



VANCOUVER
QUEER
FILM
FESTIVAL

PRESENTED
BY

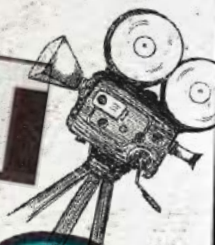


flattened hierarchies
eliminated barriers,

SILENCE=DEATH



MAKE IT YOURS



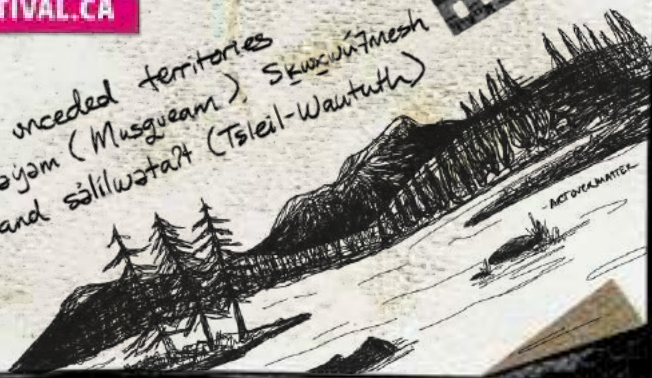
#VQFF2022

ONLINE & IN PERSON

AUGUST 11-21

QUEERFILMFESTIVAL.CA

* Located on the unceded territories
of the x̱məkwəyám (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh
(Squamish), and səlilwəta7 (Tsleil-Waututh)
peoples.



ACTIVEMATTER




The magic of stories unites us.

As the proud presenting sponsor, we salute the **2022 Vancouver Queer Film Festival** for making the world a better place through the power of stories, where inclusion and innovation are championed and lives are changed.



#speakupforinclusion





The Vancouver Out On Screen Film and Video Society is an organization primarily led by non-Indigenous people. We operate on the unceded, traditional, and ancestral territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwx̱wú7mesh (Squamish), and səlílwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations. Today, these distinct Indigenous communities continue to call this land home and participate in its stewardship.

As an organization that travels throughout BC, we are also uninvited settlers on the lands of many other First Nations and Indigenous communities. We aspire to build right relationships with Indigenous peoples of these lands, and we have much to learn as we work to build meaningful relationships and fulfill our responsibility to share our collective histories.

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AUG 11-21 VOD

Available video-on-demand

Closed captioning
in English



English subtitles
during non-English
dialogue



ASL Interpretation



Rated for
youth (+14)



Flashing lights



Explicit violence



Sexual violence



Sexually explicit



LEGEND

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

#VQFF2022

queerfilmfestival.ca



VancouverQFF



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FESTIVAL

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	10AM	11AM	12PM	1PM	2PM	3PM	4PM
THU AUG 11							
FRI AUG 12							
SAT AUG 13		Make It Out Alive VIFF P.66	Neptune Frost VIFF P.80				
		VQFF Talk VIFF P.97	<i>Queer Collective: VQFF Programmers Talk</i>	Abolition Film Society VIFF P.48			
SUN AUG 14		Homebody VIFF P.49	Death and Bowling VIFF P.70	Metamorphosis VIFF P.51	Obsidian VIFF P.52	Let's Activate! ZOOM	
MON AUG 15							
TUE AUG 16							
WED AUG 17							
THU AUG 18							
FRI AUG 19							
SAT AUG 20				Out In Schools: Beyond SOGI SFU P.100			
SUN AUG 21							






GALAS & SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS
CELBATIONS & WORKSHOPS
SHORTS
FEATURES

SCHEDULE

5PM	6PM	7PM	8PM	9PM	10PM	11PM
		The Empress of Vancouver VPH P.46		Opening Night Party VPH P.96		
	<i>Opening Gala</i>		(this is a love story) TBS P.64			
P.98						
	<i>Youth Gala</i>		The Coast is Queer TBS P.55			
	Being Thunder CIN P.47		Sirens CIN P.72			
		Trouble-makers SFU P.56		The Places You Return To SFU P.62		
				The Coast is Queer 25th Anniversary Celebration HT P.99		
		Emergence YT P.50		All Boys Aren't Blue YT P.82		
<i>A Brave and Tender Lineage</i>	25+Indigiqueer Shorts YT P.53		Besties YT P.83			
		Dramarama VPH P.84				

OUR COMMITMENT TO AN ACCESSIBLE FESTIVAL

Accessibility is an ongoing and continual learning process. Please reach out if you have any feedback, guidance, or questions to **boxoffice@outonscreen.com**. Accessibility feedback will also be available in our post-Festival survey. Please visit our website to read our ongoing **Accessibility Statement** in full.

Community tickets

We issue over 500 complimentary tickets & memberships to local community groups for individuals who face barriers to attending the Festival. Please contact **boxoffice@outonscreen.com** for more information.

PHYSICAL SPACE

We work to ensure that our in-person venues are as accessible as possible, including accessible and gender-inclusive washrooms, scent-reduced environments, and other supportive practices.

Funding to support accessible travel and cover the costs related to disabilities available by request. Please contact **boxoffice@outonscreen.com** for more details.

ASL interpretation for select programs

Content advisories provided (ex: flashing lights, graphic violence, etc)

Subtitles and/or **Closed Captions** for select programming

Transcripts available for select programming

Transit information available for all of our in-person venues on our website

Accessibility information listed for each event, in-person or online



WEEKNIGHTS 6

WITH ANITA BATHE

“There is so much to learn from the people who make up this province and I love being a part of telling those stories.”

 **CBCVANCOUVER**

 **CBCVANCOUVER
CBCNEWSBC**

CBC.CA/BC

VPH

Vancouver Playhouse

Address: 600 Hamilton St

Skytrain: Stadium-Chinatown

Bus: 005 / 006 on Cambie St, 257 on Dunsmuir St

Parking: underground paid and metered street

Entrance: street level

Wheelchair: 5 spaces

Washrooms: fully accessible

ᓄᓂᓄᓄᓄ | Xwtl'a7shn Plaza

Address: 695 Cambie St

Skytrain: Stadium-Chinatown

Bus: 005 / 006 on Cambie St, 257 on Dunsmuir St

Parking: metered street and paid lots

Entrance: curb cut at drop-off on Hamilton,
street level ramp

Wheelchair: fully accessible

TBS

The Beaumont Studios

Address: 316 W 5th Ave

Skytrain: Olympic Village

Bus: 084 on W 2nd Ave

Parking: metered street; paid parking
1 block west or 1 block east

Entrance: street level w/incline

Wheelchair: anywhere

Washrooms: accessible, separate

VIFF

VIFF Centre

Address: 1181 Seymour St

Skytrain: Yaletown-Roundhouse

Bus: many on Seymour St, 006 on Davie St

Parking: metered street

Entrance: street level

Wheelchair: 2-4 spaces

Washrooms: fully accessible



CIN

The Cinematheque

Address: 1131 Howe St

Skytrain: Yaletown-Roundhouse

Bus: many on Howe St / Granville St, 006 on Davie St

Parking: metered street

Entrance: street level

Wheelchair: 4 spaces

Washrooms: accessible, main floor

SFU

SFU Goldcorp Centre for the Arts

Djavad Mowafaghian Theatre

Skytrain: Stadium-Chinatown

Bus: many/R5 on W Hastings St

Address: 149 W Hastings St

Parking: metered street

Entrance: via ramp and via elevator

Wheelchair: 4-6 spaces

Washrooms: fully accessible

HT

Hollywood Theatre

Address: 3123 W Broadway

Bus: 009/014 on W Broadway

Parking: metered street

Entrance: street level

Wheelchair: 4 spaces

Washrooms: accessible, main floor

YT

York Theatre

Address: 639 Commercial Dr

Bus: 020 on Commercial Dr

Parking: metered and free street

Entrance: street level

Wheelchair: 6 spaces

Washrooms: second floor via elevator

//

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TICKET INFORMATION

Film screenings are offered at the same price, whether available online or in-person.

Online films are offered in a Video on Demand (VOD) format and can be started at any point during the Festival. Once you press play, you have 24-hours to complete your viewing.

All online film screenings are limited to BC.

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WHERE TO BUY

Please go to **queerfilmfestival.ca** to purchase all your tickets, memberships, and passes.

Memberships

Out On Screen is responsible for operating in compliance with the Motion Picture Act and Consumer Protection BC. Our mandate is the encouragement and appreciation of motion pictures as a medium of art, information or education.

Some of our in-person film screenings may not have been rated by Consumer Protection BC. To attend an unrated film, you must be a member of the Society and be at least 18 years of age. Membership is by annual subscription. Members have access to all films with a valid ticket and can vote at our Annual General Meeting.

Only Members are permitted to be present at the place where a non-classified film is being exhibited.

\$ 5

Adult Membership
(18 yrs & up)

Single Tickets

For in-person films, each attendee requires their own ticket.

For online films, 1 ticket = 1 film stream, regardless of who is watching.

\$ 21

Friend with Benefits (FWB)

Film-lovers who can afford a little extra

\$ 14

Standard

Our base ticket price

\$ 10

Access

Youth, Seniors, the Underemployed

\$ 5

Access+

Those who need reduced costs for any reason

Passes

All passes are for patrons aged 18 years of age and older.

\$ 175

Festival Pass

\$ 145

Access Pass

\$ 100

New in 2022 Digital Pass

Passes give you access to all films and events at the Festival, subject to availability. **At least 30% of in-person screening seats are reserved for passholders.**

All passes include Membership to the Vancouver Out On Screen Film & Video Society.

Digital Passes Film-lovers who can't join us in-person can buy a Digital Pass.

The Digital Pass provides access to all online film screenings only.

All films are screened on our watch platform at **watch.outonscreen.com**

Refunds and Exchanges

Can't use a ticket? email us at **boxoffice@outonscreen.com** to ask about swapping for another film! After August 1, refunds are only available when an event is cancelled because of technical problems.

Questions? Call us at 604-844-1615 x410 or email us at **boxoffice@outonscreen.com**

COAST SALISH

TWO SPIRIT SYMBOL

as presented
by Musqueam



BY MACK PAUL, 2018©

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@queerfilmfest

Mack Paul (xʷməθkʷə́y̓əm) developed the Coast Salish Two Spirit symbol as a visual representation of Coast Salish Two Spirit unity, dignity and respect.

The design was created using traditional Coast Salish art style and shapes, and emulates the rainbow Pride symbol already used by our LGBTQ+ friends and allies.

