

Rated LGBT

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Vancouver Queer Film Festival

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Love My Life p. 47



Another Gay Sequel p. 37



Little Sister's vs. Big Brother p. 30



Vancouver Out On Screen Film and
Video Society
405-207 West Hastings Street
Vancouver BC V6B 1H7
outonscreen.com

Vancity enviro Visa Festival Planner

SCHEDULE KEY	
TT	Cinemark Tinseltown
VCT	Vancity Theatre
G7	Empire Granville 7 Cinemas
ECU	Emily Carr University
(G)	General
(PG)	Parental Guidance
(14A)	Adult Accompaniment

Thursday 14 Friday 15 Saturday 16 Sunday 17 Monday 18

2:00

KinderKino
VCT (G) p. 45

ten more good years
TT p. 58

5:00

Two Homelands:
Cuba and the Night
TT \$ p. 59

Bi the Way
TT (14A) p. 38

It's STILL Elementary
TT (PG) p. 45

Boystown
TT \$ p. 38

For Dreams and
for Memories:
Super 8 Visions
VCT p. 44

The Same,
But Different
VCT (PG) p. 53

7:00

Opening Gala
Like a Virgin
G7 (14A) \$ p. 28

How Do You Say
"Queer" in French?
TT p. 44

Boystown
TT \$ p. 38

Tru Loved
TT (PG) p. 58

The Coast is Queer
TT p. 38

Were the World
Mine
VCT (PG) p. 59

The Secrets
VCT \$ p. 53

Dolls
VCT \$ p. 41

Darling! &
The Beirut Apt
VCT p. 39

9:30

Trans Entities:
The Nasty Love of
Papi' and Wil
TT p. 58

Deb and Sisi
TT p. 39

Four Minutes
TT \$ p. 44

Antarctica
TT \$ p. 37




Another Gay
Sequel
VCT p. 37

Love My Life
VCT (PG) \$ p. 47

Bangkok Love Story
VCT \$ p. 37

Razzle Dazzle
VCT (G) p. 52

If you've been told queer is a disease,
just call in to work saying:
"Hello. Can't work today, still queer."

 ASL Interpretation
 Free Event
 Subtitled

 Post-film party

Schedule

Tuesday 19

Wednesday 20

Thursday 21

Friday 22

Saturday 23

Sunday 24

Masterclass with
Aerlyn Weissman

ECU  p. 61

Were the World
Mine

TT  p. 59

Searching 4
Sandeep

TT  p. 53

The New World

TT  p. 51


Out in Schools
Summer Sampler

TT  p. 51

Another Gay
Sequel

TT  p. 37

Creating Community
Through Technology

ECU  p. 60

20th Anniversary
Gala

Little Sister's vs.
Big Brother

TT p. 30

Drifting Flowers

VCT   p. 41

Queer History
Project: Rex vs.
Singh

TT p. 52

Tru Loved

VCT   p. 58

Mulligans

TT p. 47

Archival Classic!
with Susan Stryker

VCT p. 60

Searching 4
Sandeep

TT   p. 53

Derek

ECU p. 41

Confessions of a
Sorta Str8 Drag
King

TT p. 39

Suddenly, Last
Winter

ECU  p. 57

Closing Gala

XXY

G7  p. 29

Bangkok Love
Story

TT  p. 37

The Secrets

VCT  p. 53

The World Unseen

TT p. 59

Stealth

VCT  p. 57

Kiss the Bride

TT p. 47

Drifting Flowers

VCT   p. 41

Out at the
Wedding

TT p. 51

Short Shorts: No
Shirt, No Problem

ECU p. 57

Raunchorama
Resurrected!

TT p. 52

Indigequeer

ECU p. 45

Supporting your desire to see yourself and
proud to be a Presenting Partner.

Vancity enviro Visa

Parties!

OPENING GALA PARTY

THU | AUG 14 | 9:30 PM

Celebrities Night Club 1022 Davie Street

Vogue down to high-end 80s pop and locker rock at the party that kicks off our 20th Anniversary! Featuring performances by Coral Short, Dianna David and more.

Free admission and refreshments with **Like a Virgin** ticket stub or Festival Pass



20TH ANNIVERSARY GALA PARTY

TUE | AUG 19 | 9:00 PM

Century House 432 Richards Street

Mingle as cellist Cris Derkson plays under the barrel ceilings of Century House. Upstairs, DJs Titz McGee and Mickey Moniker pump pure Gold Medal while Amber Dawn and Trish Kelly pay a performative tribute to lesbian pulp.

Free admission and refreshments with any Aug 19 Festival film ticket stub or Festival Pass



CLOSING GALA PARTY

SUN | AUG 24 | 9:00 PM

Celebrities Night Club 1022 Davie Street

Come on X's! Come on Y's! It's time for some dance floor action. No Z's tonight! Graciously hosted by Symone, Vancouver's First Lady of Glam.

Free admission and refreshments with **XXY** ticket stub or Festival Pass



WERE THE WORLD MINE YOUTH PARTY

FRI | AUG 15 | 9:00 PM

Vancity Theatre Atrium 1181 Seymour Street

Be blown away by queer youth from *Caffeinated Too* open mic and variety show. A post-film party following the all-ages screening of **Were the World Mine**.

Co-presented with Gab Youth Services
Free admission and refreshments

SEXNOYS

FRI | AUG 15 | 9:00 PM

Lick 455 Abbott Street

Montreal guest artist Lamathilde welcomes you with downtempo French Underground. Featuring performances by Coral Short, Lamathilde and Her Jazz Noise Collective. DJ GrannyArk dance party 'til late.

\$8 general admission at the door
\$5 with **How Do You Say "Queer" in French?**

Trans Entities ticket stub or Festival Pass



ARTIST SWAP: SEXNOYS THE MORNING AFTER

SAT | AUG 16 | 12:00 PM

VIVO Media Arts Centre 1965 Main Street

Montreal-based sound and film artist Lamathilde and performance artist Coral Short dialogue on their hybrid practices, influences and the international queer art circuit.

Co-presented with VIVO
Free admission and refreshments



DISCO, BABY!

SAT | AUG 16 | 3:00 PM

Vancity Theatre Atrium 1181 Seymour Street

Following **KinderKino** DJ little d will be spinning for some disco dancing fun! What started at Rhizome Café's Family Sundays moves to the Vancity Theatre Atrium for one afternoon only. **BYOB** (Bring Your Own Baby).

Free admission and refreshments

DEB AND SISI'S "I COULD NEVER DRINK ALONE" POST-FILM PARTY

SAT | AUG 16 | 11:30 PM

The Majestic 1138 Davie Street

The cast and crew of **Deb and Sisi** cocktail at The Majestic. Midnight performances by Carlotta Gurl and Robyn Graves. DJ MKW. Co-sponsored by Cruiseline.

Free with **Deb and Sisi** ticket stub or Festival Pass



THE COAST IS QUEER POST-FILM PARTY

MON | AUG 18 | 9:00 PM

Honey Lounge 455 Abbott Street

Meet, greet and congratulate **The Coast** is **Queer** filmmakers. DJ artflick, aka Gwen Haworth, local director of *She's A Boy I Knew*.

Free admission and refreshments



QUEER HISTORY PROJECT RECEPTION

WED | AUG 20 | 8:30 PM

Kentizen Fusion Lounge Tinseltown 2nd Floor

Mingle with filmmakers John Greyson, Ali Kazimi and Richard Fung following the World Premiere screening of **Rex vs. Singh**.

Free admission with **Queer History Project** ticket stub or Festival Pass

K
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N

MULLIGANS POST-FILM PARTY

THU | AUG 21 | 9:00 PM

Honey Lounge 455 Abbott Street

Get a firm grip and hope for a hole-in-one. Celebrate the Vancouver Premiere with the cast and crew of **Mulligans**. **FORE!**

Free admission



SANDEEP'S DANCE PARTY

FRI | AUG 22 | 9:00 PM
Lick 455 Abbott Street

Party like you're raving the Goa beaches!
DJ t-spoon from beats without borders.
UK underground, retro bhangra, electro-fusion, Punjabi funk with subversively sexy performances. Curated by Supriya Ryan, hosted by Fatima Jaffer.

\$8 general admission at the door
\$3 with **Searching 4 Sandeep** ticket stub or Festival Pass

lickclub.com

RAUNCHORAMA: HOT MIX AT FRICTION

SAT | AUG 23 | 11:00 PM
Friction 123 West Pender Street

Experience a gay bathhouse with a mixed queer crowd. No need to shed your clothes. Private rooms, Roman showers and a surprise midnight performance! Tracy D and DJ Like the Wolf. Hosted by Kamelle Toe.

Free admission and refreshments



LOOSE WORK: AN EXHIBITION

AUGUST 15-23

ARTIST'S RECEPTION: SAT | AUG 23 | 6:00 PM
Or Gallery 555 Hamilton Street

In honour of our 20th Anniversary Award winner, we are proud to present this exhibition of Laiwan's work. An accomplished artist and activist, Laiwan has contributed significantly to Vancouver's queer arts community. Info and Gallery hours on p. 27

Co-presented with the Or Gallery
Free admission and refreshments

Or Gallery
25:1983/2008

TAKE FIVE

Enjoy a drink, small bite and engaging conversation in between films at one of our Festival lounges.

HONEY LOUNGE

455 Abbott Street
August 17-21 | 3:00 PM to 1:00 AM
Festival drink and food specials



VANCITY THEATRE ATRIUM

1181 Seymour Street
August 16-17 | 4:30 PM to 9:30 PM
August 18-21 | 6:30 PM to 9:30 PM
Licensed concession in the Atrium



Ticket Information

ADVANCE TICKETS AND
FESTIVAL PASSES GO ON
SALE JULY 17.

TICKET PRICE

\$10 GENERAL ADMISSION

\$7 STUDENT/SENIOR/
UNDEREMPLOYED

GALAS

Tickets for the Opening, 20th Anniversary and Closing Gala films are the same price as regular tickets and include admission to the Gala Parties.

Festival Passes do not grant access to Gala films.

WHERE TO PURCHASE

ONLINE

Visit our new box office at queerfilmfestival.ca. Tickets will be available for purchase until 11:00 pm the day before the screening you plan to attend.

Payment: Visa and MasterCard

LITTLE SISTER'S BOOK AND ART EMPORIUM

1238 Davie Street (see map)

Open daily from 10:00 am to 11:00 pm

Tickets will be available until 11:00 pm the day before the screening you plan to attend.

Payment: Cash and Debit.

BLACK DOG VIDEO

1470 Commercial Drive

July 26 ONLY from 12:00-6:00 pm we will be selling tickets outside of Black Dog Video.

Payment: Cash only

CINEMARK TINSELTOWN

From August 15-23 advance tickets will be on sale between 4:30 and 9:30 pm.

Payment: Visa, MasterCard and Cash

TICKETS AT THE DOOR

Tickets may be purchased, based on availability, only at the Theatre where the film is screening. The box office opens 30 minutes before the first screening of the day.

Payment: Cash only

FESTIVAL PASSES

\$120 GENERAL ADMISSION

\$90 STUDENT/SENIOR/
UNDEREMPLOYED

The Festival Pass gives you flexibility, front-of-line privileges and full access to all Festival screenings with the exception of the Gala films, selected parties and events. Passholders must arrive at least 30 minutes in advance of each screening and line up in the Passholders Queue to receive a screening slip. Passes are non-transferable and you may be required to show photo ID at the door. All Festival Passes purchased online will be mailed out.

Please Note: A generous allotment of seating is reserved for Passholders at every screening, however, seating cannot be guaranteed. Seats are available on a first come, first served basis.

MEMBERSHIPS \$2

The Vancouver Queer Film Festival presents films and videos that may not have been classified by the BC Film Classification Office. Under BC law, any person wishing to see these unclassified films must belong to the Vancouver Out On Screen Film and Video Society. Annual membership is open to anyone 18 years or older, and may be purchased at the Membership Table prior to your first screening or online at queerfilmfestival.ca.

WILL CALL

Will Call opens 30 minutes prior to the first screening of the day. All tickets for that day will be available for pick up upon opening. Tickets only available at Will Call for same day screenings. Please arrive at least 30 minutes in advance of the screening to collect your tickets. Only the person who purchased the tickets will be permitted to pick up the order. You must present valid photo ID and your credit card.

WHAT IF TICKETS ARE SOLD OUT?

TRY THE HOPE LINE!

Don't despair! Although advance tickets may be sold out there are usually a number of rush tickets available at the door. We are almost always able to accommodate the Hope Line. Arrive early to avoid disappointment!

REFUNDS, EXCHANGES AND SCHEDULE CHANGES

Occasionally, due to circumstances beyond our control, screenings must be changed, rescheduled or cancelled. We offer refunds only if a screening is cancelled.

WATCHING TWO SCREENINGS IN A ROW

All Passholders and patrons holding tickets for the next screening in the same Theatre may stay in their seats. Please do not leave your seats before a Festival Volunteer has the opportunity to verify your tickets and Screening Slips.

LOTTO \$10

Win a trip for two to New Zealand courtesy of Air New Zealand!

Don't miss out on the opportunity to win this and other amazing prize packages. Look for tickets being sold during the Festival and at events around the city. The draw for the lottery takes place during the Closing Gala on August 24.

Ticket Information



FESTIVAL THEATERS

CINEMARK TINSELTOWN – 3RD FLOOR, 88 WEST PENDER STREET (AT ABBOTT)
 Parking: many spots on the first level of the underground parking lot
 Entrance: 3rd floor, access by elevator at street level and underground parking
 Seating: eight spaces for wheelchairs
 Washrooms: fully accessible

EMPIRE GRANVILLE 7 CINEMAS – 3RD FLOOR, 855 GRANVILLE STREET
 Parking: street parking on side streets only
 Entrance: 3rd floor access by elevator at street level
 Seating: five spaces for wheelchairs
 Washrooms: limited accessibility bathrooms on the same floor, fully accessible bathrooms on the 2nd floor

VANCITY THEATRE AT THE VANCOUVER INTERNATIONAL FILM CENTRE – 1181 SEYMOUR STREET
 Parking: street parking only
 Entrance: street level ramp
 Seating: two-four spaces for wheelchairs (depending on size)
 Washrooms: fully accessible

EMILY CARR UNIVERSITY – 1400 JOHNSTON STREET (GRANVILLE ISLAND)
 Parking: two spots across the street, four more in the parkade
 Entrance: 3rd floor, access by elevator at street level
 Seating: four spaces for wheelchairs
 Washrooms: fully accessible

Please note that bus service on Granville Street has been rerouted due to Canada Line construction. For complete transit information visit translink.bc.ca.
 For information about handyDART services please visit translink.bc.ca/Transportation_Services/Accessibility/handydart.asp or call 604.430.2692

MAKING THE FESTIVAL MORE ACCESSIBLE

Each of our Festival Theatres has been assessed on the basis of accessibility of entrances, restrooms, parking and seating allotment for wheelchairs and mobile scooters. Party venues have not been audited for accessibility at the time of printing. For a more thorough description of accessible facilities for all venues, consult our website at queerfilmfestival.ca or phone 604.844.1613 if you have questions about any of our accessibility initiatives.

COURTESY SEATING

Designated chairs are available for people with special needs while waiting in line for entrance into the Theatre. Please look for our Accessibility Volunteer.

COMPANION SEATING

Complimentary seating is available for companions and caretakers of people with disabilities. Make sure to pick up a ticket at the Theatre Box Office of the screening you are planning to attend.

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETATION

ASL interpretation will be available at a select number of screenings as indicated on the Schedule (p. 2-3). Subtitled films are noted as well.

