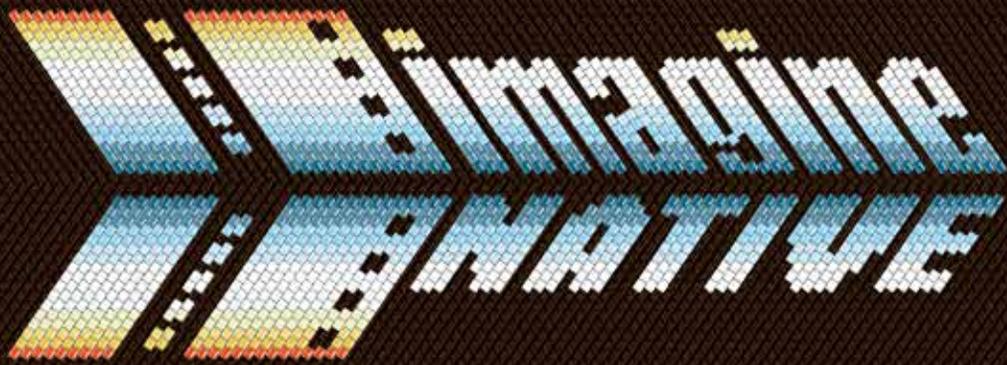


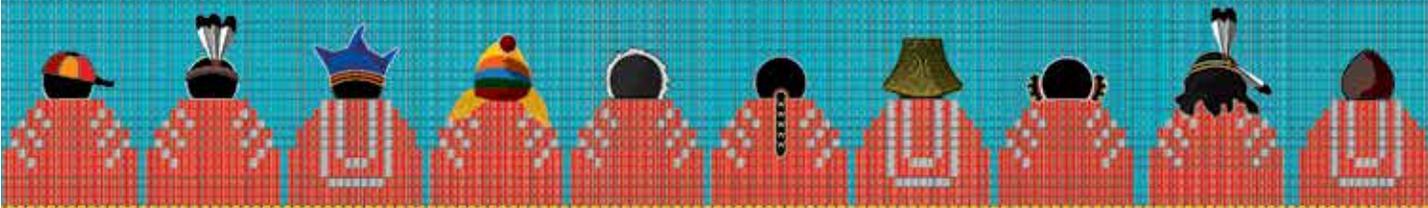
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17th ANNUAL FILM + MEDIA ARTS FESTIVAL



Original. Indigenous.



OCT 19-23 2016





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AND THE CHALLENGES SHE  
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# 17th Annual imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival

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Aboriginal Peoples Television Network  
Réseau de télévision des peuples autochtones

# Aboriginal Community Advisory Committee



## How to Get Involved

Parents and community members play a very important role in the success of our students. There are a variety of ways that you can get involved and contribute to your school community. Such as volunteering in your local school or participating in school councils or advisory committees.



Proud to support the  
imagineNATIVE Film + Media  
Arts Festival.



We are working together with  
imagineNATIVE to make a  
difference in our communities.



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M05236 (03/14)

## Proud Supporters of

The imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival  
and of the launch of the Bullseye Talent Search

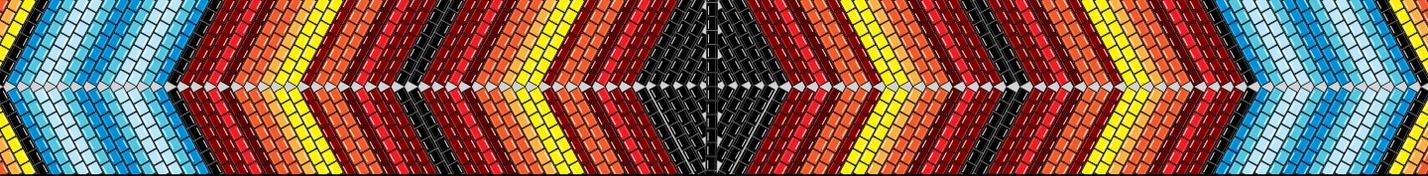


original. indigenous.



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# DECLARATION OF INDIGENOUS CINEMA

*WE, THE INDIGENOUS SCREEN STORYTELLERS,  
UNITED IN THIS NORTHERN CORNER OF OUR MOTHER THE EARTH  
IN A GREAT ASSEMBLY OF WISDOM DECLARE TO ALL NATIONS*

## **WE GLORY IN OUR PAST,**

- when our earth was nurturing our oral traditions
- when night sky evoked the visions of our dreams
- when Sun and the Moon were our parents in stories told
- when storytelling made us all brothers and sisters
- when our stories brought forth great chiefs and leaders
- when justice was upheld in the stories told.

## **WE WILL:**

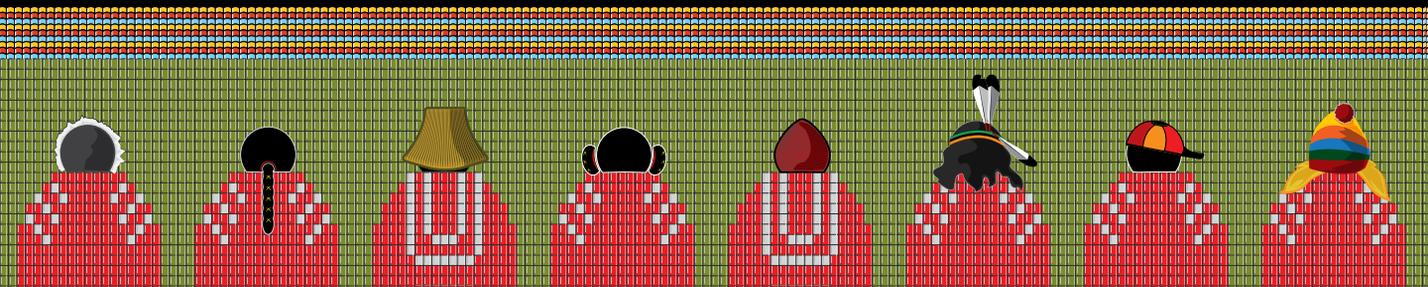
- Hold and manage Indigenous cultural and intellectual property.
- Ensure our continued recognition as primary guardians and interpreters of our culture.
- Respect Indigenous individuals and communities.
- Faithfully preserve our traditional knowledge with sound and image.
- Use our skills to communicate with nature and all living things.
- Heal our wounds through screen storytelling.
- Preserve and pass on our stories to those not yet born.

We will manage our own destiny and maintain our humanity and pride as Indigenous peoples through screen storytelling.

*Guovdageaidnu, Sápmi, October 2011*

*Written by Ása Simma (Sámi), with support from Darlene Johnson (Dunghutti), and accepted and recognized by the participants of the Indigenous Film Conference in Kautokeino, Sápmi, October 2011.*

*Thanks to the International Sámi Film Institute (Ása Simma and Anne Lajla Utsi) for sharing this document in our Catalogue. For more information on the Institute, visit [www.isf.as](http://www.isf.as).*





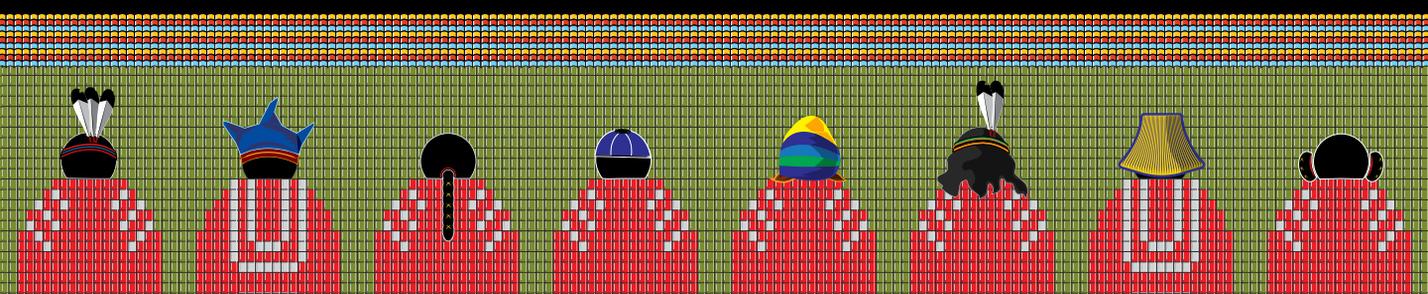
original. indigenous.

# 17TH ANNUAL FILM+MEDIA ARTS FESTIVAL

OCTOBER 19-23, 2016

SPONSORS	6
ABOUT IMAGENATIVE	8
FESTIVAL VENUES	10
FESTIVAL VILLAGE MAP	11
SPECIAL EVENTS	13
ACCESS INFO	14
BOX OFFICE	15
SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE	16
FESTIVAL GREETINGS	18
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	20
GREETINGS FROM OFFICIALS	22
INTERNATIONAL SPOTLIGHT	28
IMAGENATIVE IN THE SKY	31
INDIGITALKS	32
ART CRAWL	33
EXHIBITIONS	
WAIRUA	34
INDIGENOUS MOVIE MONSTERS	36
FOLDING FORCED UTOPIAS	37
ORE BODY	38
WNOONDWAAMIN	39
GOLDILOCKS TAHNON OKWARI	40
RECORDS + RECONSTRUCTIONS	41
DIGITAL MEDIA WORKS	42
WEB SERIES	45
DIGITAL MEDIA ART+CADE	46
AUDIO WORKS	48

OPENING DAY	
WELCOME GATHERING + PARTY	50
OPENING NIGHT GALA	51
FILM + VIDEO	
THURSDAY	52
FRIDAY	62
SATURDAY	77
SUNDAY	94
A NIGHT FOR CHANIE	84
2016 AWARDS	
AWARDS GALA	86
AWARDS JURY	88
AUGIE AWARD	89
MUSIC VIDEOS	90
THE BEAT	91
AWARD WINNERS SCREENING	106
CLOSING NIGHT GALA	107
INDUSTRY SERIES	
THURSDAY	108
FRIDAY	109
WICC	110
INDUSTRY LABS	111
MEDIATHEQUE	113
INDICES	
PRINT SOURCE	114
ARTISTS	117
COUNTRY	119



Presenting:



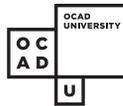
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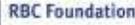
Silver:



Bronze:



Foundations:



Public Funders:



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Community Partners:



Mentorship Partners:



Festival Hotel:

Hospitality:



Media:



Individual Donors:

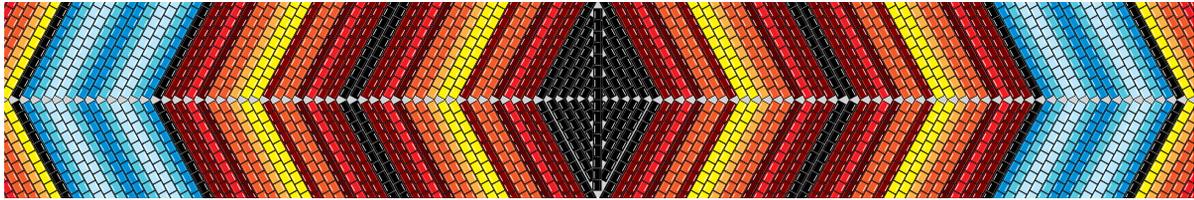
Anonymous in memory of August August Schellenberg, Eileen Arandiga, Paula Devonshire, Barbara Evans, Kona Goulet, Andrew Johnson, Adam Garnet Jones, Jason Edward Lewis, Kathleen Meeck, Andre Morriseau, Lewis Nicholson In Memory of Annie Pootoogook, Marcia Nickerson, Wendy Pearson, Anne Pick, Vincent Poulain, Terri Rodak, Shelagh Rogers, Jennifer Smith, Gail Vanstone In Memory of Leslie Vanstone, Trish Williams

A special thank you to Milton Winberg for the generous donation in memory of his wife Florence Winberg

A very special thank you to Emma Donoghue



# ABOUT IMAGINE NATIVE



401 RICHMOND STREET WEST,  
SUITE 349, TORONTO, ON  
M5V 3A8 CANADA

[www.imagineNATIVE.org](http://www.imagineNATIVE.org) #iN17 @imagineNATIVE

Tel: +1 416 585 2333  
Fax: +1 416 585 2313  
info@imagineNATIVE.org

facebook.com/imagineNATIVE  
twitter.com/imagineNATIVE  
youtube.com/imagineNATIVE

imagineNATIVE is the world's largest presenter of Indigenous screen content. The organization is recognized locally, nationally and internationally for excellence and innovation in programming and as the global centre for Indigenous media arts.

imagineNATIVE (legal entity: The Centre for Aboriginal Media) is a registered charity committed to creating a greater understanding of Indigenous peoples and cultures through the presentation of contemporary Indigenous-made media art (film, video, audio and digital media).

We are an Indigenous-run organization based in Toronto with a national and international reach. imagineNATIVE presents the world's largest Indigenous film festival, a national Tour and numerous other activities throughout the year. imagineNATIVE is one of the leading arts organizations in Canada and has twice been nominated for the highly competitive and prestigious Premier's Award for Excellence in the Arts (Ontario).

imagineNATIVE is committed to public education. To this end we conduct professional development workshops and panels, public education initiatives, research projects and curriculum/educators' packages for secondary schools created from Indigenous pedagogies.

In keeping with our artistic policy, the Festival prioritizes works that balance and present unique and new perspectives expressed within the content of the work; cultural, community and social relevance; a creative approach to form characterized by innovative expression; distinctive style; personal vision; and a practice of crossing aesthetic borders in terms of genre, medium and emerging content platforms.

imagineNATIVE is a Festival that supports the diverse artistic visions and perspectives of Indigenous artists working in the media arts; works selected for programming do not need to have overt Indigenous content or themes. As identified in our mission statement, imagineNATIVE is a charity committed to dispelling stereotypical notions of Indigenous peoples through diverse media presentations from within our communities, thereby contributing to a greater understanding by all audiences of Indigenous artistic expression.

Founded by Cynthia Lickers-Sage and Vtape, with the help of other community partners, imagineNATIVE is now the largest festival of its kind and an international hub for creative excellence and innovation in the media arts.

imagineNATIVE is committed to paying industry-standard artists fees for all our initiatives. For more information on imagineNATIVE, please visit our website.

### Statement on Programming

imagineNATIVE supports the work of Indigenous media artists, including those who give their time, insight and talent as Board members, staff, contractors and volunteers of the organization.

The Indigenous media arts community is a small one and we value Indigenous artistic representation within our organization. We believe we cannot disadvantage Indigenous artists who give their time to imagineNATIVE by excluding them from artistic presentation opportunities or prizes, both of which are determined without their input or influence.

These artists are eligible to submit their work to the Festival; however, they do not influence programming decisions. In cases where their work is being considered, they are not present for programming discussions and decisions about their work, nor do they have input into the scheduling of it.

These artists are also eligible for annual prizes. The Festival's competition is adjudicated by independent juries at arm's length from the organization.

Please contact us if you have any questions.

**imagineNATIVE is a Registered Charity  
#898938717 RR001**

**To donate, please visit: [www.imagineNATIVE.org](http://www.imagineNATIVE.org)**



Left to Right: Audrey Rochette, Judith Schuyler, Daniel Northway-Frank, Ameer Lè, Victoria Kucher, Jason Ryle, Dustin Lawrence, Ariel Smith, Soufian Jalili, Isidra Cruz, Saskia Rinkoff, Manny Sound, Savanna Chiblow, Savanna Chiblow.

### Board of Directors

Marcia Nickerson (Chair) • Andre Morriseau (Vice Chair) • Paula Devonshire (Treasurer) • Charlotte Engel (Secretary) • Eileen Arandiga • Shane Belcourt • Adam Garnet Jones • Kona Goulet • Jason Edward Lewis • Kathleen Meek • Anne Pick

### Advisors

Julie Ouellon-Wente • Pauline Shirt • Jesse Wente

### Patrons

Roberta Jamieson • Rhonda Kite • Frank Meawasige • Laura Michalchyshyn • Alanis Obomsawin • Bill Roberts • Carla Robinson • N. Bird Runningwater • Lisa Steele • Kim Tomczak • Patrick Watson • Margaret Zeidler

### Staff

Executive Director: Ariel Smith  
 Artistic Director: Jason Ryle  
 Industry Director: Daniel Northway-Frank  
 Fundraising Manager: Audrey Rochette  
 Communications Coordinator: Soufian Jalili  
 Communications Trainee: Savanna Chiblow  
 Guest Services Manager: Isidra Cruz  
 Programming Coordinator: Judith Schuyler  
 Events Manager: Ameer Lè  
 Events Trainee: Manny Sound  
 Festival Assistant Trainee: Dustin Lawrence  
 Volunteer Manager: Saskia Rinkoff  
 Visitor Services Coordinator: Smith Purdy  
 Front-of-House Manager: Victoria Kucher  
 Technical Coordinator: Eyan Logan  
 Catalogue Editor: Semareh Al-Hillal



Left to Right: Marcia Nickerson, Andre Morriseau, Paula Devonshire, Charlotte Engel, Eileen Arandiga, Shane Belcourt, Adam Garnet Jones, Kona Goulet, Jason Edward Lewis, Kathleen Meek and Anne Pick

### Programming Team (Selection Committee)

Pauline Clague • Heather Haynes • Jason Ryle

### Programming Advisors

Denise Bolduc • Danis Goulet • Adam Garnet Jones • Marcia Nickerson • Jesse Wente

### Design Team

Festival Creative: Terry Lau, Heli Prajapati, Khalid Ahsan / beehivedesign.com  
 Thanks to Bev Koski

### Trailer Team

Concept, Design, Animation: James Monkman  
 Sound Design: Puppy Machine Sound  
 Post-Production: Urban Post Production

### Publicity

Carrie Sager, President  
 FLIP Publicity  
 Flip-publicity.com



## SCREENING VENUES

- 1 **TIFF Bell Lightbox**  
 Reitman Square, 350 King Street West  
 (north side on King Street, west of University Avenue;  
 Subway Station: St Andrew)  
 Tickets & Info: + 1-416-599-TIFF (8433)  
 TIFF Bell Lightbox is fully accessible.
- 2 **Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema**  
 506 Bloor Street West  
 (north side on Bloor Street, east of Bathurst Street;  
 Subway Station: Bathurst) Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema's  
 main floor is fully accessible. The balcony and mezzanine  
 are not (there is no elevator).

## EVENTS VENUES

- 3 **Native Canadian Centre of Toronto**  
 16 Spadina Road  
 (west side on Spadina Road, ½ block north of Bloor St;  
 Subway Station: Spadina, Lines 1 & 2) The accessible  
 entrance is at the back of the building.
- 4 **Orchid**  
 82 Peter Street  
 (west side on Peter Street, ½ block north of King Street)  
 The main entrance for the event is through the patio.  
 The event space is fully accessible
- 5 **Art Exhibits**  
 401 Richmond Street West  
 (south side on Richmond Street, ½ block east of  
 Spadina Avenue)  
  
 A Space Gallery, Suite 110 | Gallery 44, Suite 120  
 Trinity Square Video, Suite 121 | YYZ Artists' Outlet, Suite 140  
 401 Richmond is fully accessible
- 6 **Artscape Sandbox**  
 301 Adelaide Street West  
 (south side on Adelaide Street, ½ block west of John  
 Street)  
 Artscape Sandbox is fully accessible.
- 7 **Horseshoe Tavern**  
 370 Queen Street West  
 (north side on Queen Street, east of Spadina Avenue)  
 The Horseshoe Tavern is fully accessible.

## FESTIVAL HOTEL

- 8 **Hilton Garden Inn**  
 92 Peter Street  
 (west side on Peter Street, one block north  
 of King Street West)

## HOSPITALITY PARTNERS

- 9 **Tea n Bannock**  
 1294 Gerrard Street East
- 10 **Ravi Soups**  
 322 Adelaide Street West
- 11 **Pita Pit**  
 318 Adelaide Street West
- 12 **Jugo Juice**  
 220 Yonge Street (Eaton Centre)
- 13 **Steam Whistle**  
 255 Bremner Boulevard
- 14 **Orchid**  
 82 Peter Street
- 15 **The Strathcona Hotel Downtown, Toronto**  
 60 York Street – [www.thestrathconahotel.com](http://www.thestrathconahotel.com)
- 16 **Northern Expressions**  
 595 Bay Street (The Atrium)
- 17 **MAKE UP FOR EVER**  
 Exclusively at Sephora

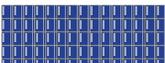
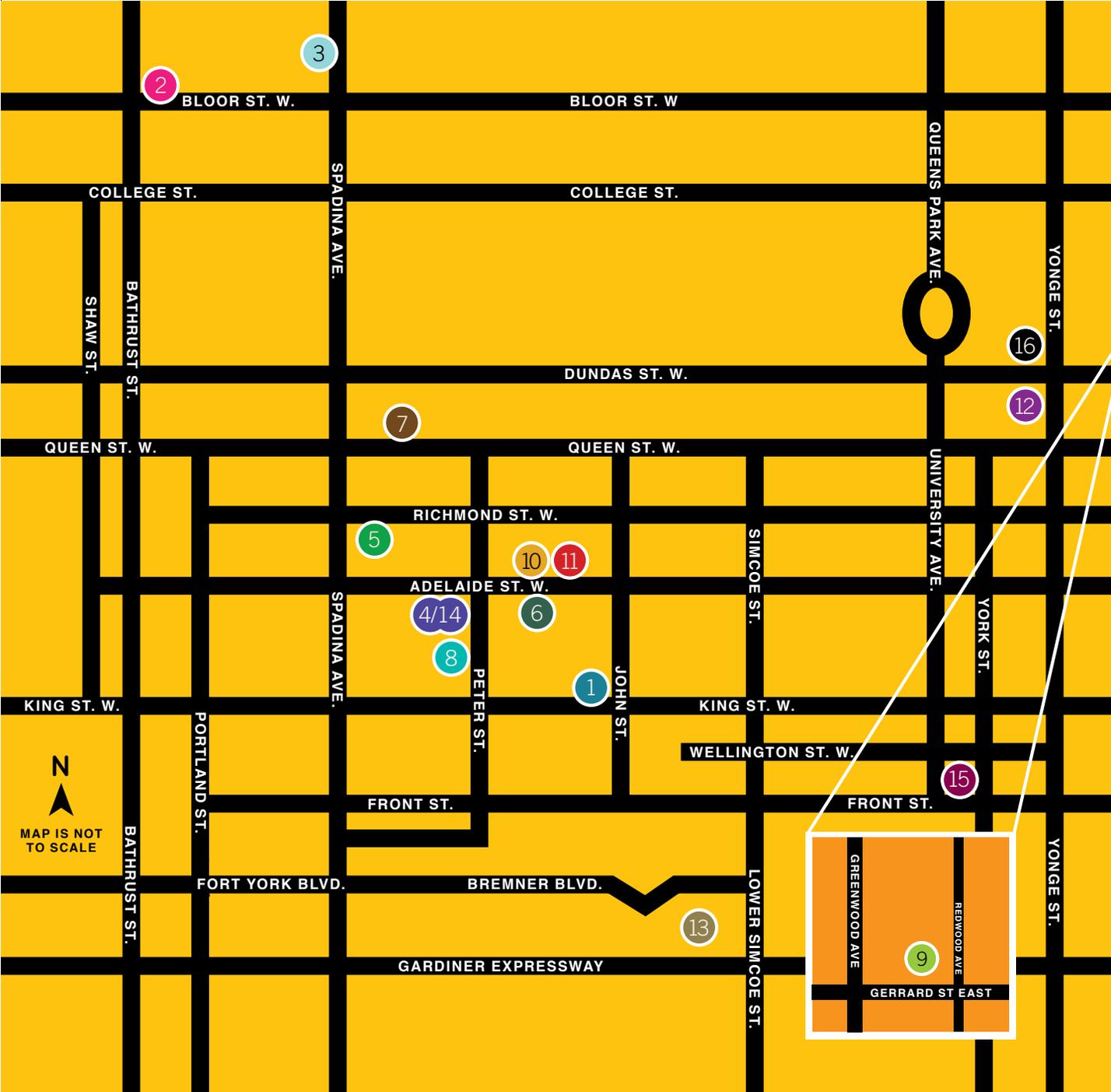
### Online - Ritual

Available on the App Store or Google Play

For information on hospitality discount offers,  
 please visit [www.imagineNATIVE.org](http://www.imagineNATIVE.org) or our Mobile App.

For more information on accessibility, please contact  
 Ameer Lê at [events@imaginenative.org](mailto:events@imaginenative.org)

# FESTIVAL VILLAGE MAP



# ANGRY INUK



Directed by  
Alethea Arnaquq-Baril

**Opening Night Gala**

Wednesday, October 19th | Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema



Produced in Association with Super Channel



Coming to Super Channel and Super Channel On Demand this November.  
Call your television provider to subscribe or visit [superchannel.ca](http://superchannel.ca) to find out more.

## Welcome Gathering

(p.50)

FREE and open to the public  
(all ages)

Presented by



Wed, Oct 19

2:00pm – 4:00pm

**Native Canadian Centre of Toronto**  
16 Spadina Road

Hosted by CBC's Candy Palmater

Welcome to the 17th annual imagineNATIVE as our cultural advisor commences with an opening prayer. Enjoy traditional singing and dance performances, local craft vendors and a community feast before going to the Festival's Opening Night Gala.

## Opening Night Party

(p.50)

\$5 or FREE to Opening Night  
Gala Ticket Holders and Pass  
Holders (19+)

Wed, Oct 19

9:00pm – 2:00am

**Orchid**

82 Peter Street

Celebrate the 17th annual Festival launch following the Opening Night Screening with music and dancing at Orchid. Get ready for Camera action at the Make Up For Ever station. Come early and savour some culinary delights, as the house DJ spins us into the night.

## Digital Media Art+Cade

(pg. 46)

FREE and open to the public

With support from



Thu, Oct 20 – Sat, Oct 22

10:00am – 6:00pm

Sun, Oct 23

10:00am – 4:00pm

**TIFF Bell Lightbox, 2nd Floor**  
350 King Street West

See [www.imagineNATIVE.org](http://www.imagineNATIVE.org) or our Mobile App for details about daily tours, demos and schedules.

imagineNATIVE's unique immersive digital media

playground featuring Indigenous gaming, Virtual Reality demonstrations and the Festival's programmed Audio and Digital Media works.

## Digital Media Artist Showcase

(p.45)

FREE and open to the public  
Thu, Oct 20

3:15pm – 4:15pm

**Digital Media Art+Cade**

**TIFF Bell Lightbox, 2nd Floor**

Join a selection of attending digital media artists as they present and discuss their programmed works.

## Audio Artist Showcase

(p.49)

FREE and open to the public  
Sat, Oct 22

11:00am – 12:00pm

**Allen Karp Meeting Room**

**TIFF Bell Lightbox, 5th Floor**

Join a selection of artists as they present and discuss their programmed radio and audio works.

## imagineNATIVE's Art Crawl

(p.33)

FREE and open to the public

Presented by



Fri, Oct 21

5:00pm – 9:15pm

**401 Richmond Street West**

Various Galleries (see below)

imagineNATIVE's media art extravaganza returns! Join us on our annual Art Crawl of exhibitions and co-presentations with partners A Space, Gallery 44, Trinity Square Video and YYZ Artists' Outlet at the 401 Richmond Building. Featuring contemporary Indigenous digital media art, commissions, retrospectives, performances and talks by leading curators and artists.

Art Crawl schedule:

## Wairua (p.34)

**A Space Gallery, Suite 110**

## Indigenous Movie Monsters (p.36)

**A Space Gallery Windows**  
**Hallway outside of Suite 110**  
Sep 27 to Oct 29, 2016

Festival Reception: Fri, Oct 21,  
5:00pm – 7:00pm  
Artist Talk: 5:30pm

## Folding Forced Utopias For You (p.37)

**Gallery 44, Suite 120 (Main Gallery)**

**Ore Body (p.38)**

**Gallery 44, Suite 120 (Vitrines)**

Oct 21 to Dec 3, 2016

Festival Reception:

Fri, Oct 21, 5:00pm – 8:00pm

Artist Talk: 6:00pm

## wnoondwaamin I we hear them (p.39)

**Trinity Square Video, Suite 121**

Oct 22 to Dec 10, 2016

Festival Reception:

Fri, Oct 21, 5:30pm – 7:30pm

Artist Talk: 6:30pm

## Goldilocks tahnnon

**Ohkwari (p.40)**

**YYZ Artists' Outlet, Suite 140**

Oct 8 to Dec 3, 2016

Festival Reception:

Fri, Oct 21, 6:30pm – 8:30pm

Artist Talk: 7:00pm

## Records and Reconstructions (p.41)

Screening and Performance

Co-presented with

Pleasure Dome

\$8 General / \$5 Pleasure

Dome Members / FREE to

imagineNATIVE Delegate

Passholders (Tickets available

through Pleasure Dome)

Fri, Oct 21 | 8:00pm – 9:15pm

**Artscape Sandbox**

**301 Adelaide Street West**

Join us for a special screening

of Lindsay McIntyre's short

films, preceded by a

performance by the artist.

## A Night for Chanie (p.84)

\$15

Presented by



Sat, Oct 22

5:30pm – 7:00pm

**TIFF Bell Lightbox Cinema 1**

**350 King Street West**

A one-of-a-kind evening honouring the memory and legacy of Chanie Wenjack. Featuring performances and presentations by Joseph

Boyden, Senator Murray Sinclair, Terril Calder, Digging Roots and special guests.

## Awards Gala (p.86)

Hosted by Craig Lauzon and CBC's Rosanna Deerchild  
FREE and open to the public  
(19+)

Presented by



This is a FREE ticketed event.  
Tickets can be obtained at our  
Festival Box Office (p.15).

Sat, Oct 22 | Doors: 7:30pm  
Show: 8:00pm sharp

**TIFF Bell Lightbox Cinema 2**  
**350 King Street West**

The winners of the 17th annual imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival will be announced. Join us to celebrate the world's top Indigenous film, video, radio and digital media works as we award the winners with over \$20,000 in cash & prizes.

## The Beat (p.91)

Featuring DJ Ariel, Shawnee,  
Wolf Saga and DJ Shub.

Presented by



\$12 (\$10 student/senior/  
underemployed/specific pass  
holders) (19+)

Sat, Oct 22 | 9:00pm – 2:00am  
**Horseshoe Tavern**  
**370 Queen Street West**

Celebrating Indigenous music and talent, the Beat returns this year with a superb line-up featuring sensational up-and-coming artists, Shawnee and Wolf Saga, beats by DJ Ariel and one of Indigenous music's finest, DJ Shub.



## **TD BANK GROUP ACCESS-FOR-ALL INITIATIVE**

imagineNATIVE is pleased to announce the TD Bank Group Access-for-All Initiative, a new initiative supported by the TD Bank Group that has reduced ticket prices for the 17th annual imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival!

Thanks to the TD Bank Group's generous contribution, regular priced individual tickets to all imagineNATIVE film screenings now cost only \$5 (down from \$8), making them one of the most affordable movie ticket prices in Toronto!

The TD Bank Group Access-for-All Initiative is intended to provide a greater opportunity for a larger number of individuals, including youth and low-income people, to experience imagineNATIVE's film and video programming.

Thank you, TD!



## **ONSITE ELDERS + SUPPORT WORKERS**

As a result of colonial violence many Indigenous people have experienced trauma. imagineNATIVE greatly values the importance of healing and cultural safety. We understands that some content presented by imagineNATIVE may be upsetting or triggering for direct or intergenerational survivors of trauma. For this reason Elders and support workers from the Ontario Indian Residential School Support Services will be available, for the duration of the Festival, onsite at the TIFF Bell Lightbox from 10am-6pm.

These services are for anyone, including non-Indigenous people, who requiring emotional support or assistance. Any imagineNATIVE volunteer in a red shirt or Festival staff person will be able to direct you to these supports upon request. Verbal disclaimers will also be given during introductions for any programmes containing scenes of graphic physical or sexual violence, or that deal with the issues of Indian Residential School, Sixties Scoop/Child Apprehension, or the epidemic of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two-Spirit people.