This symbol was offered to all our relative Coast Salish Nations to use for their own programming, out of love and in honour of all our Two Spirit and Indigenous LGBTQ+ community members and relations.

Red represents Fire

Orange represents Vision or Visibility for Two Spirit People

Yellow is the Sun

Green shows the Land, where our Identity comes from

Blue represents Water

Purple depicts the məθkʷə́y̓ plant (which grows on the land where Mack is from), but it also represents the Ecosystem in our different Coast Salish territories

The rainbow design is cradled in Coast Salish cloud formations.



Skwxwú7mesh
Úxwumíxw

FESTIVAL
WELCOME



I chet wa kw'enmantúmiwit kwis i uys iyá s7ulh temíxw -
We welcome you to our lands.

The Squamish People have lived in the Vancouver area for many generations stretching back to the ice age and before. Our language, culture, and society were birthed from these lands by passing knowledge and history from one generation to another. Today, we are organized into the Squamish Nation – an amalgamation of several different Squamish People who share common ancestry and language.

On behalf of our people, the Squamish Nation welcomes you to the shared territory of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples, where Vancouver now exists. We join our LGBTQAI2S+ community and family to celebrate our love for people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions. This month and every month, we stand together with the millions of people who work to make this world a safer and more dignified place for all LGBTQAI2S+ people.

The Vancouver Queer Film Festival is a vibrant space for queer arts, culture, and community. It showcases dynamic and thought-provoking films from British Columbian filmmakers and other Canadian and international directors and storytellers. We thank the Vancouver Queer Film Festival for the work they do for our city.

Chet wenáxwstúmiwit – *with respect to you.*

Khelsilem

Council Chairperson
Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumíxw

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POLITICIANS'
WELCOME



Dear Friends

It's so exciting to be meeting in person again after a long, lonely sojourn in the wilderness.

The Vancouver Queer Film Festival has grown over the years to become a much-awaited event bringing together extraordinary global talent that never fails to amaze and inspire.

The theme "Make It Yours" reminds us of the power of activism in democratic societies and the fight ahead in authoritarian ones. The 2SLGBTQIA+ fought for decades to achieve equality under the law and societal acceptance as equals.

We must not take these gains for granted and must work globally for those rights for all. Looking forward to the line-up of treats. Enjoy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Hedy Fry'.

Hedy Fry

P.C., M. P.



Welcome to the Vancouver Queer Film Festival.

This summer, film fans will once again enjoy a diverse array of stories from a host of talented and passionate voices. This year's event will be accessible for viewers across Canada, as it will feature both in-person and virtual screenings.

The Vancouver Queer Film Festival is an outstanding curator of film that celebrates the values of diversity, equity and inclusion, and champions the themes of intersectionality, anti-oppression and social justice. These films are sure to inspire and empower as they illuminate and celebrate the lives of queer Canadians.

As Minister of Canadian Heritage, I'd like to thank the organizers, curators and filmmakers who dedicated their time and effort to make this year's festival a success.

Enjoy the shows!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pablo Rodriguez'.

The Honourable Pablo Rodriguez

Minister of Canadian Heritage



As Premier of the Province of British Columbia, I'm pleased to welcome everyone attending Out On Screen's 2022 Vancouver Queer Film Festival (VQFF).

Since 1988, Out On Screen has offered a vital point of connection for 2SLGBTQIA+ people and communities to be seen and celebrated through the powerful medium of film. It has been a long 2 years for everyone and I am greatly encouraged to see a return to important platforms for artistic expression like the VQFF. I have no doubt that the personal stories shared on-screen will inspire, challenge and uplift viewers.

It takes all of us working together to build a province where everyone can live without fear of discrimination because of who they are or who they love. I'd like to commend Out On Screen's staff, board and volunteers for their ongoing commitment to empowering members of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community and creating safer spaces. Your hard work during the Festival and year-round is an invaluable contribution to ensuring British Columbia remains welcoming and inclusive to all.

Please accept my best wishes for a fantastic season of engaging screenings, dynamic dialogue and lively festivities. Enjoy the shows and have fun!

The Honourable John Horgan

Premier Of British Columbia



On behalf of my colleagues on City Council, I want to extend my best wishes to the organizers, volunteers and filmmakers of the 2022 Vancouver Queer Film Festival.

The Vancouver Queer Film Festival is a leading contributor in illuminating, celebrating and advancing queer lives through film, education and dialogue. As Mayor, I am proud of our thriving arts community and I am always pleased to see the growth of film festivals in the city's arts calendar for the year. The films at festivals like this can bring up a range of emotions as they speak to the spectrum of lived experience within the 2SLGBTQ+ community. I want to thank all of the organizers, volunteers and filmmakers who have worked hard to make this festival a success.

We hope everyone has the opportunity to experience the Vancouver Queer Film Festival. Have a great Festival!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E Kennedy Stewart'.

Kennedy Stewart

Mayor of Vancouver



BOARD CHAIR
WELCOME

Welcome to the 34th Annual Vancouver Queer Film Festival!

As an organization, Out On Screen has always recognized the power and significance of art within queer communities. It is that recognition combined with the courageous work of staff, board, volunteers, and community members that has allowed the Vancouver Queer Film Festival to continue for 34 years. Every time someone watches a film, attends an event, or supports our programs, it helps to create the space that we need—the space to illuminate, celebrate, and advance queer lives. Each and every year, we pour our heart into this work to make it something that reflects our communities, to make it our own.

As you enjoy this year's incredible programming, we now have the great honour of inviting you to find joy, find rebellion, and find inspiration to go into the world and "Make It Yours"!

Aimee Beachamp

Board Chair
they/she

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

WELCOME



Dearest Festies,

We are thrilled to finally welcome you all back into our local theatres. In the early days of Out On Screen, the act of 2SLGBTQIA+ people unapologetically taking up physical space and putting **our** films on the big screen was revolutionary. This year's theme "Make It Yours" is not just an echo of the DIY spirit this Festival was founded upon, but also a roar for our collective future. Our shared experiences and collective dreams are returning to our screens—big and small—again in this year's wonderful program. I hope you find something you need in these beautiful films.

In love and liberation,

Brandon Yan 甄念本

Executive Director

he/him

P.S. If you're joining us online from somewhere else in BC, thank you for joining us. We're so glad you're here.

OUTGOING

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

WELCOME



PHOTO CREDIT: K. HO

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Goodbye for now, and thank you so much for six years of queer film!

I am grateful to the artists I have been able to work with and the filmmakers who have expanded the frame of my own vision, and I hope our programming over the last six festivals has offered moments of growth and affirmation for you as well.

I am so thankful to the incredible Nya Lewis for stewarding the festival during this transition. I am sure you will be inspired by them, as well as the work of our wonderful programmers, Al MacKay and jas calcitas, and guest curator Mahlet Cuff.

It has been an honour and a privilege to program and hold space for queer community, to uplift the work of our artists, and to celebrate our powerful legacies. I know that transitions in leadership are healthy for organizations, artists, and community so our mutual work can evolve. I have learned so much and look forward to joining you all in the audience.

Anoushka Ratnarajah

Outgoing Artistic Director
she/her



PHOTO CREDIT: JOY GYAMFI

Preparing for the 2022 Festival has been a dream. What I know to be true is that when done collaboratively, programming and curation can be a space-making gesture for rich imaginings, experimentation, reflections, actions, critical thought, reform, and diversity. I am humbled by the opportunity to work closely with Anoushka Ratnarajah, Jas Calcitás, and Al MacKay. What we have put out into the world is a beautiful, cheeky, bold, and insightful offering—equal parts artistic and social practice. For me, film programming is a place to uphold the lineage of work and storytelling taken up by Black, Indigenous, and artists of color, to support the voices and innovations of intersectional, intergenerational, 2SLGBTQIA+ folks. My approach is rooted in the hopes of creating a two-week reflection of our experiences, embodied knowledge, memory, and love. It is rooted in the urgency of a future cultural relevance that hinges on valuing and making space for more perspectives. It is my hope that this program is an extension of a career-long love letter to queer filmmakers who dare to mark their presence, creating generative bridges of sharing and connection.

Enjoy,

Nya Lewis

Interim Artistic Director

they/she

This being my first year as a programmer, I am so honoured to have joined Nya, Anoushka, Al, and Ashna. My heart is full with the programs we collaborated on and the ones I was empowered to create. Across all the stories I've been able to highlight, I am consistently reminded of the vibrant and ethereal stories we have to tell as QTBIPOC artists.

I would like to give all of the flowers to Nya and Anoushka for being such inspiring artists, guiding souls, and supportive beings. I've always been searching for my place as a Filipinx artist and what I can do for my community. Nya and Anoushka helped me feel like I had a path forward in honouring my communities and helped me grow into this position.

I hope I've made my ancestors proud with everything I had the opportunity to make.

Ingat ka palagi.

jas calcitas | Festival Programmer | *they/them*



PROGRAMMERS
WELCOME



I've been a member of VQFF's Programming Committee since 2018, but this year I had the incredible opportunity to take on the role of Festival Programmer. I feel so lucky to have gotten the chance to work alongside such a passionate, experienced team, and I'm honoured to be able to share so many exciting films with you.

I worked to bring my background as an experimental filmmaker to the Festival by emphasizing unconventional and diverse perspectives. In the face of a wave of anti-trans sentiment and policy, I feel it's especially important to share works made by trans people, for trans people. It's an act of resistance to tell our own stories, and to show our lives as they are—complex and vibrant.

I want to give a special thank you to everyone I love who supported and inspired me during this process. Community is everything, and I could never have done this without all of you.

Al MacKay | Festival Programmer | *he/they*

What's On

Theatre, Art, Bars, the hottest LGBTQ+ Events in town,
Accommodations, and more!



gayvan.com

Carshare for your next...

modo

Road trip



Coffee date



Plant haul



modo

ABOUT US



Out On Screen

At Out On Screen, donors, supporters, volunteers, and film-lovers like you believe that film has the power to effect positive change and shape social landscapes for the better. For more than three decades, we have curated the latest in film, knowledge, and shared stories from 2SLGBTQIA+ communities. When we see ourselves and our experiences, both imagined and real, on screen, we experience a sense of belonging and are inspired to enact social change at home and around the world.



