Vancouver Queer Film Festival

Presented by Out On Screen

Located on the unceded territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm, Sḵwx̱wú7mesh, and səl̓ilwətaɁɬ Nations.

Online & In Person

August 10-20

QueerFilmFestival.ca
35 YEARS OF CONNECTION
35 YEARS OF COMMUNITY
35 YEARS OF RESISTANCE
35 YEARS OF RESILIENCE
35 YEARS OF REALNESS
35 YEARS OF CAMP
35 YEARS OF JOY
35 YEARS OF OUT ON SCREEN

KEEP YOUR STORIES ON SCREEN FOR 35 MORE

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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), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səl̓ilwətaʔɬ (Tsleil-Waututh) peoples. 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.
WELCOME FROM TSLEIL-WAUTUTH

ʔo: si:ýé̓m nə siyé̓yə, 
Friends and Relatives,
ʔəm̓ i ce:p kʷətxʷiləm ʔə tə taməxʷ wə čəwet ʔə tə məsteyaxʷ taň̓ɬ xʷmaθkʷəy̓əm ʔiʔ sq̓x̌ʷaməxʔiʔ səl̕ilwətaʔɬ
Welcome to the shared territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.
As “People of the Inlet,” storytelling is a critical part of sharing our rich culture, history, language, and enduring connections to our land and waters across generations.
We have good feelings in our hearts to join this year’s Vancouver Queer Film Festival and uplift our Two-Spirit, Indigiqueer, and LGBTQIA+ relatives and friends through the diverse stories being presented on film.
Enjoy the festival!

hay čxʷ ʔa,

Chief Jen Thomas
səl̕ilwətaʔɬ (Tsleil-Waututh Nation)
CANADIAN FILMS HAVE IT ALL.

BIG HITS
BIG TALENTS

seeitall.telefilm.ca
On behalf of Premier David Eby and the Government of British Columbia, welcome to the 2023 Vancouver Queer Film Festival. Our government is committed to building a more inclusive and welcoming province by tackling discrimination, removing barriers and celebrating the contributions of 2SLGBTQIA+ people everywhere. The Province is proud to support the Vancouver Queer Film Festival through Creative BC, the BC Arts Council and the Fairs, Festivals, and Events Fund.

British Columbia’s motion picture industry is recognized internationally for excellence and the Vancouver Queer Film Festival is an important contributor to its success. Thank you to filmmakers for sharing your talent and message with us through the powerful medium of film. Lastly, thank you to the Festival’s audience for supporting this work and being a part of advancing the values of diversity and inclusion in British Columbia.

Enjoy the festival!

Honourable Lana Popham
Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport
Dear friends and supporters,

On behalf of Out On Screen, it is our distinct pleasure to welcome you to this year's edition of our cherished event. As Executive Director and Board Chair, we are delighted to present a captivating program that celebrates the power of unity and resilience.

With the theme "Stronger Together," we embrace the essence of solidarity within our vibrant 2SLGBTQIA+ communities. We recognize art, culture, and storytelling's vital role in fostering understanding, igniting conversation, and creating positive change. The Vancouver Queer Film Festival serves as a beacon of hope, reminding us that our collective voice is stronger than ever.

We are inspired by the remarkable talents of filmmakers, artists, and activists who continue to amplify marginalized voices and challenge societal norms. Their unwavering dedication has paved the way for a more inclusive and accepting world, and we will not go backward. Together, we will forge new paths, redefine boundaries, and celebrate our beauty.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our artists, staff, volunteers, partners, and audiences for their ongoing support. Through your collective effort, we can create an environment where every one of us feels seen, heard, and valued.

Welcome to the Vancouver Queer Film Festival, where we believe that together, we are unstoppable.

In solidarity,

Brandon Yan  
Executive Director

Chris Hallamore  
Board Chair
Welcome, VQFF family!

Leading the curation of the 2023 Vancouver Queer Film Festival has been a profound privilege. For the Festival’s 35th anniversary, the programming team set out to build a lineup of bold, uplifting, and expansive portrayals of our community. We’re thrilled to invite you to enjoy 87 exceptional films and five brilliant pilot episodes from 28 countries—each a testament to the fierce authenticity and extraordinary visions of 2SLGBTQIA+ creators.

We kick off the Festival with our Opening Presentation: Stronger Together, a remarkable collection of shorts celebrating our community’s rich and multifaceted experiences. Our Centrepiece Presentation is the Canadian Premiere of the award-winning documentary 1946: The Mistranslation That Shifted Culture, an astonishing film that unveils new revelations and casts significant doubt on any biblical basis for queer and trans prejudice. We close on Saturday, August 19 with our Closing Presentation: Runs In The Family in support and celebration of our beloved trans community and drag performers. Finally, on Sunday, August 20, we’ll showcase encore screenings of the most loved stories at the Festival.

I invite you to explore this programme, find yourself in its pages, and seek out the unknown and unexpected. I hope you come out to meet VQFF’s visiting artists, discover local queer talent, connect with the community, fall in love with new films, and party like an animal.

I truly look forward to meeting you all!

Charlie Hidalgo
Artistic Director
ABOUT US

THE VANCOUVER OUT ON SCREEN FILM & VIDEO SOCIETY

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 over three decades, we have curated the latest in film, education, and shared stories from 2SLGBTQIA+ communities. Our vision is of an equitable society where 2SLGBTQIA+ people are respected, valued, and protected across all our intersections of identity. Our work through the Vancouver Queer Film Festival and the Out In Schools program seeks to achieve this vision by illuminating, celebrating, and transforming queer lives through film, education, art, and dialogue.

STAFF

Arlo Havixbeck  
Marketing Coordinator

Avery Shannon  
Out In Schools  
Program Coordinator

Brandon Yan  
Executive Director

Charlie Hidalgo  
Artistic Director

Coco Zhou  
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Piper Fawkes  
Operations Manager

River Huckleberry Kero  
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Selina Tsehaye  
Festival Coordinator

Travis Clifford  
VQFF Program Coordinator
PROGRAMMERS

Eva Grant
Festival Programmer
(2023 Disruptor Fellow)

Jasmine “Audder” Monton
Festival Programmer
(2023 Disruptor Fellow)

Sarah-Tai Black
Festival Programmer

Simone Ling
Guest Programmer

Rico Johnson-Sinclair
Guest Programmer

Romi Kim
Festival Programmer
(2023 Disruptor Fellow)

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Alex Schmider
Alger Liang
Allegra Madsen
Angie Power
Anne Hu
Bucky Yaqub
Clint Bowie
Heather Mooney
Jamie Rokovetsky
Janani Ravikularam
Jessica Han
Joseph Bardsley
Kareen Wong
Karen McMullen
Lucy Mukerjee
Marielle Mortimer
Megan Gilron
Michael Blyth
Missy Clarkson
Nic Wayara
Nya Lewis
Rico Johnson-Sinclair
Sarah-Tai Black
Simone Ling
Tamara Dawit
Zuri Obi

BOARD

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Allie Hamilton
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CoEffect Creative

PUBLICIST

Route 504 PR

@QUEERFILMFEST
Out On Screen is proud to celebrate 35 years of life-changing queer art, education, and culture. Thank you to our Directors Guild for your dedicated support. We couldn’t do any of this without you. The members of our Directors Guild make a multi-year commitment to uplifting queer, trans, and Two Spirit art and storytelling.

Join our Directors Guild to support 2SLGBTQIA+ stories on the big screen for another 35 years. Contact Executive Director Brandon Yan at brandon@outonscreen.com to learn more.

Finn Austin
Jarrett Bachman & Ben Sledge
Gary Baker & Amin Ghaziani
Javier Barajas & Kasey Reese
Robert Capar
Erik Carlson
David Chare & Tony Edgecombe
Peter Cheng & Vincent Wheeler
David Clarke & Fraser Norrie
Pamela Cohen & Pat Hall
Dr. Trevor Cornell & Dr. Leyton Schnellert
Linda Corrigan & Nancy Duff
Su Craik & Lisa Heddemael
Monica Dare
Drew Dennis
James Goodman & Garry Wolfater
Ken Gracie & Philip Waddell
Elisabeth Hall
Christopher Hallamore
Terri Holizki & June Thompson
IONICA
Anita Jain & Michelle Soucker
Joy Johnson & Pam Ratner

Melinda Johnston & Kayla Kinnunen
Kathy Kadler
Gerry Kasten
Graeme Keirstead
Myer Leach & Gio Bisanti
Helen Leung
Lisa Loutzenheiser & Lori MacIntosh
Cheryl Macdonald
Darrell Mahoney
Douglas Matear & Thomas Ciz
Dr. Jim Matteoni & PackPuppy
Elise McKenna & Christine Guay
Carl Meadows & Les Dick
Stephan Mehr & Graeme Scott
Sinead O’Leary & Jessica Rosenblatt
James Ong & Kevin Sarrazin
Louise Pohl
Steven Porter
Sam Snobelen & Nick Bourne
Mr. & Mr. Jeff Sodowsky
Larry Stonesifer & Ronald Angress
Geordie Stowell & Petra Vander Ley
Ki Wight & Dr. Jeda Boughton
Jessie Wright
Out On Screen’s fabulous donors make it possible for us to do what we do. Whether you have been with us since the beginning or are brand new, your contribution is why we’re able to celebrate our 35th anniversary. From all of us at Out On Screen, thank you for your commitment to keeping 2SLGBTQIA+ stories on screen!