# TICKETS + PACKAGES

INDIVIDUAL TICKETS	REGULAR PRICE	SENIORS / STUDENTS WITH ID / LOW INCOME
Regular Screenings	\$5.00	\$5.00
Regular Screenings (before 6pm)	\$5.00	FREE TICKETED
Opening Night Gala (including Opening Night Party)	\$10.00	\$8.00
Opening Night Party only	\$5.00	\$5.00
A Night for Chanie	\$15.00	\$10.00
The Awards Gala	FREE TICKETED	FREE TICKETED
The Beat (advance and at the door)	\$12.00	\$10.00
Closing Night Gala	\$5.00	\$5.00

All regular screenings from Thursday, October 20 to Sunday, October 23 before 6pm are FREE to Seniors/Students with ID/ Low Income. FREE tickets must be picked up in person at the TIFF Bell Lightbox Box Office on the day of the event. One FREE ticket per person. We would like to thank the TD Bank Group for allowing our tickets to be more accessible.

TICKET PACKAGES	REGULAR PRICE	SENIORS / STUDENTS WITH ID / UNDEREMPLOYED
FLEXI 5 - 5 x Regular Screening tickets only	\$20.00	\$15.00
FLEXI 10 - 10 x Regular Screening tickets only	\$40.00	\$35.00
FLEXI 15 - 15 x Regular Screening tickets only	\$65.00	\$60.00

Flexi Packages are transferrable; share this package with your family & friends!

# HOW TO PURCHASE

BY PHONE	ONLINE	IN PERSON
<b>TIFF Box Office</b> <b>416-599-TIFF (8433)</b> 10:00am – 7:00pm daily	<a href="http://www.imagineNATIVE.org">www.imagineNATIVE.org</a>	<b>TIFF Box Office</b> <b>350 King St. West</b> Cash, debit and major credit cards accepted

# RUSH TICKETS

When a screening “goes rush” **it does not mean it’s sold out**. In past years, 95% of people in the Rush Line got into the screenings. Arrive early. Rush tickets will be released 15 minutes before screening time at the TIFF Bell Light Box Office based on availability.

**TICKETS HOLDERS:** Must arrive at least 30 minutes prior to the screening to ensure seating. We cannot guarantee a seat after this time.

**RATINGS:** Admittance to screenings may be restricted to those 18 years of age or younger. Please see film listings for programme ratings.

**FREE TICKETED:** Free screenings and events that require a ticket must be collected from TIFF Box Office on the day of the event based on a first come, first served basis. One FREE ticket per person.

**PST EXEMPT:** For Status Card holders please visit TIFF Bell Lightbox Box Office in person and present your Status Card when purchasing tickets.

Your pass gives you access to one (1) ticket per screening and some events. Your pass does NOT guarantee you a ticket. **Tickets are subject to availability.** You must claim your tickets at the TIFF Bell Lightbox Box Office only. You may select all your tickets for the Festival starting on October 4th. Once you have a ticket, **please arrive at least 30 minutes prior to guarantee entry**, or your ticket may be allocated to the Rush Line. **Delegate Passes are not transferrable.** If you chose not to use a ticket, please return it to Box Office so someone else can use it. Lost passes cannot be reprinted during the Festival.



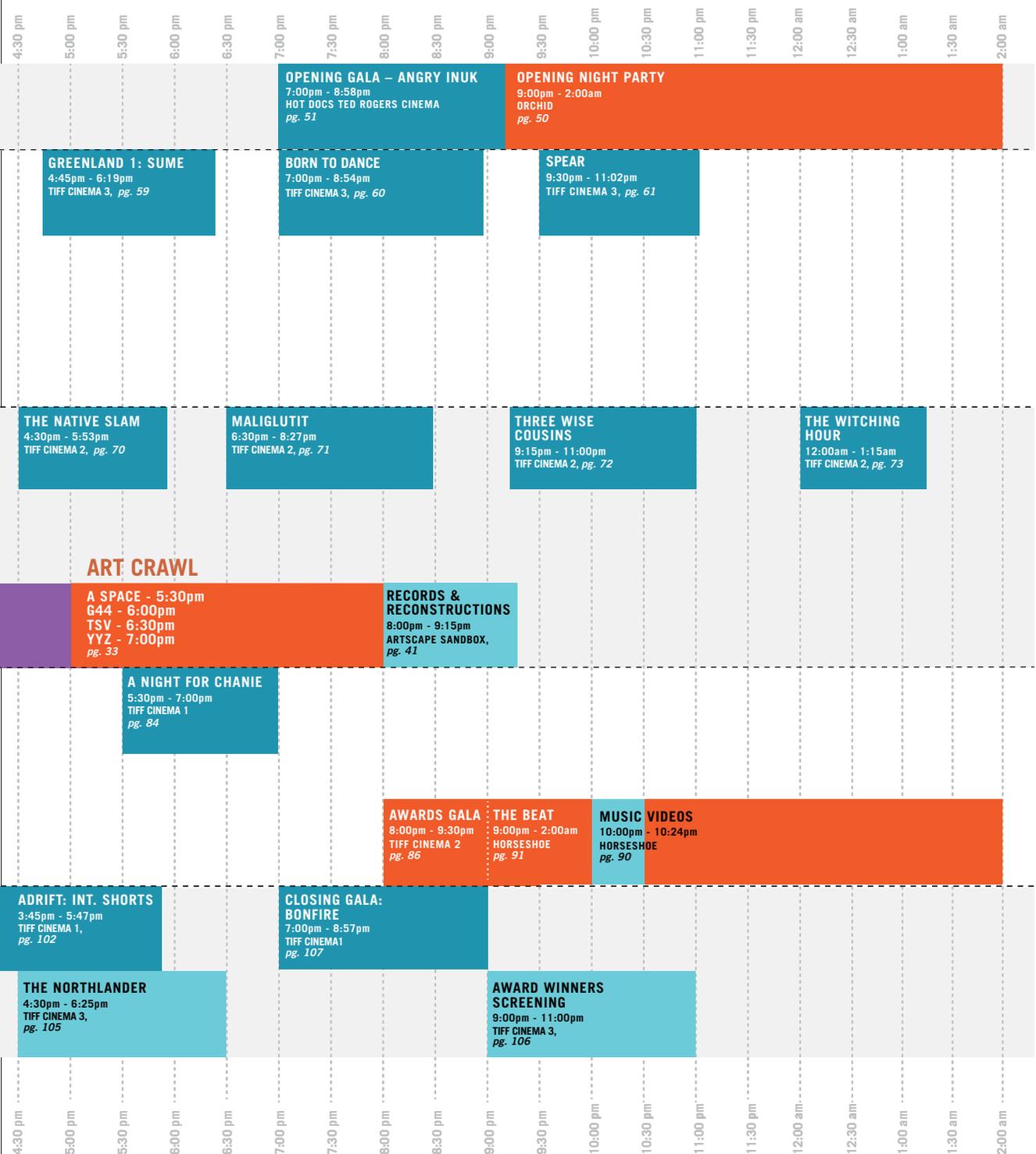


# SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

SC



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Welcome to the 17th annual imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival. This year I am thrilled to welcome Ariel Smith, our new Executive Director, to the "iN Family." Ariel brings a wealth of experience and community knowledge as she takes the helm.

This year is a fitting opportunity to honour all of the powerful women that have been integral to imagineNATIVE over the years. Women such as founding Executive Director Cynthia Lickers-Sage, founding Chair Roberta Jamieson, and patron Alanis Obomsawin; past Executive Directors Danis Goulet and Kerry Swanson; and exceptional staff such as Violet Chum, Sage Paul and Kerry Potts. Much gratitude to an incredible cadre of past board members including Denise Bolduc, Cheri Maracle, Gail Maurice and Connie Walker. These Indigenous women, along with long-time board member Gisèle Gordon and incredible community partners – co-founder Lisa Steele and Wanda Vanderstoop – have shaped and steered imagineNATIVE into a world-renowned organization.

Many thanks also to Pauline Clague, who has been integral to our mandate and has offered ongoing advice and support to imagineNATIVE since our inception. We are pleased to partner with Pauline this November to present the inaugural Winda Film Festival – "imagineNATIVE under the Milky Way" – a new Indigenous film festival based in Sydney, Australia.

Finally, special thanks to our cultural advisor, Pauline Shirt, who both grounds and guides us. Along with these extraordinarily talented and strong women, you have helped have create an organization with a proud legacy and a bright future.

**Marcia Nickerson**

Chair, Board of Directors



On behalf of all staff, I welcome you to the 17th imagineNATIVE!

In a way I feel that I have actually grown up alongside imagineNATIVE. My relationship with the festival began in 2004 when one of my works was programmed. I cannot stress enough how empowering and life changing this was for me as a young, emerging filmmaker and as a human being. Over the years I have been privileged enough to work as a programmer and workshop instructor for the organization and now, 12 years later, my life has again been changed by imagineNATIVE as I step into the role of Executive Director. It is amazing and inspiring to see just how the Festival has grown up, too.

As we reflect on the past 17 years and celebrate how far we have come, it is even more important that we never forget where we came from. imagineNATIVE would be nothing without the ground-breaking work of our founders, the support of our communities and the strength of our ancestors.

The link between Indigenous artistic expression and Indigenous self-determination is irrefutable. As the largest exhibitor of Indigenous screen media in the world, we know what a powerful tool it is; a tool that in the right hands can be used to disrupt, to challenge, to claim space and to heal.

We remain humbled on an ongoing basis by the resilience, beauty and genius of Indigenous media artists from Canada and around the world. We are honoured and excited to present you with their work.

Enjoy the Festival!

**Ariel Smith**  
Executive Director



I lend my voice in welcoming you – and Ariel – to this year’s Festival, and I sincerely hope you enjoy this year’s selection.

A huge thanks to all of the artists who shared their works with us. Each one speaks to the continued vitality, complexity and beauty of Indigenous media arts. We had a record number of submissions this year and thus a particularly tough job with programming. I want to thank my fellow programmers Pauline Clague and Heather Haynes for their hard work, passion and commitment, and the Programming Advisors for their guidance.

From Greenland to Aotearoa, this year’s Festival line-up offers inspiration, intrigue and intensity mixed with humour, passion and strength. I’ve been programming for 14 years now, and it’s wonderful to see how each year has its own character and uniqueness. It’s a privilege and pleasure to be immersed in the work of Indigenous media artists and I hope you get to see as much as you can – every work is a gift to you, just as you are a gift to imagineNATIVE.

Thank you for coming and I hope you enjoy the Festival.

**Jason Ryle**  
Artistic Director



It is with warm wishes that I welcome you in my new position to our 17th edition. We look towards our industry and professional development initiatives with enthusiasm as we begin a new phase dedicated to year-round initiatives that support the art, craft and business of Indigenous media arts. Highlights of our robust series of Industry Series professional development events include a spotlight on VR, marketing for newbies and content “discoverability.” As well, it’s our first year of “mini-labs” for our three main disciplines, which we hope will drive the advancement of emerging key creative Indigenous voices in the larger industry. Don’t forget to check out the return of the popular Digital Media Art+Cade and some new experiences from leading audio and digital media artists.

I look forward to spending time with you at these activities, and we thank all our delegates, panellists and mentors for their commitment to our industry year after year.

**Daniel Northway-Frank**  
Industry Director



I warmly welcome you all to the 17th annual imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival.

I would like to wholeheartedly thank all of our generous partners, funders, sponsors and donors for their dedication and commitment to a relationship with imagineNATIVE filled with respect and reciprocity. Each year we strategically plan how far we can stretch these contributions to have a greater impact on our community and provide ways to be even more accessible to all. We have been able to create new opportunities with our sponsors to achieve these goals. We are a platform for reconciliation, celebration, expression and relationship building.

Your financial support and guidance to imagineNATIVE is immensely significant, and we could not exist without you. You make our Festival dreams a reality.

Thank you.

**Audrey Rochette**  
Fundraising Manager



imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival would like to thank our public and foundation partners for their generous support:



Youssef El Jai, Félipe Diaz, Noel Habel, Koba Johnson, Kelly Langaard, Steve Loft, Ian Reid, Michèle Stanley, Lys Stevens (Canada Council for the Arts)  
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 Claire Hopkinson, Peter Kingstone (Toronto Arts Council)



We would also like to send a special thank you to our corporate partners:



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Huge thanks to this year's individual donors\*:



Anonymous in memory of August August Schellenberg, Eileen Arandiga, Paula Devonshire, Emma Donoghue, Barbara Evans, Kona Goulet, Andrew Johnson, Adam Garnet Jones, Jason Edward Lewis, Kathleen Meek, Andre Morriseau, Lewis Nicholson In Memory of Annie Pootoogook, Marcia Nickerson, Wendy Pearson, Anne Pick, Vincent Poulain, Terri Rodak, Shelagh Rogers, Jennifer Smith, Gail Vanstone In Memory of Leslie Vanstone, Trish Williams

A special thank you to Milton Winberg for the generous donation in memory of his wife Florence Winberg

\* As of September 24, 2016

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A BIG thank you to our indispensable colleagues and community partners:

Lori Willcox (3 Guineas Business Solutions)  
 Jason Lewis, Skawennati Fragnito (AbTeC)  
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 Ana Barajas (YYZ Artists Outlet)  
 Louanne Chen, Chris Chin, Kristine Estorninos (Reel Asian)

## Special thanks to Festival founder Cynthia Lickers-Sage and co-founder Vtape.



### Emma Donoghue

A very special thank you to Emma Donoghue for her incredibly generous gift to support the annual Festival and our year-round initiatives, with a focus on mentorships and professional development programmes and all our anonymous donors. Her \$20,000 donation is the single largest individual donation made to imagineNATIVE to date.

## Donate to imagineNATIVE

imagineNATIVE is an Indigenous run registered charity #8989 38717 RR0001

We run year-round programming activities dedicated to presenting and supporting Indigenous media arts.  
 Tax receipts will be issued

To donate to imagineNATIVE please visit [www.imginenative.org](http://www.imginenative.org)



I am pleased to send greetings to all those in attendance at the 17th imagineNATIVE Film and Media Arts Festival.

The images on the screen pass by our eyes, one after the other. We see actors and sets, locations of the imagination and of the real world. We see stories unfold, tales of the long ago and tales of the far future, true stories and stories that say true things. Most of all, we see the vision of the filmmaker, particularly Indigenous artists who have a unique view to share with their community and with all Canadians. This year's films will be shown to enthusiastic audiences and will no doubt provoke thoughtful discussions and perhaps even inspire others to tell their own stories.

I am grateful to all the organizers for giving Indigenous artists a way to exhibit their works.

**David Johnston**



THE GOVERNOR GENERAL · LE GOUVERNEUR GÉNÉRAL



Dear Friends:

I am delighted to extend my warmest greetings to everyone taking part in the 17th imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival, being held in Toronto.

This event —the largest of its kind in the world— is a testament to the diversity of the world's Indigenous cultures and to the vitality of Indigenous media arts. Over the course of the next five days, audiences will have the opportunity to take in a fascinating array of film, video, audio and digital works by Indigenous artists from Canada and around the world. Artists and industry professionals, on the other hand, will benefit from the festival's many networking and professional development opportunities. Highlights of the week include an international spotlight, panel discussions, workshops, cultural events and exhibitions.

I would like to commend imagineNATIVE for their commitment to providing a platform for Canadian and international Indigenous filmmakers and media artists to share their unique perspectives and stories. Your efforts ensure the continued success of this outstanding event and provide a rewarding and enlightening experience for everyone involved.

Please accept my best wishes for a memorable festival.

Sincerely,

**Justin Trudeau**

The Rt. Hon. Justin P.J. Trudeau,  
P.C., M.P.



PRIME MINISTER · PREMIER MINISTRE



Perspective is everything. Our outlook is shaped by numerous factors that inform our ideas, opinions, and emotions. It is important that we share our perspectives because in their uniqueness, we learn about the experiences, hopes, and dreams of one another.

For the next five days, we as an audience will enjoy the energy and creativity of artists presenting work at the 17th imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival. This significant event also brings together the international Indigenous media arts community to establish and strengthen connections within the industry. The festival is an excellent chance for non-Indigenous and Indigenous peoples to gain perspective on each other, and it is my hope that much constructive dialogue ensues.

As The Queen's representative in Ontario, I applaud the imagineNATIVE board of directors, staff, volunteers, and artists, and thank you for your contributions to the flourishing Indigenous arts scene in Ontario. Please accept my very best wishes for an enriching experience.

**Elizabeth Dowdeswell**



THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF ONTARIO  
LA LIEUTENANTE-GOUVERNEURE DE L'ONTARIO



On behalf of the Assembly of First Nations and National Executive, I am pleased to extend greetings to everyone attending the 2016 imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival.

imagineNATIVE is a celebration of the incredible talent of Indigenous artists from across Turtle Island and beyond who help shape our communities and societies.

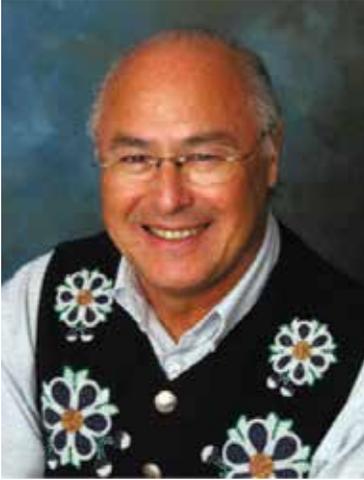
Through a diverse showcase of film, video, audio and digital media works, imagineNATIVE provides a unique opportunity to share Indigenous stories and perspectives with one another and with audiences of all backgrounds. I want to commend imagineNATIVE for fostering an increased understanding of Indigenous cultures through its programming and providing a platform that encourages cross-cultural dialogue.

I thank all of the organizers, artists, volunteers and sponsors who make this event possible every year.

Enjoy the festival!

**Perry Bellegarde**  
Assembly of First Nations





On behalf of the Métis National Council, I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to everyone attending the 17th Annual imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival.

The imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival offers an ideal opportunity to celebrate the latest works by Indigenous peoples on the forefront of innovation in film, video, radio and new media. It is through these initiatives that Métis, First Nations, and Inuit have kept ourselves strong. We all have much to be proud of.

The Métis National Council applauds all of the organizers and volunteers who have worked to make this festival happen again for the 17th year. I wish everyone a very memorable and successful celebration.

Once, again, congratulations and best wishes from the Métis nation.

Yours for Indigenous self-determination and cultural liberation.

**Clement Chartier, QC**



I would like to congratulate imagineNATIVE on their 2016 Film + Media Arts Festival. Film is one of the most impactful media through which our people are sharing our own stories and perspectives with the world. Self-determination begins with representation and we have come such a long way since *Nanook of the North* was released in 1922, a fake, staged documentary about an Inuit family.

In this year's festival, *Angry Inuk* and *Maliglutit* serve as vivid examples of the power of film to celebrate Inuit self-determination, strength, and perseverance. Congratulations to Alethea Arnaquq-Baril and Zacharias Kukuk on these outstanding films.

Each year, the imagineNATIVE festival amplifies Inuit voices and nurtures talented artists and I congratulate your work. I wish you all the best in the 17th year of the festival.

**Natan Obed**  
President of Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami





Welcome to the 17th imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival!

The Government of Canada is committed to protecting and promoting Indigenous cultures. This is why we are pleased to support the imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival. In addition to providing a showcase for works by creative and innovative Indigenous artists in film, video, radio and digital media, this important cultural event also serves as a meeting place for artists, industry professionals and audiences from across the country and around the world.

As Minister of Canadian Heritage, I commend imagineNATIVE on allowing us to discover and appreciate the unique heritage, arts and cultures of Indigenous peoples. I would also like to thank everyone who spared no effort in making this year's event a success. Enjoy the festival!

**The Honourable Mélanie Joly**



On behalf of the Government of Ontario, I am delighted to welcome everyone to the imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival.

Now in its 17th year, this festival has become one of Toronto's most anticipated film and media arts events — and a testament to the tremendous talent of Indigenous artists.

This year's works will be a great opportunity for film and arts lovers of all cultural backgrounds to witness the compelling stories and images created by contemporary Indigenous filmmakers and other artists.

I thank imagineNATIVE's staff and volunteers for their commitment to building a strong Indigenous culture within our diverse society. The festival's success has created a powerful platform for Indigenous artists who want to bring their stories and skills to the world. It has also helped strengthen Ontario's reputation as an international hub of film and other creative industries.

Please accept my best wishes for the festival's continued success.

**Kathleen Wynne**  
Premier





On behalf of the Government of Ontario, I am delighted to welcome everyone to the 17th annual imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival.

As Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport I have great appreciation for the artistry, ingenuity and craft of Ontario's cultural creators and the vital role they play in contributing to our province's economic and social prosperity.

I would like to thank the hard working and creative Indigenous artists who are pushing the envelope in film, video, radio and digital media. Your dedication to your craft helps to enrich the lives and experiences of all Ontarians.

I would also like to commend imagineNATIVE's staff, volunteers and partners for your continued success in hosting the largest festival of its kind in the world.

I wish you all an inspiring, thought-provoking and entertaining festival!

All my best,

**The Honourable Eleanor McMahon**  
Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport



I am pleased to extend greetings and a warm welcome to everyone attending the 17th annual imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival.

ImagineNATIVE is one of the largest annual indigenous film and media arts festival in the world and showcases the talented work of Canadian Aboriginal artists, fostering a greater appreciation and cultural understanding of our Indigenous communities.

This year's festival will feature an international Spotlight, IndigiCade gaming panels, industry events and an exhibition.

I wish to welcome everyone to our city and encourage you to enjoy Toronto at this time of year as well as learn about our vibrant neighbourhoods.

On behalf of Toronto City Council, I thank the organizers, sponsors and volunteers for making this year's event possible. Please accept my best wishes for an enjoyable festival and continued success.

Yours truly,

**Mayor John Tory**  
City of Toronto





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For many, Greenland is somewhat of a quiet mystery. Like many places in the northern circumpolar, it's a region few have visited but many have imagined. As one of the world's largest Indigenous nations – almost 90% of the population is Inuit (Greenlandic) – Greenland is a place of strength, vitality and pride. Geographically a part of the North American continent, its ties to Denmark (which colonized it) remain strong, but so too are the people's connection to Inuit in Canada.

Over the last 17 years, Greenlandic Inuit artists have picked up the camera, using film and video to reflect their cultures, humour and realities on the screen and to share with us the power and depth of their stories. For this year's International Spotlight we are incredibly honoured and pleased to present – for the first time – a showcase of work by Inuit filmmakers from Greenland. These artists present a rich tapestry of comedy, horror and wonder in this collection, which has been guest programmed by Greenlandic filmmakers Pipaluk K. Jørgensen and Emile Hertling Péronard.

Co-Presented By:

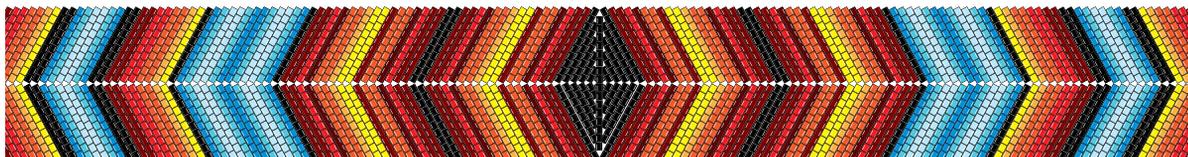


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The Nordic Institute  
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## A Note on Greenlandic Cinema

By Emile Hertling Péronard, Guest Programmer

The midnight sun in summer. The northern lights in winter. The rugged mountains, frozen fjords, the never-ending ice cap. Greenland was made for filmmaking!

Since the dawn of cinema, Greenland has provided a spectacular backdrop for films of almost any genre – great films, like Erik Balling's *Qivittoq*, which gave Denmark its very first Oscar nomination for Best Foreign Film back in 1956. But in almost a hundred years of filmmaking and through a variety of very diverse works of cinema, the films all had one thing in common: they were never made by Greenlanders. When we saw them, they were like good-looking strangers: attractive, familiar, but still foreign. And more importantly, we didn't recognize ourselves in them.

That's why *Sinilluarit (Goodnight)* by Inuk Silis Høegh was a game changer. Released in 1999 as the first independently produced Greenlandic film, this 15-minute comedy has a universal theme – love and sexual frustration – but its humour is uniquely Greenlandic. The polar bear was out of the bag, but it took almost another ten years before Greenland's first feature film came out.

Contrary to popular belief, this film was not *Nuummioq (A Man From Nuuk)* – the 2010 Sundance select that was presented as Greenland's first international feature film (and which also screened at imagineNATIVE). In December 2008, 23-year-old Ujarneq Fleischer released *Tikeq, Qiterleq, Mikileraq, Eqqeqqoq (Fore Finger, Middle Finger, Ring Finger, Little Finger)* in Greenland – writing a piece of film history that he produced by himself, starring himself and for a budget of \$100 Canadian dollars.

Ujarneq's debut film (which is screened here as part of the Spotlight) proved symptomatic for the subsequent wave of Greenlandic films and the rise of a small but devoted film community in Greenland, where films are produced on a combination of small budgets and big enthusiasm. Since 2008, roughly one feature-length film has been released every year. Increasing global interest in Greenlandic cinema has added to the speed of this *nouvelle vague*, and political interest and state production funding has risen accordingly.

From our position in one of the world's youngest film industries, we the filmmakers of Greenland can now not only show the magnificent beauty of our filming location to the world. We can give you the full flavour of our rich culture, the qualities of our oral storytelling traditions and the complexity of modern life lived in the ever changing Arctic. We can tell our own stories on film. Made by us.

## SCREENINGS

**Greenland Spotlight I: SUMÉ** (pg. 59)

Thursday, October 20, 4:45pm

TIFF Bell Lightbox, Cinema 3

**Greenland Spotlight II: Fingers** (pg. 66)

Friday, October 21, 2:00pm

TIFF Bell Lightbox, Cinema 6

**Greenland Spotlight III: Shorts** (pg. 78)

Saturday, October 22, 12:00pm

Artscape Sandbox

**Greenland Spotlight IV: Greenland Rising** (pg. 95)

Sunday, October 23, 11:30am

TIFF Bell Lightbox, Cinema 4

## GUEST PROGRAMMERS

**Pipaluk K. Jørgensen**

*Pipaluk K. Jørgensen (Inuk) finds her place in film, theatre and writing. She produced, wrote and directed her first theatre play age 26 and has since started her own production company, Karitas Productions, in Nuuk, the capital of Greenland, where she lives and works. Pipaluk is a central figure in Greenlandic cinema and works as a successful producer and director of shorts, features and documentaries. She received the Hans Lyngø Cultural Award in 2015 and chairs the board of the recently founded Greenlandic Film Association, Film.GL. Her upcoming dramatic feature, Anori, is being presented as a work-in-progress at the Greenland Rising presentation of this year's Spotlight.*

**Emile Hertling Péronard**

*Emile Hertling Péronard (Inuk) was born in Copenhagen but grew up in Nuuk with his Greenlandic mother and Danish father. He owns a self-titled production company in Copenhagen, Emile Peronard, and co-owns Anorâk Film with Inuk Silis Høegh, based in Nuuk. Emile produced the award-winning SUMÉ – The Sound of a Revolution and is in production on numerous films. He is also highly active in promoting Greenlandic film content internationally, setting up talent initiatives for Greenlandic filmmakers and improving film production conditions in Greenland, in addition to serving on the board of FILM.GL.*



Once again, imagineNATIVE takes off in partnership with Air Canada to bring travellers a specially curated selection of moving and entertaining short films by Indigenous artists from Canada. From September through December 2016, imagineNATIVE Presents: Canadian Indigenous Shorts, will be available on all enRoute in-flight entertainment systems under the Canadian section of the Movies category.

Spend a part of your next Air Canada flight with imagineNATIVE, as we celebrate and promote Indigenous talent with this special initiative!



**Films in the programme include:**

**Mobilize** (3 min)  
by Caroline Monnet (Algonquin)

**Niagara** (5 min)  
by Shelley Niro (Mohawk)

**MIA'** (8 min)  
by Bracken Hanuse (Wuikinuxv and Klahoose)  
and Amanda Strong (Michif)

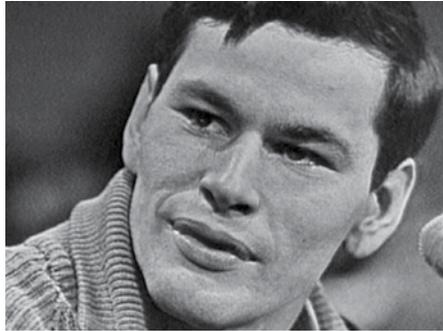
**Assini** (15 min)  
by Gail Maurice (Métis/Cree)

**Nowhere Land** (15 min)  
by Bonnie Ammaq (Inuk)

**Without Words** (17 min)  
by Julies Koostachin (Cree)



The Ballad of Crowfoot  
© 1968 National Film Board of Canada  
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Willie Dunn



The Other Side of the Ledger: An Indian  
View of the Hudson's Bay Company  
© 1972 National Film Board of Canada  
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Sponsored by: **R&MLANG  
FOUNDATION**

indigiTALKS is imagineNATIVE's lecture series exploring Indigenous media arts in all its diversity, complexities and nuances. Programmers, artists, curators and community members alike are invited to create a live, TED Talks-style presentation that aims to shed new light and perspectives on the unique storytelling, style and creativity of Indigenous media arts and artists past, present and future.

This year, imagineNATIVE invited filmmaker and writer Zachary Johnston to present a talk on Willie Dunn, the legendary, trailblazing filmmaker, singer and artist who was born in 1942 and walked on in 2013.

**This event is FREE and open to the public.**

Please claim your ticket in person at the TIFF Bell Lightbox Box Office.  
One ticket per person.

### **Son of a Sun: The Life, Art and Politics of Willie Dunn**

Born to a mixed family of Scottish/Irish and Mi'kmaq blood, Willie Dunn grew up in a Montreal full of jazz clubs, folk guitars and cold winter nights. After serving in the Canadian Armed Forces and seeing the world while wearing army greens, Willie returned home and was given his first guitar. This innocuous gift sent him down a path that would inspire and insight in the name of Native America. Willie Dunn became an artist activist who used folk music, film and the canvas to protest the dire state of affairs many First Nations people found themselves in during the 1960s and 1970s – situations which still ring true to this day.

By exploring Willie's creativity and motivation through his films, songs and art, we'll gain an understanding of the illuminated life for the "Indian" in the Americas. Willie headed the first all-Indigenous film production when he made a short film for his song *The Ballad Of Crowfoot* (1968, National Film Board of Canada), making cinematic history in the process. Willie would later make films exploring environmental degradation and linguistic maladies plaguing Native land and Native life. After Willie's success with film, he moved on to record several albums throughout the 1970s and 1980s, which allowed his protest movement for a better world to take the airwaves of Canada, the US, and even Europe, by storm. As Willie's life wound down into the 21st century, he turned his attention to the canvas and paints. His world came full circle as he became an icon of Indigenous North America and our right to basic respect and freedoms that always seem just out of our reach.

Presented by **Zachary Johnston**  
(Skokomish/Yakama)



*Zachary Johnston was born near the Skokomish Reservation in western Washington state. His father raised him off the reservation, but maintained close ties to a Native life in the mountains of the Olympics and the seas of the Salish Sea. Zachary went on to study politics and history in Washington, D.C., before becoming a traveller and teacher and spending the better part of the 2000s circumnavigating the globe. Over the last decade Zachary has worked as a documentary filmmaker and writer. He completed a short documentary about an engagement ceremony in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo in 2009, and he is currently a writer for Uproxx Life, covering food, drink, travel and Indigenous-themed issues.*



### imagineNATIVE's Art Crawl

Free and open to the Public  
Co-Presented by:



Friday, October 21, 5:00–9:15pm

**Various Galleries in 401 Richmond Building, Artscape Sandbox**

Join art lovers on imagineNATIVE's inspiring, insightful and entertaining arts crawl of exhibitions and co-presentations with gallery partners A Space, Gallery 44, Trinity Square Video, YYZ Artists' Outlet and ArtScape Sandbox in and near the historic 401 Richmond building. At each stop, engage with exhibition curators and attending artists and enjoy some of the best in contemporary Indigenous media art, commissions and retrospectives. Snacks and refreshments available.

