy25, launches a similar neon-paint themed webcam show. Pedro discovers Boy25 lives nearby in Porto Alegre and tracks him down. Their strained first meeting quickly reveals a shared longing for intimacy, and these would-be competitors become collaborators and lovers.

The expressive characters and emotionally-present sex scenes are the result of a seven-month rehearsal period prior to filming. **Tinta Bruta** won the Teddy Best Feature at the Berlin International Film Festival and the Maguey Best Feature at the Guadalajara International Film Festival.

Tinta Bruta (Hard Paint) | Filipe Matzembacher, Marcio Reolon | Brazil | 2018 | 118 min | Portuguese with English subtitles



SAT | AUG 11 | 9pm | IV | CC Screening Sponsors: Cineplex, Xtra

#TransWomenAreBeautiful

No side characters or supporting roles here—these breathtaking shorts centre trans women as change-makers, artists, and romantic leads.

Teen sweethearts grow closer as one begins her transition over the summer break.

Fran this Summer | Mary Evangelista | USA | 2017 | 11 min

Trans women are featured both on screen and in the director's chair in Reina Gossett's documentary-hybrids, which deftly combine elements of trans history, visual poetry and performativity. With reverence paid to Black queer and trans women, including Marsha P Johnson, Sylvia Rivera, Lucille Clifton, and Egypt LaBeija, these two films are must-sees.

Happy Birthday, Marsha | Reina Gossett, Sasha Wortzel | USA | 2017 | 10 min Atlantic is a Sea of Bones | Reina Gossett | USA | 2017 | 7 min

Alexe and her bestie Carl blur the boundaries of their long-standing friendship when they decide to have sex for the first time. This sensitive and seductive drama won Best Short Film at the 2017 Toronto International Film Festival.

Pre-Drink | Marc-Antoine Lemire | Canada | 2017 | 24 min

FRI | AUG 17 | 7pm | GCA

Spotlight Partner: SFU Woodward's Cultural Programs

Screening Sponsor: RBC





Troublemakers 3.0

Troublemakers is back for a third year in a row! The Vancouver Queer Film Festival, Reel Youth, and Love Intersections have gathered a new team of aspiring young filmmakers and experienced "troublemakers" to work together through an eight-session filmmaking program that captured our local queer, trans, and two-spirit histories. The unveiling promises to be a gathering of talented young filmmakers, inspiring troublemakers, cast and crew, friends and family.

Troublemakers: Lydia Kwa, Ellen Woodsworth, Joy Masuhara, Louise Pohl, Sekani Dakelth, Steve Niven, Lily Shinde, Paul Wong, James Chamberlain, Aerlyn Weissman, Tori Phillips.

Youth: Kiran Sighn, Fatemeh Kiannejad, Erin Russell, Sheridan Tamayo-Henderson, Andi Velez, Jacoby MacDonald, Ezra Avdeyev, Ifetayo Alabi, Jae Lew, Jackson Wai Chung Tse, Lia Peralta.

The Troublemakers series will be preceded by 2018 Coquitlam GSA student films: The Letter, by Port Moody Secondary; Siblings in Transition, by Terry Fox Secondary School; and Coffee, by Inquiry Hub.

MON | AUG 13 | 7pm | VCT | 6a



With support from: Telus Storyhive, VIFF Vancity Theatre, SFU-School for the Contemporary Arts Screening Sponsor: Downtown Vancouver BIA

The Year I Lost My Mind

Tom is a creepy guy, preoccupied with breaking and entering into private property, and skulking around wooded gay cruising areas of Berlin. Even his own mother asks him why he has to scare everyone. When he directs his ominous energy at Lars, a professor of gay history, Tom is captured by his own dark obsessions. How close can he get to Lars without being caught? How close can he get before losing his own mind?

Tor Iben, director of The Passenger (2012) and Where Are You Going, Habibi? (2015), is a master of sexual tension on screen—and in this respect The Year Lost My Mind may be his magnum opus. With spare dialogue and spinechilling action, this psycho thriller is sure to leave audiences both bewildered and aroused.