20+ YEARS

Steven Best
Robert Capar
David Chare & Tony Edgecombe
Dr. Trevor Cornell & Dr. Leyton Schnelliert
Drew Dennis
Thomas Kevin Dolan
James Goodman & Garry Wolfater
Sara Graefe & Amanda Oliver
Richard Harrison & Paul Mathieu
Bill Houghton
Gerry Kasten
Dalton Kremer
Jennifer McGinn
Don Meen
Michel Morin
Wendy Oberlander
James Ong & Kevin Sarrazin
Louise Pohl
Michael Smith
Peter Cheng & Vincent Wheeler
Rebecca Whyman
Amanda Walker & Denise Woodley

15+ YEARS

Tania Alekson
Douglas Bacon
Angela Bailey
Jill Beamish & Emet Davis
Kevin Bespfug & Ryan Kett
Jag Bilkhu
Jeffrey Boone & David Wong
Neil Boucher
Jane Bouey
Véronique Boulanger & Carmen Wiseman
Cynthia Brooke
Don Buchanan
Connie Buna & Taryn Hayes
Thomas Canty
Jacks Cheng
El Chenier
James Conklin
Nicole Edgson
Tracey Fudge
Jennifer Gough
Michael Hoche
Danny Stevens & David Howlett
Fatima Jaffer
Faune Johnson
Ross Johnstone
Azim Karim
Sarah Kennedy
Vanessa Kwan
Thai Lam
Claire Landry
Myer Leach & Gio Bisanti
Helen Leung
Peter Litherland
Anne-Marie Long
Grant McCullough
Lisa Faingold McCune
Carl Meadows & Les Dick
Stephan Mehr & Graeme Scott

10+ YEARS

Timothy Agg
Valerie Alberts
Rev. Michel Amyotte
Brad Anderson
Glen Arthur
Caitlin Atkinson
Finn Austin
Cameron Barker-Fyfe
Michael Barker-Fyfe
Zed Bastedo & Janie Cawley
Trent Berry
Richard Biederman

David Morrison
Eduardo Ottoni & Callista Haggis
Jody Polukoshko
Will Pratt
Sylvia Praught & Wendy Warn
Tim Rahilly
Kasey Reese & Javier Barajas
Sinead O’Leary & Jessica Rosenblatt
Michael Ross
Lynn Ruscheinsky
Tim Rushton & Ken Wong
Kevin Simpson
Brigitte Slaughter
Blair Smith
Geordie Stowell & Petra VanderLey
Yvette Tang
Peggy Thompson
Göran Wallin

@QUEERFILMFEST
Robbert Visscher & André Boel
Jay Boucher
Brian Broster & Ross Waring
Mono Brown
Bob Christie
Chad Clark and Matt Corker
David Clarke & Fraser Norrie
John Cobb
Michael Conndis & Roy Parish
Ken Coolen
Emma Curtis
Monica Dare
Marjike de Zwager
Nicolas Demers
Michael Dobbin
Linda Corrigan & Nancy Huff
Terri-Anne Eeles & Maria Marshall
Barbara Findlay
Katherine Greene
Elisabeth Hall
Christopher Hallamore
Glen Hansman
Cameron Herdman & Bryan Weir
Terri Holizki & June Thompson
Mike Holmwood
Kalev Hunt
Rodney Hynes
David Inglis
Suzanne James
Fred James
Melinda Johnston & Kayla Kinnunen
Kathy Kadler
Trish Kelly
Alan Krause
Lisa Lajeunesse
Rina Larsson
Gilbert Laurin
Ryan Lee
Peggy Lee
Lisa Loutzenheiser & Lori MacIntosh
Andrew Lowe
Michael Lu
Sequoia Lundy
Anthony Ma
Cheryl Macdonald
Sylvia Machat
Kathryn Forbes & Melissa Mailhot
Dr. Jim Matteoni & PackPuppy
Nicole Maunsell
Sherri Maunsell
Paul McGeachie
Colin McKenna
Trent McLaughlin
Murray McMillan
Judy Miles
Sherree Mitchell
Kathryn Montgomery
Alex Muir
Steve Mulligan & Keith Jones
Diane Murphy
David Myers
Masahiko Nakata
Anita Ng
Amy Nugent
Anne Olsen
Yogi Omar
Preston Parsons
Graham Marshall & Michael Pasztor
Mark Patterson
Jen Pearson
Santi Pelaez
James Allan Quinn
Andrea Reimer
Dirk Ricker
Ikona Rodney
Jamie Rokovetsky
Todd Sakakibara
Emily Simpson & Robyn Williams
Casey Smith
Mr. & Mr. Jeff Sadowsky
Jeanne St. Pierre
Paul Stacey
David Jordan & Bethan Stewart
Teresa Sudeyko
Debra Sutherland
Gerald Tincher
Mark Trowell
Jan Waines
Margaret Watts
Patricia Wejr
Kl Wight & Dr. Jeda Boughton
Christine Zaritzky

5+ YEARS

Otto & Marie Pick Charitable Foundation
Jake Adrian
Belle Ancell
Kirsten Anderson
Casey Archibald
Eric Atkinson
Jarrett Bachman & Ben Sledge
Darle Beatty
Claire Benson-Mandl
Eugenia Bogutskaya
Christine Boyle
Alice Brown
Duane Brown
John & Anna Brunemeyer
Taylor Buck
Erik Carlson
Missy Clarkson
Heather Clarkson Vause
Marian Collins
Suzanne Crawford
Jen Currin
Paula Davies
Chad de Regt
Greg Deans
Rachel Dick
Alein Dominguez
Isaac Eamer
Chris Fankhauser
Penny Farley & Carole Inkson
Rick Fearon
Danni Fitzpatrick
Brooklyn Fowler
Stephanie Frigon
Alain Gagnon
Christopher Girodat
River Glen

#VQFF2023
Sam Gregory
David Griffiths
Emily Groundwater
Alex Grove
Kirsten Hagemoen
Mark Hanson
Rohan Hare
Jorgen Harink
Brandi Harrington
Ken Haycock
Leighton Fong Hoon & Russell Keller
Jane Hope
Laura Jamieson
Alan Frank Jay
Sara Jellicoe
Siti Farhana & Jutta Kolhi
Mandy Jane Kearns
Graeme Keirstead
Stephanie Kellington
Stacey & Jennifer
John Kinsley
Collin Koo
Brian Krenzer
Allan Lau
Stephanie Lemmon
Deborah LeRose
Shannon Levesque
Andy Levine
Richard Lewis
Desiree Lim
Yuin Lin
Jonathan Loranger
Thackery Mackie
Elizabeth Malena
Jacqueline Marchioni
Krista Martin
Melanie Matining
Amy Maunsell
Nico McKay
Jarret McKee
Monica Meneghetti
David Metzer
Shea Miles
Stanley Moore
Kathleen Mullen
Yvan Nadeau
Shan Naziripour
Dorinda Neave
Jody Neid
Lisa Neilsen
Kristi Nelson
David Ng
Dean Parnham
Aaron Petruic
Han Pham
Cameron Power
Adrienne Quane
Arthur Redillas
Michelle Renee
Mark Robinson
Percy Rosenberger
George Schwab
Peter Scoates
Melanie & Eric Semlacher
Karen Smith
Sam Snobelen & Nick Bourne
Pierre Soucy
Rick Stenhouse
Zoran Stjepanovic
Randall Sutton
Aleesa Sutton
Laurel Swenson
Vincent Tom
Breanna Wallace
Anna White
Flora Ware
Thea & Nyal Wilcox
Sandra Wilkinson
Carol Wood
Jeff Wright
Jessie Wright
Bruce Munro Wright
Eugene Wu
Brandon Yan
Marshall Axani
Adrienne B
Hannah Babki
Winda Banjuradjia
Anna Barford
Kyla Barnes
Rudi Barwin
Kenneth Baulk
Aimee Beauchamp
Simon Beaumont
Andrea Beqa
Tatyana Beck
Alexandra Beck
Liz Bell
Karmella Benedito De Barros
Michelle Benson
Shari Bergman
Jasmin Bhandal
Johanna Bleecker
Peter Blitz
Sonmin Bong
mo bot
Kyrsten Boucher
Sam Bradd & Caelie Frampton
Diane Brown
Charlene Brown
Ariel Brownstein
Julia Buckingham
Michael Burris
Judy Bushnell
Segur Camille
Alec Campbell
Julie Carlone
Maxine Chadburn
Kevin Chau
Warren Cheng
Patrick Chessell
An-Ting Chia
Sarah Chown
Grace Chuka
Jen Clark
Ari Clemens
Joshua Coleman
Aubree Colquhoun
Gabrielle Coombs
Natalie Corbo
Vanessa Corby

LESS THAN 5 YEARS

Jimmy Cheang
Luise Brinkmann Director
Elliott Hearte
Vancouver Film Studios
Jason Abelson
Jerry Anderson
Heather Ann

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Zahara McGann
Britt McGillivray
Lauren McGuire-Wood
Maegan Mckay
Patricia Medford
Nola Mellon
Charlene Menezes
Josef Mensah
Heather Menzies
Koby Michaels
Nicole Miller
Graham Mitchell
Amanda Mitchell
Jasmine Monton
Marielle Mortimer
Brandon Murray
Lois Nahirney
Bonita Neri
Kevin Newmiller
Kathryn Noddin
Valerie Norquay
Fegor Obuwoma
Tracy Olwin
Carman J. Overholt
Jon-Paul Parker
Cathy Pasion
Paul Paterson
Michelle Paulin
Lorelei Pepi
Naomi Perks
Nicolas Pocard
Quinn Pollock
Wayne Porterfield
Asha Pratt-Johnson
Sarah M Przedpelska
M Paula Quick
J E Raines
Barbara Reid
Sean Richard
Mark Richards
Jordan Richert
Scot Ritchie
Casey Roberts
Aaron Robinson
Joe Romanyk
Lisa Rositano
Alexander Rozov
Anna Rucker
Christina Rzepa
Stephen Sahlstrom
Andrei Sala
Regina Salomon
Veronique Sampassa
Eric Sanderson
Alex Sangha
Lauren Sanson
Kara Schultz
Amy Severson
Avery Shannon
Tim Shannon
Colin Sharp
Venus Sherwood
David Silva
Roni Simunovic
Samantha Smirfitt
Phil Smith
Carlos Soria
Shana Soupraya
Rach Speechley
Siafon Spencer
Laura Spitz
Dean Spottar
Martha Staus
Frances Stephens
Blake Stiltlis
Alyssa Sy
Delwin Tan
Candie Tanaka
Verena Tatzer
Nathalie Therriault
August Thompson
Gordon Thomson
Brittany Tiplady
Teresa Tsai
Alexa Tucker
Cazz Turner
Spel Unkahh
Aubin Van Berckel
Samuel Van Dyck
Tom Vanderheyden
Angela Vannatter
Jacqueline Verkley
Mark Vonesch
Jason Waight
Cassidy Wall
Krista Waller
Orest Wasarab
Emily Watt
Adam Watts
John Wennemann
Thea Wilcox
Cyn Williams
Maureen Wilson
Maura Wingle-Land
Mark Wirtz
Caroline Wisheart
David Wodchis
Mark Wolf
Carla Wolf
Pearl Wong
Rebecca Wong
Paul Wong
Cai Wong
Shannon Wong
Karen Wong
Jaime Woo
James Wright
Kelly Xiao
Jenelle Yonkman
Jared Yu
J Z
Michael Zaytsoff
Heidemarie Zeunert
Sharpay Zhang
Serena Zhang
Minghao Zhang
Coco Zhou

This list is based on donations between June 8, 2022 and June 1, 2023. If we have missed your name, please tell us and know that we appreciate your support nonetheless. Contact Madeline, Individual Giving Officer: madeline@outonscreen.com

@QUEERFILMFEST
Award winners will be announced and celebrated at the Closing Presentation on Saturday, August 19th.

