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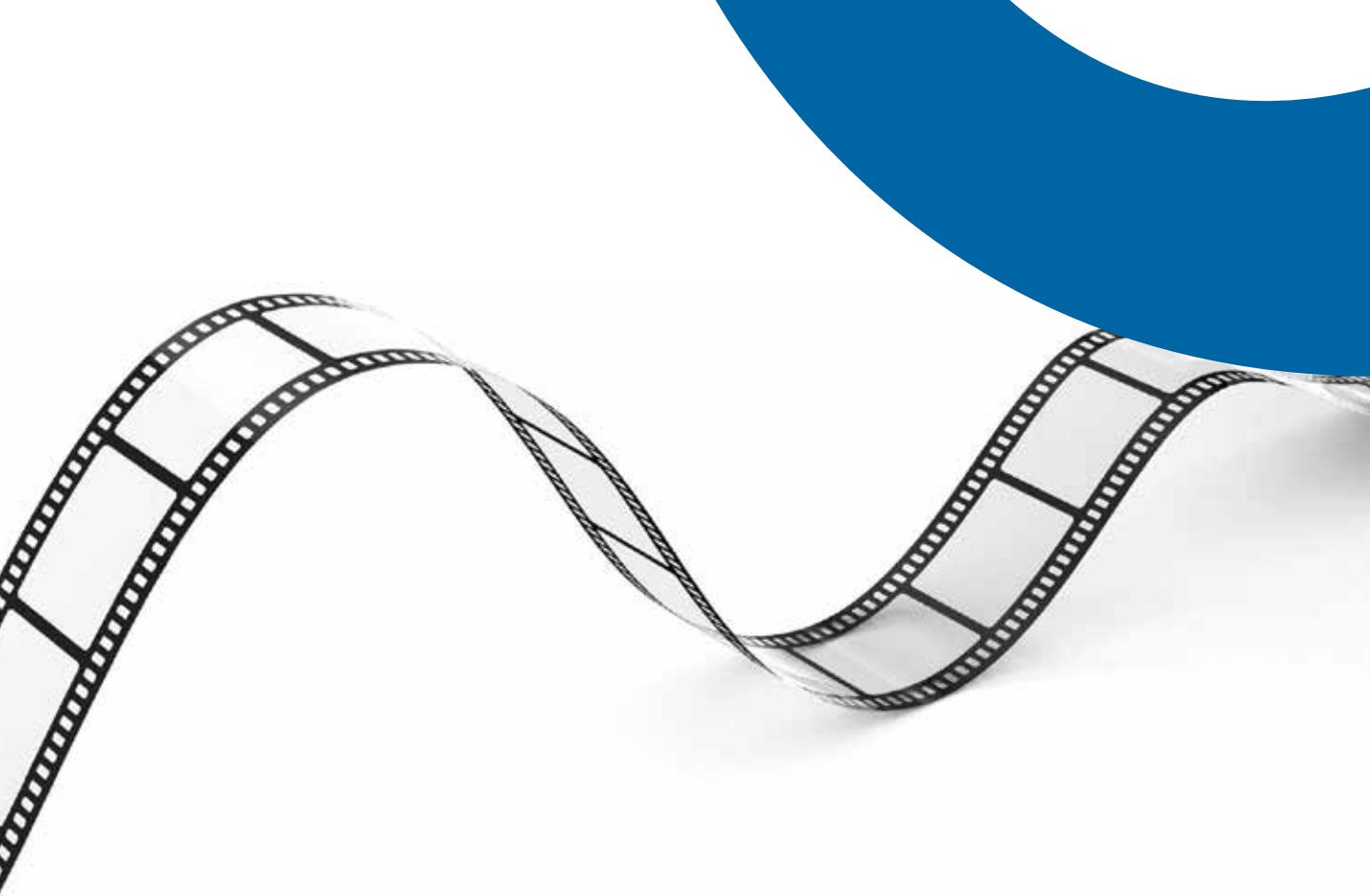
imagineNATIVE

FESTIVAL CATALOGUE



October 22-27, 2019

imagineNATIVE.org | [@imagineNATIVE](https://twitter.com/imagineNATIVE) | [#iN20](https://www.facebook.com/in20)



Proud Presenting Sponsor of the imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival.

Congratulations on celebrating 20 years
of Indigenous media arts excellence.

BellMedia

20th imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival



October 22 – 27, 2019

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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 our 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 Åsa 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 for sharing this document in our Catalogue. For more information on the Institute, visit www.isfi.no

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Guovdageaidnu, Sápmi, 2011

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**APTN is proud to celebrate
20 years alongside
imagineNATIVE!**



APTN remains an integral part of Canadian television and is innovating for the future with the launch of APTN lumi, a new and exciting online streaming service, and Nagamo Publishing, the world's first Indigenous music library.



aptnlumi.ca
aptn.ca



Our stories. Our voices.

iso

Indigenous Screen Office

The Indigenous Screen Office provides advocacy, networking, research and funding for First Nations, Métis and Inuit screen content creators in Canada.



Congratulations from the Indigenous Screen Office on your 20th Annual imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival

The Festival is one of a kind and a leader in supporting and developing Indigenous media arts around the world




**INDIGENOUS
SCREEN
OFFICE**

iso-bea.ca
iso-bea.ca/fr/

Sign up: National Indigenous Talent Database created for Indigenous film and television, gaming, app creators and storytellers and anyone involved in a screen industry.

 screen_office

 indigenousscreen

 @ISO.BEA

imagineNATIVE Festival Code of Conduct

Code of Conduct for all imagineNATIVE Attendees

At imagineNATIVE, we strive to create a Festival atmosphere that brings people together in a good way to mutually celebrate our stories, cultures and arts.

All attendees to imagineNATIVE, including Elders, invited delegates, and members of the public, have the right to be free of harassment, discrimination, sexism, and threatening or disrespectful behaviour - either in-person or online - from others attending the Festival. This could include but is not limited to:

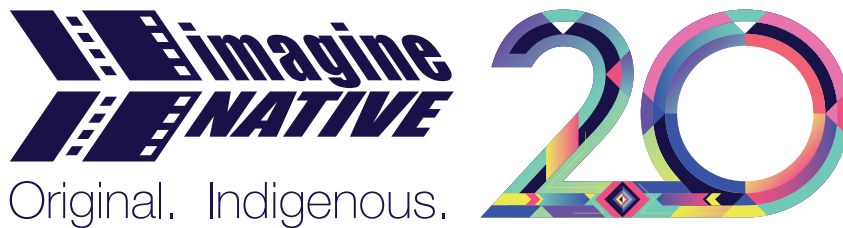
- offensive verbal comments related to gender, gender identity and expression, age, sexual orientation, physical acts, disability, physical appearance, race, ethnicity, or religion;
- deliberate intimidation;
- harassing photography;
- sustained disruption of talks or other events;
- inappropriate physical contact.

We reserve the right to refuse entry or revoke accreditation to Festival events and venues without notice for those who engage in such conduct. If you experience a violation of this Code of Conduct at the Festival please contact a member of staff.

All violations of the law should also be reported to local law enforcement. For emergencies, immediately dial 911.

We strive to work and walk responsibly, professionally and caringly at all times and ask that you share this commitment to fostering a supportive, loving and safe Festival environment.

About imagineNATIVE



imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival

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Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5V 3A8
T: +1.416.585.2333

info@imagineNATIVE.org
www.imagineNATIVE.org

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imagineNATIVE is a Registered Charity
#8989 38717 RR0001

To donate, please visit www.imagineNATIVE.org/donate

imagineNATIVE is a registered charity committed to inspiring and connecting communities through original, Indigenous film and media arts. We are located on the territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishinaabe, the Haudenosaunee, and the Huron-Wendat nations. We acknowledge the Dish With One Spoon covenant, a treaty whose spirit is one based in collective stewardship and sharing of land and resources, and one which extends to all nations living in present-day Toronto.

Since our first Festival in 2000, the imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival has programmed film, video, audio, and digital media works made by Canadian and international Indigenous media artists in key creative roles as producers, directors, and/or writers. In programming these works over the years, imagineNATIVE has embraced works from Indigenous creators that push artistic boundaries to represent a diversity of ideas, themes, and genres in our programming, seeking representations of subjects that would not necessarily be made available through mainstream forms of media.

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.

In addition to the Festival, the Centre for Aboriginal Media (imagineNATIVE's legal name) also presents the annual imagineNATIVE Film + VR Tour and numerous co-presentation screenings nationally and internationally which extend our mandate to present Indigenous-made works year round. In 2017, we launched the imagineNATIVE Institute, which presents professional development opportunities for Indigenous screen-content creators all year long.

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.

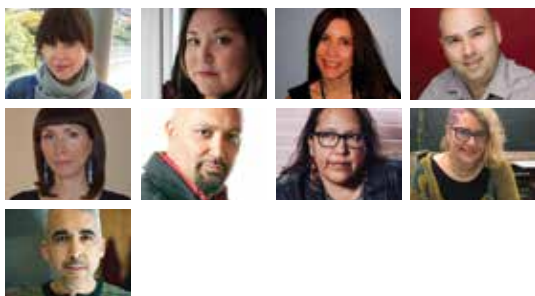
These artists are also eligible for annual prizes. The Festival's competition is adjudicated by independent juries at arm's length from the organization.

Please contact us if you have any questions.

imagineNATIVE Staff + Board



Left to Right: Adriana Chartand, Kaitlynn Tomaselli, Soufian Jalili, Adrien Ignace, Amee Lê, Victoria Kucher, Jessica Lea Fleming, Gina Rim, Niki Little.



Left to Right: Kerry Swanson, Melanie Nepinak Hadley, Paula Devonshire, Alan Bacchus, Kona Goulet, Jason Edward Lewis, Darlene Naponse, Anne Pick, and Peter Morin.

Board of Directors

Kerry Swanson (Chair)
Melanie Hadley (Vice-Chair)
Paula Devonshire (Treasurer)
Alan Bacchus (Secretary)
Kona Goulet
Jason Edward Lewis
Darlene Naponse
Anne Pick
Peter Morin

Cultural Advisor + Elder

Pauline Shirt

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: Jason Ryle
Associate Director: Naomi Johnson
Artistic Director: Niki Little
Institute Director: Daniel Northway-Frank
Manager, Corporate + Donor Initiatives: Tim Sidock
Institute Manager: Adriana Chartand
Operations Manager: Amee Lê
Communications Manager: Soufian Jalili
Digital + Interactive Coordinator: Meagan Byrne
Guest Services Manager: Gina Rim
Volunteer Manager: Amanda Clarke
Programming Coordinator: Judith Schuyler
Fundraising Coordinator: Claudia Skunk



Left to Right: Meagan Byrne, Jamie Whitecrow, Daniel Northway-Frank, Claudia Skunk, Tim Sidock, Teineisha Richards, Naomi Johnson, Judith Schuyler, Jason Ryle, David Morrison, Dallayce Smith, Amanda Clarke.

Administrative + Festival Coordinator: Adrien Ignace
Lead, Foundations Development: Jessica Lea Fleming
Coordinator, Special Projects: Jamie Whitecrow
Volunteer Coordinator: Teineisha Richards
Fundraising Assistant: David Morrison
Digital + Interactive Assistant: Kaitlynn Tomaselli
Guest Services Assistant: Dallayce Smith
Social Media Coordinator: Tara Hakim
Coordinator, Industry Centre: Kelsey Butt
Coordinator, International Networking Day:
Jose Patino-Gomez
Front-of-House Manager: Victoria Kucher
Technical Coordinator: Eyan Logan
Accessibility Coordinator: Katarina Ziervogel
Events Assistant: Jamie-Lee Reardon
Awards Presentation Producer: Candace Wilde
Jury Coordinator: Tshering Bhutia
Festival Photographer: Ian Maracle
Festival Photographer: Michelle Hurtubise
Festival Photographer: Peppercorn Imagine
Festival Driver Coordinator: Daniel Lee
Festival Driver: Neika Mohajeri
Festival Driver: April Rose Alierio

Programming Team (Selection Committee)

Pauline Clague
Niki Little
Tom Mcleod
Adam Piron
Judith Schuyler
Ariel Smith
Trudy Stewart

Design Team

Festival Creative: Terry Lau / beehivedesign.com
Campaign Design / Illustration: James Monkman

Trailer Team

Concept, Design, Animation: James Monkman
Sound Design: Chandra Bulucon / Puppy Machine Sound
Post-Production: Technicolor

Logo Design

Original: Kent Monkman
20th Edition: James Monkman

Publicity

Damien Nelson, Want & Able

Schedule at a Glance

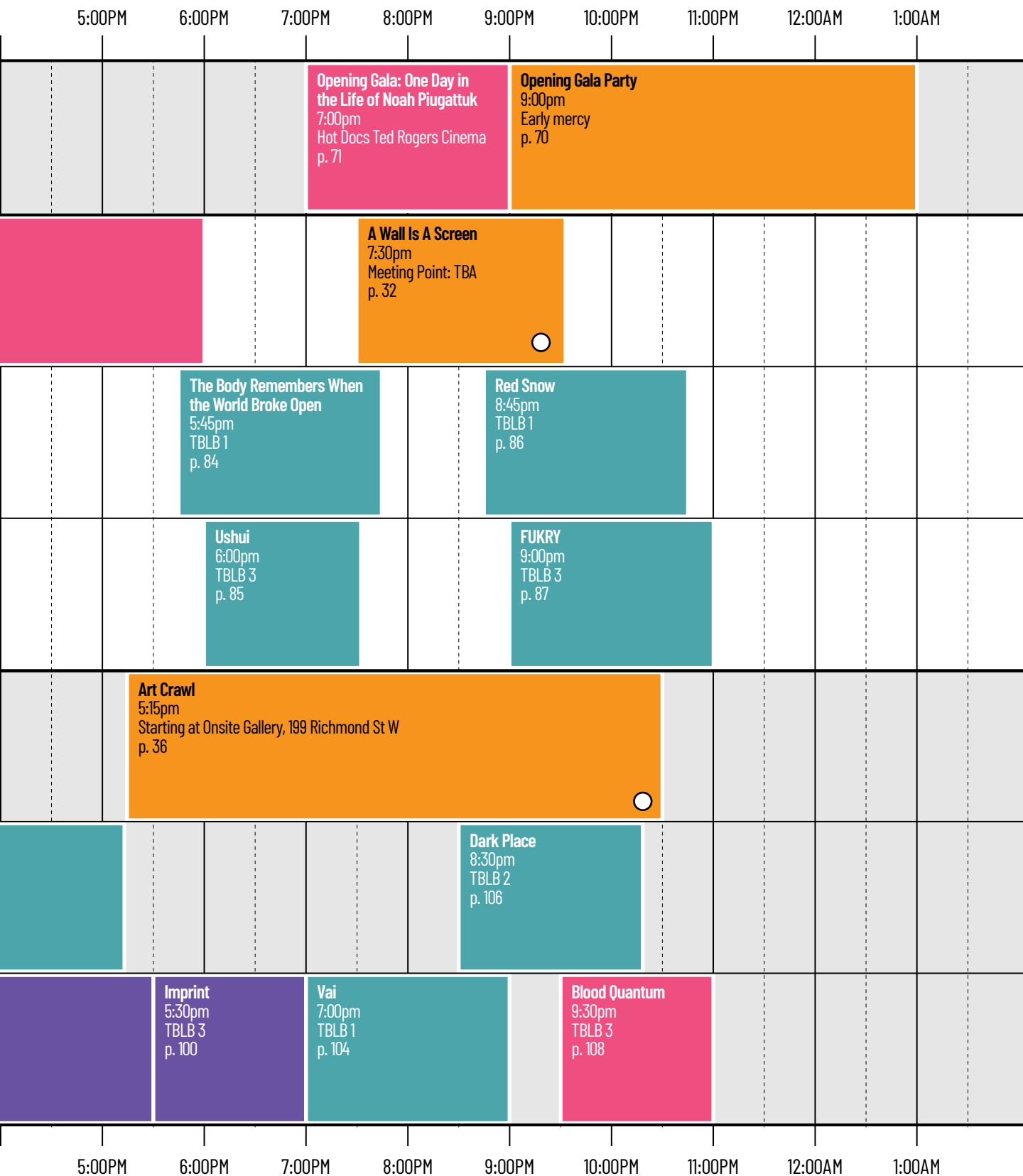
○ Free

■ Galas/Special Screening

■ Special Event

	10:00AM	11:00AM	12:00PM	1:00PM	2:00PM	3:00PM	4:00PM
TUE OCT 22					Welcome Gathering 2:00pm Native Canadian Centre of Toronto p. 70		
WED OCT 23				Audio Artist Talk 1:00pm iNDigital Space p. 34	iNDigital Expanded Opening 2:15 pm Bachir/Yerex p. 39	MERATA: How Mum Decolonised the Screen 3:30pm TBLB 2 p. 83	
	Eating Up Easter 10:00am TBLB 2 p. 73			For My Father's Kingdom 12:45pm TBLB 2 p. 82			
	Metamorphosis 10:15am TBLB 3 p. 74			Activation 12:30pm TBLB 3 p. 78			
THU OCT 24		Top End Wedding 11:00am TBLB 3 - OPEN CAPTIONED p. 19		Video Games Artist Talk 1:00pm iNDigital Space p. 34			
	Tributations 10:00am TBLB 2 p. 88			Victor Masayesva, Jr. Retrospective: Dawsoma: Making Meaning 1:00pm TBLB 2 p. 94		Not Just Numbers 4:00pm TBLB 2 p. 99	
		Mothers of the Land 10:30am TBLB 1 p. 93				Indig Love Stories 3:45pm TBLB 1 p. 96	
	10:00AM	11:00AM	12:00PM	1:00PM	2:00PM	3:00PM	4:00PM