Reception begins at 5:00pm at A Space Gallery, with the first artist talk at 5:30pm.

### Wairua + Indigenous Movie Monsters

A Space Gallery, Suite 110

Reception: 5:00–8:00pm, Curator & Artist Talk: 5:30pm  
(see pg. 34 for full details)

### Folding Forced Utopias for you + Ore Body

Gallery 44, Suite 120

Reception: 5:00–8:00pm, Curator & Artist Talk: 6:00pm  
(see pg. 37 for full details)

### wnoondwaamin | we hear them

Trinity Square Video, Suite 376

Reception: 5:30–8:00pm, Curator & Artist Talk: 6:30pm  
(see pg. 39 for full details)

### Goldilocks Tahnon Ohkwari, YYZ Artists' Outlet, Suite 140

Reception: 6:00–8:00pm, Curator & Artist Talk: 7:00pm  
(see pg. 40 for full details)

### Records and Reconstructions: Lindsay McIntyre's Portraits in Process

Artscape Sandbox, 301 Adelaide St. West

8:00–9:15pm. Doors open at 7:30pm. Performance: 8:00pm,  
Screening: 8:30pm, Artist Talk: 9:00pm  
(see pg. 41 for full details)



*Te Taki*. Film Still. 2016. Rona Ngahuia Osborne and Dan Mace. Image used with permission from the Museum of Waitangi, Aotearoa New Zealand.

## WAIRUA

Rona Ngahuia Osborne & Dan Mace

### Exhibition Premiere

Proudly presented by:



### Exhibition Publication

Presented by:



### A Space Gallery

401 Richmond Street West, Suite 110

September 27–October 29, 2016

Reception: Friday, October 21, 5:00–8:00pm

Artists Talk: Friday, October 21, 5:30pm, as part of Art Crawl  
(pg. 33)

With support from:



In their Canadian exhibition premiere, partners and creative collaborators Rona Osborne and Dan Mace present three video works connected by wairua, a Māori concept relating to the spirit or soul. Wairua also refers to universal energy, a thread woven through all the works, each of which utilise abstract personification and sound to explore the physical world, the stars and human ritual.

The exhibition is accompanied by a publication with an essay written by Fiona P. McDonald, PhD. To read the essay, visit A Space Gallery for the exhibition publication or visit our website.

Artists' Statements on the Works Presented:

### Te Taki

As you enter the gallery you are met by a Māori warrior, a kaiwero, presented at eye level, on the wall directly in front of you. A pūtātara (conch-shell trumpet) sounds. The warrior's confrontational stance and glaring eyes seek out your gaze as he flicks the blade of his taiaha fiercely, poised for combat. Behind him stand the shadows of his ancestors, gathered here to welcome you into their space. He kneels slowly, and lays a single feather on the ground before you. As he backs away, a woman approaches, calling to you, and to the people from whom you have descended. Her voice ebbs and flows, becoming a spiritual rope that wraps around you, pulling you in, making it safe for you to enter.

The taki, or challenge, is a fundamental aspect of formal pōwhiri, the ancient Māori ritual of welcome. Rich in symbolic meaning and visual spectacle, the underlying purpose of pōwhiri is for a tribe to determine the intention of a visitor or group of visitors: are you coming in peace, or to make war? The feather represents an offering placed before our manuwhiri (our visitors) as a gesture of goodwill. The taki is both a challenge and an invitation to communicate. To enter the space is to pick up this challenge and accept the invitation.

*This work is presented with the kind permission of the Museum of Waitangi, where it is held on permanent display.*  
[www.waitangi.org.nz](http://www.waitangi.org.nz)

### Whetūrangī

*Whetūrangī* is an immersive audio-visual installation that explores a striking star cluster in the night sky. These stars are known by



*Whetūrangī*: Detail of "Tupu-a-Nuku". 2015. Rona Ngahuia Osborne and Dan Mace. Image used with permission by artists.



*Elemental: Whenua* (detail). 2016. Rona Ngahuia Osborne and Dan Mace. Image used with the permission of the artists.

many names around the world, including Makali'i, Subaru, The Seven Sisters, Thurayya, and Pleiades. In Aotearoa New Zealand we know them as Matariki. In our stories, Matariki consists of seven individual stars: Matariki, Tupu-a-nuku, Tupu-a-rangi, Waiti, Waitā, Waipuna-a-rangi and Ururangi. *Whetūrangī* presents these tūpuna whetū, these ancestral stars, in the form of seven women. They are represented by seven separate video loops arranged in the shape of the constellation. The style of costume and general presentation of each wahine, or woman, is carefully constructed to reflect characteristics of the star she represents. *Whetūrangī* features a rhythmic, musical soundscape created by the tūpuna whetū themselves - some play instruments, some use vocal sounds and words. The seven loops are of differing durations – as a result, the soundscape is organically evolving, and will never be the same twice. Each character's soundtrack is an enchanting waiata, a song. Singing together in the darkened room, this waiata becomes a wānanga – an immersive, educational experience that presents the seven stars of Matariki in a culturally enriching environment.

*The artists would like to acknowledge our production team on Whetūrangī for their energy and support in creating this work:*  
**Camera and lighting:** Mairi Gunn  
**Sound:** Mike McCree  
**Performer:** Huia Mārama Osborne  
**Assistant:** Ngaio Matariki Osborne-Mace

## Elemental

Tangata Whenua – people of the land.

Tūrangawaewae – a place to stand, home.

These two concepts stand firmly at the centre of this work. As Māori we carry with us the mindset that we belong to our land. Our environment, the place in which we stand, informs our identity. Knowledge about our turangawaewae in the form of stories, songs, and art, is treasured and is passed down from generation to generation.

*Elemental* is, in part, a homecoming: a response to the mountainous rainforests of the Wekaweka valley, in the Far North of New Zealand, where Rona grew up and where we now live with our own family.

The work consists of four individual projections: HAU (air), WAI (water), AHI (fire), and WHENUA (earth) - the essential elements of our physical world. Each projection occupies a separate wall and consists of a moving portrait depicting the face of each

element, supported by looping environmental textures representing their domain.

*The artists would like to acknowledge our production team on Elemental for their tautoko and aroha in creating this work:*  
**Camera and lighting:** Mairi Gunn  
**Performer:** Ngaio Matariki Osborne-Mace  
**Makeup/art department:** Huia Mārama Osborne

About the Artists:

### Rona Ngahuia Osborne

(Clan Fyfe, Clan Caduggan, Kai Tahu)

*Rona was born in Auckland in 1974, but spent her formative years in the wild bushy mountains of Hokianga in New Zealand's far north. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts from the Elam School of Fine Arts. Rona's work primarily references cultural and historical themes in Aotearoa, combining strong Māori imagery with colonial symbols. Her work spans a range of mediums, including paint, photography and audio-visual installation. Rona is also well known for her textile work under the moniker Native Agent.*

*Rona exhibits regularly in both group and solo shows. She has recently returned to the wilds of Northland, where she now lives and works with her husband Dan and two daughters.*

### Dan Mace

(Ngāti Maru, Ngāti Tamaterā, Ngaiterangi, Clan O'Boyle)

*After 16 years, Dan Mace still struggles to describe what he does for a living. In a general context what he does involves crafting ideas, alone or with friends, and then communicating them to an audience. In a more practical context, Dan brings these ideas to life across a range of linear and non-linear formats, including animation, illustration, photography, film & television directing, opening titles design, motion-based museum installations, live event visuals, and experiential art projects.*

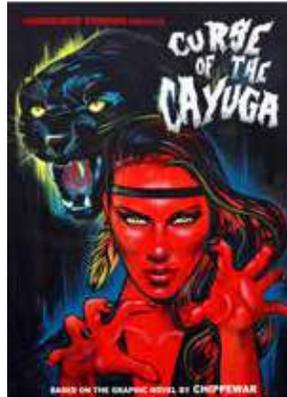
*Dan acknowledges his mixed Māori and Irish heritage when discussing his practice. Both cultures have rich histories of visual communication through traditional art forms such as carving, weaving, performance, and jewellery. Dan's use of digital media to convey narrative and emotional experience can be described as a contemporary manifestation of indigenous storytelling.*



*Tribe of Dracula*, 2016,  
36" x 48", Acrylic on Wood



*The Invisible Warrior*, 2016,  
36" x 48", Acrylic on Wood



*Curse of the Cayuga*, 2016,  
36" x 48", Acrylic on Wood



*Bride of Frankensiooux*, 2016,  
36" x 48", Acrylic on Wood

## Indigenous Movie Monsters

By Jay Soule aka CHIPPEWAR

### Ontario Premiere

A Space Gallery Windows

401 Richmond Street West, Suite 110

September 27 to October 29, 2016

Artist Talk as part of Art Crawl (p. 33)

Presented by



As the season changes and the nights get longer, look out for the *Indigenous Movie Monsters*! As part of his clever, whimsical series of ten paintings, multimedia artist Jay Soule, aka CHIPPEWAR, indigenizes the classic horror movie poster. In a subversive nod to the overwrought and simplistic roles Indigenous peoples and cultures have played in the horror genre – one ancient Native American burial ground too many, in other words – Soule places Indigenous people and imagery at its front and centre.

This showcase presents four works in the *Monsters* series: *Tribe of the Cayuga*, *Bride of Frankensiooux* and *The Invisible Warrior*. His fictional stars – Honey Featherheart and Max Thunderbird – serve as the Christopher Lee and Vincent Price of an imaginary Golden Age of First Nations horror films that never was but could have been. Transcending their obvious humour, each work offers a genre-specific commentary on the representation of Indigenous peoples on the silver screen, particularly in the early decades of cinema. The *Monsters* themselves are visual reminders of Hollywood's treatment of Indigenous bodies and cultures on screen; their images "remix" an era where Indigenous people were cast as cinematic "monsters" of a different sort: Western savages or barely-human primitives. The horror genre itself has emerged as a potent medium for contemporary Indigenous filmmakers to explore and comment on the horrors of colonial disruption to the Indigenous experience. While making this commentary subversively, Soule's *Indigenous Movie Monsters* remind us never to be afraid.

Jay Soule, aka CHIPPEWAR, is a multimedia artist from the Chippewas of the Thames First Nation (Deshkaan Ziibing Anishinaabeg) located on the north bank of the Thames River. Jay creates art under the name CHIPPEWAR, which reminds us about the importance of the traditional warrior role, which exists in Indigenous cultures across North America, surviving even into present day. Additionally, Jay is a clothing designer with an extensive collection of t-shirts, tank tops, hoodies, hats, stickers and prints that feature his artwork. He spends spring through fall on the powwow trail showcasing his art and apparel.

Paintings in the *Monsters* series are available for sale. Contact Jay directly through his website.

@chippewar | [www.chippewar.com](http://www.chippewar.com)



## Folding Forced Utopias for You

By Joar Nango

### World Premiere

#### Gallery 44 (Main Gallery)

401 Richmond Street West, Suite 120

October 21 to December 3, 2016

### Opening Reception

Friday, October 21, 5:00pm–8:00pm

Artist Talk: 6:00pm as part of  
Art Crawl (pg. 33)

### Presented by:

# G44

Centre for  
Contemporary  
Photography

### Co-Presented by:

# Imagine NATIVE

original. indigenious.

Extending a body of research on Indigenous architecture, Joar Nango will present a new site-specific work that responds to histories of forced resettlement in Arctic communities. Focusing on case studies from Canada, Greenland and Russia, the exhibition examines how architecture has been used as a tool in the colonial project and the global politics of northern resource extraction and sovereignty.

Presented in partnership with The Royal Norwegian Embassy, with support from Sámi Artist Council (SDR), Inuit PiusituKangit and iNuit Blanche, and Art Metropole.

*Joar Nango is a Norwegian-Sámi architect and artist based in Tromsø, Norway. He studied at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology in Trondheim, Norway, and is currently teaching at the Tromsø Academy of Contemporary Art. Nango's work aims "to explore the relationship between architecture, design and visual art, relating to questions of indigenous identity." He has presented solo exhibitions at Gallery SAW, Ottawa, Canada (2013); Norwegian Sculpture Biennial, Oslo (2013); Knipsu, Bergen, Norway (2012); SDG, Karasjok, Norway (2011); and Raum der Junge Kunste, Berlin, Germany (2010). His work has also been included in group exhibitions at The National Museum of Art, Architecture and Design, Oslo, Norway (2013); Abbayes aux Dames, Caen, France (2013) and Storefront for Art and Architecture, New York, NY, USA (2012).*



Tsēma Tamara Skubovius, *Emergence*, 2016

**Presented by:**

**G44**

Centre for  
Contemporary  
Photography

**Co-Presented by:**



original. indigenous.

**Ore Body**

By Tsēma Tamara Skubovius

**Gallery 44 (Vitrines)**

401 Richmond Street West, Suite 120  
October 21 to December 3, 2016

**Opening Reception**

Friday, October 21, 5:00pm–8:00pm  
Artist Talk: 6:00pm as part of  
Art Crawl (pg. 33)

*Ore Body* investigates material and metaphysical landscapes from an embodied perspective, critiquing how value of land and resources is created and assessed through Western measures of wealth. Sparked by strategies of Indigenous resistance, the exhibition explores everyday acts of decolonization as ways to understand imagined mythologies of Northern Canada and the industrial reverberations felt by those who live downstream.

*Tsēma Tamara Skubovius is an interdisciplinary artist and member of the Tahltan First Nation. She studied Northwest Coast Formline Design at K'saan (2005/06) and has a BFA from ECUAD (2011) and an MFA from OCADu (2016). Tsēma has shown in the notable group show, Interweavings, for emerging First Nations artists who have previously won a YVR Art Foundation scholarship (RAG 2014/15) and was recently selected for Culture Shift, Contemporary Indigenous Art Biennale in Montreal (2016). Tsēma graduated from the Interdisciplinary Master's in Art, Media and Design program at OCADu showing her thesis work, LANDIMINE, which connects materials to mine sites and bodies to the land.*

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AT OCAD UNIVERSITY

# EXHIBITIONS: WNOONDWAAMIN / WE HEAR THEM

EX



## **wnoondwaamin | we hear them**

By Autumn Chacon, Jeneen Frei Njootli, Melissa General and Suzanne Morissette  
Curated by Lisa Myers

### **World Premiere Trinity Square Video**

401 Richmond Street West, Suite 121  
Look forward to this exhibition touring across Canada in 2017/18.

October 22 to December 10, 2016  
Tuesday through Saturday, 12:00pm–6:00pm

### **Opening + Festival Reception**

Friday, October 21, 5:30pm–8:00pm  
Performance by Jeneen Frei Njootli, 6:30pm

*wnoondwaamin | we hear them* calls for the occupation of sound waves, exploring the capacity of these energies to access knowledge and memory. Through performance, Jeneen Frei Njootli turns an ear to materials, such as caribou antlers, to sound the transmission of embedded and layered ancestral knowledge. Utilizing low wattage radio transmission, Autumn Chacon's in-gallery installation transmits and receives audio broadcasts from borders, dividing lines and barriers, overcoming physical and perceived obstructions between otherwise regulated spaces. From medicine baths to running rivers, Melissa General accesses sounds shared across time and through memory, constructing water compositions that encourage deep listening. Focusing on the subtle, often unnoticed, sounds of landscapes, Suzanne Morissette blends microcosmic sound and images to reveal how human activity and land intertwine. Together these artworks create a chorus and conversation about the resonances that sound carries beyond merely the audible.

Thank you and miigwech to John G. Hampton for his work in the development of this exhibition at TSV and the upcoming exhibition tour.

**Presented by:**

**Co-Presented by:**



The Canadian Media Producers Association  
helps independent producers  
thrive creatively and commercially.

We represent a diversity of voices in Canadian screen content production.

Find out more at [www.cmpa.ca](http://www.cmpa.ca)

# EXHIBITIONS: GOLDILOCKS TAHNON OHKWARI (GOLDILOCKS AND THE BEARS)



YYZ is pleased to present a video installation by Zoe Leigh Hopkins, which features the time-based work *Goldilocks tahnnon Ohkwari (Goldilocks and the Bears)* along with sculptural elements and print materials related to its production. This contemporary adaptation of the popular fairy tale is entirely portrayed in the Mohawk language with English subtitles. Hopkins's work presents a familiar tale in an unfamiliar voice. A story that is a cautionary tale for those who take over an already inhabited site and are willing to make claim to what is not rightfully theirs. The work addresses issues surrounding colonization and language preservation and it is in tune with YYZ's ongoing interest in language-based projects. It is particularly important for us to continue to support works in Indigenous and other diverse languages. In 2009 YYZ released a publication with Inuktitut text and storytelling and will host an upcoming exhibition project in Innu. A contextual text in Mohawk will be commissioned for this exhibition.

*Zoe Leigh Hopkins (Heiltsuk/Mohawk) is from Six Nations, Ontario. Hopkins's first short film, Prayer for a Good Day, premiered worldwide at the 2004 Sundance Film Festival. She was a member of the imagineNATIVE Embargo Collective projects, from which her two short films The Garden and Skyworld have screened around the world. Hopkins was the first Canadian to go through the prestigious Sundance Institute's Filmmaker's Lab with her feature script, Cherry Blossoms, which is now in development with a Vancouver-based production company. Now fluent in Mohawk and living in Six Nations, Hopkins is currently in development with a feature film, entitled Running Home, with Big Soul Productions through Telefilm.*

## Goldilocks Tahnnon Ohkwari

By Zoe Leigh Hopkins

### YYZ Artists' Outlet

401 Richmond Street West, Suite 140

October 8 to December 3, 2016

### Art Crawl Reception

Friday, October 21, 6:00–8:00pm

Artist Talk: 7:00pm

### Opening Reception

Friday, October 7, 6:00–9:00pm

Artist Talk: Nov 5, 12:00pm (pg 33)

Presented by:



Co-Presented by:



original. indigenous.



**Presented as part of  
the imagineNATIVE Art Crawl**

Friday, October 21, 8:00pm–9:15pm  
Doors open at 7:30pm

**Artscape Sandbox  
301 Adelaide Street West**

*\$8 General / \$5 Pleasure Dome Members  
FREE to imagineNATIVE Delegate  
Passholders. Tickets available at venue  
1 hour prior to doors opening.*

**Presented by:**



**Records and Reconstructions:  
Lindsay McIntyre's Portraits in Process**

By Lindsay McIntyre  
Curated by Eva Kolcze and Genne Speers

Lindsay McIntyre is a fierce advocate for analog film and handmade techniques. Using experimental approaches, she has built an alchemic documentary practice that is deeply connected to expressions of place and location, oral histories and moments in time. Through techniques of layering and repetition, heavily processed and textured film, and looping audio, McIntyre weaves personal portraits into the surface textures of the film. Her work expands the singular moment, the gesture, the motion to emphasize the personal, the subtle and the everyday.

Lindsay's performance of *A Northern Portrait* will anchor this evening, followed by a screening of works by Lindsay and films she has chosen that speak to her own films and practice.

*A Northern Portrait is "a personal meditation on the Arctic in the form of a live 16mm looping performance on nine projectors. Images are layered with high-contrast mattes and colour textures on four 16mm projectors on a single screen, creating one changing image. The optical audio is looped as well, separate from the images, and mixed live on five 16mm projectors. Each performance differs somewhat." – Lindsay McIntyre (Innu)*

All digital media works are exhibited in the new Digital Media Art+Cade, 2nd Floor, TIFF Bell Lightbox, Thursday, October 20 – Saturday, October 22, 10:00am – 6:00pm, Sunday, October 23, 10:00am – 4:00pm. Artists of these works attending imagineNATIVE will present their work at the Digital Media Artist Showcase on Thursday, October 20. See pg. 45 for details.



### Ch'aak' S'aagi (Eagle Bone)

Artist: Tracy Rector (Choctaw/Seminole)

USA • VR • 2016

Youtube 360 Link: <https://youtu.be/gZQSI-HhWg4>

On-site demo using Oculus VR

This immersive VR experience is a collective step in a new direction of visual storytelling rooted in being unapologetically Indigenous. Through freestyle spoken word and lush Pacific Northwest scenes, we enter into a journey of remembrance and reflection on the lessons of the old ones, and teachings that remind us that we are all individual vessels of spirit and change yet inextricably connected. Produced by Mechanic Dreams and authored by award-winning filmmaker and producer Tracy Rector.

*Tracy Rector is a Choctaw/Seminole filmmaker, as well as the Executive Director and Co-founder of Longhouse Media. Rector has made 360 short films, and is currently in production of her third feature documentary. Her work has been featured on Independent Lens, Cannes Film Festival, imagineNATIVE, National Geographic's All Roads Film Project, and in the Smithsonian's Museum of the American Indian.*



### Honour Water

Artist: Elizabeth LaPensée (Anishinaabe/Métis)

USA • Game • 2016

[www.honourwater.com](http://www.honourwater.com)

*Honour Water* is a singing game for healing water that passes on songs in Anishinaabemowin, the Anishinaabe language. Songs are gifted by Sharon Day, the Oshkii Giizhik Singers

and elders who collaborated at the Oshkii Giizhik Gathering. Water teachings are interwoven with singing challenges alongside art by Elizabeth LaPensée, as users engage by repeating songs in a culturally infused karaoke-styled framework, where they can also record and share their covers with the online community. The game is scheduled to release for free on iOS, Android and more.

*Elizabeth LaPensée, PhD, is an Anishinaabe, Métis and Irish designer, writer and researcher whose works in games, comics and animation speak to merging storytelling and technology into acts of survivance.*



### Midden

Artist: Jenny Fraser (Yugambeh)

USA • Online Exhibition • 2016

[www.midden.net](http://www.midden.net)

*Midden* is the overarching title of this project, which consists of a number of installments, to include new artworks series, collaborative works and curated exhibitions. The intention has been to use the concept of the midden as a metaphor for collecting stories and a series of works exploring our beloved sea life, full of potential for sustenance and healing. A community-minded approach has been taken and others have personally been invited to contribute because we can each provide insider perspectives into our communities, and collectively we can make a powerful case towards the benefits of effective coastal management to ensure for the next generations, which is urgently overdue, particularly with the Great Barrier Reef. The aim of the project is to creatively enhance, reframe, remix and disrupt forms of storytelling to create informative art experiences and new ways of working for art lovers.

*Jenny Fraser is a digital native working within a fluid screen-based practice. Jenny founded online gallery cyberTribe in 1999, the Blackout Collective in 2002 and World Screen Culture in 2015. She is on the National Advisory Group for the Centre for Indigenous Story, an Associate Member of the Centre for Creative Art at La Trobe University and 2015–2017 Adjunct Research Fellow at The Cairns Institute.*



**Poi360**

Creator/Producer: Lanita Ririnui Ryan (Māori)  
 Producer: Amomai Pihama (Māori)  
 Aotearoa New Zealand • 360 Cinema • 2016  
[www.poi360.nz](http://www.poi360.nz)

For the first time ever comes an interactive documentary about one of the most recognizable icons of Aotearoa: the Poi. Filmed in 2D and 360 for an immersive experience, it is the first poi performance captured in this way. “Takawirihanga” is a song piece that explains the story of poi origins in the same way our history is held – through song and dance. Focused on the story of origin and the earliest memories of poi by exponents in key areas, it is a fresh look at the foundations in a digital realm.

Featuring three proficient performers of our time, Kahurangi Maxwell, Tiria Waitai and Talei Morrison, this unique contemporary item weaves the past with the future to share the genealogical connection to poi.

As a home for these important stories, and a platform to grow, connect and share our knowledge, *Poi360* is a clear passion project and a digital whare (house) for Māori taonga (treasure).

*Lanita Ririnui Ryan is a creative Native storyteller of Māori & Cook Islands (Ngāti Maahanga, Ngāti Koroki, Ngāti Ruanui); is an independent producer, director, writer and presenter/MC; and has delivered various projects across screens of all sizes for the past 20 years. The majority of her works have been in rangatahi (youth), lifestyle, music, sport and entertainment genres, while documentary has also been a consistent feature.*

*Amomai Pihama (Ngāti Maahanga, Ngāti Koroki, Ngāti Ruanui) is a performer, content producer and reporter and anchor for Māori Television. Poi360 was produced by Through the Fire Ltd., a production company owned by Lanita Ririnui Ryan and Amomai Pihama dedicated to kaupapa-driven stories, Indigenous content, arts and entertainment.*



**Highway of Tears**

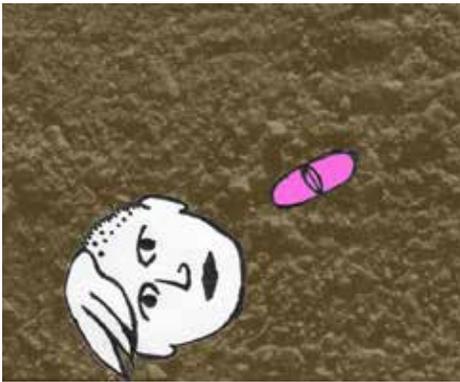
Artist: Lisa Jackson (Anishinaabe)  
 Canada • 2016 • Virtual Reality Documentary • English  
 Available October 18, 2016

Eighteen women have been murdered or have disappeared along Highway 16 and adjacent routes since the 1970s, according to the RCMP. Indigenous communities say the number of missing women is closer to 50. This first immersive documentary by CBC and award-winning director Lisa Jackson transports viewers to Northern B.C. and the area known as the Highway of Tears. Produced by CBC Radio's *The Current* in partnership with Secret Location.

*Named one of Playback Magazine's 10 to Watch in 2012, Lisa Jackson's genre-blending films span documentary and fiction and include current affairs, animation, VR and a musical. They've appeared on most networks in Canada, screened at major festivals internationally, and garnered numerous awards, including a 2010 Genie for Best Short Film for Savage. She is currently co-directing a one-hour doc for CBC's Firsthand, and developing a large-scale immersive audio-visual installation on the power of Indigenous languages.*

## Indigenous Routes

The “Indigi-Cade” is a collective project organized by The Indigenous Routes Collective, which promotes digital training for Indigenous youth, and Dames Making Games, a Toronto non-profit that supports women in gaming, Indigi-Cade will empower a group of participants to express themselves through gaming, creating demoed versions for play by Festival delegates. You can't avoid playing this new generation of creative coders' works! These finished games will be housed in retro-styled arcade consoles:



### A Bipolar Journey

Artist: Thirza Cuthand (Cree/Scottish)  
Canada • Game • 2016

Based on a personal experience, *A Bipolar Journey* uses hand-drawn imagery in a video game format to replicate dealing with the depressions and manias of Bipolar Disorder.

*Thirza Cuthand was born in Saskatchewan and grew up in Saskatoon. Since 1995 she has been making short experimental narrative videos and films about sexuality, madness, youth, love and race, which have screened at festivals internationally, including Mix Brasil Festival of Sexual Diversity, Frameline, Vancouver Queer Film Festival and Oberhausen International Short Film Festival. This is Cuthand's first work in creative gaming.*



### Sealskin

Artists: Megan Byrne (Métis/Cree) and Tara Miller (Maliseet)  
Canada • Game • 2016

Ever heard of a Selkie? Join two sister selkies as they travel south from the basin of James Bay and navigate their way through land and water to reach a southern village to trade, but this trip will not end as happily as the ones before.

A gentle 2D puzzle-platformer that melds Cree, Inuit and Celtic culture and legends to create something uniquely Northern.

This is a game concept piece that gives a sample of what the full game could be like.

*Megan Byrne is a GTA-based game designer currently working at Sheridan's Centre for Teaching and Learning and is an active member of her school's Indigenous Student Group. She hopes to create games that reflect her Métis/Cree roots and bring new stories to video game players. Megan presented her first work with Indigenous Routes in 2015 with WanisinowinLost.*



### Aroha Bridge

Directors: Jessica Hansell (Māori) and Simon Ward  
 Producer: Morgan Waru (Māori)  
 Aotearoa New Zealand • Web Series • 2016

In the Digital Media Art+Cade or while in line for your imagineNATIVE movie, enjoy these comedy webisodes from Kiwi comedy royalty!

From the producers of New Zealand's number one film of all time, *Hunt for the Wilderpeople*, comes Aroha Bridge, an animated snapshot of the multicultural melting pot that is Aotearoa.

Focusing on authentic, urban Māori characters with humour and style, this web series follows Kowhai and Monty Hook as they navigate the complex but hilarious circumstances growing up in a bicultural, eclectic whanau. The extended Hook family are a micro society unto themselves; jock aunts, ex-All Black fathers, activist uncles and kooky cousins come together to create a multicultural medley that all young kiwi urbanites – and imagineNATIVE audiences – can relate to.

*Jessica Lee Hansell is a Māori (Ngapuhi), Samoan and German writer originally from Auckland. Known for her multiple-medium style, Hansell first established herself as the cult rapper, artist and political essayist Coco Solid. In recent years Jessica completed her Masters in Creative Writing at Victoria University and found herself in love with animation, film and television comedy. She is a member of Taika Waititi's film collective, Piki Films, and after years of underground zine-making she is working on her full-length comic book, Foodcore, due out on Pikitia Press in late 2016.*

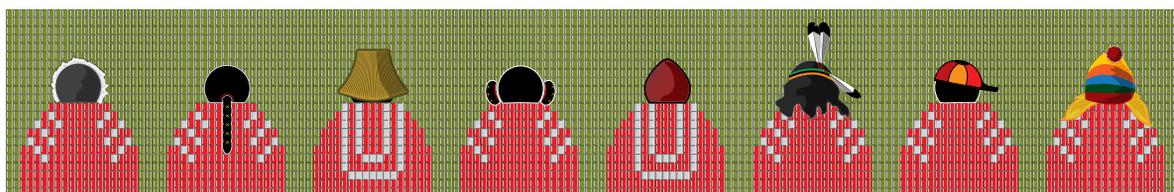
## Digital Media Artists Showcase

FREE and open to the public!

Join a selection of attending digital media artists as they present and discuss their programmed works.

Thursday,  
 October 20, 2016  
 3:15pm  
 Digital Media Art+Cade

**(TIFF Bell Lightbox, Greenroom)**





#### Lead Supporter:



Canada Media Fund  
Fonds des médias du Canada



EYE  
ON  
CANADA

**Thurs, Oct 20 – Sat, Oct 22, 10:00am – 6:00pm,**

**Sun, Oct 23, 10:00am – 4:00pm**

**Daily Tour and demo schedules available.**

**Visit [www.imagineNATIVE.org](http://www.imagineNATIVE.org) or the imagineNATIVE**

**Mobile App for details.**

imagineNATIVE with the support of the Canada Media Fund brings you the **Digital Media Art+Cade**, an interactive environment showcasing leading Indigenous made digital media work, retro-inspired and industry-driven gaming, digital apps and virtual reality experiences from October 20–23 at the TIFF Bell Lightbox.

Referencing the nostalgia of an '80s arcade, cinema audiences can interact hands-on with the future of Indigenous storytelling through projected game play, retro arcade-style booths, consoles and immersive cutting edge virtual reality experience stations. Created by experienced Indigenous digital media artists and neophyte programmers to the medium, their envisioning cultural, traditional and future-focused content aims to showcase the diversity of storytelling in new forms to new audiences and inspire traditional artists on the possibilities for creation.

#### Featured work:

##### Indigi-Cade

Organized by the Indigenous Routes Collective, which promotes digital training for Indigenous youth, and Dames Making Games, a Toronto non-profit that supports women in gaming, Indigicade aims to empower participants to express themselves through gaming. The finished games will be housed in retro-styled arcade consoles.

Virtual Reality Experiences – Indigenous storytelling finds its most fitting medium with new experiences by Canadian and international producers. Audiences will experience, at scheduled and facilitated times, the immersive experience and creative potential of VR using readily accessible viewing platforms.