COMMUNITY TICKET PROGRAM

A limited number of complimentary tickets are available through local community groups for those individuals who face financial obstacles. Generously sponsored by CCEC Credit Union.

CHILDCARE SUBSIDIES

Upon request childcare subsidies are available for all screenings. Parents or guardians will be given a maximum of \$10 per screening to assist with childcare costs. Request forms are available at the Box Office at each Festival Theatre. Generously sponsored by Barbara Findlay, Q.C.



arts

trends

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blurbberry.com

queer flavoured news and entertainment

movies

gossip

Visit blurbberry.com for coverage of the 2008 Vancouver Queer Film Festival

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Funders Welcome



Josée Verner

Josée Verner

Minister of Canadian Heritage, Status of Women and Official Languages

Greetings to everyone taking part in the 20th Anniversary Vancouver Queer Film Festival.

Film and video allow us to explore new universes, appreciate different points of view and broaden our horizons. This Festival provides Vancouver's residents and visitors with the opportunity to attend films by queer filmmakers from across Canada and around the world and, in so doing, better understand their realities.

As Minister of Canadian Heritage, Status of Women and Official Languages, I thank everyone who has helped ensure the success of this event. I am pleased that this Festival invites Canadians to celebrate understanding and respect for diversity. Enjoy the films!



Gordon Campbell

Gordon Campbell

Premier

As Premier of British Columbia, it is my pleasure to join with Out On Screen in welcoming everyone to the 20th Anniversary Vancouver Queer Film Festival.

I understand that this is the second largest film festival in Vancouver. You are to be commended for the steps you have taken to engage youth through film, in raising awareness of community issues and in promoting safe, diverse learning environments that are free of bullying.

Over the past 20 years, filmmakers from around the world have been drawn to this festival – an event that promotes independent film by Canadian and local artists. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have worked so tirelessly to make this event such a great success.



Sam Sullivan

Sam Sullivan

Mayor

On behalf of the citizens of Vancouver and my colleagues on City Council, I want to extend my warmest greetings to Out On Screen for their production of the 20th Anniversary Vancouver Queer Film Festival.

It is the unique character of our city that all our citizens can enjoy and participate in a large, diverse selection of cultural entertainment events. The Vancouver Queer Film Festival is truly a celebration that embraces and educates all citizens of our region. As Mayor, I would like to thank all the filmmakers and entertainers who contribute to the success of this festival.

Congratulations to the folks at Out On Screen for all their hard work and dedication and I hope everyone takes the time to sample as many fabulous films as they can.

About Us

OUT ON SCREEN 20 YEARS IN THE MAKING!

1988

Vancouver's first lesbian film festival is held at the Van East Cinema. Key organizers include Laiwan and the Vancouver Lesbian Network, Patrice Leung, Diane Belanger, Emma Kivisild and Myrna McLaughlin.

1989

Out On Screen is officially incorporated as a non-profit society and the first Vancouver Gay & Lesbian Film Festival is launched in anticipation of the upcoming Gay Games. See side bar for Founding Members.

1990

Vancouver hosts the 3rd Annual Gay Games. Out On Screen adds an arts and cultural component to the mix with an 11-day film festival.

1993

Out On Screen receives its first form of government funding with a Casino License through BC Gaming.

1996

Out On Screen is one of the first film festivals around the world to adopt the word "queer" and becomes the "Vancouver Queer Film & Video Festival".

1996-1999

Video In Studios partners with Out On Screen to co-produce the Festival.

1997

Nearly a decade after its inception, Out On Screen receives its first Canada Council grant.

1998

The inaugural year of the Queer Video Production Scholarships. In the next six years, 36 videos are produced through this video training program.

2002

The BC Film Classification Office (FCO) attempts to shut down the Festival's Opening Gala film *Little Sister's vs. Big Brother*, ironically a film about censorship. The Out On Screen membership rallies together, the FCO withdraws and the show goes on.

2004

Out in Schools is launched as a pilot project with presentations in six high schools.

2006

The Festival does another name change, this time simplifying to the "Vancouver Queer Film Festival." REAL Women of Canada launches a public campaign claiming the Festival is a waste of taxpayers' dollars. Again, the Out On Screen membership rallies behind the Festival and funding continues.

2007

Two new initiatives are launched: FirstOUT, a reincarnation of the former Queer Video Production Scholarships, and the Queer History Project.

2008

Out On Screen celebrates 20 years of championing queer independent film!



Queer History Project: Rex vs. Singh (p. 52)

About Us

OUT ON SCREEN TODAY

What began 20 years ago as a small film festival has grown to become a media arts organization that champions queer communities through three core programs:



Celebrating the best in independent queer cinema, the Vancouver Queer Film Festival is Vancouver's second largest film festival and the largest queer arts event in Western Canada. More than just film, the Festival hosts performances, workshops, panel discussions, parties and more, facilitating a unique community space for 11 days each August. Throughout the year, the Festival teams up with other arts and community groups to co-present queer film.

VISION

We celebrate and advance queer communities through cultural expression.



Kris Nelson, Maya Suess and unicorn friend, 2007



This innovative educational program is garnering critical acclaim! Out in Schools brings independent queer films into BC high schools to initiate discussions with students about school safety, homophobia and bullying. In 2007-2008 more than 2200 students attended over 40 presentations. Currently, we are in the process of developing lesson units for inclusion with Planning 10, a province-wide mandatory class for all grade 10 students. Additionally, youth are encouraged to make their own films through our FirstOUT workshops.



Poster from John Oliver Secondary GSA

Green is the New Pink!

We've pledged to do our part to reduce our ecological footprint. Here are some commitments we made this year to get us started:

- Print all Festival promotional materials – including this Festival Guide – with vegetable-based inks, and on post-consumer recycled paper where budget allows.
- Reduce the quantity of printed materials by increasing our electronic marketing.
- Carbon offset filmmaker flights with offsetters.ca.
- Reduce office waste by using re-usable lunch and coffee containers, printing less and being power smart.
- Continue to be the walk/bike/bus to work kind of group that we are!



Our newest initiative, the Queer History Project aims to produce a lasting body of work that will enable our communities' stories to assume their rightful place in Canadian history. Two films have been commissioned thus far: *The Love That Won't Shut Up* by Ivan E Coyote and Veda Hille and *Rex vs. Singh* (p. 52) by John Greyson, Richard Fung and Ali Kazimi. Three more films are scheduled for production along with a community public art component that will culminate in 2011 when Vancouver celebrates its 125th anniversary. In the meantime, 2008 will see the launch of a community-driven, interactive website that explores and reimagines queer histories.

Projection 20

HELP BRING THE FUTURE INTO FOCUS.

Last year we launched Projection 20, a campaign to raise \$350,000 over two years. Thanks to your generosity, we are well over half way there, and now ask for your help to raise the remaining \$87,700.

Your contributions will ensure that we can continue serving our community by providing a space for queer film exhibition, supporting artists, making schools safer and sharing queer history.

When you donate, you make a difference in your community and effect change. Your donation enables us to share our queer stories. You can see the results of your contributions during the Vancouver Queer Film Festival, in high schools across the province with Out in Schools and for future generations with the Queer History Project.

For the past 20 years, we have been working tirelessly to realize our vision to celebrate and advance queer communities through cultural expression. The work, however, is made easier by the generosity and support of our wonderful Reel Patrons.

To become a Reel Patron please contact:
Will Pratt, Director of Development
will@outonscreen.com or 604.844.1615

Your contributions to Projection 20 have enabled us to accomplish the following:

- ✓ Increase Festival programming by 20%
- ✓ Create two additional filmmaker awards
- ✓ Reach over 2000 students through Out in Schools
- ✓ Submit Planning 10 lesson units to the Ministry of Education
- ✓ Commission second film for the Queer History Project: **Rex vs. Singh**
- ✓ Launch a community-driven, interactive website for the Queer History Project as a one-year pilot

Goals for 2009

- Increase number of visiting filmmakers to Festival
- Sustain new level of Festival programming
- Hold the second FirstOUT filmmaking workshop for youth
- Reach over 3000 students through Out in Schools
- Champion Out in School's Planning 10 lesson units to ensure inclusion in curriculum
- Commission a third film for the Queer History Project

\$350,000

PROJECTION 20

Our Goal is to raise \$350,000.
C'mon people take us to the top!

Endowment Fund

We are excited to announce the Vancouver Out On Screen Film & Video Legacy Fund, established earlier this year. Fifty cents from every Festival ticket will be directed towards our Endowment. Please consider creating a legacy gift for generations to come!



"The first time I ever saw two boys kiss was on film and I thought 'there must be a community out there for me'. Visibility is an important part of self-identity and it is one of the many reasons we support Out On Screen."

Carl Meadows and Les Dick,
Academy Reel Patrons

AS OF MAY 31 \$262,300 RAISED

Reel Patrons

LEGEND \$5000+

James Goodman
Kasey Reese &
Javier Barajas

ACADEMY \$2500+

Carl Meadows &
Les Dick

MOGUL \$1500+

Stephen Abbott
Phillip Banks
Tamas Cseza
David DeCoteau
Jennifer DeTracey
Gerry Kasten
Myer Leach
Lawrence Lee
Blair Reekie
Vincent Wheeler &
Peter Cheng



"The Festival always has an astonishing way of inspiring me. It is an adventure, an energy that I follow and I urge others to do the same."

Barbara Lewison
Director Reel Patron

DIRECTOR \$750+

Edward Bergman
Jeffrey Boone &
David Wong
Drew Dennis
Ernest Fetting
Doug Freeman CGA
Meg Herweier
Ronald Lauenstein
Dwayne Launt &
David Murphy
Barbara Lewison
Kathy Loewen
Stephan Mehr &
Graeme Scott
Viken Mekhtarian
Colin Merritt
Bill Myra
Pacific Canadian
Association of Nudists
Pam Ratner &
Joy Johnson
Cheri Rauser
Mark Robins
Jeff Rotin
Leyton Schnellert &
Trevor Corneil
Dr. Phil Sestak
Sit Doggie Daycare

Karen Smith &
Jodie Miller
Petra Vander Ley &
Georgina Stowell
Patrick Willoughby
gloria wong

PRODUCER \$375+

Douglas Bacon
Don Blyth
Yves Bournival
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Don Buchanan
Dave Chare &
Tony Edgecombe
Yvette Cheong
James Conklin
Su Craik
Jen Crothers
Thomas Dolan
Sandford Falkenberg
Robb Fasken
Tracey Fudge
Sean George
Mark Gilbert
Frank Gillespie
Julie Guenkel
Luis Guevara
David Hannigan
Bill Houghton
Sterling James
Shafin Karim
Claire Landry
Helen Leung
Peter Litherland
Devon MacFarlane
Douglas Matear &
Thomas Ciz
Patrick Maxcy
John Merzetti
Michel Morin
Scott Murdoch
Wendy Oberlander
Sinead O'Leary
Alex O'Neil
James Ong
Lara Percy
Louise Pohl
Jody Polukoshko
Helen Ryane
Kevin Sarrazin
Kevin Simpson
Andy Stakiw
Brandy Trudeau
Thomas Vadney
Chris Westcott

STAR \$150+

Robert Bachman
Angela Bailey
Neil Boucher
Sam Bradd
Judith Buist
Grant Burns &
Randy Morris
Business Objects
Allison Campbell
Regina Chan
Jacks Cheng
Lisa Chiu
Sharyn Collis
Marilyn &
Ed Dennis

Carmine DiGiovanni
Tilo Driessen
Mike Drofenik &
Lannon deBest
Karen Duthie
Scott Elliott
Jennifer Gough
Pamela Greenstock
Jamie Griffiths &
Sheila Papa
Ian Handy
Bradley Herbert
Shelley Hine &
Gay Fright
Michael Hoche
Brad Homick
Lauren Howes
Michael Hughes
F.E. Johnson
Jill Johnson
Dennis Kam
Madeleine Kipling
Sydney Kjellander
Mark Kowalk
Janek Kuchmistrz
Vanessa Kwan
Thai Lam
Aviva Lazar
Jonathan Levitt
Darlene Lofgren
Anne-Marie Long
Deborah Loren
Joshua MacNab
Wayne Madden
Lisa McCune
Sharon McGowan
Heather Millar
Bruce Milne &
Edward Mason
Dean Mirau
Angela &
Ted Mohr
Mary Morgan
David Morrison
Paul Nixey
Dane Praed
Will Pratt
Gary Probe
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Sean George
Producer Reel Patron

Due to print deadlines some names may be missing from this list, but not from our hearts.



For us, diversity goes way beyond lip service.

At Air New Zealand, our job is to make everyone feel at home. Coexistence is second nature for us in New Zealand—you may have noticed that we have mountains, glaciers, rainforests and meadows living side by side in harmony. People should take a hint from nature. Air New Zealand has a proud history of participation in LGBT events, like our support for the San Francisco Pride Parade, and flights specially arranged for the LGBT community. The plane above flew our recent Pink Flight from San Francisco to Sydney, just in time for Mardi Gras 2008. From the send-off party at the gate to the festivities on board, there wasn't a more gay-friendly plane in the skies. But you don't need a special occasion to find a warm welcome. Just come aboard and be yourself. For details on flights and special travel opportunities, please visit our web site.

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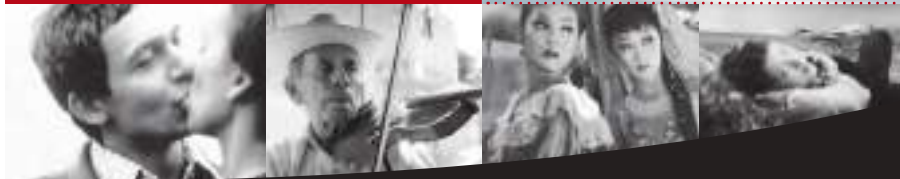
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FIX8 CREATIVE MEDIA

ART DIRECTION/GRAPHIC DESIGN

Dave Shortt and Kevin Chan are the owners of FIX8 creative. FIX8 is responsible for the Festival's new visual identity and is pleased to be working with the Festival for the 5th year in a row.



Dave Shortt

Kevin Chan

JAMIE ROKOVETSKY & JAMES GOODMAN

TRAILERS

James and Jamie are the producers, cameramen, crew, editors & post production team behind the 20th Anniversary web interviews and the Festival trailers.



James Goodman

Jamie Rokovetsky



It's 10 O'Clock.
Do you know where all the hot men are?



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Film covers a lot of flavours and tastes.

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Staff

Top (L to R) Vanessa Melle, Rick Clark, Ross Johnstone, Amy-Lynn Karchut, Will Pratt
 Bottom (L to R) Drew Dennis, Sean Pratt, Nicole Maunsell, Monika Whitney, Robin Perrin, Kristina Lemieux, Vanessa Kwan
 In bubbles: Jamie Rokovetsky, Amy Nugent, Jessica Somers, Chris Gatchalian, Adi
 Missing: Paul Ternes



Festival Team

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We'd like to extend a sincere thank you to our fantastic team of volunteers! Due to print deadlines and space, not all of our volunteers' names are listed. We keep them in our hearts, if not in print.

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Board

(L-R) Viken Mekhtarian, Heather Millar, Toni Latour, Dwayne Launt, James Ong
In Bubbles: (Clockwise from top left) Dwayne Bryke, Mark Gilbert, Julie Guenkel, Peggy Thompson, Tyler Hoffman





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In Our Online



Festival Welcome



Drew Dennis
Executive Director

Woohoo! We're turning 20! This small little film festival that we've come to love and cherish is growing up.

Twenty years ago a handful of people gathered in someone's living room and dreamed of creating a cultural component to the Gay Games, to which Vancouver would soon be playing host. There were concerns they wouldn't be able to drag people away from the bars and bring them into a dark theatre, but turns out the community was thirsty for something more. That passion for film, that desire to see ourselves on screen and the belief that we can make the world a better place has remained a steady constant over the past twenty years.