Feature Film
 Shorts Programme
 Accessible Screening



Schedule at a Glance

○ Free

■ Galas/Special Screening

■ Special Event

10:00AM 11:00AM 12:00PM 1:00PM 2:00PM 3:00PM 4:00PM

FRI
OCT 25

From the Reel to the Digital
10:45am
Sandbox
p. 34

Worn Trails, New Trails, Footsteps
1:00pm
Sandbox
p. 35

Fluid Futurisms
2:30pm
Sandbox
p. 35

Talkback
4:30pm
Bachir/Yerex
Presentation Space
p. 33

VR Artist Talk
1:00pm
iNDigital
Space
p. 35

The Book of the Sea
10:00am
TBLB 2
p. 109

nipawistamâsowin: We Will Stand Up
1:00pm
TBLB 2
p. 113

Perceptions
10:30am
TBLB 3
p. 110

imagineNATIVE Originals
1:30pm
TBLB 3
p. 114

Deviations
3:15pm
TBLB 3
p. 116

SAT
OCT 26

Interactive Education
1:00pm
iNDigital
Space p. 35

The Incredible 25th year of Mitzi Bearclaw
2:00pm
TBLB 5 - SENSORY FRIENDLY p. 19

Jordan River Anderson, The Messenger
4:00pm
TBLB 1
p. 137

Ruthless Souls
10:00am
TBLB 2
p. 130

Vai
12:30pm
TBLB 2 - SECOND SCREENING
p. 104

Rustic Oracle
3:15pm
TBLB 2
p. 136

Wik vs. Queensland
10:30am
TBLB 3
p. 131

Precipice
1:15pm
TBLB 3
p. 132

SUN
OCT 27

The Body Remembers When the World Broke Open
10:45am
TBLB 3 - OPEN CAPTIONED
p. 19

Barb Cranmer Tribute
1:30pm
TBLB 3
p. 146

N. Scott Momaday: Words From a Bear
4:00pm
TBLB 5 - SENSORY FRIENDLY p. 19

Maui's Hook
10:00am
TBLB 1
p. 144

Web Artist Talk
1:00pm
iNDigital
Space p. 35

Awards Presentation
4:00pm
TBLB 1
p. 148

Metamorphosis
10:30am
TBLB 2 - SECOND SCREENING
p. 74

Hugo Blanco, Deep River
1:00pm
TBLB 2
p. 145

10:00AM 11:00AM 12:00PM 1:00PM 2:00PM 3:00PM 4:00PM



Feature Film



Shorts Programme



Accessible Screening

5:00PM

6:00PM

7:00PM

8:00PM

9:00PM

10:00PM

11:00PM

12:00AM

1:00AM



in Pursuit of Venus [infected]
Curator & Artist Talk
6:00pm AGO
p. 40-41

The Beat
9:00pm
Horseshoe Tavern
p. 128

Night of the Indigenous Devs
6:00pm
TBLB 3
p. 121

**N. Scott Momaday:
Words From a Bear**
6:00pm
TBLB 2
p. 120

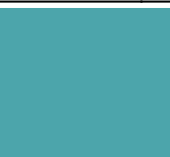
The Cursed Harp
9:00pm
TBLB 2
p. 126

**The Incredible 25th Year of
Mitzi Bearclaw**
5:15pm
TBLB 1
p. 119

Translations
8:00pm
TBLB 1
p. 122

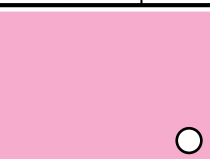


imagineNATIVE's 20th Birthday Party
9:00pm
Pilsner Hall (Steam Whistle)
p. 143



Top End Wedding
6:15pm
TBLB 2
p. 139

Fight of Flight
7:00pm
TBLB 3
p. 140



Awards Winners I
9:00pm
TBLB 3
p. 148

The Sun Above Me Never Sets
6:00pm
TBLB 2
p. 154

Awards Winners II
9:15pm
TBLB 2
p. 148

5:00PM

6:00PM

7:00PM

8:00PM

9:00PM

10:00PM

11:00PM

12:00AM

1:00AM

Festival Venues - Zone 2 (Opening Day)

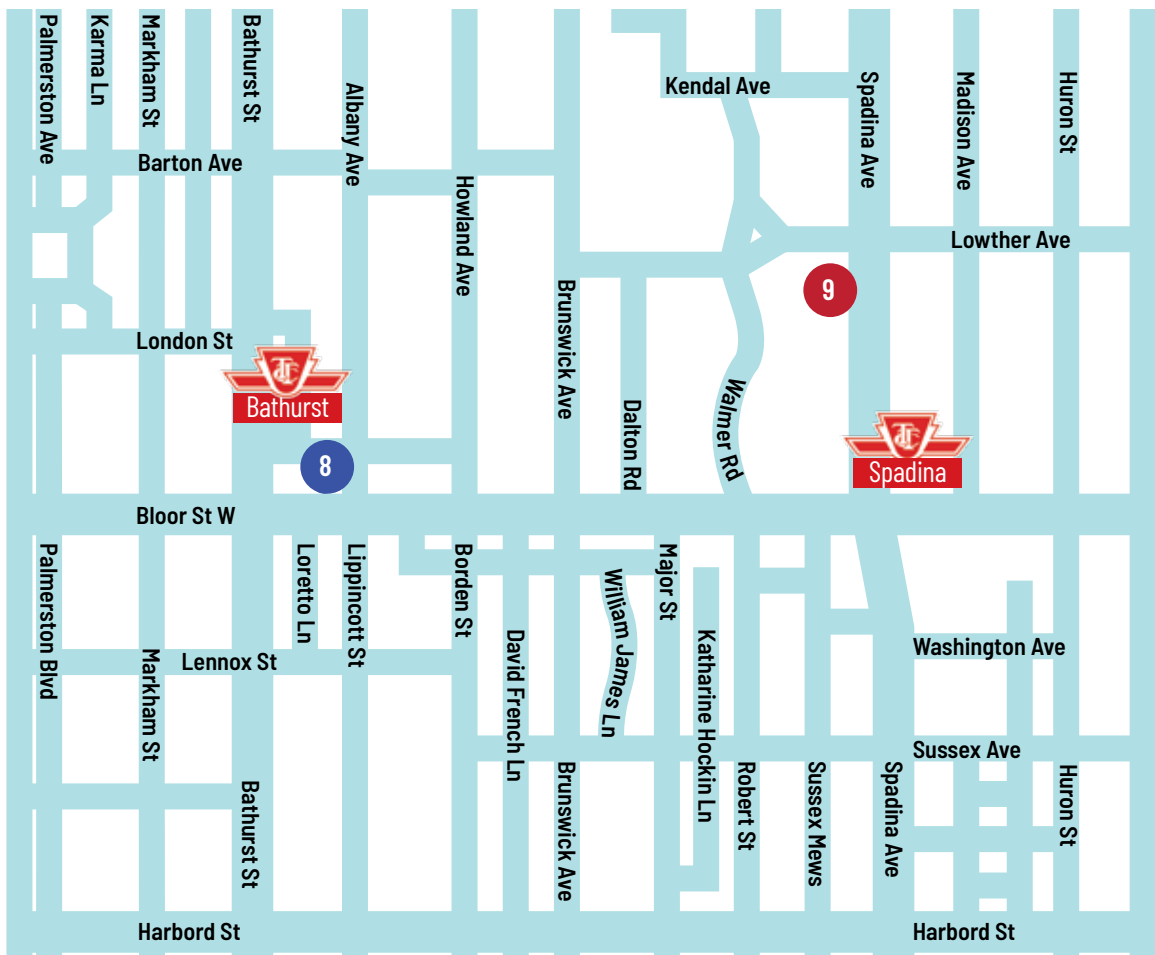
Screening Venue

- 8** Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema
506 Bloor St W
(Northeast corner of Bloor St W and Bathurst St)

For more information on Festival venues, please
contact operations@imagineNATIVE.org

Event Venue

- 9** Native Canadian Centre of Toronto
16 Spadina Rd
(1 block north of Bloor St W, on
the west side of Spadina Ave)

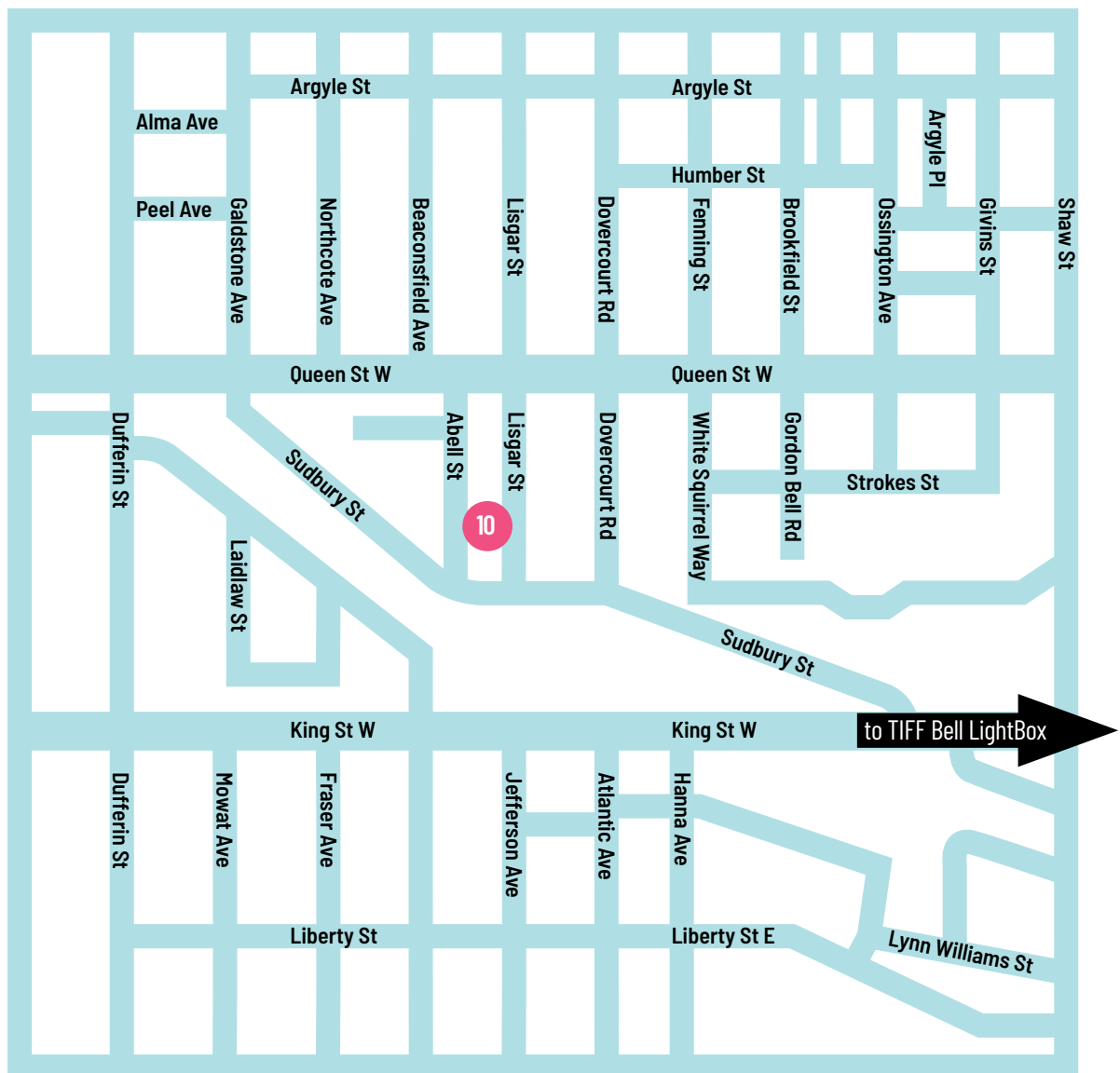


Festival Venues - Zone 3 (Art Crawl/Exhibitions)

Event Venue

- 10** CFMDC, Toronto Media Arts Centre -
Last Stop of Art Crawl
31 Lisgar St
(1 block south of Queen St W, on
the west side of Lisgar St)

For more information on Festival venues, please
contact operations@imagineNATIVE.org



Festival Venues - Zone 4 (Birthday Party)

Event Venue

11

Pilsner Hall (Steam Whistle)

255 Bremner Blvd

(Southwest of Lower Simcoe St and Bremner Blvd)

For more information on Festival venues, please
contact operations@imagineNATIVE.org



Accessibility



The imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival strives to provide an accessible environment and positive festival experience for all patrons. We are committed to developing and maintaining **Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)** standards via the Path to 2025. All staff and volunteers have completed the AODA online training for more awareness and are attentive to our patrons' needs.

TIFF Bell Lightbox and most imagineNATIVE party and reception venues are wheelchair accessible. In addition, all cinemas at TIFF Bell Lightbox have accessible seating.

A Lobby Pass will be available at Guest Services Desk at the TIFF Bell Lightbox during the Festival. The Lobby Pass is designed to assist guests who are unable to wait in the standard queue due to visible and nonvisible disabilities by providing them with early entrance into the cinema. The Lobby Pass is also available to Elders.

For more detailed information on our Festival accessibility, visit www.imagineNATIVE.org/accessibility.

Contact: accessibility@imagineNATIVE.org

As part of imagineNATIVE's ongoing commitment to improving accessibility measures, we offer closed captions for all films in English, two open-captioned screenings, and two sensory friendly screenings.

Open Captions

These screenings will display a text version of spoken and other relevant audio elements.

Top End Wedding (pg. 139)

Thursday, October 24 | 11:00am | TBLB Cinema 3

The Body Remembers When the World Broke Open (pg. 84)

Sunday, October 27 | 10:45am | TBLB Cinema 3

Sensory Friendly Screenings:

These screenings allow guests with various accessibility needs to have a positive sensory friendly and inclusive environment.

This means:

- Theatre lights are dimmed (not completely off)
- Theatre sound levels are slightly lower
- No trailers or advertisements before the film
- One can move in and out during the screening
- Silence is not expected

The Incredible 25th Year of Mitzi Bearclaw (pg. 119)

Saturday, October 26 | 2:00pm | TBLB Cinema 5

N. Scott Words from a Bear (pg. 120)

Sunday, October 27 | 4:00pm | TBLB Cinema 5

ASL Interpretation & Live Captioning

Selected Q&As that occur post screenings will have Live Captioning & ASL Interpretation as listed.

Assistive Listening Devices

Phonic Ear Assistive Listening Devices (ALDs) are available at TIFF Bell Lightbox. The devices, compatible with any Festival screening, will be made available to patrons requesting them through the TIFF Box Office.

With financial support from:



Canada Council
for the Arts

Conseil des arts
du Canada



Onsite Elder and Support Workers



TIFF Bell Lightbox, Greenroom (2nd Floor)
Wednesday, October 23 | 5:45pm - 11:30pm
Thursday, October 24 | 3:30pm - 6:00pm
Friday, October 25 | 1:00pm - 5:00pm
Saturday, October 26 | 12:45pm - 1:30pm
Sunday, October 27 | 12:45pm - 1:30pm

As a result of colonial violence, many Indigenous people have experienced trauma. imagineNATIVE greatly values the importance of healing and cultural safety. We understand 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 Ontario Indian Residential School Support Services (OIRSSS) will be available at the Festival onsite at the TIFF Bell Lightbox, Greenroom from Wednesday, October 23 through Sunday, October 27.

These services are for anyone, including non-Indigenous people, requiring emotional support or access to traditional medicines.

At imagineNATIVE, we support uncensored Indigenous expression. Verbal disclaimers will be given during introductions for any programs containing scenes of graphic physical or sexual violence, or that deal with issues of Indian Residential Schools.