Officially programmed digital media work (pg. 42) and programmed audio work (pg. 48) will be presented on iMac stations and iPads kiosks.

#### Engagement

Film audiences will be interacted with in ticketed line-ups through a dedicated imagineNATIVE rep who will bring a Google VR/iPhone demo for ticket holders to experience and drive audiences to engage with imagineNATIVE's newest art playground!

Tours of the Digital Media Art+Cade will be scheduled for those new to these experiences at appropriate times (see [www.imagineNATIVE.org](http://www.imagineNATIVE.org) or the imagineNATIVE Mobile App for details).

#### Public and Industry Events

To compliment and expand on the creative aspects of the work, public panels on media art and opportunities in experimental media will be held, including CMF-presented Indigenous VR Spotlight (pg. 110) featuring programmed artists and a Digital Media Artist Showcase (pg. 45).



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**CANADIAN  
STORIES,  
BROUGHT  
TO LIFE**

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The Canada Media Fund is dedicated to funding exceptional content, providing industry research and promoting what is uniquely ours, here and abroad.

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Brought to you by the Government of Canada and Canada's cable, satellite and IPTV distributors.



**Canada Media Fund  
Fonds des médias du Canada**

All audio works are available to the public free-of-charge at imagineNATIVE's Digital Media Art+Cade, on our website and through imagineNATIVE's free App. Listen to these works whilst you wait in line!

Audio remains a vital source of information, entertainment and communication for many Indigenous artists and communities the world over. imagineNATIVE remains committed to our annual audio presentation and invites you to attend the Audio Artist Showcase on Saturday October 22, 11:00 am in the TIFF BellLightbox, Digital Media Art+Cade.



### Big Sky

Australia • 28 min • 2015 • Audio Documentary  
Daniel Browning (Bundjalung/Kullilli/South Sea Islander/West Indian/Native American)

This remarkable documentary takes us on a journey into the Outback and to the shores of a dry lake to tell a compelling story of human occupation and Aboriginal presence on the continent known as Australia. Were the oldest human remains ever found in Australia “discovered” in an archaeological sense, or did Mungo Man and Mungo Woman wilfully emerge from the windblown sands of Lake Mungo?

*A Goori, Daniel Browning is a descendant of the Bundjalung people, whose traditional land is on the far north coast of New South Wales. His paternal family has lived at Fingal on a sand peninsula between the Tweed River and the Pacific Ocean for 120 years. Through his mother, he is a descendant of the Kullilli people of southwestern Queensland and the traditional owners of the Gold Coast hinterland.*



### Radio Remixes Voices of Binga

Canada/Zimbabwe • 16 min • 2016 • Soundscape  
Crystal Favel (Cree/Métis)

Award-winning audio storyteller Crystal Favel partners with Claudia Wegener of Radio Continental Drift to present a cultural fusion soundscape showcasing Indigenous female voices from Canada and Zimbabwe. This unique project is the result of almost a year of audio correspondence across continents and speaks to the need to revitalize our cultures and to preserve oral traditions, languages and teachings.

*Crystal DJ Kwe Favel is a multidisciplinary audio artist who has won two consecutive First Peoples' Cultural Council Aboriginal Arts Development Awards for her motivational digital audio storytelling. She also won Best Audio Work at imagineNATIVE 2015. Her mission is to “contribute to the solidarity of her peoples by carbon dating her music through sound ecology, audio anthropology and vinyl sovereignty.”*



### Reflections of Oka: Stories of the Mohawk Standoff 25 Years Later

Canada • 43 min • 2015 • Audio Documentary  
Kim Wheeler (Mohawk/Anishinabe)

For 78 days, starting on July 11, 1990, an armed standoff between the Mohawk people, the Sûreté du Québec and, eventually, the Canadian Army took place in Oka. The country was transfixed to their televisions and radios as the so-called “Oka Crisis” unfolded and marked a historic turning point. CBC Radio's *Unreserved*, hosted by Rosanna Deerchild, marks the 25th anniversary of Oka by taking us behind the lines of an unprecedented event that changed the way Canadians saw Indigenous peoples and the way we saw ourselves.

*Kim Wheeler has brought positive Indigenous stories to both the mainstream and Indigenous media for over 22 years. She joined CBC Radio One in 2008 and produced four seasons of ReVision Quest, a radio talk show that mixed personal storytelling, current affairs, interviews and comedy while exploring issues affecting Indigenous peoples. She was awarded a silver medal at New York Festivals for her work on ReVision Quest, along with two imagineNATIVE awards.*



### Sasquatch Mixdown

Canada • 6 min • 2015 • Soundscape  
Janet Rogers (Mohawk/Tuscarora)

This sound poem is inspired by visits to the Nass Valley in northern British Columbia and many conversations with individuals who have had personal encounters with Sasquatch. This mix includes Carrier language spoken by elder Mary Gouchie, found sound clips, recorded audio and voice.

*Janet Rogers is a Mohawk/Tuscarora writer from the Six Nations band in southern Ontario. She was born in Vancouver and has been living on the traditional lands of the Coast Salish people since 1994. Janet works in the genres of poetry, spoken word performance poetry, video poetry and recorded poetry with music and script writing. Janet is a radio broadcaster, documentary producer and sound artist.*



### The Story She Carries

Canada • 50 min • 2016 • Audio Documentary  
Angela Sterritt (Gitksan)

*The Story She Carries* follows Indigenous leader Lorelei Williams as she prepares for a national inquiry into missing and murdered Indigenous women. Her cousin Tanya Holyk was murdered on the Robert Pickton farm and her aunt Belinda Williams has been missing for almost 40 years. This documentary takes us from Vancouver's Downtown East Side to the offices of Indigenous Affairs to the Pickton farm and is a compelling look into Williams's fight for justice, against all odds. Produced as part of CBC Radio's *DNTO*.

*Angela Sterritt is an award-winning Gitksan journalist, artist and writer from British Columbia. Sterritt has worked as a journalist for close to twenty years. Sterritt is now finalist for a Canadian Association of Journalists Award for a text feature she wrote on missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and two-spirit people. The topic is the focus of a book she is now writing that digs into the cases of those missing or murdered along the Highway of Tears, at the Pickton farm and in Manitoba.*

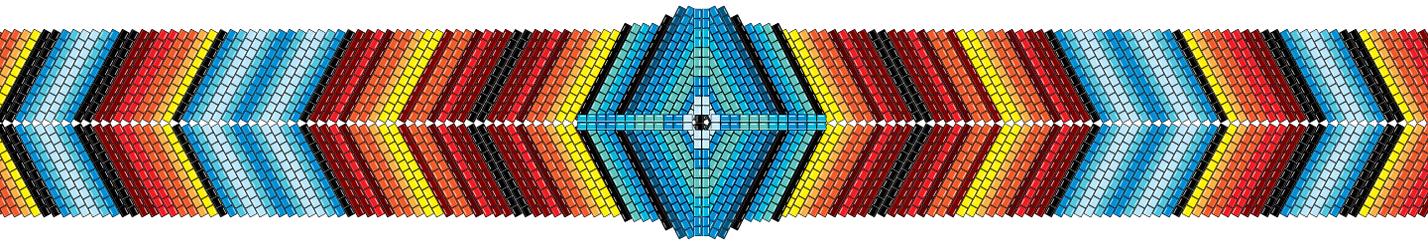
## Audio Artists Showcase

FREE and open to the public!  
Join a selection of attending audio artists as they present and discuss their programmed works.

Saturday, October 22, 2016

11:00 AM

TIFF Bell Lightbox, Digital Media Art+Cade



### Welcome Gathering

FREE and open to public  
Hosted by Candy Palmater  
Presented by:



Wed, Oct 19, 2:00pm – 4:00pm  
**Native Canadian Centre of Toronto**  
16 Spadina Road

Welcome to the 17th annual imagineNATIVE as our cultural advisor commences with an opening prayer. Enjoy traditional singing and dance performances, local craft vendors and a community feast before going to the Festival's Opening Night Gala.

### Free Shuttle Service

Garden Hilton-Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema  
5:30pm  
Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema-Orchid  
9:25pm, 9:35pm, 9:45pm  
Please give priority to Elders or those with mobility needs.  
Please Note: Unfortunately the shuttle busses are not wheelchair accessible.  
We apologize for the inconvenience.

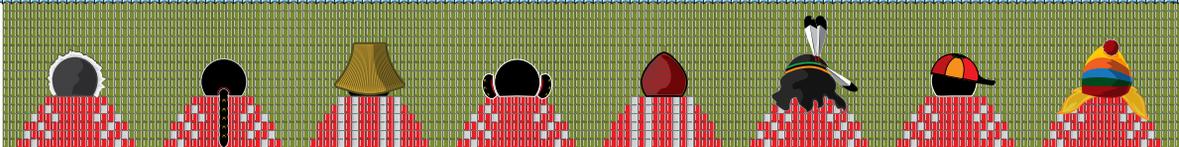


### Opening Night Party

\$5 or FREE to Opening Night Gala Ticket Holders  
and Pass Holders (19+)

Wed, Oct 19, 9:00pm – 2:00am  
**Orchid**  
82 Peter Street

Celebrate the 17th annual Festival launch following the Opening Night Screening with music and dancing at Orchid. Come early and savour some culinary delights, as the house DJ spins us into the night.



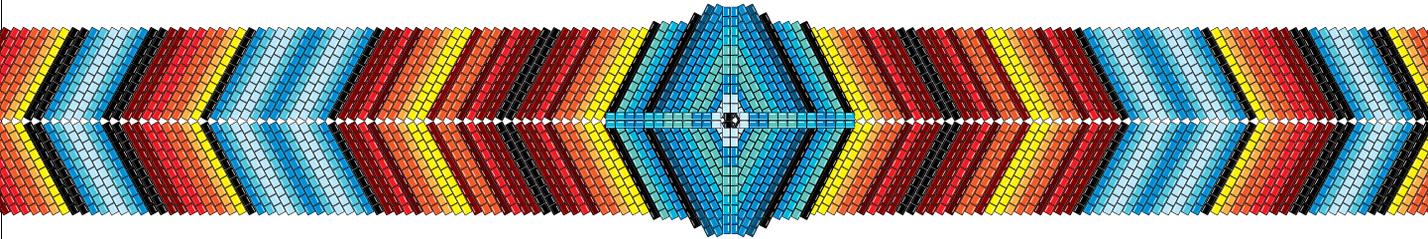
OCT 19

WED 7:00 PM  
HOT DOCS  
TED ROGERS CINEMA



OPENING NIGHT GALA

ON



### Angry Inuk

Canada • 85 min • 2016 • Feature Documentary  
Inuktitut/English with English Subtitles  
Director: Alethea Arnaquq-Baril (Inuk)

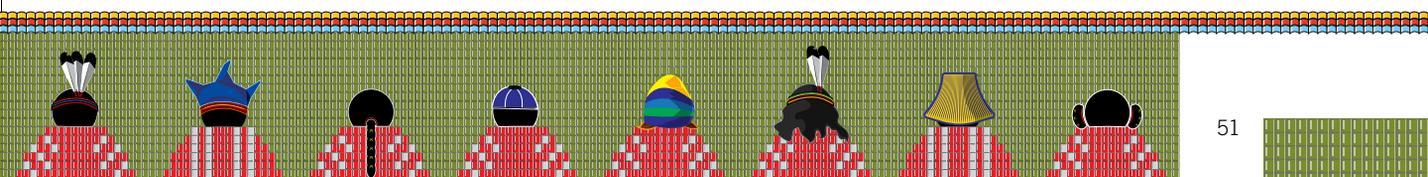
Opening Night Sponsor:



*Alethea Arnaquq-Baril is an award-winning filmmaker from the Canadian Arctic, where her production company, Unikkaat Studios, is based. She is known for her award-winning works Tunniit: Retracing the Lines of Inuit Tattoos, Inuit High Kick, Lumaajuuq: The Blind Boy and the Loon, and the animated short Sloth. She was an executive producer on Miranda de Pencier's award-winning Throat Song and co-produced both Arctic Defenders, a feature documentary by John Walker, and, with White Pine Pictures, the feature documentary Experimental Eskimos. Most recently, Alethea directed Aviliaq: Entwined as part of imagineNATIVE's second Embargo Collective.*

In this highly anticipated film, Alethea Arnaquq-Baril sheds a powerful and hard light on anti-seal hunting campaigns and the relevance of the hunt to the lives of the Inuit. Long a vital source of food and income for the Inuit, the seal hunt has been disrupted by high profile, international campaigns fronted by celebrities and led by well-funded animal rights organizations. The ensuing bans on seal products – particularly from Europe – have caused financial devastation to northern communities, creating what the filmmaker calls the Inuit Great Depression.

The tides, however, are beginning to turn as an emerging group of Inuit activists – armed with their own sense of humour and justice – insert themselves into the international discussion. Utilizing social media, these thoughtful, grassroots warriors push back against corporate profiteering and political might to ensure their place in the global economy while also protecting the fragility and stewardship of the Arctic. Alethea Arnaquq-Baril has created a landmark work that challenges, informs and – like all great documentaries – convinces us that the world must change.



Beautiful tributes to the spirit and power of Indigenous youth, these three films remind us that the future is in good hands. Suitable for young people!



**Home to Me**

Canada • 5 min • 2016 • Music Video  
 English/Ojibway  
 Writers: N'we Jinan Artists

A beautiful testament to the love of one's territory, *Home to Me* is the touching music video collaboration between 12 youth and N'we Jinan, a travelling production facility. This catchy pop hit has gone viral with hundreds of thousands of views.

*Home to Me was written by 12 youth Sharice Bruce, Dylan Fobister, Jimi Fobister, Preston Paul, Darwin Fobister, Janessa Kejick, Damien Kejick, Ashley Fobister, Linda Fobister, Paul Cedric Oteskan, and Edmond Jack & Josh Bigblood all members of the Grassy Narrows First Nation in partnership with the N'we Jinan project.*



**Four Faces of the Moon**

Canada • 11 min • 2016 • Short Drama  
 Cree/Anishinaabe/Michif with English subtitles  
 Director: Amanda Strong (Michif)

Exploring the reclamation of language and nationhood, a young woman journeys through a landscape haunted by trauma. As the moon marks the passage of time, she encounters dark traces of Canada's colonial past. Despite the horrors, she witnesses the power of land, culture and language – and the spirit of the buffalo – to heal and lead us on a new path forward.

*Amanda Strong is a filmmaker, media artist and stop-motion director. She is the owner and director of Spotted Fawn Productions, an animation and media-based studio creating short films, commercial projects and workshops.*



**Journey Towards Reconciliation**

Canada • 55 min • 2016 •  
 Documentary Feature  
 English  
**Ontario Premiere**  
 Directors: Paige L'Hirondelle (Métis), Sharon Somer (Cree)

In 2014, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission held seven national events across the country to gather testimony from former students of residential schools. This process was a watershed moment in Canadian history and one that paved the way for the current push towards "reconciliation." But what does this mean?

A group of Indigenous youth accompanied the Commission on this journey and created this documentary in response. Through the lens of a camera they hold, these young people learned about the history of the residential schools and their personal connections to its legacy. With the creation of a mural in an Edmonton LRT station serving as an act of reclamation, they explore intergenerational trauma and Indigenous resistance and resilience. This deeply moving, honest documentary gives an intimate look into the hearts and minds of Indigenous youth as they prepare for a future they will lead.

*Paige L'Hirondelle is from the East Prairie Métis Settlement but currently lives in Edmonton, where she studies at the University of Alberta. Paige is 20 years old and plans to be a social worker, a role model for Indigenous youth, and to show everyone that you can make it if you set your mind to it.*

*Sharon Somer was born in Edmonton and is from the Long Plains First Nation in Manitoba. She is currently enrolled in Native Studies at the University of Alberta.*

**OCT 20**

THUR 12:00 PM  
TIFF BELL LIGHTBOX  
CINEMA 3

THE LAND OF  
ROCK AND GOLD

TH



### **The Land of Rock and Gold**

Canada • 91 min • 2016 • Dramatic Feature  
English/Cree



#### **World Premiere**

Directors: Janine Windolph (Cree), Daniel Redenbach

On a snowy day deep in the dead of winter, Willie mysteriously runs off into the woods. As the days pass, his worried partner, Rochelle, and young son are left to fend for themselves as she tries to find clues about his disappearance. As she becomes increasingly consumed with finding him, Rochelle's erratic behaviour raises the alarm of child services, which seeks to apprehend her son. Panicked, Rochelle flees into the forest as she begins to slowly unravel a web of deceit she could never have imagined as the truth of Willie's disappearance reveals itself.

*Janine Windolph is an educator, filmmaker, performer, multimedia storyteller and entrepreneur. She has her Master of Fine Arts Interdisciplinary in Media Production and Indian Fine Arts. Her personal practice centres on oral storytelling, memory, genealogy and family history. Janine's works include RIIS from Amnesia: Recovering the Lost Legacies, From up North (for which she was a co-recipient of the Zoomer Media Award), and Braided Histories.*

#### **Co-Presented by:**

**Reelworld**

**Native Canadian Centre of Toronto**

Our relationship to land – in all its incarnations – comes into focus in this programme of shorts by Indigenous filmmakers from Canada. From fear to strength and displacement to pride, these artists take us on a journey that requires a firm footing and a strong stance.



### Tshiuetin

Canada • 10 min • 2016 • Short Documentary  
French/Innu with English Subtitles  
Director: Caroline Monnet (Algonquin)

Carving its way through the beautiful landscape of western Labrador and northeastern Quebec is the Tshiuetin rail line. The only railway in Canada owned by Indigenous people, the Tshiuetin is a lifeline for the people who call this land home and a source of pride for all who ride this historic line.

*Caroline Monnet is a self-taught multidisciplinary artist from Outaouais, Québec, currently living in Montreal. She works in film and video, painting, sculpture and installation, and is a founding member of the Indigenous digital arts collective ITWÉ.*



### Cree Code Talker

Canada • 14 min • 2016 • Short Documentary  
Cree/English with English Subtitles  
World Premiere  
Director: Alexandra Lazarowich (Cree)

During the Second World War, the Allied Forces utilized Indigenous language speakers to transmit coded messages that could not be broken. The contributions of Charles “Checker” Tomkins are revealed in this insightful look into how the Cree language was used as a vital secret weapon in combat.

*Alexandra Lazarowich is a Cree filmmaker who currently splits her time between Alberta and Brooklyn, working on films about the issues impacting Indigenous peoples and cultures from around the world.*



### God's Acre

Canada • 15 min • 2016 • Short Drama  
English  
Director: Kelton Stepanowich (Métis)

Lorne Cardinal stars in this unsettling, powerful short of a man determined to protect his land at all cost. As the water slowly rises in a frighteningly familiar future, the man must choose to abandon all that he knows or give in to the rising tide.

*Kelton is a filmmaker from Fort McMurray, Alberta. He is currently developing his first dramatic feature through Telefilm Canada's microbudget program.*

**OCT 20**

THUR 2:15 PM  
TIFF BELL LIGHTBOX  
CINEMA 3

## SOLID GROUND: CANADIAN SHORTS

TH



### 7 Minutes

Canada • 7 min • 2016 • Short Documentary

English

**Ontario Premiere**

Director: Tasha Hubbard (Cree)

Marie's walk from her university library to her home is an even seven minutes. It's a walk she has made many times but one night she is followed by a man who tries to get her into his van. Relieved to have escape, Marie's story speaks to the threats Indigenous women confront on a daily basis.

*Tasha Hubbard is from the Peepeekisis First Nation. She is an assistant professor at the University of Saskatchewan and an award-winning filmmaker. Her research is on Indigenous film, Indigenous creative representation of the buffalo, and Indigenous women's and children's history.*



### this river

Canada • 16 min • 2016 • Short Documentary

English

**World Premiere**

Directors: Katherena Vermette (Métis), Erika MacPherson

Muddy and long, Winnipeg's Red River holds dark secrets. When the body of 15-year-old Tina Fontaine was pulled from the waters wrapped in a garbage bag in 2014, a group of volunteers established Drag the Red, a grassroots initiative to trawl the river in search of evidence of other missing Indigenous women. This powerful and beautiful documentary conveys the passion and conviction at the heart of their mission.

*Katherena Vermette is a writer of poetry, fiction and children's literature. Her first book, North End Love Songs, won the 2013 Governor General's Literary Award for Poetry and was the 2015 selection for On the Same Page, Manitoba's province-wide book club. Her work has appeared in several literary magazines and anthologies. Vermette lives, works and plays in Winnipeg.*



### Baamsewag Mshkikiiwag (They are Walking Around for Medicines)

Canada • 8 min • 2016 • Short Drama

Ojibway with English Subtitles

**World Premiere**

Director: Keesic Douglas (Ojibway)

Tender and poetic, four young friends set out on the land in search of medicines to cure a grandmother. Set in 1981, this lovely story of friendship and ingenuity is a testament to the strength of children and the memories of our childhood.

*Keesic Douglas is from the Rama First Nation in central Ontario. His practice utilizes photography, video and performance, focusing on themes of exploring history, identity, representation and the environment through an Indigenous perspective.*



### Cache-cache

Canada • 3 min • 2015 • Experimental  
English

#### Ontario Premiere

Director: Louisa Papatie (Kitsisakik)

Set amongst a dreamlike forest, a grandmother and her grandchildren play a whimsical game of hide-and-seek. The joyfulness in her voice and the giggles of the children are a welcome invitation to a time when all we needed was a place to hide.

*Louisa Papatie (Kitsisakik) loves to giggle and uses her humour to promote changes in her community. Her first movie with Wapikoni mobile brings a much-loved dose of lightness.*



### The Grandfather Drum

Canada • 13 min • 2016 • Short Drama  
English/Ojibway with English Subtitles

Director: Michelle Derosier (Ojibway)

Revered for its healing powers by the Anishinabek of the upper Berens River, Naamowin's drum can restore life. This stunning animation reveals the true story of how a drum designed to heal became trapped by colonial forces designed to disrupt the delicate balance between the world above and the world below.

*Michelle Derosier is from Migisi Sahgaigan (Eagle Lake First Nation) in northwestern Ontario. She is co-owner of Thunderstone Pictures Inc. Michelle executive produced the feature film Fire Song and directed the award-winning documentaries Return to Manomin and The Healing Lens. This is her first foray into animated storytelling.*



### Ute Kanata (Here in Canada)

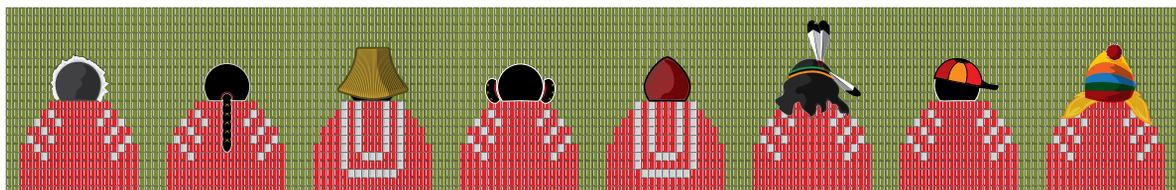
Canada • 2 min • 2015 • Short Documentary  
French with English Subtitles

#### Toronto Premiere

Director: Virginie Michel (Innu)

By adapting Canada's anthem to the reality of First Nations, the director's take on *O Canada* is both a manifesto demanding the official recognition of the national hymn in Indigenous languages and a rallying song for all peoples.

*Virginie Michel is an Innu woman from the Mani-Utenam community who worked several years with children. In her free time, she likes to create: crafts, songs, nursery rhymes. Her project is to elaborate an interactive dictionary for early childhood. She also follows actively the political evolution of her people: aware of the future of First Nations languages.*



New voices take centre stage in this programme of four World Premieres that had their start at imagineNATIVE! Featuring three short works created as part of our annual Commissioning Series and the winner of our 2014 Documentary Pitch competition. For more information on our future Commissioning Series and pitch competitions, please contact Daniel Northway-Frank, Industry Director.



### Indian Giver

Canada • 10 min • 2016 • Short Drama  
English

#### World Premiere

Director: Trevor Soloway (Blackfoot)

A family man comes back from the store...15 years later. Since leaving his family in 1999, Joseph has been on a fast highway of rodeos, powwows and partying. Now he's back and ready to make amends with his estranged family in this comedic short.

Recipient of the 2016 CSIF/imagineNATIVE Mentorship

*Trevor Soloway comes from a long line of ranchers and spent most of his childhood on his grandparents' ranch. Storytelling has always been a passion of his and in 2012 he moved to Vancouver to take the Independent Indigenous Digital Filmmaking program at Capilano University.*

imagineNATIVE has partnered with the Calgary Society of Independent Filmmakers (CSIF) annually since 2013 to provide an Indigenous artist living in southern Alberta with production support and sources for their first short film.



### When I Close My Eyes

Canada • 7 min • 2016 • Experimental  
English

#### World Premiere

Director: Marnie Parrell (Métis)

Layers of images, text and sound are repurposed in this video work. Using an experimental and first-person documentary approach, the physical and emotional challenges experienced by millions of people who struggle with debilitating fatigue and exhaustion are examined.

Recipient of the 2016 CSV/imagineNATIVE Residency

*Marnie Parrell is a filmmaker, writer and artist whose work has been presented internationally. Parrell's films are hybrids: short, experimental, narrative and documentaries. She also has an interest in wearable electronics and found objects/art, where she continues to bridge the gaps between high and low tech.*

imagineNATIVE's annual residency with Charles Street Video (CSV) – now in its sixth year – provides production support and services to a mid-career Indigenous artist working in new video production.



**Heidi Lost**

Canada • 6 min • 2016 • Short Drama  
English/Ojibway with English Subtitles  
**World Premiere**  
Director: J.L. Whitecrow (Ojibway)

Set in a post-apocalyptic dystopian society called the Hive, a fierce, independent Indigenous female has to face the biggest decision of her life when society goes on high alert.

Recipient of the 2016 LIFT/imagineNATIVE Mentorship

*J.L. Whitecrow is a multidisciplinary visual artist, writer and vocalist. She is also an emerging stand-up comedian with Manifest Destiny's Child, an Indigenous women's comedy collective based in Toronto. In her free time, she sings and plays synthesizer in a post-punk band in addition to fronting a riot-grrl band.*

imagineNATIVE and the Liaison of Independent Filmmakers of Toronto have a long-standing partnership to provide production support and services to an emerging Indigenous artist to make their first 16mm film. This year marks our twelfth mentorship.



**Oheró:kon – Under the Husk**

Canada • 27 min • 2016 • Short Documentary  
English  
**World Premiere**  
Director: Katsitsionni Fox (Mohawk)

Kaienkwinehtha and Kasennakohe are childhood friends on a journey to womanhood. From traditional families living in the Mohawk community of Akwesasne, they choose to take part in an adolescent rites of passage ceremony called Oheró:kon. The girls prepare for a year in advance, learning necessary teachings and survival skills. The "Under the Husk" ceremony can be an arduous one, and once the spring arrives, the girls must face the spiritual, emotional and physical challenges shaping the women they will become.

Winner of the 2014 Documentary Pitch Prize

*Katsitsionni Fox is a visual artist, educator and filmmaker. She has worked for many years with Native youth in her community of Akwesasne to give them the skills to express themselves through filmmaking.*

**Co-Presented by:**

Calgary Society of Independent Filmmakers

Charles Street Video

Liaison of Independent Filmmakers

The Native Youth Sexual Health Network

DOCUMENTARY CULTURE

POV

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**OCT 20**

THUR 4:45 PM  
TIFF BELL LIGHTBOX  
CINEMA 3



**SPOTLIGHT ON  
GREENLAND I: SUMÉ**

TH

**Screening Sponsors**



NAALAKKERSUISUT  
GOVERNMENT OF GREENLAND



**norden**

The Nordic Institute  
in Greenland



**SUMÉ – Mumisitsinerup (Sumé – The Sound of a Revolution)**

Greenland • 73 min • 2014 • Documentary Feature  
Greenlandic/Danish with English Subtitles  
Director: Inuk Silis Høegh (Inuk)

As one of the most captivating – and rarely visited – nations on Earth, Greenland's history is not widely known. Perhaps less known – at least to those outside its stunning borders – is the rock band Sumé and its remarkable impact on the formation of contemporary Greenlandic identity. As the first band to record in the Greenlandic language, the Indigenous group recorded three albums in the early 1970s filled with political anthems that stirred the spirit and pride of their fellow Greenlanders. Their songs were a rallying cry against two and a half centuries of Danish colonization and remain a source of pride for Greenlanders today.

*Sumé* is an entertaining, enlightening documentary that explores the power of language and song in shaping the destiny of a nation. This not-to-be-missed documentary is unlike anything you've seen. *Sumé* has been an international hit on the film festival circuit. It played imagineNATIVE in 2014, where it won two awards: the Jane Glasco Award for an Emerging Filmmaker and the Cynthia Lickers-Sage Award for Emerging Talent.

*Inuk Silis Høegh is a film director and artist, born in Qaqortoq, Greenland. He earned a Master of Arts in Film & TV Production from the University of Bristol in 1997 and a master of Fine Arts from the Royal Danish School of Visual Arts in 2010. Sumé has screened at film festivals internationally including the prestigious Berlinale.*



**Thor Eugenius**

Greenland • 3 min • 2016 • Short Documentary  
Without Dialogue  
**World Premiere**  
Director: Ulannaq Ingemann (Inuk)

Thor Eugenius is a Greenlandic Hunter in the South of Greenland. Ulannaq Ingemann, the director, has created a short insight into how hunters live, produced for Visit Greenland.

*Ulannaq Ingemann is the owner of Ujávaaq Pictures and a former student of the European Film College.*



### Born to Dance

Aotearoa New Zealand • 96 min • 2016 • Dramatic Feature

English

Director: Tammy Davis (Ngāti Rangī)

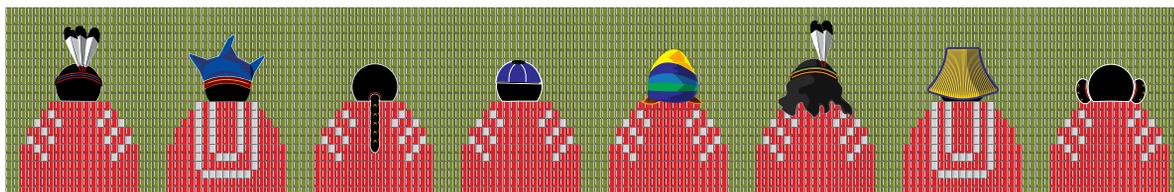


Born on the wrong side of the tracks in southern Auckland, Tu (played by champion hip-hop dancer Tia-Tahoroa Maipi) is an ambitious young man at a crossroads. His strict father pressures him to join the army, but Tu harbours dreams of being a professional hip-hop dancer. Working at a dead-end day job, he spends his nights with his local dance crew and dreams of stardom. When the biggest dance crew in the country has an open call for auditions, Tu jumps at the chance to be part of the K-Crew. But the big time is not necessarily what he dreamt it would be. With killer dance moves choreographed by the legendary Parris Goebel of the equally legendary The Royal Family (three-time winner of the World Hip-Hop Dance Championship), *Born to Dance* makes you rise and shine.

*This is director Tammy Davis's first feature film. His short films *Ebony Society* and *Sonny My Older Brother* both screened at imagineNATIVE and at festivals worldwide including *Berlinale* and *Sundance*. Tammy is also a well-known actor in Aotearoa New Zealand and Australia, best known for his role in the hit TV series *Outrageous Fortune*.*

### Co-Presented by:

Centre for Indigenous Theatre



OCT 20

THUR 9:30 PM  
TIFF BELL LIGHTBOX  
CINEMA 3

SPEAR

TH



**Spear**

Australia • 84 min • 2015 • Dramatic Feature  
English

Director: Stephen Page (Yugambeh)



In this breathtaking and visually mesmerizing film, first-time feature director and celebrated choreographer Stephen Page and his Sydney-based Bangarra Dance Theatre come together to tell the story of Djali, a young Indigenous man who sets off on a journey of initiation and understanding of what it means to balance ancient tradition with the modern, urban world. Seamlessly weaving dance and story – and a compelling soundscape by composer David Page – this cinematic journey begins with his birth and follows him as he enters the complicated and often painful world of colonial Australia’s turbulent and violent past, which resulted in an often challenging present. In this richly layered film, we become witness to Djali’s struggle to find his place as he awakens the powerful spiritual guiding force within him. *Spear* is a truly unique and mesmerising cinematic experience that must be seen to be believed.