Out In Schools

Throughout the year, Out In Schools shares stories of 2SLGBTQIA+ people and communities across British Columbia. By working with school communities—educators, students, and parents and caregivers—we work to make classrooms safer for every student. Our amazing youth facilitators share films, spark dialogue, and answer questions about the gender and sexuality spectrums they live every day. We are the only program that uses film and role models in our work to build an affirming education system for queer, trans, and Two Spirit youth.

Visit us online at outinschools.com to bring our stories to a classroom near you!

OUT
ON SCREEN
STAFF



Brandon Yan
Executive
Director



**Anoushka
Ratnarajah**
Outgoing
Artistic Director



**Nanyamka
(Nya) Lewis**
Interim Artistic
Director



jas calcitas
Festival
Programmer



Al MacKay
Festival
Programmer



Ashna Thaya
VQFF Program
Coordinator



Mahlet Cuff
Guest Curator



**Madeline
Taylor**
Individual
Giving Officer



**Luca
Seccafien**
Development
Coordinator



Muhan Zhang
Marketing &
Communications
Manager



Emma Mendez
Marketing
Coordinator



Sarah Chown
Interim
Education
Director



Avery Shannon
Out In Schools
Program
Coordinator



Danny Lybbert
Out In Schools
Program
Coordinator



Piper Fawkes
Operations
Manager



Selina Tsehay
Front of House
Coordinator



Rayne Weinstein
Box Office
Coordinator

TECHNICAL TEAM



Jessica Han
Festival
Technical
Manager



Jamie Rokovetsky
Festival
Technical
Coordinator



Ciara O'Donnell
Festival
Technical
Coordinator

DESIGN PARTNER

Co-Effect Creative is a social purpose creative communication studio. → coeffect.ca

PUBLICIST

Michael Ianni
PRAID PR & Communications

Programming Committee

Deena Alsaweer
Maxime Beauchamp
Claire Beveridge
Leor Elizur
Fox
Tina Mathieu
Moumy Mbacké
Andrew R. Sandfort-Marchese
Guntaj deep Singh
Morgan Strug

FESTIVAL CREATIVE BY:

Mel Sutjiadi RGD *they/them* | ARTOverMATTER Creative

Mel Sutjiadi RGD is a queer, trans, multi-disciplinary creative director, designer, illustrator, web developer, and educator who believes in using their creative power for social good. Mel is a founder of ARTOverMATTER Creative, a creative studio who gives a damn, and one of the co-founders of Ripple of Change Magazine. Mel specializes in projects with a focus on equity, accessibility, and social impact. Outside of AOM, you might find Mel as a guest instructor spreading wisdom about designing for diversity, accessibility, and inclusion.



OUT IN SCHOOLS FACILITATORS

Clea Arrieta
Phoebe Chih
Devon Francis
Meika Johnson
Ally Klassen
Maverick Lumen
Marielle Rosky
Levi Saunders
Jackson Wai Chung Tse

Out In Schools Indigenous Working Group

Bonaventure Fabian
Jesse Halton – Piikani ancestry
Aimee Beauchamp
Keara Lightning

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**Aimee
Beauchamp**
Board Chair



Chad Clark
Development
Liaison



**Christopher
Hallamore**
Board Liaison



Lori MacIntosh
Director at Large



Allie Hamilton
Director at Large

Volunteers

Katherine Addington
Aru Bhola
August Bramhoff
Bridget Buglioni
Megan Bullock
Sacia Burton
Guy Castonguay
Darren Chang
Ilyes Cherni
Stuart Cohn
Jessica Cole
Lili Cormier-Stumpf
Shifra Day
Molly Dennis
Lila Edsall
Kazia Elashuk
Stephen (Charles) Emery
Karen Forsyth
Sarah Fox
Kevin Frew
Ali Garmiani
Danny Gonzalez
Tolmie Greaves
Debanhi Herrera
Jack Hillman
Kristine Hussey
Alexis King
Ally Klassen
Iola kunos
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Simone Leslie
Jessie Liang
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Jacob McNeil
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Kasem Mohamed
Jabali Muriuki
Trinh Nguyen
Marina Padovani
Wei-Jen Hubert Pan
Umair Parvez
Serenity Poirier
Souvik Ray
Rabeya Ropani

Paul Stacey
Holly Steele
Eden Stewart
Jay Sutherland
Kathryn Tullis
Anna Vander Munnik
Noah Wilson
Jaz W-s
Jenelle Yonkman
Jared Yu
Chris Zaritzky
Stevie Zav

*Includes all volunteers
between June 1, 2021 to
June 1, 2022.*

Special Thanks to:

Catherine Wong
Orene Askew
Melanie Matining
Sam Snobelen
Miranda Rutty
Jason Hjalmarson
Amber Dawn
Barbara Chirinos
Mack Paul
Khelsilem
Mutya Macatumpag
Zoe Miles
Mark Vonesch
The Cinematheque
The Vancouver International
Film Festival
Andrea Cheng
Gustavo Queiroz
Averie Tremblay-West
Rue Wegner
Jenise Chiang
Noor Ghazal
Josh Rasalan
Jon Victorino
Kailey Langston
Alejs Lluís Gonzalez
Trish Kelly
Kim Kinakin
Skin Jobs
Non La
Marsha Lederman

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YOUR STORIES On SCREEN

W! KEEP YOUR STORIES ON



In 1988 VQFF started as a group of friends projecting films onto a bed sheet in a living room in the West End. Since then, we have grown into a robust, enduring, and powerful gathering of 2SLGBTQIA+ artists, audiences, and volunteers.

The need for a place to share queer stories fueled that first gathering. The same spirit keeps us going thirty-four years later.

SCREEN, GIVE NOW! KEEP Y

Supporters and donors, like you, give us the freedom to respond to the moment. Give today to sustain a place for our voices.

With your support, we continue to overcome challenging times, reach new audiences across the province, and champion authentic stories from our diverse communities.

GO TO

outonscreen.com

TO DONATE



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Directors Guild

Out On Screen uses art to change the world, and we couldn't do it without the generous support of our Directors Guild! The members of our Directors Guild make a multi-year commitment to uplifting queer, trans, and Two Spirit art and story-telling.

Join our Directors Guild and help us continue bringing 2SLGBTQIA+ stories to the big screen for years to come. Contact Executive Director Brandon Yan at brandon@outonscreen.com to learn more.



THANK YOU DIRECTORS GUILD MEMBERS FOR MAKING OUR BIG DREAMS POSSIBLE!

Nancy Austin
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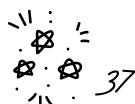
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ARC Foundation
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Cinephile
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CJSF 90.1 FM
cjsf.ca

**DOXA Documentary
Film Festival**
doxafestival.ca



Elk Valley Pride Festival
fernierpride.ca/pridefestival

Fraser Valley Youth Society
fvys.ca

Healing In Colour
healingincolour.com

Health Initiative for Men (HIM)
checkhimout.ca

Indian Summer Festival
indiansummerfest.ca

Iron Dog Books
irondogbooks.com

**Little Sister's Book and Art
Emporium**
littlesisters.ca

PFLAG Vancouver
pflagvancouver.com

qathet Pride
qathetpride.ca

Rainbow Foundation of Hope
foundationofhope.net

Red Gate Arts Society
redgate.tv

Powell Street Festival
powellstreetfestival.com

Sher Vancouver
shervancouver.com

The Dogwood Monarchist Society
dmsvancouver.com

**Urban Native Youth Association
(UNYA)**
unya.bc.ca

**Vancouver Latin American Film
Festival**
vlaff.org

Vancouver Taiwanese Film Festival
twff.ca

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victoriapridesociety.org

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OPENING GALA

The Empress of Vancouver

THURSDAY | AUG 11 | 645PM | VPH

IN-PERSON ONLY



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"Oh my god, you're gorgeous. Who the hell are you?!"

The opening lines of ***The Empress of Vancouver*** are directed at a drag queen clad in a faux fur coat with towering blonde hair, pencil-sharp eyebrows, and dark lipstick. She returns the compliment with a gracious "thank you" and turns to the camera. This is Oliv Howe, performer, artist, icon, and the 10th Empress of the Vancouver Dogwood Monarchist Society.

When she was crowned in 1981, Oliv's punk rock energy, gender-fucking performances and DIY glam aesthetic spoke to a political and artistic shift in Vancouver's drag community. Oliv represented the weirdos and freaks, the trans kings and queens and gender queers busting the binary open. The impact of this legacy threads through the film in interviews with Oliv's contemporaries as well as younger local drag performers like Maiden China.

Accompanying Oliv's stories is a stunning visual archive from artist Oraf Orafsson, who photographed Oliv every single day leading up to her coronation and all during her reign. This proudly local documentary is an ode to an iconic performer, and a tribute to the unique and vital queer artistic legacies that have previously been unseen.

Cast and crew in attendance.

ASL interpretation provided.

Opening Night Party
to follow (p.96).

Screening Sponsor:
DailyHive
TELUS originals

Community Partner:
The Vancouver
Dogwood Monarchist
Society

The Empress of Vancouver | Dave Rodden-Shortt | Canada | 2022 | 88 min | English



YOUTH GALA

Being Thunder

TUESDAY | AUG 16 | 6PM | CIN



AUG 11-21 VOD

Community Partner:

Urban Native Youth
Association

This intimate documentary follows Sherenté Harris, a Two Spirit teenager as s/he comes of age. Sherenté is a member of the Narragansett tribe, one of the nations first impacted by contact with invading Europeans. This film was a four-year collaboration between director Stéphanie Lamorré, Sherenté, and their family. It is a story of colonial resistance, Two Spirit leadership, and the power of young people.

One of Sherenté's many passions is dancing. They grew up performing at powwows. But when Sherenté steps forward in full regalia as a Fancy Shawl dancer, s/he faces the colonial violence of the gender binary. Despite there being no formal rule to prohibit Two Spirit people from performing in a category different from their assigned gender, many of the judges hold Eurocentric beliefs about gender and sex. Sherenté's firm sense of self and the support of their family, elders, and fellow dancers creates a strong foundation to overcome these challenges.

"As an Indigenous, Two Spirit youth, the most controversial act I ever committed was being myself," says Sherenté. And like so many Indigenous youth around the world, Sherenté's act of being themselves creates space for their people, and for all of us, to be more truthful and courageous.

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Being Thunder | Stéphanie Lamorré | France | 2021 | 85 min | English

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Abolition Film Society

SATURDAY | AUG 13 | 1PM | VIFF

AUG 11-21 VOD



WHITEWASH

VQFF co-presents a short film presentation with Abolition Film Society, curated by Kriss Li.