Trudy Stewart

Trudy Stewart was a beloved member of our community. She was a director, producer, and a member of imagineNATIVE's Programming Team. She was also a mother and a testimony collector for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

Her sudden passing on September 30, 2019, has left us in great shock, deep sadness, and mourning for a life cut tragically short. In many ways, Trudy exemplified the great promise and potential in the Indigenous screen sector. She had multiple projects in development and was poised to further develop her career as a filmmaker.

Trudy was Cree and a member of the Flying Dust First Nation in Saskatchewan. She lived in Regina for many years, where she built her career and raised her children. She ran the mispon: Indigenous Film Festival for a number of years before turning her attention to filmmaking, often with her close friend and fellow director-producer Janine Windolph.

We will always remember Trudy as a person of such grace, love, and immense kindness, and as someone with a great sense of humour. At the 2015 imagineNATIVE Festival, Trudy's film *Dancing the Space in Between* screened and won a prize. Her deep commitment to our filmmaking community was evident, as was her passion for telling our stories on screen.

Her short film *From Up North* that screened in 2017 emerged from her work with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. This poetic short documentary features Trudy with storyteller Noel Starblanket who recounts his time at the Lebret Indian Residential School. She also was Associate Producer for *nîpawistamâsowin: We Will Stand Up*, directed by Tasha Hubbard, which is screening this year.

Trudy joined imagineNATIVE's Programming Team in 2018. Her wisdom, insight, and care were essential to our programming in these last two years. She was a deeply loved and highly respected member of our community and the iN family.

Our hearts are broken. Our love goes out so strongly to her family and friends.

We are honoured to present this year's 20th imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival in Trudy's memory and the incredible gifts she shared with us all.

Rest in power, dear Trudy, our beautiful sister.

Trudy Stewart's film *From Up North* will screen before the Special Presentation of *nîpawistamâsowin: We Will Stand Up* on Friday, October 25 at 1:00pm.

Box Office

TICKETS

*All prices include tax & Ticketmaster service charges.

SINGLE TICKETS	REGULAR	SENIORS STUDENTS WITH ID LOW INCOME
Screenings	\$6.00	\$6.00
Screenings (before 5:00pm)	\$6.00	FREE TICKETED*
Opening Night Gala (including Opening Night Party)	\$15.00	\$10.00
Opening Night Party only	\$10.00	\$10.00
TD Free Friday Screenings	FREE TICKETED**	FREE TICKETED**
Night of the Indigenous Devs	\$15.00	\$10.00
The Beat (advance)	\$15.00	\$10.00
The Beat (at the door)	\$15.00	\$15.00
imagineNATIVE's 20th Birthday Party (advance)	\$15.00	\$10.00
imagineNATIVE's 20th Birthday Party (at the door)	\$15.00	\$15.00
Awards Presentation	FREE TICKETED	FREE TICKETED
Closing Night Gala	\$6.00	\$6.00

FESTIVAL SUPPORTER PASS \$250.00

- One ticket per screening/event
- 10 advance tickets must be redeemed at the time of purchase
- Tax receipt for \$150

All FREE TICKETED screenings require a physical ticket.

*All regular screenings on Wednesday (Oct. 23), Thursday (Oct. 24), Saturday (Oct. 26), and Sunday (Oct. 27) before 5:00pm are FREE to Seniors, Students with valid ID, and Low Income individuals. FREE tickets can only be picked up in person at the TIFF Bell Lightbox Box Office on the day of the event, a minimum of 30 minutes before the screenings begin. One FREE ticket per person only.

**All screenings on Friday (Oct. 25) are FREE. Free tickets to TD Free Friday screenings can be redeemed online, by phone, or in person at the TIFF Bell Lightbox Box Office. Two FREE tickets per person. This initiative has been made possible by the generous support of the TD Bank Group.

HOW TO PURCHASE

**ONLINE:**

Create an account at TIFF Partner
Festivals + Third Party Events
am.ticketmaster.com/tiff3

**BY PHONE:**

10:00am to 7:00pm daily
+1.416.599.2033
Toll free: 1.888.258.8433

**IN PERSON:**

10:00am to 10:00pm daily
TIFF Bell Lightbox, 350 King St W
(at John St)

If you encounter issues with your TIFF Ticketmaster online account, please call TIFF Bell Lightbox Box Office at +1.416.599.2033.

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 the screenings begin at the TIFF Bell Lightbox Box Office based on availability. For Opening Night Gala Screening at Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema and other offsite events, rush tickets will be released at respective venues. Rush ticket sales are cash only.

TICKET HOLDERS: Must arrive at least 30 minutes prior to the screenings to ensure seating. We cannot guarantee a seat after this time, even if you have purchased a ticket.

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

FREE TICKETED: Free screenings and events that still require a ticket must be collected from TIFF Bell Lightbox Box Office on the day of the event, and will be available on a first come, first served basis. One FREE ticket per person. -except Friday - 2 FREE tickets

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

TD Free Friday



**THE
READY
COMMITMENT**

imagineNATIVE is pleased to announce TD Free Friday at the 20th annual imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival!

Thanks to the TD's generous contribution, tickets to all screenings on Friday, October 25, 2019 will be free.

TD Free Friday is intended to provide a greater opportunity for a larger number of individuals to experience imagineNATIVE's film and video programming.

Thank you, TD!

Proud Supporters of

imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival
and the Annual Bullseye Music Contest

iN  BULLSEYE

imagineNATIVE's search contest for
emerging Indigenous music talent

**SLAIGHT
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Thank You Volunteers

The Festival wouldn't be possible without all of the hard work and dedication of over 300 volunteers. Take a moment to thank a volunteer at the Festival. They're the only ones with red iN t-shirts!

If you'd like to join our volunteer team, visit imagineNATIVE.org/volunteer or e-mail volunteer@imagineNATIVE.org.



Supporting Partner:



Miziwe Biik

Festival Greetings



Welcome to imagineNATIVE's 20th Festival.

It's remarkable to be able to say that. 20 years! I've been with the Festival for 17 of those and what a journey it's been to witness the tremendous growth in our media arts communities. It's also been a great privilege to have been a part of helping to build an organisation that is committed to supporting Indigenous media artists and sharing their stories with the world.

The Festival's two-decade history represents over a thousand individual titles made by hundreds of Indigenous artists. It's been an exciting journey so far and there's so much still to come as we find ourselves again at a new threshold. This beautiful, talented, international community of Indigenous artists has changed the world and will do so for generations to come.

Lastly, I give my gratitude, love, and respect to Kerry Swanson, who is stepping down as our Chair after this Festival. Kerry's knowledge and leadership have been critical these past two years. She has a long history with imagineNATIVE and her work has been an essential part of our past and continued success.

With that I wish you a happy 20th iN! Enjoy the Festival!

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink.

Jason Ryle, Executive Director



Welcome imagineNATIVE family and friends to our 20th birthday bash! This year we celebrate how far we have come in seeing more Indigenous storytelling on screen, as we work to create even more opportunities for the next generation. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I want to thank the incredibly dedicated imagineNATIVE team members, who have really gone above and beyond to make this year's Festival a success – even adding an extra full day of programming!

This year is bittersweet as our dear friend and colleague, Jason Ryle, has decided to pursue new horizons next year. After dedicating 17 years to the Festival first as Board Chair and then as Artistic and Executive Director, Jason has left an immeasurable imprint on the Festival. We love you Jason and cannot thank you enough for your tireless commitment, warmth, and wisdom over these many years.

But of course endings are only really new beginnings and we are excited to welcome new leaders Niki Little, Artistic Director and Naomi Johnson, Associate Director, who will steer the Festival in new directions as we enter the next decade of growth.

This Festival has been built over the last 20 years by a beautiful community of Indigenous creators and those who believe in the power of their work. We thank each and every one of you. We honour you and we celebrate you.

Happy Festival!

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink.

Kerry Swanson, Chair, Board of Directors



On behalf of the imagineNATIVE artistic team, I am honoured to gather with you to celebrate our 20th!

Rooted in Indigenous vision, we will connect in a moment where stories of the past, present, and future meet, collaborate, and thrive. We have a robust six-day schedule of film screenings, exhibitions, performances, interactions, artist talks, and panels. The 20th highlight's the imagineNATIVE artistic community and welcomes new voices to the collective. It is truly a powerful moment to witness how artists nourish and reaffirm Indigenous continuums activating and carrying many voices forward in innovating ways.

Miikwehc to the Programming Committee and imagineNATIVE team. I acknowledge your thoughtfulness, tenacity, and care for this year's Festival. To our exhibiting partners and allies, you all graciously support our artists in many ways. Finally, Jason Ryle, you are simply the BEST!

So get some sleep. Wear your best beading. It's going to be a wild ride!

Niki Little, Artistic Director



Happy 20th imagineNATIVE!

It is really exciting to welcome everyone to the 20th annual imagineNATIVE Film and Media Arts Festival. This is a major milestone not only for us at iN, but for on-screen Indigenous creatives everywhere. imagineNATIVE is the world's largest on-screen presenter of Indigenous content – and we could not have come this far without the on-going support of our dedicated donors, public funders, and corporate partners. It is with their contributions and encouragement that we are able to push our mandate forward and continue to increase our impact by developing programs and supporting Indigenous creatives all year long.

We've made great strides over the past 20 years, and we will continue to push boundaries and lead the way for Indigenous talent in the industry. We are grateful that so many of you see the importance of Indigenous representation and storytelling in the film and media arts industry. Thank you for supporting imagineNATIVE.

Wishing you all a wonderful Festival!

Tim Sidock, Manager, Corporate + Donor Initiatives

Greetings from Officials



On behalf of the Assembly of First Nations and the AFN Executive Committee, I extend my best wishes to the organizers, artists and all those attending the 2019 imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival on the territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation in Toronto, Ontario.

2019 marks the 20th anniversary of the imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival. I congratulate all those involved in producing and organizing this festival on reaching this important milestone. For two decades, your hard work and dedication have helped showcase some of the most compelling film and media made by the most talented and innovative Indigenous artists from around the globe.

We are at a time when it's important for everyone in this land to build understanding through dialogue. The arts is an important and powerful part of this conversation. Your role in highlighting Indigenous voices and perspectives is essential to this work.

I lift up all of you for your efforts. I wish you all the best this year and look forward to your continued success.

Perry Bellegarde
Assembly of First Nations National Chief



On behalf of the Métis National Council, I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to everyone attending the 20th 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 that have worked to make this festival happen again for the 20th 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.

Clément Chartier, QC
Métis National Council

Greetings from Officials



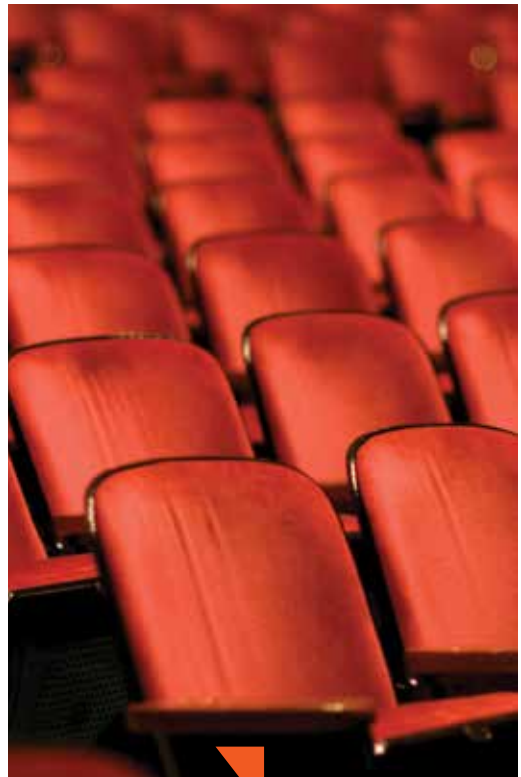
I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate imagineNATIVE as it celebrates 20 years of highlighting Indigenous contributions to film and media.

I am especially pleased to highlight this year's contributions by Inuit, including *Ahuriri* by Asinnajaq (Isabella Rose Weetaluktuk), *Names for Snow* by Rebecca Thomassie and *One Day in the Life of Noah Piugattuk* by Zacharias Kunuk.

For two decades, the imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival has showcased the incredible work of Indigenous filmmakers and provided a place to share that work with the world. Over the years, Inuit artists have benefitted from being a part of the largest Indigenous film and media arts festival on the planet. I know that relationship will only strengthen as Inuit continue to tell our stories through film and multimedia.

Congratulations to this year's filmmakers from myself and all of us at Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami.

Natan Obed
Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami



Celebrating Indigenous Media Arts in Canada & Worldwide

We are proud to
support the imagineNATIVE
Film + Media Arts Festival.

FASKEN
> fasken.com

imagineNATIVE's 20th Events



imagineNATIVE's 20th Birthday Party

Saturday, October 26, 9:00pm - 2:00am
Pilsner Hall (Steam Whistle), 255 Bremner Blvd

Don't miss the Festival's biggest bash! Join us for an evening of music, food, and fun - plus a special surprise reveal!

See page 143 for full details.



A Wall Is A Screen

Wednesday, October 23, 7:30pm - 9:30pm
Meeting point TBA

Part walking tour, part short film screening, this exciting event interacts with the surrounding urban environment and Indigenizes Toronto's cityscape in unexpected ways.

See page 32 for full details.



in Pursuit of Venus [infected]

September 21, 2019 to March 29, 2020
Lisa Reihana in conversation with Dr. Julie Nagam
Friday, October 25, 2019 | 6:00pm
Art Gallery of Ontario, 317 Dundas St W

Curated by Dr. Julie Nagam and featuring the immersive multi-channel projection of Lisa Reihana, one of Aotearoa New Zealand's most influential Māori artists.

See page 40 for full details.



Love making
business
connections

La voie des
relations
d'affaires

A Wall Is A Screen

A Wall Is A Screen

Wednesday, October 23

7:30pm

Meeting Point: Visit our website for details

FREE

imagineNATIVE is proud to bring back A Wall Is A Screen as part of this year's Festival. Based in Hamburg, Germany, A Wall Is A Screen is an organization that transforms the way we look at and interact with the city around us. Part walking tour, part film screening, this exciting event projects short films onto various surfaces along a designated urban path.

A Wall Is A Screen at imagineNATIVE features all Indigenous-made short films. Aside from the first meeting point, the screening locations and the films are kept secret, enhancing the excitement for the viewer. The selection of works interacts with the surrounding urban environment and will Indigenising Toronto's cityscape in unexpected ways.

The entire event takes approximately 90 minutes and will go ahead in rain or shine (or snow). Please dress appropriately for the day's weather and arrive on time as the walk will leave promptly after the first screening.

For more information on A Wall Is A Screen, visit their website: www.awallisascreen.com.





Talkback

Friday, October 25

4:30pm–5:30pm

Bachir/Yarex Presentation Space

401 Richmond St W, Suite 440

FREE

*mature audiences

Talkback is counting coup through archival footage, song, and expanded performance — an articulated assertion against displacement, capitalism, and colonisation.



Loon Lake

Director: Indian Film Crew

Canada | 1969 | 23 min

Cree w English Subtitles | Short Archival Documentary

World Premiere

Loon Lake is a short documentary about the Cree community of Loon Lake, now known as the Loon River First Nation. Made in 1968, the production was the first Cree language film made by the Indian Film Crew, the first all-Indigenous production unit in Canada.

The Indian Film Crew, the first all-Indigenous production unit in Canada, was active in different forms at the National Film Board of Canada from 1968 until 1973. It was established as a joint venture between the Company of Young Canadians (CYC), and Challenge for Change, a participatory media program that had been established at the NFB in 1967.



Pemomba Eme

Director: Eduardo Duwe (Guarani Mbya)

Producer: Tenonderã Ayvu (Guarani Mbya)

Brazil | 2018 | 5 min

Mbyá Guaraní w English Subtitles | Music Video

Pemomba Eme makes a sharp criticism of the government, the devastation of the forests, agribusiness, Indigenous genocide, revealing Indigenous struggle for the demarcation of lands and the guarantee of the rights won over many years of battle and resistance.

The collective Tenonderã Ayvu brings together young Guarani Mbya leaders, communication professionals and artists. Together, they aim to make feasible projects designed to diversify and disseminate cultural expressions with the Indigenous community itself.



Extractions

Director/Producer/Writer: Thirza Cuthand (Cree)

Canada | 2019 | 15 min

English | Expanded Performance

A considered look at the Canadian extraction industry and its implications for continued colonisation, this video draws a parallel between extracting resources and Canada's zeal for extracting Indigenous children from Indigenous families for profitable child welfare industries.

