

27th
VANCOUVER
QUEER
FILM
FESTIVAL

27th VANCOUVER QUEER FILM FESTIVAL

AUGUST 13-23

2015






























queerfilmfestival.ca

#vqff2015



poster by @notsosimpleton

Festival Schedule

Thursday 13	Friday 14	Saturday 15	Sunday 16	Monday 17	Tuesday 18	Wednesday 19
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Opening Gala Party

This year we're taking the party outside—join us for our first open-air Opening Night at Robson Square! Enter our queer Hollywood circus, with roving performances by artists **Tila J**, **Sienna Blaze**, **Kata Sita** and **Electric Eve**, to name a few. Juggling and stilts and poi, oh my! Watch for a starring-role appearance from **Ikue Ueno** and **Jonathan Kol** of the **House of LaDouche** as they vogue-off, and stay tuned for special feature drag-stravaganzas by **Shanda Leer**, **Anna Propriette** and **PonyBoy**. **DJ G-Luve** spins tunes to get you dancing and ready for your close-up. Did we mention *Screw it!* wine, *Kronenbourg* beer and free delicious food from *Nuba*? See you on the pink carpet!

Immediately following the Opening Gala film, **Eisenstein in Guanajuato**.

Free with adult membership. Ages 19+

THU | AUG 13 | doors at 9pm

Robson Square, 800 Robson St, Ice Rink Level

presented by:



Roller Hijinx

(precedes Youth Gala, **In the Turn** p 27)

Come celebrate the power of sport and roller derby—and mingle with the stars of **In The Turn**, Crystal and her mom Karen, and the director, Erica Tremblay. Enjoy free snacks and non-alcoholic beverages provided by *Nesters Market*, plus derby demonstrations by **Raw Meat Collective** and the **Terminal City Roller Girls**. A fun pre-show before our Youth Gala, **In the Turn**!

Free

SAT | AUG 15 | 530pm

Woodward's Atrium, 149 West Hastings St

Closing Gala Party

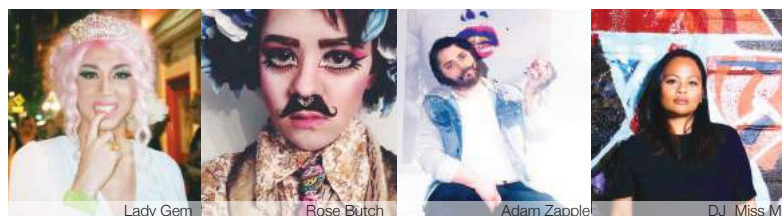
supported by WEBIA

By popular demand, our grand finale returns to **The Junction** and its open-air patio. The musical melodrama will feature performances by drag legend **Lady Jem**, rising star **Rose Butch** and audience-favourite **Adam Zapple**—and more. (We can't give you all of the spoilers now, can we?) If you choose to lounge on the patio, you'll be serenaded with quirky tunes by **Autoharp**, or jump inside for a fantastic final fanfare by **DJ Miss M**. All good things must come to an end, but return for the sequel next year!

Free with adult membership. Ages 19+

SUN | AUG 23 | doors at 9pm

The Junction, 1138 Davie St



Closing Gala Procession

Led by the **Alma B'ches** and the **Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence**, our second annual Closing Night Procession will guide you with lanterns from the Playhouse Theatre to The Junction for the Closing Gala Party. **Lady Jem** will send you on the right track. Follow the Lady Jem road!

Buy a bottle of Kronenbourg 1664 or Kronenbourg Blanc at The Junction, and a portion of sales will be donated to Out in Schools!



Maxime Desmons immigrated to Canada after graduating from France's National Theatre School. His short films *Baggage/Somebody is Watching Us/D'une Rive à l'autre* travelled the world and *Bonne Mère* was selected at the 2008 Berlin Film Festival. **What We Have**, his feature debut, recently won Best Canadian Feature at the 2015 Inside Out Film Festival.



Lonny Shavelson is a documentary filmmaker, photojournalist, public radio reporter and author —most recently producer/director of the feature documentary film, **Three to Infinity: Beyond Two Genders**. Shavelson has written and photographed for numerous publications, from *The New York Times* to *Mother Jones*, and his radio and multimedia stories have aired on NPR, BBC/PRI's *The World* and other shows nationally. He is the author and photographer of six books.



Damon D'Oliveira's first feature, *Rude*, had its world premiere at the 1995 Cannes Film Festival. Since then, Damon has produced some of Canada's most innovative feature films, including *Poor Boy's Game* (Berlinale, TIFF 2007), *Lie With Me* (TIFF 2005, Berlinale 2006), *Love Come Down* (Berlinale, TIFF 2000) and most recently, **What We Have**. Damon's recent miniseries adaptation of *The Book of Negroes* debuted to historic ratings on the Canadian Broadcasting Network (CBC).



Michiel Thomas is a documentary filmmaker originally from Belgium. In LA since 2008, he has been involved in numerous national and international TV productions. While a professional athlete, he was in denial of his sexual orientation and longed for a role model to show him he wasn't the only one dealing with those struggles. This is why he wanted to make **Game Face**: to inspire closeted athletes, but also to educate society on these very important issues and topics.

July Jung's first feature film, **A Girl at My Door** premiered at the Cannes Film Festival and was nominated for three awards including the Queer Palm, the Golden Camera, and the Un Certain Regard Award. She studied at Sungkyunkwan University and the Korea National University of Arts. She made a name for herself through her short films *A Man under the Influenza*, *11*, and *The Dog That Came into My Flashlight*. She won Best New Director at the 51st Paeksang Arts Awards.



Stewart Thorndike lives in New York and is the writer/director of **LYLE**, starring Gaby Hoffmann. *Buzzfeed* selected *LYLE* as one of the best horror films of 2014. She earned her MFA at New York University's graduate film program and is currently in pre-production for her second narrative feature film, *The Stay*. Stewart is currently a fellow with the San Francisco Film Society's inaugural Women Filmmaker Fellowship.



Crystal Labonte, a non-skating official (score board operator) with roller derby team Timmins Goldminer's Daughters and her mother **Karen Hutchison**, a skater with the Timmins Goldminer's Daughters, are featured in the documentary **In The Turn**. They are active in the fight to spread understanding about and obtain rights for trans youth in their small corner of Northern Ontario.



Erica Tremblay is an award-winning filmmaker based in Boston where she works as a producer for the creative agency Digitas. She is the co-founder of Homespun Pictures and her films have been featured on PBS and the Independent Film Channel. In 2012, she received the Emerging Filmmaker award at the Kansas City Film Festival for her documentary *Heartland*. Erica is enjoying her 9th season of roller derby with the Boston Derby Dames.

Pat Mills got his start in the industry as an actor on the series *You Can't Do that on Television* (YTV/Nickelodeon). He received his training at Ryerson University where he was the recipient of the Norman Jewison Filmmaker Award and City TV Best Film Award. His short films have played at festivals all around the world. He wrote, directed and stars in **Guidance** which *Variety* calls "consistently amusing and surprisingly uncynical...a delightful debut."



Jack Walsh is an award-winning independent filmmaker and producer with thirty years of credits in the field. Over the course of his career, he directed, wrote and edited eight independent films. **Feelings Are Facts: the Life of Yvonne Rainer** is his documentary directorial debut; it premiered in the Documentary Panorama at the Berlin International Film Festival in 2015.



Ticketing

	Regular	Discounted*
Adult Membership (18 yrs & up)	\$5	—
Youth Membership (17 yrs & under, valid for youth-rated films only)	\$2	—
Single & Gala Film Ticket	\$12	\$8
Six Pack	\$66	\$42
NEW Youth Six Pack (24 yrs & under only, valid for youth-rated films only)	\$30	—
Scotiabank Super Pass (Early Bird July 16–July 24)	\$140	\$100
Scotiabank Super Pass	\$165	\$135

*Discounted tickets are available for students, seniors and underemployed. Sorry, no discounts on memberships.



The Scotiabank Super Pass

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

Make it count – Scotiabank will match your purchase with a donation to the Festival.

Available at:

Scotiabank | Marine & MacGowan Branch
1500 Marine Drive, North Vancouver
Hours: Mon-Fri 9:30am to 4pm, (5pm Fri)

Or online: queerfilmfestival.ca

Note: A generous allotment of seating is reserved for Passholders and is available on a first-come, first-served basis. **As a Passholder, you must collect a screening slip** 30-45 minutes before your first screening of the day at your screening's venue. Passes are non-transferable, ID is required.

Six Pack

Six tickets for you to use any way you want (includes Galas). Must book online in advance.

NEW Youth Six Pack

Just for youth 24 and under. Valid for any youth-rated film.

Stay informed

Subscribe to our eNewsletter, follow us on Facebook and Twitter, visit our website or download our free app for iPhone and Android.

Where to buy tickets

Online: queerfilmfestival.ca

NEW Print your tickets and skip the Will Call line (keep in mind we're unable to accept tickets on your mobile device).



Advance Ticket Outlets

Little Sister's | 1238 Davie Street

(July 16 to August 12 only)

Daily: 9am – 11pm | Wheelchair accessible

\$1 service charge per ticket

Black Dog Video | 1470 Commercial Dr

(July 16 to August 12 only)

Daily: 12pm – 11pm | Wheelchair accessible

Visit us at:

JUL 31 | Davie Street Block Party

AUG 1 | Vancouver Dyke March

AUG 2 | Pride @ Sunset Beach

At the Door

If tickets are still available, same-day tickets can be purchased at the venue from 30-45 minutes prior to the first screening of the day.

Why wait? Buy early! Don't you hate it when you miss a sold out show? Tickets available online up to the day before the screening.

"Sold Out"? We'll likely still have a few tickets to sell just before show time. Join the Hope Line, cross your fingers and we'll do our best to get you in.

Cash or credit? Cash for in-person, Visa, MasterCard or PayPal for online tickets.