We are grateful to Telefilm Canada, Warner Bros. Discovery Access Canada and the BC Arts Council for sponsoring the inaugural Programming Disruptor Fellowship for Emerging BIPOC 2SLGBTQIA+ Film Curators. Heartfelt congratulations and gratitude to Romi Kim, Jasmine “Audder” Monton and Eva Grant for being a part of the first cohort and an essential part of programming of this Festival.

We are proud to introduce the RBC Narrative Change Award. Sponsored by RBC, this $5,000 cash prize will be determined by an international jury and will honor a Canadian or International film that uses the power of cultural strategy to overturn outdated narratives, inspire change, and expand the audience’s perception of 2SLGBTQIA+ identities. The award winner will be announced at the Closing Night Gala on August 19th have an encore screening on the last day of the Festival on August 20.

Our annual juried prize for the Festival’s Best British Columbia 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. This $2,500 cash prize is generously supported by the Directors Guild of Canada-BC. The winner will also receive a $15,000 camera package prize from Keslow Camera.
The People’s Choice Awards are determined by audience ballots, and every film screened at the Festival is eligible for one of the four following awards. Winners are determined by the highest proportion of votes, ensuring all films have the opportunity to be recognized regardless of the size of the theatre they are screened in. To vote, complete your ballot on tablets provided by our staff and volunteers as you leave the theatre or submit a rating for each film you watch on our digital watch platform until August 19.

Best Canadian Feature
Sponsored by the Canada Media Fund (CMF), this $5,000 cash prize will be presented to the audience’s favourite Canadian Feature.

Best Canadian Short
Sponsored by Panavision, this $20,000 camera package prize will be presented to the audience’s favourite Canadian Short.

Best International Feature
This $2,500 cash prize will be presented to the audience’s favourite International Feature.

Best International Short
This $2,500 cash prize will be presented to the audience’s favourite International Short.
All film screenings are offered at the same sliding scale price range, whether available online or in-person. Please go to queerfilmfestival.ca to purchase all your tickets and passes.

For in-person films, each attendee requires their own ticket. For online films, 1 ticket = 1 film stream, regardless of who is watching.

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### SINGLE TICKETS

<table>
<thead>
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<th>TICKET TIER</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
<th>WHO IT’S FOR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friend with Benefits (FWB)</td>
<td>$21</td>
<td>Film-lovers who can afford a little extra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard</td>
<td>$14</td>
<td>Our base ticket price</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>Students, Youth, Seniors, Low Income</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access+</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>Those who need reduced costs for any reason</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### passes

All passes are limited to patrons 18 years of age and older.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pass</th>
<th>Price</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Festival Pass</td>
<td>$175</td>
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<td>Festival Pass - access pricing</td>
<td>$145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital Pass</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Festival Passes** provide access to all films and events at the Festival, in-person and online. Passholders enter the theatre first up to 30 minutes before start time, and can collect a slip to reserve their seat up to 60 minutes before start time at the venue’s Box Office. Only ~30% of in-person screening seats are reserved for passholders.

**Digital Passes** are perfect for film-lovers who prefer to watch from home. The Digital Pass provides access to online streaming only.

---

**Refunds and Exchanges**

Call us at 604-844-1615 x410 or email us at boxoffice@outonscreen.com
MEMBERSHIPS

All ticket purchases now include a non-voting membership to the Vancouver Out On Screen Film & Video Society that expires 364 days after the date of attendance. All Festival Passes include a voting membership that expire at the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting, at which all voting members are eligible to vote on motions.

Voting Membership
(18 yrs & up)

If the price of a voting membership is prohibitive, please reach out to info@outonscreen.com.

HOW TO FEST

IN-PERSON

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 hour before screening</td>
<td>Box Office opens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Passholders can collect slips to reserve your spot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 minutes before screening</td>
<td>Theatre opens, Passholders enter first!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~15 minutes before screening</td>
<td>Ticket holders enter the theatre</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ONLINE

All of our online content is geolocked to BC only. As much as we’d love to screen all our films online for the entire duration of the Festival, the availability of online streaming is subject to our agreements with artists and distributors and their preferences for how they’d like their work to be viewed.

Select films will be available to stream online one day after they screen in person and remain available for a period of 72 hours total. Once you start a film, you have 24 hours to watch it all the way through.

To watch, purchase a virtual ticket, Festival Pass, or Digital Pass and log in to our watch platform at watch.outonscreen.com.

For more detailed information, check out the How to Fest section on our website or contact boxoffice@outonscreen.com.

@QUEERFILMFEST
GO TO QUEERFILMFESTIVAL.CA FOR DETAILS ON POST-SCREENING Q&A’S, WORKSHOPS, AND INDUSTRY EVENTS!

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**SCHEDULE**

**THURSDAY**  
**AUGUST 10**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>Opening Presentation: Stronger Together</td>
<td>Vancouver Playhouse</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:15 PM</td>
<td>Opening Night Party</td>
<td>Vancouver Playhouse</td>
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**FRIDAY**  
**AUGUST 11**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Venue</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>Before I Change My Mind</td>
<td>International Village - Theatre 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>This Place</td>
<td>VIFF Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>Lie With Me (Arrête avec tes mensonges)</td>
<td>International Village - Theatre 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 PM</td>
<td>Three Tidy Tigers Tied a Tie Tighter</td>
<td>International Village - Theatre 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 PM</td>
<td>Clashing Differences</td>
<td>VIFF Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:15 PM</td>
<td>Shorts: Midnight Foreplay + Performance</td>
<td>International Village - Theatre 9</td>
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#VQFF2023
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Movie/Performance</th>
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<td>1:30 PM</td>
<td>Bittersweet Becoming</td>
<td>International Village - Theatre 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:45 PM</td>
<td>Shorts: Homecomings</td>
<td>International Village - Theatre 9</td>
<td>70</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00 PM</td>
<td>Egghead &amp; Twinkie</td>
<td>International Village - Theatre 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:15 PM</td>
<td>I LOVE YOU MORE</td>
<td>International Village - Theatre 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>Big Boys</td>
<td>International Village - Theatre 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:45 PM</td>
<td>Episodic: Fresh Starts</td>
<td>International Village - Theatre 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:45 PM</td>
<td>Girlfriends and Girlfriends (La amiga de mi amiga)</td>
<td>International Village - Theatre 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 PM</td>
<td>Drifter</td>
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<td>12:30 PM</td>
<td>Out In Schools &amp; Troublemakers 7.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00 PM</td>
<td>Shorts: Inner Riots</td>
<td>International Village - Theatre 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:30 PM</td>
<td>Shorts: Blood and Water</td>
<td>International Village - Theatre 9</td>
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<td>3:45 PM</td>
<td>20,000 Species of Bees</td>
<td>International Village - Theatre 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:45 PM</td>
<td>It’s Only Life After All</td>
<td>International Village - Theatre 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>Three Headed Beast</td>
<td>International Village - Theatre 8</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>Shorts: Treats, Tears &amp; Truth-Bombs</td>
<td>International Village - Theatre 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:45 PM</td>
<td>Queendom + Performance</td>
<td>International Village - Theatre 8</td>
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### Wednesday, August 16

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td><strong>Centrepiece Presentation:</strong> 1946: The Mistranslation That Shifted Culture</td>
<td>Vancouver Playhouse</td>
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### Thursday, August 17

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td><strong>Shorts: The Coast is Queer</strong> + Performance</td>
<td>International Village - Theatre 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:45 PM</td>
<td><strong>Mutt</strong></td>
<td>International Village - Theatre 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:45 PM</td>
<td><strong>Shorts: Cinema Non-Conforming</strong></td>
<td>International Village - Theatre 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 PM</td>
<td><strong>Shorts: Something About Him</strong></td>
<td>International Village - Theatre 9</td>
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### Friday, August 18

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<thead>
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<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td><strong>Wolf and Dog (Lobo e Cão)</strong></td>
<td>International Village - Theatre 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:45 PM</td>
<td><strong>The Mattachine Family</strong></td>
<td>International Village - Theatre 9</td>
<td>P. 59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 PM</td>
<td><strong>Shorts: Slay 4 Me</strong> + Performance</td>
<td>International Village - Theatre 8</td>
<td>P. 86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:15 PM</td>
<td><strong>Shorts: &quot;It’s Complicated&quot;</strong></td>
<td>International Village - Theatre 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 PM</td>
<td><strong>Le Beau Mec</strong></td>
<td>The Cultch - Historic Theatre</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2:00</td>
<td>Shorts: Talkin’ Bout a Revolution</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:15</td>
<td>The life and strange surprising adventures of Robinson Crusoe</td>
<td>61</td>
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<td>4:00</td>
<td>How to Tell a Secret</td>
<td>62</td>
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<td>4:15</td>
<td>A Queer’s Guide to Spiritual Living</td>
<td>63</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00</td>
<td>Closing Presentation: Runs In The Family</td>
<td>35</td>
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<td>8:30</td>
<td>Closing Party</td>
<td>96</td>
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### Sunday, August 20

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:45</td>
<td>Programmers’ Picks: Shorts</td>
<td>92</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00</td>
<td>People’s Choice Award: International Feature</td>
<td>19</td>
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<td>4:00</td>
<td>Narrative Change Award Winner</td>
<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:30</td>
<td>People’s Choice Award: Shorts</td>
<td>19</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30</td>
<td>People’s Choice Award: Canadian Feature</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:45</td>
<td>Programmers’ Pick: Feature</td>
<td>64</td>
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Go to [QueerFilmFestival.ca](http://QueerFilmFestival.ca) for details on post-screening Q&A’s, workshops, and industry events!
VENUES

VANCOUVER PLAYHOUSE
600 Hamilton St.