Abolition encourages us to reconsider assumptions about justice and build support systems that actually make our queer communities safer. Queer people are at greater risk of experiencing homelessness, extreme poverty, sexual assault, intimate partner violence, and other conditions that lead to encounters with police. Queer liberation, as a critical and collective movement against the status quo, is itself central to movements of resistance. In a time when queerness imagines a world beyond what exists, curator Kriss Li uses film to galvanize toward abolition.

Short films were sent to five incarcerated members of Prisoner Correspondence Project, a volunteer-run solidarity initiative for LGBTQ+ prisoners. Films were chosen based on the participants' interests then distributed within the limitations of the prison system.

ASL interpretation provided.

Followed by a
**presentation with
Kriss Li.**

Join us after the
"VQFF Lounge" before
and after the program
at the same venue.

Xam | Geoffrey Pugen | Canada | 2020 | 9 minutes | Russian, French, English
with English subtitles

Ode to the Nine | Terry J. Jones | USA | 2018 | 3 min | English

Whatever Happened to Jackie Shane | Sonya Reynolds & Lauren Hortie | Canada |
2014 | 8 min | English

unexplained as yet | E. Hearte | Canada | 2013 | 3 min | No dialogue

Whitewash | Nadine Valcin | Canada | 2016 | 6 min | English

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SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Homebody

SUNDAY | AUG 14 | 11AM | VIFF



AUG 11-21 VOD

HOMEBODY

Content advisory:

Homebody features graphic depiction of childbirth.

Followed by a pre-recorded

Q&A with director and writer Joseph Sackett.

Transportation

Sponsor:
Modo

After learning their beloved babysitter Melanie is leaving to pursue a career as a doula, nine-year-old Johnny practices another kind of birth—rebirth, via astral projection...and becomes Melanie! Unexpectedly saddled with all the responsibilities that come with being an adult woman, Johnny wastes no time and begins exploring this new life in earnest.

Homebody goes beyond the traditional body-swap narrative with a sweet, bizarre, and playful exploration of a child's emerging gender identity. A sincere portrait of the awkwardness and joy that accompanies self-discovery at any age.

Preceding the feature is ***My Parent, Neal***, a beautifully animated short documentary focusing on a transmasculine parent whose transition began at age 62.

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Homebody | Joseph Sackett | USA | 2021 | 75 min | English with captions

My Parent, Neal | Hannah Saidiner | USA | 2021 | 8 min | English



SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Emergence: Out of the Shadows

FRIDAY | AUG 19 | 7PM | YT

AUG 11-21 VOD



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Emergence follows the journeys of Kayden, Jag, and Amar, as they navigate disparate experiences surfacing their queer identities within conservative South Asian families. A gentle and vulnerable look at the brave stories of cultural confrontation, resistance, and resilience in the face of childhood trauma, rejection, and despair, the feature documentary daylights the challenging dichotomy of tradition and LGBTQIA lives and offers a compassionate and inspirational message to individuals and communities struggling with acceptance. **Emergence: Out of the Shadows** asserts a transformative, courageous voice in support of racially marginalized queer youth and their families.

Followed by a **Q&A with director** Vinay Girihaar.

ASL interpretation provided.

Reel Sponsor:
Canadian Media
Producers Association
(CMPA)

Community Partner:
Indian Summer Festival

Emergence: Out of the Shadows | Vinay Giridhar | Canada | 2021 | 80 min | English



SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Metamorphosis

SUNDAY | AUG 14 | 1PM | VIFF

IN-PERSON SCREENING QTBIPOC EXCLUSIVE



Content advisory:

Subject matter contains depictions of pedophilia, sexual abuse, religious trauma, and homophobic and transphobic language.

ASL interpretation provided.

Followed by a conversation with Festival programmer jas calcitas and members of Pinoy Pride Vancouver Society.

Join us after at the "VQFF Lounge" before and after the program at the same venue.

J.E Tiglao's debut feature film **Metamorphosis** is a first for Filipinx cinema. Set in Natividad, Philippines, it tells the story of 15 year-old Adam who finds out he is intersex after getting his first period. Following his first few months of discovering, we join Adam in his exploration of gender, sexuality, and what he wants for the future. Tiglao has created a coming-of-age film that is visually ethereal. The way he has crafted this story is honest and emotionally vulnerable. With his directorial debut, Tiglao has created the first Filipinx narrative feature with an intersex main character.

Please note that this live screening is available to self-identified QTBIPOC exclusively, with special considerations for Filipinx people. We ask that if you are not a QTBIPOC, to please consider this to be an opportunity for allyship. Contact info@outonscreen.com for more information.

Metamorphosis | J.E. Tiglao | Philippines | 2019 | 98min | Tagalog with English subtitles

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OBSIDIAN: BLACK QUEER CINEMA

AS I AM

SUNDAY | AUG 14 | 145PM | VIFF

AUG 11-21 VOD

ABUNDANCE

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AS I AM explores the joys and challenges of navigating the unique experience of being Black and Queer. Coming out is just the beginning, at the intersections of sexual expression and race relations, selfworth is in a state of constant flux. Influenced by family, culture, religion, living against the colonial paradigm, self-determination and acceptance becomes the exhale of Black queer existence. This collection of films unapologetically shares stories of self reflection and fulfillment as the directors examine what it means to come into their own queer beings, reclaiming the right to shape our most authentic complex selves.

Total runtime: 68 min

Followed by a
pre-recorded **Q&A with**
guest curator Mahlett
Cuff, Ayo Tsalithaba, and
Dr. Kwame McKenzie.

HOW TO RAISE A BLACK BOY | Justice Jamal Jones | USA | 2020 | 13 min | English

Heaven Reaches Down to Earth | Tebogo Malebogo | South Africa | 2020 | 10 min | English

Reluctantly Queer | Akosua Adoma Owusu | Ghana | 2016 | 8 min | English

Atmospheric Arrivals | Ayo Tsalithaba | Canada | 2021 | 6 min | English

Abundance | Amber J Phillips | USA | 2021 | 31 min | English



TWO SPIRIT AND INDIGIQUEER CINEMA

A Brave and Tender Lineage

SATURDAY | AUG 20 | 630PM | YT

SHIFTING TIDES

AUG 11-21 VOD



Total Runtime: 47 min

Community Partner:
Iron Dog Books

A collection of Two Spirit and Indigenous films sharing meaningful stories through expressions of reciprocity, gathering, and connection. Intergenerational and unceasing, ***A Brave and Tender Lineage*** explores the intersection of tradition, language, land, and a commitment to maintaining balance guided by ancestral teachings. These films explore intercommunal processes of healing, weaving revolutionary acts of reclamation through family histories, space-making gestures, and the uplifting of cultural practices in spite of pervading colonial attempts at erasure.

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Will Flowers? | Kay Chan | Canada | 2021 | 1 min | English

Weckuwapasihtit (Those Yet to Come) | Geo Neptune & Brianna Smith | USA | 2021 | 12 min | English

Tuullik | Berda Larsen | Greenland | 2021 | 12 min | Greenlandic with English subtitles

Namid | Victoria Anderson-Gardner, Sagi Kahane-Rapport | Canada | 2021 | 5 min | English

Shifting Tides | Nova Weipert | Canada | 2020 | 7 min | English

O'S&O~ (What They've Been Taught) | Brit Hensel | 2022 | USA | 10 min | English



TWO SPIRIT AND INDIGIQUEER CINEMA

Sovereign Bodies

AUG 11-21 VOD



13 EGGS

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Queer agency reigns supreme, especially over body politics.

A collection of Two Spirit and Indigenous films exploring themes of autonomy of spirit, mind and body.

Total runtime: 83 min

Content advisory:

Subject matter contains sexually explicit content.

Sexy Highland Stream | Nathan Adler | Canada | 2021 | 5 min | English, Anishinaabemowin with English subtitles

A Place Called Home/ The Wind | Kennlin Lake Barlow | Canada | 2021 | 11 min | English

Odehemin (Heart Berry) | Kijâtai-Alexandra Veillette-Cheezo | Canada | 2020 | 16 min | French, Anishinaabemowin with English subtitles

Métis Femme Bodies | Channele Lajoie | Canada | 2019 | 6 min | English

A Drive to Top Surgery | Raven Two Feathers | USA | 2019 | 11 min | English

13 Eggs | TJ Cuthand | Canada | 2022 | 14 min | English

Ajornaviannngilatit (You'll Be Okay) | Aka Hansen | Greenland | 2021 | 12 min | Greenlandic with English subtitles

Fluid Bound | Rob Fatal | USA | 2021 | 8 min | English, Spanish with English subtitles



HOMETOWN GLORY

The Coast Is Queer

PHILIA

MONDAY | AUG 15 | 830PM | TBS



AUG 11-21 VOD

Total Runtime: 72 min

Content Advisory:

Subject matter contains sexually explicit content.

Screening Sponsor:

UBCP/ACTRA
CBC

Community Partner:

QMUNITY

Our made-in-Vancouver program launched in 1997, morphed into Code V in 1999, and finally became our beloved local short film program, *The Coast is Queer*, in the year 2000. This is the 25th edition of ***The Coast is Queer***, showcasing cute animation, provoking and moody dramas, wonderful comedies, and queerly experimental film.

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Painted Gold | Human Girl | Canada | 2021 | 5 min | English

Muslim Mingle | Reem Morsi | Canada | 2022 | 7 min | English

Personals | Sasha Argirov | Canada | 2020 | 13 min | English

Submersion | Dylan Blake Murray | Canada | 2021 | 15 min | English

Circle | Florian Halbedl | Canada | 2020 | 13 min | English

Philia | Jonas Pascual | Canada | 2020 | 13 min | English

Macaroni Soup | Alayna Y | Canada | 2021 | 6 min | English, Cantonese with English subtitles



SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Troublemakers 6.0

WEDNESDAY | AUG 17 | 7PM | SFU

AUG 11-21 VOD



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Troublemakers, an intergenerational film project, was back in-person this year! Reel Youth, Out On Screen, and Love Intersections have gathered a fresh team of aspiring young filmmakers to create a glimpse into the lives of just a few of the local lesbian, gay, and nonbinary “troublemakers”—advocates and artists who make our communities better.