As we uncork the bubbly to celebrate this significant milestone, I'd like to acknowledge all of the amazing individuals who have contributed to, and nurtured Out On Screen over the years. From the daring Founding members (see page 10) to the many devoted volunteers, board members, festival staff, donors and of course, the artists!

This turning point is also an opportunity to look forward. We've launched two new programs: Out in Schools, our educational initiative bringing queer film into high schools, and more recently, the Queer History Project which aims to capture our stories for generations to come (p. 13).

It's an incredibly exciting time at Out On Screen. We're expanding our reach and increasing queer visibility. And we invite you to join us! If you haven't yet made your gift to Projection 20, our campaign for the future, now's the time. Be a part of the next 20 years together!

With a further nod to the future, we're pleased to announce that 50¢ of each ticket sold at this year's Festival will be designated to our newly established Vancouver Out On Screen Film & Video Legacy Fund. Yup, we're growing up.

But don't worry, we're not too grown up to have a whole lot of fun this August. Join us for 11 days of celebration, frolic, hearty discussion and a whole lot of parties. Can't wait!



Vanessa Kwan
Director of Programming

Twenty. It seems so young and old at once, like angel food cake. Or Madonna.

Maybe I should explain: as a relatively young person, I'm amazed at the magnitude of a 20th Anniversary, but at the same time, I know that the community has been flourishing, struggling, partying and caring for one another for a whole lot longer than that. It's a humbling thing to consider, and a chance to reflect on our individual and communal histories. So I figure, what better way to be than both young and old? It's wonderfully unique for a community to have maturity and wisdom – and still be able to dance 'til dawn.

There's a lot of celebration in the Festival this year – 14 parties in 11 days?! – and some introspection too. Our 20th Anniversary Gala screening of Aerlyn Weissman's film **Little Sister's vs. Big Brother** (p. 30) puts our local community in the spotlight, and brings focus to the importance of preserving our histories for generations to come. And speaking of which, the Queer History Project premieres another film, **Rex vs. Singh** (p. 52), a collaborative effort from multiple award-winning filmmakers John Greyson, Richard Fung and Ali Kazimi.

There are discussions to go along with the films: on aging and queer elders (**ten more good years**, p. 58), on youth education (**It's STILL Elementary**, p. 45), on online communities (**Creating Community Through Technology**, p. 60), and more. There's a disco-dance for kids (**KinderKino**, p. 45), a sexy, smutty noise party (**Sexnoys**, p. 4) and some surprise performances by the gloriously unpredictable Coral Short (**Wolves on Parade**, p. 60).

And of course: our Opening and Closing Galas, **Like a Virgin** and **XXY**, bookend the Festival. Two of the best films of the season happen to be about trans and intersex youth – it's a great testament to the growth of the community, and to the spaces that still need to be made for new configurations of gender and sexuality. So hoist a glass, pat yourself on the back, kick up a fuss and raise the roof. It's gonna be a fun one, folks.

Huge thanks to all the folks who made this program possible: the programming committee, guest programmers, party planners and volunteers. We couldn't do it without you!

Awards

GERRY BRUNET MEMORIAL AWARD \$1500 VALUE

Established in 1997, this juried award is given in recognition of Gerry Brunet, a committed and lifelong contributor to arts organizations and an early Board member of Out On Screen. The award arose as a gift from Gerry's estate. \$500 cash will be awarded to the jury's selection for best short film or video created after January 1, 2007 by a British Columbian director. In addition, we are pleased to award \$1000 worth of film production services courtesy of Technicolor. Matthew Long picked up the Gerry Brunet Memorial Award in 2007 for his video *Trans Neptune*.

The Jury



Jason Karman

Jason Karman has been directing independent films since 2003 and is an active member on the Board of Directors for Cineworks in Vancouver, BC. He graduated from Cinematography at Capilano College with honours and has a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Calgary. Jason's inspiration comes from his experiences as an immigrant from Indonesia and being a double minority. His films have played across North America and on LogoTV.



Terra Poirier

Terra Poirier is a mother, activist, graphic designer and maker of silly and serious films. She has mentored folks in video production through Out On Screen, the Gulf Islands Film & Television School and the Access to Media Education Society. Terra's films have screened locally and internationally and she was a recipient of the 2004 Gerry Brunet Memorial Award for her Super 8 film, *Bear River*. She also likes to make buttons, prints and other fanciful things.



Louise Pohl

Louise Pohl has been a lover of movies since she was a young girl. She was involved with Out On Screen in the initial five years of the organization's infancy and is thrilled to see how Out On Screen has grown over the years. Louise believes in the power of film to educate and to reflect the lives and diversity of people around the world.

The Jury



Dana Claxton

Dana Claxton works with film, video, installation, photography and performance. Her work has been exhibited at venues such as the Museum of Modern Art (New York), Walker Art Centre (Minneapolis) and Sundance Festival (Utah). She was awarded the prestigious VIVA Award in 2007. She is of Hunkpapa Lakota descent and her family reservation is Woodmountain located in beautiful Southwest Saskatchewan.



Chris Adkins

Chris has been an arts administrator for nearly three decades working for a variety of arts organizations in Canada and the UK. Since the late 1980s, he's worked primarily in film at the NFB, the Vancouver International Film Festival and as Associate Producer for the 1999 feature film *Better Than Chocolate*. He served on the inaugural Out On Screen board from 1988-1991.



Paul Wong

Paul Wong's video career spans some 30 years. His work has been shown in exhibitions and festivals around the world, including screenings at the Museum of Modern Art (New York), a solo exhibition at the National Gallery of Canada and a presentation at the Venice Biennale. He is a founding member of Video In (now VIVO) and was awarded the Governor General's Award in Visual and Media Arts in 2005.



Wendy Oberlander

Wendy Oberlander is an interdisciplinary artist whose award-winning documentaries, gallery installations and public art projects have been presented across North America and Europe. A current film project unravels a quirky and resonant story of nationalism, identity and masquerade in 18th century New France. Oberlander teaches high school visual and media arts in Vancouver.



Debora O

Debora O is an educator and community developer. She also makes videos, likes photography and has been known to write (poetry mostly, but also critical and theoretical essays). She has been involved in making political art (writing, image-making, collaborations) for 15 years and is committed to creative ways of resisting oppression in all its forms.

VANCITY ENVIRO VISA PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD FOR BEST FEATURE | \$1500

You decide – vote for your favourite film! Award recognition is a great way to support independent directors, so make sure to cast your vote. Vancity enviro Visa generously presents this audience award for best feature film. Jonah Markowitz took home the Best Feature title in 2007 for his wonderful film *Shelter*.

OUTTV HOT PINK SHORTS AWARD | \$750

Thanks to OUTtv Hot Pink Shorts, we're delighted to introduce this new audience favourite award for best short film. Tell us what film you loved the most – and help us support filmmakers by voting for your fave!

Awards will be presented at our Closing Gala (p. 29)



Awards

20TH ANNIVERSARY AWARD \$2000 PRIZE

This anniversary year is an opportunity to honour the trailblazers who came before us. The 20th Anniversary Award, created and initiated by Wendy Oberlander and Paul Wong, recognizes an artist who has made a significant contribution to queer media in BC over the past 20 years. We are delighted to award this honour to interdisciplinary artist, writer and activist Laiwan.

This Award will be presented at the Closing Gala on August 24 (p. 29)



Photo Credit: Ali McIlwaine

ABOUT LAIWAN

Born in Zimbabwe, Laiwan's life and practice have been shaped by her early experiences growing up under apartheid rule. She came to Canada in 1977 to escape the war in Rhodesia. Since graduating from the Emily Carr Institute in 1983, Laiwan has been active as an artist, a writer/editor and an activist. In these various capacities, she has made indispensable contributions to queer and feminist communities as a social and cultural organizer. She founded the Or Gallery in 1983, was a founding member of the First Vancouver Lesbian Film Festival in 1988 and an organizer for the first Lotus Roots Gathering of Queer Asians in 1996. She served as editor for FRONT magazine from 1994 to 1997 and has contributed essays and writing to publications such as *esse: arts + opinion*, *West Coast Line*, *Mix magazine* and *The Capilano Review*. Her art practice is interdisciplinary and far-reaching; she has produced sound and video installations, online projects, book-works and video pieces. She has exhibited extensively, in solo exhibitions across Canada and in group exhibitions in the US, the UK, Europe and Japan.

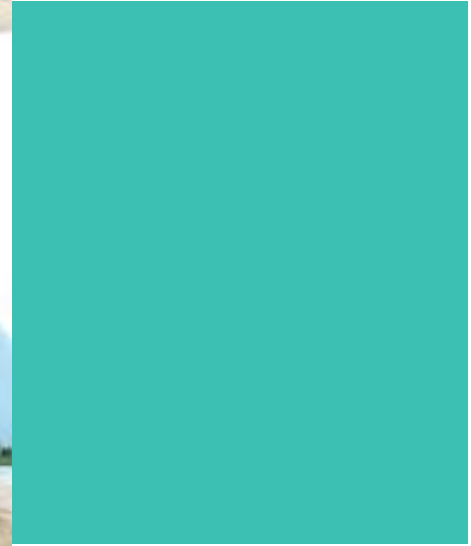
She received her MFA from Simon Fraser University School for Contemporary Arts in 1999 and currently teaches in the MFA Interdisciplinary Arts Program at Goddard College in Washington State. Laiwan lives in East Vancouver with her cat Lily.

Bruce Lee: As the only cinematic Chinaman I knew of as an icon, I too wanted to be a street fighter: a boy with position. I wanted to be the butch philosopher: a fighting drag king. One who knew that the punch came from a place of passion – not anger nor sorrow – 'from the heart, with feeling' he had said.

– Laiwan, *On Heroics*

LOOSE WORK: an exhibition

With a title that plays on Out On Screen ("OOS") and the Or Gallery, this exhibition highlights the diversity of her lifelong practice. Featuring video, new media and text-works, the exhibition includes her video works *Automatopoeia* and *Remotely in Touch*, as well as a new multimedia installation, *sWALLOW*. Exhibition runs from August 15-23 at the Or Gallery, 555 Hamilton Street, Tuesday–Saturday, 12:00 - 5:00 pm. Free admission with an Artist reception August 23, 6:00 pm. orgallery.org



LIKE A VIRGIN (CHEONHAJANGSA MADONNA)

THU | AUG 14 | 7:00 PM | G7

14A

28

Chubby high school student Oh Dong-gu desperately wants to be a girl. Ridiculed in classes and stricken with a dysfunctional family, he takes solace in his rich fantasy life fuelled by, of course, Madonna. Working a back-breaking part-time job, Oh Dong-gu is saving up the 5 million won it will take for his sex-change operation, with little success. When the hunky new wrestling teacher makes an appearance, he takes a brief interest in the sport and even more so when he hears there's a huge cash prize awarded to the best *Ssireum* (traditional Korean wrestling) champion. He begins to train in earnest and despite some heavy obstacles – his violent, alcoholic father, his estranged mother and an unrequited love – he works toward achieving his dream (and teaches his fellow wrestlers some hot dance moves in the process). It ain't easy, but he's a boy with a mission: with Madonna in his heart and money on his mind, he wrestles his way towards girlhood.

Funny, touching and smart, **Like a Virgin** is one of a growing number of South Korean films distinguished by strong queer characters (*The King and the Clown* and *No Regret* come to mind). Oh Dong-gu's character takes

centre stage and (thanks to a wonderful performance by lead actor Deok-Hwan Ryu) emerges as an unforgettable queer hero. It takes guts, talent and whole lot of something special to make it through the wilderness and the kid does it with style. Madge would be proud.

Like a Virgin (Cheonhajangsa Madonna) | Lee Hae-yeong and Lee Hae-jun | South Korea | 2006 | 35mm | 116 mins | Korean with English subtitles

Opening Gala Party

9:30 PM

Celebrities Night Club 1022 Davie Street
Vogue down to high-end 80s pop and locker rock at the party that kicks off our 20th Anniversary! Featuring performances by Coral Short, Dianna David and more.

Free admission and refreshments with **Like a Virgin** ticket stub or Festival Pass





XXY

SUN | AUG 24 | 7:00 PM | G7

XXY tells the story of Alex, an intersex teen who, raised as a girl, is now being pressured by family to “choose.” Having moved the family from Buenos Aires to a remote seaside town in Uruguay, Alex’s scientist father Kraken spends days saving injured sea creatures and gently trying to help Alex make this life-altering decision. Alex’s relatively isolated existence is interrupted by the arrival of a surgeon (invited by Alex’s mother to help with the “transition”) and his son, Alvaro. As Alvaro and Alex begin a tentative friendship, the boy’s own questions about sexuality surface and what begins as youthful experimentation quickly becomes a very adult confrontation with the limits of sex, sexuality and gender. Supported by Kraken, misunderstood by peers and struggling to understand the limits and possibilities of gender, Alex approaches the decision head-on. In both Alex’s resolve and vulnerability, we see the profound importance of freedom of choice.

XXY is a remarkable example of international queer cinema that continues to push the boundaries of representation and the film hints at a whole realm of ground-breaking narrative possibilities. First-time director Lucía Puenzo

handles the film’s difficult subject matter with grace; the character of Alex (played by the outstanding Inés Efron) beautifully illustrates the complex struggles facing gender-queer and intersex people: the fight for freedom of choice, for support and understanding and for a space to call one’s own.

WINNER
Critics’ Week Grand Prize, 2007 Cannes Film Festival

XXY | Lucía Puenzo | Argentina, Spain and France | 2007 | 35mm | 91 mins | Spanish with English subtitles

Closing Gala Party

9:00 PM

Celebrities Night Club 1022 Davie Street
Come on X’s! Come on Y’s! It’s time for some dance floor action. No Z’s tonight! Graciously hosted by Symone, Vancouver’s First Lady of Glam.
Free admission and refreshments with **XXY** ticket stub or Festival Pass



LITTLE SISTER'S VS. BIG BROTHER

TUE | AUG 19 | 7:00 PM | TT

It's a big year for anniversaries. We're 20. Pride turns 30. And Little Sister's, our beloved bookstore – the place that some would say has been the heart of the queer community in Vancouver – is 25. As we take time to look back at where we've come from, there seems no better way to do it than with this Gala screening of Aerlyn Weissman's much-heralded documentary.

Little Sister's vs. Big Brother documents the fight for free expression and our right to read through the story of Little Sister's battle with Canada Customs – a fight which went all the way to the Supreme Court of Canada. Through Weissman's camera, we meet outlaw booksellers Jim Deva, Bruce Smyth, Janine Fuller and Mark MacDonald. We watch them as, with the support of Vancouver's queer community, fellow booksellers and advocates of free speech, they wage the most important battle in Canadian legal history against Canada Customs and state censorship.

Reflecting on our community heroes, we would be remiss if we didn't recognize the contributions that **Aerlyn Weissman** has made in the documentation of our communities' stories. Weissman has played an

indispensable role in giving us something concrete as a community to reflect on. We are delighted to feature her in this year's **FilmForward Director's Spotlight**. The Festival is pleased to honour this outstanding filmmaker in our midst.

Little Sister's vs. Big Brother | Aerlyn Weissman | Canada | 2002 | video | 71 mins

Discussion to follow:

A conversation with Aerlyn Weissman, Jim Deva and Janine Fuller.