Memberships

The Festival presents film and video that might not have been classified by Consumer Protection BC. Under BC law, you must be a member of our society to see a screening.

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

Membership Perks: Show your 2015 membership for access to select post-film parties! (19+ only)

Your membership is an investment in Out On Screen and in our communities. Thank you!

Will Call

Online orders available at the venue for your first screening. Have photo ID and your credit card handy and arrive 30-45 minutes before the screening time.

Refunds + Exchanges

Only offered if a screening is cancelled due to technical problems.

Watch Two Screenings in a Row!

Got your ticket or screening slip for the next film? Wait for us to verify your ticket and then get comfy or head over to the concession stand.

Questions?

Call the Box Office info line

778.875.8363. Powered by Telus



Making the Festival More Accessible

All venues are assessed for accessibility of entrances, size and dimensions of washrooms, parking and seating allotment for people who use wheelchairs, scooters or other mobility aids. More info at: queerfilmfestival.ca

Companion Seating

Available for companions of people with disabilities (subject to availability). See our Box Office at the screening you plan to attend.

Courtesy Seating

Look for our Accessibility Volunteers if you need assistance while waiting in line.

Washrooms

We prioritize venues with washrooms that are physically accessible and have gender-neutral options. We place gender-neutral signs on washroom doors at all venues.

American Sign Language

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

Childcare Subsidies

Parents or guardians can receive \$10 per screening at the venue to assist with childcare costs.

Community Tickets

Complimentary tickets are available through local community groups for individuals who face financial obstacles.

Festival Venues

Cineplex Odeon International Village Cinemas

3rd floor, 88 West Pender St @ Abbott St
Parking: underground, free while seeing a film
Entrance: 3rd floor via elevator
Wheelchair Seating: 4-6 spaces
Washrooms: wheelchair accessible on 2nd floor

Emily Carr University of Art + Design

1400 Johnston St (Granville Island)
Parking: limited
Entrance: 3rd floor via elevator
Wheelchair Seating: 3-4 spaces
Washrooms: fully accessible

SFU's Goldcorp Centre for the Arts

149 West Hastings St @ Cambie St
Parking: metered street and paid lots
Entrance: via ramp and elevator
Wheelchair Seating: 4-6 spaces
Washrooms: fully accessible

Rio Theatre

1660 East Broadway @ Commercial Dr
Parking: metered street and paid lots
Entrance: street ramp
Wheelchair Seating: 2-3 spaces
Washrooms: limited accessibility

Vancity Theatre and Atrium

1181 Seymour St @ Davie St
Parking: nearby metered street only
Entrance: via ramp
Wheelchair Seating: 2-4 spaces
Washrooms: fully accessible

Vancouver Playhouse

600 Hamilton St @ Dunsmuir St
Parking: underground paid and metered street
Entrance: street ramp
Wheelchair Seating: 4-5 spaces
Washrooms: fully accessible



Let's Be Friends



Vancouver Queer
Film Festival



@queerfilmfest
#VQFF2015

Transit Information

Visit translink.ca
For information about HandyDART services please visit
translink.ca/en/Rider-Info/Accessible-Transit or call 604.575.6600

You know what they say – If you need to get something done, ask Drew Dennis! Without Drew, the progress of Vancouver's queer and trans* community would be delayed by at least 15 years. We are all very proud and thankful for the incredible impact you've made in our community, and beyond.

Love, Ross Johnstone – Out On Screener for life

While the Festival is the second largest in Vancouver, Drew's OUTstanding leadership is first in our books. Drew is kind, generous, thoughtful, inclusive, and passionate about our queer community. Thank you, Drew! Congratulations on 15 remarkable years.

– Pam Ratner + Joy Johnson



"The cinéma vérité on working with Drew is as follows: Indie budgets, edge-of-your seat meetings, sweeping personal check-ins starring a strong trans* lead...

Nail-biting sponsorship renewals, underworld venue managers, high-octane DJ contracts and fast and furious Festival rides, steamy strategic planning sessions, go-for-it guerilla marketing, tension building into drama, building into genius beats, clicks, tixs, mix, lips, dicks, flicks, close-up on the underdog please, the right stuff, honorariums, 'Is that all you got?,' 'No, but we got company!,' daily cameo appearances by dashing donors, Tom Ford-like knowing, transformational leadership, over-the-rainbow final reports, tear-jerking goodbyes, over-delivering on everything and everybody!

Everything and anything is possible working with Drew! We are all very lucky to have been cast in supporting roles."

– Amy Nugent

"Years ago, Drew and I were discussing the power that film and art could have on focusing the lens on LGBTQ refugees. Drew spearheaded a meeting with 4 people that grew with the support of countless others to create the Migrant Voices annual series. Migrant Voices has had major impacts for the LGBTQ refugee movement and connected many community partners including Rainbow Refugees and the Foundation of Hope. This is Drew's legacy of leadership."

– Carl Meadows + Les Dick

"Drew's personal story is courageous and has touched us deeply. Drew's strategic leadership, commitment to furthering diversity and inclusiveness have created new spaces for dialogue on urgent community issues and have helped to broaden and positively transform the Festival.

Drew's foresight, courage and drive in fostering, creating and sustaining Out in Schools is legendary and Drew's mentorship and support have encouraged the Out in Schools team to help make BC schools safer for all students. We wish Drew and the Vancouver Queer Film Festival & Out in Schools teams all the best as their stories continue to unfold!"

– Kasey Reese + Javier Barajas

"On behalf of our Board of Directors, congratulations and thank you, Drew, for your passionate commitment to building awareness of LGBTQA creativity in film. Drew's inspiring leadership has advanced equality and safer spaces for students throughout BC. We have no doubt that our community will continue to benefit from Drew's past and ongoing contributions for years to come."

–Trevor Kramer; Chair, Friends & Company



Drew Dennis
Executive Director

Vancouver Centre Theatres 1 & 2, 2000. My very first Festival as Out On Screen's inaugural executive director, I blushed when welcoming the ever talented and stunning Nisha Ganatra to the stage. We were delighted to screen her award-winning feature **Chutney Popcorn** as the Opening Gala. That is, as the Women's Opening Gala. Immediately next door, in Theatre 2, gay men were grabbing their seats for **Punks**, the directorial debut of Patrik-lan Polk. That was our last year with separate, gendered openers.

Oh my, the change that can transpire and transform over 15 years! Together we have shaped a festival that has imagined and activated change as much as it has reflected it. We've created space to reaffirm our worth as sexual and gender outlaws, and to delve deeper into our understanding of the multitude of identities that criss-cross and shape these beautiful queer and trans communities we inhabit.

The Festival began thanks to a few fearless individuals who imagined and dared to bring our love out of the closet and into the spotlight. This dream has been carried forward by an extraordinary village: the audacious artists, collaborative community partners and volunteers, encouraging donors and sponsors, invested members, talented staffers and dedicated board members. Each of us connected by our pursuit of the day we can all be embraced for all of who we are.

We've extended this affirmative space from the theatre into the classroom. This year marks a decade of Out in Schools' groundbreaking, life-changing workshops that have reached tens of thousands of high school students across BC. A new generation of young leaders is rising, young people, queer and trans and allies, who will chart new change forward and carry on this dream.

I am humbled and deeply grateful to serve 15 years alongside such warm and wondrous humans. In Out On Screen I have found family, lifelong friends and countless mentors. I have and continue to learn so much from each of you. I have learned that social change takes courage, and time; that we are richer for our differences; that we are stronger together; that we always have more to learn; that love sustains us.

These 11 days this August offer us the chance to continue to queer the way we connect; to open our hearts wide, to meet the moments, to flirt with flair, and to dare to dream boldly.

With all my heart xo



Shana Myara
Director of Festival Programming

It was at the legendary Ms. T's Cabaret where I first came across a VQFF program guide. Something inside those pages literally changed my life; there was a lack of snobbery, a delightful amount of nudity, and an essential mix of intersectional identities. Drawing from my own secular Jewishness, my Moroccan heritage, and my then-brief history of queerness, I sensed an environment unlike most I'd experienced before—where it's simply expected that each of us brings with us histories and unique experiences worthy of the big screen.

I credit the inimitable Drew Dennis for creating this rare experience of feeling welcomed with open arms. Drew has made the Festival and Out in Schools what we are today: agents of change in our cultural communities, our schools, and beyond. Drew was the organization's sole staff person 15 years ago, and has, with unrivalled charm and vision, built a strong cultural organization with heart and mission that has inspired countless lives (and hook-ups). Happy 15th OOS Anniversary, Drew!

Fittingly, a theme of mighty personal revolutions runs through our Galas this year. In the exciting **Game Face**, we meet athlete Fallon Fox as she blazes trails for trans* players in the unlikely arena of Mixed Martial Arts; in **Eisenstein in Guanajuato** we encounter a filmmaker at the heady climax of his personal life. And the gorgeous **A Girl at My Door (Dohee-Ya)** embraces the acting genius of Doona Bae (*Cloud Atlas*) in a story of hope and survival. In the **Smoked Maple Cinema Spotlight**, we celebrate the hard-won achievements of Canadian filmmakers who bring us a tipsy faux **Guidance** counsellor to a handsome network of **Bearded Ladies**. Join a celebration of gender freedom in the **DIY Gender Spotlight** that explodes binaries, barriers and stereotypes—and leads us to a more sensible future where gender is not a limiting factor in our lives, but a many-splendoured expression of self.

Let's toast an exciting season and the many revolutions from within. Am I quoting Gloria Steinem? I hope so.

xo



Hon Dr Hedy Fry
MP Vancouver Centre

I am pleased to welcome you to the Vancouver Queer Film Festival, Vancouver's second largest film festival and largest queer arts event in Western Canada.