*In 1991 Stephen Page was appointed artistic director of the Sydney-based, internationally acclaimed Bangarra Dance Theatre and has developed a signature body of works that have become milestones in Australian performing arts. He continues to reinvent Indigenous storytelling both within Bangarra and through collaborations with other performing arts companies, including directing the Indigenous sections for the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games Opening and Closing Ceremonies.*

**Co-Presented by:**

**Kaha:wi Dance Theatre**

**Luminato Festival**

**Native Earth Performing Arts**

**Red Sky Performance**



In this collection of shorts, we find protagonists taking on the responsibility of caring for family, land, culture and, in some cases, self-determination. Suitable for young people!



## Awaskinawason (The Children of the Earth)

Canada • 3 min • 2015 • Short Drama  
**Toronto Premiere**  
Director: Antony Dubé (Atikamekw)

Awaskinawason comes from the words awacic (child), aski (earth) and takonawason (having the responsibility for); combined together, this powerful word is the guiding principle of this short film that calls for respect of the great circle of life, represented in the life cycle of a tree.

*Antony Dubé is passionate about his culture, its preservation and that of his mother tongue. He likes to work among his people within the areas of education and communication.*



## Konāgxeka: o Dilúvio Maxakali (Konāgxeka: The Maxakali Flood)

Brazil • 13 min • 2016 • Short Drama  
Maxakali with English Subtitles  
**International Premiere**

Directors: Irael Maxakali (Maxakali), Charles Bicalho

This beautifully animated short tells the Maxakali tale of the Great Water sent by the Yāmîy spirits who flood the region, which serves as a fierce warning against human greed and selfishness.

*Irael Maxakali is a teacher and filmmaker who has been making work since 2007. His latest works include, Yāmîy, Dia do índio na Aldeia Verde and Quando os Yāmîy Vêm Cantar Conosco.*



## The Spectacular Imagination of the Pōhara Brothers

Aotearoa New Zealand • 8 min • 2015 • Short Drama  
English  
**International Premiere**

Director: Todd Karehana (Māori/Tangata Whenua)

When young Nathan and Christian learn that their Mum needs money to pay the electrical bill, they devise a plan to sell flying lessons. But when a grumpy auntie, played by famed Māori recording artist and actress Whirimako Black, challenges their ability to make her fly, they must rely on their youthful imagination and the power to believe in the impossible.

*Todd Karehana graduated with a BA in Writing Studies/Media, Film & Television and Screen Production from the University of Auckland, where he is currently enrolled as a Master of Arts student, specializing in drama directing.*

**OCT 21**

FRI 10:00 AM  
TIFF BELL LIGHTBOX  
CINEMA 2

## TAKING AIM: SHORTS PROGRAMME

FR



### **Kablunât (Legend of the Origin of the White People)**

Canada • 11 min • 2016 • Experimental

English

**World Premiere**

Director: Glenn Gear (Inuk)

With rare archival images and collage, this is an early Inuit story of how one young girl's quest for independence leads to an unlikely union and the creation of the Kablunat, the white people.

*Glenn Gear (Inuk) is a multimedia artist and animator based in Montreal who employs experimental techniques in both digital and traditional forms of animation. His works have screened in festivals throughout Canada, North America and around the world.*



### **Mannahatta (Manhattan)**

Aotearoa New Zealand • 15 min • 2016 • Short Drama

English

**World Premiere**

Director: Renae Maihi (Nga Puhi/Te Arawa)

An immigrant man struggles with his difficult boss as he tries to create a life for himself on the island of Manhattan. But when he is visited by the spirit of a Native American man he realizes that his existence is intrinsically linked to a larger history of struggle that is woven into the land he now tenuously calls home.

*Renae Maihi is an award-winning and critically acclaimed writer and director in theatre and film. Her film Redemption screened at the Berlin Film Festival and Sundance, and won Best Short Film at imagineNATIVE 2010. Her award-winning short film Butterfly screened at imagineNATIVE in 2013.*



### **M'tik Woop (Stick and String)**

Canada • 6 min • 2015 • Short Documentary

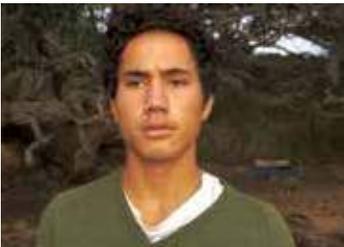
English with French Subtitles

**World Premiere**

Director: Daniel Lewis (Anishinaabe)

In this charming short, two lovable young characters, Daniel and Harvey, are highly skilled archers. As they head to a local archery competition, they talk shop and share stories as they hone their hunting skills.

*Daniel Lewis is an adventurous archer from the community of Wikwemikong, on Manitoulin island. He wants to preserve the traditional practices like the bow and arrow, and likes sharing his knowledge about the sport.*



### **The Turning Tide**

Aotearoa New Zealand • 10 min • 2016 • Short Drama

English/Māori

**International Premiere**

Director: Jason Taylor (Ngāti Maniapoto)

A stunning and heartfelt tale of two young boys who live a simple life, guided by the traditional stories of their ancestors. As they embark upon a fishing trip in their small coastal village in Aotearoa, they discover the resonance of their elders' words in this powerful testament to the fragility of the land and sea.

*Jason Taylor has worked as an actor in both theatre and television. He is now pursuing a career in education and venturing into writing and directing. The Turning Tide is Jason's first role as writer/director.*

**Co-Presented by:**  
**SOY - Supporting Our Youth**



PRESENTING SPONSOR

Bell Media



# WORLD'S LARGEST INDIGENOUS FILM FESTIVAL



original. indigenous.

Bring Indigenous-made films and videos to your community or venue through imagineNATIVE's year-round programming initiatives:

imagineNATIVE Film + Video Tour

Entering its 13th year in 2017, the imagineNATIVE Film + Video Tour takes a selection of works from the Festival to communities throughout Ontario and across Canada! We visit primarily First Nations and communities with large Indigenous populations and always travel with an Indigenous artist.

On the Tour, we also offer an amazing two-day videomaking workshop for Indigenous youth that uses equipment already available in your community. The videos made in the workshop are screened in your community and are put online for public voting. The youth filmmaker with the most votes has their video included in the upcoming Festival and has their travel and accommodation paid for to attend their screening!

Please email [info@imagineNATIVE.org](mailto:info@imagineNATIVE.org) for more info on the Tour.

## indigiFLIX Community Screening Series

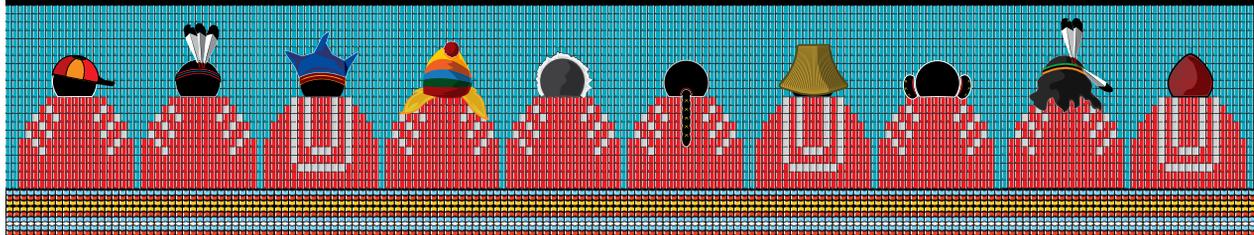
indigiFLIX is imagineNATIVE's free bi-monthly event (December through June) that screens works from the Festival's archive at venues throughout the Greater Toronto Area! From Indigenous community centres to libraries to multi-ethnic cultural centres, we bring a selection of Indigenous-made films and videos to your audiences. We pay the screening fees and you provide the venue!

Please email [programming@imagineNATIVE.org](mailto:programming@imagineNATIVE.org) for more info on indigiFLIX.

## Co-Presentations

imagineNATIVE partners with numerous festivals, organisations, and institutions across Canada and internationally each year! If you would like to co-present a screening of Indigenous-made films and videos, get in touch! We can provide ready-made programmes or create a bespoke programme to suit your interests or focus. Screening, programming and administrative fees may apply.

Please email [programming@imagineNATIVE.org](mailto:programming@imagineNATIVE.org) for more info on co-presentations.





**Te Kuhane o Te Tupuna (The Spirit of the Ancestors)**

Chile • 65 min • 2015 • Documentary Feature  
Spanish/French/English/Rapa Nu with English Subtitles



**North American Premiere**

Director: Leonardo Pakarati (Rapa Nui)

Three generations of chroniclers from Rapa Nui (Easter Island) go in search of their nation’s sacred pieces. *Te Kuhane o Te Tupuna* tells the story of Moia Hoa Haka Nana’ia, one of their sacred spirits, who they call the Stolen Friend. Colonizers took the massive, iconic carving 100 years ago, one of the countless living objects now housed in museums worldwide.

For the Rapa Nui, the Moia is infused with mana, the power essential to their lives and well-being. His absence from the island – where he watched over them with his kin – threatens their survival as the link between spirit and people weakens over time. Worse still, the younger generations’ link to their ancestors is at risk. This documentary follows the Pakarati family as they travel to Europe to try to reclaim the Stolen Friend, bring his spirit home and ensure a strong future for those to come.

*Leonardo Pakarati graduated in audiovisual communications and film directing from the ARCOS University in Santiago de Chile. In 1999 he founded the first TV channel from Easter Island: Channel 13 Mata o te Rapa Nui, where he was the director and programming director. The same year, he created his own producing company, Mahatua Producciones, which offers audiovisual services to the Rapa Nui community.*



**Ūkaipō Whenua (Mother’s Land)**

Aotearoa New Zealand • 17 min • 2016 • Short Drama  
Māori with English Subtitles

**International Premiere**

Director: Karariana Rangihau (Tūhoe/Te Arawa)

Set in the misty mountains of Lake Waikaremoana in Aotearoa, another generation is poised to inherit the land. With a heavy heart, Nanny Oriwa, the old matriarch, sends for her grandson, pinning all her hopes for the land and family on him.

*Kararina Rangihau (aka Karlite) is a dedicated Tūhoe tribeswoman committed to ensuring that Tūhoetanga continues as a living practice in her community. She has over 20 years of involvement in various projects as an actress, writer, singer, composer, director and producer for Māori children’s television, film, radio, theatre and community development.*

**Co-Presented by:**  
aluCine Latin Film+Media Arts Festival  
Woodland Cultural Centre

## Screening Sponsors:



NAALAKKERSUISUT  
GOVERNMENT OF GREENLAND



norden

The Nordic Institute  
in Greenland



### Tikeq, Qiterleq, Mikileraq, Eqqeqqoq (Fore Finger, Middle Finger, Ring Finger, Little Finger)

Greenland • 93 min • 2008 • Dramatic Feature

Greenlandic & English with English Subtitles

**North American Premiere**

Director: Ujarneq Fleischer (Inuk)



This is the no-budget film of legend. Heralded as the very first dramatic feature film from Greenland – made, literally, for a hundred dollars – this rowdy, grassroots comedy takes us on a crazy romp through western Greenland. Starring Ujarneq Fleischer (who also directed), *Tikeq, Qiterleq, Mikileraq, Eqqeqqoq* follows four childhood friends as they try to find meaning in life. Throw in true love, mythical secrets and a big dose of misadventure, the boys' journey leads them to a place of where none had thought they would ever arrive.

*Ujarneq Fleischer was born and raised in Sisimiut in western Greenland. He is an actor, director and artist who finished art school in Nuuk in 2004. Since then he has worked with paintings and films. In 2008, he made his first film, Tikeq, Qiterleq, Mikileraq, Eqqeqqoq, followed by Akiniaaneq Killeqaleraangat. His latest film, Ikuala Zeeb, was completed this year. Today, Ujarneq works as an actor for The National Theatre of Greenland.*

**OCT 21**

FRI 2:30 PM  
TIFF BELL LIGHTBOX  
CINEMA 2



## B(E)ARINGS: EXPERIMENTAL SHORTS

FR

B(e)arings: one's position or situation relative to one's surroundings, uncovered, revealing, exposed, unconcealed and undisguised; this collection of experimental shorts is rooted in the layered meaning of this constructed word.



### Message

Canada • 3 min • 2015 • Experimental  
English

#### Toronto Premiere

Director: Marie-Pier Ottawa (Atikamekw)

Sonic art and animation collide as a message in Atikamekw is received through a television cable.

*Marie-Pier Ottawa (Atikamekw), a young artist born in 1990, is a regular at Wapikoni Mobile. A native of Manawan, from the Atikamekw community, she has presented her videos all over the world. Her works have earned various awards, including the Prix Jeunesse at the Festival Ciné Alter'Natif in Nantes in 2010 and the Prix Vidéographe at the Gala Prends ça court! in Montreal in 2013.*



### The Dust Bowl

Canada • 4 min • 2016 • Experimental  
English

#### World Premiere

Director: Lisa Jackson (Anishinaabe)

Exploring the devastation of the 1930s, Lisa Jackson shapes amateur-shot archival film from a South Dakota town and audio interviews of residents who lived through the Great Depression to craft a moving and powerful allegory of contemporary financial corruption.

*Lisa Jackson's genre-blending films span documentary and fiction and include current affairs, animation and a musical. They've appeared on most networks in Canada, screened at major festivals internationally and garnered numerous awards, including a 2010 Genie for Best Short Film. Playback Magazine named her one of 10 to Watch in 2012.*



### The Valedictorian of Carlisle Indian School

United States • 3 min • 2016 • Experimental

Without Dialogue with English Subtitles

Director: Rachael Nez (Navajo)

A visual poem recounts the horror of a boy's forced removal to a residential school and the indignities he faces there. Based on the poem by Ashlee Hope Bird.

*Rachael Nez is a documentary filmmaker currently based in California. She strongly believes in the revitalization of Indigenous languages and supports those efforts through her knowledge of digital technologies and video skills.*

**Untitled (epilogue)**

Aotearoa New Zealand • 5 min • 2015 •

Experimental

English

**Canadian Premiere**

Director: Shannon Te Ao (Māori)

A procession of potted plants slowly moves its way across the screen as a melancholy voiceover speaks to life's mundane and frightening nature.

*Shannon Te Ao is an artist, writer and curator whose current research interests include performance and video art practices. The majority of Te Ao's recent artistic output has seen him investigating and responding to material drawn from Māori paradigms, testing the implications of alternative creative, social and linguistic models in relation to contemporary video art and other performative practices.*

**Hands to the Sky**

United States • 4 min • 2016 •

Experimental

English

**International Premiere**

Director: Elizabeth LaPensée (Anishinaabe, Métis)

With music by the Métis Fiddler Quartet, this experimental stop motion animation comments on the fallout from oil extraction and the ability to heal and transform through fluidity.

*Elizabeth LaPensée, PhD, expresses herself through writing, design and art in games, transmedia, comics and animation. She is Anishinaabe, Métis and Irish, living near the Great Lakes.*

**Visions of an Island**

United States • 15 min • 2016 •

Experimental

English

**International Premiere**

Director: Sky Hopinka (Ho-Chunk)

Situated on a tranquil island in the centre of the Bering Sea, a visitor captures the poetic reflections of an Unangam Tunuu Elder on landscape, fauna and youth through a collection of magical, dreamlike imagery.

*Sky Hopinka's work centres on personal positions of landscapes, language, culture and the play between the accessibility of the known and the unknowable, and how those concepts interact with the screen and the audience. He received his BA from Portland State University in liberal arts and his MFA in film, video, animation and new genres from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.*

**I Am**

Canada • 4 min • 2015 •

Music Video

English

**Ontario Premiere**

Directors: Moe Clark (Métis), Emmanuel Hessler

This visually arresting and ethereal film is a hypnotic journey into the layers of the subconscious, exploring one's lineage and connectedness through the essential element of water.

*Moe Clark is a multidisciplinary artist, singer, poet, educator and activist. Her video Nitahkôtân (I Have Arrived) won the Best Music Video prize at imagineNATIVE 2015.*



**Woman without Mandolin**

Brazil • 5 min • 2015 •

Experimental  
English

**Canadian Premiere**

Director: Fabiano Mixo (Afro-Indigenous)

This award-winning film powerfully confronts the colonial gaze found in European art. Using Picasso's *Girl with Mandolin* as a platform, director Fabiano Mixo places a strong woman as the focal point within the fractured confines of the Cubist style, redirecting the colonial lens.

*Originally from Brazil, Fabiano Mixo is a multimedia artist and film director based in Berlin. He studied art, media, film and communications in Rio de Janeiro. He is currently developing the video installation Letters to Lumière (360° short films), which will be shown in 2016 at the Museum of Arts and Technology Oi Futuro in Rio de Janeiro.*



**Dollastallat  
(To Have a Campfire)**

Sápmi-Finland • 6 min • 2016 •

Experimental  
Without Dialogue

**North American Premiere**

Director: Marja Helander (Sámi)

Referencing an old Sámi myth, we find a woman wandering through the mountains in the Kola Peninsula, a landscape marked by the mining industry. Encountering an unexpected friend, she attempts to make a hospitable offer in this dreamlike story commenting on ecology, past and present.

*Marja Helander pursued her interest in photography and graduated from the University of Art and Design in Helsinki in 1999. Since then she has presented works in solo- and group-exhibitions both in Finland and abroad. Helander's work explores the question of identity with regards to her Sámi background. She works with photography, video and installation.*



**The Length of Grief:  
The Daughters of Métis Mothers**

Canada • 5 min • 2016 •

Experimental  
Without Dialogue

**Ontario Premiere**

Director: Amy Malbeuf (Métis)

An evocative experimental film about transformation from women's grief rooted in colonial trauma, we find two Métis women who, through trust and sisterhood, support one another on their path to transcendence and healing.

*Amy Malbeuf is a visual artist who has exhibited her work nationally and internationally. In 2016 she was selected as one of six Indigenous artists to create a permanent public artwork for the upcoming Indigenous Art Park in Edmonton. Through utilizing mediums such as caribou hair tufting, beadwork, installation, performance and video, Malbeuf explores notions of place, language and ecology.*

**Co-Presented by:**  
Images Festival  
Indigenous Performing Arts Alliance (IPAA)

Screening Sponsor:  MOHAWK  
COLLEGE

## The Native Slam

Aotearoa New Zealand, Canada, United States, Australia, Sápmi - Norway/Finland, Samoa •  
60 min • 2016 • Short Dramas

Māori/Sámi/Navajo/Mohawk with English Subtitles

### International Premiere

Producers: Pauline Clague (Yaegl), Libby Hakaraia (Ngāti Raukawa/Ngāti Toa Rangatira/Te Āti Awa)



In March 2016, this extraordinary project – envisioned and created by Libby Hakaraia, director of the Māoriland Film Festival, and Australian producer Pauline Clague – paired together 15 international Indigenous filmmakers, challenging each to create five short films in 72 hours on a budget of \$800 a piece. Applying 10 rules to the challenge, artists were asked to focus on ideas that heal and to include one of the three spoken and untranslated Indigenous languages represented by the filmmakers. *The Native Slam* culminates into a powerful collection of works that transcends borders, creating a strong synergetic voice in filmmaking and story creation.

### ARA

Directors: Kath Akuhata-Brown (Ngāti Porou), Sara Margrethe Oskal (Sámi), Echota Kilsnight (Northern Cheyenne/ Cherokee Keetowah)

A visual and melodic poem whose text and diverse languages cross borders to create unified pathways of discovery about the world and ourselves.

### TAWHAOWHAO

Directors: Himiona Grace (Paekakariki), Blackhorse Lowe (Navajo), Sunna Nousuniemi (Sámi)

This haunting film tells the story of a man who must face a harsh reality in his attempt to fix an estranged relationship between him and his 16-year-old daughter.

### SKOHA

Directors: Tainui Stephens (Te Rarawa), Zoe Leigh Hopkins (Heiltsuk/Mohawk), Rima Tamou (Bulgunwarra/Nga Ruahine Rangī)

Life continues on, even when the ones we love are lost, in this poetically sublime cry for the ones we miss.

### RA'STAT'STE

Directors: Mike Jonathan (Te Arawa/ Waikato/Mataatua), Sonia Boileau (Mohawk), Jeremiah Tauamiti (Samoan)

In this emotionally touching film, a mother gives birth, but when complications arise she must remember her strong connection to land, water and spirit.

### SECH'EL

Directors: Chelsea Winstanley (Ngāti Ranginui), Cornel Ozzies (Yawuru, Goonyland), Trevor Mack (Tsilhqot'in)

"Sometimes loneliness makes the loudest noise." A friendship is altered forever when the courage of one is not reciprocated by the other.

**Co-Presented by:**  
**National  
Indigenous Media  
Arts Coalition**

**OCT 21**

FRI 6:30 PM  
TIFF BELL LIGHTBOX  
CINEMA 2

# MALIGLUTIT (SEARCHERS)

FR

Screening Sponsor: 



## Maliglutit (Searchers)

Canada • 94 min • 2016 • Dramatic Feature  
Inuktitut with English Subtitles  
Director: Zacharias Kunuk (Inuk)  
Co-Director: Natar Ungalaaq (Inuk)



Zacharias Kunuk brings us another cinematic masterpiece from the North.

In 1913 Nunavut, a community's well-being hangs in the balance. After an elder senses a foreboding, four men are exiled for the misfortune and trouble they will surely bring to the small group of Inuit. Angry and dangerous, the men roam the snowy tundra with a sickness in their hearts and minds.

Farther away, a man and his son are on the hunt for caribou, having been shown the way by his spirit helper, Kallulik, the loon. While the pair had a successful hunt, upon their return the man finds his wife and daughter kidnapped, and the other members of his family murdered by the marauding exiles. Coming to his aid, Kallulik sets him on course to find his family and avenge the deaths of his loved ones.

Swapping stagecoaches for sleighs, the riveting, beautiful and exciting *Maliglutit* is the dramatic reimagining of the John Wayne western *The Searchers*. This remarkable film is a must-see and an instant classic of Indigenous cinema.

*Zacharias Kunuk is a world renowned filmmaker whose dramatic feature films include Atanarjuat The Fast Runner, which won the Camera d'Or at the Cannes film festival in 2001, and The Journals of Knud Rasmussen, co-directed with Norman Cohn, which opened the Toronto International Film Festival in 2006. Kunuk is the winner of a National Arts Award, the National Aboriginal Achievement Award and was named an Officer of the Order of Canada in 2005. Atanarjuat was recently named as the top Canadian film of all time by TIFF.*

**Co-Presented by:**  
Kingulliit Productions

Screening Sponsor:



### Three Wise Cousins

Aotearoa New Zealand/Samoa • 89 min • 2015 • Dramatic Feature  
English/Samoan with English Subtitles  
Director: Stallone Vaiaoga-Ioasa (Samoan)  
**Canadian Premiere**



The Samoan comedy hit comes to Canada! Born and raised in Aotearoa New Zealand, Adam is your typical 22-year-old city guy with a killer crush on Mary (who barely knows he exists). When he overhears Mary say that she only dates “real” island guys, Adam makes it his mission to deliver. He packs his bags and flies to Samoa to engage the services of his two cousins – both island boys to the core – to teach him the island ways. From climbing for coconut to learning how to dance, Adam’s journey to win Mary’s heart will win yours. Made on a shoestring budget of \$80,000, the funny and charming *Three Wise Cousins* surprised the industry by taking over \$2 million at the box office to become a true success story of independent, grassroots feature filmmaking.

*Credited as SQS, director Stallone Vaiaoga-Ioasa set out to make people laugh and learn more about life in Samoa. Born in Auckland to Samoan parents, he completed a law degree as a backup to a film career. Stallone pursued his passion for filmmaking and worked four jobs to save money to self-fund Three Wise Cousins.*

**Co-Presented by:**

**Na-Me-Res (Native Men’s Residence)**

**OCT 21**

FRI 11:59 PM  
TIFF BELL LIGHTBOX  
CINEMA 2



# THE WITCHING HOUR

FR

Welcome to the flip side! Join us for an extraordinary - uncanny! - night of terrifying tales, sci-fi spectaculars, dark dramas and side-splitting shorts as you begin your journey into the Witching Hour.



## Remains, Human

Canada • 8 min • 2016 • Short Drama

English

**Ontario Premiere**

Director: Cody Halcrow (Cree)

Young reporter Jessica Hale and her cameraman are eager to uncover what lies behind the mysterious alleged monster sightings in their town. But when a shadowy character named Victor Merrick grants them the tell-all interview they have been waiting for, their big-break news story just might be their last.

*Cody Halcrow is an emerging filmmaker. Remains, Human is his first film. He is currently a student in the National Screen Institutes 2016 New Voices Program.*



## AKOÓ (Watchout!)

Canada • 7 min • 2016 • Short Drama

English

**North American Premiere**

Director: Amos Scott (Tlicho)

On a chilling winter night at a northern bush party, two young men plot to take advantage of two young women. Unbeknownst to them, something is watching them from the cold, dark woods and their sinister plan is about to take an unexpected turn.

*Amos Scott is a producer, director and writer based in Yellowknife. He is a member of the Tlicho Nation and a co-founder of Dene Nahjo who looks to his Dene background for inspiration. AKOÓ won Best Screenplay at the Dead North 2016 Film Festival in Yellowknife.*



## Normie

Canada • 6 min • 2016 • Short Drama

English

**Toronto Premiere**

Director: Daniel Couchie (Ojibway)

When Normie is plagued by a series of increasingly disturbing hallucinations, he must face the terrifying truth that he might be losing his grip on reality. Will he make the choice to leave this dark chapter in his life behind or will he allow the looming darkness to envelop him?

*Daniel Couchie is a graduate of the Video Production Technician Program at the Toronto School of Video. Heading into his final year at the Digital Cinematography Program at Canadore College, he has worked on 30+ student films.*



## Dressed to Kill

Canada • 3 min • 2016 • Short Drama

English

**World Premiere**

Director: Norman Champagne (Cree)

A tragic drunk-driving accident causes one man to lose the love of his life. Feeling that the punishment did not fit the crime, on the eve of what would have been their ten-year anniversary, he decides to take matters into his own hands.

*Norman Champagne attended Capilano University and obtained a Documentary Production Certificate. He has worked in film and television since 2009.*



### Feels Good

United States • 15 min • 2016 • Short Drama  
English

#### World Premiere

Director: Andrew Okpeaha MacLean (Iñupiaq)

There is that brief moment, right before something bad happens, when your life flashes before you. In a clever twist on the 1999 film *American Beauty*, this is the moment where we find our protagonist: a reluctant hero whose choices have led to this very moment.

*Andrew Okpeaha MacLean is an award-winning filmmaker born and raised in Alaska. He is known for his feature film On the Ice, which opened imagineNATIVE in 2011 and was awarded Best First Feature and the Crystal Bear for Generations 14plus at the 2011 Berlin International Film Festival. He is currently an assistant arts professor in the Graduate Film Program at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts.*



### Hipster Headdress

Canada • 1 min • 2016 • Experimental  
Without Dialogue

#### World Premiere

Director: Amanda Strong (Michif)

Part of the Naked Island series, this short, sweet and unapologetic animated work confronts the issues of cultural appropriation and everything wrong with hipsters in headdresses.

*Amanda Strong is an award-winning filmmaker, media artist and stop-motion director currently based out of the unceded Coast Salish territory also known as Vancouver. She is the owner and director of Spotted Fawn Productions.*



### Other

United States • 5 min • 2015 • Short Drama  
English

#### International Premiere

Director: Rodrick Pocowatchit (Comanche/Pawnee/Shawnee)

A Native American man finds himself in a long line of applicants waiting to apply for a job. While filling in the application, he notices a glaring omission on the form and decides to point out this out to the interviewer.

*Rodrick Pocowatchit has produced, written, edited, directed and starred in three independent feature films. He is an alumnus of the Sundance Institute's screenwriting program, the L.A. SkinsFest Directors Initiative at CBS and a film columnist for the Wichita Eagle newspaper in Kansas.*



**Nan and A Whole Lot of Trouble**

Australia • 11min • 2015 • Short Drama

English

Director: Dena Curtis (Warumungu/Warlpiri/Arrernte)

Nan and Min are sisters and they don't always see eye to eye, particularly over Nan's treasured photo album with images of their dead relatives. Believing that her older sister's album is just a culturally inappropriate morbid European tradition, Min tries every trick in the book to outsmart her equally tricky sister.

*Dena Curtis is an award-winning filmmaker, editor, series producer and commissioning editor who directed the first Indigenous narrative comedy series in Australia, 8MMM Aboriginal Radio.*



**Star Wars – Trash Compactor Scene**

Canada • 3 min • 2014 • Short Drama

Mohawk with English Subtitles

Director: Zoe Leigh Hopkins (Heiltsuk/Mohawk)

Produced by students and graduates of the Mohawk language immersion program for adults at Onkwawenna Kentyohkwa in Six Nations, this delightful short recreates the unforgettable trash compactor scene from the original *Star Wars* in the Mohawk language. Winner of #TIFFStarWars contest.

*Zoe Leigh Hopkins is an alumnus of the Sundance Institute's Feature Film Program. She has made several short films that have screened internationally including Sundance, Worldwide Short Film Festival and Berlin. Her film The Garden won the NSI Online Festival's A&E Short Filmmaker's Award and her most recent short, Mohawk Midnight Runners, won the Best Canadian Short Drama at imagineNATIVE 2013.*



**Hickey Gone Wrong**

Canada • 7 min • 2015 • Short Drama

English

**World Premiere**

Director: Jay Cardinal Villeneuve (Cree/Métis)

Poor young Grant has his first hickey and it is the size of Texas. Hoping to hide it from his parents, he quickly learns that will be impossible since the whole town of Fort Smith, NWT, already knows and won't let him live it down. Based on Richard Van Camp's story, this hilarious tale, enacted by Fort Smith actors, will leave you in stitches and might just bring you back to the memory of your first love bite.

*Jay Cardinal Villeneuve's numerous low-budget independent short and student films have played at various film festivals across North America and Germany. He has played many roles in the Vancouver film industry, including filming as a private statement gatherer for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. He is a graduate of the Indigenous Film Program and Cinematography at Capilano University.*

**Co-Presented by:**

**Rue Morgue**

**Blood in the Snow Canadian Film Festival**

AIR CANADA

enRoute



# 2016 FILM FESTIVAL FESTIVAL DU FILM



## VOTE FOR YOUR TOP FILM

Check out our monthly showcase of short films by emerging Canadian filmmakers on the Air Canada enRoute Inflight Entertainment System, Canadian Movies category. As selected by a distinguished jury, the best of the festival will be honoured at a public screening in Toronto on November 17th.

**Pick a real winner of your own: Vote for your favourite short in the Air Canada enRoute Film Festival People's Choice Award. Voting and event details at → ENROUTEFILM.COM**

## VOTEZ POUR VOTRE FILM PRÉFÉRÉ

Consultez notre programmation mensuelle de courts métrages réalisés par des cinéastes canadiens de la relève, dans la catégorie Canadien (menu Films) du système de divertissements à bord Air Canada enRoute. La crème du festival, déterminée par un jury prestigieux, aura l'honneur d'une projection publique le 17 novembre, à Toronto.