The Year I Lost My Mind | Tor Iben | Germany | 2018 | 85 min | German with English

FRI | AUG 10 | 9pm | IV | CC



Screening Sponor: RUFFparty

We Are the Vancouver Men's Chorus

In 1981, the Vancouver Men's Chorus (VMC) broke ground and became Canada's first gay chorus. Over the next thirty-eight years, they've grown into a nationally acclaimed and internationally recognized chorus. While they've charmed audiences from Toronto to San Francisco, no crowd loves the VMC as much as Vancouver, with many of us attending their signature performances Making Spirits Bright and Big Gay Sing year after year.

Director Mark Halliday invites us to get up close and personal with the singers. Get a behind-the-scenes look at the chorus learning their choreography, rehearsing new musical numbers, and, at the heart of this home-grown documentary, is a powerful sense of belonging.

And what better way to recognize the screening premiere than a performance by VMC themselves! Prior to the screening, select members of the VMC will be singing hits from their summer productions.

We Are The Vancouver Men's Chorus | Mark Halliday | Canada | 2018 | 25 min Director, cast, and crew in attendance

FRI | AUG 17 | 7pm | YT |



Screening Sponors: Xtra, Northwest Kennels & Daycare Venue Sponor: York Theatre



World premiere

Workshops and Community Partners

Screenwriting Workshop with Joshua M Ferguson & Florian Halbedl, Turbid Lake Pictures

Local queer and trans filmmaker couple, Joshua M Ferguson and Florian Halbedl will lead a three-hour workshop for emerging filmmakers and their short film projects. From writing (structure, themes, characters), fundraising options, production, and exhibition this workshop will give participants a chance to get one-on-one time with these two filmmakers. Select participants will get to work their scripts and have discussions related to both creative and practical aspects of making films in the industry, particularly films with a focus on LGBT2Q+ representation.

Free Please submit your short scripts (10-15 pages) to submissions@outonscreen with SCREENWRITING WORKSHOP SUBMISSION 2018 in the subject line, by July 20th 2018.

SAT | AUG 11 | 12pm - 3pm | GCA

With support from: Creative BC





Joshua M Ferguson (Ph.D.) is a non-binary trans (they/ them) filmmaker, writer and advocate who aims to discover innovative, unique and marginalized stories to represent. Florian Habedl is a writer for film, director and producer. Florian has worked on assistant director teams on shows such as Supernatural, Godzilla, Wayward Pines, Warcraft, Shut Eye, Legends of Tomorrow, The Man in the High Castle and most recently Project Blue Book. Together, they formed Turbid Lake Pictures. Past films for Turbid Lake Pictures include award-winning Whispers of Life (2013), a short fiction film about the power of imagination and communication in relation to challenging anti-LGBT bullying and promoting suicide prevention, Limina (2016) which was screened at festivals around the world, and hailed in the press for making history for trans inclusivity in the film and TV history, the feature-length documentary Non-Binary (2019) and their third short film entitled Henry's Heart (set to be released in late 2018), a queer love story told across time.

Remember to check out our FREE Artist In Residences' talks and activities:

Community Digital Storytelling with Love Intersections (p. 29)

SAT | AUG 11 | 2pm | GCA

QTBIPOC Artists in Conversation with Thirza Cuthand (p. 27)

SUN | AUG 12 | 12pm | GCA

Community Partners

BOLD Bold, Old(er) Lesbians & Dykes boldfest.com

CampOut!

campout.ubc.ca

Cinemafantastique Film Fest Society

cinemafantastique.org

DOXA Documentary Film Festival

doxafestival.ca

the frank theatre company

thefranktheatre.com

Health Inititaive for Men (HIM)