Thirza Jean Cuthand was born in Regina and grew up in Saskatoon. Since 1995, they have been making short experimental narrative videos and films about sexuality, madness, youth, love, and race which have screened in festivals internationally.

imagineNATIVE's Art Talks



Wednesday, October 23

***Qaggig: Gathering Place*, Workshop with Co-curator asinnajaq**

**Art Museum, University of Toronto Art Centre,
15 King's College Circle**

12:00pm - 1:00pm

***Registration required**

asinnajaq is an independent filmmaker, curator and writer. Join her for a workshop on the occasion of *Qaggig: Gathering Place*. The discussion focuses on ways of working in collaboration, proposing a methodology of cantering a team around a set of values.

Presented in collaboration with The Art Museum + imagineNATIVE.

**Talking Audio in the iNDigital Space
TIFF Bell Lightbox Gallery, 350 King St W**

1:00pm - 2:00pm

FREE

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

**ART CREATES CHANGE, Shelley Niro
Rm 190, Auditorium, OCAD University, 100 McCaul St
7:00pm - 9:00pm**

FREE

Multi-media artist, Shelley Niro, while working with photography, painting, beadwork and film, is conscious of the impact post-colonial mediums have had on Indigenous people. Like many artists from different Native communities, she works relentlessly presenting

people in realistic and explorative portrayals. Shelley is a member of the Six Nations Reserve, the inaugural recipient of the Aboriginal Arts Award and recently received the Governor General's Award for the Arts.

Presented in collaboration with OCAD University, INVC
OCAD + imagineNATIVE

Thursday October 24

Talking Video Games in the iNDigital Space

TIFF Bell Lightbox Gallery, 350 King St W

1:00pm - 2:00pm

FREE

A fireside chat with the creatives behind many of the video game works programmed in the iNDigital Space such as the wildly successful *When Rivers Were Trails*, *Terra Nova*, and *Waskwetin Pahkwesihkan*. Moderated by âpihtawikosisân game designer Meagan Byrne.

Friday, October 25

**From the Reel to the Digital
Artscape Sandbox, 31 Widmer St**

10:45am - 12:15pm

FREE

Moderator: Dr. Julie Nagam
Panellists: Cheryl L'Hirondelle, Shelley Niro, Rachael Rakena, Lisa Reihana, Jolene Rickard

Media art matriarchs Cheryl L'Hirondelle, Shelley Niro, Rachael Rakena, Lisa Reihana, and Jolene Rickard will be

in conversation with Dr. Julie Nagam. This dialogue will be situated within their cutting edge and distinct practices that have a long lasting impact within the digital and media based realm. These trailblazers lead within their communities and the art world, envisioning a future that is transformed through Indigenous visual sovereignty.

Talking VR in the iNDigital Space
TIFF Bell Lightbox Gallery, 350 King St W
1:00pm - 2:00pm
FREE

A fireside chat with the creatives behind many of the VR works programmed in the iNDigital Space such as *Wenazii K'egoke*, *See Visions*, and *Full Circle*. Moderated by ápihtawikosisân game designer, Meagan Byrne.

Worn Trails/New Trails: Footsteps
Artscape Sandbox, 31 Widmer St
1:00pm - 2:15pm
FREE

Moderator: Dorothy Christian
Panellists: Zoe Hopkins, Lisa Jackson, Zacharias Kunuk, Victor Masayesva, Jr., Alanis Obomsawin

An interactive, intergenerational discussion of the unique experiences of each visual storyteller within the history of the development of Indigenous Cinema that will include topics such as visual/narrative sovereignty, aesthetics, the use of language, and the use of technology.

Fluid Futurisms
Artscape Sandbox, 31 Widmer St
2:30pm - 4:00pm
FREE

Moderator: Adrienne Huard
Panellists: Thirza Cuthhand, Adam Garnet-Jones, Kawennáhere Devery Jacobs, Anthony Johnson, Dr. James Makokis, Fallon Simard

Political urgency and Indigenous alchemy, this panel will move through conversations around Indigenous queer theory, perspectives, and future stories to be told — transmissions of the many ways we see.

in Pursuit of Venus [infected]
Baillie Court, Art Gallery of Ontario
317 Dundas St W
Book your free ticket at through the AGO website.
6:00pm - 7:00pm
FREE

In this special event, artist Lisa Reihana will be in conversation with curator Dr. Julie Nagam about her artistic practice and thinking behind her artwork *in Pursuit of Venus [infected]*.

Saturday, October 26

Indigenous Learning Goes Interactive
iNDigital Space, TIFF Bell Lightbox Gallery, 350 King St W
1:00pm - 2:00pm
FREE

Moderator: Kaitlynn Tomaselli
Panellists: Kahentawaks Tiewishaw, Mylene Haus, Elizabeth LaPensée, Bri Alexander, Carl Petersen, LeeAnne Ireland

How are Indigenous creatives taking education to the next level with their games? Join us for an in-depth conversation with a few of the project creatives who are using the interactive medium to breathe new life into learning.

Sunday, October 27

Talking Web Shows in the iNDigital Space
TIFF Bell Lightbox Gallery, 350 King St W
1:00pm - 2:00pm
FREE

Join a selection of attending web series makers as they present and discuss their programmed works.

Art Crawl



Mourning and Mayhem (Art Crawl 2017)

imagineNATIVE's Art Crawl

Thursday, October 24, 5:15pm - 10:30pm (approximate)

Various Galleries

199 Richmond St W, 401 Richmond St W +

32 Lisgar St

FREE

An evening of insightful and dynamic art from around the circumpolar world, Turtle Island Canada, and Aotearoa New Zealand! imagineNATIVE's Art Crawl is a guided exhibition tour featuring curatorial and artist talks and performances.

This year's Art Crawl will take place in three of the city's accessible public spaces for art, 199 Richmond, 401 Richmond, and Toronto Media Arts Centre (TMAC).

The talks are timed and we keep a tight schedule.

We begin at 199 Richmond St W, Onsite Gallery.

5:15pm - Onsite Gallery, 199 Richmond, ground floor
Among All These Tundras (pg. 48)

5:45pm - Collective walk down the street to
401 Richmond St W

6:00pm - A Space Gallery, 401 Richmond, Suite 110
Constructive Interference (pg. 42-43)

6:30 pm - YYZ Artists' Outlet, Suite 140
spatial codifications (pg. 47)



Transmissions Part II (Art Crawl 2017)

7:00 pm – Prefix Institute of Contemporary Art, Suite 124
Listen, speak and sing (pg. 49)

7:30 pm – Trinity Square Video, Suite 121
gathering across moana (pg. 44-46)
Performance by Tsēmā Igharas

8:00-8:15 pm – Bus shuttle, Spadina + Camden St (pick up on Camden St)

Let us drive you to the final event! The buses will leave from the corner of Spadina and Camden. So sit back and relax. Buses are FREE and on a first-come, first-seated basis.

The final event is at 32 Lisgar St.

Drinks + Music

8:30 pm – Canadian Filmmakers' Distribution Centre,
32 Lisgar St
gathering across moana (pg. 44-46)

Exhibitions



Kite/Devin Ronneberg, Inyan Iye, 2019



Fallon Simard, *Prayers For Dreamy Boys*, 2018



Jason Baerg, *We are Star People*, 2018

iNDigital Expanded

Inyan Iye

Kite (Oglala Lakota), Devin Ronneberg (Kanaka Maoli)

Prayers For Dreamy Boys

Fallon Simard (Anishinaabe)

We are Star People

Jason Baerg (Cree Métis)

Bachir/Yerex Presentation Space

401 Richmond St W, #440

October 23 - October 26, 2019

1:00pm - 5:00pm

***Inyan Iye* by Kite/Devin Ronneberg**

Inyan Iye is an interactive hair-braid sculpture utilizing Oglala Lakota ontology and epistemology to explore the human-computer relationship. Does AI, both as an aggregate of metals and minerals and as a cohesive entity, have interiority in the sense made possible by Lakota ontology?

*Please join artists Kite/Devin for an Oglala blessing for *Inyan Iye* on Wednesday, October 23 at 2:15pm.

Kite is a performance artist, visual artist, and composer with a BFA from CalArts in music composition, an MFA from Bard College's Milton Avery Graduate School, and is a PhD candidate at Concordia University.

Devin Ronneberg (Aerial) is a multidisciplinary artist with a BFA in Music Technology from California Institute of the Arts, Herb Alpert School of Music.

***Prayers For Dreamy Boys* by Fallon Simard**

Prayers For Dreamy Boys applies traditional Indigenous medicine and ecological knowledge to trans masculine bodies to dream alternate masculinities.

Fallon Simard is a filmmaker whose work examines state violence perpetrated on Indigenous bodies within a context of colonialism through intersections of land, extraction, mental health, and violence.

***We are Star People* by Jason Baerg in collaboration with Jean-Sébastien Gauthier**

We are Star People is an interactive new media journey through Cree cosmology. Inspired by Cree scientist, Wilford Buck, and additional research focusing on Cree star constellations, Jason Baerg leads us to Pakone-Kisik (Cree)/Behgonay Geeshik (Anishinabe)/Hole in the Sky (English). This audio and motion responsive new media installation is created in collaboration with Fransaskois artist, Jean-Sébastien Gauthier.

Jason Baerg is a curator, educator, and visual artist. As a visual artist, he pushes new boundaries in digital interventions in drawing, painting, and new media installation.

Presented by:  Original. Indigenous.

With support from:  Canada Council for the Arts  Conseil des arts du Canada

Exhibitions



Lisa Reihana, Still from *in Pursuit of Venus [infected]*, 2015–2017. Ultra HD video (colour, sound, 64 min).
Courtesy of Lisa Reihana, New Zealand at Venice, and Artprojects.

in Pursuit of Venus [infected]

Lisa Reihana

Curated by Dr. Julie Nagam

Organized by the Art Gallery of Ontario and imagineNATIVE
Film + Media Arts Festival

Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO)

317 Dundas St W

September 21, 2019 to March 29, 2020

Curator & Artist Talk: Friday, October 25, 6:00pm at
Baillie Court, Art Gallery of Ontario
Book your free ticket through the AGO website.

imagineNATIVE and the Art Gallery of Ontario are honoured to be co-presenting Lisa Reihana's *in Pursuit of Venus [infected]*, a sixty-four minute, multi-channel projection immersive experience, curated by Dr. Julie Nagam. In 2013, imagineNATIVE presented one of the first iterations of this work at A Space Gallery again curated by Dr. Julie Nagam. We are ecstatic to present this

monumental work as part of our 20th anniversary Festival, and are thrilled to present a conversation between Lisa Reihana and curator, Dr. Julie Nagam, at the Art Gallery of Ontario.

Over the past five hundred years, the colonial imagination has continuously placed Indigenous bodies into pleasing, romantic, and noble positions with total disregard for this gaze that debilitates Indigenous relationships to the body, sovereignty, and self-determination. *in Pursuit of Venus [infected]* engages with colonial nineteenth century wallpaper, *Les Sauvages de la mer Pacifique*, which claims to be historical, nevertheless it harvested information from different time periods and relocated these bodies into fictional Pacific landscapes. Reihana has activated this wallpaper by bringing historical scenes alive with breathtaking precision and cultural knowledge. This multi-channel installation begins to articulate the relationship Māori and Pacific Indigenous people have with their cultural knowledge and space. Each person on the screen resists the static colonial misrepresentations of the past and present – encounters shared by Indigenous people across the globe.



Lisa Reihana is a multi-disciplinary artist whose practice spans film, sculpture, costume and body adornment, text and photography. Since the 1990s she has significantly influenced the development of contemporary art and contemporary Māori art in Aotearoa New Zealand. Reihana represented New Zealand at the Venice Biennale in 2017 with the large scale video installation in Pursuit of Venus [infected] (2015-17). The work is currently on view in the AGO's J.S. McLean Centre for Indigenous & Canadian Art and has been shown around the world and garnered widespread critical acclaim.

Dr. Julie Nagam is Canadian Research Chair in Indigenous Arts, Collaboration and Digital Media and is an Associate Professor in the Department of Art History at the University of Winnipeg. She was the former Chair of the History of Indigenous Arts of North America a joint appointment with

the Winnipeg Art Gallery. In 2013 she curated Lisa Reihana's new media installation, in Pursuit of Venus as part of imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival. Her scholarship, curatorial, and artistic practice has been featured nationally and internationally. Dr. Nagam is the Concordia University and Massey University (NZ) Scholar in Residence for 2018/19 and is building an Indigenous Research Centre of Collaborative and Digital Media Labs in Winnipeg, Canada.

For more detailed information on the exhibition, artist, and curator please visit the AGO and imagineNATIVE's website.

With Support from:



Exhibitions



Ludovic Boney, *Why So Many Ties?* (sound component by Yannick Plamondon + Benoît Fortier), 2017

Constructive Interference

Ludovic Boney
Presented by DAPHNE

A Space Gallery
401 Richmond St W, Suite 110
September 24 – November 2, 2019

Curator & Artist Talk: Thursday, October 24,
6:00pm, as part of the Art Crawl (pg. 36-37)

Organized by:



With Support from:



Canada Council
for the Arts

Conseil des arts
du Canada



A Space Gallery and imagineNATIVE are pleased to organize *Constructive Interference* by Ludovic Boney presented by DAPHNE members, Hannah Claus and Nadia Myre.

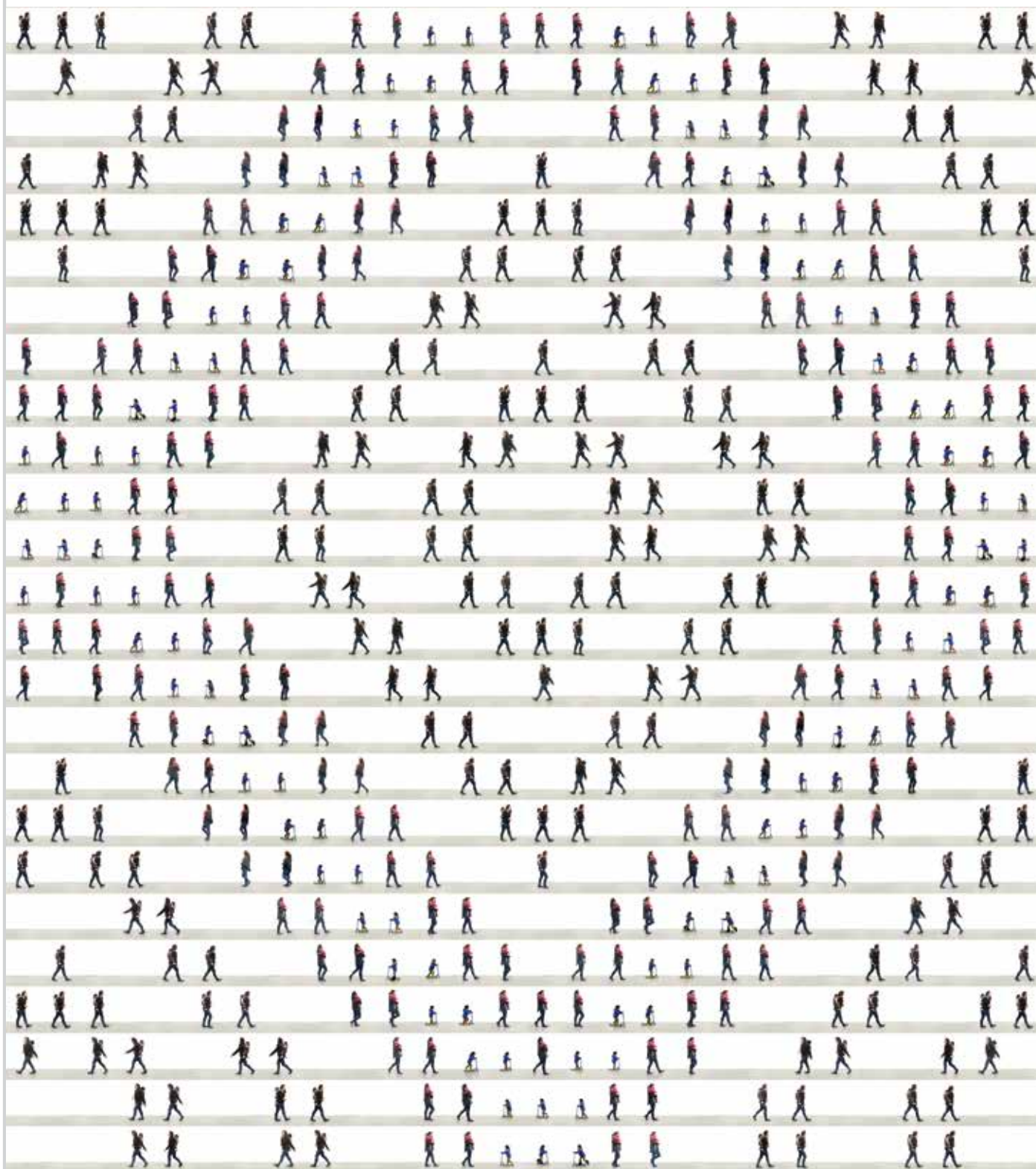
In the exhibition, *Constructive Interference*, Wendat artist Ludovic Boney brings together multiple repeating elements to create transformative spaces that amplify our relationship to and within the world, whether real or manufactured. Through material, colour, and sound, Boney asks us to consider history, its weight, and the relationship we have to our collectively created ephemera.