20th Anniversary Gala Party

9:00 PM

Century House 432 Richards Street
Mingle as cellist Cris Derkson plays under the barrel ceilings of The Century House. Upstairs, DJs Titz McGee and Mickey Moniker pump pure Gold Medal while Amber Dawn and Trish Kelly pay a performative tribute to lesbian pulp. Free admission and refreshments with any Aug 19 Festival film ticket stub or Festival Pass

20th Anniversary Focus



Spotlight Director Aerlyn Weissman



Archival Classic! with Susan Stryker

20TH ANNIVERSARY: LOOKING BACK, MOVING FORWARD

Our 20th Anniversary is no small thing. The growth and progression of the Festival has been a shared experience and has depended on the hard work and support of so many: volunteers, staff, colleagues, donors and patrons. Join us for some historical – and forward-thinking – programs in celebration of our Festival milestone.

Our re-screening of Aerlyn Weissman's pivotal documentary **Little Sister's vs. Big Brother** anchors the Festival (opposite page). As part of our Director's Spotlight, Weissman will also be leading a **Masterclass: Oral History and Living Memory** (p. 61). With clips from her Genie Award-winning films *Forbidden Love: The Unashamed Stories of Lesbian Lives* and *Fiction and Other Truths: A Film About Jane Rule*, Aerlyn will lead us through some of the specific concerns around recording queer stories – a must for anyone interested in learning more about how we can preserve our histories for generations to come.

Also, you'll find some exciting additions to the Festival in the "Workshops and Special Events" section (p. 60-61), not the least of which is **Archival Classic!**, Susan Stryker's historical walk-through of a fascinating piece of queer history. With clips from the 1960 Filipino film **We Who Are Sexy**, Stryker will review the history of trans representation on film, with specific reference to famed trans personality Christine Jorgenson. This is a great chance to gain insight into Stryker's film project-in-progress, *Christine in the Cutting Room*.

And new this year: the **20th Anniversary Award**, a juried prize given to an artist for a lifetime achievement to the queer media arts community. We are delighted to honour **Laiwan** for her enormous contribution to our community over the years.

Make sure to visit a retrospective exhibition of her work at the Or Gallery (see p. 27).

And last, but not least: a nod to some future directions. Taking our pilot website for the Queer History Project as a starting point, the panel **Creating Community Through Technology** (p. 60) takes a look at the possible futures of queer spaces online. From Facebook to queer archives, social software is changing how we live our lives – come learn more about the possibilities and pitfalls of this brave new world.

CONVERSATIONS WITH FILMMAKERS

What was your first experience of queer film? What changes have you seen in the last 20 years? What lies ahead for the queer community? We asked these questions and more to both up-and-coming and established artists – and you can watch it all online! Check out words and wisdom from Graham Peat, Aerlyn Weissman, Susan Stewart, Michael V Smith, Paul Wong, Laiwan and more.

queerfilmfestival.ca

Festival Highlights



Lamathilde (top) and Coral Short (bottom)



Suddenly, Last Winter

STRAYING FROM THE STRAIGHT AND NARROW...

ARTIST SWAP: COLLABORATIVE QUEERS

Endlessly fertile and often unexpected, collaboration is an integral part of artistic production; a vibrant relationship has the capacity to expand ideas around film, art and creativity. As part of our ongoing visiting artist program, we are pleased to bring you these unique opportunities to see artists in collaboration.

Working in performance, video and sound, Montreal-based artist Lamathilde will be pairing up with festival performer Coral Short to bring you a unique sound/performance piece. The work will premiere at the *Sexnoys* party. Lamathilde and Short will also be giving a talk on their collaborative and solo practices on Saturday, August 16 at the *Artist Swap* (p. 4). For more Lamathilde, see the *How Do You say "Queer" in French?* shorts program, curated by Amy Lynn Kazymierchuk (p. 44).

Directors John Greyson, Ali Kazimi and Richard Fung's new work *Rex vs. Singh* will be premiering this year as part of the *Queer History Project* (p. 52). Their screening and reception is a rare opportunity to interact with these esteemed artists as they talk about their collaborative processes and practices.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING

Each year we give up the programming reins to those in the community with stories to tell and issues to talk about. We're delighted to present these two programs.

In appreciation for the little ones among us, **KinderKino** appeals to kids whose queer families are weird, wonderful and unique. And what's more: there's a *Disco, Baby!* dance party to follow (p. 45). Programmed by Wendy Oberlander and her son Uriel.

For Dreams and For Memories, programmed by Sarah Muff and Julie Saragosa, highlights the beautiful, atmospheric, edgy visions of queer Super 8 films. There's no digital video in sight – this is a full-on film experience. Special thanks to The Project8 Film Collective.

VANCITY HUMAN RIGHTS SERIES

A Festival mainstay, this series brings an international perspective to our continued struggle for equality, respect and dignity worldwide.

This year's films include **Darling! & The Beirut Apt** (p. 39), a program that brings us two unique stories of activism in process – from a drag performer in South Africa to an apartment in Beirut where queers can speak freely. **Two Homelands: Cuba and the Night** (p. 59) provides a rare view into queer communities existing in this often misunderstood culture. **The World Unseen** (p. 59), based on the award-winning novel by Shamim Sarif, documents a lesbian relationship that blossoms in apartheid-era Cape Town, while **Suddenly, Last Winter** (p. 57) is a charming, if sobering, look at the fight for same-sex partnership legislation in Italy.

Vancity



It's STILL Elementary



Were the World Mine

FILMS, PARTIES, PANELS, OH NO SHE DIDN'T...?!

Oh yes, we did! We've got even more exciting programming for all you young peeps at this year's Festival! With over 16 classified films you'll be sure to find something that will sprinkle some fierce-ness into your social life this August. Laugh, cry and celebrate with our summertime sampler of youth shorts **Out in Schools Summer Sampler** (p. 51). Get passionate over one of our selected feature films while exploring queer love in contemporary Japanese culture in **Love My Life** (p. 47). Or experience the challenges of being closeted at school and discover the positive effect a Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) can have in **Tru Loved** (p. 58). Check for the icon indicating which films have been classified PG (parental guidance), G (general) or 14A (adult accompaniment) so that youth can attend.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: WERE THE WORLD MINE & PARTY

Metro Vancouver's queer youth talent is unmatched anywhere on earth! It's been proven before and we'll prove it again! Building on the success of this spring's Caffeinated Queers – a cabaret we co-hosted with the fine folks at Gab Youth Services during May's Youth Week – we are excited to present *Caffeinated Too*, a queer youth open mic and variety show. Join us August 15, 7:00 pm. The night kicks off with a screening of the incredible film **Were the World Mine** (p. 59). Journey with us into a midsummer night's dream and be seduced by the hypnotic effect of one magical pansy. Following the film, prepare yourself to be blown away by the live show that everyone will be talking about... forever!

IT'S STILL ELEMENTARY: EDUCATORS' PANEL

Whether you're a student, an educator or if you are simply supportive of safe and diverse schools you won't want to miss our special presentation of **It's STILL Elementary** (p. 45). The film will be followed by an educator's panel focused on putting the LGBTQs into school curriculum. Panelists will include Steve Mulligan, Anti-Homophobia and Diversity Consultant for the Vancouver School Board; Susan Harman of PFLAG; Stewart Wade, Director of **Tru Loved**; Lydia Luk, Pride Speak and Outreach Coordinator for Gab Youth Services; and others.

OUT IN SCHOOLS

Our year-round Out in Schools program continues to grow, bringing queer film directly to students across BC and making schools a safer place for everyone to learn in.

We are delighted to announce the return of FirstOUT, our youth filmmaking workshop produced in collaboration with Reel Youth. Youth-made films created through the FirstOUT program will screen to students through our Out in Schools program, online and at the 21st Vancouver Queer Film Festival. For more information on our Out in Schools program, visit outinschools.com

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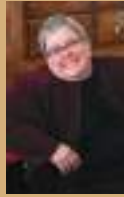


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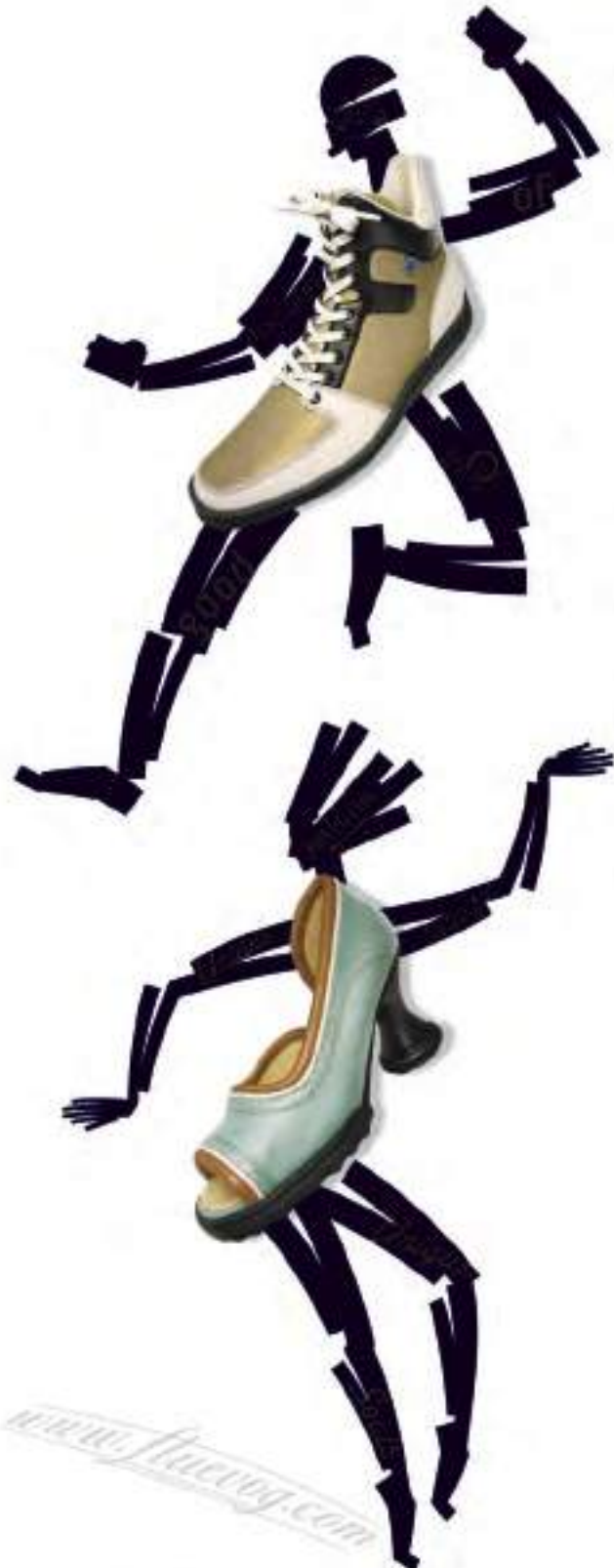
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Film Listings



ANOTHER GAY SEQUEL: GAYS GONE WILD!

FRI | AUG 15 | 9:30 PM | VCT
SAT | AUG 23 | 5:00 PM | TT 

Canadian Premiere

Fans of 2006's *Another Gay Movie* (or of outrageously raunchy comedies in general) will want to get in line for this much anticipated sequel. While the original film was about getting laid for the first time, **Another Gay Sequel** ups the ante: who can get laid the most?

The film finds our heroes Andy, Nico, Jarod and Griff reuniting at a gay resort in sunny Fort Lauderdale for Spring Break. They participate in a contest called "Gays Gone Wild!" to determine who can attain the most "buttllove" over the course of the vacation. Between wet package contests, evil gay fratboys and genital crabs the size of kittens, it's a bumpy road to booty victory. But this time around, love proves to be the biggest conflict of all as the boys struggle to rectify just how casual sex fits into their lives.

Another Gay Sequel: Gays Gone Wild! | Todd Stephens | USA | 2008 | video | 90 mins

ASL interpretation provided for August 23 screening only.



ANTARCTICA

MON | AUG 18 | 9:30 PM | TT

Canadian Premiere
Director in attendance

Antarctica, as the title suggests, is a story of discovery – of finding oneself in unexpected places. In two days, bookish Omer will hit a milestone: his 30th birthday. Tired of the dating scene, he loses himself among the stacks of books at the local library. Danny, a gorgeous dancer, is nursing a years-old heartache and Ronen, a journalist, spends his days hunting down stories and his nights with a younger lover. And then there's Shirley, who dreams of travelling but can't shake her attachment to the beautiful, older Michal. It might sound complicated – and, just like life, it is – but ultimately the film has a simple question to ask: is love dead or are we just looking in all the wrong places?

Acclaimed director Yair Hochner (*Good Boys*, 2006 Vancouver Queer Film Festival) tells the stories of these contemporary queer Israelis with a time-honoured sense of wonder.

Antarctica | Yair Hochner | Israel | 2007 | video | 110 mins | Hebrew with English subtitles



BANGKOK LOVE STORY

SUN | AUG 17 | 9:30 PM | VCT
TUE | AUG 19 | 9:30 PM | TT

Cloud is a lonely hitman who only kills to support his HIV+ mother and younger brother. His already complicated life goes completely off the rails when he finds himself deeply attracted to Stone, a police informant he's been contracted to kill. The film starts as a fast-paced gangster shoot-em-up but really gets going when the two gorgeous, sexually confused guys end up at a rooftop hideout and the plot turns to lust, tormented romance and hot, sweaty, rain-drenched sex.

Director Poj Arnon (*Spicy Beautyqueen of Bangkok*, *Cheerleader Queen*) has moved on from his earlier comedies and created what are probably the first characters in a queer-themed Thai film who are not drag performers or mincing fairies. His new film is a serious romantic thriller that is lush, colourful and gloriously melodramatic.

WINNER
Grand Prize, 2007 Brussels International Independent Film Festival

Bangkok Love Story | Poj Arnon | Thailand | 2007 | video | 104 mins | Thai with English subtitles

37

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Film Listings



BI THE WAY

SAT | AUG 16 | 5:00 PM | TT (14A)

Canadian Premiere
Director in attendance

"The iron curtain between gay and straight is crumbling," proclaim the directors of this sexy, road-trip style documentary. Every few years, it seems the media reports that bisexuality is the hot new trend, but we all know there's more to it than that. Could it be this generation's sexual revolution?

Despite "bi" in the title, the film looks at many fluid sexualities: pansexual, bicurious, heteroflexible and unlabelled. Five people, aged 10-28, are interviewed and their stories provide a jumping-off point for scientists, psychologists and everyday people on the street to explore the questions on everyone's mind. Is bisexuality just a phase? Are bisexual men just lying? And of course, what does bisexuality have to do with aliens? The film's strength lies not in the answers it provides, but rather in the honest moments of reflection it captures of people discovering what it means to live outside the binaries.

Bi the Way | Brittany Blockman and Josephine Decker | USA | 2008 | video | 88 mins



BOYSTOWN (Chuecatown)

SAT | AUG 16 | 7:00 PM | TT
MON | AUG 18 | 5:00 PM | TT

Welcome to the gaybourhood. The shopping is fantastic, the views are stunning and the apartment prices are murder.

Slick and charming Victor (the handsome Pablo Puyol of 2006 Vancouver Queer Film Festival favourite *20 Centimeters*) is a real estate agent using unconventional methods to develop Madrid's next gay district, Chuecatown (Boystown). When elderly occupants won't sell their apartments to him, he murders the women, renovates their apartments and sells them to upscale gay couples. But Rey and Leo, the adorable bear couple living next door to Victor's most recent victim, threaten the veneer of his hip, immaculate vision when they not only refuse to sell, but prove difficult to do away with. A phobia-prone inspector and her spineless mama's boy in charge of investigating the rash of suspicious "suicides" round out the quirky cast of characters in this black comedy which plays out like a cross between the work of Pedro Almodóvar and Alan Cumming.