checkhimout.ca

Indian Summer Festival

indiansummerfest.ca

LEGIT - Canadian Immigration for Same-sex Partners

legit.ca

Lezervations

lezervations.com

Migrante BC

migrantebc.com

Momentum Health Study

momentumstudy.ca

PACE Society

pace-society.org

Positive Living BC

positivelivingbc.org

PuSH International Performing Arts Festival

pushfestival.ca

Sher Vancouver

shervancouver.com

South Asian Film Education Society

southasianfilm.blogspot.ca

Theatre Under the Stars

tuts.ca

Union LGBT+ Wedding Show

unionweddingshow.com

Vancouver Asian Film Festival

vaff.org

Vancouver Frontrunners

vancouverfrontrunners.org

Vancouver International Film Festival

viff.org

Vancouver Latin American Film Society

vlaff.org

Vancouver Men's Chorus

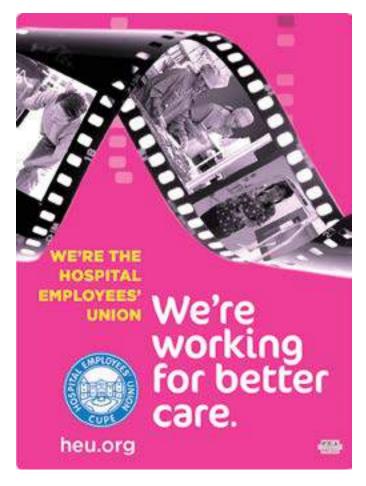
vancouvermenschorus.org

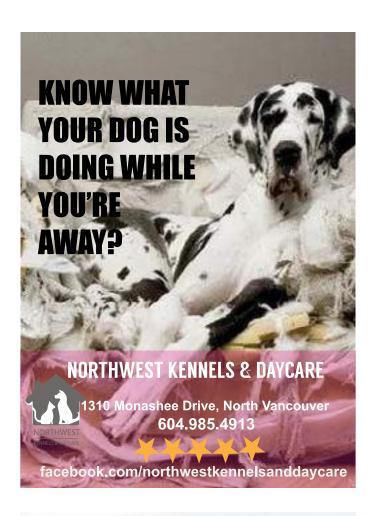
Vancouver Pride Society

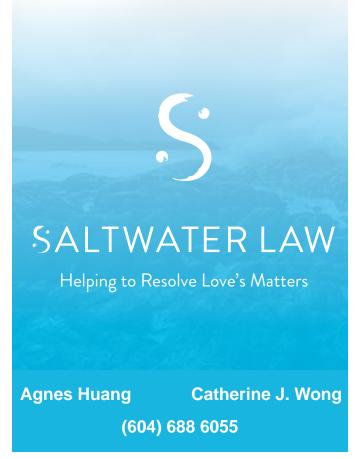
vancouverpride.ca

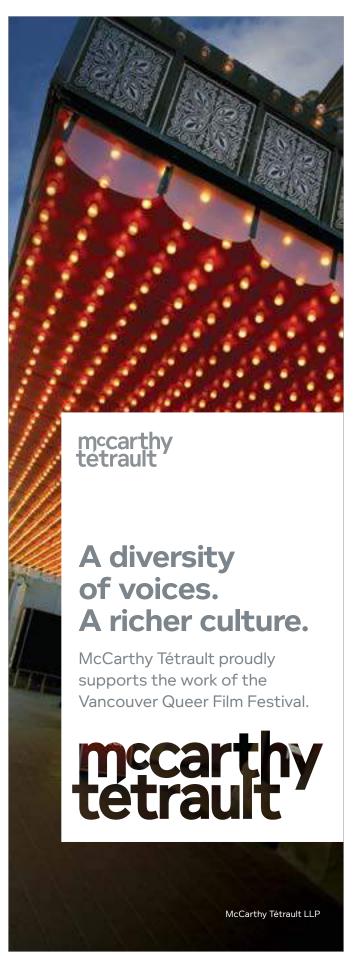


















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Mike Hooves

Mike Hooves is a prairie queer living in Calgary. They are an illustrator, animator, graphic designer, and filmmaker who has a Bachelor of Design in Illustration from ACAD. Within Mike's work they explore what it means to exist as a femme inside and outside of the body through graphic color and shape. She believes that unpolished expression in art allows for genuine emotion to stay intact, and practices this in her art. When not painting, Mike is an enthusiastic birdwatcher and avid thrift shopper.

The Coast is Genderqueer (p. 39)



Molly Pelavin

Molly Pelavin is a filmmaker, artist and teacher from New York City, living in Los Angeles. She is a graduate of the Purchase College Film Conservatory. Her affinity for social psychology and untold, layered stories are the main driving forces behind her documentary work. In addition to Faith, she directed Meeting the Klan (2011), an awardwinning short about current and former members of the Ku Klux Klan. She is always ready to listen and continue to share important, complex and inspiring stories like Faith's.