Vancouver's LGBTQ2+ community boasts an exciting and vibrant array of artistic talents, and the Vancouver Queer Film Festival is sure to showcase them beautifully. Art, through film, is the heart and soul of any community: it is an invaluable avenue of cultural expression as it allows us to celebrate each other's successes, stand in each other's shoes, and see into worlds we might have never known existed.

For 27 years, Out On Screen has organized this multi-faceted celebration showcasing film, visual arts, and community dialogue by featuring the dynamic experiences and celebrating the achievements of the LGBTQ2+ community.

I wish to offer my congratulations to Out On Screen for producing their 27th film festival and I sincerely hope you enjoy the films.

Sincerely,

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



Christy Clark
Premier

As Premier of the Province of British Columbia, I am pleased to welcome everyone to the 27th Annual Vancouver Queer Film Festival!

British Columbia is fortunate to have such a diverse and welcoming atmosphere, where events like the Vancouver Queer Film Festival can take place to help foster inclusion and raise awareness for all members of our community. British Columbians are proud people who embrace opportunities such as this to come together.

I'm sure the selection of films will be interesting and appreciated. I commend everyone involved for their hard work in organizing this event and the program. It will no doubt be enjoyed by all.

Please accept my best wishes for a successful and entertaining film Festival.

Sincerely,

Christy Clark
Premier



Gregor Robertson
Mayor

On behalf of the citizens of Vancouver and my colleagues on City Council, I want to welcome everyone attending the 27th annual Vancouver Queer Film Festival.

As Mayor, I am proud of the diverse city that we live in. We are fortunate to host many different world-class festivals and celebrations throughout the year, and the Vancouver Queer Film Festival is always one of the most successful and anticipated highlights. The success of the Festival is proof of the strength, vibrancy, and contributions of Vancouver's LGBTQ communities, as well as the creativity and vision of our local artists.

Film and the arts represent some of the most potent and powerful tools to build a better and more inclusive society for everyone, by pushing every possible lever to help ensure we keep working together to end homophobia and transphobia in all of their forms.

I want to thank the organizers, volunteers and filmmakers who make this Festival possible, and I hope everyone has a fabulous time.

Yours truly,

Gregor Robertson
Mayor

Since 1988, Out On Screen's programs have illuminated, celebrated and advanced queer communities through film, education and dialogue. We are proud to be among the leaders in Canada working to create an equitable society, where gender and sexual diversity are embraced. Like you, we envision a future free of homophobia and transphobia. Together, we are honoured to celebrate the unique, strong and splendid Vancouver queer communities that make us who we are.



A Fist Pump for Jim Deva (1949 – 2014)

No doubt Jim would have appreciated the double entendre of these words of tribute. It may even have evoked one of his mischievous grins, as infamous as his big heart and fierce commitment to liberty, fairness and the right for each of us to love fully. As the co-owner of Little Sister's Book + Art Emporium he challenged the federal government over issues of censorship, taking this fight all the way to the Supreme Court of Canada—and won. Artists and folks of all sexual orientations have benefited from this ruling, as have film festivals such as ours. Jim was our freedom fighter, our friend, our mentor and so much more. In his spirit, we will carry on and love fully and fiercely.



A critical arts movement that fosters connection and social change

Over the years, you have seen this Festival flourish and blossom. What began with a small group of community activists and film lovers has grown to become Vancouver's second largest film festival and Western Canada's largest queer arts festival. Today we rival heavyweights in the international landscape of queer cinema; screening works that premiere at Cannes, Berlinale and Sundance while focusing the spotlight on voices at the margins. Festival-goers are given the unique opportunity to see their stories on the big screen without the hetero-/cis-normative filter too often exported from Hollywood. The Vancouver Queer Film Festival creates a dynamic platform for queer cinema that reflects the diversity of our experiences while connecting and strengthening our communities.



Empowering youth as change agents across the province, one classroom at a time

High school is a difficult time for many teenagers and we know all too well how many more obstacles LGBTQ+ youth face. For over 10 years, Out in Schools has been using the power of film and dialogue to engage youth in discussions on homophobia, transphobia and bullying. We bring age-appropriate queer cinema into classrooms to illuminate diverse LGBTQ+ youth experiences and the impacts of discrimination. Our rural presentations have brought resources and positive role models to smaller BC communities where the need is greatest. To date, we have reached 35 of BC's 60 school districts and our goal is to cover the remaining 25 by 2018. Supported almost entirely by contributions from the private sector and individual donors, Out in Schools fills the gap in LGBTQ+ education and meets a critical need that in turn makes schools safer for all BC youth.

Every time you take a seat at the Vancouver Queer Film Festival, you experience the power of the Festival to create queer visibility. We have been projecting change on the big screen for 27 years of community celebrations, struggles and achievements. Help us by becoming a Reel Patron donor today.

Stars come OUT at night

You love to shine! With Out On Screen, it's easy to be a star.

Share your love for us year-round by becoming a sustaining donor with a \$15/month donation.

As a Star you can choose to be "friends with benefits" with us and receive two tickets to our Opening, Centrepiece and Closing Galas, or take the full-value tax receipt.

Your gift will help make these great things happen:

- ✦ Queer Matters: a human rights series bringing together artists and thought-leaders
- ✦ School's Out: a film series aimed at bringing more youth to the Festival by increasing youth accessibility, film selections and ratings
- ✦ Visiting Artists: visiting artists are always a Festival favourite. Help us bring more artists to share their experiences with Festival audiences and facilitate workshops with local artists
- ✦ Pop-Up Performances & Interactive Events: activate and enrich the Festival with entertainment by local performers and added panels to deepen conversations
- ✦ Build Capacity: ensure that Out in Schools has the resources to meet the current demand of 100 or more classroom presentations each school year
- ✦ Increase Our Reach: train more regional facilitators to resource rural BC communities and visit the remaining BC school districts where Out in Schools has yet to present

In order to accomplish this, we need to widen our circle of supporters and welcome 100 new donors— will you join us?

Visit the Donor Services table in the lobby or donate online at queerfilmfestival.ca

Flora Ware, Donor Services & Communications Coordinator, 604.844.1615
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Text to Donate

The power to give is in your hands! The one-time donation will be added to your mobile phone bill. Text VQFF10 or VQFF25 to 45678 to give \$10 or \$25, respectively.



We our Directors Guild

This group of visionary donors understands the importance of sustainable, independent funding for Out On Screen.

Each Directors Guild member has stepped forward with a three-year financial commitment and minimum investment of \$750 per year. We host events throughout the year that bring these like-minded peers together, and they act as ambassadors and advisors for the organization.

If you are interested in joining the Directors Guild, please speak with Flora Ware at the Donor Services table in the lobby.

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Top Row (l-r): Drew Dennis, Metha Brown, Shana Myara, Peter Quin-Conroy, Richard Housser, Brandon Yan

Middle Row (l-r): Flora Ware, Behshid Foadi, Kiran Sunar, Jacqueline Marchioni, Quinn Peters, Rick Clark

Bottom Row (l-r): Joanne Tsung, Connie Laalo

Not pictured: several beautiful people who, for various reasons, could not attend the shoot



Plane Creative is a strategic graphic and web design studio dedicated to supporting the LGBTQ community. We develop brands that have an impact in the real and online world. We believe in collaboration that fuses our creative strengths with our clients' expert knowledge to create outstanding pieces that matter.



Myron Campbell is an artist and designer who began his work with the *Trailer Park Boys* in Halifax and co-created interactive installations for the Vancouver 2010 Olympics. This work won the Best Interactive Designer Award at the Canadian New Media Awards. After four years of teaching in the Digital Design program at the Vancouver Film School, Myron currently holds a tenure-track position at UBC Okanagan in Kelowna in the Visual Arts Department. He continues to produce work and lecture about art and design internationally. His work can be viewed on myroncampbell.com

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amnesty.ca

BOLD – Bold, Old(er) Lesbians & Dykes

boldfest.com

CampOUT!

campout.ubc.ca

Cor Flammae

corflammae.com

DOXA Documentary Film Festival

doxafestival.ca

Health Initiative for Men

checkhimout.ca

Kickstart Disability Arts & Culture

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LEGIT

legit.ca

Lezervations

lezervations.com

Our City of Colours

ourcityofcolours.com

PFLAG Vancouver

pflagvancouver.com

Powell Street Festival

powellstreetfestival.com

PuSh International Performing Arts Festival

pushfestival.ca

QMUNITY

qmunity.ca

QMUNITY – Gab Youth

qmunity.ca/connect/social-groups

Queer Van Hoops

outinsports.wordpress.com/queer-van-hoops

Raw Meat Vancouver Roller Skating

rawmeatvancouver.com

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sadmag.ca

Shivers Film Society

shiversfilmsociety.com

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mabelleague.com

Vancouver Asian Film Festival

vaff.org

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vancouverfrontrunners.org

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vlaff.org

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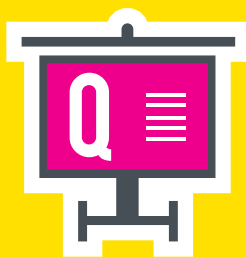
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3 RURAL TOURS



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Queer Hearts on August 18th (p 35).

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outinschools.com



Opening Gala

Eisenstein in Guanajuato

“The greatest film practitioner we’ve ever seen” is how Peter Greenaway refers to Sergei Eisenstein, the 20th century creator of the masterpieces *Battleship Potemkin* and *October*. Here, Greenaway offers us his own sumptuous rendition of the director’s 1931 trip to Mexico to shoot *Que viva México* (which was never completed)—when Eisenstein fell in love, and into distraction, with his appointed guide, Palomino Cañedo. High camp treatment blends with masterfully-shot scenes of Eisenstein rolling in luxurious beds, vomiting in alleyways, and cavorting with Frida Kahlo. And likely the best sex scene ever committed to celluloid that blends seduction and dominance with a turning-the-tables soliloquy on self-determination and colonialism—and a gorgeous drop of olive oil. Irreverently spanning the themes of queer lives, art, and sacrifice in the name of love and nation, Greenaway offers a middle pointer to contemporary homophobia and state control (especially in the direction of the Russian state that prides itself on Eisenstein’s legacy). To quote the Eisenstein of the film: “I came to Mexico a virgin and I leave it debauched... someone has opened a door to a wet and weeping, dirty hurricane.” Greenaway catalyzes a storm worth watching. **Eisenstein in Guanajuato** is not to be missed.