CINEPLEX ODEON INTERNATIONAL VILLAGE THEATRES 8 AND 9
88 W Pender St., 3rd Floor

VIFF CENTRE
VANCITY THEATRE
1181 Seymour St.

THE CULTCH - HISTORIC THEATRE
1895 Venables St.
ACCESSIBILITY
OUR COMMITMENT TO AN ACCESSIBLE FESTIVAL

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.
Transit and accessibility information for each of our in-person venues is available in detail on our website.

PROGRAMMING
The following accessibility information is listed for each event. If something is omitted from this Guide, the most detailed and up-to-date information will always be available on our online programme at queerfilmfestival.ca.

English subtitles and/or open captions will be provided for all programming.
Live ASL interpretation is provided for select programs. Live auto-captioning will be used when ASL is not available.

Film ratings by BC Consumer Protection are available on our online programme only from mid-July.

Content warnings, if applicable, are provided on each program page in print and online to help audiences make informed decisions on potentially physiologically or psychologically triggering content.

COMMUNITY TICKETS
We issue complimentary tickets to individuals and local community groups for those who face barriers in attending the Festival.

COMMUNITY GUIDELINES
Out On Screen is committed to cultivating safer spaces for all members of our community. Learn more about our community guidelines and safety protocols on our website.

If you would like to make an accessibility request or have questions about any of the above, please contact boxoffice@outonscreen.com. We welcome your feedback on our accessibility protocols.
Please note that this print Guide does not include information on post-screening Q&A’s, workshops, or industry events. This information will be available in full on our online programme at queerfilmfestival.ca.

Available to screen online on selected dates.

There will be a performance, multimedia, or other special component at the in-person screening.

Program was entirely or partially produced locally in British Columbia.

Youth-friendly program. For official ratings by BC Consumer Protection, see our online programme.

| WORLD PREMIERE | First presentation in the world. |
| INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE | First presentation outside its country of origin. |
| NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE | First presentation in North America. |
| CANADIAN PREMIERE | First presentation in Canada. |
| BRITISH COLUMBIA PREMIERE | First presentation in BC. |
| VANCOUVER PREMIERE | First presentation in Vancouver. |
The Canada Media Fund is here to support bold, courageous voices across the audiovisual industry—from television and web series to documentaries, video games, IDM and immersive projects. Wherever there’s a vision and a desire to shine a light, we’re there to light the spark.
CIAL
SENS
ONS
STRONGER TOGETHER

THU, AUG 10
7:00 PM

VANCOUVER PLAYHOUSE

ONLINE
AUG 11, 7 PM TO
AUG 14, 7 PM

This unforgettable opening night shorts program showcases the indomitable spirit of queerness, celebrates our collective resilience, and illuminates the power of our unity. Prepare for an evening of stories to lift your spirits and ignite your imagination.

Stick around for our Opening Night Party (p.96) after the screening!

DOTTING THE “I”
Doug Tompos | United States
2022 | 11 min | English with captions

With the power of an unexpected kiss, a modern-day Cyrano and a mid-life cynic embark on a profound exploration of lost love and the possibilities of love yet to be discovered.

THRIVING: A DISSOCIATED REVERIE
Nicole Bazuin | Canada | 2022
9 min | English with captions

A bold, imaginative, and supersaturated peek into the world of Kitoko, a Black nonbinary disabled artist and former sex worker diagnosed with a dissociative identity disorder.
AC UNIT
Grace Godvin | United States
2023 | 13 min | English with captions

A Jewish queer helps their stylish trans femme friend install an air conditioner. Panic ensues when the pair have to deal with an unexpected fatality while high on shrooms.

MNM
Twiggy Pucci Garçon
United States | 2023 | 15 min
English with captions

What does it take to be your true authentic self every day? Beautiful and sensorial, this film explores this fundamental question as two chosen siblings make their runway ballroom debut.

GROCERY LIST
Joanne Mony Park | United States
2022 | 9 min | English with captions

A queer couple living in the suburbs just want to go grocery shopping, but somehow issues big and small keep getting in the way.

MARS
Abel Rubinstein | United Kingdom
2022 | 19 min | English with captions

Frank, fearless, and funny, Yasmin Finney of the hit show Heartstopper stars as young Charlie, who, over one magical night, assesses what truly matters in this love song to trans youth created by award-winning music artist, Yungblud.
2SLGBTQIA+ identities and Christian beliefs are often in opposition, with many queer-identifying Christians facing judgment or outright rejection from both communities. Sharon Roggio’s fascinating etymological excavation traces the origins of the Christian anti-gay movement back to 1946, when a damaging mistranslation resulted in the first appearance of the word “homosexual” in the Bible, thus providing a “sacred weapon” for the religious right to use against gay people. Significantly, while critical of religious dogma, this documentary does not oppose Christianity.

Roggio, herself a lesbian, grew up under the watchful eye of her preacher father, and this personal investment in the relationship between queerness and faith makes for an empathetic film that strives for inclusivity over division. This documentary is essential viewing for everyone regardless of personal beliefs, but particularly important for queer Christians who have been forced to hide their identities in the hope of gaining acceptance.
Varun, a former con artist, and his trans drag performer son River embark on a road trip across South Africa to break River’s estranged mother out of rehab. Their cross-country escapades seem to be going to plan until River’s dream of winning prize money at a drag competition to pay for top surgery appear to be dashed when he learns that his performance partner is injured. But all hope is not lost; River’s mother has a plan—perhaps Varun could step in and save the day?

While feel-good family stories are not always easy to come by in queer cinema (chosen families notwithstanding), this huge-hearted romp not only features a beautiful father-son relationship at its centre but was also a real-life family collaboration directed by Ian Gabriel and written by and starring his son Gabe. Infinitely likeable and full of insight, this family affair has good feelings to spare.

Join us for our Closing Night Party (p.96) after the screening!
The award-winning Out In Schools program harnesses the power of film to open hearts and change minds in schools across BC. Experience an abridged version of our Beyond Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) presentation, which explores the importance and impact of positive 2SLGBTQIA+ representation and showcases two new films in the Out In Schools film catalogue! Beyond SOGI will precede our classic Troublemakers program.
The intergenerational film project Troublemakers returns to the big screen for the seventh year! Reel Youth, Out On Screen, and LOVE Intersections present five new films by youth filmmakers documenting the lives of local lesbian, gay, queer, trans, and nonbinary community members who inspire us through art and advocacy. The screening will be followed by a Q&A with the youth filmmakers and “Troublemaker” film subjects.

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<thead>
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<th>FILM TITLE</th>
<th>“TROUBLEMAKERS”</th>
<th>FILMMAKERS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Becoming Queer Joy</td>
<td>Tien No Eamas</td>
<td>Ronnie Cheng</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Leo Litke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incredibly Hyper, Goofy, Sad, and</td>
<td>Ezi Baker</td>
<td>Margit Gomes Neto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angry</td>
<td></td>
<td>Vivian Li</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild Thing and Her Daughter</td>
<td>Apis Teicher</td>
<td>Adriana Cummings-Teicher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owning the Future</td>
<td>Columbine Demers</td>
<td>Dev Petrovic</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Roki Qing Jiang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can’t Keep Quiet</td>
<td>Heidi McDonell</td>
<td>Naomi Leung</td>
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<td>Naomi Giogis</td>
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PROGRAM FACILITATORS:
Danny Lybbert
Gavin Somers
Lydia Alemu
Mark Vonesch
Mutyia Macatumpag

MADE POSSIBLE WITH SUPPORT FROM:
STORYHIVE powered by TELUS
SFU Woodwards Cultural Programs
SFU School for Contemporary Arts
The Parachute Fund
We believe that when people participate in their community, good things can happen.

Our goal is to help bring people together through shared experiences to help foster connected communities.

That’s why we support events and initiatives that give people opportunities to get involved in their communities.

Learn more at td.com/connectedcommunities
“Some of the greatest work I have been a part of professionally in my career in education.”
— EDUCATOR

“I now feel more confident sticking up for the LGBTQ+ community.”
— GRADE 7 STUDENT

“Your facilitators were so warm and engaging, and created a lovely safe affirming space.”
— EDUCATOR

“Now that I learned from your lecture, I feel like I have nothing to be scared of.”
— HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT

In the 2022-2023 school year, Out In Schools delivered a total of 105 presentations to:

11,430 YOUTH
1,176 ADULTS
12 SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Visit us online at outinschools.com to book a presentation, browse our film catalogue, and access our free educator resources!
BEFORE I CHANGE MY MIND

FRI, AUG 11
6:30 PM

INTERNATIONAL VILLAGE - THEATRE 8

IN-PERSON ONLY

PRECEDED BY PETE

Trevor Anderson | Canada | 2022 | 88 min
English with captions

It’s 1975, and a baseball-loving kid who goes by the name Pete wants nothing more than to join the boys’ Little League team. A moving, uplifting tale of being who you know you are.

Bret Parker | United States | 7 min
English with captions

It’s Robin’s first day at a new school, and despite trying to fit in, they attract the unwanted attention of school bully Carter. But rather than becoming enemies, an unexpected friendship blossoms—leading to a whole new set of problems for Robin.

There is so much to love about Trevor Anderson’s sweetly idiosyncratic debut feature, from its super-stylized 80s aesthetic and oddball humour to the charming performances from its young cast. Notably, Robin’s gender identity does not propel the narrative, leaving his most dreaded question “Are you a boy or a girl?” not only unanswered but obsolete.

It’s 1975, and a baseball-loving kid who goes by the name Pete wants nothing more than to join the boys’ Little League team. A moving, uplifting tale of being who you know you are.
Saying goodbye to the community of Kahnawà:ke in which she was raised, budding poet Kawenniiöhstha arrives in Toronto to attend university and search for the father she never knew. Conversely, Malai, who lives with her brother in Toronto, has just finished university and is anxiously contemplating her next move. Malai’s future planning is put on hold when her alcoholic father unexpectedly returns, forcing the siblings to confront unresolved traumas. One fateful day, Kawenniiöhstha and Malai cross paths in a laundromat, and a connection is immediate. With both women facing complex family situations, will their connection find the space it needs to develop into something more?