Ludovic Boney is a Wendat artist based in Saint-Romuald, Quebec. Since completing his studies in sculpture in 2002, his recent exhibitions in Quebec include OBORO, la Galerie des arts visuels de l'université Laval and le Musée d'art de Joliette. In 2017, he was long-listed for the Sobey Art Award and received the REVEAL Indigenous Art Award.

Formed in 2019, DAPHNE is based in Tiohtiá:ke / Mooniyang / Montréal. Their mandate is to increase the visibility and understanding of contemporary Indigenous art, with an emphasis on artists from Quebec. Founding members are Kanien'kehá:ka artists, Hannah Claus and Skawennati, and Anishinaabe artists, Nadia Myre and Caroline Monnet. Constructive Interference is DAPHNE's inaugural curatorial project.



Exhibitions



Erena Baker, *Tukutuku*, 2019

gathering across moana

TSV: Reweti Arapere/Erena Baker Arapere/Bruno Canadien/Tsēmā Igharas/Sarah Houle/Niki Little/Kereama Taepa/Cora-Allan Wickliffe/Dr. Johnson Witehira
A Space WINDOWS: Kali Spitzer
CFMDC: Glenn Gear with solo exhibitions by Cheryl L'Hirondelle/ Hana + Rachael Rakena

Curated by GLAM with Noor Bhangu

Trinity Square Video
401 Richmond St W, Suite 121
October 4 - November 2

A Space WINDOWS
401 Richmond St W, Suite 110
September 24 - November 2, 2019

Canadian Filmmakers Distribution Centre (at TMAC)
32 Lisgar St
October 1 - October 27, 2019

Performance by Tsēmā Igharas, Curator & Artist Talk (TSV): Thursday, October 24, 7:30pm
Curator & Artist Talk (CFMDC): Thursday, October 24, 8:30pm, as part of Art Crawl (pg 36-37)

Indigenous peoples have drawn connections across vast distances, continents, and bodies of water for thousands of years, revealing the space between us as a potential site for sharing knowledge, experience, and technology. Working from the Pacific view of water (moana and va) as a mode of connection between islands, and by extension, Turtle Island (North America), these exhibitions will explore the transference of ideas through various media across geographic distances, timespans, and cultures. Together these artists delve into the sharing of knowledge and postulate locations of connection in the future, including imagined concepts of place.

TSV Artists

Reweti Arapere + Erena Baker are visual artists from Aotearoa New Zealand and have exhibited extensively both throughout Aotearoa New Zealand and internationally.

Bruno Canadien (Dene) works primarily as a painter, using paint and mixed media to convey ideas surrounding the intersection of Indigenous sovereignty, colonialism, resource exploitation, resistance, and presence.

Tsēmā Igharas is an award-winning Tahltan Indigenous interdisciplinary artist making work that connects materials to mine sites and bodies to the land.

Sarah Houle is a Métis multidisciplinary artist based in Calgary and her work is autobiographical with an interest in technology, fantasy, and craft.

Niki Little (Anishinew/English) is an artist/observer and a founding member of The Ephemerals who is interested in Indigenous economies and cultural consumption through community-based strategies.

Kereama Taepa's practice considers the tradition of innovation by exploring the relationships between Māori philosophy and digital technologies.

Cora-Allan Wickliffe is a multidisciplinary artist from Waitakere and is of Niue and Māori heritage. Her practice often examines constructed identities of Indigenous people and focuses on developing platforms for the self-determination of such representations.

Dr. Johnson Witehira is an artist, designer, and academic. He is a leader in Indigenous innovation in art and design, with a focus on Māori design.

Exhibitions

A Space WINDOWS Artist

Kali Spitzer is Kaska Dena from Daylu (Lower Post, British Columbia) on her father's side and Jewish from Transylvania, Romania on her mother's side. She is a trans disciplinary artist whose work includes portraits, figure studies, and photographs of her people, ceremonies, and culture.

CFMDC Artists

Glenn Gear is a multi-disciplinary artist of Inuit, Irish, and English descent, based in Montréal and originally from Newfoundland.

Cheryl L'Hirondelle is an award winning Halfbreed/Cree interdisciplinary artist whose work investigates the dynamism of nêhiyawak cosmology in a contemporary time-place continuum.

Hana Rakena is a ceramic artist from Ngāi Tahu and Ngā Puhi. Hana has a BA in English from Canterbury University.

Rachael Rakena (Ngai Tahu, Nga Puhi) is a video artist who works, frequently in collaboration, to create richly layered performative installations, DVDs, and digital stills.

Curators

GLAM (Galleries, Libraries, Archives, and Museums) is a collective of scholars which consists of Dr. Heather Igloliorte, Dr. Julie Nagam, and Dr. Carla Taunton. They work through theory, curatorial, and artistic practice that prioritize collaborative projects that activate/generate space for visiting/gathering, sharing of knowledge, and mentorship.

Noor Bhangu is an emerging curator and scholar of South Asian descent and is currently based in Tkaronto/Toronto.

For more detailed information on the exhibition, artists and curators please visit imagineNATIVE's website.

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Hannah Claus, *all this was once covered in water*, 2017

spatial codifications

Hannah Claus

YYZ Artists' Outlet

401 Richmond St W, Suite 140

September 28 - November 30, 2019

Artist Talk: Thursday, October 24, 6:30pm,
as part of Art Crawl (pg 36-37)

Drawing upon imagery and symbols utilized in wampum belts, map-making, and existing in nature, Hannah Claus' exhibition, *spatial codifications*, highlights ways of being in relationship with the world and those around us, as expressed through Onkwehon:we worldview. Through sensory engagement with a variety of mediums (material, video, light, and shadow), her installations piece together an atemporal space that is distinct from Western ideologies and systems. Within her practice, relearning and engaging these relations are a means of navigating and embodying contemporary experience.

Hannah Claus is a multidisciplinary artist of English and Kanien'kehá:ka [Mohawk] heritage who has been living and working in Tiohtià:ke [Montreal] since 2001. She completed her undergraduate studies at the Ontario College of Art and Design (1998) and her Master's of Fine Art at Concordia University (2004). Her work belongs to various public and private collections, including the National Gallery of Canada, the City of Montreal and the Department of Global Affairs. In 2018 Claus created a public art installation for Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario. She is a recipient of the 2019 Eiteljorg fellowship. Claus is a member of the Tyendinaga Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte, Ontario.

For more detailed information on the exhibition and artist - please visit YYZ Artists' Outlet website.

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Exhibitions



Marja Helander, *Dolastallat (To have a campfire)* (detail), 2016. Video still. Video, colour, sound, 5 min. 48 sec.

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Among All These Tundras

[illegible]

asinnaq, Laakkuluk Williamson Bathory, Carola Grah, Marja Helander, Kablusiak, Sonya Kelliher-Combs, Joar Nango, Taqralik Partridge, Barry Pottle, Inuuteq Storch, Couzyn van Heuvelen, Allison Akootchook Warden

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Curated by Heather Igloliorte, Amy Dickson and
Charissa von Harringa

Onsite Gallery

199 Richmond St W, Ground Floor

September 18 to December 7, 2019

Curator Introduction: Thursday, October 24, 5:15pm, as part of the Art Crawl (pg. 36-37)

Among All These Tundras, a title taken from the poem *My Home is in My Heart* by famed Sámi writer Nils-Aslak Valkeapää, features contemporary art by Indigenous artists from around the circumpolar world. Together, their works politically and poetically express current Arctic concerns towards land, language, sovereignty, and

resurgence. Artists from throughout the circumpolar north share kinship with each other and their ancestors, love for their homelands, and respect for the land and its inhabitants. Yet they also share histories of colonialism and experience its ongoing legacies and are united in their desire to protect northern ecologies, languages, peoples, and knowledge from the nefarious effects of climate change, encroaching industry, and competition. These resistance efforts do not merely express, they give shape to a collective ecology of care, a “decolonial love” (in the words of Leanne Simpson and others) that is both generous and generative. These works invite viewers to contemplate relationships between textual and embodied Indigenous knowledges, innovation, and sustainability, humour and resilience, and our collective responsibility to northern life and land.

Produced and circulated by the Leonard & Bina Ellen Art
Gallery, Concordia University

Supported by:

Patron Sponsor: Birch Hill Equity Partners

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Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec, Social Sciences
and Humanities Research Council (Mobilizing Inuit
Cultural Heritage), Initiative for Indigenous Futures
and Nexus Investments

For more detailed information on the exhibition, artists and curators - please visit Onsite's website.



Nadia Myre, video still from *Living with Contradiction*, 2018

Listen, speak and sing

Nadia Myre

Curated by Betty Julian

Prefix Institute of Contemporary Art

401 Richmond St W, Suite 124

October 4–November 30, 2019

Opening reception: October 4, 7:00pm–9:00pm

Curatorial Talk: Thursday, October 24, 7:00pm,
as part of Art Crawl (pg 36–37)

Curatorial Statement

Prefix ICA is pleased to present a solo exhibition by Nadia Myre featuring photographic, video and sound artworks that expand our understanding of the complexities of living as an Indigenous person in the twenty-first century. In these new works, Myre presents multiple subjects, objects, and sounds that speak beyond the limited notions of recognition. In this exhibition, the artist re-imagines and re-contextualizes images and materials to explore notions of Indigenous being within a framework of resistance and resilience.

Nadia Myre is an Algonquin member of the Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg First Nation and a Montreal-based interdisciplinary artist. Her evolving art practice explores the politics of belonging and emphasizes collaboration, community building and skill sharing as strategies for Indigenous futurity and cross-cultural understanding.

Betty Julian is an off-reserve citizen of Sipekne'katnik First Nation (Indian Brook First Nation) in Nova Scotia. Betty is the Adjunct Curator at Prefix ICA and a curator of contemporary art with a specialization in photography, film, and video as art forms.

For more information on the exhibition, artist and curator, please visit Prefix ICA's website. To read the essay by Betty Julian, be sure to check out the next issue of *Prefix Photo* magazine.

Presented by: **PREFIX.**

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iNDigital Space

Main Floor, TIFF Gallery, 350 King St W

October 23 - October 26,

10:00am - 7:00pm

FREE

imagineNATIVE presents a large-scale presentation of digital and interactive work in a fully curated space on the main floor of the TIFF Bell Lightbox. This is an exciting continuation of our multi-year process to enhance the presentation, development, and discourse on Indigenous-made digital and interactive media at imagineNATIVE.

Come to the iNDigital Space to see and play an exciting showcase of VR, games, interactive websites, and more! Listen to digital and interactive artists talk about their works and process during our daily one hour Artist Talk Series, 1:00pm to 2:00pm everyday Thursday to Saturday (pg 34-35).

Come out and experience the opportunity to see the richness of diversity of contemporary Indigenous digital and interactive media artist! Including special guest and award winning game designer, Elizabeth LaPensée, presenting her newest project with the Indian Land Tenure Foundation's *When Rivers Were Trails*. A choose-your-own adventure about the Anishnaabeg in the 1890s dealing with the impacts of allotments Acts on Indigenous communities.

Best of all it's all free and open to the public, with trained volunteers on hand to lend support!



BLOOM | Indigenous Language Learning RPG

Artist: Bri Alexander (Cherokee Nation/Shawnee Tribe), Carey Flack (Creek, Choctaw/Cherokee Freedmen)

USA | 2019 | Game

All Ages

It's 2045 and you're visiting your community, the Cherokee Nation. Your mission: complete community-strengthening quests, be gifted language to beat Trickster's challenges, and interact with the world and in-game characters to learn cultural knowledge.

Led by two Indigenous women, BLOOM prioritizes Indigenous knowledge, perspectives, and creatives in the building process. BLOOM's ultimate vision is to elevate and make visible Indigenous voices now so that we can reclaim our pasts and shape our futures from the bottom-up and inside-out.



DON'T WAKE THE NIGHT

Artist: Santo Aveiro-Ojeda (Guarani)

Canada | 2019 | Game

All Ages

You have been summoned by a community of witches, and must act as their impartial judge but for what purpose? Mystery unfolds around you as you explore a world and a story about community and accountability.

SANTO is an artist, speaker, and gamemaker. They currently reside in Toronto, Canada, where they create art based around expressions of bruja and ancestral traditions. SANTO is also a co-director at Dames Making Games, a not-for-profit arts organization dedicated to supporting non-binary and women creators in making, playing, and changing games.



Ekwehe:we: The Real People

Artists: Waylon Wilson (Tuscarora Nation), Milo Jacobs (Onondaga Nation)

USA | 2019 | Game

All Ages

Take on the role of a young Tuscarora person learning their culture. As you learn more about your traditional ways, the more you evolve into having superhuman-like abilities. It is your mission to utilize your gained knowledge and protect the Tuscarora Nation from parasitic robots!

Waylon Wilson is from the Tuscarora Nation, Deer clan. Raised in the Nyučirhē (Tuscarora Nation Territory), Waylon utilizes his lens as a Tuscarora man to address critical Indigenous and environmental issues while exploring how interactive media can help sustain and propel practices of Indigenous knowledge. He is currently a Master of Design (MDes) student at Concordia University and received his Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Media Studies from the University at Buffalo.



Full of Birds

Artists: Sarah Biscarra Dilley (yak tit̓u tit̓u yak tihini Northern Chumash),
Ashlee Bird (Abenaki)
USA | 2019 | Game
All Ages

Walk through a 3-dimensional digital gallery that utilizes the original works of yak tit̓u tit̓u yak tihini artist, Sarah Biscarra Dilley. Explore what it means to be “in” a space, and how we, as Indigenous women artists, choose to maintain and recreate, or bend and reshape, spaces and places through our creation.

Sarah Biscarra Dilley is a multidisciplinary artist and emerging scholar. Her interdisciplinary process explores the spaces between the worlds, grief and joy, and body and land. Being raised in Chumash, Chicana, and queer family traditions - and between urban and rural environments - directly informs her understandings of embodiment and place as spatial, temporal and grounded in relationship.

Ashlee Bird is a PhD Candidate in Native American Studies at the University of California, Davis. Her work focuses on the history of representation of Native Americans in video games, as well as the decolonization of the video game industry. Ashlee's creative practice centers an Indigenous lens within video games and contemplating what “representation” entails.

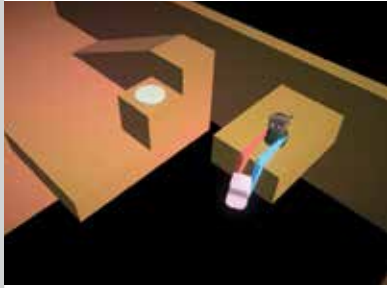


Guardian Maia: Episode One

Artist: Maru Nihoniho (Māori)
New Zealand | 2018 | Mobile Game
All Ages

Guide Māia on a treacherous journey where decisions aren't simply about life and death. The gods are watching Māia closely, judging her behaviours, weighing her choices and it's Māia's mana is at stake.

Maru Nihoniho established Auckland based games studio Metia Interactive in 2003. As a games designer and producer, Maru's focus is on Indigenous storytelling as culture-based games are hugely influential and are a powerful outlet for engagement and learning. Maru has published several Māori games and believes that Māori cultural identity is a unique strength in the future of NZ.



Hold My Hand

Artist: Nathan Powless-Lynes (Mohawk)

Canada | 2019 | Game

All Ages

Hold My Hand is a cooperative puzzle game about two people holding hands and overcoming obstacles together. Embark on a journey of companionship, attachment, and letting go.

Nathan Powless-Lynes is an award-winning game designer from southern Ontario. He prides himself on creating unique, different-yet-pleasant games. He is a recent graduate from Sheridan College's Bachelor of Game Design program. In the past few years, he has presented his games and spoken at events including Level Up, EGLX, imagineNATIVE, and Different Games. Nathan is currently employed at Ubisoft Toronto as a level designer.



Karihonniennihshera (Teachings)

Artists: Kahentawaks Tiewishaw-Poirier (Kanien'kehá:ka)

Canada | 2019 | Mobile Game

All Ages

Enter a bilingual interactive storybook, playable in both English and in Kanien'kéha, and follow a young girl named letsistohkwaroroks as her Grandmother teaches her the importance of taking care of Mother Earth. While on this journey she, and the player, learn to identify the local flora and fauna of her home territory.

Kahentawaks Tiewishaw-Poirier is a 3D artist, illustrator, and sculptor. She is studying in her final year of Computation Arts at Concordia University in Montreal. After graduating she hopes to go on creating games that reinforce the Kanien'kehá:ka language, and culture.