Troublemakers:

Norine Braun, Sterling James, SD Holman, Bill Walker, Pearl Wong

Youth:

Jenna Hammerlindl, Heather Addison, Rae Grant Duff, Susanna Nguyen, Lia Peralta, Ashley Song, Blake Barnes, Fran Bonifacio, Judith Nguyen, Santiago Melhado

Program Facilitators:

Mariam Barry, Jackson Wai Chung Tse, Devon Francis

Join us for the unveiling of these short films, a **Q&A, and a celebration** of talented young filmmakers, courageous troublemakers, and the cast and crew behind the program.

ASL interpretation provided.

Made possible with support from:

STORYHIVE powered by TELUS, BC Arts Council, SFU Woodward's Cultural Programs, SFU School for the Contemporary Arts, The Parachute Fund

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@queerfilmfest

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HOT MESS

AUG 11-21 VOD

BROS BEFORE



60

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Playful, wild experimentation is front and center in this hybrid collection of animated and live action shorts. Navigate animated dreamscapes and queer internet spaces, experience psychic connections and unapologetically crass trans characters. A love letter to weirdos, DIY culture and queer chaos. This is a program full of filmmakers who are not afraid to push boundaries and get their hands dirty!

Total Runtime: 60 min

Content Advisory:

Subject matter contains sexually explicit content, discussion of transphobia, and homophobia.

Community Partner:

Red Gate Arts Society

Kimmortal - wyd | Steven Roste and Kimmortal | Canada | 2021 | 3 min | English

Poppets | Maz Murray | UK | 2022 | 16 min | English

ADORABLE | Cheng-Hsu Chung | UK | 2022 | 6 min | English

Class Transitions | Em K Shapiro | USA | 2022 | 13 min | English

Of Longing | Navid Sinaki | USA | 2021 | 3 min | English

Bros Before | Henry Hanson | USA | 2021 | 19 min | English



in the mourning

AUG 11-21 VOD

WHEN WE ARRIVE AS FLOWERS



Total Runtime: 91 min

Content Advisory:

Subject matter contains sexually explicit content, depictions of death, biphobia, transphobia, and homophobia.

in the mourning is a look at the intersections between the grief and the joy that we experience as trans people. The way our grief holds our hands as we dance with joy. The filmmakers in this program beautifully showcase joy, sorrow, growth, and grief and honor all of it in each director's voice. Let us hold space for the ones we have lost and the parts of ourselves we have lost as well as the joy that is coming, the love that is building, and the future that is yours.

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Nang Maglublob Ako sa Isang Mangkok ng Liwanag (When I Wallowed in a Bowl of Sunshine) | Kukay Zinampan | Philippines | 2021 | 25 min | Tagalog with English subtitles

RIGHT HERE | Claudia Bailey | Australia | 2021 | 14 min | English

my body is a place, just like any other | Petra Totten | Canada | 2021 | 33 min | English

Little Sky | Jess X. Snow | Canada | 2021 | 14 min | English, Mandarin, Cantonese with English Subtitles

When We Arrive As Flowers | Susan O'Brien | USA | 2022 | 5 min | English



The Places You Return To

WEDNESDAY | AUG 17 | 9PM | SFU

AUG 11-21 VOD



EGÚNGÚN

62

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What does it mean when a memory is shared, or when a personal history becomes a collective one? ***The Places You Return To*** explores a path to rediscovery paved between a disaffected past and a reconnected present. It could be that the people and places you love will change over time, or maybe they just change the more you return to them. What once seemed improbable feels within reach for the first time: A shared victory.

Total Runtime: 81 min

Content Advisory:

Subject matter contains sexually explicit content, depictions of death, and violence.

Cultural Partner:

SFU Woodward's Cultural Programs

Rain to Eaves | Lina Wu | Canada | 2021 | 3 min | English

ما بعد آب (The Window) | Sarah Kaskas | Lebanon | 2021 | 16 min | Arabic with English subtitles

EGÚNGÚN (MASQUERADE) | Olive Nwosu | Nigeria, UK | 2021 | 14 min | Yoruba with English subtitles

Cattails | Kathleen Munroe | USA | 2021 | 13 min | English

Call History | Lillian Paterson | Australia | 2020 | 10 min | English

Uma paciência selvagem me trouxe até aqui (A wild patience has taken me here) | Érica Sarmet | Brazil | 2021 | 25 min | Portuguese with English subtitles

APPARITIONS!

AUG 11-21 VOD

AMOR BY NIGHT



Total Runtime: 76 min

Content Advisory:

Depictions of gore.

Amor By Night contains flashing lights.

Queer fear meets sci-fi this year in **APPARITIONS!** We're looking at stories that explore alternate worlds, surrealism, the future, and the ghosts of our consciousness. This year, our horror and sci-fi filmmakers meet to create a world of bright colors, beautiful visuals, strong characters, and a series of unsettling feelings in your gut that you didn't even know were there.

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Lyckad Uptitning av Herr Moro (Successful Thawing of Mr. Moro) |

Jerry Carlsson | Sweden | 2021 | 14 min | Luganda, Swedish with English subtitles

Amor By Night | Henrique Arruda | Brazil | 2022 | 19 min |

Portuguese with English subtitles

Don't Text Your Ex | Jo Gustin | Canada | 2021 | 14 min | English, French

Fresh Meat | Lu Asfaha | Canada | 2021 | 17 min | English

Canto Vi | Emil Vargas | Canada | 2022 | 12 min | English



(this is a love story)

FRIDAY | AUG 12 | 830PM | TBS

AUG 11-21 VOD

LUCKY FISH

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@queerfilmfest

Meet someone, fall in love, get your heart broken, fall in love again. This is love. In this love story, we thrive, we survive, and we are rebirthed. The filmmakers of this program have their hearts in their hands and an invitation for you to come share yours. This shorts program will make your heart swell, yearn, and flutter. Come with us as we fall in love over and over and over again.

Total Runtime: 89 min

Screening Sponsor:
Twin Sails Brewing

The Man of My Dreams | Tristan Scott-Behrends | USA | 2021 | 4 min | English

Pistachio | Isabella Spadone | USA | 2021 | 6 min | English

Pillow Talk | James Elinski | USA | 2021 | 15 min | English

Lucky Fish | Emily May Jampel | USA | 2022 | 9 min | English

Letters To The Man I Love | Brandon Clarke | South Africa | 2021 | 17 min | Afrikaans with English subtitles

And Then | Jenn Ravenna Tran | USA, Japan | 2020 | 17 min | English

Valentine | Beck Kitsis & Chris McNabb | USA | 2022 | 10 min | English

동충하초 (Winter Insect, Summer Flower) | Gbenga Komolafe & Tee Jaehyung Park | USA | 2021 | 11 min | English



Keep In Touch

AUG 11-21 VOD

SUMMERWINTERSUMMER



Total Runtime: 79 min

Content Advisory:

Subject matter contains sexually explicit content, depictions of death, biphobia, transphobia, and homophobia.

Transportation

Sponsor:

Modo

Locking eyes across the room, a chance encounter in a stairwell, legs brushing in the backseat. Will you see him again after tonight? Does it matter? These shorts focus on masculine connections, from brief hookups to uncomfortable encounters with other men's insecurities. Queer men embracing honesty, sexuality, confidence and vulnerability—all in the blink of an eye.

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Nattåget (The Night Train) | Jerry Carlsson | Sweden | 2020 | 15 min | Swedish, French, English

Hard | Christian Jacob Ramón | USA | 2021 | 12 min | English

Factory Talk | Lucie Rachel, Chrissie Hyde | UK | 2020 | 5 min | English

Trade Center | Adam Baran | USA | 2021 | 9 min | English

SummerWinterSummer | Thy Tran | USA | 2021 | 15 min | English

Hey Man | Kai Tillman | USA | 2022 | 23 min | English



Make It Out Alive

SATURDAY | AUG 13 | 1030AM | VIFF

AUG 11-21 VOD

SORRY MOM



Yikes! These shorts put your teenage years on film, riddled with hilariously terrifying brain and hormonal development. Be angsty, be rebellious, make a playlist, make friends, lose friends, fall in love, skip class, find yourself, horrify your parents, discover your style, dye your hair, dance in the face of societal pressure, meet chosen family, cry it out, bask in juvenescence, and live out loud. Let's make wonderfully horrible decisions!

Total Runtime:

103 min

Community Partner:

ARC Foundation

66

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Luv, Me | Nicolas Jara | USA | 2021 | 10 min | English

Dandelion Green | Kathleen Burgess | Canada | 2022 | 25 min | English

Breathe | Harm van der Sanden | Netherlands | 2022 | 6 min | no dialogue

Toe the Line | Carolyn Wu | Canada | 2021 | 23 min | English, Cantonese with English subtitles

Sorry Mom | Sarah Lajoie-Asselin | Canada | 2022 | 17 min | French with English subtitles

Sub Rosa | Solomon Watkins | UK | 2021 | 22 min | English



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FESTIVAL
2022**

10TH ANNIVERSARY



FEATU

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URES

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@queerfilmfest





Death and Bowling

SUNDAY | AUG 14 | 1130AM | VIFF

AUG 11-21 VOD

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X, an actor struggling with being pigeonholed into tragic transgender roles, has his world shaken after the death of the captain of his bowling league. ***Death and Bowling*** examines a community coping with loss and carries a biting critique of the type of identity-based suffering that trans characters have historically been expected to experience in film. Featuring a cast and crew composed primarily of trans people—including trans actors playing both trans and cis roles—***Death and Bowling*** is a rare example of gay transmasculine intimacy and desire filtered through a lens of dreamlike, melancholic camp.

Like the feature it's paired with, the preceding short ***How Not to Date While Trans*** features a trans protagonist defying expectations, this time through sharing calculated tactics for dating cis men as a black trans woman.

Content advisory:

Subject matter contains depictions of suicidal ideation, homophobia, transphobia, and discussion of transphobic violence.

Death and Bowling | Lyle Kash | USA | 2020 | 64 min | English

How Not To Date While Trans | Nyala Moon | USA | 2022 | 13 min | English



Moon, 66 Questions

AUG 11-21 VOD



Community Partner:
Cinephile

After years away from her home and family, Artemis returns to Athens to care for her father Paris after he experiences a sudden and dramatic decline in health. The single daughter of a divorced couple and a fractured, dysfunctional family, Artemis has the responsibility of around-the-clock care for her father thrust upon her young shoulders. As she cares for her almost non-verbal parent, memories and patterns re-emerge in both of them, revealing a gap in communication and understanding that existed in Artemis' and Paris' relationship long before his illness. In the act of excavating her own past, Artemis finds clues to a secret of her father's that has been haunting their relationship and is surprised to discover that their journeys to healing are bound to one another.