**Vous avez un coup de cœur? Votez pour votre court métrage favori pour le Prix du public du Festival du film Air Canada enRoute. Pour voter et obtenir plus de détails, visitez → ENROUTEFILM.COM**

# 10

YEARS  
ANS

TAKING FILMMAKERS TO NEW HEIGHTS  
LÀ OÙ LES CINÉASTES PRENNENT LEUR ENVOL



**OCT 22**

SAT 10:00 AM  
TIFF BELL LIGHTBOX  
CINEMA 1

# WE CAN'T MAKE THE SAME MISTAKE TWICE

SA



## **We Can't Make the Same Mistake Twice**

Canada • 165 min • 2016 • Documentary Feature  
English

Director: Alanis Obomsawin (Abenaki)



The rights of First Nations children take centre stage in this landmark documentary, the 50th by legendary filmmaker Alanis Obomsawin. *We Can't Make the Same Mistake Twice* follows the historic discrimination complaint filed against the Government of Canada in 2007 by the First Nations Child & Family Caring Society of Canada and the Assembly of First Nations. Led by the tireless and determined Cindy Blackstock, the head of the Caring Society, they argued that child and family welfare services provided to First Nations children on reserves were underfunded and inferior to those offered to other Canadian children.

Despite challenges from the federal government to have the case dismissed, the Canadian Human Rights Commission referred it to a full hearing by the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal, which began proceedings in 2013. Over the course of the next three years, Blackstock and her allies tenaciously fought for what they knew was right in the face of overt – and covert – challenges. Obomsawin's deft documentary lens gives us a rare and detailed glimpse into the Canadian legal system as a remarkable story of courage, conviction and justice unfolds.

*Master filmmaker Alanis Obomsawin has been making documentaries through the National Film Board of Canada since the 1960s. One of the most prolific – and significant – voices in documentary, Obomsawin is committed to sharing Indigenous perspectives in her expansive body of work, which now stands at 50 features and shorts. She is the recipient of numerous awards and honours and remains fiercely committed to her craft at the inspirational age of 84.*

**Half & Half**

Greenland • 3 min • 2015 •

Short Documentary  
Greenlandic & Danish with  
English Subtitles**North American Premiere**

Director/Producer: Aka Hansen (Inuk)

Navigating the waters of a mixed identity can be sometimes murky. Filmmaker Aka Hansen explores her Greenlandic and Danish identities and contemplates the comment she often hears: "You don't look Greenlandic."

*Aka Hansen was born in Aarhus, Denmark, and has a Greenlandic mother and a Danish father. She is currently living in Copenhagen, where she studies at the film school Super16.*

**STG**

Greenland • 22 min • 2016 •

Short Documentary  
Greenlandic & Danish with  
English Subtitles**North American Premiere**

Director/Producer: Aka Hansen (Inuk)

Small Time Giants has already conquered the pop-rock lovers back home in Greenland and now the band dreams about making it big in Europe. *STG* follows the four musicians through Germany through their highs and lows as they learn the road to international success is a hard one to travel and without guarantees. The question is whether the struggle is worth it ... or not.

*Aka Hansen was born in Aarhus, Denmark, and has a Greenlandic mother and a Danish father. She is currently living in Copenhagen, where she studies at the film school Super16.*

**Killormut (Upside Down)**

Greenland • 8 min • 2014 •

Short Drama  
Greenlandic with English Subtitles**North American Premiere**

Director: Ulannaq Ingemann (Inuk)

An intense and intimate drama of a man at a dark crossroads in his life trapped in a nightmare scenario of his own creation.

*A major new talent of Greenlandic cinema, director/producer Ulannaq Ingemann won the 2015 Innersuaq (national Greenlandic film) award, awarded by the Greenlandic filmmakers association, FILM.GL.*

**Screening Sponsors:**

NAALAKKERSUISUT  
GOVERNMENT OF GREENLAND



OCT 22

SAT 12:00 PM  
ARTSCAPE SANDBOX



# SPOTLIGHT ON GREENLAND III: SHORTS

SA



### **Sinilluarit (Goodnight)**

Greenland • 15 min • 1999 •

Short Drama

Greenlandic with English Subtitles

**North American Premiere**

Director: Inuk Silis Høegh (Inuk)

When his sexual advances are rejected by his wife, Ole has trouble sleeping, and conspiracy fantasies start to emerge. A comedy about sex and jealousy, *Sinilluarit* is celebrated as Greenland's first short dramatic film and the debut film of renowned and award-winning filmmaker Inuk Silis Høegh.

*Inuk Silis Høegh is a film director and artist born in Qaqortoq, Greenland. He earned a Master of Arts in film and TV production from the University of Bristol in 1997 and a Master of Fine Arts from the Royal Danish School of Visual Arts in 2010. Sinilluarit screened at 27 international film festivals.*



### **Qivittoq**

Greenland • 41 min • 2016 •

Short Drama

Greenlandic with English Subtitles

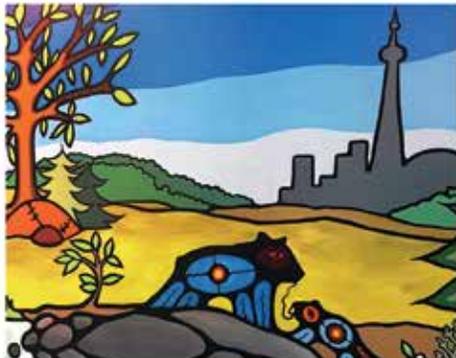
**International Premiere**

Director: Kaare Sylvest Pedersen (Inuk)

Producer: Karsten Ortøraq Albrechtsen Heilmann (Inuk)

Minik is a prosperous businessman based in Nuuk who has a reputation of only thinking about money. His life takes a dramatic turn when he's fired by his own board and Minik becomes a "qivittoq," someone who abandons society after a harsh experience.

*Director Kaare Sylvest Pedersen was born in Nuuk. Qivittoq is his first film. Producer Karsten Ortøraq Albrechtsen Heilmann was born in Arsuk in south Greenland.*



## first nations house

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imagineNATIVE Film and  
Media Arts Festival.





## Screening Sponsors:

 les films  
**re:zolution**  
 pictures

**minority**

There is a rising and influential force of new female voices within filmmaking. From both sides of the Medicine Line, these outstanding new talents capture an array of topics that plunge into the core of humanity, addressing an expansive discourse around issues from resurgence, deep cultural ties and tradition, to sisterhood and loss.


**Nitanish – à ma fille**  
**(Nitanish – To My Daughter)**

Canada • 3 min • 2015 • Short Drama

French with English Subtitles

**Ontario Premiere**

Director: Melissa Mollen Dupuis (Innué)

While awaiting the arrival of her daughter, Melissa Mollen Dupuis – the co-founder of Idle No More Quebec – weaves together a blanket for her unborn daughter that tells the creation story of their people. What begins as a creation story becomes a strong and stirring message of promise, conviction and hope to the new life growing inside her.

*Melissa Mollen Dupuis is an Innu Nation member from the community of Ekuanitshit on the North-Shore region of Quebec. She has over 15 years of experience in the cultural activities sector with First Nations organizations, including the First Nations Garden and more recently Native Montreal.*


**Crash Site**

Canada • 13 min • 2015 • Short Drama

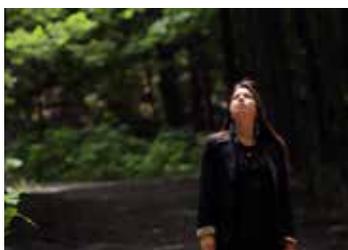
English/Cree

**Ontario Premiere**

Director: Sonya Ballantyne (Swampy Cree)

After the death of her parents, Kaley struggles with her anger. After running away from her sister's home and hiding out in a comic book shop, Kaley connects with a First Nations superhero called Thunderbird, who teaches her the power of family.

*Sonya Ballantyne is an emerging filmmaker from Misipawistik First Nation. She has a Bachelor of Arts with a focus on film from the University of Winnipeg and was the recipient of the RBC Emerging Filmmakers Competition in 2014.*


**Nous Nous Souleverons**  
**(We Will Rise)**

Canada • 4 min • 2015 • Short Drama

French with English Subtitles

**Ontario Premiere**

Director: Natasha Kanapé Fontaine (Innué)

The talented poet Natasha Kanapé Fontaine creates a stirring ode for the generations to rise up and bring light to the world.

*Natasha Kanapé Fontaine is an Innu poet from Pessamit, living in Montreal. A proud representative of Idle No More, she travels throughout Canada and other countries as a poet and public speaker.*

**OCT 22**

SAT 2:30 PM  
TIFF BELL LIGHTBOX  
CINEMA 1

FEMME TOTALE

SA



### Passing Moments

Canada • 5 min • 2015 • Short Drama

Without Dialogue

**Ontario Premiere**

Director: Melissa Girvan (Mi'gmaq)

An old woman drops her keepsakes, and as she picks up her belongings the memory of a childhood friend begins to haunt her. As she moves through the cycle of her memories, she struggles to find peace amidst the heartfelt longing.

*Melissa Girvan made her first music video with Wapikoni, entitled Every Afternoon. She took the opportunity in 2015 to direct her third film, which is a poetic essay on loss and love.*



### Beyond Hope

Canada • 11 min • 2016 • Short Drama

English/N'lakapamux

**World Premiere**

Director: Jade Baxter (Nlaka'pamux)

The Nlaka'mapux story of *The Boy and The Owl* is retold by a young radio host in this short that contemplates perspectives on oral history and remembrance.

*Jade Baxter was born and raised in the Nlaka'pamux Nation in the interior of British Columbia. Being of both Indigenous and Irish-Canadian heritage, she is a filmmaker who often works with the ideas of identity, perspective and the way we are shaped by our environments in both documentary and narrative genres.*



### Exposed Nerves

Canada • 8 min • 2016 • Short Drama

Without Dialogue

**World Premiere**

Director: Madison Thomas (Ojibway/Métis)

Through a contemporary dance piece, we see the different ways that a young woman deals with her bipolar reality. The ups and downs of her life are eloquently displayed through the happiness of her dance versus the weight of her depression and how she battles her way through the movements of life.

*Madison Thomas is a filmmaker from Winnipeg. Raised in a Métis household, storytelling was a huge part of her childhood. Madison found the natural extension into filmmaking in high school and has worked at honing her craft ever since.*



### Stolen

Canada • 7 min • 2016 • Short Drama  
English

#### Ontario Premiere

Director: Kawennáhere Devery Jacobs (Mohawk)

Sheena, a lost teenager, is placed in a girl's home. Seemingly forgotten and yearning for a life of freedom, she runs away, only to be picked up by a dangerous stranger. The directorial debut by actor Kawennáhere Devery Jacobs is a sober commentary on missing Indigenous women.

*Kawennáhere Devery Jacobs is a film and television actress best known for her starring role in Rhymes for Young Ghouls, for which she received a Best Actress nomination at the 2014 Canadian Screen Awards. Her most recent acting work includes The Sun at Midnight and The Land of Rock and Gold, both of which are screening at this year's imagineNATIVE.*



### Susto

United States • 8 min • 2016 •  
Experimental  
English

#### International Premiere

Director: Pearl Salas (Xicana/Yaqui/Navajo)

A young woman recounts the story of the "Coco Man," a ghostly and monstrous entity that haunts misbehaving children. When terror continues to grab her in adulthood, a medicine woman tells her she has "susto," a fear in her life that she must confront. Gripping, haunting and deeply unsettling, the woman's truth is much more terrifying than the fear of an imaginary boogeyman.

*Pearl Salas was born and raised in Denver, Colorado. Her work plays off this unique cultural mix of Mexican, Yaqui and Navajo ancestry to interrogate how the modern world relates to notions of past, present and future selves.*



### Smoke That Travels

United States • 13 min • 2016 •  
Short Documentary  
English

Director: Kayla Briët (Prairie Band Potawatomi)

An insightful autobiographical documentary from self-taught filmmaker Kayla Briët, who weaves a beautiful visual tapestry of her father's teachings as a cultural leader and the legacy she holds onto. Through language, dance, music and the history of the Prairie Band Potawatomi, she claims her family's story and expresses her and her father's beliefs as a smoke signal to the world.

*Kayla Briët is a 19-year-old award-winning filmmaker, composer and musician. She first discovered music by tinkering with the piano at age four, taught herself to sing and produce tracks at age 10, and discovered film at the age of 14. Her work in music, art and film is personal and visceral, reflecting themes of self-discovery, fear and strength.*

#### Co-Presented by:

Women in Film & Television – Toronto  
Native Women in the Arts

Winda is proud to be working in partnership with imagineNATIVE  
to bring Indigenous films to the southern hemisphere



WINDA

imagine  
NATIVE under the Milky Way

[windafilmfest.com](http://windafilmfest.com)

We wish all the filmmakers a great festival & hope to see you in Australia soon.

**10-13 November 2016**  
**Sydney, Australia**

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**#windafilmfest**

Submissions open in March 2017 for next year's festival



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Event Sponsor:



## A Night for Chanie

Featuring Joseph Boyden, Senator Murray Sinclair,  
Terri Calder, Kent Monkman, Digging Roots & Special Guests  
Hosted by CBC's Connie Walker



Join us for a remarkable night in remembrance of Chanie Wenjack, a young Anishinaabe boy from the Marten Falls First Nation in northern Ontario.

Chanie was born in 1954 and at the age of nine was taken to the Cecilia Jeffrey Indian Residential School, over 600 kilometres away near Kenora. Known there as "Charlie," Chanie endured the horrors of residential school. At the age of 12, Chanie fled the school and, on foot, tried to return to his family. On the night of October 22, 1966, Chanie died alone next to the railroad, over 60 kilometres from the school, but still hundreds of kilometres away from home.

His death prompted a coroner's inquest – the first for a student of a residential school – which recognized that the "Indian education system causes tremendous emotional and adjustment problems" for the Indigenous children. Since his death, Chanie's story has become a symbol of resistance, survival and strength. Trent University named the Wenjack Theatre in his honour and the late Willie Dunn wrote the tribute song, "Charlie Wenjack", (1978). More recently, Chanie's story has been brought to a broader public via a new Heritage Minute and through new work by Gord Downie, lead singer of The Tragically Hip.

On the 50th anniversary of his death, imagineNATIVE presents a special event honouring his memory and honouring all former students of residential schools. A Night for Chanie features a roster of acclaimed Indigenous leaders and artists who will share words, songs and images inspired by Chanie Wenjack.



## Introductory Words by Senator Murray Sinclair

Senator Murray Sinclair (Anishinaabe) served the justice system in Manitoba for over 25 years. He was the first Indigenous Judge appointed in Manitoba and Canada's second. He served as Co-Chair of the Aboriginal Justice Inquiry in Manitoba and as Chief Commissioner of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC). As head of the TRC, he participated in hundreds of hearings across Canada, culminating in the issuance of the TRC's report in 2015.



## Wenjack

Reading by Joseph Boyden from his new novella, *Wenjack*, illustrated by Kent Monkman. Copies of *Wenjack* will be available for sale at the TIFF Shop. Joseph Boyden will be available for a book signing following the event.

A Canadian Métis of Irish, Scottish and Ojibwe heritage, Joseph Boyden is one of this country's most celebrated and accomplished writers. His novel *Through Black Spruce* won Canada's most prestigious literary prize, *The Scotiabank Giller*, in 2008, and his most recent novel *The Orenda* won CBC's *Canada Reads* in 2014. Joseph took part in imagineNATIVE's *Storyteller Screenings* special project in 2014 as part of a collaboration with Terri Calder.

Kent Monkman is a Canadian artist of Cree ancestry who works with a variety of mediums, including painting, film/video, performance and installation. His short videos have screened at imagineNATIVE and at festivals worldwide. His illustrations appear in Joseph Boyden's novella, *Wenjack*.

OCT 22

SAT 5:30 PM  
TIFF BELL LIGHTBOX  
CINEMA 1



# SPECIAL PRESENTATION: A NIGHT FOR CHANIE

SP



### SNIP

Canada • 15 min • 2016 • Short Drama

English

Director: Terril Calder (Métis)

Writer & Narrator: Joseph Boyden

SNIP cuts up colonial Canadian histories by telling a story of survival amidst the country's genocide of Indigenous children. Annie and Gordon travel back in time to save Charlie and Niska, trapped in a nightmare reality designed to eradicate their culture.

*Terril Calder currently experiments with the amalgamation in her stop-frame animated films that she writes, directs, crafts and animates. The films screen nationally and internationally and have received awards attention, most notably an Honorable Mention at the Sundance Film Festival and a Canadian Genie Award nomination for Choke, a short she animated and co-created with Michelle Latimer. In 2016, she was awarded the Ontario Arts Council's K.M Hunter Award for her work in media arts.*



### Keewaydah

Performance by Terril Calder

A new performance art work inspired by a new, forthcoming short animated film by Terril Calder and Joseph Boyden, supported through the {Re}conciliation initiative.



### Musical Performance by Digging Roots

Digging Roots are part of the new wave of Indigenous artists redefining Canada's musical and cultural landscape. Their music is a genre blurring kaleidoscope of post-psychedelic blues, rocksteady roots, and old school Indigenous influences. Lead by husband and wife collaborators Raven Kanatakta and ShoShona Kish.

## {Re}conciliation



Canada Council  
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Rosanna Deerchild

### Awards Gala Presented by:



Join Awards Gala co-hosts Craig Lauzon (Ojibway) and CBC's Rosanna Deerchild (Cree) as we announce the Juries' picks for this year's prizes! Featuring performances by Jeremy Dutcher (Wolastoq), Rosary Spence (Cree) and Tom Jackson (Cree), our 17th Annual Awards Gala is an evening for celebration in recognition of Indigenous achievement in the media arts.

After the Awards Gala, we will keep the celebration going at The Horseshoe Tavern with The Beat, our annual Saturday night music event.

**Congratulations to this year's winners!**

Rosanna Deerchild is the host of *Unreserved* on CBC Radio One. She is an award-winning Cree author and has been a broadcaster for almost 20 years – including stints with APTN, CBC Radio, Global and a variety of Indigenous newspapers. She hails from O-Pipon-Na-Piwan Cree Nation, Manitoba.



Craig Lauzon

Craig Lauzon is an actor that has been nominated for a Dora Award, a Sterling Award, two Geminis, three Canadian Comedy Awards and the Tim Sims Encouragement Award. An accomplished writer, he has written for both theatre and television, and was chosen last year for the inaugural Script Development Lab at imagineNATIVE for his screenplay *At the End of the Day*. English/French and Anishnabeg, this proud Ojibway was never prouder than playing Kent in the National Arts Centre's all First Nations production of *King Lear*, starring the late August Schellenberg as Lear.

Awards Show Artistic Directors:  
Andy Moro and Tara Beagan, ARTICLE 11



### Best Short Drama

Presented by imagineNATIVE's Board of Directors



original. indigenous.

\$1,000 cash award

### Drama Pitch Prize

Presented by Aboriginal Peoples Television Network (APTN)



Aboriginal Peoples  
Television Network

Supported by: BravoFACT, William F. White, Technicolor, National Film Board, Toronto International Film Festival and WIFT Toronto.

### Documentary Pitch Prize

Presented by Aboriginal Peoples Television Network (APTN)



Aboriginal Peoples  
Television Network

Supported by BravoFACT, William F. White, Technicolor, National Film Board, Hot Docs, Documentary Organization of Canada, DOC Institute and WIFT Toronto.

### NFB/imagineNATIVE Interactive Partnership Recipient

Presented by the National Film Board of Canada



\$50,000 development support

### Best Music Video

Presented by imagineNATIVE



original. indigenous.

\$500 Cash award

### The Kent Monkman Award For Best Experimental

Presented by imagineNATIVE



original. indigenous.

\$500 cash award

### Best Short Documentary

Presented by CBC Docs



\$1,000 cash award

### Best Audio Work

Presented by CBC Radio



\$1,000 cash award

### Best Digital Media

Presented by imagineNATIVE



original. indigenous.

\$500 cash award

### The Cynthia Lickers-Sage Award for Best Canadian Short Drama

Presented by VTape



\$1,000 cash award

### Best Indigenous Language Production

Presented by Indigenous Media Initiatives



\$1,000 cash award

### The Ellen Monague Award for Best Youth Work

Presented by RBC Royal Bank



\$1,000 cash award

### The Audience Choice Award

Presented by Air Canada



\$1,000 cash award

### The Jane Glassco Award for Emerging Talent

Presented by CJ Foundation



\$1,000 cash award

### The August Schellenberg Award of Excellence



Presented in part by ACTRA National, ACTRA Performers' Rights Society and generous individual donations. Special thanks to Joan Karasevich and family. \$1,500 cash award

### The Alanis Obomsawin Best Documentary Award

Presented by TVO



makes you think

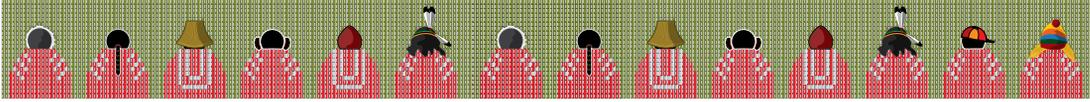
\$2,000 cash award

### Best Dramatic Feature

Presented by Bell Media



\$2,000 cash award



Volunteer members of the Sun Jury and the Moon Jury each adjudicate a selection of this year's prizes. A listing of the prizes and the films in competition are available on our website. The Juries' choices will be announced at the Awards Gala on Saturday, October 22 (see page 87 for full details).

### Sun Jury



**Howard Adler** 

Howard Adler is the co-director and programmer for Asinabka, an annual Indigenous film and media arts festival in Ottawa. He is also the workshop coordinator at SAW Video Media Art Centre and works as a freelance videographer and video editor. Howard's film and video work has been exhibited in galleries and film festivals in Canada and internationally. He is Jewish and Ojibwa and a member of Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation.



**Monique Mojica** 

Actor/playwright Monique Mojica (Guna and Rappahannock nations) is passionately dedicated to a theatrical practice as an act of healing, reclaiming historical/cultural memory and resistance. Monique's first play, *Princess Pocahontas and the Blue Spots*, was produced in 1990, and she was a co-founder of Turtle Gals Performance Ensemble. Known on screen for her role in the landmark film *Smoke Signals*, Monique has taught in universities across North America and remains active in her theatrical practice.



**Stine Wangler** 

Stine Wangler has been working at the KurzFilmAgentur Hamburg doing world sales and acquisitions since 2012. She wrote her final thesis about short film on the Internet and since graduating Stine has concentrated on the sales possibilities for short films online. She is part of the programming team for the National Competition of the Hamburg International Short Film Festival, one of Europe's most significant festivals for shorts.

### Moon Jury



**Jaene F. Castrillon** 

Jaene F. Castrillon is a film based interdisciplinary (literary, media, visual, performance) artist that explores her relationship to the world through various spiritual teachings and the wisdom of the land. As a first generation Canadian settler who is mixed race (Indigenous Colombian/Hong Kong Chinese) queer woman of colour living with disabilities (psychiatric/physical/cognitive), her arts practice combines, art, activism and spirituality to open a dialogue on ideas of wellness and illness. Jaene believes in sharing the brilliance and the heart-break of living a life less ordinary.



**Rob Lackie** 

Rob Lackie is Inuk and has experience on several boards and committees, such as the Native Canadian Centre of Toronto, the Association for Native Development in the Performing & Visual Arts, the Aboriginal Sport & Wellness Council of Ontario and Na-Me-Res. Rob was the 2011 Recipient of the Aboriginal Affairs Award, recognized for his dedication and the work that he has done in the City of Toronto.



**Rebeka Tabodondung** 

Rebeka Tabodondung is a documentary filmmaker, poet and Indigenous knowledge and oral history researcher. Rebeka is the editor-in-chief of *MUSKRAT* Magazine, an online literary arts and culture publication that profiles Indigenous writers and offers critical discourse engaging contentious issues in art, culture and politics from an Indigenous Canadian perspective.

## AUGIE AWARD

This year, we are thrilled to honour actor, singer and activist Tom Jackson with the 2016 August Schellenberg Award of Excellence.

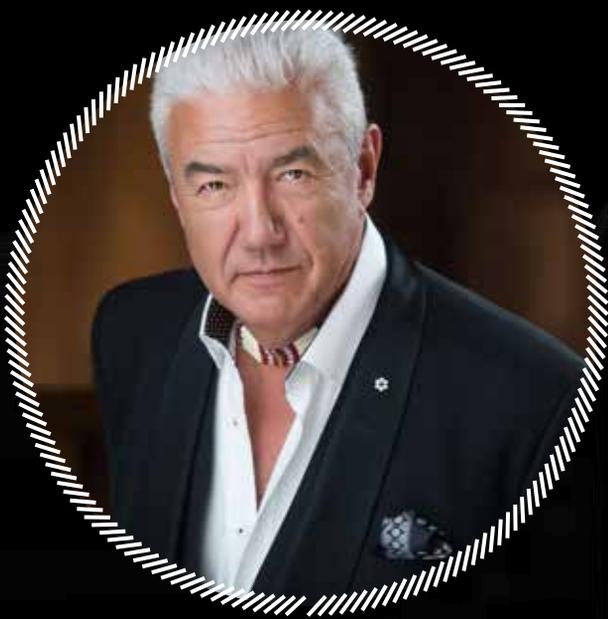
Tom Jackson claims music is his first love. It was the social heartbeat of his early family life, and after being handed a guitar at age 10, he is rarely seen without a six-stringed instrument.

Tom has recorded 16 albums, and his rich bass baritone is recognizable to music and television fans across the country. From Chief Peter Kenidi on the CBC hit series *North of 60*, to feature roles on *Star Trek* and *Law & Order*, he is ranked among the famous 50 personalities of the first 50 years of television in Canada.

Tom's musical gifts have parlayed into his acting and philanthropic causes, and his passion for creating change has generated over \$200 million in combined cash/in-kind value for food banks, family service agencies and disaster relief. Awarded both a Juno and a Gemini in 2007, Tom is an Officer of the Order of Canada and holds honorary degrees from nine Canadian universities. In 2014 he received the Governor General's Performing Arts Award for Lifetime Artistic Achievement.

Tom's most recent CD, *Ballads Not Bullets*, and his book *364 – Timeless Wisdom for Modern Times* are raising money for the Canadian Red Cross, for which he is an Ambassador.

Tom Jackson will receive the 2016 "Augie" at imagineNATIVE's Awards Gala.



**TOM JACKSON** – photo credit: Rafal Wegiel

The August Schellenberg Award of Excellence was launched in partnership with Joan Karasevich Schellenberg to honour her late husband, the legendary actor August (Augie) Schellenberg, and the spirit of his work. This annual award is presented to gifted Indigenous actors of all genders from Turtle Island based on the longevity and impact of their careers, as well as their professionalism and involvement in mentorship and community work.

The 2016 Augie award is designed this year by Chloe Bluebird Mustooch, a seamstress, beadworker, illustrator, painter and sculptor from the Alexis Nakoda Sioux Nation of northern Alberta.

Award supported by ACTRA National, ACTRA Performers' Rights Society and individual donations.



A DIVISION OF ACTRA

**We Are Still Here**

Sweden • 5 min • 2016 • Music Video  
English/Sámi  
**World Premiere**  
Director: Sofia Jannok (Sámi)



Sofia Jannok and artist Anders Sunna create an arresting video of resistance towards the persistent colonial practices of the Swedish state against the Sámi.

*Sofia Jannok is a twice-Grammy-nominated artist, singer, songwriter and agitator for Indigenous rights and environmental justice.*

**Loup Garou (Werewolf)**

Canada • 5 min • 2016 • Music Video  
French with English Subtitles  
**World Premiere**  
Director: Matthew Vachon (Innu)



Featuring Clayton Michel, Loup Garou is a portrait of a man haunted by inner demons that seem to also manifest themselves outside.

*Matthew Vachon spent his life between the town and the reserve. His first video, Indian Time, was created through Wapikoni Mobile, and he has since participated in the Innu Nikamu Festival and Montréal First Peoples Festival.*

**She Spins**

Canada • 3 min • 2016 • Music Video  
English  
**Canadian Premiere**  
Director: Daniel Couchie (Ojibway)



*She Spins* tells the story of a troubled girl who is passionate and full of life but hiding a dark side, featuring music by Binaeshee-Quae Couchie-Nabigon.

*Daniel Couchie is a graduate of the Video Production Technician Program at the Toronto School of Video. He is now heading into his final year of the Digital Cinematography Program at Canadore College.*

**AK-47**

Canada • 4 min • 2016 • Music Video  
English/Anishinaabe  
**World Premiere**  
Director: Doug Bedard (Ojibway)



The newest Digging Roots video is visually moving, utilizing the analogy of an AK-47 promoting love instead of hate.

*Doug Bedard is a multidisciplinary artist working behind and in front of the camera. He is currently filming, producing and digitally rescripting stories.*

**How To Steal a Canoe**

Canada • 4 min • 2016 • Music Video  
English  
**World Premiere**  
Director: Amanda Strong (Michif)



With spoken lyrics by Nishnaabeg poet Leanne Betasamosake Simpson and original score by Cree cellist Cris Derksen, *How to Steal a Canoe* tells a story of stealing back the precious parts of our selves.

*Amanda Strong is a filmmaker, media artist and stop-motion director. She is the owner and director of Spotted Fawn Productions, an animation and media-based studio creating short films, commercial projects and workshops.*

# THE BEAT

Saturday, October, 22 | 9:00PM  
 Featuring DJ Ariel, Shawnee, Wolf Saga  
 and DJ Shub  
 Hosted by Rachele White Wind  
 Horseshoe Tavern, 370 Queen Street West



## FACTOR

THE FOUNDATION ASSISTING CANADIAN TALENT ON RECORDINGS  
 WITH SUPPORT FROM CANADA'S PRIVATE RADIO BROADCASTERS

We acknowledge the financial support  
 of Canada's private radio broadcasters

A rare showcase of Canadian Indigenous music talent and imagineNATIVE's flagship social event, The Beat returns in its 12th annual running with an evening of musical excellence at the legendary Horseshoe Tavern. Kicking off with a special screening of music videos selected for this year Festival (pg. 90), the live performance line-up includes sensational up-and-coming artists, Shawnee and Wolf Saga, interspersed with beats by DJ Ariel and topped off with one of Indigenous music's finest: DJ Shub.

*With a vast musical palette to draw from, DJ Ariel always brings a refreshing blend of sounds, styles and eras. This seamless and unique approach, informed by all facets of her creative work, derives from her eclectic involvement in community, fashion, art, music and activism.*

*Mohawk singer songwriter Shawnee, known for her powerful, soulful voice, has now shared the stage with Lady Gaga and Tegan and Sara across Canada and the U.S. Shawnee's single*

*"Mirror Me" also hit number one on the Aboriginal Music Countdown and was aired on Mohawk Girls.*

*Electro-pop artist Wolf Saga has won the Jack Richardson Music Award twice for Electronic Artist of the Year, as well as had his 2015 EP Auburn Nights hit No. 1 on the Canadian Aboriginal chart. Wolf incorporates his love for the 1980s synth sounds and his Indigenous background into a music that is melodic and accessible.*

*DJ Shub, formerly of A Tribe Called Red, is a title earning DJ and award winning music producer. Battle tested and extremely technical, DJ Shub has won the DMC Canada DJ Championship, DMC Canadian Battle for Supremacy, and Canadian Red Bull Thre3style. Once part of the trio who created a new sub-genre of electronic music, dubbed 'powwow step', DJ Shub has recently released a new EP aiming to take this unique mix of traditional Indigenous music and dubstep/trap beats to a new height.*

Comprehensive training, facilities and equipment for film, video, interactive and installation art.