Terra Nova

Artist: Maize Longboat (Kanien'kehá:ka), Ray Caplin (Mi'gmaq)

Canada | 2019 | Game

All Ages

Set on Earth in the far distant future, this two-player cooperative platformer explores what first contact between Indigenous and Settler peoples might look like thousands of years from now. Two worlds collide after a mysterious spacecraft crashlands in Earthborn territory. Follow Terra, an Elder Earthborn landkeeper, and Nova, a youthful Starborn inventor as they explore their respective environments and interact with the people of their communities.

Maize Longboat is Kanien'kehá:ka (Mohawk) from Six Nations of the Grand River and was raised on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples near Vancouver, BC. He has an MA in Media Studies from Concordia University in Montréal, QC. His research-creation thesis project examined Indigenous videogames and culturally-connected development practices through the production of his own game, Terra Nova, a two-player, cooperative platformer with an interactive narrative. Currently, Maize is the Skins Workshops Associate Director with Aboriginal Territories in Cyberspace (AbTeC) and the Initiative for Indigenous Futures (IIF).



Tipi Kaga

Artist: Carl Petersen (Oohe Numpa Lakota/Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe), Megan Zephier (Yankton Sioux Tribe), James Sierra (Oglala Sioux Tribe)

USA | 2019 | Game

All Ages

Learn the steps of constructing a traditional Lakota Tipi (Tent Home) in Lakota while listening to fluent Lakota speakers. Learn Lakota through listening to the conversations found in the everyday of traditional camp life.

Northern Plains Games is a game design studio founded by Carl Petersen, a member of the Oohe Numpa Band of Lakota (Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe), to create games in the Lakota Language. Carl is a game design student at Dakota State University, who grew up on the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation which shares geography with the U.S. state of South Dakota.



Tower of Baybayin

Artist: Mylene Haus (Mestiza Filipina)

Philippines | 2018 | Game

All Ages

Start learning and practicing Baybayin, the ancient writing script of the Tagalog people of the Philippines. Read the history and meaning of the in-game characters, then practice your knowledge of the characters in the *Tower of Baybayin* main game.

Mylene Haus is a first generation Mestiza Filipina. She earned her degree in Computer Science, Game and Simulation Programming from Lewis University in Romeoville, Illinois. Mylene has loved gaming and computers since she was a child and has dreamed of becoming a game developer ever since. Her Filipina heritage is also very important to her and she expresses this passion through food and independent study of Tagalog.



Waskwetin Pakhwesihkan (Bannock Bounce)

Artists: Dallas Flett-Wapash (Swampy Cree - Keeseekoose First Nations)

Canada | 2019 | Web Game

All Ages

Play as BB the Bouncing Bannock and dodge hungry crows as long as you can!

Dallas Flett-Wapash is a First Nations Swampy Cree game designer currently residing in Brandon, Manitoba focusing on video game production and development. He is currently attending Brandon University to achieve his Bachelor of Fine Arts.



When Rivers Were Trails

Artist: Nichlas Emmons (Miami/Shawnee), Elizabeth LaPensée (Anishinaabe/Métis),

Weshoyot Alvitre (Tongva), Supaman (Apsalooke)

USA | 2019 | Game

All Ages

With contributions from over twenty Indigenous writers, follow an Anishinaabe person who has been displaced from their territory in Fond du Lac, Minnesota and must survive a journey to California due to the impact of allotment acts on Indigenous nations. Developed in collaboration with the Indian Land Tenure Foundation and Michigan State University's Games for Entertainment & Learning Lab.

The WRWT Team is a collective of Indigenous game designers, artists, writers, and musicians who were brought together by the Indian Land Tenure Foundation and Michigan State University's Games for Entertainment & Learning Lab to develop When Rivers Were Trails. This team includes Elizabeth LaPensée, Nichlas Emmons, Weshoyot Alvitre, Supaman, Allen Turner, Carl Petersen, Sara Siestreem, and many more.



Full Circle

Artists: Naomi Condo (L'nu Gesgapegiag First Nation), Craig Commanda (Algonquin Anishinaabe Kitigan Zibi First Nation)

Canada | 2019 | VR

13+

Take a journey inside the mind of a young Indigenous woman as she takes you through her desire to reconnect with her family members. As the beautiful melody joins the poem, you're transported into the mind of the young woman and your journey with her takes place. See how she questions how different life would be today had her family been able to pray their way.

Naomi Condo is an L'nu filmmaker from Gesgapegiag First Nation, Quebec. She uses poetry, music and moving imagery to express herself as a way of healing. She's had her short films screened across Canada and the United States. I am L'nu has been one of her most picked up films.

Craig Commanda is an Anishnaabe filmmaker and musician from Kitigan Zibi First Nation. His works have taken him around the globe. He is currently studying Film Production at Concordia University.



Kakwitene VR

Artists: Monica Peters (Onkwehonwe)

USA | 2018 | VR

13+

Visit a beautiful flower garden inspired by Mohawk Woodland raised beadwork where you can fly to explore Kanien'kéha words through colourful spheres.

Monica is founder of MoniGarr.com; a small tech company based in Akwesasne Indian Reserve #59 that develops Indigenous Language Revival & Retention software solutions and location based XR experiences.



Ksistsikoom

Artist: LeeAnne Ireland (Métis), Jessica Hawryluk (Neskonlith), Levi First Charger (Blackfoot), Randy Bottle (Blackfoot)

Canada | 2018 | VR

13+

Experience a thousand-year-old story passed down through generations of community leaders in spite of adversity and colonisation in this VR story as you follow the journey of a man who must challenge the powerful spirit, Thunder (Ksiistsikom). Tradition and technology transcend the negative narrative of being Indigenous and embraces culture, language, and history.

The Urban Society for Aboriginal Youth (USAY) is the Lead Creative Company. They are a charitable organization that supports Indigenous youth ages 12 to 29 years to realize their versions of success through traditional Indigenous and technology based programming.



NAHGA - "Fish Eyes 360" (ft. Lawrence Nayally)

Artist: Casey Koyczan (Tłıchǫ First Nation), Travis Mercredi (South Slave Métis Nation), Mason Mantla (Tłıchǫ First Nation), Riel Stevenson-Burke (Chipewyan/Cree nation)

Canada | 2019 | VR

13+

In May of 2018, artist Casey Koyczan created an installation on the shore of Russell Lake. It was constructed as a multi-use shelter for local hunting, fishing, and berry-picking; but also as a stage. On the shelter, Koyczan performs *Fish eyes*; a live-looping electro-alternative song as his artist persona 'NAHGA'. This experimental VR music video was heavily influenced by the beauty of the Behchokǝ area.

Inspired by history, culture, and their interactions with the human world and technology, Casey Koyczan's art seeks to bridge the gap between visual and audio interpretations of art, while pushing the recognition for Indigenous values and politics. His large-scale artworks provide compositional value and experimental techniques to achieve his unique aesthetic.



Northern Sights 360

Artist: Leela Gilday (Dene), Casey Koyczan (Tł̥ch̥q First Nation), Derrald Taylor (Inuvialuit)

Canada | 2019 | VR

13+

People all around the world are fascinated with the North, but very few of them ever get a chance to visit. Through *Northern Sights*, a varied selection of works from professional musicians, storytellers, sculptors, painters, and media artists alike are being captured using virtual reality technology, creating immersive environments for audiences, giving them unprecedented realistic experiences of today's North.

Derrald Taylor is an Inuvialuit carver and jeweller from Tuktoyaktuk, NT. Taylor is known for flowing, realistic carvings of Arctic wildlife, hunters and drum dancers. Taylor's major artistic influences include his father, Bobby Taylor Pokkiak, Inuk Charlie, and Bill Nasogaluak. An Indigenous multi-instrument live-looper who utilizes a variation of effects with his instruments and voice to create dynamic layered compositions that house anecdotes of electronica, hip-hop, and rock/metal/industrial music.

Casey Koyczan represents a Northern aesthetic inspired by culture, technology, politics, and northern legends. Casey is a multiple award-winning Dene singer-songwriter.

Leela Gilday is the kind of performer who simply takes your breath away with the pure power and beauty of her voice. From passionate anthems to soulful ballads to rhythmic blues, Leela's songs reveal an extraordinary musicianship and a sheer joy in the art of music-making.



Wao Kanaka: I ka Wā Mamua, i ka Wā Mahope

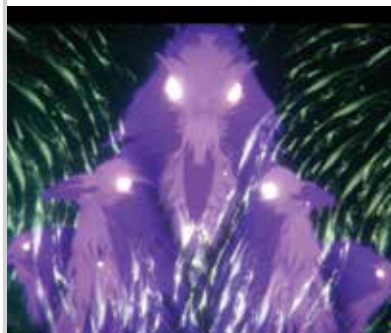
Artist: Ka Lei Milika'a Collective (Kānaka Maoli)

Hawaii | 2019 | VR

All Ages

Tūtū (grandmother) tells you a story. Humanity is forgetting our responsibility to uphold aloha 'āina, the love for the land. You must use the knowledge entrusted to you to irrigate the lo'i kalo (taro fields), fish sustainably at the loko i'a (fish pond), and practice your 'oli (chanting). After you do this, a new dream for the future is revealed to you. Wao Kanaka is a Hawaiian-language, first-person, exploration, and puzzle game set in a universe filled with Kānaka Maoli (Hawaiian) characters and traditions.

Ka Lei Milika'a is the collective formed by the participants of the Skins 6.0: He Au Hou 2 Workshop, a three-week intensive videogame workshop in Honolulu during which the group conceptualized and developed Wao Kanaka. Majority Native Hawaiian, Ka Lei Milika'a is made up of 17 young adults from a variety of disciplines and professional areas, many with little to no digital production skills or background in making video games.



Wenazii K'egoke ; See Visions

Artists: Casey Koyczan (Tłchq First Nation), Travis Mercredi (South Slave Metis Nation)
Canada | 2019 | VR
13+

Stories and legends in the Northwest Territories are passed on through storytelling, writing, music, plays, and films. Take the next step in our interpretation of our culture to fully immerse viewers within the stories, myths, and legends of the Northwest Territories.

Inspired by history, culture, technology, and their interactions with the human world, Casey Koyczan seeks to bridge the gap between visual and audio art. Now as an interdisciplinary artist, he utilizes a wide skill-set within media-based outlets such as experimental video and virtual reality as a platform to present his visions. His artwork has been shown across Canada and in parts of Europe and South America. He is also a musician, actor, writer, and overall arts advocate for future generations in the Northwest Territories.

Travis Mercredi is a producer and sound designer from the Northwest Territories. He has been working primarily in audio across film, video, radio, theater, and music under his business Outland Sound Design since 2009, but has since been shifting his focus to interactive mediums. He is currently residing in Montréal enrolled in Concordia University's Computation Arts program and is also a research assistant with Initiative for Indigenous Futures.



Blackwater - (Mini-Series Pilot)

Director/Producer: Boise Esquerra (Hopi)

United States | 2019 | 13 min

English | Mini-Series Pilot

Once a famous Native American country singer, Birdie has gone into a downward spiral since her excessive drinking began ten years earlier. Moving back to her home reservation, she finds herself barely clinging onto what little dignity she has left. During a late-night performance, Birdie drunkenly lashes out at tribal officers. The tribal court orders her to complete 180 days of wellness therapy. *Blackwater* follows Birdie as she contends with a group of off-beat individuals.

Boise Esquerra is a filmmaker and attending the New York Film Academy (Screening). He has a BA in Digital Filmmaking and Video Production and an MFA in Filmmaking. Esquerra is currently developing the next ten episodes of Blackwater.



Hey Cuzzin

Director: Joy Haskell (Dene)

Producers: Marcy Waughtal (Cree), Joy Haskell (Dene), Jude MacInnes

Canada | 2019 | 8 min

English | Web Series

Hey Cuzzin is family orientated and fun for everyone. It explores relationships with cousins on and off the rez, following them through real-life situations.

Joy Haskell is an Indigenous screenwriter, director, and producer. She has a theatre background and taught creative writing at a men's federal prison. In her downtime, she volunteers with animal facilities. Hey Cuzzin is a comedy series made through Telus Storyhive and Creative BC.



Kutch's Carpool Koorioke

Director/Producer: John Harvey (Saibai Island/Torres Strait/Australia)

Australia | 2019 | 9 min

English | Web Series

Cruise the streets of Fitzroy with Mutti Mutti songman, Kutcha Edwards and some of our most loved Indigenous artists. They share their stories of this iconic suburb - it's a chance for a laugh, a few songs, and a yarn.

John Harvey is a director, producer and writer across the screen and stage. He is the Creative Director for BROWN CABS. His short drama WATER screened at imagineNATIVE in 2017 and he produced WARBURDAR BUNUN: WATER SHIELD screening this year. John produced the feature film SPEAR which premiered at TIFF.



Red Fang

Director/Producer: Rudy Janvier (Chipewyan)

Canada | 2019 | 10 min

English | Web Series

Oliver Rothecker lives a selfish life. On his 25th birthday, he finds the diary of his missing sister, which may or may not contain clues. Oliver starts having strange visions and learns from his grandfather; it is the mark of the Red Fang. Gifted with new abilities, he sets off on a journey to discover what happened to his sister, and along the way, becomes the man who he was meant to be.

Rudy Janvier has been interested in filmmaking as a hobby since college and is interested in advancing his skill-set by connecting with other filmmakers.



Voices on the Rise

Director: Eli Hirtle (Cree)

Producers: Eli Hirtle (Cree), Geoffrey Tomlin-Hood, Jordan Stout, Carol-Lynne Michaels

Canada | 2019 | 44 min

English/Cree/Blackfoot | Web Series

Language is the lens we view the world through. *Voices on the Rise* takes viewers on a powerful journey of discovery and reclaimed identity. Host, Eli Hirtle travels to First Nations communities to explore language revitalisation efforts across Alberta. This series is about celebrating and showcasing the beautiful journey of learning Indigenous languages, in different ways, in different places, all with the common goal of reclaiming identity, culture, and traditions.

Eli Hirtle is a photographer, filmmaker, and storyteller interested in documenting Indigenous cultural resurgence and revitalisation.



Coffee with my Ma

Artist: Kaniehtiio Horn (Mohawk)

Canada | 2018 | 34 min

English | Podcast

Kahentinetha Horn speaks about her radical activist mother about her adventurous life always with a sense of humour. From seeing Elvis in the 50s to getting stuck in Europe, to being fired from Indian Affairs, and clearing the air about her relationship with Marlon Brando. Stories are entertaining and full of spirit and soul.

Kaniehtiio 'Tiio Horn' is an actress raised in Kahnawake. Tiio earned a Gemini Award for Angel in Moccasin Flats: Redemption and in 2010/2011 as part of 18 to Life. Tiio wrote, directed, and acted in the semi-autobiographical short film The Smoke Shack (2012), which has collected awards on the short film circuit.



Ecocide and Genocide Go Hand in Hand

Artist: Dr. Pamela Palmater (Mi'kmaw)

Canada | 2019 | 16 min

English | Podcast

This podcast looks at the colonising mentality, which pervades Canada's governing systems and allows governments and corporations to exploit people and ecosystem as though they were commodities. As a result, extraction economies have left destruction in their wake. This podcast is a call to action.

Dr. Pamela Palmater is a Mi'kmaw lawyer, professor, author, and social justice activist from Eel River Bar First Nation, NB. She is a Professor and Chair in Indigenous Governance at Ryerson University. A practising lawyer for 20 years, Palmater is focused on a wide range of issues like socio-economic conditions, Aboriginal and treaty rights, and legislation impacting First Nations.

Thank you to Kim Wheeler for programming advisement for our audio section.



Indigenous Reconciliation in Universities and Colleges

Artist: Dr. Pamela Palmater (Mi'kmaw)
Canada | 2019 | 24 min
English | Podcast

Episode 18 is about reconciliation with Indigenous people in universities, colleges and training institutes, specifically, what does NOT count as reconciliation. REAL reconciliation happens when there is a substantive shift in power, wealth and land (space). This episode, delves into the hard truths about what is and is not reconciliation in a university context.

Dr. Pam Palmater is a Mi'kmaw lawyer, professor, author, and social justice activist from Eel River Bar First Nation, NB. She is a Professor and Chair in Indigenous Governance at Ryerson University. A practising lawyer for 20 years, Palmater is focused on a wide range of issues like socio-economic conditions, Aboriginal and treaty rights, and legislation impacting First Nations.



Kick up your moccasins: Unreserved visits the Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation powwow

Artists: Stephanie Cram (Métis) | Rosanna Deerchild (Cree)
Canada | 2018 | 54 min
English | Radio Program

Unreserved visits the Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation powwow. What better way to kick off the new season of *Unreserved*, than by kicking up our moccasins and dancing? Everyone in Canada should experience a powwow — not everyone knows what happens at one, or if they're welcome on the trail.