Boystown (Chuecatown) | Juan Flahn | Spain | 2007 | video | 93 mins | Spanish with English subtitles



THE COAST IS QUEER

MON | AUG 18 | 7:00 PM | TT

Directors in attendance

Oh, it rains... queers, that is! Yes, it's the annual local showcase and you love it! What's not to love, after all, about a bunch of freakin' amazing works by your friends and neighbours? Enjoy.

Transformation is on the brain, as a time-travelling scientist encounters his future self in **Hirsute** and a time-tested action hero gets a butch-lesbian overhaul in **Jane Blonde**. A man narrowly escapes a strange presence in **Bathroom Mirror** and **No Bikini** tells the story of one girl's "sex change" at the pool one glorious summer.

Hirsute | AJ Bond | Canada | 2007 | video | 14 mins

Jane Blonde | Lorna Richards | Canada | 2008 | video | 22 mins

You're Gonna Wanna Know Me Now! | Katherine Atkins | Canada | 2007 | video | 4 mins

S/He | Gine Pei Chi Chen | Canada | 2007 | video | 12 mins

Song for the City with Music in its Bones | Amy Lynn Kazymierchuk | Canada | 2007 | video | 13 mins

Laugh At Me | David C Jones | Canada | 2007 | video | 4 mins

Bathroom Mirror | Steve Schmidt | Canada | 2008 | video | 9 mins

No Bikini | Claudia Morgado Escanilla | Canada | 2007 | video | 9 mins

Approximate running time: 87 mins

The Coast is Queer Party to follow (p. 4)



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Film Listings



CONFESSIONS OF A SORTA STR8 DRAG KING

SAT | AUG 23 | 7:00 PM | TT

World Premiere
Director in attendance

Alexis Fosse Mackintosh (*Let No One Put Asunder*, 2004 Vancouver Queer Film Festival People's Choice Award winner) returns to the Festival with another documentary, this time investigating the complex (and raunchy and fun) arena of drag king performance and gender identity. What at first seems to be a portrait of Jessica Barrett (aka Lulu LeMoan), sorta straight drag king known to local audiences as part of Stiletto's and Strap-Ons Burlesque, turns out to be a meditation on an array of pertinent issues. From a personal account of the public presentation of sexuality, to a discussion about the radical position that femme identities occupy in queer communities, interviews with the film's subject add valuable dimension to issues of contemporary queer culture.

Packed with plenty of great performance footage from Stiletto's and Strap-Ons, the film delivers a thoughtful, sexy, scintillating package.

Confessions of a Sorta Str8 Drag King | Alexis Fosse Mackintosh | Canada | 2008 | video | 60 mins

Preceding Short:

A documentary about a bio-dude trying to pass as a "real" drag king – meaning, he's a man pretending to be a woman pretending to be a man. Featuring "The Infiltrator" Harmon Leon and a slew of drag king mentors.

Today, I Become a Man | Mocha Jean Herrup | USA | 2007 | video | 9 mins



DARLING! & THE BEIRUT APT

MON | AUG 18 | 7:00 PM | VCT

These two unique documentaries show the dangers and triumphs of refusing to shut up. In **The Beirut Apt**, Italian filmmakers rent an apartment so their Lebanese interview subjects – Muslims and Christians – can speak freely about their sexuality, even though the country's notorious Article 514 makes it illegal to do so. The small space of the apartment harbours issues of international importance. Despite different backgrounds and opinions, these eloquent men and women share the struggle to live authentically in a culture that denies their existence.

In **Darling!**, we meet "the most famous white woman in South Africa," Pieter-Dirk Uys, or rather his alter-ego, Mrs. Evita Bezuidenhout. In the 1980s, Evita's political satire skewered the policies of apartheid and earned her more than a little attention from the government and its enforcers. Today, Pieter-Dirk is a hero to thousands of South African children and counts Bishop Desmond Tutu and Nelson Mandela among his ardent fans – both of whom make appearances in the film. He remains an inspirational reminder of the capacity for a committed individual to promote social change.

The Beirut Apt | Daniele Salaris | UK and Italy | 2007 | video | 50 mins | English and Arabic with English subtitles

Darling! The Pieter-Dirk Uys Story | Julian Shaw | Australia | 2007 | video | 54 mins



DEB AND SISI

SAT | AUG 16 | 9:30 PM | TT

World Premiere
Director in attendance

Deb and Sisi follows homely Deborah Dyer (Mark Kenneth Woods) who tries everything she can to "suicide herself" when she finds herself still single on her 40th birthday. But all attempts fail as fate sends her car swerving right into Sisi Sickles (Michael Venus), a recently evicted 40-something promiscuous waitress.

Seeing an opportunity for a quick buck, Sisi hastily begins to take advantage of naive Deb and is soon at Deb's doorstep with a "broken umbilical cord or two." Stricken with guilt, a clueless and lonely Deb postpones her self-destructive plans to take care of Sisi.

Things run hilariously amok when the two women grow closer and develop the only real friendship either of them has ever had. Who needs a man anyways, right?

Deb and Sisi | Mark Kenneth Woods | Canada | 2007 | video | 81 mins

Preceding Short:

What's a girl to do when a rare hair-loss condition leaves her with an obsession for zany wigs and makeup? Become a drag queen, of course!

Prada Handbag | Stuart Vauvert | Australia | 2007 | video | 22 mins

"I Could Never Drink Alone" party to follow (p. 4)



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Film Listings



DEREK

FRI | AUG 22 | 7:00 PM | ECU

Oscar-winning actress Tilda Swinton produced, wrote and serves as guide of this loving portrait of queer film maverick Derek Jarman – her mentor, collaborator and friend. Swinton and director Isaac Julien (*Looking for Langston*, *Young Soul Rebels*) deftly combine home movies, archival footage, scenes from Jarman's films and interviews with Jarman himself to create an insightful look at his life and work.

In classic interviews Jarman speaks frankly about his time as an art student in London during the swinging 1960s, his emergence as a filmmaker of homoerotic and controversial features (*Jubilee*, *Sebastiane*, *Caravaggio* and *Edward II*), his work with The Smiths and The Pet Shop Boys and his public battle with AIDS.

As a gay man living in Thatcher's Britain, Jarman used his art to build bridges and shout defiantly at the world. Swinton and Julien's film is a celebration of an extraordinary life in art.

Derek | Isaac Julien | UK | 2008 | video | 76 mins



DOLLS
(Pusinsky)

SUN | AUG 17 | 7:00 PM | VCT

Canadian Premiere

Stuck in a summer athletics camp and bored out of their skulls, three Czech teenage girls decide to hit the highway in search of excitement. Sexual experimentation, excessive alcohol consumption and a yearning to take a bite out of whatever forbidden fruit comes their way are all on the agenda.

The slightly chubby Vendula wants to overcome her self-esteem issues, while the hyper-flirtatious Karolina simply wants to test her powers of seduction on every man she meets – including her best friend's little brother who's tagging along for the ride. And Iska? She's interested in pursuing her sudden attraction to Karolina, even if it means risking rejection and heartbreak.

Karin Babinská's debut feature may be both a coming out and a coming-of-age film, but this road movie is anything but a harmless, sugarcoated version of "Girls Gone Wild." There's perverse humour, poignant tragedy and some seriously steamy encounters on this threesome's painful journey to self-awareness and Sapphic awakenings. No punches are pulled, yet this portrait of that transitional period between childhood and adulthood always retains that recognizably giddy rush.

—San Francisco International LGBT Film Festival

Dolls (Pusinsky) Karin Babinská | 2007 | Czech Republic | 35mm | 99 mins | Czech with English subtitles



DRIFTING FLOWERS

TUE | AUG 19 | 7:00 PM | VCT PG
THU | AUG 21 | 9:30 PM | VCT

From the director of last year's *Spider Lilies* comes **Drifting Flowers**, an ambitious new film from one of the most exciting young directors working in queer cinema today.

Through a series of interrelated stories, Chou introduces us to three remarkable women, each living in a different time and place. First, is eight-year-old May, a precocious girl who falls in love with her older sister's androgynous partner Diego. So strong is her attachment that it threatens to tear them all apart. And then there is Lily, an elderly woman suffering from Alzheimer's who must reconcile her lost sense of self with the arrival of an old friend. The final story depicts Diego as a young woman, struggling with her sexuality and falling in love for the first time.

Chou approaches her subject matter with rare introspection and vision. Each story witnesses a moment of illumination: the realization of self as life takes a new turn.

Drifting Flowers | Zero Chou | Taiwan | 2008 | 35mm | 97 mins | Taiwanese and Mandarin with English subtitles

Preceding Short:

Hand-processed black and white imagery of two women at home – sleeping on the couch, preparing food and reading. Everyday intimacy is captured with poignancy and grace.

Sleep Lines | Kathleen Mullen | Canada | 2007 | 16mm | 7 mins

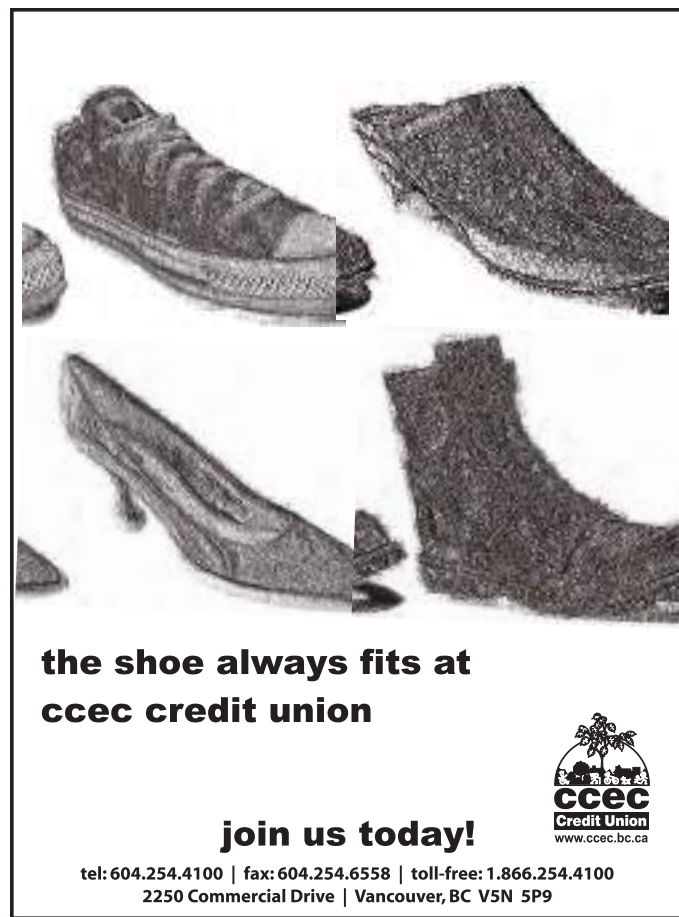
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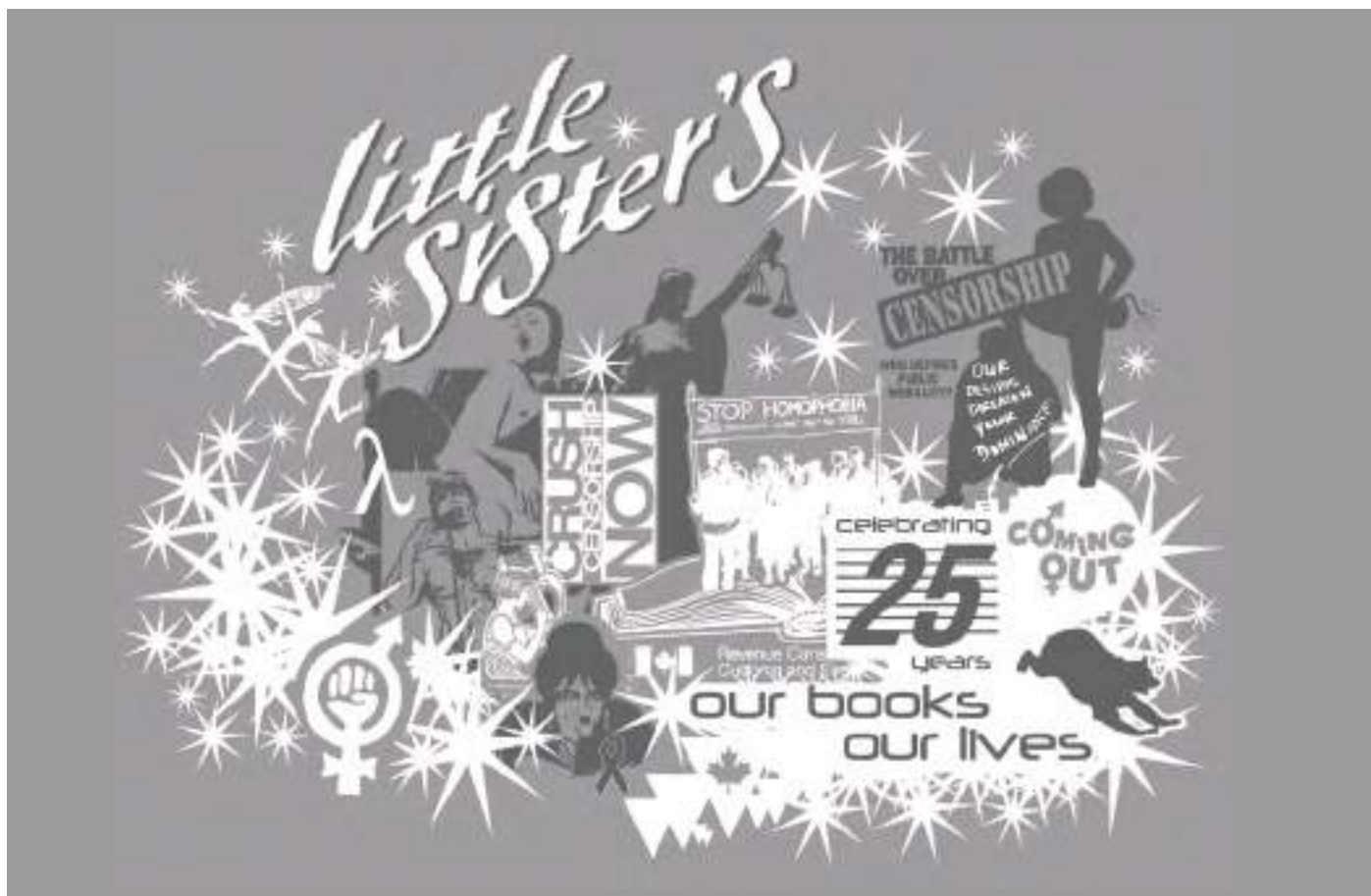

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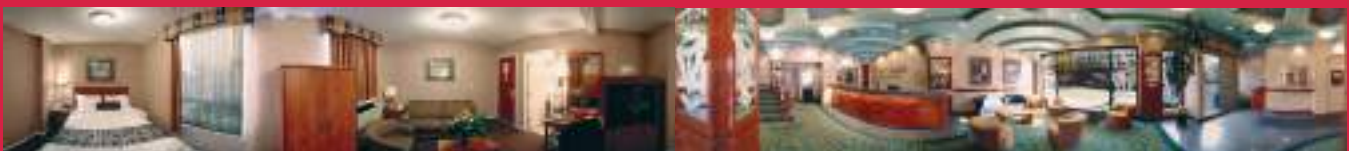
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Film Listings



What don't you understand about I'm leaving... again?