Eisenstein in Guanajuato | Peter Greenaway | Netherlands/Mexico/Finland/Belgium | 2014 | 105 min

THU | AUG 13 | 7pm | VPH

SAT | AUG 22 | 430pm | IV

presented by




Centrepiece Gala

A Girl at My Door (Dohee-Ya)

A brilliant, gritty and complex psychodrama that received a three-minute standing ovation at the Cannes Film Festival, this powerful film by writer-director July Jung presents a stunning reflection on immigration, rural life, addiction and abuse—and the heartbreak of finding no safe refuge in family or law. Young-Nam, an outsider with an unspoken scandal, is sent from Seoul to a small village to take over as police chief, and is soon drawn into the personal dramas of the locals. When her ex-lover arrives, Young-Nam’s defense of a girl in the town becomes suspect. Doona Bae (*Cloud Atlas*, *Jupiter Ascending*, *Sense8*), revered as one of the best actors of our time and a “performer who can convey everything that needs to be said,” is luminous in her portrayal of a woman stubbornly seeking justice, even as she drinks a little too much shōju on the side. Kim Sae-ron is also exceptional as Dohee, capably maneuvering extremely satisfying plot twists while embodying the horror of the brutality she’s lived through at the hands of her father. A beautifully done, sometimes disturbing, and ultimately exquisite film, July Jung’s **A Girl at My Door** captures the fantasies and hopes of two people finding hard-won redemption.

A Girl at My Door (Dohee-Ya) | July Jung | South Korea | 2014 | 119 min | Korean with English subtitles

July Jung Masterclass p 31

WED | AUG 19 | 7pm | VPH | 14A 
Director in attendance

SAT | AUG 22 | 9pm | GCA | 14A 



Youth Gala



Closing Gala

In the Turn

Co-presented with SFU Woodward's Cultural Programs

Effervescent with hope, **In the Turn** centres on 10-year-old Crystal in Timmons, Ontario, whose experience of chilling social isolation and bullying at school begins to change once she finds friendship and community in the Vagine Regime. They're a kick-ass international queer roller derby team that (unlike Crystal's school sports teams) is trans*-inclusive, and they welcome Crystal with open arms. As organizer Alex Krosney describes it: "Imagine spending your entire life keeping quiet about a huge part of yourself, then suddenly literally tumbling into a community of people who shout so loud about it that you can't keep it down." The film pivots to the experiences of the grassroots community that is the Vagine Regime and how members reach out to support Crystal. This heart-tugging documentary demonstrates how a small but mighty group are lead jammers in the movement for trans*-inclusive policies in sport. The VQFF is thrilled to host director Erica Tremblay, Crystal and her mother Karen as special guests for this Vancouver premiere of one of the most buzzed-about films of the year.

In the Turn | Erica Tremblay | USA/Canada | 2014 | 113 min

Join us for pre-film **Roller Hijinx** from 530pm p 2

SAT | AUG 15 | 645pm | GCA | PG

Director and cast in attendance.

THU | AUG 20 | 915pm | GCA | PG

Game Face

This exhilarating, no-holds-barred documentary from rising star Michiel Thomas brings intimate introduction to two athletes waging the biggest fights of their lives: coming out in their professional careers while continuing to remain at the top of their games. Fallon Fox, the first transgender Mixed Martial Arts fighter, copes with an unwanted media frenzy in the midst of her rising and prolific career. And at point guard pace, Terrence Clemens must contend with his experience of incarceration and being outed in LA as he works to rebuild his life and basketball career in Oklahoma. Their experiences, including highs and lows, demonstrate how far the world of sports has come in accepting LGBTQ players and how much work there is left to do—and queer basketball star Jason Collins and celebrated trans* basketball player Kye Allums show solidarity and support. Through adept filmmaking and intimate video diaries, **Game Face** gives us a glimpse of two athletes who've chosen to get in the ring for their rights in sport, their dignity and their communities.

Game Face | Michiel Thomas | USA | 2015 | 96 min

SUN | AUG 23 | 7pm | VPH | PG

Director and cast in attendance.





The Cult of JT LeRoy



What We Have (Ce qu'on a)

DIY Gender

Co-presented with SFU Woodward's Cultural Programs

The wonderful world of gender debunking, swerving, and undoing is happening at lightning speed. This year's **DIY Gender** is all about owning and representing our own identities and experiences, however we want. Built on years of continued activism and political organizing, these refreshing, thought-provoking, and sometimes cheeky films mark a shifting world imbued with acceptance, hope, and freedom. Meet gender trailblazers in the sports arena in **In the Turn** and **Game Face**; intimate thought-leaders in **Three to Infinity** and **Bearded Ladies**, and wilful and survival masqueraders in **The Cult of JT LeRoy** and **The Guest (La Visita)**. These selections resemble a kaleidoscope of gender possibilities: exquisite and never-ending.

Bearded Ladies: the Photography of

Rosamond Norbury p 33

The Cult of JT LeRoy p 39

Game Face p 27

The Guest (La Visita) p 41

Kuma Hina: a Place in the Middle (plays with **The Queer Best Of**) p 35

In the Turn p 27

Three to Infinity: Beyond Two Genders p 51

It's not every year that we can highlight such a resounding collection of home-brewed queer films—and, bonus, we're including a tailor-made archival program that takes us through 70 years of Canadian queer film. Bringing a refreshing take on queerness, these stories take us into the maple-smoked future by exploring gender expression in elementary school (and roller derby) to facing the demons that follow you in a place that may still reject you for who you are. Essential viewing is a locally-harvested collection of shorts from voices still at the margins—offering poignant meditation on our histories of HIV/AIDS, two-spirit beauty and the respite-seeking bodies of folks of colour. Each of these films is strong on its own, and they're unstoppable when united. With a comedy quotient as high as Ross Rebagliati: **Guidance** marks the arrival of a signature new comedic talent, and when are the ironies and truths of serial monogamy not painfully gut-busting?

All Yours (Je suis à toi) p 33

Bearded Ladies: the Photography of

Rosamond Norbury p 33

Bright Eyes, Queer Hearts: Youth Shorts (featuring the Rise Against Homophobia contest winners) p 35

The Coast is Queer p 37

Guidance p 41

In the Turn p 27

Portrait of a Serial Monogamist p 47

Regalia: Pride in Two Spirits (plays with **Bright Eyes, Queer Hearts**) p 35

Still Not Over It: 70 Years of Queer Canadian Shorts p 49

What We Have (Ce qu'on a) p 53

This is Gay Propaganda: LGBT Rights & the War in Ukraine p 51



San Cristobal



Carina

Sol y Cine: Queer Film from Latin America

Prepare to be dazzled by these bright lights from Mexico, Chile, Venezuela and Brazil. Proving once again that some of the best queer cinema comes from Latin America, this selection brings together common themes of birth- and chosen-family, blended with a wryly humorous approach to assessing one's place in this world. Fittingly, **Four Moons (Cuatro Lunas)** begins in a Mexico City bathhouse and ends in gorgeous contemplation of the major phases we enter and exit in life. Taking us from the beaches of the Caribbean in **Liz in September (Liz en Septiembre)** to a religious homestead in **The Guest (La Visita)**, each of these films puts on display the sometimes ugly roots of love, offering renderings that are richly familiar and deeply understanding. A selection of films spanning Latin American queerness that bravely seek out the exhilarating and bitter truths of love.

Carina (plays with **Bright Eyes, Queer Hearts**) p 35
Four Moons (Cuatro Lunas) p 39
The Guest (La Visita) p 41
Liz in September (Liz en Septiembre) p 43
San Cristobal (plays with **The Queer Best Of**) p 47
Sand Dollars (Dólares de Arena) p 49

Out in Schools presents... Summer of Cinema!

Welcome to your summer big screen vacation! Reflecting global queer youth culture and community activism, this brave and deep collection reflects how far we've come—and inspires hope for the journey ahead. From our youth shorts program **Bright Eyes, Queer Hearts** to the queerlands of Brooklyn (and whether or not it really is a friendly queerland for Muslim youth **Naz and Maalik**) to the sacrifices people make for love in **Those People** and **How to Win at Checkers (Every Time)**, this year's line-up of films is a truly spectacular treat bound to ignite your summer.

Bright Eyes, Queer Hearts: Youth Shorts p 35
Henry Gamble's Birthday Party p 43
How to Win at Checkers (Every Time) p 43
In the Turn p 27
Naz and Maalik p 45
Those People p 51

Gerry Brunet Memorial Award

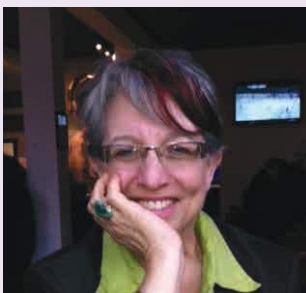
Value \$1,500

Our annual juried prize for the Festival's best BC short film was established in 1997 in recognition of Gerry Brunet, a lifelong contributor to the arts and an early board member of Out On Screen. Dave Shortt took home this prize in 2014 for **Under the Rainbow**, produced for the BC Poverty Reduction Coalition. The 2015 winner will be announced at our Closing Gala presentation on August 23.

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



Gerry Jury



Cari Green is an award-winning filmmaker (*The Corporation*, Sundance Audience Award; *Scared Sacred*, special jury prize, TIFF; and *When I Walk*, Hot Docs top prize). Her film, **Citizen Jane** premiered at Toronto's Inside Out Festival and screened at the Vancouver Queer Film Festival. Green recently produced *It Runs in the Family* with Joella Cabalu (**Stand Still**). She is an Adjunct Professor at the University of British Columbia and recently received the Mayor's Arts Award.