Stephanie Cram is a Métis journalist originally from Edmonton. She works for CBC Unreserved and previously worked for the CBC Indigenous digital unit. Her writing has appeared in CBC, Canadian Geographic, The Canadian Encyclopedia, Herizons, and The Eastern Door.

Rosanna Deerchild is a veteran broadcaster, having worked at APTN, CBC, Global and NCI-FM, where she hosted All My Relations. She has also hosted The (204) and the Weekend Morning Show on CBC Radio One and appeared on CBC Radio's DNTD. She is an award-winning author and poet. Rosanna is a co-founder and member of the Indigenous Writers Collective of Manitoba and has also contributed to numerous Indigenous newspapers. A Cree from O-Pipon-Na-Piwan Cree Nation at South Indian Lake in northern Manitoba.



Medicine for the Resistance - Heroes and Monsters with Jay Odjick

Artists: Patty Krawec (Ojibwe Anishnaabe) | Kerry Goring
Canada | 2019 | 55 min
English | Podcast

What happens to heroes when they have no one left to fight? Superheroes fight monsters, vanquishing them in some way. But what do we lose when we've destroyed all the monsters? This conversation with Jay Odjick, author of *Kagagi* and *Bear for Breakfast*, talks about heroes and monsters and what we risk losing as a people when we've destroyed our monsters.

Patty Krawec is an Anishnaabekwe from Lac Seul First Nation raised in southern Ontario. Social worker, podcaster, and general bringer of ruckus, Patty tries to shift the lens on current perspectives and assumptions about Indigenous people and the possibilities that lay beyond the colonial state.



Miigwetch Nshoomis

Artist: Nathan Adler (Anishinaabe Lac Des Mille Lacs First Nation)
Canada | 2018 | 3 min
Anishinaabe | Soundscape

An Anishinaabe boy falls in love with Grandfather Sun and recites a queer love letter to the object of his affection, Nshoomis Giizis.

Nathan Adler is the author of Wrist, an Indigenous story written from the monster's perspective (Kegedonce Press). He is a writer and artist who works in many different mediums, including audio, video, drawing, painting, and glass. Adler is an MFA candidate for Creative Writing from UBC, a first-place winner of the Aboriginal Writing Challenge, and a recipient of a Hnatyshyn Reveal award for Literature.



Settler Sexuality's Slippery Slope

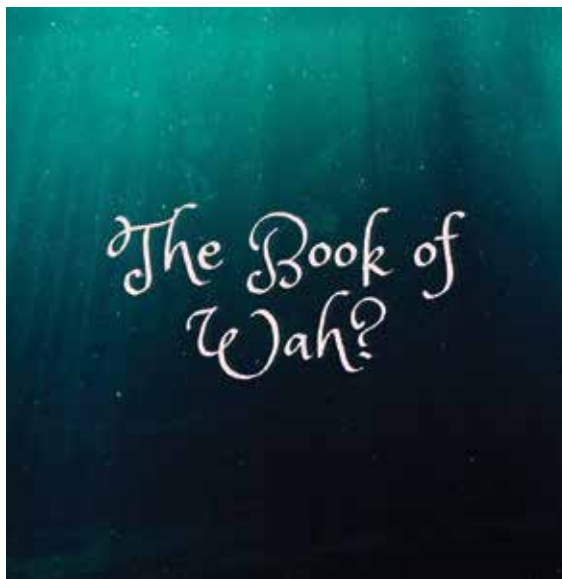
Artist: Rick Harp (Cree)

Canada | 2018 | 57 min

English | Podcast

Everything you wanted to know about Settler sexuality but were afraid to ask (including its impacts on Indigenous intimacy). According to Prof. Kim TallBear, Settler sexuality consists of both heteronormative and homonormative forms of love, sex, and marriage, relationship forms that are intimately interwoven with the production of private property holding in the US and Canada. An associate professor of Native Studies at the University of Alberta, TallBear discussed her work with fellow MEDIA INDIGENA roundtableers Candis Callison, associate professor at UBC's Graduate School of Journalism, and host, Rick Harp.

A journalist and communicator for over two decades, Rick Harp has worked for CBC Radio, the APTN and NCI-FM. The host/producer of MEDIA INDIGENA, a weekly Indigenous current affairs roundtable podcast launched in March 2016, Rick is part of the Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation in northern Saskatchewan.



The Book of Wah?

Artist: Nigel Irwin (Cree)

Canada | 2019 | 6 min

English | Audio Story

The Book of Wah? is a collection of audio stories compiled as a magical tome. The first submission to this collection tells the tale of a roadside circus show that turns into a chaotic nightmare. These stories are fantastical, adventurous and horrifyingly strange.

Nigel Irwin is a multi-disciplinary artist from Toronto who works in music, acting and storytelling. He has worked with theatre companies such as the Shaw Festival, Native Earth and MT Space. Nigel Irwin is the newly-hired, in-house composer at Bedtracks. He is currently working on the Indigenous sound catalogue Storytellers, creating original compositions for production and picture.



The Moose are Life

Artist: Edzi'u Loverin (Tahltan/Taku River Tlingit)
Canada | 2019 | 11 min
English | Soundscape

The Moose Are Life is a sound piece that speaks to the disappearance of the moose in Tahltan Territory. The low numbers of moose in Northern BC is said to be a direct result of over hunting. This piece speaks to the colonial inheritance of Indigenous people, and the invasive systems of capitalism, colonialism, and non-resident hunters in Tahltan Territory.

Edzi'u is a mixed-race Tahltan and inland Tlingit artist, songwriter, and composer. Edzi'u has a degree in music composition with a minor in classical voice from Vancouver Community College. Her songs are an incarnation of her family's ancient tradition of storytelling, realised by designing sound through vintage and current audio recordings, electronic instruments, and the voice.



The Rez Quest Podcast

Artist: Wes Day (Ojibway)
Canada | 2019 | 60 min
English | Podcast

The Rez Quest podcast is a conversational show that highlights various individuals from all walks of life. Guests have real dialogue about what motivates them and where they're at in their careers or understanding of this world.

*Wesli Day is a multimedia artist from Serpent River First Nation currently residing in Six Nations, Ontario. His short horror film *Zombie Pus* premiered at imagineNATIVE in 2009.*

Audio Works



The Secret Life of Canada (Season 2 - Episode 9)

Artists: Falen Johnson (Mohawk/Tuscarora),
Leah Simone Bowen
Canada | 2019 | 51 min
English | Podcast

This episode of CBC Podcasts *The Secret Life of Canada*, Falen Johnson discusses how Indigenous trade water routes were the blueprint for many current transportation routes in Canada. Learn about pre-contact trade routes, how corn travelled up the Mississippi River, and why some reserves still don't have potable water, with interviews with Bonnie Devine, Hayden King, and Maude Barlow.

Falen Johnson is a writer, dramaturge, director, and actor. In 2015, she received the OAC Emerging Aboriginal Artist Award. Her writing has been in Brick Literary Journal, The Canadian Theatre Review, and Granta Magazine. The Secret Life of Canada (co-hosted with Leah-Simone Bowen) is now in its second season with CBC Podcasts.



The Skoden Podcast

Artist: Ashley Courchene (Ojibwe Anishinaabe)
Canada | 2019 | 60 min
English | Podcast

The Skoden Podcast, known for its unique and sometimes dark NDN humour, looks at relevant contemporary Indigenous topics. Skoden is Native slang for 'let's go then', especially to start a fight. In a world where Indigenous people work to reclaim what was stolen by settler-colonialism, fighting is essential.

Ashley Courchene comes from Sagkeeng First Nation in Treaty One/Three territory currently completing his Law and Legal Studies Master's degree at Carleton University. Ashley sees the podcast as a way to shape a narrative to cover issues that matter to Indigenous people.



Medicine for the Resistance - Transformation, Tradition, and the way forward with Daniel Heath Justice

Artists: Patty Krawec (Ojibwe Anishnaabe), Kerry Goring
Canada | 2019 | 55 min
English | Podcast

A story is a tool for erasing and controlling people, but it is also a way to reclaim and stake out identity. Building on the Anishnaabe narrative of a flood, we consider the apocalypse of colonisation and follow the transformational power of tricksters, the keepers of Indigenous knowledge, and move towards the re-creative hope of futurism.

Patty Krawec is an Anishnaabekwe from Lac Seul First Nation raised in southern Ontario. Social worker, podcaster, and general bringer of ruckus Patty tries to shift the lens on current perspectives and assumptions about Indigenous people and the possibilities that lay beyond the colonial state.



tsi tkaronhya ke - in the sky

Artist: Janet Rogers (Mohawk Six Nations)
Canada | 2019 | 6 min
English | Soundscape

tsi takaronhya ke - in the sky is a sound narrative featuring digital compositions by Haida/Cree musician, Kristi Lane Sinclair, and Inuit DJ, Mad Eskimo aka Geronimo Inutiq, produced by Janet Rogers. Within Indigenous spiritual teachings and origin stories, the sky, and/or space is where human spirit joins the physical realms and where our spirits also return. Transition almost always includes elements of chaos and confusion before achieving understanding and acceptance. *tsi tkaronhya ke* is the sound journey of spiritual transitioning.

Janet Rogers is a Mohawk/Tuscarora poet, media, sound, and performance artist living on the Six Nations reserve where she produces works through her publishing title Ojistah Publishing and 2Ro Media production team which she operates with Mohawk media artist Jackson 2bears.

Opening Day Celebrations



Welcome Gathering

FREE and Open to the Public

Tuesday, October 22 | 2:00pm – 4:00pm
Native Canadian Centre of Toronto
16 Spadina Rd

Welcome to the 20th annual imagineNATIVE as our cultural advisor commences with an Opening Prayer. Enjoy traditional singing, dance performances, and a community feast before going to the Festival's Opening Night Gala.

Community Feast generously supported by
The Harbinger Foundation.



Opening Night Party

\$10 or FREE to Opening Night Gala Ticket Holders and Pass Holders (19+)

Tuesday, October 22 | 9:00pm – 1:00am
Early Mercy
540 King St W

Celebrate the 20th annual Festival launch following the Opening Night Gala with music and dancing at Early Mercy. Come early and savour some culinary delights, as the house DJ spins us into the night.

Free Shuttle Service

Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema to the Early Mercy
9:30pm, 9:45pm

Please give priority to Elders and those with mobility needs.

Please visit our website for venue
accessibility information.



One Day in the Life of Noah Piugattuk

Director: Zacharias Kunuk (Inuk)

Producers: Zacharias Kunuk (Inuk), Jonathan Frantz

Writers: Zacharias Kunuk (Inuk), Norman Cohn

Canada | 2019 | 121 min

Inuktitut w English Subtitles | Dramatic Feature

Rating: G

Supporting Partner:



In 2011, Zacharias Kunuk changed the way audiences perceived the Inuit, the north, and documentaries as a genre with his first feature film, *Atanarjuat The Fast Runner*. The film played opening night at imagineNATIVE eighteen years ago, capturing a new kind of story rich in distinct visual language carrying complex cultural information. The film won best feature film at the Festival that year. We are ecstatic that Kunuk's recent film *One Day in the Life of Noah Piugattuk* will ground audiences again through exceptional Inuit storytelling.

Kapuvik, north Baffin Island, 1961. Noah Piugattuk's nomadic Inuit band live and hunt by dogteam, just as his ancestors did when he was born in 1900. When the white man known as Boss arrives in camp, what appears as a chance meeting soon opens up the prospect of momentous change.

Zacharias Kunuk is a renowned filmmaker whose award-winning feature films include Atanarjuat The Fast Runner (2001), The Journals of Knud Rasmussen (2006), and Maliglutit (Searchers) (2016). He has produced and directed several award-winning short dramas and over a dozen documentaries and was the executive producer on Sgaawaay K'uuna (Edge of the Knife) the world's first Haida-language film. He was named an Officer of the Order of Canada in 2005, and recently received the Order of Nunavut in 2019. Zach and the Isuma collective represented Canada at the 58th Biennale di Venezia, with One Day in the Life of Noah Piugattuk as its central video installation, along with a new live documentaries series called Silakut Live from the Floe Edge.

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Haka Puai te Kainga (Eating Up Easter)

Director/Writer: Sergio M. Rapu (Rapanui)
Producers: Sergio M. Rapu (Rapanui), Elena Kouneski Rapu, Gordan Quinn
United States/Chile | 2018 | 76 min
English/Spanish/Rapa Nu w English Subtitles |
Documentary Feature
Canadian Feature
Rating: G

Struggling with how to balance cultural tradition and modernity, a filmmaker couple returns to Rapa Nui (Easter Island), with their young son. Amidst the beautiful landscape, they question the community on how to preserve their language, culture, and land in an ever-growing tourism hot spot.

Sergio Mata'u Rapu is a native Rapanui producer/director passionate about inspiring resolutions to social, economic, and environmental conflicts. Their work has aired on the History and Travel Channels, Discovery, National Geographic, and PBS.



Ahkâmêyimo nitânis (Keep Going, My Daughter)

Director/Writer: Candy Fox (Cree)
Producer: Chris Ross (Cree)
Canada | 2019 | 12 min
English | Documentary Short
Rating: G

Indigenous educators Andrea Landry and Colby Tootoosis journal love letters to their young daughter determined to break the cycle of colonial violence and intergenerational trauma on the beautiful, Saskatchewan prairies.

Candy Fox is a Cree director from Piapot First Nation in Treaty 4 territory, Saskatchewan. She is a storyteller, whether it is through acting, directing, or writing.

Metamorphosis examines the world through the eyes and experiences of our youth. These vivid, deeply human portraits examine growing up with traditions, hardships, family and the importance of culture in navigating childhood and adolescence. These stories deliver a breadth of poignant and lighthearted experiences providing insight into the lives and minds of Indigenous youth around the globe.

Supporting Partner:



This program is also available as a second screening on Sunday, October 27, 10:30am in TIFF Bell Lightbox Cinema 2.



AZADEH

Director/Producer: Mirabbas Khosravinezhad (Lour)
Iran | 2019 | 9 min
Persian/Kurdish w English Subtitles | Short Drama
World Premiere | Rating: PG

Azadeh is a young Kurdish girl living with her mother and brother in a small, rural village. When denied the chance to visit her father in the city by her older brother, Azadeh decides to take matters into her own hands.

Mirabbas Khosravinezhad is a director and writer from Khorram Abad, Iran. He graduated from the University of Mechanical Engineering. Since 2000, he has been directing short films.



Mareikura

Directors: Tihini Grant (Māori), Tristin Greyeyes (Muskeg Lake Cree Nation/Anishnaabe), Alike Maikau (Native Hawaiian/Kanaka Maoli)
Producer: Libby Hakaraia (Ngati Raukawa/Ngati Toa Rangatira/Te Ati Awa)
New Zealand | 2019 | 7 min
English | Short Drama
International Premiere | Rating: PG

In keeping with her family tradition, a young Māori girl is unduly pressured by her father to receive her moko kauae (chin tattoo). She is the last in her nana's lineage. As she wrestles with her doubt and the weight of her responsibility, she questions the impact of her decision to uphold their family's legacy.

Mareikura was created through Māoriland Film Festival's NATIVE Slam, an international Indigenous collaboration challenge. Alike Maikau is a filmmaker based out of Honolulu, Hawai'i. Tihini Grant has been in the media industry for over 15 years working across film, television, and radio. Tristin Greyeyes recently finished her third year of the Motion Picture Arts degree program at Capilano University. She is the Indigenous Liaison Representative with Capilano Student Union. She is a feminist who is determined to empower Indigenous people in Canada using the art of film.



Ribadit (Pulling in the Belt)

Director/Producer: Elle Sofe Sara (Sámi)

Norway | 2019 | 10 min

Sámi w English Subtitles | Short Documentary

International Premiere | Rating: PG

Supporting Partner:



Through the eyes of two elders, an ancient courting tradition known as ribadit (pulling in the belt) is reorchestrated with Sámi youth to look at the overlap of dance and romance in Sápmi's past.

Elle Sofe Sara, based in Guovdageaidnu, is a choreographer and director who works at the interlaces of video art, filmmaking, and dance. In her works, she regularly sheds light on the social, political, and cultural peculiarities and challenges of the Sámi.



When the Children Left

Director: Charlene Moore (Cree/Saulteaux)

Producers: Charlene Moore (Cree/Saulteaux), Ryan Wilson (Peguis First Nation)

Canada | 2019 | 11 min

English | Short Documentary

World Premiere | Rating: PG

To honour the memory of her sister and her untimely passing in 1989, Angelina McLeod highlights the barriers her community faces around education. The film delivers a scathing indictment on systemic and urgent issues brought on by these social injustices through the use of home videos and childhood memories.