FOR DREAMS AND FOR MEMORIES: SUPER 8 VISIONS

SAT | AUG 16 | 5:00 PM | VCT

Programmed by Sarah Muff and Julie Saragosa
Directors in attendance

Psychic conversations with an inanimate object, strange creatures, police states, aliens and a nightmare that finally ends. Driving on both sides of the road, black and white meditations, family celebrations and two classics retold. Health demonstrations, a lip revelation, goodbye and goodbye. Super 8 is for dreams and memories.

Spaghetti 8 | Terra Poirier and Adam Garnet Jones | Canada | 2002 | Super 8 | 3 mins

Her (KLX) | Kai Ling Xue | Canada | 2003 | Super 8 | 10 mins

dry idea | Velveeta Krisp | Canada | 2007 | Super 8 | 2 mins

The Outsiders | Julie Saragosa | Canada | 2005 | Super 8 | 7 mins

Wolf Lake | Michael V Smith | Canada | 2006 | Super 8 | 4 mins

Film Scroll | Julie Saragosa | Canada | 2004 | Super 8 | 5 mins

Washington Heights | Ho Tam | Canada | 1998 | Super 8 | 4 mins

Sparkleen | Jennifer Leigh Fisher | Canada | 2007 | Super 8 | 3 mins

Planet Q: The Transformation | Tyler Wheatcroft | Canada | 2007 | Super 8 | 4 mins

My Cervix | Terri Sudeyko | Canada | 2007 | Super 8 | 4 mins

What don't you understand about I'm leaving... again? | Amy Lynn Kazymchuk | Canada | 2005 | Super 8 | 4 mins

SuPORNNatural | Sacha Fink | Canada | 2007 | Super 8 | 4 mins

The Near-Perfect Wedding | Michael V Smith | Canada | 2007 | Super 8 | 2 mins

Approximate running time: 66 mins



Four Minutes (Vier Minuten)

FOUR MINUTES (Vier Minuten)

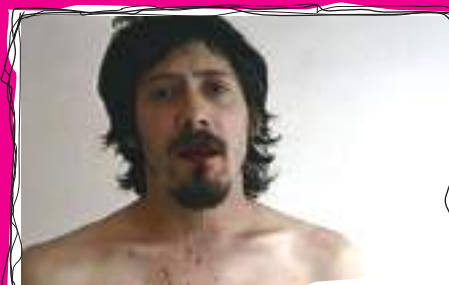
SUN | AUG 17 | 9:30 PM | TT

Winner of multiple Golden Lolas (the German Oscar) and numerous awards at festivals around the world, this second feature from German writer-director Chris Kraus is an extraordinary tale about the power of music. Frau Traude Krüger (a pitch-perfect Monica Bleibtreu) has given up on joy. Teaching piano at a women's prison, she struggles with her age-old demons. Forced by the Nazis to give up her lover, she lives wracked with guilt and remorse.

Enter Jenny, the brutally violent new inmate whose explosive temper isolates her from her fellow prisoners. Behind her murderous anger however, lurks an astounding musical talent which stirs Traude from her decades-long isolation. Determined to foster Jenny's remarkable gift, the older woman obsessively grooms the former piano prodigy; together the two struggle to find common ground, slowly creating a connection through music. Their troubled pasts prove difficult to deny and Jenny's talent, passion and the fight for freedom reach an electrifying climax in her final performance. A remarkable film.

WINNER
Audience Award for Best Feature, 2007 San Francisco International LGBT Film Festival
Outstanding Feature Film, 2007 German Film Awards

Four Minutes (Vier Minuten) | Chris Kraus | Germany | 2006 | 35mm | 112 mins | German with English subtitles



J'veux qu'tu m'veux

HOW DO YOU SAY "QUEER" IN FRENCH?

FRI | AUG 15 | 7:00 PM | TT

Programmed by Amy Lynn Kazymchuk
Directors in attendance

These mashups offer a glimpse into the complexity and multiplicity of "queer" within a geo-political culture known as French Canada.

Bonne Mère | Maxime Desmons | France and Quebec | 2008 | video | 3 mins *

J'veux qu'tu m'veux | Stephan St. Laurent and Minnie St. Laurent | New Brunswick | 2001 | video | 4 mins

Le Tourbillon | Lise Beaudry | Ontario | 2002 | video | 6 mins *

Allo Performance! | Mirha-Soleil Ross and Mark Karbusicky | Quebec | 2002 | video | 13 mins *

Bonne Fête Stonewall | Fifi Barre d'Acier & Les Panthères Roses | Quebec | 2004 | DVD | 2 mins *

Rebelsexuals | Anita Schoepp | Quebec | 2007 | video | 9 mins

Merz | Lamathilde | France and Quebec | 1999 | video | 3 mins

Lucy ...et les yeux | Marijo St. Amour | Quebec | 2006 | video | 12 mins

Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed & Something Blue | Stephen Lawson and Aaron Pollard | Quebec | 2002 | video | 3 mins

Triple Axxel | Lamathilde | Quebec | 2003 | video | 4 mins

My Bear's Sex Toy | Lamathilde | Quebec | 2007 | video | 1 min

Panthers vs. Harper | Christine Crépín, Félix Tétreault, Camille Trempe and Les Panthères Roses | Quebec | 2005 | DVD | 5 mins

Patriotic | Benny Nemerofsky Ramsay and Pascal Lièvre | Quebec and France | 2005 | video | 4 mins

* French with English subtitles

Approximate running time: 69 mins

Sexnoys party to follow (p. 4)



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Film Listings



Miss Navajo

INDIGEQUEER

SAT | AUG 23 | 9:30 PM | ECU

Programmed by Kevin Lee Burton

Sometimes queer film doesn't have to be overtly queer. Filmmakers who have made it their focus have helped push the boundaries of representation, gaining a more accurate presence for our communities in TV, film and society at large. Because of these efforts, today's filmmakers are given complete freedom to express their vision, regardless of whether or not it includes explicitly queer themes. Audiences are rather treated to films with a queer eye: a sensitivity to issues, a nuanced understanding of identity and an emphasis on the individual at odds with the crowd.

IndigeQUEER is a showcase of three films by queer indigenous filmmakers. From documenting the long-running Miss Navajo Nation beauty pageant in **Miss Navajo**, to the tragic story of a young boy and his rite of passage in **Primera Comunión**, to a meticulous study of language and landscape in **Writing the Land**, this program is both a celebration of the unique perspectives of these filmmakers and the efforts of those before them. *Ekosi*.

Writing the Land | Kevin Lee Burton | Canada | 2007 | video | 8 mins

Primera Comunión | Daniel Eduviges Carrera | USA | 2006 | film | 15 mins

Miss Navajo | Billy Luther | USA | 2007 | video | 60 mins

Approximate running time: 83 mins



IT'S STILL ELEMENTARY

SUN | AUG 17 | 5:00 PM | TT PG

This inspiring documentary is a follow-up to the original groundbreaking film *It's Elementary*, released in 1996 through Women's Educational Media. **It's STILL Elementary** tells the fascinating history of why and how the 1996 film was made, the infamous response it provoked from the conservative right and the questions it raises about the international safe schools movement today. The sequel includes interviews with some of the original students and teachers who appeared in *It's Elementary* to teach lessons about how queer issues affected their lives. The results are profound.

It's STILL Elementary is a call to action for parents and educators to continue working for safe and inclusive schools.

It's STILL Elementary: Talking about Gay Issues in Schools | Debra Chasnoff and Johnny Symons | USA | 2007 | video | 45 mins

Panel to follow:
This educators' panel discussion will focus on teaching queer issues in schools. Panelists include Steve Mulligan, Anti-Homophobia and Diversity Consultant for the Vancouver School Board; Susan Harman of PFLAG; Stewart Wade, Director of **Tru Loved**; Lydia Luk, Pride Speak and Outreach Coordinator for Gab Youth Services.



City Paradise

KINDERKINO: FOR KIDS!

SAT | AUG 16 | 2:00 PM | VCT G

Free admission
Programmed by Wendy and Uriel Oberlander

Hey kids! Ever wonder why your parents disappear for 11 days every August? Do they tell you that they sit in the dark for hours, even when it's sunny outside? Well, here is a party just for you: a wild collection of short films and a disco dance!

Wooden Pirate with the Flesh Leg | Jean-Pierre Morin | Canada | 2006 | video | 5 mins

The Adventures of Sam Digital in the 21st Century | Steve Angel and Sargent York | Canada | 1999 | video | 5 mins

The Goat that Ate Time | Lucinda Schreiber | Australia | 2007 | video | 7 mins

Genie in a Tin of Raviolis (Le Génie de la Boîte de Raviolis) | Claude Barras | France | 2005 | video | 7 mins | French with English subtitles

No Bikini | Claudia Morgado Escanilla | Canada | 2007 | 35mm | 9 mins

Dog Who Was a Cat Inside | Siri Melchior | UK | 2002 | video | 4 mins

The Bunnies (Les Lapines) | Françoise Doherty and Mél Hogan | Canada | 2008 | video | 3 mins

City Paradise | Gaëlle Denis | UK | 2007 | video | 6 mins

The Propeller Bird (Der Propellervogel) | Jan Locher and Thomas Hinke | Germany | 2005 | video | 5 mins

Tunnel of Love | Helen Hill | Canada | 1996 | 16mm | 3 mins

Approximate running time: 54 mins

Recommended for children ages five and up

Disco, Baby! party to follow (p. 4)





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Film Listings



KISS THE BRIDE

THU | AUG 21 | 9:30 PM | TT

Canadian Premiere

Stylish urbanite Matt has the perfect alternative lifestyle: a high-end job, great clothes, a cute boyfriend – the works. All is well until he receives an invitation to high school best friend (and behind-closed-doors lover) Ryan's wedding to Alex (Tori Spelling!). Convinced Ryan is making a huge mistake, Matt rushes back to his tiny hometown to make things right. However, it becomes more complicated when Matt meets Alex, who is clumsily charming, funny and totally perfect for Ryan. Is Matt just a third wheel? Or will he become a home-wrecker?

C Jay Cox (*Latter Days*) has put together a sexy summertime romp in **Kiss the Bride**. With lots of laughs, a good dose of camp and queer-icon-in-the-making Spelling, the film proves that boundaries of love, sexuality and identity are never constant.

Kiss the Bride | C Jay Cox | USA | 2007 | video | 100 mins

Preceding Short:

Two guys face off in a game of poker – who will take home the prize? The only thing is, the "prize" has different plans!

Poker Face | Nick Javier | Canada | 2008 | video | 13 mins



LOVE MY LIFE

SAT | AUG 16 | 9:30 PM | VCT PG

Love My Life follows two adorable schoolgirls, Ichiko and Eri, as they navigate their love for one another and the expectations of their friends and family. Ichiko, optimistic and headstrong, immediately tells her father about Eri, who reacts with a coming out story of his own. So begins Ichiko's coming-of-age journey in which she meets her parents' lovers, helps her gay male pal Také come to terms with his sexuality and navigates her new-found sense of self. Eri, by contrast, feels constrained by her disciplinarian father and the weight of cultural expectations and struggles to choose between love and duty.

This wonderfully offbeat independent feature, adapted from a Manga book of the same name, provides a glimpse into contemporary Japanese youth culture with honesty, style (there's a great indie-rock soundtrack) and a whole lot of heart.

Love My Life | Koji Kawano | Japan | 2007 | video | 96 mins | Japanese with English subtitles

Preceding Short:

Walking into the wrong park at the wrong time, Little Phoenix comes face to face with Queen. What starts out as a push and shove match quickly escalates into an all out *battle royale*!

Little Phoenix and the Reign of Fists | Mishann Lau | Canada | 2007 | video | 5 mins



MULLIGANS

THU | AUG 21 | 7:00 PM | TT

Director in attendance

If only second chances were as easy in life as they are in golf. The Davidsons are a polite, upper-class family of the cottage-country set, but their picture-perfect exterior is threatened when their son Tyler brings home his closeted best friend for the holidays. Chase (Charlie David of *Dante's Cove* and *A Four Letter Word*) doesn't stay closeted for long and it soon becomes clear that he and Tyler's father, Nathan, have excellent chemistry both on and off the golf course. Meanwhile, Tyler's mother Stacey (Thea Gill, Lindsay from *Queer As Folk*) struggles to hold the family together, as her husband faces a crisis and her pre-adolescent daughter, the adorable and frank Birdy, deals with her own sexual exploration. The magnificent landscapes of Victoria, BC provide inspired cinematography and the perfect backdrop for this family drama.

WINNER

Best Screenplay, 2006 Vancouver Cold Reading Series

Mulligans | Chip Hale | Canada | 2008 | video | 89 mins

Mulligans party to follow (p. 4)



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Film Listings



THE NEW WORLD
(Le nouveau monde)

THU | AUG 21 | 5:00 PM | TT

Lucie and Marion want to have a baby. They've watched their best lesbian friends do it, so it can't be that hard, can it? But despite their urbane, modern world, their search for the perfect sperm donor proves a little less smooth than expected. Add in Lucie's neurotic hippie parents (who worry she's becoming "too normal") and Marion's pathologically homophobic mom (who refuses to acknowledge her daughter's parenthood) and the hapless couple's road to babydom is no walk in the playground. Through it all – the donor, the reactions of friends and family and their own cold feet – they find that this brave new world of queer parenting is not quite what they thought it would be. With a little work, it just might be better.

The New World (Le nouveau monde) | Étienne Dhaene | France | 2006 | video | 92 mins | French with English subtitles



OUT AT THE WEDDING

FRI | AUG 22 | 9:30 PM | TT

Transplanted Southerner Alex has found life in Manhattan to be pretty fabulous. She's found love, happiness and success – and her boyfriend Dana has just popped the big question. The only problem is, Alex is living a lie. Thinking her conservative family will never accept the fact that Dana is African-American, she's led him to believe her whole family is dead. Making matters worse, Alex goes home (with gay best friend Jonathan in tow) for her high-maintenance sister Jeannie's wedding. She accidentally "outs" herself as a lesbian (she's not) during her bridesmaid's speech. To everyone's surprise, Jeannie insists on visiting New York to meet Alex's "girlfriend" Dana. So what's a big-city girl to do? Recruit a hot dyke to play the part, of course! Enter the sizzling Risa, a lovelorn lesbian artist with rippling biceps and a talent for ballroom dancing, who becomes a more-than-willing participant in the quickly thickening plot.

Full of comic turns and engaging performances, this latest film from *Girl Play* director Lee Friedlander is the perfect summer date film: a comedy cocktail with a splash of southern comfort and a twist!

WINNER
Audience Award for Best Feature, 2007
NewFest (New York GLBT Film Festival)

Out at the Wedding | Lee Friedlander | USA | 2007 | video | 96 mins



OUT IN SCHOOLS SUMMER SAMPLER

FRI | AUG 22 | 5:00 PM | TT PG

Curious about our Out in Schools program? Read more on page 11, or better yet, check out this sampling of innovative films that captures the complexity of being young and queer.

An accident reveals a secret about Sean that his family has kept from him since birth in **Clouded**. First-time youth director Karine Silverwoman documents the extremely touching and loving relationship she shares with her aging Jewish grandfather in **Hello, My Name is Herman**. In **Benny's Gym**, we witness the complexity of gender roles and the origins of male machismo through the story of two adolescent boys who develop an unexpected friendship. Vancouver's queer village breaks into song in the incredibly coordinated and locally produced **Laugh At Me**. Seventeen year-old Rachel wants to take the wheel but her mom won't let go in **My First Time Driving**.