Faith (p. 42)



Vivian Bang

Vivian Bang stars in White Rabbit, a feature which she co-wrote & co-produced and premiered at Sundance 2018. She is also currently "Sun" on POPTV's (Lionsgate & CBS cable) Swedish Dicks with Peter Stormare, Keanu Reeves, and Johan Glans. She was on TBS hit comedy series Sullivan & Son, produced by Vince Vaughn for 3 seasons. Vivian's other film credits include: Memoirs of a Geisha, Boy Toy, Little Black Book, Robot Stories, Henry Fool, and the 2006 Oscar-nominated short Our Time Is Up

White Rabbit (p. 22)



Yen Tan

Malaysian-born writer and director Yen Tan premiered Pit Stop at Sundance 2013; it was a John Cassavetes Award nominee at the 2014 Film Independent Spirit Awards. His previous feature, Ciao (2008), was a Queer Lion contender at Venice Film Festival. Yen premiered 1985 at SXSW 2018. He's also a sought-after graphic designer under the moniker of Otto is the One, where he's known for his iconic key art and branding of prominent independent films that have premiered at Cannes, Sundance, Berlinale, Toronto, SXSW, and Tribeca. **1985** (p. 20)



Shaz Bennet

Before working in film and television (Writer: The Glades, UnREAL, Bosch: Director: Queen Sugar), Shaz Bennet worked in a fish cannery, bartended at a mafia bar, was a film programmer at Sundance, LA Film Festival and AFI FEST, developed films for actor Giancarlo Esposito, and was Cher's stand-in for a day. Her films and performance pieces have been seen in festivals, theatres, museums and abandoned warehouses all over the United States, Mexico, Canada, South Africa and Europe.

Alaska Is A Drag (p. 21)



Sarah Fodey

In Sarah Fodey's twenty-one-year career as a film and television writer and producer, she has produced multiple feature films and documentary series. Current projects include Noël en boîte, a Telefilm Canada feature film; season seven of Qanurli, APTN's hit scripted youth series; and The Fruit Machine, a feature-length documentary Sarah is producing, writing, and directing for TVO. Sarah is the founding partner of SandBay Entertainment Inc. The Fruit Machine is Sarah's directorial debut.

The Fruit Machine (p. 43)

Visiting Artists



Debalina

Debalina has made feature length documentary films, short films, travelogues, music videos, telefilms, and mixed genre. She is also a photographer and she is passionate about issues of gender and sexuality, environment and occasionally writes for newspapers and magazines. In addition, she's done camerawork for various national and international projects, which includes a documentary on sex workers of Kolkata for Current Television in Italy, a documentary, From Border to Border, on the Chinese community of Kolkata for Hakka TV in Taiwan, a film on the river Ganga, and another on an 80-year-old Buddhist.

...and the unclaimed, If You Dare Desire (p. 40)



Jethro Patalinghug

Jethro is a documentary filmmaker based in San Francisco, California. His first feature documentary film had its World Premier as the opening film at the QDOC Portland Queer Documentary Film Festival in May 2018 and is touring in the festivals around the world. His first short documentary My Revolutionary Mother won awards from various film festivals and was cited as best documentary film in the Philippines in 2015 by pinoyrebyu.com. He was one of the 2016 National Media Maker fellows for the Bay Area Video Coalition for his developing film #MyNamels.

50 Years of Fabulous (p. 43)



Sook-Yin Lee

Sook-Yin Lee is a filmmaker, musician, actor, visual artist, dance-maker, and radio & TV broadcaster. The former MuchMusic VJ is a three-time Gabriel Award-winning radio and TV broadcaster know for her personal storytelling program DNTO on CBC Radio One, and the podcast Sleepover. She starred in John Cameron Mitchell's groundbreaking movie Shortbus, which premiered at the Cannes Film Festival. Year of the Carnivore, Lee's debut feature as writer-director, stars Cristin Milioti and premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival. She is in the band JOOJ with albums on Last Gang Records/eONE Music Canada. Octavio is Dead (p. 45)