Dave Shortt is founder and owner of Shortt and Epic. He is a lover of the great outdoors and documentaries, and is an all-around cinephile. He completed his Bachelor of Arts in Communications and Film Studies at Queen's University. His expertise in film ranges from stop-motion and paper animation to documentary and time-lapse.



CE Gatchalian is a Vancouver-based author. The recipient of the 2013 Dayne Ogilvie Prize, given annually by The Writers' Trust of Canada to an emerging LGBT writer, he is the Artistic Producer of the frank theatre company, Vancouver's professional queer theatre company.



OUTtv People's Choice Award for Best Feature

Value \$750

Join OUTtv in supporting queer film by casting your vote for your favourite feature-length film. **Tru Love** (director Kate Johnston) won the coveted OUTtv People's Choice for Best Feature Award in 2014.

OUTtv People's Choice Award for Best Short

Value \$500

This award goes to the audience's selection for exceptional short film. Support independent directors by voting at the Festival! Ian Tang's **All Good Things** took this prize home in 2014.

From Script to Screen: Master Class with July Jung

FOMO alert! A unique opportunity, this session will involve an expansive outlining of July Jung's processes as one of the rising filmmakers of our time. In Q + A format, we'll dive into July Jung's distinctive experiences with film, from her critically-acclaimed short- and feature-length films (**A Girl at My Door**, 11) to her exciting future projects. Harmonizing sound, philosophical elements, flawless acting, and a captivating motion picture worthy of premiere at the Cannes Film Festival, Jung will discuss her belief in film as a collaborative process, and her work as a director to see it through. Whether you are a burgeoning artist, a seasoned filmmaker, an interested critical thinker or curious film fan, this workshop is for you!

July Jung's first feature film, **A Girl at my Door** premiered at the Cannes Film Festival and was nominated for three separate awards including the Queer Palm, the Golden Camera, and the Un Certain Regard Award. She initially made a name for herself in her home country of South Korea through her short films *A Man under the Influenza*, *11*, and *The Dog That Came into My Flashlight*.

THU | AUG 20 | 5pm | IV

creativeBC



Make the Film You Want to Make: Lessons from Feminist Horror Director Stewart Thorndike

LYLE director Stewart Thorndike walks you through the ups and downs of making horror films. She shares how she made her first feature film for nothing, what it's like to be a female director in this male-dominated genre and explains why we need more horror films by women. With personal stories, clips and scary warnings, Stewart shares her formula for staying empowered and getting your movies made.

Stewart Thorndike lives in New York and is the writer/director of **LYLE** (starring Gaby Hoffmann) which was selected by BuzzFeed as one of the best horror films of 2014. She earned her MFA at New York University's graduate film program and is currently in pre-production for her second narrative feature film, *The Stay*. Stewart is currently a fellow with the San Francisco Film Society's inaugural Women Filmmaker Fellowship.

MON | AUG 17 | 6pm | TIDES | FREE

Register by email:
workshops@outonscreen.com



creativeBC



Nailing the Picture: from Inspiration to Exhibition

A roadmap for aspiring filmmakers, director/writer Maxime Desmons and executive producer Damon D'Oliveira lead a candid and informal discussion for the VQFF filmmaking community, providing a detailed case study outlining how they got **What We Have (Ce Qu'on)** made and into distribution.

Damon D'Oliveira's first feature, *Rude*, had its world premiere at the 1995 Cannes Film Festival. Since then, he has produced some of Canada's most innovative feature films, including *Poor Boy's Game* (Berlinale, TIFF 2007), *Lie With Me* (TIFF 2005, Berlinale 2006), *Love Come Down* (Berlinale, TIFF 2000) and most recently, **What We Have**. Damon's recent miniseries adaptation of *The Book of Negroes* debuted to historic ratings on the CBC.

Maxime Desmons immigrated to Canada after graduating from France's National Theatre School. His short films *Baggage/Somebody is Watching Us / D'une Rive à l'autre* travelled the world and *Bonne Mère* was selected at the 2008 Berlin Film Festival. **What We Have**, his feature debut, recently won Best Canadian Feature at the 2015 Inside Out Toronto LGBT Film Festival.

SAT | AUG 22 | 4pm | ECU | FREE

Register by email:
workshops@outonscreen.com

creativeBC



All Yours (Je suis à toi)

David Lambert's second feature film (his first, **Beyond The Walls**, played VQFF 2013) tackles the realities of the gay-for-pay industry, emotional labour and loneliness. Lucas, an Argentinian camboy, begs for anyone online to send him a plane ticket to escape his life. Henry, a portly middle-aged Belgian baker answers his request—but nothing turns out as expected once Lucas meets Audrey, the baker's employee (played by the lovely Monia Chokri from Xavier Dolan's *Heartbeats*). In a film that is immensely likeable and authentic in its quirkiness, writer/director David Lambert succeeds in creating a multi-layered reflection of lives shaped by the supply and demand of love, friendship—and, in this wonderful instance, bread.

All Yours (Je suis à toi) | David Lambert | Belgium/Canada | 2014 | 102 min | French/English/Spanish with English subtitles

SAT | AUG 22 | 630pm | GCA



Bearded Ladies: the Photography of Rosamond Norbury

A hint of Vancouver photographer Rosamond Norbury's many surprises emerges once she shows you the prints: black-and-white nudes, homoerotic cowboys, and bearded ladies. **Better Than Chocolate** director Sharon McGowan gives us a Norbury that "illuminates the peripheral" from her photography career's start in the rodeo world, to drag queen culture, to the TV series *Kink* and beyond. This edgy local documentary offers thought-provoking interviews on Norbury's early life and her dad "the original drag queen in [her] life," before moving on to Norbury's identity as omnisexual and her alter egos Rod Bush, the greaser gay boy, and Rose Bush, the flourishing queen. A groundbreaking artist fully entrenched in the communities she photographs, Norbury shifts the phallogocentric culture of photography to an unknown place, or in her words: into a "surprise that unfolds in front of me."

Bearded Ladies: the Photography of Rosamond Norbury | Sharon McGowan | Canada | 2015 | 53 min

PRECEDED BY:

Venus Rises: The Story of Wiggle | Stephen Emery | Canada | 2015 | 25 min

TUE | AUG 18 | 845pm | VCT

Director and cast in attendance | World Premiere



The Black Widow

The sexiest, most sensual, romantic queer kink silent film of the year, brought to you by queen of fetish lesbian noire and BDSM, Maria Beatty. A woman in ballet shoes dances pointe across her lover; a long-lashed, stilettoed figure plays harp; the camera traipses between a woman wrapped in a snake and a white-winged burlesque dancer. In this silent film set to its own original score, four women are bound together in a dream-like state as their pleasure and pain overlap and their souls entangle. In this alluring mélange of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and **The Crash Pad**, queer erotica connoisseur Maria Beatty propels us to an otherworldly, breathtaking land of knife play, lipstick, gas masks, black latex, veils and swan dildos. Fluttering with cinematic beauty, **The Black Widow** is an edgy, gothic embrace of kink, pleasure and a reminder that the best gifts come outside of the box.

The Black Widow | Maria Beatty | France | 2015 | 55 min

FRI | AUG 21 | 915pm | IV

Canadian Premiere



The Blue Hour (Onthakan)

The Blue Hour transforms the queer coming-of-age love story into an exciting supernatural thriller thanks to the skilled approach of first-time feature director Anucha Boonyawatana. Tam is a queer teen unhappy with his school and home life who seeks refuge in casual sex with Phum, a stranger at an abandoned swimming pool. True romance goes awry when they can no longer ignore the spirits, disappearing bodies, and restless corpses that begin to plague them. Did they stumble upon these ghosts, or are they being haunted for a reason? Stunningly shot in varying shades of blue, with sound design that may cause at least one jump-out-of-your-seat moment, **The Blue Hour** experiments with romanticism as it wades deeper into suspense. Psycho-thriller, horror, and lust creep up on one another in this exciting new example of what we can expect from the future of queer cinema.

The Blue Hour (Onthakan) | Anucha Boonyawatana | Thailand | 2015 | 97 min | Thai with English subtitles

SUN | AUG 16 | 910pm | IV | PG 



Breaking Free

Breaking Free—directed by Sridhar Rangayan, the founder of Mumbai's Queer Film Festival—is a bold examination of the effects of a recent Indian ruling that effectively re-criminalizes homosexuality. Interviews with prominent social activists bring viewers up close to the personal testimony arising from contemporary queer and trans* organising across India. **Breaking Free** traces the story of the British-introduced Section 377 of the Penal Code circa 1860, a section that was overturned in 2009, and then disappointingly upheld in 2013 by the Supreme Court. Deftly locating the historical, political, and legal legacies that impact South Asian sexuality, it offers an insider's view of a queer movement seeking to annihilate the residual strains of colonialism located within Indian Law. With footage from gay pride events, protests, and celebrations across the country, this film is an affirmation by queer Indians that “if we survived our own demons, we will survive this institution and we will stand long beyond it.”

Breaking Free | Sridhar Rangayan | India | 2014 | 82 min | English, Hindi, Tamil, Kannada with English subtitles

TUE | AUG 18 | 430pm | IV
International Premiere



Bright Eyes, Queer Hearts: Youth Shorts

This youth-full night of short films is just the tall order you've been looking for. We start this night by celebrating the young local filmmakers who won this year's Rise Against Homophobia Youth Short Video Contest. Then we venture into an amazing international selection of shorts that delve into the awkward, the painful, and the silly moments of growing up queer. From first crushes in Mexico to dealing with friends – and enemies – in Denmark, to the perils of social media and nosy parents in Taiwan. We'll close the night with a panel discussion with some local leaders using art, activism and creativity to make positive changes in the queer youth community. Come see queer youth in action!