Clouded | Ajae Clearway | USA | 2007 | video | 13 mins

Hello, My Name is Herman | Karine Silverwoman | Canada | 2007 | video | 10 mins

Benny's Gym | Lisa Marie Gamlem | Norway | 2007 | video | 25 mins | Norwegian with English subtitles

Laugh At Me | David C Jones | Canada | 2007 | video | 4 mins

My First Time Driving | Rebecca Feldman | USA | 2007 | video | 17 mins

Approximate running time: 69 mins

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Film Listings



QUEER HISTORY PROJECT: REX VS. SINGH

WED | AUG 20 | 7:00 PM | TT

World Premiere
Directors in attendance

We are thrilled to present this innovative new film by Ali Kazimi (*Continuous Journey, Narmada: A Valley Rises*), Richard Fung (*Sea in the Blood, Chinese Characters*) and John Greyson (*Lilies, Zero Patience*). Commissioned by the Queer History Project, this is the second in a series of creative partnerships that reveals Vancouver's queer histories.

In 1915, two Sikh mill workers, Dalip Singh and Naina Singh, were entrapped by undercover police and accused of sodomy. Their trial – held less than one year after the infamous Komagata Maru incident of 1914, in which a ship carrying 376 migrants from British India was turned away – becomes a fascinating case study of Vancouver power relations: how police corruption, racism, homophobia and a covert “whites only” immigration policy conspired to maintain the status quo of this colonial port city.

The film stages scenes from the trial four times: first as a period drama, second as a documentary investigation of the case, third as a musical agitprop, and fourth, identical to the first, but without actors.

Rex vs. Singh | Ali Kazimi, Richard Fung and John Greyson | Canada | 2008 | video | 20 mins

Discussion to follow:

Indira Prahst, Sociology Instructor at Langara College, moderates a discussion with the filmmakers and members of Vancouver's Sikh community.

Queer History Project reception to follow (p. 4)



RAUNCHORAMA RESURRECTED!

SAT | AUG 23 | 9:30 PM | TT

Directors in attendance

In honour of our 20th Anniversary we thought we'd bring back a Festival favourite from years past... Raunchorama! Paul Lang first introduced this idea of presenting sexy (ahem) raunchy shorts for mixed audiences sometime during the 1990s and after a wee hiatus, here's our turn...

The sting of a slap, learned lessons and favourite positions: these cinematic missives are not for the faint of heart.

The AbDADAduction | The Scandelles | Canada | 2007 | video | 10 mins

Bare | Deb Strutt | Australia | 2000 | 16mm | 9 mins

Bootcamp | John S Matthews | USA | 1996 | video | 6 mins

Fistfull | Laurel Swenson | Canada | 1996 | video | 6 mins

Forever Bottom! | Nguyen Tan Hoang | USA | 1999 | video | 4 mins

Kachapati: Spray the Wall | Georgia B Wright | USA | 1993 | video | 1 min

Pansexual Public Sex aka The Adventures of Hans and Del | Del LaGrace Volcano | UK | 1998 | video | 11 mins

Toilet Mouth | Velveeta Krisp | Canada | 1999 | video | 3 mins

Avalanche | Clark Nikolai | 2007 | Canada | video | 5 mins

Sexo | Rodrigo Bellot | USA | 2000 | video | 9 mins

School | Kika Thorne | Canada | 1996 | video | 3 mins

Girl on Girl | Miss Nomer Collective | Canada | 2004 | video | 15 mins

Approximate running time: 83 mins

Raunchorama: Hot Mix party at Friction to follow (p. 5)



RAZZLE DAZZLE: A JOURNEY INTO DANCE

MON | AUG 18 | 9:30 PM | VCT (G)

This deadpan mockumentary from Down Under (fans of *The Office* and *Best in Show* will likely approve) offers a truly queer portrayal of a presumably straight children's dance troupe and its overzealous, politically correct instructor, Mr. Jonathon.

The “Jazzketeers” prepare to out-dance their rival team at the year's biggest dance competition, but can they win with a routine based on social awareness and the Kyoto Protocol Shuffle? Mr. Jonathon's dance vision has yet to be appreciated by audiences or judges, but this time he plans to add a little... razzle dazzle. Enter the enormous hair and shimmering sequins. Pushing her daughter along is the hilarious Justine, a stage mother with her own failed I-could've-been-a-Spice-Girl ambitions. Add in a few *Hey Big Spender*-type numbers and a couple of celebrity gay dads and you've got a queer cult classic in the making.

Razzle Dazzle: A Journey into Dance | Darren Ashton | Australia | 2007 | video | 95 mins

Preceding Short:

It's aggressive, it's artistic, it's visually stunning... it's Frontbum Dancin'!

Frontbum Dancin' | Tonnnette Stanford | Australia | 2007 | video | 7 mins

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Film Listings



THE SAME, BUT DIFFERENT

SUN | AUG 17 | 5:00 PM | VCT PG

The Same, But Different follows the lives of four very different trans people living in the Midwestern United States. Claven, born biologically female, transitioned to male for four years but recently transitioned back to female after hearing the voice of God. A fundamentalist Christian in her twenties, she struggled to find an accepting parish. Andrea, biologically male, is a woman on pink days and a man on blue ones and is a Republican as well as a Catholic. Jaron began transitioning from female to male at the age of 45 and has difficulty telling the women he dates that he is trans. Nicole, who is male-to-female, is a left-leaning liberal democrat who is close with her children. All four subjects candidly discuss their lives in intimate detail, allowing the audience to share their realities.

The Same, But Different | Lisa Marie Evans | USA | 2007 | video | 63 mins

Preceding Short:

A short comical documentary about a serious subject, **Wrong Bathroom** looks at trans individuals and their fears and anxieties about using public washrooms.

Wrong Bathroom | Shani Heckman | USA | 2005 | video | 9 mins



SEARCHING 4 SANDEEP

WED | AUG 20 | 5:00 PM | TT PG
FRI | AUG 22 | 7:00 PM | TT PG

Twenty-eight year-old Sydney filmmaker Poppy Stockell is frustrated, lonely and single. When she starts to research a documentary about online lesbian dating, she has no idea that she is setting out on a journey that will change her life. Online she meets a 31-year-old English woman, Sandeep Viridi, and they form an immediate connection. Sandeep, still closeted, lives at home with her conservative Sikh family. Poppy sends Sandeep a camera and the film chronicles their long-distance crush deepening into a relationship worth fighting for.

The film follows their relationship over the course of two years and across three continents. Frank, funny and engaging, **Searching 4 Sandeep** will restore your faith in love in the digital age.

Searching 4 Sandeep | Poppy Stockell | Australia | 2007 | video | 55 mins

WINNER

Audience Award for Best Documentary, 2007 Sydney Film Festival
Best Documentary, 2007 World of Women Festival (Australia)

Preceding Short:

Rachel has a new girlfriend, a new driver's license and is itching to take the wheel...

My First Time Driving | Rebecca Feldman | USA | 2007 | video | 18 mins

ASL interpretation provided for August 22 screening only.

Sandeep's Dance Party to follow August 22 screening (p. 5)



THE SECRETS

SAT | AUG 16 | 7:00 PM | VCT
TUE | AUG 19 | 9:30 PM | VCT

The lives of two fiercely independent girls, Naomi (Ania Bukstein) and Michelle (Michal Shtamler), collide at a girls' seminary in the sacred town of Safed, Israel. Naomi, a devout Orthodox Jew desperate to avoid her upcoming marriage, delves further into the study of her religion, while Michelle, frustrated by the rules of the seminary, befriends Anouk, a French woman with a dark past.

Together Naomi and Michelle are pulled into Anouk's history of adultery, passion and murder. Stricken with terminal cancer, Anouk has come to Safed in search of redemption. Rejected by Safed's religious officials, she turns to Michelle and Naomi for help. Despite possible expulsion, the two girls immerse themselves in Kabbalistic texts to help guide Anouk to forgiveness. In the heart of such forbidden territory, Naomi and Michelle discover more simmering secrets about themselves.

The Secrets is a stunningly seductive portrayal of lives and cultures confronting change.

The Secrets | Avi Neshet | Israel | 2007 | video | 120 mins | Hebrew and French with English subtitles

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Festival Passes not accepted for admission at this fundraising event

HOT AUCTION GOODIES:

- Macbook Air from Mac Station
- 3-night Jasper ski package for two from Sawridge Inn and VIA Rail.
- Contemporary Furnishings courtesy Yaletown Sofa
- Custom Designed Corset from Lace Embrace Atelier
- 3-night hotel stay for 4 people in two rooms at the Blue Moon Resort in Las Vegas
- Luxurious bedding from BED
- 2 Gold Passes to the 2008 Vancouver International Film Festival
- Tattoos and alternative clothing from The Fall and Flaming Angels Boutique
- Custom Cruiser Bicycle courtesy of Jet GRRL
- 2-night getaway at the Pacific Palisades Hotel
- Designer Jewelry by Gurvin's Jewelers
- Makeup and Skin Care courtesy MAC Cosmetics

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per hour!

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per hour!

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per hour!

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Film Listings



SHORT SHORTS: NO SHIRT, NO PROBLEM

FRI | AUG 22 | 9:30 PM | ECU

This collection of shorts will spark your senses and help prolong your summer groove. What would the Festival be without a sexy men's shorts program?

In the mood for an **Asian Boyfriend**, or just a **Kiss**? Or if it's something more explicit you're looking for, there's the **Seven Secrets to Perfect Porn**. And for some hot French distraction, try **Le Weekend** and **Serene Hunter**. Short shorts never looked so good.

Serene Hunter | Jason Bushman | USA | 2007 | video | 13 mins | French with English subtitles

Dissolution of Bodies | Kevin Choi | USA | 2007 | video | 13 mins

Kiss | Brian Cuojo Tolbert | USA | video | 2007 | 6 mins

Seven Secrets to Perfect Porn | Max Barber | UK | video | 2006 | 31 mins

Le Weekend | Timothy Smith | UK | video | 2007 | 15 mins | French with English subtitles

Sweat | John Lochland | UK | video | 2008 | 15 mins

Asian Boyfriend | Wayne Yung | Canada | 2008 | video | 1 min

Approximate running time: 94 mins



STEALTH (Comme des voleurs)

WED | AUG 20 | 9:30 PM | VCT

From the director of 2004's *Garçon Stupide* comes this whimsical queer road movie about a life turned upside down. Director Lionel Baier stars as himself, a slightly smug gay man with a good job, a loving boyfriend and a supportive family, who discovers that his paternal grandfather was Polish. Baier quickly becomes obsessed with his new found heritage – he starts studying Polish, cheers for Polish football teams, breaks up with his boyfriend and even dabbles in heterosexuality with a young Polish woman. Along with his skeptical sister, Lionel embarks on a road trip that will change both their lives.

Stealth is a touching blend of screwball comedy, romance, adventure and cross-cultural confusion. It is a graceful portrayal of searching for – and finding – oneself in unlikely places.

WINNER
Special Jury Prize, 2006 Mannheim-Heidelberg International Film Festival

Stealth (Comme des voleurs) | Lionel Baier | Switzerland | 2006 | 35mm | 104 mins | French and Polish with English subtitles

Preceding Short:

Adapted from a work by The Holy Body Tattoo, this stunning performance-film, featuring Noam Gagnon, suggests a struggle with the past as we are taken away from it...

Gone (Remembering Where You Came From) | Kenneth Sherman | Canada | 2007 | video | 5 mins



SUDDENLY, LAST WINTER (Improvvisamente l'inverno scorso)

SAT | AUG 23 | 7:00 PM | ECU

Partners and co-directors Gustav Hofer and Luca Ragazzi take a personal journey through the Byzantine world of Italian politics and into the dark heart of homophobia in this witty, revealing documentary.

Chronicling the struggle to give equal rights to same-sex couples in Italy, the film is a window into both the intricacies of Italian politics and the inner workings of Gustav and Luca's long-term love. The film follows how legislation giving equal rights to same-sex partners is quashed in the Italian Senate and doomed to redrafting limbo, while religious and right-wing organizations get to work stirring up hatred against non-traditional families. This film should strike a chord with North American viewers and act as a caveat for those who believe the battle for equality has been won. For those interested in the same-sex marriage debates continuing to occupy the houses of government, this film is essential viewing. And here's the real reason one should go see this film: it's wildly entertaining.

Suddenly, Last Winter (Improvvisamente l'inverno scorso) | Gustav Hofer and Luca Ragazzi | Italy | 2008 | video | 78 mins | Italian with English subtitles

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Film Listings



TEN MORE GOOD YEARS

SUN | AUG 17 | 2:00 PM | TT 

Canadian Premiere

ten more good years is a poignant documentary that celebrates the struggles and challenges that queer elders have faced in order to make our lives the way they are today. Director Michael Jacoby interviews a range of academics, social workers, activists and artists including Miss Major, a trans woman who was involved in the Stonewall Riots and James Bidgood, director of *Pink Narcissus*. Layered within these interviews are personal histories which reveal the reality of queer aging in America: the social injustice, governmental discrimination and the challenges of growing old within a heteronormative health system.

Despite the difficulties they face, these elders give a resounding message of strength and community.

ten more good years | Michael Jacoby | USA | 2008 | video | 71 mins

Preceding Short:

Douglas Bacon, member of the *Quirk-e Riting Collective for Elders*, gives a touching, intimate account of his life and the process of coming out.

You Are the Light of the World | Douglas Bacon | Canada | 2007 | video | 5 mins

Discussion to follow:

A conversation with Douglas Bacon, filmmaker; Dean Malone of Plum Living Home Health Care Services; and Chris Morrissey of The Centre's Generations Project.



TRANS ENTITIES: THE NASTY LOVE OF PAPI' AND WIL

FRI | AUG 15 | 9:30 PM | TT



It's right there in the name. This docu-porn features a couple who are sweetly in love and nasty in bed. Papi' and Wil identify as trans entities – a term they've coined to describe their fluid, non-operative gender identities. In this unique feature, frank interviews about their polyamorous relationship, trans identities, gender expression and scene negotiation frame three raw, undirected sex scenes featuring role-play, S&M and a third partner. They've got a recipe for hot sex: a literal closet full of toys, comfort in their bodies and trust in each other. The result is intensity crossed with an authenticity lacking in most porn. Director Morty Diamond, who made the pioneering *Trannyfags*, is on the cutting edge of radical porn that can entertain and inform.

Trans Entities: The Nasty Love of Papi' and Wil | Morty Diamond | USA | 2008 | video | 63 mins

Sexnoys party to follow (p. 4).



TRU LOVED

SUN | AUG 17 | 7:00 PM | TT 
WED | AUG 20 | 7:00 PM | VCT 

Canadian Premiere
Director in attendance

When her lesbian moms uproot her from San Francisco to the Southern California 'burbs, daughter Tru (short for Gertrude, after Gertrude Stein) becomes the new kid – and new outsider – at her conservative high school. That is until the star of the football team, Lodell, takes an interest in her. After Lodell takes her to a musical on their first date, it doesn't take long for Tru to realize her quarterback is gay. While Lodell does his best to remain closeted, Tru reacts to the homophobia at school by joining forces with Walter, who is openly gay and regularly bullied, to form a Gay Straight Alliance.

This uplifting film boasts a stellar cast, including Nichelle Nichols, Jane Lynch, Jasmine Guy, Bruce Vilanch and Marcia Wallace. Watch for a moving cameo by Dave Kopay, the first professional athlete to declare his homosexuality. Director Stewart Wade has created a heart-warming portrait of what is possible for queer youth and their allies: high school with a happy ending.

Tru Loved | Stewart Wade | USA | 2008 | video | 100 mins

ASL interpretation provided for August 20 screening only.

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Film Listings



TWO HOMELANDS: CUBA AND THE NIGHT (Dos Patrias: Cuba y la Noche)

FRI | AUG 15 | 5:00 PM | TT

Two Homelands depicts the lives of six Cubans – five gay men and one trans woman – who provide a rare view into queer communities existing in this closed, and often misunderstood, culture.