Carefully acknowledging the specificity of cultural experience, V. T. Nayan’s impressive debut deftly uses the framework of a love story to explore themes of identity, displacement, and colonialism within Iranian, Kanien’kehá:ka (Mohawk), and Tamil communities.
When best-selling novelist Stéphane Belcourt is invited to be a brand ambassador for a renowned cognac label established in his hometown, he faces the reality of returning to a world he had left many years ago. Dormant memories are woken, and Stéphane is overcome with a tidal wave of emotions when he meets Lucas, the son of his first love Thomas, who he last saw when they were just 17 years old.

Anchored by a beautifully layered performance from Guillaume de Tonquédec as Stéphane, Olivier Peyon’s deeply affecting adaptation of Philippe Besson’s award-winning autobiographical novel is every bit as intimate and poignant as its source material deserves. Seamlessly traversing between the warm nostalgia of 1984 and the cooler realities of the present day, this captivating drama feels epic in its decade-spanning scope yet disarmingly intimate in its central themes of first love and enduring heartache.
THREE TIDY TIGERS TIED
A TIE TIGHTER
(TRÊS TIGRES TRISTES)

Winner of the Teddy Award for Best LGBTQIA+ Film at this year’s Berlin International Film Festival, Gustavo Vinagre’s wildly inventive comic curio takes place in a dystopian São Paulo, where the fourth wave of a pandemic of a disease that atrophies memory rages on.

Taking place during one sunny afternoon, three young queer friends—a student named Isabella, her roommate Pedro, a sex worker, and Pedro’s HIV-positive nephew Jonat—drift through the chaos of the city, sharing stories, memories, and make-up tips as they attempt to make sense of their current reality, while still reeling from the fallout of the Bolsonaro regime. Like its tongue-twisting title, this idiosyncratic fusion of surrealist humour, speculative fiction and politically-charged social realism may appear daunting at first glance, yet the playful, mischievous way in which it tackles its complex themes makes for an exhilarating and unforgettable ride.

CONTENT WARNING: EXPLICIT SEXUAL CONTENT, AND NUDITY

Gustavo Vinagre | Brazil | 2022 | 83 min
Portuguese with English subtitles

FRI, AUG 11
9:00 PM
INTERNATIONAL VILLAGE - THEATRE 8
ONLINE
AUG 12, 9 PM TO
AUG 15, 9 PM

@QUEERFILMFEST
The all-white board of the House of Womxn has been told to diversify, or they can’t attend a prestigious conference. Reluctantly, they task a junior member, who believes that being from East Germany makes her a minority, with collecting suitable candidates because she has “connections to those communities”—indeed, she is sleeping with two of the invitees. Those who trek out to the Nazi hotbed of Brandenburg include a powerhouse lawyer adopted from Vietnam, her estranged “white saviour” mother, a Black high fashion matriarch, a disabled immigrant, and a nonbinary filmmaker. The guests clash, revealing painful differences but ultimately addressing their similarities.

Punchy, darkly funny, and caustically subversive, this film takes a candid look at issues including tokenism and colourism. German filmmaker Merle Grimme made this film as part of her graduation thesis and ensured her crew was as diverse as the cast.
Karla Rae James began her transition later in life. Having spent years playing a role dictated by familial and societal expectations, it is not until the cusp of her seventh decade that Karla summons the strength to embrace her true self. This intimate documentary invites us to join Karla on her journey, allowing precious access to her memories, hopes and fears, and bearing witness to her gender-affirming surgeries.

Director Polina Teif spent three years with Karla while making the film. The closeness between filmmaker and protagonist is evident through the care and sensitivity with which the story is presented. But perhaps the film’s greatest feat is simply allowing us to get to know Karla, a kind, thoughtful, resilient figure who is never less than wonderful company and stands as an inspiring example of how it is never too late to reclaim your identity.
After awkwardly coming out to her conservative parents, Asian American teen Twinkie enlists her BFF Egghead for a cross-country road trip to LezDance, a lesbian dance party in Texas, where she is convinced she will meet the girl she has fallen for online. Unfortunately, this is all news to Egghead, who has been harbouring a secret love for his best pal for some time now.

Director Sarah Kambe Holland’s adorable road trip movie, a directorial debut, is so full of heart-warming joy and exuberance that one could almost overlook just how smart it is, effortlessly tackling complex themes of cultural and queer identities in thoughtful and amusing ways. Not just a delight for the heart and mind, the film’s dynamic fusion of multiple visual styles makes for an eye-popping treat, perfectly reflecting the energetic unpredictability of teenage friendship and the confusing contractions we face as we figure out which road to take.
Resorted teenager Ben has two dreams: to escape the picturesque yet stifling Kosovar town in which he was raised and to finally be united with Leo, his long-term boyfriend who he has been dating online for a year but has yet to meet in person. With Leo set to visit in a month, Ben’s romantic dreams are within reach, with enough time left for him to concoct the perfect cover story for his family. But when Ben learns of an exciting and immediate opportunity to travel overseas before Leo’s arrival, his dreams are placed in dramatic opposition, leaving him to make an almost impossible decision.

Effectively juxtaposing the bucolic beauty of its rural setting with Ben’s turbulent interior emotions, Erblin Nushi’s beautifully controlled feature debut is a strikingly shot and emotionally layered piece of work. With so few queer films produced in Kosovo, it is truly inspiring to see one as accomplished as this.
14-year-old homebody Jamie is an old soul, happier perusing classic cookbooks than being on a football field. The one thing, however, that gets him outside is the annual camping trip with his older brother Will and his favourite cousin Allie. When Allie’s new boyfriend Dan joins the group, prescriptive Jamie finds himself inexplicably drawn to Dan’s easygoing charm.

Favouring moments of quiet poignancy over familiar teen-movie melodramatics, Corey Sherman’s witty and warm-hearted directorial debut is an uncommonly relatable coming-of-age tale, driven by a star-making performance from the brilliant Isaac Krasner as a young man trying to make sense of who he is, both inside and out.
Aspiring filmmaker Zaida—played by director Zaida Carmona—has recently been dumped. Not one to sit at home and mope, she plunges herself into Barcelona’s lesbian singles pool while trying to work on her screenplay. Bouncing between various bars, shows, and parties on her search for a rebound rendezvous, Zaida meets Lara, her ex-girlfriend’s current girlfriend. And would you believe it, there’s a spark...

Paying playful homage to cinema’s most romantic philosopher Éric Rohmer, Carmona’s meta-textual debut feature is a cinephile’s dream, filled with knowing references and sharp observations on the very nature of storytelling. Above all, this is a film about love; a fun and frisky audit of the lesbian dating scene that effortlessly breathes queer life into the seemingly familiar format of the rom-com.

Zaida Carmona  | Spain  | 2022  | 89 min  Spanish with English subtitles

@QUEERFILMFEST

SAT, AUG 12  
8:45 PM
INTERNATIONAL VILLAGE - THEATRE 8

IN-PERSON ONLY

CONTENT WARNING: NUDE
Hannes Hirsch | Germany | 2022 | 79 min
German and English with English subtitles

Shortly after moving to Berlin to be with his boyfriend, 22-year-old Moritz finds himself unexpectedly single. Struggling to make sense of the sudden break-up, he finds himself alone in an unfamiliar place, unsure of what to do next. As he slowly finds his feet, Moritz explores the city’s underground queer party scene, making new connections, experimenting with drugs, and expanding his sexual horizons.

A welcome antidote to countless coming-of-age films in which sex, drugs, and other hedonistic pleasures are presented as sinful temptations, Hannes Hirsch’s vibrant snapshot of contemporary queer Berlin has no time for didactic moralizing. Rather, as Moritz drifts through bustling bars, sweaty techno raves, fetish spaces and the bedrooms of various lovers, we witness a world of possibilities and contradictions, in which characters are not defined by individual decisions and loose ends are part of life’s tangled tapestry.
Estibaliz Urresola Solaguren | Spain | 2022
125 min | Spanish, Basque, and French with English subtitles

An eight-year-old struggles with the fact that people keep addressing her in confusing ways. During a summer in the Basque Country among the beehives, she explores her gender identity alongside the women of her family, who reflect on their own lives and desires.

Effortlessly capturing the quotidian, Estibaliz Urresola Solaguren’s striking debut exudes warmth and sensitivity. In a uniformly excellent cast, Sofía Otero shines as the questioning pre-teen, delivering a star-making performance that won the nine-year-old the Silver Bear for Best Leading Performance at this year’s Berlin International Film Festival, the youngest winner in the festival’s history.
Folk rock stalwarts, pioneering queer icons, and tireless political activists—the Indigo Girls (aka Amy Ray and Emily Saliers) have come a long way since they first met in elementary school in their hometown of Atlanta. Offering acoustic life lessons to countless fans worldwide, the duo’s effortless mix of disarming vulnerability and raw passion has helped them sell millions of records, fill iconic venues, and win a host of awards. Yet, despite their widespread success and unwavering integrity, they have often been reduced to a punchline by a sexist, homophobic industry unwilling to create space for two queer women with a vision.

In her heartfelt, celebratory, yet never hagiographic, documentary, director Alexandria Bombach lets Ray and Sailers do the talking, weaving together new interviews with a treasure-trove of archival footage to paint a complex, fascinating, and occasionally self-critical portrait of a band we are lucky to have.
Nina and Peter, both bisexual, have had an open relationship for almost a decade. Their non-monogamous arrangement allows them to freely explore outside connections in an honest and mutually beneficial way. But while Nina’s sexual encounters are no strings attached, Peter’s relationship with regular lover Alex appears to deepen, a development Nina quickly notices. As trust and transparency give way to jealousy and insecurity, the pair begin to question the future of their relationship.