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Moon, 66 Questions | Jacqueline Lentzou | Greece, France | 2020 | 108 min |
Greek with English subtitles



Sirens

TUESDAY | AUG 16 | 830PM | CIN

AUG 11-21 VOD



72

@queerfilmfest

This rousing documentary from Rita Baghdadi will have you screaming for more Slave to Sirens, the first and only all-women thrash metal band in the Middle East.

The film follows band co-founders, Lilas Mayassi and Shery Bechara. Their complex, competitive friendship is the heart of this story about love, rebellion, and self determination. Set against the cultural backdrop of protest as Lebanese people take to the streets during the October Revolution, we watch Lilas, Shery, and their contemporaries as they are bolstered by the sweeping energy of protests throughout the country. Growing up in the shadow of their parents' civil war, the Sirens have big dreams, and their music speaks to the rage and hope of their generation, juxtaposing the raw joy of their performances against the shattering instability of life in the SWANA region. Creation, friendship, and collaboration grounds the Sirens in their shared sense of purpose and uncrushable optimism in the face of immense and systemic challenges.

Screening Sponsor:
24 Frames

Community Partner:
CJSF 90.1FM Radio

Sirens | Rita Baghdadi | Lebanon | 2022 | 78 min | English, Arabic with English subtitles



Country Love

AUG 11-21 VOD

Set in current day Nigeria, a country steeped in the illegality of homosexuality, **Country Love** tells a coming-of-age love story following a queer man's emotionally charged return to his hometown after fifteen years away. The film captures the inevitable and stifling truth for many whose identities lie at the intersections of queer and African. A difficult decision between cultural memory and love, creating a home for themselves or experiencing abandonment, rejection, and harassment. **Country Love** centers African queer liberation with deliberate and masterful storytelling, weaponizing vulnerability and visibility in refusal of democratized erasure.

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Country Love | Wapah Ezeigwe | Nigeria | 2022 | 45 min | English



All Man:

The International Male Story

AUG 11-21 VOD

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This charming documentary charts the success of an unlikely group of fashion outsiders who launched a magazine that would change the way men looked at themselves and each other.

Founded by Gene Burkard in the 1970s, *International Male* was flamboyant, cheeky, and daring. Utterly opposite to the restrictive post-war trends in American male fashion, the magazine put men in pretty, feminine fabrics and embraced a sense of fun and creativity. The covers and spreads evoked the aesthetic of romance novels, with models posing in beautiful locations, sensually beckoning the reader into fantasy. During a time when it was unsafe to be out, the catalogue provided a safe space for gay men in their pages, allowing for a reflection of self and cultivation of desire.

Narrated by Matt Bomer and featuring an all-star cast of celebrity stylists, fashion influencers, and comedic actors, this film celebrates three decades of the *International Male* catalog's lasting impact on fashion, masculinity, and gay rights.

Screening Sponsor:

James Goodman

Community Partner:

Health Initiative for Men (HIM)

All Man: The International Male Story | Bryan Darling, Jesse Finley Reed | USA | 2022 | 84 min | English



BLACK AS U R

AUG 11-21 VOD

Community Partner:
DOXA Documentary
Film Festival

BLACK AS U R is a powerful glimpse into the complexity and beauty of being Black and queer in the Black Lives Matter era. At the height of the pandemic, Black communities and allies took to the streets to demand an end to state-sanctioned violence against Black and Brown bodies. Days after the murder of George Floyd, a young trans woman, Iyanna Dior was brutally attacked in St. Paul, Minnesota. Filmmaker Micheal Rice explores the deadly impact of misogynoir and transphobia, shadowing the growing number of deaths of Black trans women and its implications in a system that persists injustice and violence against Black women. **BLACK AS U R** illuminates the role of queer people in both historical and modern Black liberation movements, and the histories of homophobia within Black communities.

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BLACK AS U R | Micheal Rice | USA | 2022 | 75 min | English



JEANNETTE

AUG 11-21 VOD

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In 2016, Orlando's Pulse nightclub was the site of a horrific hate crime that left the queer community in Florida devastated. This documentary tells the story of one of the survivors: Jeannette Feliciano, a queer single mother and competitive body builder whose journey towards healing creates a path forward for others.

This film is a very realistic portrait of survival. For Jeannette—for all of us—life keeps coming relentlessly and trauma multiplies, barely leaving space to process from one incident to the next. But the hope this film provides is in seeing Jeannette find a way to empower herself in the face of challenges she has no direct control over. She runs a boot camp for Pulse survivors and queer community, helping others exorcise trauma from their bodies, building strength, stamina, confidence, and connection. Jeannette's care and attention to her body, her family, and her community grounds her in her own agency in a way that is truly inspiring.

Screening Sponsor:
24 Frames

Community Partner:
Vancouver Latin
American Film Festival

JEANNETTE | Maris Curran | Puerto Rico, USA | 2022 | 78 min | English



A Sexplanation

AUG 11-21 VOD

Screening Sponsor:
bed

Like many of us, Alex Liu came of age with a decidedly incomplete sex education. Christian moralism and patriarchal heteronormative values have laid the foundation for abstinence-only based sexual health education to proliferate throughout North American schools, encouraging a culture of silence and shame. After years of repression, Alex makes it his mission as an adult and a health reporter to seek out the sex ed he wished he'd received as a young person.

This cheeky documentary is full of fun and double entendres but is also a wealth of knowledge about sexual health and sexuality. From neuroscience labs to church pews, the film features provocative conversations with psychologists, sex researchers, educators, and spiritual leaders.

Alex is an earnest and endearing narrator, whose openness and vulnerability in the face of awkward questions and uncomfortable realizations creates opportunities for the audience to examine our own preconceived notions about sex.

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A Sexplanation | Alex Liu | USA | 2021 | 76 min | English



Mi Vacío y Yo

(My Emptiness and I)

AUG 11-21 VOD



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Young and ready to take on her new life, Raphi dreams of falling in love and starting a traditional family. After moving from France to Barcelona and being diagnosed with gender dysphoria, Raphi attempts to maintain relationships with others in an anxiety-inducing process. The narrative follows Raphi's journey to self-define and self-love as a trans woman on the dating scene. In search of love and connection, she learns to trust herself and her newfound identity. This film is a thought-provoking and intimate look at self discovery and acceptance.

Community Partner:

Women in Film & TV
Vancouver

Mi Vacío y Yo (My Emptiness and I) | Adrián Silvestre | Spain | 2022 | 98 min |
Spanish with English subtitles



Mom and M

AUG 11-21 VOD

Community Partner:
PFLAG Vancouver

Nikki and Elise have known and loved each other since they were teens being raised in a strict Christian, conservative environment. After getting married, they decide to adopt a child, Sansa. Parenting roles and responsibilities allow Nikki to finally come out as trans; "I was trying so hard to be a dad, and I was miserable," she tells us. We follow Nikki and Elise as they explore and expand their gender roles beyond the family structures they grew up in.

There are many road bumps in the lives of this sweet and optimistic family. Nikki's transition is a direct challenge to the values of their families of origin, Elise fills the role of primary financial caregiver, and Sansa battles a leukemia diagnosis. Director Jena Burchick lovingly and collaboratively facilitates conversations about gender, parenting, work/life balance, and navigating the healthcare and education systems.

Mom and M is a tender and touching portrait of queer family, and is sure to warm your heart.

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Mom and M | Jena Burchick | USA | 2020 | 61 min | English



Neptune Frost

SATURDAY | AUG 13 | 130PM | VIFF

IN-PERSON ONLY

SB



80

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A extraordinarily original, wildly queer vision of cross-dimensional Burundian lovers seeking to overthrow their oppressors via the intersection of community and technology. Carrying a bold revolutionary spirit, **Neptune Frost** is a vivid waking dream, an anti-capitalist romance, an algorithmic musical, and a call to action.

Neptune, an intersex hacker, and Matalusa, an escaped miner, seek liberation from the systems that have turned their communities into a commodity for tech companies. Guided by cryptic visions, Neptune discovers a network of revolutionaries determined to uproot the coltan mining industry. Director Saul Williams' interdisciplinary background shines through and injects elements of musicals, DIY art practice, afro-punk, and science fiction to create a dreamlike celebration of radical Black queer presents and futures.

Content advisory:

Subject matter contains sexual assault.

Screening Sponsor:

24 Frames

Neptune Frost | Anisia Uzeyman, Saul Williams | Rwanda, USA | 2021 | 105 min | Kinyarwanda, Kirundi, Swahili, French, English with English subtitles



Germino Pétalas no Asfalto (Blooming on the Asphalt)

AUG 11-21 VOD



Total Runtime:

106 min

Screening Sponsor:

Iatse Local 891

Community Partner:

Amnesty International

Blooming on the Asphalt and preceding shorts ***Nidhal*** and ***Prayers for Sweet Waters*** lift the curtain on state and societal queer violence. These films from Tunisia, South Africa, and Brazil explore the vivid realities of the illegalization of queer bodies and the devastating impact of discriminatory legislation. Where refuge and asylum is a fact of life for many LGBTQIA people worldwide, queer and trans communities living and loving through intolerant regimes embody the kinds of compassion, solidarity, and resistance that flourish amid adversity. These vibrant stories intimately capture journeys of hope and resilience.

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Germino Pétalas no Asfalto (Blooming on the Asphalt) | Coraci Bartman Ruiz and Julio Matos | Brazil | 2022 | 79 min | Portuguese with English subtitles

Nidhal نضال | Bassem Ben Brahim | Tunisia and Netherlands | 2022 | 11 min | Arabic with English subtitles

Prayers for Sweet Waters | Elijah Ndoumbe | South Africa | 2021 | 16 min | English



All Boys Aren't Blue

FRIDAY | AUG 19 | 930PM | YT

IN-PERSON SCREENING ONLY!

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@queerfilmfest

George M. Johnson's critically acclaimed memoir of the same title is given new life through a poetic performance reading. Reflecting Johnson's experiences as Black masc and non-binary, the film uniquely chronicles Johnson's life, exploring themes of Black queerness, queer identity assumptions, cultural normativity, and HIV/ AIDS in the Black community.

This screening features
an **interdisciplinary**
program with live
performance.

Community Partner:
Healing In Colour

All Boys Aren't Blue | Nathan Hale Williams | USA | 2021 | 40 min | English



Besties (Les Meilleures)

SATURDAY | AUG 20 | 830PM | YT

IN-PERSON SCREENING ONLY!