On the set of Adrienne Marcus Raja's *Soli*, the LIFT / imagineNATIVE 2013 Mentorship Project. Photo by Michael Barker, acmeartanddesign.com

For more information visit [www.lift.ca](http://www.lift.ca)

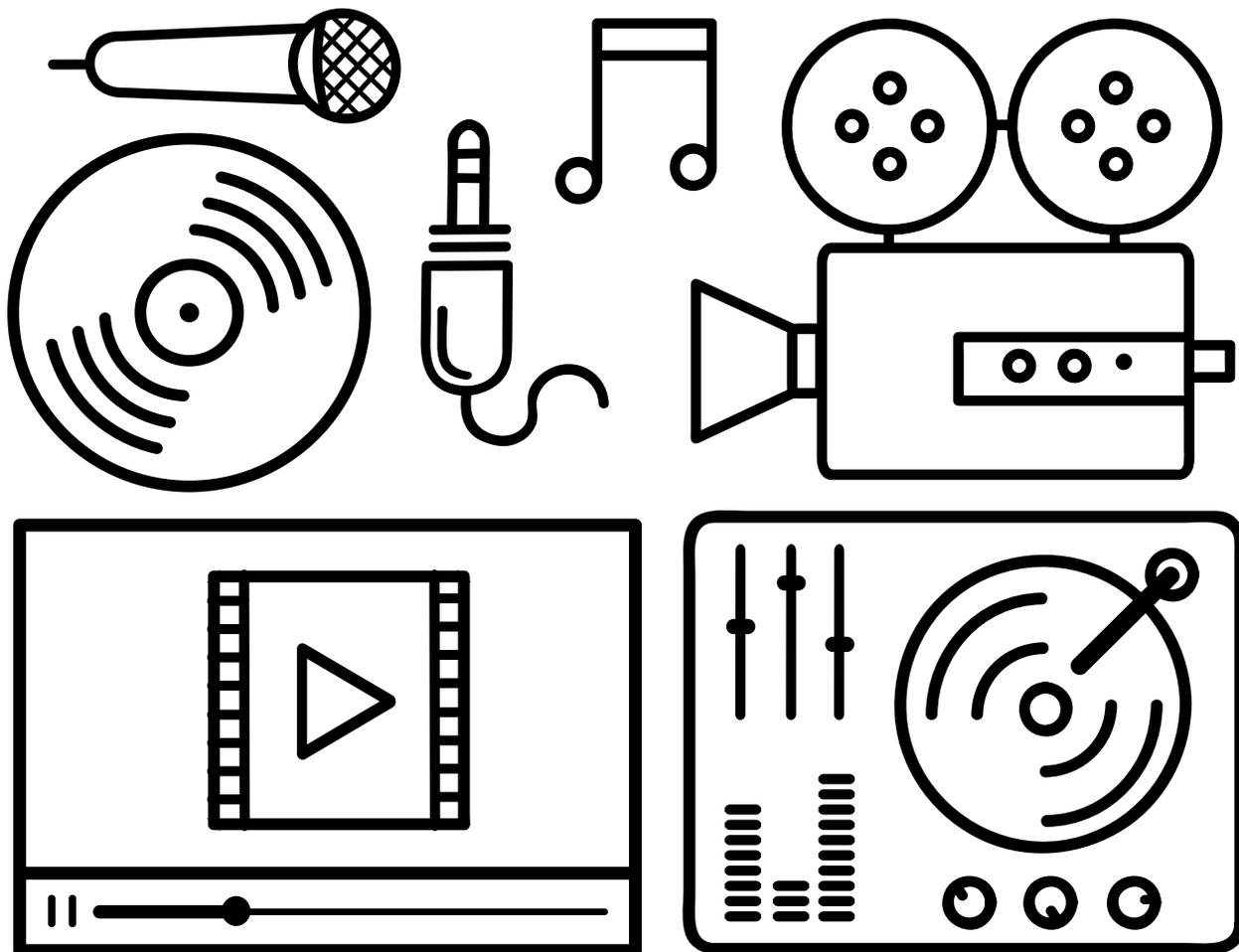


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# FACTOR Canada

We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada and of Canada's private radio broadcasters. Nous reconnaissons l'appui financier du gouvernement du Canada et des radiodiffuseurs du Canada.



## Colonization Road

Canada • 50 min • 2016 • Feature Documentary  
English



### World Premiere

Director: Michelle St. John (Wampanoag)

In towns throughout Ontario, there are startling reminders of the colonization of Indigenous territories and the displacement of First Nations people. Anishinaabe comedian and activist Ryan McMahon takes us to his hometown of Fort Francis and down its main drag, which is called Colonization Road. Similar streets have similar names in towns and cities across the province, direct reminders of the little-known Colonization Roads Act of 1872 and its severe impact on First Nations, their treaties and their land in the name of “Canadian settlement.” On his journey through Ontario, McMahon explores the history of these roads, meets with settlers in solidarity and raises significant questions about “reconciliation” and what it means to “decolonize.”

*Michelle St. John is a two-time Gemini Award-winning actor with more than 35 years of experience in film, television, theatre, voice and music. Michelle was a co-founder of Turtle Gals Performance Ensemble, a Native women's theatre company based in Toronto. She has also been a producing partner in Frog Girl Films, producing several short films directed by Marie Clements. Recently, Michelle joined ranks with Shane Belcourt and Jordan O'Connor at The Breath Films.*

### Co-Presented by:

Cinema Politica

Inspirit Foundation

Rebels with a Cause Film Festival

**OCT 23**

SUN 11:30 AM  
TIFF BELL LIGHTBOX  
CINEMA 4

# SPOTLIGHT ON GREENLAND IV: GREENLAND RISING

SU

**Screening Sponsors:**



NAALAKKERSUISUT  
GOVERNMENT OF GREENLAND



**norden**  
The Nordic Institute  
in Greenland



In this special presentation, guest programmers Pipaluk K. Jørgensen and Emile Hertling Péronard discuss the birth, growth and future of Greenlandic cinema. As the chair and a board member of FILM.GL, the Greenlandic Film Association, Pipaluk and Emile will discuss the organization's goals and their own work, including presenting a sneak preview of *Anori (Wind)*, a dramatic, sweeping feature film currently in post-production that Pipaluk directed and produced. Join us for this riveting discussion of a film industry that is catching the world's attention.



*Pipaluk K. Jørgensen chairs the board of the recently founded Greenlandic Film Association, Film.GL. See pg. 30 for more about Pipaluk.*



*Emile Hertling Péronard is a producer and serves on the board of FILM.GL. See pg. 30 for more about Emile.*



## **Anori (Wind)**

Greenland • In Production

Greenlandic with English Subtitles

Director: Pipaluk K. Jørgensen (Inuk)

Anori is a popular singer on tour in Greenland. One evening, she meets Inuk in a small village on the west coast of Greenland and her life changes ... it is love at first sight. Inuk works with the Arctic Command and is on a mission in the U.S. When the mission goes terribly wrong, Inuk almost drowns and is left in a coma. Anori travels to him, but finds herself in a land where everything is strange. She tries all that she can to get Inuk back to life and to Greenland as she navigates a path in a borderland between life and death.

**Sweet Night**

Canada • 5 min • 2016 • Short

Drama

English

**Ontario Premiere**

Director: Jessie Short (Métis)

Andy is a young Métis woman living in a big city. When a friend invites Andy to accompany her to a large city park where she introduces Andy to sweet grass, it sparks a night of surprising exploration and self-discovery, ultimately reconnecting Andy with her Indigenous roots in an unexpected way.

*Jessie Short is a curator, writer and multidisciplinary artist and emerging filmmaker whose work involves memory, multi-faceted existence, Métis history and visual culture.*

**The Promise of Piha**

New Zealand • 16 min • 2016 • Short Drama

English/Samoan with English Subtitles

**World Premiere**

Director: Hanelle Harris (Ngaphui, Ngāti Tuwharetoa)

Pule is brought up in a strong Christian family and is heading to Bible College in Samoa. A cherished son in his family's and church's eyes, he hides his homosexuality and his clandestine affair with his best friend. As the community prepares for the annual White Sunday ceremony, Pule must navigate the difficult demands of his family, the church and his heart.

*Hanelle Harris graduated with a Bachelor of Performing Arts in Acting for Screen & Theatre. She is passionate about Māori and Pasifika stories, particularly those with strong female perspectives, social realism and distinctive next-generation voices.*

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Learn more at [www.insideout.ca](http://www.insideout.ca)

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MORE PLAY SCREENING SERIES

October 17 | November 17 | January 5 | February 23 | March 23 | April 6

**OCT 23**

SUN 12:00 PM  
TIFF BELL LIGHTBOX  
CINEMA 3

## ME AND MY LITTLE SISTER

SU



### **Sparroabbán (Me and My Little Sister)**

Sápmi-Finland/Norway • 66 min • 2016 •

Documentary Feature

Sámi/Finnish with English Subtitles

**North American Premiere**

Director: Suvi West (Sámi)

*Sparroabbán* is an intimate and moving glimpse into sisterhood, homosexuality and the search for acceptance. Director Suvi West and her youngest sister, Kaisa, are Sámis from northern Finland whose home village, Utsjoki, suffers from religious-based prejudices and conservative values that haunt gay people's lives on a daily basis. Suvi feels powerless to help her lesbian sister in the face of her community's persistent colonial taboo about homosexuality, especially when Kaisa chooses to have a baby. What begins as a journey of self-discovery becomes a tender, loving and powerful portrait of two sisters whose bond becomes unbreakable.

*Suvi West has directed four documentaries that travelled to many international festivals and were broadcast around Scandinavia. Well-known in Finland, she is a producer, director, writer and actor who co-created the hit Sámi comedy TV series Njuoska bittut.*

**Co-Presented by:**

**Inside Out**

**2-Spirited People of the 1st Nations Toronto**



### The Sun at Midnight

Canada • 93 min • 2016 • Dramatic Feature  
English

#### Ontario Premiere

Director: Kirsten Carthew

Producer: Amos Scott (Tlicho)



After the death of her mother, Lia's father makes the difficult decision to send her north to live with the grandmother she never knew. At 16, all Lia knows – and loves – is the southern urban jungle. With her pink hair, faux fur coat and a bit of attitude, Lia is immediately a fish out of water in her grandmother's small sub-Arctic community. Determined to return south, Lia steals a canoe and ends up stranded and alone on the beautiful (but dangerous) land. She meets Alfred, a hunter in search of a missing caribou herd, who reluctantly takes Lia under his wing. The two embark on a journey through the rugged and stunning Northwest Territories landscape that will change their lives forever. Featuring incredible performances from Kawennáhere Devery Jacobs (*Rhymes for Young Ghouls*) and Duane Howard (*The Revenant*).

*Producer Amos Scott is the founder and owner of Adze Studios Inc., a multimedia company with a focus on video production, editing, producing and photographing. Adze Studios is a 100% Indigenous-owned and -operated business based in Yellowknife with a vision to create and foster northern stories about land, people and culture. Amos's short horror film, AKOÓ, which he directed and produced, is part of this year's Witching Hour programme.*

#### Co-Presented by:

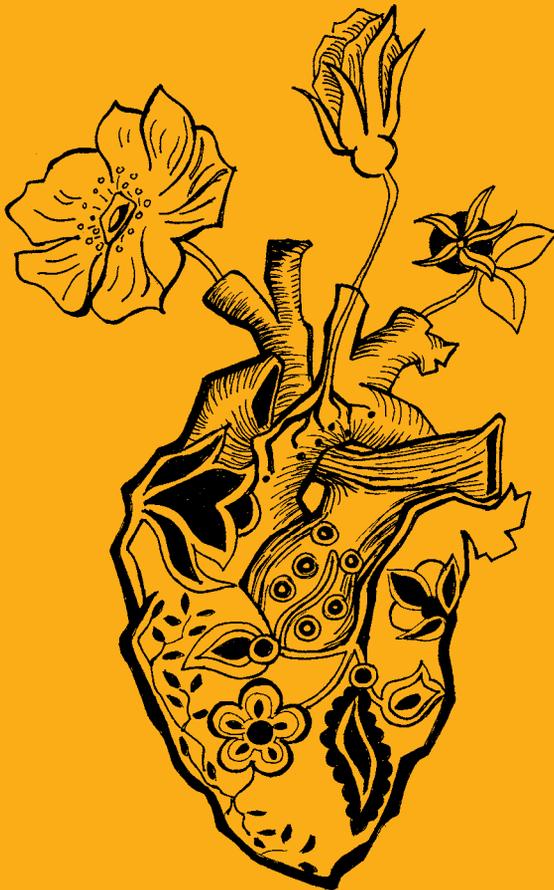
**Setsune Indigenous Fashion Incubator**

**REEL CANADA**

# Beat Strong

## By Catherine Blackburn

Congratulations to Catherine Blackburn, whose original drawing Beat Strong is featured on imagineNATIVE's 2016 Delegate Bags. Catherine's work was selected as the winning submission to the second annual Tote Bag Artwork collaboration between imagineNATIVE and Setsuné Indigenous Fashion Incubator.



### Artist Statement:

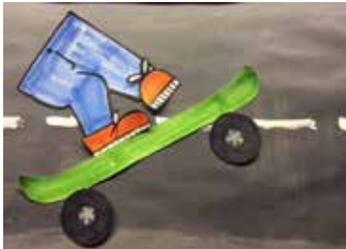
This work speaks to strength of culture, survival and renewal. Regardless of the hurdles that stand in our way as First Nations people, our resiliency is unwavering. The heart of this design is a symbol of survival, the floral pattern inside it a symbol of our rich culture, and the growth of the wild rose bud to full bloom a symbol of our resistance to be silenced. Through joined voices there is a strengthened awakening amongst First Nations people, speaking to our needs for equality, for answers to our missing and murdered Aboriginal men and women, and our fight to keep our lands protected. Through our response to all join hands and stand in solidarity in this fight to be heard, we can look to the future with optimism, knowing our people continue to be empowered by strength of community.

*Born in northern Saskatchewan and raised in rural Saskatchewan, Catherine Blackburn (Dene) received her BFA at the University of Saskatchewan. Catherine works predominantly in the areas of painting and beadwork. She has received numerous grants and awards for her work, including a Governor General's History Award for her painting Grandma and the highly recognized Elizabeth Greenshields Foundation grant. She is affiliated with Slate Fine Art Gallery in Regina, Mann Art Gallery in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, as well as Alcheringa Gallery in Victoria, BC. Catherine's work embraces two inspirations in her life: family and culture. While she will continue to explore personal narratives in her work, she hopes to push the boundaries of how we define and appreciate the Indigenous experience in Canada.*



One of the most powerful weapons in any revolution is the creative mind, as it places a lens on truths and injustices to disrupt colonial hierarchies and bring about positive social change. #warpaint is a collection of films that does just that, aligning art with activism and arming the artists as warriors for a better world.

**Screening Sponsors:**



### Skateboarding Pants

Canada • 2 min • 2015 • Short Drama

English

**World Premiere**

Director/Animator: Colton Willier (Cree/Blackfoot),

Co-Animator: Ethan Aspeslet-Asels (Dene/Métis/Scottish)

Our youngest filmmakers this year, Colton and Ethan bring us this fun animation of a pair of pants that take off on a skateboard to find its owner in the laundromat.

*Colton Willier, is a grade 2 Cree & Blackfoot student who loves Lego and animating films. He made it with his best friend, Ethan Aspeslet-Asels (Dene and Métis), and their moms.*

*Ethan Aspeslet-Asels is 12 years old and he really enjoyed working with Colton to make Skateboarding Pants.*



### I Am Thy Weapon

United States • 11 min • 2016 •

Short Drama

English

**International Premiere**

Director: Razelle Benally (Diné/Oglala Lakota)

A young Navajo woman returns home to the place where her sister was murdered while graffitiing a wall. While she deals with her anger and tries to make peace with her passing, she realizes her sister can live on in the art that she creates.

*Razelle Benally currently resides in Santa Fe. Her interest in filmmaking began in high school, where she gained firsthand experience documenting local activism in South Dakota for the protection of sacred sites. She worked with renowned skateboard company Apache Skateboards doing videography. Her time with the company helped her self-develop a directorial and editing skill-set that continues to influence her work today.*



### Dig It If You Can

United States • 18 min • 2016 •

Short Documentary

English

**Canadian Premiere**

Director: Kyle Bell (Thlophlocco/Creek)

We get up close and personal with Steven Paul Judd, the dynamic and bold 21st century renaissance man. One of the art world's most energetic, accessible and celebrated figures, this self-taught artist's love for pop culture and Native American art has given him a massive following. This insightful portrait shows how Judd indigenizes the popular everyday to allow our young to see themselves in all aspects of life, while at the same time making his own dreams a reality through his passion and zest for life.

*Kyle Bell is an up-and-coming filmmaker based in Tulsa. He won Best Documentary and Best of Class in the 2015 Santa Fe Indian Market SWAIA Class X Film Competition for his first short documentary, Native Evolution. He now films for the television programme Osiyo: Voices of the Cherokee People.*

**OCT 23**

SUN 2:30 PM  
TIFF BELL LIGHTBOX  
CINEMA 3

#WARPAINT

SU



### **Don't Stress**

Canada • 4 min • 2015 • Music Video

English

**Ontario Premiere**

Director: Shane Kelsey (Ojibway)

Merging hoop dancing and acrobatics, Projek Toombz sends a message to Indigenous youth to stay on a good path of happiness to overcome stress.

*Projek Toombz aka Shane Kelsey was born in Toronto and lives in Montreal. He was influenced in early life by hip-hop and rap music and freestyled on a regular basis while learning the art of rapping, and later came to writing his own lyrics.*



### **The Kweenz of Kelston**

Aotearoa New Zealand • 15 min •

2014 • Short Documentary

English

**International Premiere**

Director: Todd Karehana (Māori/Tangata Whenua)

In an all-boys school we get introduced to "The Kweenz" a group of fa'afafine, transgender and takataapui students who are working towards a final-year talent show. As they prepare for their performance, they discuss the negative judgements they've received from their male classmates and how they support and grow strength from their sisterhood. As the lights come up on their performance, the Kweenz of the Kelston Boys' High School fiercely strut their stuff on the stage, their strength and beauty shining through all else.

*Todd Karehana graduated in screen production from the University of Auckland in 2015, where he is currently enrolled as a Master of Arts student specializing in drama directing.*

**Co-Presented by:**

**Regent Park Film Festival**

**LISTEN TO  
YOUR RADIO  
CJRU.CA 1280AM:  
THE SOUNDS OF RYERSON'S  
CAMPUS & COMMUNITY**





At times we feel as if we are floating between two worlds and the choices we must make or the paths we must take seem too far to see. In this stunning collection of international shorts we find our protagonists at this point, set adrift in a sea of isolation and uncertainty.

**Co-Presented by:**  
**Rendezvous with Madness**  
**Toronto Reel Asian International**  
**Film Festival**



### UFO

Aotearoa New Zealand • 17 min • 2015 • Short Drama  
English  
**Canadian Premiere**  
Director: Gregory King (Ngapuhi/Mangaiti)

Deep in a forest, an alien woman gives birth to a dying son and must sacrifice her own life so that he may live. Lost and alone in a world foreign to him, he encounters a family mired in abuse and neglect of their own children. Watching from a distance, the veil between his reality and fantasy collide, and he must choose the world he wishes to live in.

*Gregory King is an award-winning writer and director whose works include Christmas, A Song of Good, Junk and Teach You a Lesson.*



### Reagan

United States • 12 min • 2016 • Short Drama  
English  
**World Premiere**  
Director: Christopher Nataanii Cegielski (Navajo)

Fifteen-year-old Reagan has left her group home and is now trapped in the world of sex work. When a doorway opens to go back, she must make the difficult decision to trust that path or remain where she is to navigate a dangerous landscape.

*Christopher Nataanii Cegielski, from Arizona, is a graduate of the University of Arizona's BFA Film Program. His short film Bloodlines screened at Berlin International Film Festival and imagineNATIVE, and he was selected by the Sundance Native Lab for the Time Warner Producers Fellowship and the Sundance Creative Producing Summit.*



### Smiths Ave

Aotearoa New Zealand • 10 min • 2015 • Short Drama  
English  
**Canadian Premiere**  
Director: Robert George (Māori/Cook Island)

Through unconventional storytelling, we find a young man who unexpectedly receives a call from his estranged father. Suddenly pulled back into the painful childhood memories of abandonment, he must ask himself if he is ready to open a door to his past and return his father's call.

*Robert George is a director who started his career as a painter. He experiments with both narrative and non-narrative filmmaking. Smiths Ave won the prize for Emerging Director at Wairoa Māori Film Festival.*



### Soup for My Brother

United States • 10 min • 2014 • Short Documentary  
English  
**Canadian Premiere**  
Director: Terry Jones (Seneca)

In this strikingly poetic documentary about memory, loss and brotherly love, we find Jimmy, guided by the memory and words of his grandfather, preparing a soup for his beloved brother Danny, who passed away one year before.

*Terry Jones is from the wolf clan and a recent graduate from Syracuse University with a BA in film. Terry has worked abroad in Italy and he studied in the Czech Republic at the Film and TV School of the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague (FAMU).*



**Black Chook**

Australia • 11 min • 2015 • Short Drama  
English  
**International Premiere**  
Director: Dylan River (Kaytetye)

In this hauntingly beautiful tale, a young man is guided by his aunt, and through her memories he begins to search for the hidden roots of his family. As he unearths the painful truth of the fate of his ancestors, she gently reminds him to find comfort and celebrate in the victory of their survival.

*Dylan River's debut documentary, Buckskin, won the Foxtel Documentary Prize at the Sydney Film Festival in 2013. His AACTA Award-winning short film, Nulla Nulla, premiered at Berlin Film Festival, TIFF and imagineNATIVE in 2015. Dylan continues to practice his trade, motivated in telling stories close to home.*



**Blackbird**

Australia • 13 min • 2015 • Short Drama  
English  
**North American Premiere**  
Director: Amie Batalibasi (Solomon Islander)

Solomon Islander siblings Kiko and Rosa are part of the untold story of Australia's Sugar Slaves in the late 1800s. Both kidnapped from their Pacific island home and forced to work on a sugar cane plantation, Kiko finds that he is faced with unimaginable loss, grief for his homeland, and his need to be free.

*Amie Batalibasi is a filmmaker and producer based in Melbourne. A recipient of numerous grants and awards, Amie has also facilitated various community-based film projects with youth, refugees and culturally diverse groups. Her documentaries have screened internationally and Blackbird is Amie's debut dramatic short.*



**Wait**

Aotearoa New Zealand • 14 min • 2015 • Short Drama  
Mandarin/English with English Subtitles  
**International Premiere**  
Director: Yamin Tun (Karen)

An immigrant mother in Auckland is abandoned by her cheating husband. Left alone with her three children in a world of cultural distance and loneliness, she gradually begins to break down and it is her young daughter who must bring her back.

*Yamin Tun was born in Burma (Myanmar) under a military regime and has lived in Europe, Hong Kong and Aotearoa New Zealand. She graduated from the University of Oxford with a degree in philosophy, politics and economics. Tan has been the recipient of numerous accolades for her work in both scriptwriting and direction.*



**Polar Sun**

United States • 12 min • 2016 • Short Drama  
English  
**World Premiere**  
Director: Katie Avery (Iñupiat)

After the tragic death of Sondra's sister, her seven-year-old niece, Raven, comes to live with her and her partner. Already struggling to make sense of her own grief, she must also help her niece through the loss of her mother as she turns to the Iñupiat stories as a source of guidance for them both.

*Katie Doane Tulugaq Avery received a BA in museum studies from the Institute of American Indian Arts in 2009 and worked at the Santa Fe Art Institute. Her short films are centred on cultural, social and familial narratives with interest in how the feminine, queer and Indigenous representations expand dialogue in social and political conversations.*



DIRECTORS GUILD OF CANADA

ONTARIO

Directors Second unit directors First assistant  
directors Second assistant directors Third assistant  
directors Forth assistant directors Production assistants  
Production managers Unit managers Assistant  
production managers Production designers Art

## **PROUD SPONSOR** of the **2016 imagineNATIVE FILM + MEDIA ARTS FESTIVAL**

directors First assistant art directors Second assistant  
art directors Trainee assistant art directors Art  
department coordinators Location managers Assistant  
location managers Location production assistant Picture  
editors First assistant picture editors Assistant picture  
editors Trainee assistant picture editors Sound editors  
Trainee assistant sound editors Production accountants  
First assistant accountants Second assistant accountants  
Third assistant accountants Trainee assistant accountants

**OCT 23**

SUN 4:30 PM  
TIFF BELL LIGHTBOX  
CINEMA 3

**THE NORTHLANDER**

**SU**

Screening Sponsor



**The Northlander**

Canada • 98 min • 2016 • Dramatic Feature  
English

**Ontario Premiere**

Director: Benjamin Ross Hayden (Métis, Batoche)

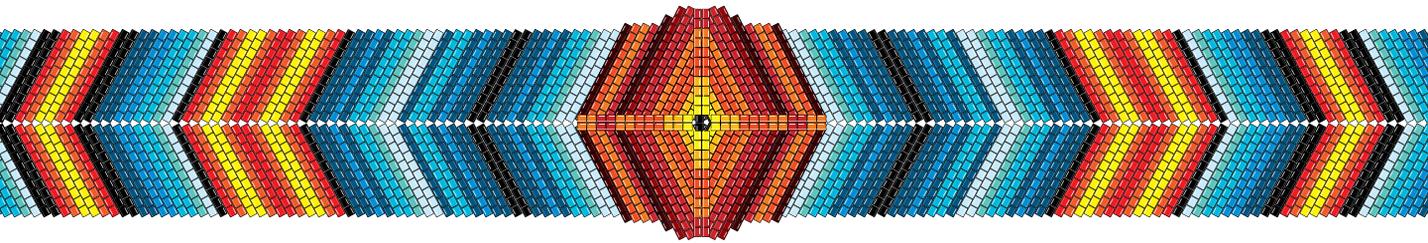


In the year 2961, nature has reclaimed the land as the small remote village of Last Arc is threatened by the Heretics, a merciless group of raiders. In a desperate attempt to save her people from annihilation, Nova, a matriarch and seer (played by award-winning actress Michelle Thrush), calls upon a lone and complicated hunter, Cygnus (Corey Sevier), to find the answers to their survival. As Cygnus leaves his wooded homeland, embarking upon a perilous journey through the desert, his encounter with the vicious leader of the Heretics, Torki (Julian Black Antelope), could mean his certain doom. But hope lies with his newfound ally, the lone huntress Mari (Roseanne Supernault), and together they begin an epic journey and a race against time to unlock some of earth's deepest secrets in a desperate attempt to save Last Arc and lead their people to a new way of life. With extraordinary art direction and a star-studded cast that includes Nathaniel Arcand, Benjamin Ross Hayden's debut feature is a futuristic nail-biting heroic drama of survival and self-discovery.

*Benjamin Ross Hayden is the director of the award-winning short film Agophobia (2013) and is the youngest filmmaker in Canada to be accepted to the Telefilm Canada micro-budget as director, writer and producer. The Northlander is his first feature.*

**Co-Presented by:**

**The Adam Beach Film Institute  
First Nations House - University of Toronto**



imagineNATIVE showcases a selection of the Festival's award-winning films chosen at the Awards Night on Saturday, October 22. It's our chance to see a selection of these fantastic films for the first time (or again!), for FREE before they travel the festival circuit!

Selected works will be publicly announced late Saturday night via imagineNATIVE press release, social media and at the TIFF Bell Lightbox.

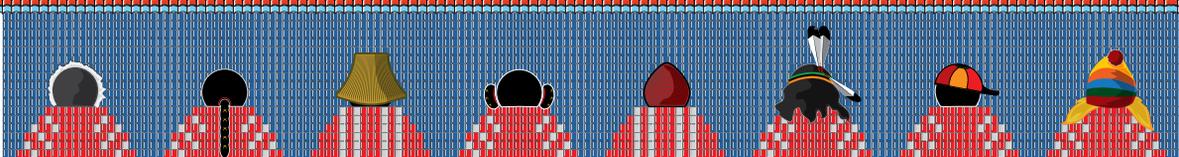
**Presented by:**



**Award Winners Screening**

TIFF Bell Lightbox Cinema 3  
October 23, 9:15pm

**FREE**

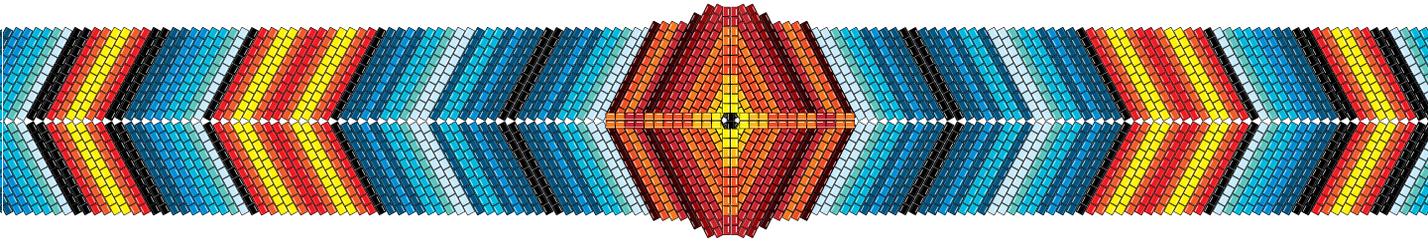


OCT 23

SUN 7:00 PM  
TIFF BELL LIGHTBOX  
CINEMA 1



CLOSING NIGHT GALA



**Bonfire**

Russia • 85 min • 2016 • Dramatic Feature

Russian with English Subtitles

**North American Premiere**

Director: Dmitrii Davydov (Yakut)



**Closing Night Sponsor:**

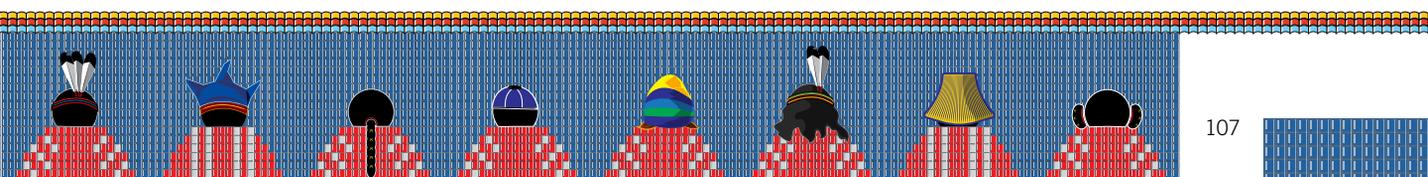


Dmitrii Davydov brings us a remarkable debut feature film about a father's love.

Deep in the Sakha Republic in eastern Siberia, Ignat is a hard-working widower who keeps to himself and tries to do the right thing. When his son accidentally kills his own cousin, Ignat's brother Mikhail blames him for raising a killer, causing a deep rift between siblings. When his son is taken away, Ignat is left in a world of grief as he tries to make amends for his son's accidental crime. But when Chipmunk – a young boy neglected by his parents – enters Ignat's world, he finds solace in his presence and tries to teach him the things he could not give his son. As an unlikely friendship blossoms and Ignat finds a new love, it seems as if everything is changing for the better, but unbeknownst to them Mikhail's anger over his son's death is brewing, and his vengeance threatens to turn a happy ending into tragedy.

*Bonfire* is a stunning feature drama unlike any seen on screen. As one of the rising new talents of Indigenous cinema from Russia, Dmitrii Davydov creates a tender, tactile portrait of the complexities of family and the fragility of life.

*Dmitrii Davydov was born in Amga, a village in Yakutia (in Russia). From his early years, Dmitrii was writing poems and short stories. Love of literature turned into passion for cinema. He's always been socially active and has acted in amateur performances. He graduated from the Pedagogical Institute and worked previously as a psychologist before his current day-job as a school director. At this school, Dmitrii created a youth club where students are given the means to make their first music videos and short films. Good knowledge of the rural way of life in Yakutia and his understanding of villagers' realities helped him to write and later shoot Bonfire, his debut feature film, which recently had its world premiere at the Busan International Film Festival in Korea.*



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imagineNATIVE's FREE Industry Series brings together leading industry professionals from across Canada and around the world in an intimate setting designed to help advance professional careers. Taking place in cinemas and workshop spaces at TIFF Bell Lightbox, we aim to strike a balance between art, commerce and critical thinking in a welcoming environment for the most novice or experienced media creator. Come learn from and engage with respected and talented professionals working in the industry today.

Visit [www.imagineNATIVE.org](http://www.imagineNATIVE.org) or the imagineNATIVE Mobile App (Android & Apple) for the most updated panel presenters and speakers.