Rise Against Homophobia Youth Short Video Contest Winners | Canada | 2015 | 15 min

Regalia: Pride in Two Spirits | Love Intersections | Canada | 2015 | 6 min

Carina | Sandra Reynoso | Mexico | 2014 | 11 min

Big Time – My Doodled Diary | Sonali Gulati | India/USA | 2015 | 12 min

Caged (Uitgesproken) | Lazlo and Dylan Tonk | Netherlands | 2013 | 13 min | Dutch with English subtitles

Penguins at the North Pole | Kassey CM Huang | Taiwan, ROC | 30 min | Mandarin with English subtitles

TUE | AUG 18 | 630pm | IV | PG

Panel discussion to follow (details at queerfilmfestival.ca)



Carina

The Chambermaid (Das Zimmermädchen Lynn)

A powerful adaptation of Markus Orth's novel of the same name, **The Chambermaid** is a dream come true for every kinkster with a bent for complex portrayals of sex work, mental health and happy endings. This slow-burning drama offers up a make-you-wait-for-it depiction of a refreshingly weird duo of characters. Lynn's highly regulated and mundane life as a cleaner at a hotel is transformed once she hires Chiara, a dominatrix sex worker who adds enough blast to her world to open her up and help her regain intimacy through kink. Starkness mixes with whimsy in this arthouse flick that amps up in the same way that love and recovery so often do. Beautifully shot, this stunning film embraces its rough edges.

The Chambermaid (Das Zimmermädchen Lynn) | Ingo Haeb | Germany | 2014 | 90 min | German with English subtitles

FRI | AUG 21 | 7pm | IV



The Coast is Queer

From the stylized contemplation of **Polarity** to the brave baring of the self in **Soak**; and the prescient modern-day fable of **The Future Perfect**, these tantalizing grassroots shorts offer a delicious slice of BC's queer film pie. Don't miss this sneak peek of **The Out-Laws** (the inaugural episode of a coming web series), the trans* animation **Dissonance**, or the cleverest ode to break ups in **Kiss and Tell**.

This year's local spotlight follows an exciting crew of rising filmmakers feeling up our queer coastline.

Boner Fashion Show | Ryan Steele & Amy Goodmurphy | Canada | 2014 | 4 min

19th Birthday | Ryan Steele & Amy Goodmurphy | Canada | 2015 | 4 min

Same Boat | David C Jones | Canada | 2015 | 13 min

Kiss and Tell | Jackie Hoffart | Canada | 2015 | 5 min

The Out-Laws | Shannon Kohli | Canada | 2014 | 6 min

Polarity | Wes Chew | Canada | 2014 | 5 min

Soak | Alysha Seriani | Canada | 2014 | 5 min

Family is Like Skin - Lesbians in Cambodia | Paula Stromberg | Cambodia | 2014 | 7 min

The Right to Be Heard | Krista Martin | Canada | 2015 | 15 min

Antisocial Networking | Clark Nikolai | Canada | 2015 | 4 min

Dissonance | Anna Ngo | Canada | 2014 | 4 min

Boy Meets Boy | Jonathan MacPherson | Canada | 2014 | 10 min

Phagocytic Discipline | Cameron Masterton | Canada | 2014 | 3 min

The Future Perfect | Nick Citton | Canada | 2015 | 11 min

Running time 94 min

FRI | AUG 14 | 630pm | RIO

Directors in attendance



The Future Perfect



Kiss and Tell



Soak

The Cult of JT LeRoy

The infamous writer who sparked “the postmodern trial of the century,” JT LeRoy, a 15-year-old trans* sex worker, was hailed for writing heart-wrenching novels. Chuck Palahniuk described JT as having the “authentic voice of someone who suffers.” Known for being deeply shy, JT LeRoy was encircled by a Warholian world of celebrities including Winona Ryder, Rosario Dawson, Natasha Lyonne, Sandra Bernhard, Gus Van Sant, Shirley Manson, Lou Reed and numerous writers and agents. But at the peak of JT’s 10-year rise came a rapid fall from grace. Says writer Dennis Cooper in the film, “From the beginning, I thought JT LeRoy was a liar... but I thought I knew when the lies were happening.” Was this the world’s largest literary scandal? Or a profound uncovering of our literary biases? Director Marjorie Sturm crafts a haunting, introspective documentary that questions artistic voice, freedom of speech and how far we will go to achieve our dreams.

The Cult of JT LeRoy | Marjorie Sturm | USA | 2014 | 91 min

SAT | AUG 22 | 650pm | IV | PG | ASL



Feelings are Facts: the Life of Yvonne Rainer

I had a sense of my potential—that I was going to make something out of this recalcitrant, un-dancerly body. And that I was going to carve my own way.—Yvonne Rainer

Spanning Yvonne Rainer’s career as innovator, choreographer, feminist and filmmaker, director Jack Walsh presents us with a great portrait of this maverick of the infamous 1960s Judson Dance Theatre, and MacArthur “Genius Grant” recipient. We open with footage from Rainer’s seminal dance performance *Trio A*, which revolutionized Western contemporary dance with its casual movements, repetition and intention to forego theatricality. With interviews and footage from New York’s mid-21st century arts scene, we see how Rainer’s queerness inhabited her art and influenced the art world. As the film’s producer Christine Murray points out, “You just don’t see that many movies about radical, hyper-intelligent, complicated women whose work has shifted the paradigm (not to mention women who are kicking ass at the age of 80).”

Feelings are Facts: the Life of Yvonne Rainer | Jack Walsh | USA | 2014 | 83 min

MON | AUG 17 | 7pm | IV | PG

Director in attendance



Four Moons (Cuatro Lunas)

Hailed by OUT Magazine as “the finest, most universal and most moving gay film of the past year,” **Four Moons** brings together four artfully-woven stories of gay life and desire in Mexico City. An aging poet finds longing and inspiration in a bathhouse. Two university students reunite and revive their childhood friendship with an intimate twist. An 11-year-old boy experiments in a moment of immense desire and inadvertently finds himself outed to his family and community. Two men in a long-term relationship try to cement their future together in spite of their swiftly diverging needs. Sex and humour are tenderly and authentically presented by writer and director Sergio Tovar Velarde, a master of existential symbolism, in this rich portrayal of the many possibilities of queer love in 21st century Mexico City.

Four Moons (Cuatro Lunas) | Sergio Tovar Velarde | Mexico | 2014 | 110 min
| Spanish with English subtitles

FRI | AUG 14 | 645pm | IV | 14A 

WED | AUG 19 | 445pm | IV | 14A 



Grandma

Lily Tomlin fans, rejoice! She's clearly having a ball in **Grandma**, a rousing, exhilarating joyride that brings limitless energy and a decidedly un-Hollywood approach to storytelling about three generations of women. Here, the carefree feminist plot reveals itself early when Elle's (Lily Tomlin) granddaughter Sage shows up on her doorstep seeking \$600 for an abortion. Neither of them has the money so they set out on a road trip (in Tomlin's own 1955 Dodge Royal) to get it without involving Sage's mom, Judy (Marcia Gay Harden). Their journey sparks new life in Elle, a self-described misanthrope who's been grieving the loss of her long-term love. Watch for supporting performances by the wonderful Laverne Cox, Judy Greer, and Sam Elliott too. We can only screen this sharply funny and warm film once, so get your tickets early!

Grandma | Paul Weitz | USA | 2015 | 79 min


FRI | AUG 14 | 9pm | RIO



The Guest (La Visita)

A rich, emotionally-wrought tale about family and acceptance marking a standout debut from director Mauricio López Fernández, **The Guest** introduces Elena as she returns home for her father's wake for the first time since her gender transition—but her mother's disapproval creates a rift of anger and silence. In this refreshing portrayal of trans* identities by trans* actors, lead actor Daniela Vega's mastery of her role is elemental to the film's ultimate beauty and rawness. Cinematographically luxurious and shot with a hint of magic realism, **The Guest** brings complex and nuanced treatment to religion's dominion in the family and beyond—as well as desire, labour, and how love often arrives two-faced. Fernández finds a beautiful place between eerie and sensual while also depicting a dynamic portrayal of family, return and belonging.

The Guest (La Visita) | Mauricio López Fernández | Argentina/Chile | 2014 | 81 min | Spanish with English subtitles

MON | AUG 17 | 9pm | VCT | G 

Canadian Premiere

DAILYXtra.com



Guidance

Pat Mills (writer/director/star) enters as a force in Canadian comedy with a chuckler of a feature that also provides piercing commentary on maturity and age—and offers up the notion that our hardest, most human moments might also be our funniest. David is a former child star whose life is in the dumps. When he can't make rent, he resorts to a desperate scheme to cobble his life back together by impersonating a guidance counsellor at a local high school. A loveable character in deep denial of his sexuality, David makes well-meaning attempts to support the students, but suffers epic fails once he employs his usual coping strategies. Well-shot and introspective in its dark humour on education, addiction and self-help, **Guidance** propels viewers into a Toronto of small enclaves, broad highways, and big laughter.

Guidance | Pat Mills | Canada | 2014 | 81 min

SAT | AUG 15 | 7pm | IV
Director in attendance



Henry Gamble's Birthday Party

Stephen Cone (*The Wise Kids*) brings us another smart incisive film full of depth, guilt, pain, and peace. Traversing the common experience of growing up gay in a home where faith rules, Henry Gamble is turning 17 and his worlds of church, school, adult mentors, family, and youth group are colliding. When Logan (a quiet youth from his church group) arrives, Henry is pulled into the awkward longing and distancing that often comes with adolescent desire. A bold and complex image of the inner struggles of those who hold faith, this film is a sharp work with believable characters, excellent acting, and the beautiful reminder that "the trouble with growing up is that you are always becoming yourself."