Filming was completed under the radar in Cuba, in people's homes, at illegal gay parties (*fiestas particulares*) and along the waterfront of Havana, which acts as both meeting place and street theatre. Together these public spaces create an underground: the world of the night. The poems of exiled gay Cuban writer Reinaldo Arenas are juxtaposed with each subject and act as reference points that link the various stories together.

The way of life for queer people in present-day Cuba is explored with balance; queer communities, while still marginalized and at times persecuted, see hope for the future as acceptance grows and widespread cultural change is on the horizon. The portrait of Cuba painted here is a realistic one that is neither romanticized nor demonized. It is a brilliantly nuanced film.

Two Homelands: Cuba and the Night (Dos Patrias: Cuba y la Noche) | Christian Liffers | Germany | 2006 | video | 82 mins | Spanish with English subtitles



WERE THE WORLD MINE

FRI | AUG 15 | 7:00 PM | VCT PG
TUE | AUG 19 | 5:00 PM | TT

If you had a love potion, who would you make fall madly in love with you? Timothy, prone to escaping his dismal high school reality through dazzling musical daydreams, is able to answer that question, with fantastic results.

After his eccentric teacher casts him as Puck in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, he stumbles upon a recipe, hidden within the script, to create the play's magical, purple love-pansy. Armed with the pansy, Timothy's spirit soars as he imposes a new reality by turning much of his narrow-minded town gay, beginning with the rugby jock of his dreams. The course of true love never did run smooth and Timothy must grapple with his new found powers as his wildest dreams fail to meet his expectations. With vibrant imagery, a first-rate ensemble cast and a fantastic score, **Were the World Mine** pushes modern gay cinema and musical film to a rapturous new level.

WINNER
Audience Award for Best Narrative Feature, 2008 Florida Film Festival
Audience Award for Best Feature, 2008 Torino International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival

Were the World Mine | Tom Gustafson | USA | 2008 | video | 96 mins

Were the World Mine party and *Caffeinated Too* open mic and variety show to follow the August 15 screening (p. 4)



THE WORLD UNSEEN

WED | AUG 20 | 9:30 PM | TT

In Shamim Sarif's lush **The World Unseen**, the setting is Cape Town, South Africa, 1952. Under the harsh restrictions of apartheid, communities are closely policed and racial segregation is strictly enforced. Surviving against the odds is the Location Café, a watering hole run by the scandalously free-spirited Amina (Sheetal Seth). There, the rebellious Amina and her friends have created a small space of reprieve for their South Asian community.

When she meets the timid, but unmistakably alluring Miriam (Lisa Ray from Deepa Mehta's *Water*), sparks fly. Miriam struggles with her traditional marriage to the abusive Omar and when her friendship with Amina grows, so too does her desire to transgress the stifling roles of wife and mother. Meanwhile, Amina's friend Jacob, an elderly black man, pursues a hopeful romance with a white woman. After weeks of building tension, the women's friendship takes a turn for the passionate, leaving two couples caught in the ever-rising tide of apartheid.

WINNER
Audience Choice Award for Best Feature, 2008 Miami Gay and Lesbian Film Festival

The World Unseen | Shamim Sarif | UK and South Africa | 2007 | video | 112 mins

Workshops and Special Events



ARCHIVAL CLASSIC! A LECTURE WITH SUSAN STRYKER

THU | AUG 21 | 7:00 PM | VCT

Don't miss this opportunity for a walk-through of a fascinating piece of queer media history with renowned filmmaker and Trans Studies scholar Susan Stryker.

Stryker provides context, commentary and simultaneous English translation for selected clips from **We Who Are Sexy**, a wild, weird and wonderful Tagalog-language film, almost totally unknown outside the Philippines. The campy plot, which owes a great deal to *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*, revolves around several swishy young men and the women who love them, and who hope to restore their heterosexual masculinity. The film features an extended cameo by 1950s trans celebrity Christine Jorgensen – plus a not-to-be-missed plot twist!

We Who Are Sexy (Kaming Mga Talyada)
| Tony Cayado | Philippines | 1962 | video | selected clips | Tagalog

Susan Stryker is an internationally recognized independent scholar of sexuality and gender. Between 1999 and 2004, Stryker served as Executive Director of the GLBT Historical Society in San Francisco and is the author of numerous books and articles on trans and queer history. Her current works-in-progress are *Christine in the Cutting Room* (a documentary film about Christine Jorgensen) and *Transsexual City* (a book-length work on critical theory of embodiment, space and history).



CORAL SHORT: WOLVES ON PARADE

VARIOUS TIMES AND VENUES

A follow-up to our *Offscreen and Unexpected* series from last year (which brought performances into lobbies and line-ups) we are delighted to present a new series of public performance works by Montreal and Vancouver-based artist Coral Short. Designed to infuse your Festival-going experience with a little bit of magic and spontaneity, Short has created a series of unique performances specifically for the Festival environment. Keep on the lookout for gender-deconstructing, community-driven, smart and witty creations when you least expect it. And the wolves? All we can say is they're ready and waiting for you...

Check out our *Opening Gala* and *Sexnoys* parties (p. 4) to see her in action – otherwise, you never know where she'll show up...

Coral Short is an international feminist performance artist with 50 shows under her studded belt. She delights in deconstructing and reconstructing gender. She believes in the deep human desire for transformation – not just into the third sex but into the animal. Short enjoys collaborating with large groups of sexy amateurs. Community is an underlying theme in her dynamic and interactive work; creating social architecture is part of her practice.

Coral will be conducting an artist talk on Saturday, August 16 with visiting artist and collaborator **Lamathilde** (p. 4).



CREATING COMMUNITY THROUGH TECHNOLOGY: A PANEL DISCUSSION

SAT | AUG 23 | 5:00 PM | ECU

Free admission

Whether it's to hook up, spread the word or bring together stories and images, queer communities, once isolated from one another by geography and less-than-supportive social climates, are now finding vibrant new spaces online. What are the possibilities of these technologies? What are the challenges and pitfalls? Is technology changing what it means to be queer?

Taking our new interactive website for the Queer History Project as a starting point, this panel will address some of the challenges and opportunities that exist for creating active, productive virtual communities. Learn more about what's already happening and where we might be going. Laptops are encouraged – wifi is provided!

Panelists include **Elaine Miller** and **Spike Harris**, founders of LeatherDyke.com; **Cecily Walker**, social networking software manager and tech consultant for the Queer History Project; **Sarah Leavitt**, writer, artist and member of Queer History Project Online's development team; **Aerlyn Weissman**, filmmaker and digital media artist; and **Joe Rachert**, Promotions Manager, Teligence Communications/InteractiveMale.com. The discussion will be moderated by **Tara Robertson**, freelance librarian.

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Workshops and Special Events



MAKING IT WRITE: PITCHING YOUR SCRIPT

SAT | AUG 16 | 2:00 PM | SHAPE
280 – 1385 West 8th Ave

Free admission
Featuring Karen X Tulchinsky

A workshop designed for queer screenwriters ready to sell their feature length screenplay, documentary or TV series. This session will provide an overview of the business of screenwriting including how to determine when a script is ready to be shopped around, how to find appropriate producers for queer content and how to approach them and what happens after you option a script to a producer. Practical tools provided will include how to pitch your script and how to write one-pagers, series bibles, log lines and other pitch documents.

Vancouver-based writer **Karen X Tulchinsky** is a Story Editor on *The Guard*, a drama series for Global TV. Tulchinsky wrote an episode of *Robson Arms* for CTV and co-wrote *Floored* by *Love for Chum/Citytv*'s anthology series, *Stories About Love*. Her latest novel, *The Five Books of Moses Lapinsky*, a finalist for the Toronto Book Award and the winner of The Vancouver Public Library's One Book One Vancouver 2008, was released to critical acclaim. Tulchinsky's screenplay adaptation of *The Five Books of Moses Lapinsky* is currently in development.



MASTERCLASS WITH AERLYN WEISSMAN: ORAL HISTORY AND LIVING MEMORY

SAT | AUG 23 | 2:00 PM | ECU

Free admission

Queer stories have until very recently been relegated to the shadows of mainstream history books. More often than not, learning about our past has depended upon reading between the lines and learning by word of mouth; these are not histories that are easily preserved from one generation to the next. Local filmmaker **Aerlyn Weissman** has spent years documenting stories that might have disappeared if not for her determination and her camera. With reference to her films ***Little Sister's vs. Big Brother*** (p. 30), ***Forbidden Love: The Unashamed Stories of Lesbian Lives and Fiction and Other Truths: A Film about Jane Rule***, Weissman will provide insight into the specific challenges of preserving queer stories. For anyone interested in the process of documenting queer history, this Masterclass is essential.

During her long career in film and television, **Aerlyn Weissman** has worked as a sound recordist, writer and director and has been honoured with a number of awards and distinctions, including a Genie Award for *Forbidden Love* (1993) and the Vancouver Women In Film Woman of the Year Award (1996). She is currently a graduate student at The Centre for Digital Media in Vancouver.



WORDSMYTH ONE-DAY SCREENWRITING SEMINAR WITH JANA WILLIAMS

SAT | AUG 23 | 10:00 AM | ECU

Wanna write a screenplay? This full-day workshop is going to help you do it. Whether you're a burgeoning screenwriter or simply a cinephile extraordinaire – you'll enjoy this one-day seminar on how screenplays work. This introductory seminar illustrates the myriad decisions a screenwriter faces in crafting a screenplay. Informed commentary coupled with numerous clips from recent films illustrate Jana's message that creative writing for movies is a learnable and thoroughly enjoyable craft.

Jana Leigh Williams is a published novelist and sometime playwright who has been writing screenplays for the better part of a decade. She conducts Wordsmyth seminars throughout the Pacific Northwest and has presented sold out workshops at the Seattle Lesbian & Gay Film Festival and Biz Books, Vancouver. She currently teaches screenwriting at Emily Carr University and is available for online coaching through her website wordsmythe.ca

Tickets are \$75 for the full-day and available online at queerfilmfestival.ca. Festival Passes not valid for this event.

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Amnesty International is a worldwide movement of people dedicated to the protection and promotion of human rights.

amnesty.ca

ASIA

The Asian Society for Intervention of AIDS is committed to providing culturally appropriate and language-specific support, outreach, advocacy and education on HIV/AIDS to Asian Canadian and Canadian communities.

asia.bc.ca

BC PERSONS WITH AIDS SOCIETY

BCPWA empowers persons living with HIV/AIDS through mutual support and collective action. BCPWA provides support and advocacy services, treatment information and volunteer opportunities for 4400 members province-wide.

bcpwa.org

CELLULOID SOCIAL CLUB

The Celluloid Social Club is a monthly screening event featuring the best in independent, provocative short films followed by a Q & A with the filmmaker.

celluloidsocialclub.com

THE CENTRE

The Centre is a health and cultural community centre, providing support, services and public education for the well-being of queer people and their allies in Vancouver and throughout BC.

lgtbcentrevancouver.com

DOXA

The DOXA Documentary Film Festival is an annual international festival dedicated to the art of documentary film. Each year, DOXA presents compelling and innovative documentaries to Vancouver audiences.

doxafestival.ca

EGALE

Egale Canada is a national organization committed to advancing equality and justice for queer people and their families across Canada. Egale has intervened before the Supreme Court of Canada in every queer rights case that has reached the Court.

egale.ca

GALE BC

GALE BC works to make schools safe and welcoming for queer students, staff and families. We develop teacher resources, provide workshops, sponsor conferences and mentor new teachers.

galebc.org

GALLERY GACHET

Gallery Gachet is a unique artist-run centre providing artists marginalized by their mental health, trauma or abuse with opportunities to exhibit, curate, perform, read, teach and develop their leadership skills.

gachet.org

MOB

MOB, aka Menopausal Old Bitches, is a raucous collection of middle-aged and older lesbians who socialize and exchange information. Find them under "Leisure and Pleasure" in Xtra! West.

OUT ON CAMPUS

Out On Campus is the queer centre at Simon Fraser University. Volunteers run a lounge, library and year-round programming. It's a fun welcoming space for queer people and their allies.

sfu.ca/out-on-campus

PFLAG

PFLAG provides support for all family members and friends of queer people. We work to create an environment of understanding so our children can live with dignity and respect.

pflagvancouver.com

POWELL STREET FESTIVAL

The Powell Street Festival celebrates the arts and culture of Japanese and Asian Canadians, to encourage a leadership role in the development of the arts in Canada and to foster community through cultural events.

powellstreetfestival.com

PRIDEUBC

PrideUBC is a resource group that provides support and information on topics of sexuality to everybody, regardless of sexual or gender identity, within the UBC community.

prideubc.ca

PROGRESSIVE INTERCULTURAL COMMUNITY SERVICES SOCIETY

PICS strives to build a healthy and just society, which values and respects all cultures. Their mission is to promote harmony and intercultural understanding for a more inclusive and mutually respectful society.

pics.bc.ca



Gab Youth Services

Gab at *The Centre* is a safe place for LGBTTIQ youth (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, two-spirited, intersexed, queer) and youth questioning their sexual orientation and gender identity.

What we do

- ✦ Provide one to one peer support
- ✦ Offer drop-ins
- ✦ Provide leadership experience & training
- ✦ Deliver anti-homophobia/transphobia workshops called *PrideSpeaks*
- ✦ Organize special events & youth dances
- ✦ Provide information so that families, friends & professionals can support LGBTTIQ youth

PrideSpeaks!

PrideSpeaks are interactive anti-homophobia/transphobia workshops for youth about sexual orientation, gender identity & fighting discrimination. *PrideSpeaks* can be tailored to the needs of specific groups.

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PROJECT 8

The Project8 Film Collective is a group of filmmakers specializing in DIY and hand-made filmmaking in the interest of developing a diverse community of local independent filmmakers.
myspace.com/project8info

QUEER FAMILIES VANCOUVER

Queer Families Vancouver is a diverse group of over 150 queer families living in the Lower Mainland. They provide networking and support to parents, children and prospective parents with a focus on strengthening ties within the community.
queerfamilies.ca

RAINBOW CONCERT BAND

Formed after Gay Games III, the RBC is the first and only queer band in Canada dedicated to providing a safe and supportive environment for queer musicians to practice and perform.
rainbowband.ca

REEL YOUTH

Reel Youth is a non-profit, media empowerment program supporting young people to create and distribute films about their visions for a better world and the issues that concern them most.
reelyouth.ca

SALAAM

Salaam is an advocacy and support group for queer Muslims and queers from Muslim culture, providing peer support, crisis support, immigration and refugee support. They also organize social and educational events.
salaamcanada.com

SHER

Sher Vancouver is a social and support group for queer Sikhs and their friends, family and allies. Everyone welcome.
amar_sangha@hotmail.com

TRIKONE

Trikone Vancouver is a socio-political group for queer South Asians with origins in Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burma, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Trikone (pronounced *tree-cone*) means "triangle" in Hindi.
fatima@web.ca

THE VANCOUVER LATIN AMERICAN FILM FESTIVAL

"Our ultimate objective is nothing less than to succeed in the integration of Latin American cinema – as simple and as excessive as that." Gabriel Garcia Marquez. September 4-14, 2008
vlaff.org

TRANS YOUTH DROP-IN

A fun social group for trans youth and their allies aged 12 to 24. Access resources and peer support or participate in activities every Friday with special outings such as laser tag, bowling and movies the last weekend of each month.
transyouthdropin@yahoo.ca

VANCOUVER GAY VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

One of Western Canada's largest gay sporting organizations, VGVA offers volleyball play for all levels – from recreational to the highly competitive. Online registration opens Friday, August 22 for the indoor season (September to April).
vgva.com

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