CANADIAN PREMIERE



In its Canadian Premiere, Marion Desseigne Ravel's **Besties** is the quintessential millennial queer love story. The remarkably unique tale of two young women from opposing groups in suburban Paris, facing violence and the pressures of adolescence, follows their journey of self acceptance, vulnerability, and freedom. A display of unhinged curiosity and thirst for inner truths based on Desseigne Ravel's own experience as a North African queer youth, **Besties** is a beautifully shot drama narrative that centers a strong cast of complex women shedding coming-of-age traumas and embracing the beauty of introspection, womanhood, queer identities, and queer relationships.

@queerfilmfest

Besties | Marion Desseigne Ravel | France | 2021 | 80 min | French with English subtitles



CLOSING FEATURE

Dramarama

SUNDAY | AUG 21 | 7PM | VPH

IN-PERSON SCREENING ONLY!



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Graduating class of 1994. Escondido, California. Theatre kids.

Jonathan Wysocki's debut feature film is a coming-of-age story for every theatre nerd out there. As this group of religious friends prepare to part ways, they have one final night together, a murder mystery slumber party! We follow Gene as he anxiously navigates telling his friends that he is gay and agnostic. As the night rages on, cracks in relationships are revealed and tensions deepen between these youthful and theatrical friends.

Wysocki has perfectly captured the bittersweet essence of youth on the cusp of uncertain young adulthood.

Dramarama is a fun filled festival curtain close that oozes bold 'tude and reminds us to always walk to the beat of our own drums. A blast from the past, this instant classic will make you want to drive to your childhood best friend's house and pull out the VHS and popcorn.

Dramarama | Jonathan Wysocki | USA | 2020 | 90 min | English

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SPOT LIGHTS



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TWO SPIRIT SPOTLIGHT

WECKUWAPASIHTIT

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@queerfilmfest

All that I know, I was given

The Two Spirit-directed films in this spotlight highlight the beauty and complexities of storytelling from the binary-defying perspectives of preserving and carrying ancestral teachings, histories, and cultural memory. Acknowledging intergenerational methods of sharing central to Indigenous ways of knowing, these stories share the impactful work of bridge-builders, healers, and leaders forging ties between elders and youth, and planting the seeds for generations to come.

Will Flowers? (p.53)

Weckuwapasihtit (Those Yet to Come) (p.53)



FRESH MEAT

SPOTLIGHT

Queer Outta Canada

89

Spotlight Partner:
Canada Media Fund

Canadian queer cinema is ever-growing and sharing an in depth reflection of diverse, honest and relatable filmmaking. Through and through, these artists have showcased that they can tell an emotionally resonating story in whichever genre they choose. Each of these picks is a hard hitting and wonderful film that you won't be able to tear your eyes away from. Queer Canadian films are stronger than ever, and with these filmmakers as representatives for what's to come, there are sure to be a lot more wonderful stories waiting to come out.

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Fresh Meat (p.63)

Dandelion Green (p.66)

Métis Femme Bodies (p.54)



SPOTLIGHT

HOW TO RAISE A BLACK BOY

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Divergent

Queerness lends itself to experimentation by nature. The films in this spotlight embrace the infinitely diverse nature of experimental filmmaking through their fluid, malleable, undefinable states. Queer lives are their own experimental process, and this leads us to be drawn to non-linear modes of expression, and the experiential, the non-narrative, and alternative ways of interpreting the world. Experimental film is an opportunity to share the deeply personal and true, and bypass pre-tread narrative conventions entirely. We are constantly inventing new ways of being and doing. This is a space of bold ideas and resistance.

HOW TO RAISE A BLACK BOY (p.52)

동충하초 (Winter Insect, Summer Flower) (p.64)

Poppets (p.60)

my body is a place, just like any other (p.61)



LITTLE SKY

SPOTLIGHT

Make it Ours

91

The films in this spotlight highlight the strength and power of finding our communities. There is a place for us. Watch as we explore spaces and moments of safety, love, and compassion, whether we are inviting new people into our lives, creating spaces for joy, gathering and reflection, chosen family and community is central to queer connection and futurity! This collection of short films perfectly showcase the essence of togetherness, and after everything that has happened in the past year, these artists have brought comforting stories that instill and maintain hope for us to find our community as we look forward.

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Little Sky (p.61)

Class Transitions (p.60)

EGÚNGÚN (MASQUERADE) (p.62)

Death & Bowling (p.70)



SPOTLIGHT

PRAYERS FOR SWEET WATERS

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@queerfilmfest

Queering Place

In solidarity with global queer liberation, this spotlight examines contested spaces for queer people. In regions where governments repress the rights of queer communities, strengthening the relationship between sexual politics and the state, people with non-conforming genders and sexual orientations have historically been punished for transgressing social norms. The disparities faced by Black and Brown people during the global pandemic in both North American and non-western LGBTQIA communities are cause for dire concern. The Queering Place spotlight centers audacious filmmaking that dares to make visible the compounded effect of homophobia, colonialism and displacement.

TAKING IDEAS FROM SPARK TO FINISH.



CANADA
MEDIA FUND

FONDS DES MÉDIAS
DU CANADA



cmf-fmc.ca

CELEBRA



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@queerfilmfest

WORK

ACTIONS



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— @queerfilmfest

SHOPS



CELEBRATION

THE EMPRESS OF VANCOUVER

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Opening Night Party



THURSDAY | AUG 11 | 9PM | Ƨxwʌexən Xwtl'a7shn Plaza

@queerfilmfest

After the screening and local premiere of ***The Empress of Vancouver*** (p.46), join us for our Opening Night Party at the Ƨxwʌexən Xwtl'a7shn Plaza (Hamilton St. and W. Georgia St.).

In theme with the DIY glam aesthetics of our opening film, guests are encouraged to come dressed in whatever finery makes you feel the most beautiful, the most strong, the most outrageously queer. With performances from artists featured in ***The Empress***, music, food, and good company, this evening will be a celebration and reunion of community.

Please Note: Culturally appropriative apparel is inappropriate for our shared spaces, and you may be asked to leave for the safety of other guests. If you have questions about this, please connect with us beforehand at info@outonscreen.com.

**Free admission with
\$5 VQFF membership.
19+ only.**

Registration
required on
queerfilmfestival.ca

ASL interpretation
provided.



WORKSHOP

Queer Collective: VQFF Programmers Talk



SATURDAY | AUG 13 | 11AM | VIFF

**Free admission with
\$5 VQFF membership.**

Registration
required on
queerfilmfestival.ca

ASL interpretation
provided.

A workshop on building effortful and participatory relationships within queer film landscapes. Leaning on experiential and cultural knowledge to ground our understanding of community, VQFF programmers discuss the values that shape our ethics as art practitioners, and the possibilities of participation and interconnectivity to contribute to a more inclusive art community through vulnerability, accountability, and transparency.

Featuring Outgoing Artistic Director Anoushka Ratnarajah, Interim Artistic Director Nya Lewis, and Festival Programmers jas calcitas and Al MacKay.

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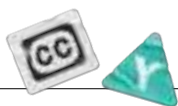
@queerfilmfest



WORKSHOP

A NORMAL GIRL (2019) DIR. AUBREE BERNIER-CLARKE

We're Here, We're Queer, Let's Activate!



SATURDAY | AUG 20 | 1PM | ZOOM

Youth (ages 13-24) are invited to activate our inner advocates! Whether you're a long-time activist or thinking about your role in advocacy for the first time, this workshop will be a chance to explore. Drawing inspiration from intersex activist Pidgeon Pagonis and local 2SLGBTQIA+ community champions age 50 & up, we will explore what activism has looked like in the past and where we still need to go.

We will watch a few short films, and youth will have the chance to share their ideas for change. We will talk about how we can get to a world that truly celebrates all aspects of 2SLGBTQIA+ communities. Come join us as we revisit what Outgoing Artistic Director, Anoushka Ratnarajah, refers to as "tools and powers that are accessible to us in the fight for our personal and collective freedom". Join us to learn, connect, and continue the fight for queer rights this Festival season.

Join us to learn, connect, and continue the fight for queer rights this Festival season. Register online or email info@outinschools.com for more information.

Closed captioning via live transcription provided.

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QUEER FILM & VIDEO FESTIVAL



CELEBRATION

The Coast is Queer 25th Anniversary Celebration



THURSDAY | AUG 18 | 630PM | HT

Free admission with
\$5 VQFF membership.
19+ only.

Limited Capacity!
Registration
required on
queerfilmfestival.ca

ASL interpretation
provided.

Media Sponsor:
CBC

In 1997, we invited you to “Check out what the locals have been shooting here at home...in a potpourri of sex, drag, raunch, dance, politics and piss.” What started in the 90s as the **Made In Vancouver** shorts program has become the home-town favourite **The Coast is Queer** (p.55). While a lot has changed in 25 years, the amazing, boundary-pushing work of local queer artists hasn’t. We are so fortunate to be surrounded by such brilliant 2SLGBTQIA+ talent. Join us for a night of reminiscing, re-connecting, and partying to the best of the 90s—don’t worry, there isn’t a splash zone.

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HOW WOULD YOUR STORY
CHANGE THE WORLD?



WORKSHOP

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Out In Schools: Beyond SOGI



SATURDAY | AUG 20 | 1PM | SFU

Over the past school year, Out In Schools delivered over 110 presentations! This is your chance to see one of these presentations as we shift back to in-person programming. This year, we are pleased to present our our ***Beyond Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI)*** presentation as part of the Vancouver Queer Film Festival. This 90-minute presentation offers youth an opportunity to unpack past and present influences on queer and trans media representation.

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AWARD

GERRY BRUNET

MEMORIAL AWARD

Value: \$2500

This is our Festival's annual juried prize for the best BC short film to support local 2SLGBTQIA+ filmmakers in their artistic practice. Established in 1997, The Gerry Brunet Memorial Award is named for a lifelong patron of the arts, and early Board Member of Out On Screen. This award is generously supported by the Directors Guild of Canada-BC.

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JURORS



Helen Hok-Sze Leung is a Professor and Chair in the Department of Gender, Sexuality & Women Studies and co-director of the Institute for Transpacific Cultural Research at Simon Fraser University. She has published widely on Asian cinemas and queer cultural productions and is the author of two books. She also co-edits the HKUP Queer Asia book series and hosts the podcast Transpacific Stories. She is currently working on a SSHRC-funded research project on Transpacific Film Cities.