Fittingly for a film where characters struggle to communicate effectively, this bracingly unconventional relationship drama unfolds almost entirely without dialogue. Instead, directors Fernando Andrés and Tyler Rugh rely on non-verbal details to convey the unspoken feelings of the characters. Experimental yet still accessible, this is one of the most distinctive queer films in recent memory.
SUN, AUG 13
8:45 PM

INTERNATIONAL VILLAGE - THEATRE 8

IN-PERSON ONLY

SCREENING FOLLOWED BY A DRAG PERFORMANCE

Agniia Galdanova | France | 2023 | 102 min
Russian with English subtitles

Hailing from a small town in the far east side of Russia, Gena, a 21-year-old trans performance artist, uses fashion as a form of political protest, marching the streets of Moscow in fantastic homemade creations as if in their own personal gallery space. Using drag activism as a means of challenging modern beauty standards as well as protesting the treatment of LGBTQIA+ people in Russia under Putin’s profoundly conservative rule, Gena receives attention wherever they go. But while their art is met with stunned confusion in their hometown, it risks eliciting more violent responses in the country’s capital, placing Gena under the constant threat of danger.

A thrilling showcase of Gena’s boundless creativity, Agniia Galdanova’s rousing documentary is a visually stunning piece of work, which also serves as a powerful testament to countless other queer Russian artists, activists, and disruptors who risk their lives in the hope of a better future.
Feña, a young trans guy living in New York, cut most emotional ties from his past after transitioning. But over one long and chaotic day, the ghosts of his previous life come knocking. First, he runs into his high school boyfriend, and then he receives an impromptu visit from his younger sister. Feña also discovers that his father is trying to get in touch with him. As his past collides with his present, Feña must juggle the emotional needs of those he thought he had left behind while staying true to himself.

Injecting a touch of the cinematic into the everyday, this gorgeously shot, thoroughly engrossing character study marks a striking debut from writer/director Vuk Lungulov-Klotz, who drew on personal experience when writing the screenplay. This authenticity is perfectly matched by the sensational Lío Mehiel, who truly inhabits the role of Feña with a quietly commanding performance.
In the middle of the North Atlantic Ocean, 1000 miles west of Portugal, lies the Azores island of Sao Miguel. The Catholic community that resides there has held onto its traditions for centuries, until one summer, three queer teenagers disrupt their ancient rituals and expectations: Ana (Ana Cabral) questions the injustice of a strictly binary gender; their best friend Luis (Ruben Pimenta) rocks iconic gender fluid looks; and visitor from Canada Cloé (Cristiana Branquinho) brings the promise of love and a different future.

Award-winning Portuguese documentarian Cláudia Varejão fuses reality and fiction with dreamlike images in this fiction feature debut. Spinning a poetic tale, the film is steeped in place and resonates with a bittersweet truth that is underscored by the filmmaker’s choice to cast first-time performers from the island itself.
Andrew Vallentine  |  United States  |  2021
99 min  |  English with captions

When Thomas (Nico Tortorella), a devoted photographer, and Oscar (Juan Pablo Di Pace), a forgotten child star, meet, it’s love at first sight. When they decide to foster Arthur, he imbues their life with boundless light and joy. A year later, however, Arthur is sent back to live with his biological mother, and the grieving couple must reconcile what family means to them—with a little help from friends (Emily Hampshire and Jake Choi).

The Mattachine Family gives us an insight into the complexities of queer parenthood. Shaped by director Andrew Vallentine’s own experiences, the film balances moments of vulnerability with comic relief and heartfelt honesty. You’ll have the warm and fuzzies long after you’ve left the theatre.
Bridging the gap between European art cinema and hardcore pornography, this long lost but recently rediscovered and digitally restored erotic treasure chronicles the libidinous life of its titular hunk—played by Karl Forest, who also served as co-writer/producer—from his school days to military service to street hustling and beyond. Featuring uncredited choreography by legendary dancer Rudolf Nureyev and partly lensed by Oscar-winning cinematographer Néstor Almendros (Days of Heaven, Sophie’s Choice), the film boasts top-tier artistic credentials, delivering an eye-popping blend of visual lyricism and titillating voyeurism, with a touch of dreamlike surrealism. Underneath the heady layers of erotic fantasy, artistry, and tongue-in-cheek(s) irony lies an unexpected thoughtfulness and disarming sense of intimacy that lingers long after the film’s sensory pleasures have left the body.
An experimental retelling of Robinson Crusoe that challenges the colonial ideology embedded in Daniel Defoe’s popular adventure novel. Starring rising Black artists: musician Oriana Ikomo and deaf actor Bernice Leming.

On an island both beautiful and dangerous, Robinson Crusoe (Ikomo) is a shipwrecked explorer surviving the elements while living in fear of a tribe of cannibals. Abandon the epic you may think you know as we witness a man find solace in mice, religion, and domestic bliss with his man Friday (Leming). This theatrical portrayal rendered with vintage cinematics and a queer lens spins its source material into an absurd comedy.

For centuries, Robinson Crusoe glamourized the tale of a white explorer discovering an unknown island and “civilizing” its Indigenous inhabitants. VQFF alumnus director Benjamin Deboosere revisits the familiar story of their youth, scoffing at the “Crusoe” myth and revealing it as colonialist propaganda.
Expanding on his acclaimed theatre project *Rapids*, Shaun Dunne and co-director Anna Rodgers have crafted a powerful and poignant hybrid documentary reflecting on what it means to live with HIV in contemporary Ireland. From gay men and migrant women to artists and activists, the film’s vast range of contributors each speak publicly about their HIV status for the first time, addressing complex issues around secrecy, disclosure, stigma, and advocacy in unique and surprising ways.

A rich tapestry of traditional documentary filmmaking, performance art, and poetic monologues, this is a formally ambitious and oftentimes experimental film; but never does its style overshadow the content nor detract from the immediacy of its subject matter. The film ultimately reveals truth, insight, and, perhaps most importantly, hope.
Ari Conrad Birch, Michal Heuston | Canada 2023 | 77 min | English with captions

Blending zine-inspired animation, spoken word, and poetry with insightful interview footage, this lo-fi documentary collage follows four queer people from different religious backgrounds as they explore the intersections of faith and queerness. We meet Summeiya, the genderfluid founder of Queer Muslim Network Toronto; Juliana, a bisexual teacher and former Baptist Christian; Vaibhav, a gay Hindu dancer; and Ari, a trans Christian Orthodox drag artist. Each person talks openly about their own spiritual journey, and their testimonies collectively open up possibilities for faith and queerness to connect rather than exist in opposition.

Recognizing the complexity and pain of individual queer faith journeys, directors Ari Conrad Birch and Michal Heuston have crafted an intimate work that prioritizes beauty over conflict and demonstrates that the process of reconciliation does not have to be tackled alone.
PROGRAMMERS’ PICK FEATURE

With 87 exceptional films to choose from, knowing what to watch is an almost-impossible choice! But don’t panic; our programmers have your back. Sit back, relax, and watch a special encore of our Programmers’ Pick Feature.

Don’t forget to check out the other same-day encore screenings of our award winners (p. 18).

SUN, AUG 20
6:45 PM
INTERNATIONAL VILLAGE - THEATRE 8

make it yours
over 50 colours to mix & match

2932 main street, vancouver  www.bed-online.com
SHORTS

MIDNIGHT FOREPLAY

FRI, AUG 11
9:15 PM

INTERNATIONAL VILLAGE - THEATRE 9

ONLINE
AUG 12, 9:15 PM TO
AUG 15, 9:15 PM

RUNTIME
89 MIN

CONTENT WARNING:
EXPlicit sexual content, nudity, death, blood, substance use, violence, animal carcass

Come on a spine-tingling journey of seductive and chilling tales that will ignite your deepest fears—and desires. Experience the unsettling allure of these films and embrace the rollercoaster of emotions they offer.

SCREENING FOLLOWED BY DRAG PERFORMANCES.

PIPES
Kilian Feusi, Jessica Meier, Sujanth Ravichandran Switzerland
2022 | 4 min | No dialogue

In striking monochrome, this delightfully deviant adult animation follows a bear (the actual animal, to be clear) who is surprised to find his latest plumbing job is in a gay fetish club.

AC UNIT
Grace Godvin | United States
2023 | 13 min | English with captions

A Jewish queer helps their stylish trans femme friend install an air conditioner. Panic ensues when the pair have to deal with an unexpected fatality while high on shrooms.
ECSTASY
Carolina Costa | Mexico, United States | 2023 | 8 min | Spanish with English subtitles

A mystical and ethereal sci-fi poem emerges from the writing of Saint Teresa de Avila as, within the sacred walls of a preternatural mausoleum, nuns succumb to a black hole.

MOM, IF I WERE A VAMPIRE
Deborah Devyn Chuang | Taiwan | 2022 | 17 min | Mandarin Chinese with English subtitles

The chaos of adolescence is captured with anarchic, feisty aplomb when a despondent teen, fed up with her overbearing mother, becomes infatuated with the rebellious cool girl at school.

COWBOY, CHOKER, HARNESS & HEART
Nicolas Blanco, Julia Ponce Diaz | United States | 2023 | 8 min | English with captions

A cheeky and authentic portrayal of poppers, ketamine, and desire in queer nightlife.

TERROR/FORMING
Rylan Friday | Canada | 2022 | 23 min | English with captions

This one-shot mumblegore, nail-biter follows boyfriends Darren and Parker, who get detoured on their way to a remote cabin. As events take a sinister turn, cracks show in their relationship.
SHO RTS

HOME COMINGS

SAT, AUG 12
1:45 PM

INTERNATIONAL
VILLAGE - THEATRE 9

RUNTIME: 96 MIN

These filmmakers of the global majority seek familiarity despite barriers and reclaim identity through connection. Experience their homecomings with stunning landscapes, heartwarming ideas of place, and the search for family and community.

ONLINE
AUG 13, 1:45 PM TO
AUG 16, 1:45 PM

SHORTS

These filmmakers of the global majority seek familiarity despite barriers and reclaim identity through connection. Experience their homecomings with stunning landscapes, heartwarming ideas of place, and the search for family and community.

JANUARY FIRST
(DIA UNO)

Constanza Lobos Arévalo | Chile
2022 | 22 min | Spanish with English subtitles

It’s 2020, and on the bustling streets of Santiago, Chile, two strangers connect amid a sea of revelers in this bittersweet non-fiction piece capturing a moment of hope in the face of the unknown.

JIA

Vee Shi | Australia | 2022 | 15 min
English and Mandarin Chinese with English subtitles

A grieving Chinese mother arrives in Australia to embark on a road trip with a young Caucasian man, both remembering a loved one.
APARTMENT 605
Bianca Catbagan | United States
2023 | 7 min | English, French, Tagalog with English subtitles

A nonbinary Filipinx person is packing up their late father’s apartment when they are interrupted by a friendly stranger at the door.