PJ Raval

Named one of Filmmaker Magazine's "25 New Faces of Independent Film" in 2006, PJ Raval is an award-winning filmmaker whose credits include Trinidad, which premiered on Showtime, Before You Know It, on PBS, and, as a cinematographer, the Academy Award-nominated Trouble the Water. Raval is a 2015 Guggenheim Fellow, a 2016 Firelight Fellow, and a 2017 Robert Giard Fellow. Call Her Ganda (p. 39)



Terry Jones

Terry Jones is a filmmaker and educator currently living on the Seneca Nation territory in Western New York. Growing up on an American Indian reservation gives Jones a unique perspective. Jones has a passion for sharing Iroquois history and culture through video and Indigenous foods. It's his intention to engage his audiences' five senses through his work. [untitled & unlabeled] had its premiere at the imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival in 2017. While studying film at Syracuse University, Jones produced this short film as a way of coming out, and to let LGBTQA Native youth know that they are not alone.

Indigiqueer Shorts from Turtle Island & Aotearoa (p. 44)



TRANS WOMEN ON SCREEN

SFU Woodward's Cultural Programs proudly celebrates six years of collaboration with VQFF, working to advance key social issues surrounding gender and identity.

This year we are thrilled to co-present the Trans Women on Screen Spotlight, a series that aims to expand the conversation around representation, equity and diversity in the film industry. In collaboration with SFU School for the Contemporary Arts, SFUW Cultural Programs is also delighted to support the TROUBLEMAKERS 3.0 initiative.



SFUW00DWARDS.CA







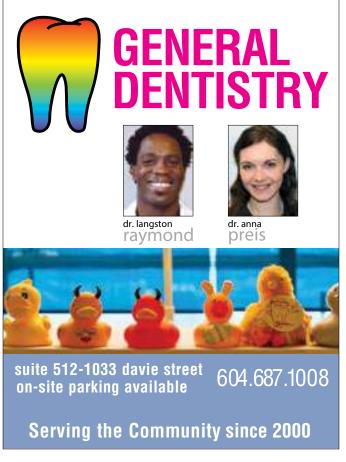
SFU Goldcorp Centre for the Arts, 149 W. Hastings Street, Vancouver

CREATE . PROVOKE . TRANSFORM

Image from the film Bixa Travesty, part of the Trans Women on Screen Spotlight







Local Artists



Alli believes in the storytelling power of 2D animation as a medium, and uses it to approach topics often reserved for live action cinema, such as gender identity, introversion, and mental illness. Alli is a transgender nonbinary person, and loves telling stories from perspectives that are often overlooked by the media.

The Coast Is Genderqueer (p. 39)



Christina Willings

Christina Willings has worked in television and film for more than 20 years. In 2004, she codeveloped and produced Chicks with Sticks (Hockey Mom), with Jason Priestley and Margot Kidder and directed by Kari Skogland. She went on to produce and direct broadcast documentaries including Viva Bengali (2004) and Cure for

The Coast Is Genderqueer (p. 39)



G Goletski is a multi-media doer originally from north Vancouver Island. They have had enough trips around the sun to finally understand that their skin has a green undertone. They are always hydrated. Their film, HOLE, is the consummation of their experiences as a transgender person on the autism spectrum and their dissatisfaction with the ways in which medical and mental health services have failed people with disabilities.

The Coast Is Genderqueer (p. 39)



Yue Xia

Yua Xia is an animator, theatre designer, and set designer based in London. After obtaining her BFA in theatre design at Wimbledon College of Arts, she furthered her study by studying animation at London College of Communication. She is always open for welcoming new experiences and possibilities, creating immersive sets, and stop motion animations are her particular fields of interests.

The Coast Is Genderqueer (p. 39)



Andrew Gillingham

Andrew Gillingham is a filmmaker and actor with a BFA in Film Production from SFU. His student films have screened at Whistler Film Festival and Montreal World Film Festival. Banana is his first short outside of film school. He strives for a sad but funny truth in his work, torn between wanting the audience to feel intense sorrow and hopeful joy.

The Coast Is Queer (p. 40)



Anika Syskakis is a Vancouver-based documentary filmmaker specializing in social justice and inclusivity. With a background in Anthropology and hands-on experience living and filming within Tanzania, Anika is keen on adventure while promoting social awareness through film. Her work has been featured on platforms including CBC ARTS, Out In Schools, and the Just Film Festival.