Mono Brown (they/them) is a college instructor, death doula, and long-time festie. In their spare time, they enjoy bouldering, cooking, reading, and napping.

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PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS



The People's Choice Awards for Best Feature and Best Short recognizes a feature-length film and a short film which captured the hearts and minds of VQFF audiences. Each audience member is given the opportunity to vote for a film, and can vote for numerous films during the Festival. The title of People's Choice for Best Feature or Short is awarded to the films with the highest proportion of votes, ensuring all films have the opportunity to be recognized for their achievements.

For details on how to vote for your favourite films in-person or online, please visit queerfilmfestival.ca → How to VQFF

LOCAL ARTISTS LOCAL ARTISTS

SASHA ARGIROV



Sasha Argirov is a Canadian filmmaker based in Vancouver. He is a recipient of the Sundance Ignite 2020 grant. His short film, **Personals**, had its world premiere at the In The Palace Festival in Bulgaria. His first feature film is currently in development.

Director of **Personals** in The Coast Is Queer (p.55)

ALLEN BAYLOSIS

Allen Baylosis (he/him) is an emerging dramaturg, and a critical, racial, and ethnic performance scholar. His research explores the intersections of minoritarian performances, migration, racial capitalism, and transpacific worldmaking. He is a graduate student at UBC's Gender, Race, Sexuality, and Social Justice program. He holds an MA in Performance Studies (NYU) and a BA in Speech Communication (UP Diliman).



Panelist from Pinoy Pride Society for **Metamorphosis** (p.51)



**Davey
Calderon**

Davey Samuel Calderon (he/they) is a theatre director, curator, writer, producer, drag artist, dramaturg, and settler on the unceded lands of the hən̓q̓əmi̓n̓əŋ and Skwx̌wú7mesh-speaking peoples. He co-founded the emerging theatre collective New(to)Town Collective. His works, including *Big Queer Filipino Karaoke Night!*, explore the intersectionality of Filipinx and queer identity.

**John
Paul (JP)
Catungal**



JP Catungal (he/him) is Assistant Professor in the Social Justice Institute and Academic Co-Lead of the Centre for Asian Canadian Research and Engagement at UBC. His research, and teaching concern community organizing and cultural production among migrant, racialized, and LGBTQ+ communities, and is informed by his own experiences as a queer, first generation Filipinx migrant.

PANELISTS FROM PINOY PRIDE SOCIETY
FOR METAMORPHOSIS (P.51)



May
Farrales

May Farrales (she/her) is an Assistant Professor in the departments of Geography and Gender, Sexuality, & Women's Studies at SFU. Her teaching and research are animated by questions of racialization, queer politics, and logics of power fundamental to colonial, empire-building, and capitalist projects. Her current research examines racial geographies of settler colonialism.

Panelist from Pinoy Pride Society for **Metamorphosis** (pg.51)



VINAY

GIRIDHAR

Vinay Giridhar is an animator, graphic designer, and illustrator. His animated short film *Loves Age* was an official selection at the HollyShorts Film Festival. Vinay's work spans art director and graphic design for South Asian Lifestyle Magazine and extensive film and video work. Vinay is originally from Kerala, India and currently lives in Surrey, BC.

Director of **Emergence: Out of the Shadows** (p.50)

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Florian
Halbedl

Born in Luzern, Switzerland, Florian Halbedl Hess immigrated to Canada in 2000 and shot his first short film for a Vertebrate Biology course at Western University. He has written and directed five short films, which have screened at over sixty film festivals internationally: *Whispers of Life* (2013), *Limina* (2016), *Henry's Heart* (2019), *Circle* (2021), and most recently *OUTLAW* (2022).

Circle in *The Coast Is Queer* (p.)

OLIV HOWE

In 1981, the Vancouver Dogwood Monarchist Society crowned Oliv the 10th Empress. Then, Oliv's punk rock energy, gender-fucking performances and DIY glam aesthetic spoke to a political and artistic shift in Vancouver's drag community. Ever since her monumental moment, Oliv has represented the weirdos and freaks, the trans kings and queens and gender queers, busting the binary open. She continues to be a beacon in Vancouver's West End, inspiring the next generation of queerdos.



Performer, Opening
Night Party (p.96)

HUMAN GIRL

Human Girl is a music producer, singer-songwriter, filmmaker, comedienne, and rising drag performer in Vancouver. Her drag persona was found through the writing and making of **Painted Gold**, her graduation film from Emily Carr. Human Girl is live on Spotify and all music platforms.

Director of **Painted Gold** in *The Coast Is Queer* (p.55)



KRISS LI



Kriss Li is a multimedia artist who creates fictional narratives, animations, documentaries, and installations that explore structures of power and the hidden sites of greater collective capacities. Kriss's practice is informed by community organizing, especially at Prisoner Correspondence Project, a volunteer-run solidarity initiative for LGBTQ prisoners.

Curator of **Abolition Film Society** (p.48)

Reem Morsi



Egyptian-Canadian writer/director/producer Reem Morsi was a professional scuba diver and UN human rights officer. She's worked on features *Bootleg*, *Hysteria*, and *The Last Mark*; award-winning shorts *Show & Tell* and *The Door & Their Feast*; and shows for CBC Gem and other broadcasters. Reem is an alumna of the CFC's Director's Lab, TIFF Talents, Women in the Director's Chair.

Director of **Muslim Mingle** in *The Coast Is Queer* (p.55)

Dylan Murray



Dylan Murray (he/him) is a Vancouver-based director and editor. Dylan graduated from Capilano University with a Bachelor of Motion Picture Arts degree. He is passionate about creating films that highlight LGBTQ2SIA+ narratives, and utilizes the psychological horror genre to explore themes of loss, isolation, and love. He hopes that everyone enjoys his short horror film **Submersion**.

Director of **Submersion** in *The Coast Is Queer* (p.55)

JONAS PASCUAL

It is art that connects him to his higher self. Jonas Pascual is a 22-year-old Filipino Vancouver-based filmmaker. As a new kid in the film industry he hopes to show the stories in his mind to the world. Just like being queer, his art cannot be expressed in one way — there are too many ideas, stories, and imagination to manifest.

Director of **Philia** in *The Coast Is Queer* (p.55)



**Pinoy Pride
Vancouver
Society**

Pinoy Pride Vancouver Society is committed to representing the Filipino LGBTQ+ community in a positive way. Our mission focuses on four areas: Education, Funding, Engagement, and Impact. We celebrate, co-create, and envision full acceptance for a thriving and proud Filipino-Canadian LGBTQ+ community.

METAMORPHOSIS (P.51)



**DAVE
RODDEN-SHORTT**

Dave Rodden-Shortt is a Vancouver-based queer filmmaker. Dave is the founder of Shortt and Epic Productions (2011) and Lantern Films (2015). His work and creativity has won awards, including the Gerry Brunet Award for Best BC Short Film for *Under the Rainbow*. His latest short film *Happytime Social Club*, commissioned by B.C.'s Knowledge Network, premiered at VIFF in 2019.

Director of **The Empress of Vancouver** (p.46)

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ALEX SANGHA



Alex Sangha is the founder of the Sher Vancouver LGBTQ Friends Society, a non-profit serving LGBTQ South Asians and friends. Alex produced the award-winning short documentary film *My Name Was January*. ***Emergence: Out of the Shadows*** is his debut feature film as a producer. Alex is the recipient of the Meritorious Service Medal from the Governor General of Canada.

Producer of **Emergence: Out of the Shadows** (p.50)

ALAYNA Y



Alayna is a digital artist and animator who specializes in making soup. That is, she throws (the figurative concept of) people, places, and things that make up the world around her into a simmering pot of creations. Much of Alayna's work takes place on traditional Katzie First Nation land.

Director of **Macaroni Soup** in The Coast is Queer (p.55)

VISITING ARTISTS VISITIN

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MAHLET CUFF

Mahlet Cuff is an emerging curator, writer and artist. She is based in Treaty 1 Territory (Winnipeg, Manitoba). Their curatorial practices focuses on satirical humour as resistance, the reimagining of Black queer diasporic futures, and archival practices. She has curated work for Window Winnipeg, Take Home BIPOC arts house, Winnipeg Underground Film Festival, Winnipeg Film Group, and VTape.



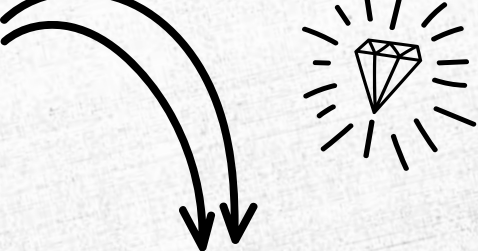
Guest Curator of **Obsidian: Black Queer Cinema: AS I AM** (p.50)



Stéphanie Lamorré

Stéphanie Lamorré is a French documentary filmmaker and international independent writer/producer/director/cameraperson. She creates films for ARTE TV and CINEMA (France). Shooting solo and often in areas of armed conflict, she covers subjects from modern-day slavery and illegal immigration to social justice issues.

DIRECTOR OF **BEING THUNDER** (P.47)



G ARTISTS VISITING ARTIS



**Kwame
Edwin Otu**

Kwame Edwin Otu is an Assistant Professor at the Carter G. Woodson Institute for African American and African Studies at the University of Virginia. He is also the Guerrant Assistant Professor of Public Health at UVA's Center for Global Health Equity. Otu's research includes issues of sexual citizenship, critical human rights studies, revolutionary black aesthetics, and Afrofuturist practice.

Panelist for *Obsidian: Black Queer Cinema: AS I AM* (p.52)



**JOSEPH
SACKETT**

Joseph Sackett is an award-winning filmmaker who has written, directed, and produced projects that have screened in competition at the Festival de Cannes, Slamdance, and Outfest among others. He received his MFA in Screenwriting and Directing from NYU Tisch Grad Film. He is currently in pre-production on his second feature film, "Cross Pollination".

Director of and panelist for **Homebody** (p.49)

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AYO TSALITHABA

Ayo Tsalithaba is a visual artist originally from Ghana and Lesotho. Their primary mediums include film, photography, and illustration. Their work explores questions of home, (in)visibility, liminality and (un) belonging as they relate to Black queer and trans African diasporic subjectivity.

Director of and panelist for **Atmospheric Arrivals** in *Obsidian: Black Queer Cinema: AS I AM* (p.52)



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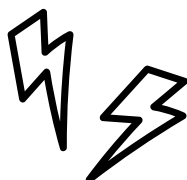
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