RETURN TO OMBABIKA
Ma-Nee Chacaby, Shayne Ehman, Zoe Gordon | Canada | 2023 | 22 min
English and Anishinaabemowin with English subtitles

A delicately realized meditation on family history, legacy, and colonization that follows activist, artist, and Two Spirit Oji-Cree elder Ma-Nee Chacaby on their journey home to Ombabika, Ontario.

QUEER PARIVAAR
Shiva Raichandani | United Kingdom | 2022 | 27 min | English, Hindi, and Urdu with English subtitles

A mysterious gate-crasher appears at the wedding of Madhav and Sufi, who face past secrets and reflect on what makes a family. Inspired by traditional South Asian dance and Bollywood.

@QUEERFILMFEST
EPISODIC

FRESH STARTS

SAT, AUG 12
6:45 PM

INTERNATIONAL VILLAGE - THEATRE 8

It’s never too late to reinvent yourself. This wickedly amusing and endlessly surprising medley of episodic pilots reveals that the path to finding the new you is not always smooth.

A GUIDE TO NOT DYING COMPLETELY ALONE

Yen Tan | United States | 2023
11 min | English with captions

Eat Pray Love for the cynical homosexual, this droll and navel-gazing dark comedy follows a writer intent on improving his life after passing out in a gay bar on his 40th birthday.

PSYCHO BABY

Charlotte Kennett | United States
2023 | 23 min | English with captions

What happens when a diagnosed psychopath falls for an undiagnosed love addict?
ONE BABY, PLEASE!

Polly Pierce | Canada | 2022 | 3 min
English with captions

Omar and Dieon are having a baby! How will their friends and families react?

HOOK UP

Coby Friesen | Canada | 2023
9 min | English with captions

Dillon, usually a ‘top’ in the bedroom, is ready to explore being a ‘bottom.’ Horoscopes, positions, and sex toys are all shared in this consensual hook-up.

DIVR

Zoey Martinson | United States
2022 | 16 min | English with captions

When three college friends create a casual-sex app by and for queer women of colour, it succeeds their wildest expectations. However, secrets emerge that could destroy both business and friendships.
TWIN SPARKS

Ollie Yao, Heather Yun | United States | 2023 | 4 min | English with captions

When a forest child’s inner fire spirit breaks loose, they frantically try to catch it before damage is done. Inspired by co-director Ollie Yao’s experience growing up trans, this is a beautiful tale of radical self-acceptance.

GORDITX

Malik Ever | United States | 2022

15 min | English and Spanish with English subtitles

Ursula doesn’t fit in at the country club where her dad works. Trans masc Chef Cormac doesn’t either. Together they hatch a plan to win the kids’ golf tournament.

INNER RIOTS

SUN, AUG 13 2:00 PM

INTERNATIONAL VILLAGE - THEATRE 8

ONLINE
AUG 14, 2:00 PM TO AUG 17, 2:00 PM

RUNTIME 73 MIN

CONTENT WARNING: HOMOPHOBIA

Starting over can begin when you ask yourself, “Whose life is it anyway?” Get up close and personal with characters at a crossroads of identity, and prepare to be inspired toward self-discovery.
**BUTCH UP!**

Yu-jin Lee | South Korea | 2022
12 min | Korean with English subtitles

Underappreciated by her straight indie band, Mi-hae finds community after meeting trans artist Coco (Hae-jun Choi).

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**THE SPIRIT GOD GAVE US**

Michael Donte Jemison | United States | 2021 | 20 min | English with captions

Sitting at the intersections of love and faith, Blackness and Queerness, Malcolm and Shamont wrestle with shame, religious piety, and deep longing.

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**FOREIGN UNCLE**

Sining Xiang | China, United States | 2021 | 20 min | Chinese and English with English subtitles

Featuring re-enactments from his own family, director Sining Xiang relives the experience of introducing his white American boyfriend to his Chinese family, who are oblivious to their gay relationship.
This program shines a new light on chosen and biological families, speaking to our communities’ longing and need for unconditional support systems.

A gently comedic tale of cultural disconnection and family set in Brooklyn. When Layla and her Syrian-born cousin awkwardly reunite, they form a surprising bond when Layla runs into her ex.

In this tender intergenerational tale of finding support in tough times, heartbroken Inés’ plan to end her life is interrupted by the ghost of her neighbour.
HALVES AND DOUBLES

Adam Mbowe | Canada | 2023
15 min | English with captions

Adam and her sibling Khadija share unspoken trauma. Traversing a winding road of emotions, they finally find mutual understanding.

DO DIGITAL CURANDERAS USE EGGS IN THEIR LIMPIAS?

Roberto Fatal | United States
2022 | 14 min | English and Spanish with English subtitles

In this imaginative yet down-to-earth slice of Indigenous futurism, River Gallo shines as a queer, nonbinary, Latinx healer who has lost their magic and needs a friend’s consent to upload their consciousness online.

ETERNAL HAPPINESS (PERPETUA FELICIDAD)

Sofía Esteve, Isa Luengo | Spain
2022 | 22 min | Spanish with English subtitles

This quietly insightful story of understanding and acceptance follows Alma, who sings in her father’s village choir. While her father adjusts to life after a laryngectomy, Alma connects with her sexuality, and tensions begin to simmer.

LOVE LINGERS (AMAR NUNCA SECA)

Washington Calegari | Brazil
2022 | 22 min | Portuguese with English subtitles

When the two people he loves most are hospitalized during the pandemic, Jonas holds on to hope as he reflects on their memories as a chosen family.
S H O R T S

TREATS, TEARS & TRUTH-BOMBS

SUN, AUG 13
7:30 PM

INTERNATIONAL VILLAGE - THEATRE 9

ONLINE
AUG 14, 7:30 PM TO
AUG 17, 7:30 PM

RUNTIME
126 MIN

CONTENT WARNING:
SEXUALLY EXPLICIT CONTENT

Experience flirtation, reflection, and catharsis: these six captivating short films navigate the complexities of queer relationships, from quirky satires to heartfelt dramas.

STAY FOR A POST-SCREENING DISCUSSION AND SOME TASTY TREATS.

THE YEAR LONG BOULDER

Brielle LeBlanc | Canada | 2022
10 min | English with captions

A melancholic reflection on healing and self-acceptance is tracked by the changing seasons as a heartbroken poet finds solace in art and their best friend over the course of a year.

WORK

April Maxey | United States | 2021
13 min | English with captions

After a painful breakup, Gabriela impulsively drops into her previous job giving lap dances and unexpectedly runs into an old friend.

#VQFF2023
THE TREE
Ida Hansen Eldøen | Norway | 2023
14 min | Norwegian with English subtitles

Two ex-girlfriends go to battle over an apple tree in this deliciously dark Norwegian black comedy—rarely has a breakup been so entertaining.

LITTLE MOUSE
Lena Kaminsky | United States
2022 | 14 min | English with captions

As Betsy prepares to sell the home she shared with her ex, she unexpectedly befriends a resident mouse. This breakup tale balances the sad with the absurd.

SOAP
Lulu Wei | Canada | 2023
13 min | English with captions

Written and acted with improvised dialogue, this short sees two best friends share an intimate conversation after a breakup.

A PLACE ON THE EDGE OF BREATH
Veronica Rutledge | United States
2022 | 29 min | English with captions

The relationship between an Anishinaabe trans man and a white trans woman is tenderly documented in this lyrical and intimate expression of love.
SHOR TS

THE COAST IS QUEER

THU, AUG 17
6:30 PM

INTERNATIONAL VILLAGE - THEATRE 9

ONLINE
AUG 18, 6:30 PM TO AUG 21, 6:30 PM

RUNTIME
113 MIN

CONTENT WARNING:
BLOOD, NUDITY

The coast is queerer than ever! Our annual showcase of homegrown talent is back with a quartet of shorts exploring trans and nonbinary identities, featuring some familiar faces, including Kendall Gender and SKIM.

SCREENING FOLLOWED BY A DRAG PERFORMANCE.

E.S.S. SCENES

Romi Kim | Canada | 2022 | 31 min
English with captions

Set in Eastside Studio’s beloved former space ‘The Warehouse’, Romi Kim (a.k.a SKIM) portrays the vibrant and monstrous worlds of Vancouver’s drag scene. An ode to the transformative power of LGBTQ+ spaces.
STAY
King Louie Palomo | Canada | 2022
22 min | English with captions

Canada’s Drag Race legend Kendall Gender stars in this tender exploration of relationships and coming to terms with yourself.

SCARING WOMEN AT NIGHT
Karimah Zakia Issa | Canada | 2022
11 min | English with captions

Two scared strangers try to escape one another while walking home. Their worlds collide at an intersection, forcing them to question who they’re afraid of and why.

TABANCA
Lauren Marsden | Canada | 2022
12 min | English with captions

Set in a gloomy Vancouver winter, genderqueer Marlinn misses Carnival season back home in Trinidad—until they discover the power of masquerade within.
In this experimental shorts program, queer artists push the boundaries of mainstream cinema through considerate but playful editing, intimate renderings of sound, and Cher’s 1998 hit single “Believe.”

**MOONCAKE**

Raine Hanson | United States  
2022 | 11 min | English with captions

An experimental meditation on genderqueerness and the blurred lines between influence, desire, and obsession. The unnamed protagonist revisits a childhood memory, and fantasies that once captured their imagination re-surface.

**BRIGHT HEART**

Tarek Lakhrissi | France, Belgium  
2023 | 14 min | French with English subtitles

Feeling surveilled and stalked after saying goodnight to a close friend, Jahid finds refuge in a museum where classic, almost spectral, sculptures confront him with improbable discoveries.
OB SCENE
(OB SCENA)
Paloma Orlandini Castro
Argentina | 2021 | 18 min
Spanish with English subtitles

In this striking and meditative work, filmmaker Paloma Orlandini Castro categorizes her sexual history using old medical terms and comparisons to contemporary pornography.

NO ONE KNOWS
I’M A DOG ON THE INTERNET
Nate King | United States | 2023
4 min | English with captions

Animator Nate King unabashedly claims his space in kink in this neon, retro web surf through the private files of a queer man with a penchant for puppy play.