The Coast Is Queer (p. 40)



Denise Kenney & Michael V Smith

UBC Okanagan professors Kenney and Smith create and teach on unceded Okanagan territory, in the faculty of Creative Studies. Past projects via their theatre company. Inner Fish Performance Co, include Pony Cabaret (Kelowna); Soundcan: The Art of Public Noise (European tour 2011); and Handheld Devices which played at both Encuentro MANIFEST! (Montreal 2014) and VQFF (2016).

The Coast Is Queer (p. 40)



Dominic Chan

Dominic Chan is a filmmaker and photographer based in Vancouver. Over the past few years, he has explored topics important to him in his films, such as homosexuality, people of colour, minorities, nature, and as an individual. He aims to bring a new and refreshing perspective to the commonly discussed topics of today.

The Coast Is Queer (p. 40)



Lavla Cameron

Layla Cameron is a queer fat activist, journalist, and filmmaker. Originally from the Toronto Islands, she is currently a PhD student at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver. Her research focuses on reality television, media literacy, and fat activism. Fat Hiking Club is her first short documentary film.

The Coast Is Queer (p. 40)



Jason Karman is a Vancouver-based writer-director who is currently pursuing his Masters of Fine Arts in Film Production and Creative Writing at the University of British Columbia. In 2011, Jason received the Gerry Brunet Memorial Award at Vancouver Queer Film Festival for I'm in The Mood For Love, and in 2015 was recipient of the Jury Choice Award at Reel Pride Winnipeg for Kimchi Fried Dumplings.

The Coast Is Queer (p. 40)



Jessica Han & Davey Samuel Calderon

Jessica Han is a filmmaker, lighting designer, theatre technician, and stage manager. Her short films have travelled to film festivals around the world. She is the 2018 recipient of the Larisa Fayad Memorial Award in Lighting Design and Technical Direction. Jessica teamed up with writer and theatre maker Davey Samuel Calderon for the making of the 2018 short film Run.

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Nic Peerson is an emerging filmmaker. Principally a cinematographer, having lensed various music videos and short films, Nic also develops their own passion projects, including Cosmetics, as small-scale lyrical endeavours. They're interested in rendering queer narratives and experiences mythic through intimate moving images.

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Panta Mosleh & Hayley Gray

Panta Mosleh & Hayley Gray have both been directing, writing, and producing independent content in their blossoming careers in the film industry. Their goal is to continue to pave the way for more females to take leading roles both behind and in front of the camera in the everchanging and evolving entertainment industry.

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Shireen Dalbey

Shireen Dalbey is an eighteen-year-old filmmaker who is excited to be studying Communications at Concordia University this fall. She has always had a passion for filmmaking, and enjoys creating unconventional shorts that have a silly yet profound take on the human experience. One day, Shireen hopes to open a production company that would produce queer and femalecentric films.

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Yuki Chen is a 2D animator and illustrator that just graduated from Emily Carr University of Arts and Design. Animation and illustration are where she pours most of her passion, but she also love telling stories from different cultures based on people's everyday lives.

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Edzi'u

Edzi'u is a mixed race Tahltan and inland Tlingit artist, songwriter, and composer. Her songs are an incarnation of her family's ancient tradition of storytelling, realized by designing sound through vintage and current audio recordings, electronic instruments, and voice. Her most recent body of work, Kime Ani, samples audio from old recordings of three generations of her matriarchs and grandmothers stories.

Ancestral Inheritance (p. 38)



Evan Ducharme

Evan Ducharme is Métis from St. Ambroise, Manitoba, with ancestral ties to the Cree, Ojibwe, and Saulteaux peoples. His work explores Métis identity and cultural iconography, with a focus on creating images of contemporary Indigeneity, reclamation of Indigenous sexualities, and environmentally-conscious practices. He currently lives and creates with gratitude on the ancestral, traditional, and unceded Coast Salish territories.

Ancestral Inheritance (p. 38)



David Ly's poems have appeared in a range of magazines and anthologies including *The Puritan*, *PRISM international*, *Augur Magazine*, and *The Temz Review*. In 2017, he was long-listed for the Thomas Morton Memorial Prize in Poetry. His chapbook, *Stubble Burn*, is published with Anstruther Press, and his debut full-length collection is due out in 2020 with Anstruther Books, an imprint of Palimpsest Press.