## Industry BreakFEAST with the Canada Council

October 20, 8:45am – 10:00am

Learning Studios A/B

Canada's national Aboriginal arts funder welcomes delegates with good eats and valuable information to kick-off to the Festival Industry Series. With respect to the sweeping changes to its grant programs, the Canada Council invites all delegates to learn about and explore these important updates and its potential impact on the future of arts funding in Canada for both creators and consumers. Individuals are welcome to present potential projects they may have and see how they fit under the New Funding Model which enters into effect April 2017.

Presented by:



## imagineNATIVE's Short Documentary Pitch Competition

October 20, 10:15AM – 11:30AM

TIFF Bell Lightbox, Cinema 4

Come experience the excitement of this annual live-pitch competition, where three pre-selected and trained Canadian Indigenous pitch teams try to impress a jury of high-level industry professionals. Prepared pitches are put to the test when a "wild card" project from the audience is pitched to steal the show (and prize!). Don't miss this! Prizes include \$4,500 cash and over \$3,000 in-kind production and networking prizes.

Presented by: With support from:



## imagineNATIVE's Short Drama Pitch Competition

October 20, 11:45AM – 1:00PM

TIFF Bell Lightbox, Cinema 4

The most dynamic short film ideas are brought to life by three pre-selected and trained teams to an audience and industry jury of high-level professionals specializing in short films. A "wild card" pitch from the audience will make a run for the money (and prizes) in an exciting twist. The Short Drama Pitch winner will receive a \$7,500 cash and over \$3,000 in-kind production and networking prizes for supports!

Presented by: With support from:



OCT 21

FRIDAY  
TIFF BELL LIGHTBOX

# INDUSTRY SERIES: FREE WORKSHOPS & PANELS

IS



## Indigenous VR Spotlight

October 20, 1:45PM – 3:00PM

TIFF Bell Lightbox, Green Room  
(Digital Media Art+Cade)

This is an opportunity to showcase and inform the Indigenous media arts delegates about the state of Virtual Reality and its creative and industry impact in shaping and experiencing Indigenous storytelling. Featuring leading producers and artists, the panel will discuss and present developing and produced content by Indigenous VR creators and allies, and their best practices for stepping into this field creatively, technically and financially.

Presented by:  Canada Media Fund  
Fonds des médias du Canada



## What's Marketing Got to Do With It? EVERYTHING.

October 21, 10:00AM – 11:00AM

TIFF Bell Lightbox, Learning Studios A&B

Emerging filmmakers often suffer from cinematic tunnel vision beyond the practical filmmaking process, hijacking their film potential to reach awaiting consumers. Developing a marketing strategy at the onset of film development is key to discovering who the audience for your film could be and how you can entice them in a media-saturated landscape. This informative panel starts with the basics in developing effective and impactful film creative collateral, expanding to the collaborative connections you'll be glad to have once your film makes its public debut.

Presented by:  AIR CANADA  
**enRoute** 



## “Discoverability” of Indigenous Content in the Age of Media

### Abundance: What we all need to know

October 21, 11:00AM – 12:00PM

TIFF Bell Lightbox, Learning Studios A&B

Technology has changed audience content consumption behavior beyond traditional frameworks and into the vastness of the digital realm, making it harder for creators and their presenters to reach audiences effectively. While this new issue, dubbed “content discoverability,” is often acknowledged as the top-priority challenge facing the industry over the course of the next decade, from an Indigenous creator’s perspective – one that had to fight for representation in the regulated system – does this new world level the playing field, or even give advantage to the recent surge in Indigenous attention in media? In a “sharing circle” format, we invite all content creators to bring their opinions and successes alongside Industry leaders in media and gaming, and Indigenous producers/creators finding success in their production distribution, to communally bring awareness, tactics and avenues to develop future productions with a “discoverability” perspective.

Presented by:



## Micro Meetings Networking Event

October 21, 3:15PM – 5:15PM

TIFF Bell Lightbox, Learning Studios A&B

Exclusive to Delegate Pass Holders, imagineNATIVE’s Micro Meetings connect you one-on-one with industry decision-makers by giving you valuable face-to-face time to discuss your project for acquisition, sale or development potential. Delegates who have missed the deadline for applications are welcome to apply during the Festival starting October 20 at the first Industry Series panel, until the end of the day, and at the event, pending availability. Apply early to ensure your spot; spaces are limited!

An up-to-date list of attending decision-makers is available at [www.imagenative.org/industry-professional-development](http://www.imagenative.org/industry-professional-development)

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**World Indigenous Cinema Catalogue**  
**THE WORLD'S LARGEST ONLINE RESOURCE FOR INDIGENOUS FILM + VIDEO!**  
**"The Indigenous IMDB"**

imagineNATIVE is proud to announce the public release of the World Indigenous Cinema Catalogue (WICC). In partnership with the University of Western Ontario's Department of Women's Studies and Feminist Research, a database of films by Indigenous creators or with Indigenous content are now available in an online search engine. Users can search by a variety of advanced options including themes, Indigenous affiliations and language.

WICC will grow and develop as a key online resource as the world of cinematic attention to Indigenous talent and stories grow.

The World Indigenous Cinema Catalogue wouldn't have existed without the dedicated commitment of Dr. Wendy G. Pearson, Associate Professor of Women's Studies and Feminist Research at the University of Western Ontario, and her collaborators, Dr. Kerstin Knopf of the University of Bremen and Dr. Ernie Blackmore of the Woolyngah Indigenous Institute at the University of Wollongong, as well as a regiment of student interns committed to this research and the cultivation of cinematic work. This project was made possible by a grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

To begin your search, visit: [www.imagenative.org/wicc](http://www.imagenative.org/wicc)  
 For more information or to add to the WICC, please contact [wicc@imagenative.org](mailto:wicc@imagenative.org)



In 2013 imagineNATIVE released the report *Indigenous Feature Film Production in Canada - A National Perspective*, which identified the immediate need for increased training and professional development opportunities for Indigenous feature film creatives. In 2014 imagineNATIVE's Screenwriters Lab began this concentrated effort to support the first feature film screenplay for four Indigenous writers. For the first time in 2016, imagineNATIVE is providing "mini-lab" intensives in each creative discipline, starting and growing the industry's key creatives' skills from development to delivery.

For the inaugural **imagineNATIVE Canadian Indigenous Film Director Mini-Lab**, with support of DGC - Ontario, imagineNATIVE will invite four emerging Canadian Indigenous directors – with credits on professionally presented short film work – to participate in a three-day "mini-lab" with established multidisciplinary, award-winning director Tracey Deer (Mohawk), whose breadth of quality work and leadership role in the sector and community will bring valuable perspective and insight for the participants.

**Sponsored by:**



The **imagineNATIVE/CMPA Canadian Indigenous Film Producer Mini-lab** is designed to hone the skills and knowledge base of four emerging Canadian Indigenous producers through dedicated one-on-one engagement with an established Indigenous creative industry leader. For 2016, imagineNATIVE has invited Canadian producer Laura Milliken (Ojibway) to lead this new initiative.

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**imagineNATIVE/HGF Script Lab**

Born out of the desire to put a spotlight on works in progress and to create development opportunities for professionally recognized screenwriters, the imagineNATIVE/HGF Story Lab brings together industry professionals and some very lucky scripts.

Up to six selected participants and their short or feature-excerpted scripts will be assigned to industry mentors who will spend – over two separate sessions – four hours helping to push these short film projects one step closer to their final scripts. Participants contribute to the discussion about one another's projects and receive feedback/suggestions on their project in a group-learning environment led by the mentor. The Script Lab was crucial to the feature script of *Baybayin* by acclaimed filmmaker Kanakan Balintagos, whose completed film won Best Indigenous Language Production at imagineNATIVE in 2014.

The Industry Mentors for 2016 are John Galway, President, English-Language Program at Astral's The Harold Greenberg Fund, and Eva Thomas (Anishinaabe), the recipient of the inaugural imagineNATIVE Story Editor Mentorship, aimed to bring Indigenous perspectives to the evaluation process of feature film screenplays.

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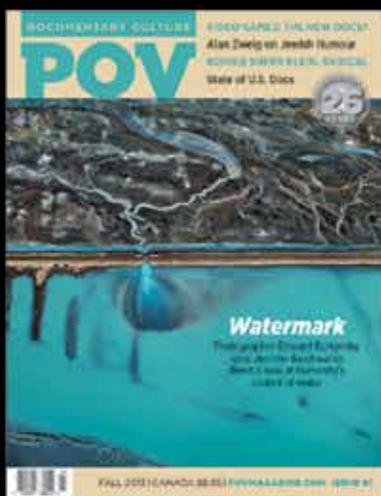
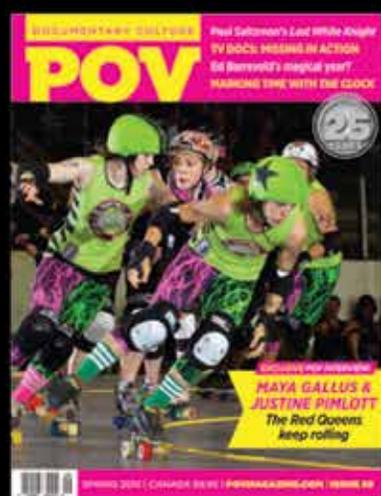
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Thurs, Oct. 20 – Sat, Oct. 22,  
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Sun, Oct 23,  
 10:00am – 4:00pm

For Mediatheque access, please check in at the Guest Services Desk, TIFF Bell Lightbox Lobby

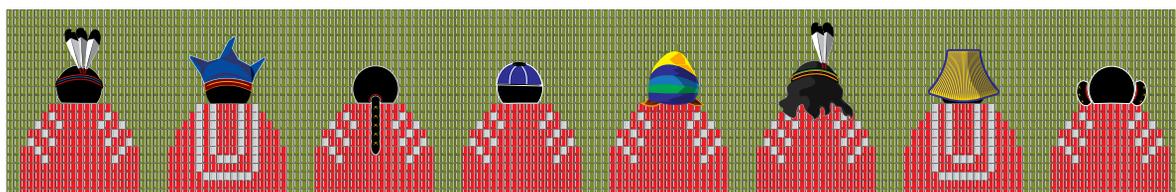
**Please note that priority access is given to buyers, commissioning editors, acquisition executives, distributors, sales agents and festival programmers.**

The Mediatheque is open to Festival delegates only and provides access to the 2016 video library, viewing stations and the Internet.

The Mediatheque provides a video library with on-demand videotheque facilities allowing Festival delegates to view all works submitted to the 2016 Festival. The Mediatheque allows buyers to preview works and offers filmmakers a unique opportunity to promote their work.

Again this year, imagineNATIVE is including TV series produced and led by Indigenous-owned production companies in the Mediatheque video library to acknowledge the medium as a vital creative and business outlet on the Indigenous media arts landscape. TV series will be listed as a separate section of the Mediatheque Catalogue.

The Mediatheque Catalogue is available to Industry Delegates only, upon presentation of their Delegate Pass. All productions housed in the Mediatheque are listed in the catalogue along with title, director, Indigenous affiliation, country and contact information for each film.



## #

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Angry Inuk (pg. 51)

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Skateboarding Pants (pg. 100)

**Avery, Katie Doane**  
Polar Sun (pg. 103)

**B**

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Crash Site (pg. 80)

**Batalibasi, Amie**  
Blackbird (pg. 103)

**Baxter, Jade**  
Beyond Hope (pg. 81)

**Bedard, Doug**  
AK-47 (pg. 90)

**Bell, Kyle**  
Dig It If You Can (pg. 100)

**Benally, Razelle**  
I Am Thy Weapon (pg. 100)

**Boileau, Sonia**  
Ra'stat'ste – The Native Slam (pg. 70)

**Briët, Kayla**  
Smoke That Travels (pg. 82)

**Browning, Daniel**  
Big Sky (pg. 48)

**Byrne, Meagan**  
Seal Skin (pg. 44)

**C**

**Calder, Terril**  
SNIP (pg. 85)

**Cardinal Villeneuve, Jay**  
Hickey Gone Wrong (pg. 75)

**Cegielski, Christopher Nataanii**  
Reagan (pg. 102)

**Champagne, Norman**  
Dressed to Kill (pg. 73)

**Clark, Moe**  
I Am (pg. 68)

**Couchie, Daniel**  
Normie (pg. 73)  
She Spins (pg. 90)

**Curtis, Dena**  
Nan and a Whole Lot of Trouble (pg. 75)

**Cuthand, Thirza**  
A Biolar Journey (pg. 44)

**D**

**Davidov., Dmitryi**  
Bonfire (pg. 107)

**Davis, Tammy**  
Born to Dance (pg. 60)

**Derosier, Michelle**  
The Grandfather Drum (pg. 56)

**Douglas, Keesic**  
Baamsewag mshkikiiwag (They are Walking Around for Medicines) (pg. 55)

**Dubé, Antony**  
Awaskinawason (The Children of the Earth) (pg. 62)

**Dupuis, Melissa Mollen**  
Nitanish à ma fille (Nitanish - To My Daughter) (pg. 80)

**F**

**Favel, Crystal**  
Radio Remixes Voices of Binga (pg. 48)

**Fleischer, Ujarneq**  
Tikeq, Qiterleq, Mikileraq, Eqqqqq (pg. 66)

**Fontaine, Natasha Kanapé**  
Nous Nous Souleverons (We Will Rise) (pg. 80)

**Fox, Katsitsionni**  
Ohero:kon - Under the Husk (pg. 58)

**Fraser, Jenny**  
Midden (pg. 42)

**G**

**Gear, Glenn**  
Kablunât (Legend of the Origin of the White People)(pg. 63)

**George, Robert**  
Smiths Ave (pg. 102)

**Girvan, Melissa**  
Passing Moments (pg. 81)

**Grace, Himiona**  
Tawhaowhao - The Native Slam (pg. 70)

**H**

**Halcrow, Cody**  
Remains, Human (pg. 73)

**Hansell, Jessica**  
Aroha Bridge (pg. 45)

**Hansen, Aka**  
Half & Half (pg. 78)  
STG (pg. 78)

**Harris, Hanelle**  
The Promise of Piha (pg. 96)

**Hayden, Benjamin Ross**  
The Northlander (pg. 105)

**Helander, Marja**  
Dolastallat (To Have a Campfire) (pg. 69)

**Hodges, David**  
Home to Me (pg. 52)

**Høegh, Inuk Silis**  
Sinilluarit (Goodnight) (pg. 79)  
SUMÉ - Mumisitsinerup Nipaa (SUMÉ - The Sound of a Revolution) (pg. 59)

**Hopinka, Sky**  
Visions of an Island (pg. 68)

**Hopkins, Zoe Leigh**  
Skoha - The Native Slam (pg. 70)  
Star Wars - Trash Compactor Scene (pg. 75)

**Hubbard, Tasha**  
7 Minutes (pg. 55)

**I**

**Ingemann, Ulannaq**  
Killormut (Upside Down) (pg. 78)  
Thor Eugenius (pg. 59)

**J**

**Jackson, Lisa**  
The Dust Bowl (pg. 67)  
Highway of Tears (pg. 43)

**Jacobs, Kawennáhere Devery**  
Stolen (pg. 82)

**Jannok, Sofia**  
We Are Still Here (pg. 90)

**Jonathan, Mike**  
Ra'stat'ste - The Native Slam (pg. 70)

**Jones, Terry**  
Soup For My Brother (pg. 102)

**Jørgensen, Pipaluk K.**  
Anori (pg. 95)

**K**

**Karehana, Todd**  
The Kweenz of Kelston (pg. 101)  
The Spectacular Imagination Of The P hara Brothers (pg. 62)

**Kelsey, Shane**  
Don't Stress (pg. 101)

**Kilsnight, Echota**  
Ara - The Native Slam (pg. 70)

**King, Gregory**  
UFO (pg. 102)

**Kunuk, Zacharias**  
Maliglutit (Searchers)(pg. 71)

**L**

**LaPensée, Elizabeth**  
Hands to the Sky (pg. 68)  
Honour Water (pg. 42)

**Lazarowich, Alexandra**  
Cree Code Talker (pg. 54)

**Lewis, Daniel**  
M'tik Woop (Stick and String) (pg. 63)

**L'Hirondelle, Paige**  
Journey Towards Reconciliation (pg. 52)

**Lowe, Blackhorse**  
Tawhaowhao - The Native Slam (pg. 70)

**M**

**Mack, Trevor**  
Sech'el - The Native Slam (pg. 70)

**MacLean, Andrew Okpeaha**  
Feels Good (pg. 74)

**Maihi, Renae**  
Mannahatta (Manhattan) (pg. 63)

**Malbeuf, Amy**  
The Length of Grief: The Daughters of  
Métis Mothers (pg. 69)

**Maxakali, Isael**  
Konāgxeka: o Dilúvio Maxakali (Konāgxeka: the Maxakali Flood) (pg. 62)

**Michel, Virginie**  
Ute Kanata (Here in Canada) (pg. 56)

**Miller, Tara**  
Sealskin (pg. 44)

**Mixo, Fabiano**  
Woman without Mandolin (pg. 69)

**Monnet, Caroline**  
Tshiuetin (pg. 54)

**N**

**Nez, Rachael**  
The Valedictorian of Carlisle Indian  
School (pg. 67)

**N'we Jinan Artists**  
Home to Me (pg. 52)

**Nousuniemi, Sunna**  
Tawhaowhao - The Native Slam (pg. 70)

**O**

**Obomsawin, Alanis**  
We Can't Make the Same Mistake Twice  
(pg. 77)

**Oskal, Sara Margrethe**  
Ara - The Native Slam (pg. 70)

**Ottawa, Marie-Pier**  
Message (pg. 67)

**Ozzies, Cornel**  
Sech'el - The Native Slam (pg. 70)

**P**

**Page, Stephen**  
Spear (pg. 61)

**Pakarati, Leonardo**  
Te Kuhane o te tupuna (The Spirit of the  
Ancestors) (pg. 65)

**Papatie, Louisa**  
Cache-cache (pg. 56)

**Parrell, Marnie**  
When I Close My Eyes (pg. 57)

**Pedersen, Kaare Sylvest**  
Qivittoq (pg. 79)

**Péronard, Emile Hertling**  
SUMÉ - Mumisitsinerup Nipaa (SUMÉ  
- The Sound of a Revolution) (pg. 59)

**Pocowatchit, Rodrick**  
Other (pg. 74)

**R**

**Rangihau, Kararina**  
Ukaipō Whenua (Mother's Land) (pg. 65)

**Rector, Tracy**  
Ch'aak' S'aagi (Eagle Bone) (pg. 42)

**Ririnui Ryan, Lanita**  
Poi360 (pg. 43)

**River, Dylan**  
Black Chook (pg. 103)

**Rogers, Janet**  
Sasquatch Mixdown (pg. 49)

**S**

**Salas, Pearl**  
Susto (pg. 82)

**Scott, Amos**  
AKOO (Watchout!) (pg. 73)  
The Sun at Midnight (pg. 98)

**Short, Jessie**  
Sweet Night (pg. 96)

**Solway, Trevor**  
Indian Giver (pg. 57)

**Somer, Sharon**  
Journey Towards Reconciliation (pg. 52)

**St. John, Michelle**  
Colonization Road (pg. 94)

**Stepanowich, Kelton**  
God's Acre (pg. 54)

**Stephens, Tainui**  
Skoha - The Native Slam (pg. 70)

**Sterritt, Angela**  
The Story She Carries (pg. 49)

**Strong, Amanda**  
Four Faces of the Moon (pg. 52)  
Hipster Headdress (pg. 74)  
How to Steal a Canoe (pg. 90)

**T**

**Tamou, Rima**  
Skoha - The Native Slam (pg. 70)

**Tauamiti, Jeremiah**  
Ra'stat'ste - The Native Slam (pg. 70)

**Taylor, Jason**  
The Turning Tide (pg. 63)

**Te Ao, Shannon**  
Untitled (epilogue) (pg. 68)

**Thomas, Madison**  
Exposed Nerves (pg. 81)

**Tun, Yamin**  
Wait (pg. 103)

**U**

**Ungalaaq, Natar**  
Malglutit (pg. 71)

**V**

**Vachon, Matthew**  
Loup Garou (Werewolf) (pg. 90)

**Vaiaoga-loasa, Stallone**  
Three Wise Cousins (pg. 72)

**Vermette, Katharena**  
this river (pg. 55)

**W**

**Ward, Simon**  
Aroha Bridge (pg. 45)

**West, Suvi**  
Sparrooabbán (Me and my Little Sister)  
(pg. 97)

**Wheeler, Kim**  
Reflections of Oka (pg. 48)

**Whitecrow, J.L.**  
Heidi Lost (pg. 58)

**Willier, Colton**  
Skateboarding Pants (pg. 100)

**Windolph, Janine**  
The Land of Rock and Gold (pg. 53)

**Winstanley, Chelsea**  
Sech'el - The Native Slam (pg. 70)

**Aotearoa New Zealand**

- Ara - The Native Slam (pg. 70)
- Aroha Bridge (pg. 45)
- Born to Dance (pg. 60)
- The Kweenz of Kelston (pg. 101)
- Mannahatta (pg. 63)
- Poi360 (pg. 43)
- The Promise of Piha (pg. 96)
- Ra'stat'ste -The Native Slam (pg. 70)
- Sech'el - The Native Slam (pg. 70)
- Skoha -The Native Slam (pg. 70)
- Smiths Ave (pg. 102)
- The Spectacular Imagination Of The Pōhara Brothers (pg. 62)
- Tawhaowhao - The Native Slam (pg. 70)
- Three Wise Cousins (pg. 72)
- The Turning Tide (pg. 63)
- UFO (pg. 102)
- Ukaipō Whenua (pg. 65)
- Untitled (epilogue) (pg. 68)
- Wait (pg. 103)

**Australia**

- Big Sky (pg. 48)
- Black Chook (pg. 103)
- Blackbird (pg. 103)
- Midden (pg. 42)
- Nan and a Whole Lot of Trouble (pg. 75)
- Sech'el - The Native Slam (pg. 70)
- Skoha -The Native Slam (pg. 70)
- Spear (pg. 61)

**Brazil**

- Woman without Mandolin (pg. 69)
- Konāgxeka: o Dilúvio Maxakali (Konāgxeka: the Maxakali Flood) (pg. 62)

**Canada**

- 7 minutes (pg. 55)
- AK-47 (pg. 90)
- AKOÓ (pg. 73)
- Angry Inuk (pg. 51)
- Awaskinawason (The Children of the Earth) (pg. 62)
- Baamsewag mshkikiiwag (They are Walking Around Looking for Medicines) (pg. 55)
- Beyond Hope (pg. 81)
- A Bipolar Journey (pg. 44)
- Cache-cache (Hide and Seek) (pg. 56)
- Colonization Road (pg. 94)
- Crash Site (pg. 80)
- Cree Code Talker (pg. 54)
- Don't Stress (pg. 101)
- Dressed to Kill (pg. 73)
- The Dust Bowl (pg. 67)
- Exposed Nerves (pg. 81)
- Four Faces of the Moon (pg. 52)

- God's Acre (pg. 54)
- The Grandfather Drum (pg. 56)
- Hands to the Sky (pg. 68)
- Heidi Lost (pg. 58)
- Hickey Gone Wrong (pg. 75)
- Highway of Tears (pg. 43)
- Hipster Headdress (pg. 74)
- Home to Me (pg. 52)
- How to Steal a Canoe (pg. 90)
- I Am (pg. 68)
- Indian Giver (pg. 57)
- Journey Towards Reconciliation (pg. 52)
- Kablunât (Legend of the Origin of the White People) (pg. 63)
- The Land of Rock and Gold (pg. 53)
- The Length of Grief: The Daughters of Métis Mothers (pg. 69)
- Loup Garou (Werewolf) (pg. 90)
- M'tik Woop (Stick and String) (pg. 63)
- Maligutit (Searchers) (pg. 71)
- Message (pg. 67)
- Nitanish à ma fille (Nitanish – To My Daughter) (pg. 80)
- Normie (pg. 73)
- The Northlander (pg. 105)
- Nous Nous Souleverons (We Will Rise) (pg. 80)
- Passing Moments (pg. 81)
- Radio Remixes Voices of Binga (pg. 48)
- Ra'stat'ste -The Native Slam (pg. 70)
- Reflections of Oka: Stories of the Mohawk Standoff 25 Years Later (pg. 48)
- Remains, Human (pg. 73)
- Sasquatch Mixdown (pg. 49)
- Sealskin (pg. 44)
- Sech'el - The Native Slam (pg. 70)
- She Spins (pg. 90)
- Skateboarding Pants (pg. 100)
- Skoha -The Native Slam (pg. 70)
- SNIP (pg. 85)
- Star Wars – Trash Compactor Scene (pg. 75)
- Stolen (pg. 82)
- The Story She Carries (pg. 49)
- The Sun at Midnight (pg. 98)
- Sweet Night (pg. 96)
- this river (pg. 55)
- Tshiuetin (pg. 54)
- Ute Kanata (ici au Canada) (pg. 56)
- We Can't Make the Same Mistake Twice (pg. 77)
- When I Close My Eyes (pg. 57)

**Chile**

- Te Kuhane o Te Tupuna (The Spirit of the Ancestors) (pg. 65)

**Greenland**

- Anori (pg. 95)
- Half & Half (pg. 78)
- Killormut (Upside Down) (pg. 78)
- Qivittoq (pg. 79)
- Sinilluarit (Goodnight) (pg. 79)
- STG (pg. 78)
- SUMÉ - Mumisitsinerup Nipaa (SUMÉ – The Sound of Revolution) (pg. 59)
- Thor Eugenius (pg. 59)
- Tikeq, Qiterleq, Mikileraq, Eqqqqoq (Fore Finger, Middle Finger, Ring Finger, Little Finger) (pg. 66)

**Russia**

- Bonfire (pg. 107)

**Samoa**

- Ra'stat'ste -The Native Slam (pg. 70)
- Three Wise Cousins (pg. 72)

**Sápmi – Norway, Sweden, Finland**

- Ara - The Native Slam (pg. 70)
- Dollastallat (To Have a Campfire) (pg. 69)
- Tawhaowhao - The Native Slam (pg. 70)
- Sparroabbán (Me and My Little Sitter) (pg. 97)
- We Are Still Here (pg. 90)

**Solomon Islands**

- Blackbird (pg. 103)

**United States**

- Ara – The Native Slam (pg. 70)
- Ch'aak'S'aagi (pg. 42)
- Dig It If You Can (pg. 100)
- Feels Good (pg. 74)
- Hands to the Sky (pg. 68)
- Honour Water (pg. 42)
- I Am Thy Weapon (pg. 100)
- Other (pg. 74)
- Polar Sun (pg. 103)
- Reagan (pg. 102)
- Smoke that Travels (pg. 82)
- Soup for my Brother (pg. 102)
- Susto (pg. 82)
- Tawhaowhao – The Native Slam (pg. 70)
- The Valedictorian of Carlisle Indian School (pg. 67)
- Visions of an Island (pg. 68)

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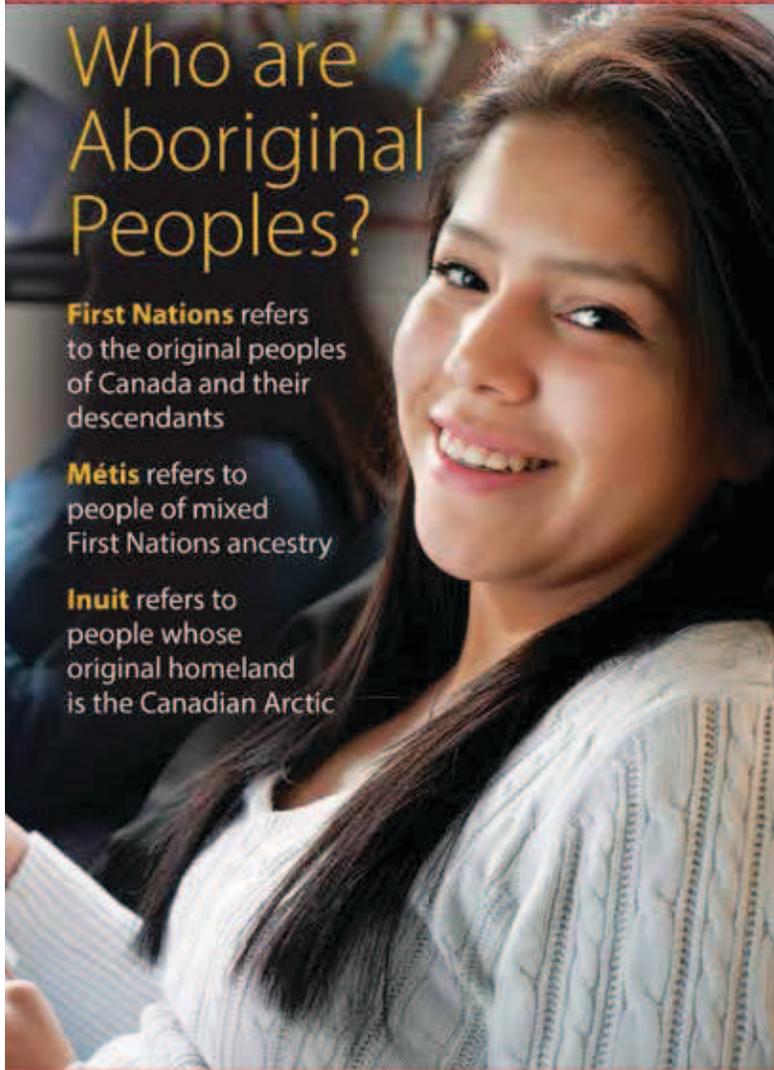
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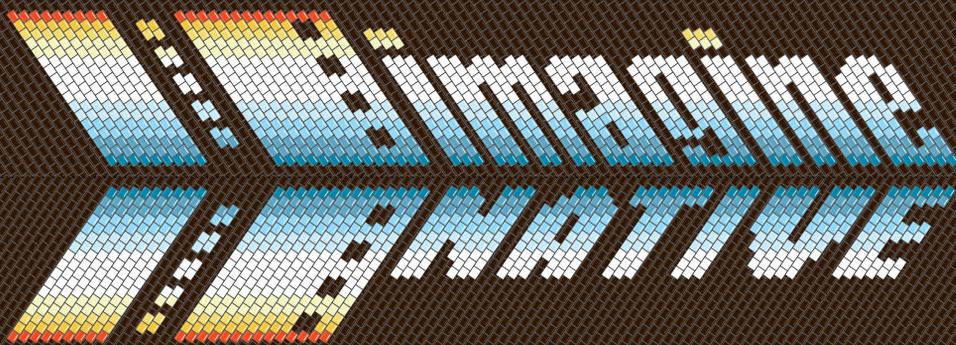


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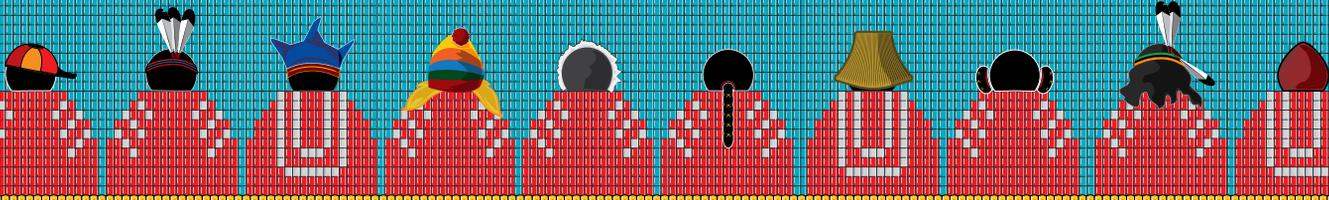


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## Membership

We value the input, knowledge and commitment of the community in ensuring First Nations, Métis and Inuit students throughout the TDSB, are well supported. All parents, guardians and community members are invited to attend ACAC meetings.

For more information about the ACAC, please visit our website [www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/AboriginalEducation.aspx](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/AboriginalEducation.aspx) or contact staff Committee Assistant: [Latha.John@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:Latha.John@tdsb.on.ca)



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