Henry Gamble's Birthday Party | Stephen Cone | USA | 2015 | 87 min

SUN | AUG 16 | 9pm | GCA | 14A

Canadian Premiere

WED | AUG 19 | 715pm | IV | 14A | ASL



How to Win at Checkers (Every Time)

Catapulting from the Berlinale to become *the* queer film on this year's festival circuit, Josh Kim's debut feature deftly navigates the complications of family and queer life in Thailand contrasted with the pressures of economic development, war and superstition. After the loss of their parents, 11-year-old Oat is cared for by his elder brother Ek. While Oat learns the systems of power in his world through metaphors in the game of checkers, Ek's relationship with his partner Jai becomes complicated when they are both entered into the military lottery. Inspired in part by Thailand's complex stance on queer rights (the decriminalization of homosexuality in 1956 and the 2005 dissolution of the military ban on LGBTQ people), this familial love story is based on the short story collection *Sightseeing* by Rattawut Lapcharoensap, bringing to life a striking portrait of the strategies we use and the concessions we make to survive.

How to Win at Checkers (Every Time) | Josh Kim | Thailand/USA/Indonesia | 2015 | 80 min

TUE | AUG 18 | 915pm | IV | PG

WED | AUG 19 | 915pm | IV | PG

DAILYXtra.com



Liz in September (Liz en Septiembre)

Patricia Velasquez (*Arrested Development*, *The L Word*), also known as the first Latina lesbian supermodel, stars in this intimate love story as Liz, a party girl and heartbreaker who has a reputation for being irresponsible—and irrevocably seductive. She also has a secret. After she meets up with a group of friends for their annual celebration in the Caribbean, the mysterious Eva joins them and their lives become intertwined. With a lively cast including an ebullient group of friends, director Fina Torres brings us a meditation on the invisibility of death, the limits of life, and gaining what we need when we least expect it. **Liz in September** boldly reminds us that the best is yet to come.

Liz in September (Liz en Septiembre) | Fina Torres | Venezuela | 2014 | 100 min
| Spanish with English subtitles

MON | AUG 17 | 9pm | IV | PG

FRI | AUG 21 | 445pm | IV | PG



LYLE

Indie-darling Gaby Hoffmann (*GIRLS*, *Transparent*) brings more savvy than innocence to this thrilling script penned by *Eyes Wide Shut* actor-turned-director Stewart Thorndike. **LYLE** is the story of a pregnant lesbian mother whose life suddenly changes after her move to a new home in Brooklyn. Troubled by her child's erratic behaviour and her unavailable partner June (played by co-creator of *The Slope*, Ingrid Jungermann), Leah works to make sense of nymphet models, zany landladies, and her own fears... especially when they begin to come true. Thorndike builds a nightmarish Brooklyn infused with invisible pitter-patters, strange neighbours and walls that aren't quite what they seem. Hailed as a lesbian *Rosemary's Baby*, this film boasts sharp acting and smart directorial choices that make **LYLE** a beautiful horror.

LYLE | Stewart Thorndike | USA | 2014 | 65 min

PRECEDED BY:

I Really Like You | Jason Karman | Canada | 2014 | 13 min

SUN | AUG 16 | 7pm | IV | PG

Directors in attendance

Don't miss **Make the Film You Want to Make** workshop p 31

DAILY Xtra.com



Naz and Maalik

Set in a quickly-gentrifying Brooklyn rife with contradictions, director Jay Dockendorf's debut feature is an exciting depiction of queer black Muslim adolescence in all of its complexity. As Naz and Maalik wander Bed-Stuy selling wares from tiny vials of oil to lottery tickets to saint cards, they discuss their beliefs, Islam, the world, and their place in it. A lovers' quarrel and a search to find a chicken for slaughter adds levity to this touching and romantic portrait; however, when an undercover agent tries to sell them a gun, they are suddenly under investigation by the FBI. As they strain to hide their sexuality from their families and the Feds, their everyday lives become suspect in a way that is increasingly terrifying and unjust. Jumping from smart and entertaining to desperate and touching, **Naz and Maalik** offers an important contribution to queer cinema, and a timely reminder of the impositions of the state on queer love.

Naz and Maalik | Jay Dockendorf | USA | 2015 | 86 min

SUN | AUG 16 | 7pm | GCA | PG

Dr Langston Raymond



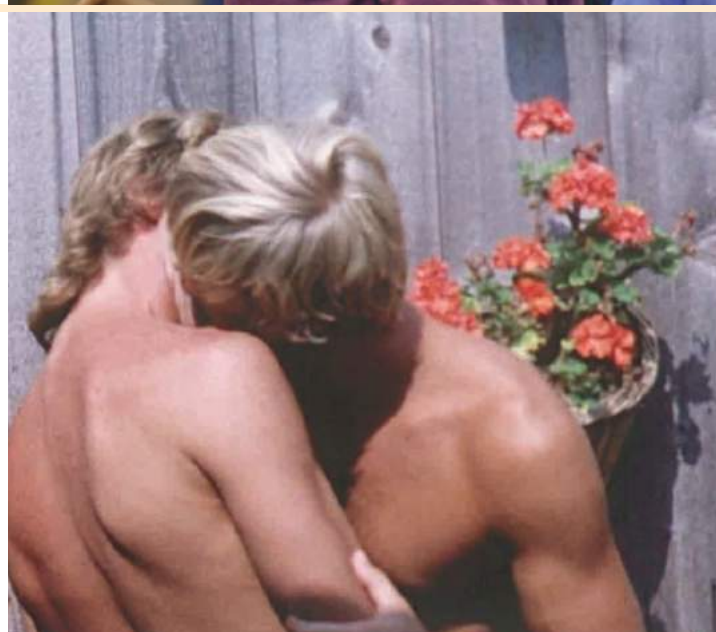
Peter de Rome: Grandfather of Gay Porn

At a time when gay porn was rough and raunchy, the sex in a Peter de Rome movie was compared to "a beautiful watercolour" and the man himself to a "typical British gentleman." In clips as nostalgic as they are explicit, de Rome discusses testifying for the Wolfenden Report which decriminalized gay sex; how his film *Adam & Yves* has both the last film appearance of Greta Garbo and an all-black orgy; and how his movies, meant to "be seen by a few queens at a party," altered an art form. The result is a *Wild Strawberries*-style documentary whose oeuvre of beautiful men having beautiful sex is progressive filmmaking even by our standards today.

Peter de Rome: Grandfather of Gay Porn | Ethan Reid | USA | 2014 | 97 min

SAT | AUG 15 | 915pm | IV

DAILY Xtra.com



Portrait of a Serial Monogamist

Fun, frenetic humour runs through this standout Torontonion take on lesbian relationship drama as Elsie, a clever, mid-thirties serial monogamist, runs away from yet another relationship—as she always does. But, what if there was a twist to Elsie's long-standing break-up plan? Co-directors Christina Zeidler (from VQFF's 2007 **Deep Lez Film Craft**) and John Mitchell bring us a smart, off-the-cuff lesbian non-rom-com that draws upon the complexity of queer relationships and implores us to question how we love and what we choose to throw away. Rife with a cast of Canadian talent (Diane Flacks, Vag Halen's Vanessa Dunn, Gavin Crawford and Sabrina Jalees) and showcasing this year's most affecting lesbian cat funeral, **Portrait of a Serial Monogamist** is a great date night film, with a stellar soundtrack from Toronto's queer scene to boot.

Portrait of a Serial Monogamist | Christina Zeidler, John Mitchell | Canada | 2015 | 85 min

PRECEDED BY:

First Clue | Susan Sullivan | USA | 2013 | 6 min

SAT | AUG 15 | 920pm | GCA | PG | ASL



The Queer Best Of: International Shorts

Join us for some of our favourite shorts of the year!

Love at queer sight is joyfully reminisced in Daniel Maggio's **Glory Hole** while **Pepper** articulates a woman's mixed feelings after a birthday threesome. A glorious underwater tribute to trans* bodies is set to the siren-like notes of Rae Spoon in **Float**; and the Teddy award-winning love story **San Cristobal** arrives as an instant queer classic with its gorgeous realism and poignancy, while the inspirational **Kumu Hina** introduces rising leader Ho'onani who bridges Hula and acceptance. **Future Perfect** blends Zachary Quinto's (*Heroes*, *Star Trek*) distinctive baritone with a high-concept sci-fi script that you won't soon forget.

An artful, stunning collection of some of the Fest's best.

Glory Hole | Daniel Maggio | USA | 2014 | 4 min

First Clue | Susan Sullivan | USA | 2013 | 6 min

Float | Sam Berliner | USA | 2015 | 4 min

San Cristobal | Omar Zúñiga Hidalgo | Chile | 2015 | 29 min | Spanish with English subtitles

Pepper (Le Piment) | Patrick Aubert | Canada | 2014 | 7 min | French with English subtitles

Future Perfect | Nick Citton | Canada | 2015 | 11 min

Kumu Hina: A Place in the Middle | Dean Hamer, Joe Wilson | USA | 2014 | 25 min

Running time 86 min

THU | AUG 20 | 7pm | IV

Some directors in attendance



Kumu Hina: A Place in the Middle



Float



San Cristobal

Sand Dollars (Dólares de Arena)

Based on the novel *Les Dollars des Sables* by Jean-Noël Pancrazi, **Sand Dollars** is a provocative and expertly realized take on power, love and money as Anne (Geraldine Chaplin), a regular visitor to the Dominican Republic, grows deeper in love with Noeli, a much younger local she's paying for companionship. Geraldine Chaplin gives a stirring performance as a woman alternately shrewd and guileless with her power—and vulnerable, as Noeli's own ambitions and desires conflict with what a kept life with Anne promises. Rising from a nuanced script that refuses to fall into stereotypes, **Sand Dollars** brings gorgeous scenery and dreamy summer meditation to the question of love, and the opportunism and risks taken in its pursuit.