The Root (p. 46)



Tara Robertson

The Root (p. 46)

and loves the water.



Tien Neo Eamas

Tien was the first Asian Bi-gendered transman to publicly transition in Vancouver's gay & lesbian community in 2002. His own gender struggles, family abuse and disownment, race and other 'isms' and surmounting debt, led to an attempted suicide in 2009. The phoenix rose, the Wizard was born. Tien now creates his life, his way, choosing JOY no matter what. The Wizard transforms Pain to Joy, wisdom and humourous brilliance.

Tara Robertson is a rogue librarian, accessibility

advocate, and a swimmer. She's a triple fire sign

The Root (p. 46)



Mark Halliday

Mark Halliday of Moonrider Productions is a digital storyteller for Vancouver's business and theatre community. Clients include the Arts Club Theatre Company, Weissach, TedTalks, Arcteryx, The Fresh Chapter Alliance, the University of British Columbia as well as numerous local companies and theatrical/music groups. When Mark is not behind the camera he can be found ripping on his snowboard or practicing on his Yoga mat.

We Are Vancouver Men's Chorus (p. 48)



Kathleen Mullen

Kathleen Mullen has contributed to film and art festivals for 20+ years, including Toronto International Film Festival, Hot Docs, Inside Out Toronto, Planet in Focus, and VQFF (in the 90s!). She has an MFA in Film Production from York University. Her shorts you wash my skin with sunshine and Sleep Lines have screened internationally, and documentary Breathtaking won the Audience Award at the Canadian Labour International Film Festival.

Button OUT (p. 43)



Justin Ducharme

Originally from a small Métis community in Manitoba, Justin Ducharme came to Vancouver when he was 18 to pursue his love for cinema & creative writing. While his heart lies in cinema, he is also passionate about writing and the traditional Métis dance. When he's not making films, he enjoys exploring different ways to decolonize his approach to film production, writing poetry and short stories, and seeing as many films he can.

Indigiqueer Shorts from Turtle Island & Aotearoa (p. 44)

More Local Artists can be found on our Festival website: queerfilmfestival.ca When you put the diverse, complex—and fascinating—humans you are wanting to serve at the core of your design process, you have a much better chance of creating services, brands and products that matter.

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Opening Gala Party: A Black and White Affair

Celebrate director Yen Tan's black and white cinematic triumph by dressing up in style. Black and white attire encouraged! Our Opening Gala party is just a short sashay away from the Playhouse, under the open-air, starlit skies at the Queen Elizabeth Plaza. Gala performances include the eye-popping artistry contortionist and boylesque dancer **Vixen Von Flex**. DJs **Body Party** will keep the night uplifted—to the moon and back.

THU | AUG 9 | 930pm | šxwhexən Xwtl'a7shn Plaza



With special thanks to: Mission Hill, Whistler Brewing Co.



Closing Gala Party

Gather together to see our 30th Festival come to a bright and momentous close. Let's make some collective wishes for the next 30 years to come. Festival favourites **DJ O Show** and **DJ MangoSweet** will bring us together on the dance floor. **Maiden China** will set The Junction stage ablaze.

SUN | AUG 19 | 9pm | The Junction



With special thanks to: The Junction



Meet You at the Festival Hub!

Looking for a Festival gathering spot? Do you want to connect with other Festies to chat about your favourite films? Or grab a tasty bite to eat before heading into the next screening? The Charles Bar warmly welcomes the Vancouver Queer Film Festival. Located in the Woodward's courtyard—just steps away from SFU's Goldcorp Centre for the Arts—the Charles Bar is this year's official Hub.

The Charles Bar offers a well-crafted menu of food (with vegan and gluten-free options), craft beer and cocktails.

Show your Festival Pass or Membership to your server and receive a 20% discount on your food order.

Want a chance to win a VQFF 2019 6-pack and a gift card from The Charles Bar? It's as easy as following **@thecharlesbar** on Instagram and using hashtag **#TheCharlesBarVQFFestie** during the dates of this year's festival. The Charles Bar will notify the winner after August 19, 2018.



With special thanks to: The Charles Bar

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