GEN
Vivian Barton | United Kingdom
2023 | 10 min | English with captions

A surrealistic journey begins on a dark and mysterious night in this metaphorical expression of self-discovery and rebirth.

NOWHERE
Pedro Gonçalves Ribeiro | Portugal, Brazil | 2022 | 19 min | English, Portuguese, and French with English subtitles

An instrumental remix of Cher’s “Believe” provides the score to this profound and personal essay film which explores themes of memory, identity, and queerness.
S H O R T S

SOMETHING ABOUT HIM

THU, AUG 17
9:00 PM

INTERNATIONAL VILLAGE - THEATRE 9

ONLINE
AUG 18, 9:00 PM TO
AUG 21, 9:00 PM

RUNTIME
89 MIN

CONTENT WARNING:
SEXUALLY EXPLICIT CONTENT, NUDITY

It’s date night, and we’re serving up new love! Think meet-cutes, first-date anxiety, daytime solicitation, and unsuspecting connection. This one’s for the boys who want their hearts lifted, crops watered, and skin cleared.

THE DEPENDENT VARIABLES
(LE VARIABILI DIPENDENTI)

Lorenzo Tardella | Italy | 2022
16 min | Italian with English subtitles

On a school trip to the theatre, two teenage boys unexpectedly kiss. Will they have the language to process this monumental moment?

OUTDOORS

John Mark Fitzpatrick | United Kingdom | 2022 | 13 min | English with captions

Bim and Nathan meet in the park and have immediate chemistry. A chance encounter reveals something Bim has been trying to hide.
HABIB & THE THIEF
Naures Sager  |  Sweden  |  2021
15 min  |  English with captions

Bonded by a stolen cape, Habib and his princely thief play a dangerous game on an exhilarating night out. The consequences of their actions call into question the cost of living boldly and joyfully.

THE DALLES
Angalis Field  |  United States  |  2023
10 min  |  English with captions

In this sensitive exploration of burgeoning desire and the loneliness of growing up queer in rural Oregon, a handsome cyclist asks a teen for directions to a cruising spot. The boy takes this as an invitation.

POLYWOOD
Alessio Mineo  |  United States  |  2023
16 min  |  English with captions

A playful, tongue-in-cheek jab at the modern dating scene, serial singleton Clayton’s first date nerves wane within minutes of meeting August. But as Clayton’s confidence grows, August drops a bombshell—he isn’t single.

DOGFRIEND (HUNDEFREUND)
Maissa Lihedheb  |  Germany  |  2022
18 min  |  German with English subtitles

A date between two men (one Black, one white) takes an unexpected turn in this boldly unpredictable exploration of racial politics, microaggressions, and mental health.

@QUEERFILMFEST
AND THEY WERE LOVED

Malik Shamar Julien, Emily McClanahan
United States | 2023 | 39 min | English with captions

Set in the Deep South, this film explores creating safer spaces in hostile environments and centering the QTBIPOC community through sexual health advocacy, multimedia artistry, and ballroom culture.

This heartfelt, dazzling, and vulnerable program explores ballroom and drag in communities around the world.

Experience films alongside live performances, and stay for a talk about queer performance practices.

CONTENT WARNING:
MENTIONS OF SELF-HARM OR SUICIDE, HOMOPHOBIA, TRANSPHOBIA

RUNTIME
112 MIN

INTERNATIONAL VILLAGE - THEATRE 8

ONLINE
AUG 19, 9:00 PM TO AUG 22, 9:00 PM

SLAY 4 ME

FRI, AUG 18
9:00 PM

#VQFF2023
TANK FAIRY

Erich Rettstadt | Taiwan, United States  
2021 | 10 min | Mandarin Chinese with English subtitles

In her film debut, Taiwanese trans artist Marian Mesula delivers gas tanks across Taipei in red stilettos with an entourage of sequinned mice and inspires 10-year-old Jojo to finally dance in drag.

YAHWA WAHA

Sarah Li | United Kingdom | 2021 | 31 min  
English with captions

Anthony Pius is a Bharatanatyam dancer and drag queen from London. Almass Badat is a BBC DJ and a queer Muslim woman. Both explore British Asian identity and seek to be understood and celebrated through their work.
SHORTS

“IT’S COMPLICATED”

FRI, AUG 18
9:15 PM

INTERNATIONAL VILLAGE - THEATRE 9

ONLINE
AUG 19, 9:15 PM TO
AUG 22, 9:15 PM

RUNTIME
78 MIN

CONTENT WARNING:
SEXUALLY EXPLICIT CONTENT, NUDITY,
SUBSTANCE USE

From the playfully witty to the searingly emotional, each film in this sundry selection finds its language to explore the pleasures and pains of that crazy little thing called love.

TAPS

Arvind Caulagi | India | 2023
15 min | English and Hindi with English subtitles

Set over a single night, this intimate and culturally nuanced story centers around the discord and fissures of unresolved discontent between two men.

THE WALL

Valeska Miller | United States | 2022
15 min | English with captions

Newly separated, Eva and Hope are spending their last night together. At 3 am, Eva decides to paint the living room wall. A fresh and affecting story of the pain of saying goodbye.
In this genre-bending short, Iago and Tristan navigate a complicated breakup when something darker adds new weight to their decision.

While on her period, a sex worker resorts to asking her ex-girlfriend for help in the most mortifying circumstances.

It’s after hours in a furniture store, and three young protagonists call for the help of a vaping fairy godmother. But will a supersized bed save the throuple or break them apart?
CRACKS WILL COME
(VIENEN LAS GRIETAS)

Daniel Mateo Vallejo | Colombia, Netherlands | 2022 | 18 min
Spanish with English subtitles

Within the crisp white walls of the gallery where they work, Keisi is transfixed and transported by a photo series that speaks to their desire to escape into nature.

HOW TO CARRY WATER

Sasha Wortzel | United States 2023 | 15 min | English with captions

Shoog McDaniel’s photographs of fat queer subjects have altered how our community sees themselves. This iridescent fairytale finds itself in one of America’s most hostile states for queer and trans people.
BITTERSWEET POWER  
(POSSA PODER)

Victor Di Marco, Márcio Picoli  
Brazil | 2022 | 19 min | Portuguese with English subtitles

In a colloquial rumination on memory and place, three friends remember what it is to be queer and reaffirm their conviction to stay true to who they are.

THE SCRIPT

Brit Fryer, Noah Schamus | United States | 2022 | 16 min | English with captions

Blending personal interviews with dramatized reenactments, The Script explores the complicated relationship between trans and nonbinary communities and medical providers regarding gender-affirming care.

SÃO PAULO OPEN WOUND

Elizabeth Rocha Salgado  
Netherlands, Brazil | 2022 | 18 min | Portuguese with English subtitles

Underground queer artists make art, create spaces of togetherness, and share their urgent resistance.
Get your dessert stomachs ready for an encore screening of the crème de la crème of VQFF’s 2023 shorts. Carefully curated by our programmers from across our entire lineup, these delicacies are sure to satisfy all of your cravings.

Don’t forget to check out the other same-day encore screenings of our award winners (p. 18).

SUN, AUG 20
1:45 PM
INTERNATIONAL VILLAGE - THEATRE 9
We are proud to support the Vancouver Queer Film Festival and its mission to celebrate 2SLGBTQIA+ artists, who inspire social change through storytelling.
OPENING NIGHT PARTY

THU, AUG 10
8:00 PM TO
11:30 PM
VANCOUVER
PLAYHOUSE

Join us after our Opening Presentation: Stronger Together (p. 32) as we activate the Vancouver Playhouse balcony, lobby, and salons for our first party of the Festival! Complete with performers, DJs, food, a dance floor, and pockets of quiet space to sit, chat, and relax—there will be a little something for everybody. We can’t wait to celebrate our 35th year of queer programming with you!

Entry to this FREE event is included with tickets to Opening Presentation screening.

Must be 18+.

---

CLOSING PARTY

SAT, AUG 19
8:30 PM TO
11:30 PM
VANCOUVER
PLAYHOUSE

Wrap up this year’s VQFF with a party after our Closing Presentation: Runs In The Family (p. 35). Join us in the reception spaces of the Playhouse for a chance to connect with the community and reminisce about your favourite moments from the Festival. Food, performances, and DJs will keep you entertained. And with both dance spaces and quieter conversation spaces available, introverts, extroverts, and ambiverts alike can find their groove! Celebrate the culmination of 35 years of being stronger together!

Entry to this FREE event is included with tickets to the Closing Presentation screening.

Must be 18+.
CALLING ALL SAPPHICS, GAYS, AND NONBINARY BABES!

Are you ready to mingle? We’re partnering with some of the hottest organizers in the city to bring you the queer4queer parties of your dreams. Save the date for August 12 and go to our website for details. You won’t want to miss these!

GO TO QUEERFILMFESTIVAL.CA FOR MORE INFORMATION.

50/50 WIN/WIN

MARY, GET YOUR TICKETS!

50/50, THE ONLY BINARY WE’LL ACCEPT!

SHOOT YOUR SHOT.

5 FOR $10
25 FOR $35
100 FOR $50
250 FOR $100

SAT, AUG 12
FROM LATE TILL EVEN LATER!
Co-presented with DanceHouse and Vancouver International Flamenco Festival

Compañía Rocío Molina (SPAIN)

Fallen from Heaven | Caída del Cielo

“Ms. Molina is one of the greatest flamenco dancers I have seen, but to say that is not enough.”

– The New York Times

SEPTEMBER 27 – 30 / 2023 | 8pm
Fei and Milton Wong Experimental Theatre
Goldcorp Centre for the Arts 149 West Hastings Street
For those who have the “I bet I could DIY that” gene...

Learn more
Plus, get $50 in driving credit!

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CAPILANOU.CA/FILM
Every lens tells a story. Find the right one for yours.

Cheers to the storytellers.

www.panavision.com
At Scotiabank, we support and celebrate LGBT+ inclusion 365 days a year.

scotiabank.com/pride
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The magic of stories unites us.

As the proud lead partner, we salute the 2023 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
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Purchase at [queerfilmfestival.ca](http://queerfilmfestival.ca)

Contact 604-844-1615 x410 or [boxoffice@outonscreen.com](mailto:boxoffice@outonscreen.com)

## CONNECT

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