Sand Dollars (Dólares de Arena) | Israel Cárdenas, Laura Amelia Guzmán | Dominican Republic/Argentina/Mexico | 2014 | 84 min | Spanish and English with English subtitles

SAT | AUG 22 | 910pm | IV



Still Not Over It: 70 Years of Queer Canadian Shorts

Still Not Over It is an extensive program of queer Canadian documentary, experimental, performance, animation, and fiction shorts spanning 70 years of moving images. Various addressing memory, social history, and futures, these shorts use anachronism, queered retellings, hope, reminiscence, and prophecy to elicit questions on queer temporality: what is our past without our overcomings? Who were we and what did we want to be? Will I find a date for Friday night? This selection shows us bygone times and timeless aspirations from WWII-era crypto-homo desire to 1960s subtleties, 70s experimentalism, 80s essays, 90s elegies, and millennial flux. Culled from the newly launched online catalogue mediaqueer.ca—a research tool for LGBT moving image art in Canada and Québec—the program will be presented in two parts with a short discussion with artists in-between.

Presented in partnership with the Queer Media Database Canada-Québec and Video Out Distribution.

Guest programmers Jordan Arseneault, Alan Kollins and Thomas Waugh

Boogie Doodle | Norman McLaren | Canada | 1940 | 3 min

L'Usure | Jeanne Crépeau | Canada | 1986 | 8 min

Frankly, Shirley | Margaret Moores | Canada | 1987 | 10 min

Gravity | Wrik Mead | Canada | 1987 | 3 min

Gayblevision: a Celebration of 2 Years on Air (excerpt) | Gayblevision | Canada | 1982 | 4 min

1919 | Noam Gonick | Canada | 1996 | 8 min

Man from Venus | James Diamond | Canada | 1999 | 3 min

60 Unit Bruise | Paul Wong | Canada | 1976 | 4 min

So... When Did You Figure Out You Had AIDS? | Vincent Chevalier | Canada | 2010 | 5 min

Frank's Cock | Mike Hoolboom | Canada | 1993 | 8 min

A Girl Named Kai | Kai Ling Xue | Canada | 2004 | 8 min

Galactic Docking Company | Clark Nicolai | Canada | 2009 | 3 min

Search Engine | Wayne Yung | Canada | 1999 | 4 min

Drag on a Fag | Nick Stagias | Canada | 1994 | 5 min

Untouchable | Thirza Cuthand | Canada | 1998 | 4 min

Cornet at Night | Stanley Jackson | Canada | 1963 | 14 min

Approximate running time: 94 min

TUE | AUG 18 | 6pm | VCT

Some directors in attendance



Galactic Docking Company



A Girl Named Kai

This is Gay Propaganda: LGBT Rights & the War in Ukraine

Toronto-based filmmaker Marusya Bociurkiw brings us the Canadian premiere of her latest documentary, **This is Gay Propaganda**, providing a glimpse into queer lives affected by the 2014 Ukrainian Revolution and the harsh conditions endured following the military conflict with Russia. It was this event that introduced the "gay propaganda law," criminalizing homosexuality in Ukraine and justifying legal persecution, hate crimes, and physical violence towards queer and trans* people. Bociurkiw traces the path of human rights violations to the brave and defiant acts of queers and allied activists creating safe houses to protect each other. Engaging, ardent personal testimonies capture an important moment in the reshaping of a movement and the courageous resistance at the heart of LGBTQ Ukraine.

This Is Gay Propaganda: LGBT Rights & the War in Ukraine | Marusya Bociurkiw | Canada | 2015 | 50 min | English/Ukrainian with English subtitles

MON | AUG 17 | 630pm | VCT

Canadian Premiere

Skype conversation with director to follow



Those People

Exquisite scenes of contemporary extravagance blend with whipsmart writing and acting to make this gay version of *Gossip Girl* a decadent treat. MFA student Charlie has spent his adolescence pining for his beautiful and wealthy best friend Sebastian. As Sebastian copes with the fallout of a terrible Madoff-esque financial family scandal, Charlie begins to fall in love with Tim, a charming pianist from Lebanon. Positioned within an elite New York whirlwind that rears its seedy underbelly, Charlie must choose between the love he knows, or dive headfirst into something new and frightening. Hailed as an "instant classic," the film brings bold energy and charm to the changing face of new queer film as a highly polished coming-into-adulthood showpiece that starts where many coming-out films leave off. Intelligent in its dissonance and smoked with the attitude of Oscar Wilde's *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, Joey Kuhn's debut feature reminds of us of our own "Sebastians" and those ineffable imperfections that make love so very wondrous.

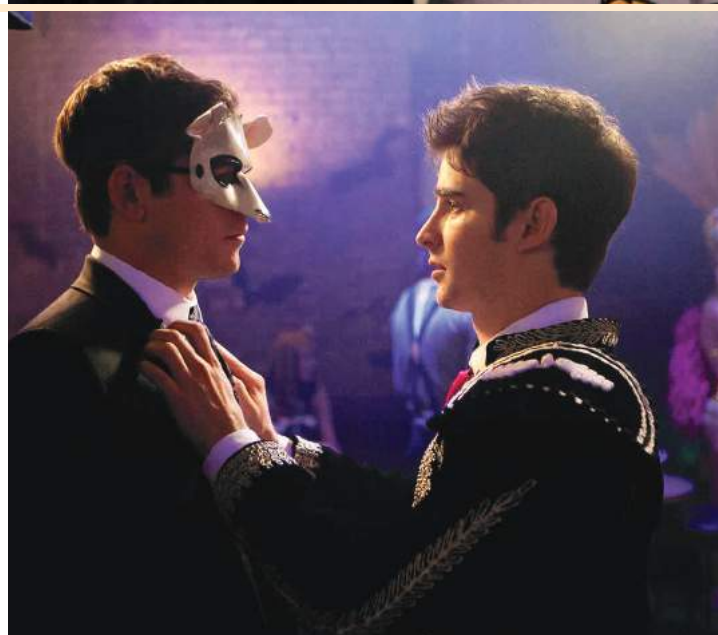
Those People | Joey Kuhn | USA | 2015 | 89 min

FRI | AUG 14 | 915pm | IV | 14A

THU | AUG 20 | 910pm | IV | 14A

DENTONS

IBM



Three to Infinity: Beyond Two Genders

In one of the most thoughtful documentaries on gender non-conformity we've seen, director Lonny Shavelson offers us an inspirational and loving essay on the multiplicity of genders outside the binary. A landmark contribution to cinema on genderqueer, gender variant and gender non-conforming identities, **Three to Infinity** bears touching testimony from parents and partners, and exceptional individuals living beyond the gender binary who are forging new paths towards authentic, accepted lives.

Three to Infinity: Beyond Two Genders | Lonny Shavelson | USA | 2015 | 84 min

THU | AUG 20 | 630pm | GCA | PG

Director and cast in attendance

Panel discussion to follow (details at queerfilmfestival.ca)

Canadian Premiere



Co-presented with SFU Woodward's Cultural Programs



What We Have (Ce qu'on a)

Building from the complexities arising from gay cruising and relationships in a small town, **What We Have** is a gorgeously constructed film marking the arrival of a signature new queer Canadian talent, Maxime Desmons (writer/director/star). Maurice, a French émigré, tries to escape his past by taking up a rather isolated life in North Bay, Ontario. However, he soon becomes enmeshed as a tutor and mentor of a high school student who is enduring bullying at school. Maurice's guiding question then becomes: how do you protect someone whose present-day adolescence looks so much like your own troubled past? A beautifully shot and nuanced meditation on cycles of abuse, **What We Have** takes risks that bring immense rewards.

What We Have (Ce qu'on a) | Maxime Desmons | Canada | 2015 | 89 min | English and French with English subtitles

FRI | AUG 21 | 645pm | GCA | PG
Director in attendance

SAT | AUG 22 | 2pm | ECU | PG
Director in attendance

Don't miss **Nailing the Picture** workshop p 31

James Goodman



Welcome to this House: a Film on Elizabeth Bishop

Barbara Hammer, pioneering lesbian filmmaker and the first recipient of the Shirley Clarke Avant-Garde Filmmaker Award, brings us her new documentary **Welcome to this House**, about the 20th century American poet Elizabeth Bishop. The film's visuals and haunting score paint a compelling portrait of Bishop, a lesbian who was torn between her desire for creative freedom and the need for privacy in an era that demanded a closeted life. An orphan from an early age, Bishop searches for home as she travels from Massachusetts to Brazil, finding solace in lovers despite a painful descent into alcoholism. Interweaving Bishop's poetry with her life story, the film conveys a uniquely modernist spirit as it explores familial tragedy and grief, the human need for love and belonging—and a woman who left an indelible mark on American literary history.

Welcome to this House: a film on Elizabeth Bishop | Barbara Hammer | USA | 2015 | 79 min

PRECEDED BY:

Sex, Politics, and Sticky Rice | Tina Takemoto | USA | 2014 | 8 min

MON | AUG 17 | 430pm | IV | PG



Xenia

Ironically titled **Xenia** (the Greek word for generosity and hospitality to strangers) is not your average road movie. It's a joyful, multi-faceted fable of two stateless brothers who embark on a journey following the death of their Albanian mother to find their father and the Greek citizenship that only his patrimony will allow. Dany, a sugar-obsessed queer teen, and his golden-voiced brother Odysseas take on this modern-day epic from Athens to Thessaloniki amid the stark realities of Greece's current economic transition. It's a rich tale that takes them through the trials of romance, fascists and homophobes, a tough immigration lawyer, an Italian superstar—and a reality-TV singing competition. Director and co-writer Panos H Koutras brings a wealth of classical allusions and complexity to a story of being foreign in the country of one's birth and rebuilding brotherly love.

Xenia | Panos H Koutras | Greece/France/Belgium | 2014 | 134 min | Greek, Italian and Albanian with English subtitles

FRI | AUG 21 | 915pm | GCA | PG



This presentation is part of Migrant Voices, presented by Carl Meadows and Les Dick.

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