Winnipeg filmmaker and member of the York Factory First Nation, Charlene Moore is passionate about storytelling and highlighting Canadian issues that affect Indigenous peoples. Currently, she is developing her feature documentary which follows her family's healing journey to ceremony.



Hant Quij Cöipaxi Hac (The Creation of the World)

Director/Producer: Antonio Coello (Chiapanecan/Spanish)

Mexico/United States/Colombia | 2019 | 10 min

Seri w English Subtitles | Short Animation

Toronto Premiere | Rating: G

In a dream-like series of animated images, the Seri creation story is recounted by the tribe's children and Elders.

Antonio Coello studied screenplay writing at the Center for Cinematic Training (CCC) in Mexico City, filmmaking and cinematography at the Superior School of Cinema and Audiovisuals of Catalunya (ESCAC) in Spain, and actors' direction at the International School of Film and Television (EICT.V.) in Cuba. His short films have been shown at various festivals and museums worldwide.



Puktew Muin (Fire Bear)

Director/Producer: Daniel Fortin (Métis)
Canada | 2019 | 8 min
Mi'kmaq w English Subtitles | Short Drama
World Premiere | Rating: G

Supporting Partner:



While listening to their uncle retell the Mi'kmaq story of Skus and Muin, two precocious children begin to imagine themselves as the lead characters of the tale. Filled with whimsy and playfulness, *Puktew Muin* is an adorable reinterpretation into the boundless imagination of a child.

A multi-faceted Indigenous artist, Daniel Fortin has spent a decade learning most aspects of TV and Film. His short films have screened internationally including at WAFF, imagineNATIVE, Montréal First Peoples Film Festival, Regina International Film Festival, and Whistler Film Festival.



Elders

Director/Producer: Tony Briggs (Yorta Yorta/Wurundjeri)
Australia | 2019 | 10 min
English | Short Drama
International Premiere | Rating: PG

As a young boy becomes of age, two Elders from his tribe decide that it's time to test his cultural knowledge and send him off into the bush by himself. It's not only a test of his skills in survival but also a challenge who he will become.

Tony Briggs is an actor, writer, director and producer. He is the creator and writer of the feature film The Sapphires which premiered at the Cannes Film Festival in 2012. He is the Artistic Director of Birrarangga Film Festival.



Ani

Director: Josephine Stewart-Te Whiu (Ngapuhi/Te Rarawa)
New Zealand | 2019 | 12 min
English | Short Drama
Rating: PG

Supporting Partner:



In the wake of her mother leaving her family, a nine-year old girl and her father try to maintain an increasingly crumbling routine of everyday life. They both try to navigate their pain and confusion in their own ways, eventually coming to a place where they might be able to accept their circumstances.

Josephine Stewart-Te Whiu is a writer, actor, and filmmaker of mixed race descent. Josephine was one of the nine Māori women filmmakers on Waru which screened at imagineNATIVE in 2017. Ani is Josephine's directorial debut which recently had its World Premiere at the 69th Berlinale.

Co-Presented by:
Shorts That Are Not Pants

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Indigenous communities have protected, revitalised, and maintained their connection to land and culture. No matter how small the step, whether it's on a local, national, or international front, it is often started with the *Activation* of speaking up, protesting or decolonising those structures that have been placed on Indigenous people and their land and culture.



Kauri

Directors: Alex Lazarowich (Cree), Lada Suomenrinne (Northern Sami/Finnish/Russian), Raymond Edwards (Te Whakatohea/Ngati Raukawa)
New Zealand | 2019 | 5 min
Māori w English Subtitles | Short Documentary
International Premiere | Rating: G

The Kauri trees in New Zealand are dying from a disease created by the encroachment onto their country. *Kauri* is a moving poem, a warning from Mother Earth to remember the impact society has on other living beings like the trees, oceans, animals, and land.

Kauri was created through Māoriland Film Festival's NATIVE Slam, an international Indigenous collaboration challenge. Alexandra Lazarowich (Cree) is an award-winning producer, director, and screenwriter passionate about telling Indigenous stories. Raymond Edwards (Te Whakatohea & Ngati Raukawa) is an up and coming cinematographer, winning a silver NZ Cinematography Society in 2018. Lada Suomenrinne is a northern Sámi filmmaker who is currently living in Berlin to do her BA in photography studies.



Young Mob Questioning Treaty

Director/Writer: Paul Gorrie (Gunai/Kurnai/Yorta Yorta)
Producers: Tony Briggs (Yorta Yorta/Wurundjeri), Beck Cole (Warramun-gu/Luritja), Tarneen Onus (Yigar Gunditjmara, Bindal/Yorta Yorta), Damienne Pradier.
Australia | 2019 | 7 min
English | Short Documentary
World Premiere | Rating: G

Indigenous people in Australia are in the discussions of Treaty talks, 230 years after colonisation. The youth from Victoria, one of the Australian States, talk about their concerns and opinions into what they see as a way forward.

Paul Gorrie is a Gunai/Kurnai and Yorta Yorta man currently based in Melbourne. He is an emerging filmmaker, musician, DJ, youth project worker and the occasional radio presenter.



Apaja'simk - The Return

Director/Producer/Writer: Trevor Gould (Mi'kmaq)

Canada | 2018 | 10 min

English/Mi'kmaq w English Subtitles | Short Drama

Toronto Premiere | Rating: G

Glooscap, the creator of the Mi'kmaq people, sends his brother, Marten from the spirit world to see how his people are doing. Confused by the younger generation, Marten is taken to an older woman in the community who shares the history of their people. She tells him the youth will lead them out of the wilderness.

Trevor Gould, a Mi'kmaq from the Paqtnkek Mikmaw Nation in Nova Scotia, is known as a Powwow singer, emcee, and director, involved in the musical DRUM! for 10 years. This is his first foray into film.



Liliu

Writer/Director: Jeremiah Tauamiti (Samoan)

Producer: Ngaire Fuata (Rotuman/Fiji)

New Zealand | 2018 | 17 min

English/Samoan w English Subtitles | Short Drama

Canadian Premiere | Rating: G

Solo, a young Samoan interpreter for a Native Court in Colonial, Samoa, does what he thinks is best for his people, at times lying as he translates. High Chief Nua, who understands and speaks English, is charged with trespassing. There is a tirade of verbal punches between Solo, Nua, and an old Judge hell-bent on Colonial rule. Solo risks everything when Nua is wrongfully imprisoned, fights to get back to her stranded grandchildren, leaving the colonial shackles behind.

Jeremiah Tauamiti is a writer/director who holds the High-Chief titles Fa'alava'au and Nanai, bestowed from his father's family, Falelatai district, Samoa. In 2018, he received the Writing Seed Grant from the New Zealand Writers Guild for his next feature film.



Sámiin leat Rievttit - The Sámi has Rights

Directors: Elle Márja Eira (Sámi), Mai-Lis Eira (Sámi)

Producer: Ken Are Bongo (Sámi)

Norway | 2019 | 11 min

Sámi/Norwegian w English Subtitles | Experimental Short

North American Premiere | Rating: G

A trilogy of experimental films of Sámi perspectives from past, present and future activist movements. From the '70s, the history of Sámi women and youth rallying against the government voicing concerns about water rights. To contemporary issues around mining and capitalism encroaching on reindeer herds. To youth singing an activist-type anthem about the strength and resilience of the Sámi.

Elle Márja and Mai-Lis are both emerging artists, and directors from Kautokeino, Norway.



Warburdar Bununu: Water Shield

Director: Jason De Santolo (Garrwa/Barunggam)

Producer: John Harvey (Saibai Island, Torres Strait)

Australia | 2019 | 26 min

English | Short Documentary

North American Premiere | Rating: G

In the late '70s, Borroloola Elders were fighting to make sure the mines wouldn't affect their community. It was documented in a documentary *Two Laws* exposing some of the threats to the land at the time. Now forty years later, community members are worried the waterways may be contaminated. They take the fight to the city and against the mining companies, trying to find the solutions themselves to fight the corporate structure.

Jason De Santolo is a researcher, creative producer, and father committed to forging a sustainable world for future generations through transformative research strategies, storytelling, and practices of renewal.



MANA WAHINE

Director/Writer: Corinna Hunziker (Ngapuhi/Ngati Kahu)

Producer: Mia Henry-Teirney (Ngati Kahu ki Whangaroa/Te Rarawa/Ngati Kuri)

New Zealand | 2019 | 8 min

English/Māori w English Subtitles | Short Documentary

Canadian Premiere | Rating: G

Pania Newtown is one of the co-founders leading S.O.U.L. (Save Our Unique Landscape), a collective of activists who are fighting for the return of 1000-year old historical site Ihumatao. This documentary is the personal journey as Pania struggles to survive under the pressure of trying to maintain her plot of land and leading a major protest.

Corinna Hunziker has been directing a youth series for TV for the past four years. She was recently a trainee director on a drama feature.

Co-Presented by:
The Human Rights Film Festival





For My Father's Kingdom

Directors: Vea Mafile'o (Tongan/Māori), Jeremiah Tauamiti (Samoan)

Producers: Sandra Kailahi (Tongan), Vea Mafile'o (Tongan/Māori)
New Zealand/Tonga | 2019 | 88 min

English/Tongan w English Subtitles | Documentary Feature
Canadian Premiere | Rating: 14A

For My Father's Kingdom follows Tongan pensioner Saia Mafile'o and his family as they are stretched to breaking point by the commitment and passion he carries to his church in Tonga. His family tries to understand his dedication. When they all head back to Tonga for a school anniversary where he was a teacher, they see how deeply connected he is to the community still. They question their own identity and how the rigours of devout Christian tithing on the island has impacted their cultural identity.

This debut feature film by Jeremiah Tauamiti and Vea Mafile'o connects to their passion for telling stories from the Pacific. Jeremiah has worked in shorts as a writer/director and is currently working on his feature drama. Vea has been working in television for a few years, also as an art director and founder of the Tongan Film Festival. Vea is also working on her feature film.



Thunder Rolling Home

Director: Sharon Isaac (Saugeen Ojibway First Nation)

Writer: Kelsey Diamond (Anishinaabe)

Canada | 2019 | 6 min

Anishinaabe w English Subtitles | Experimental Short
Ontario Premiere | Rating: PG

Thunder Rolling Home (Kewaquom) chronicles a family's resilience against colonisation. From being placed in a residential school setting, having language, culture, and everything you hold dear taken from you told through the words of a grandfather, a survivor. Archival images and spoken word, this film goes full circle from the sad history of the past to the bright future of the present.

Sharon Isaac (Anishinaabe/Ojibway) is a storyteller, emerging filmmaker, beader, and regalia designer from Saugeen First Nation. Through various mediums, Isaac works toward restoring and re-interpreting lost cultural knowledge while actively engaging with contemporary cultural practice.

OCT 23 **WED 3:30PM**

TIFF Bell Lightbox - Cinema 2

MERATA: How Mum Decolonised the Screen



Special Presentation

MERATA: How Mum Decolonised the Screen

Director/Writer: Hepi Mita (Ngati Pikiao Te Arawa)

Producer: Chelsea Winstanley (Ngati Ranginui/Ngai Te Rangi)

New Zealand | 2018 | 87 min

English | Documentary Feature | Rating: PG

This remarkable, beautiful documentary will be followed by an extended Q&A featuring Chelsea Winstanley and Alanis Obomsawin.

As an intimate documentary portrait, filmmaker, Hepi Mita, chronicles the life of his mother, Merata Mita, and her journey in becoming the first Māori woman to write and direct a feature film. Breaking through barriers of race, class, and gender, Merata's independent political documentaries of the '70s and '80s highlighted injustices for Māori people, and often divided New Zealand. In her efforts to decolonise the country's screens, the film documents her early struggles and her activist drive that often proved personally dangerous. Hepi underscores the overriding importance Merata placed on family, revealing the personal sacrifices she made to actively create a better future for her children and her community.

Hepi Mita is from Aotearoa, New Zealand. Mita is an archival film curator and works as the Māori collections developer at Nga Taonga Sound & Vision—New Zealand's archive of film, television, and sound. He is the son of award-winning filmmakers Geoff Murphy and Merata Mita. MERATA: How Mum Decolonised The Screen is Mita's first feature film.

Co-Presented by:

Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival



The Body Remembers When the World Broke Open

Co-Directors/Co-Writers: Elle-Máijá Tailfeathers (Blackfoot/Sámi), Kathleen Hepburn

Producers: Tyler Hagan (Métis), Lori Lozinski

Canada/Norway | 2019 | 105 min

English | Dramatic Feature | Rating: 14A

Supporting Partner:



Two Indigenous women, unknown to each other, and from very different backgrounds, meet by chance. Áila is middle class, university educated and light skinned. Rosie is eighteen years old, poor, and has just been assaulted by her boyfriend. When Áila sees Rosie crying barefoot in the street, she makes the decision to help her. What follows is a complicated extended conversation between these two women as they navigate their similarities, differences and shifting power dynamics. Tense and affecting, the film employs long takes and masterfully executed handheld cinematography to unveil a story in real-time, a story that, at its core, is a testament to the resiliency of Indigenous women.

Elle-Máijá Tailfeathers is a filmmaker, writer, and actor. Raised on the Kainai First Nation (Blood Reserve) she is now based in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Tailfeathers was the 2018 Sundance Institute Merata Mita Film Fellow and is an alumnus of the Berlinale Talent Lab. Commissioned by imagineNATIVE, her short documentary Bihttoš (2014) was selected as one of the Top Ten Canadian Shorts of 2014 by the Toronto International Film Festival and was nominated for a Canadian Screen Award. The Body Remembers When the World Broke Open is her debut narrative feature.

**This program is also available as an open captioned screening on
Sun Oct 27 10:45AM in TIFF Bell Lightbox Cinema 3.**

Co-Presented by: Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF)



Ushui, la luna y el trueno

Director: Rafael Mojica Gil (Wiwa)
Producers: Juan Mojica Gil (Wiwa), Pablo Mora Calderón (Wiwa), Saúl Gil Nakoguí (Wiwa), Fundación Natibo (Wiwa), José Gregorio Rodríguez (Wiwa)
Columbia | 2018 | 72 min
Damana w English Subtitles | Documentary Feature
North American Premiere | Rating: G

The Wiwa of the Sierra Nevada ready their cameras, a useful tool to show the world the damage humans are inflicting on nature. A group of women whose mission is to care for and protect nature's seeds called the Saga to carry their message. Their ancestral wisdom is handed down from generation to generation through song in the Ushui, a sacred house. Torn between two desires, to keep ancestral knowledge sacred and for the community, or to open up to modernity for the world for the greater good, the Wiwa reveal the layered importance of collective responsibility and mutual respect.

Born in the Kankuamo territory, Rafael Mojica Gil grew up with his Wiwa culture instilled by his parents. He became a cameraman for the group of indigenous filmmakers Zhigoneshi in Santa Marta, where he made documentaries such as Palabras Mayores (2009), a series of 9 chapters for Telecaribe; Nabusimake, memory of an independence (2010); Resistance in the Black Line (2011). He is the founder and director of the collective Bunkuaneyuman whose audiovisual projects work towards reaffirming the autonomy of the Wiwa people.



I Was Lost (And You Were Dreaming)

Director: Joe Kelly
Writer/Producer: Sarah Houle (Métis)
Canada | 2019 | 3 min
English/Cree | Music Video | Rating: G

Lovers in a dystopian time of revolution navigate between the human plane and that of the Mannegishi or fairy folk.

I Was Lost and You Were Dreaming, is a duet sung from the perspectives of Sheer Blouse and Buffalo Knocks. Layers of guitar, synth, and beats with vocals echo the lament of the distance between the two characters as they struggle to find each other in one realm or another. Cree samples for the word window represent the portals that they seek.

Sarah Houle is a multidisciplinary, Métis artist based in Calgary and is from the Paddle Prairie Métis Settlement in Northern Alberta. Her work is autobiographical with an interest in technology, fantasy, and craft. I Was Lost and You Were Dreaming was created through Telus STORYHIVE.

Co-Presented by: aluCine Latin Film + Media Arts Festival




Red Snow

Director/Writer/Producer: Marie Clements (Métis/Dene)
Canada | 2018 | 100 min
English/Gwich'in/Inuktitut/Pashtun w English Subtitles
Dramatic Feature | Rating: 18A

Dylan, a Gwich'in soldier from the Canadian Arctic, is on a military tour in Afghanistan. During a check-in in a Pashtun village, Dylan is ambushed and captured by Taliban rebels. The capture triggers deep memories connected to the love and death of his Inuit cousin, Asana. As the interrogation begins, Dylan responds in Gwich'in, creating a fury in Taliban leader, Ramin, who thinks he is talking in code. He is held captive in a house owned by Ramin's cousin, Aman, the Translator. When Ramin takes an interest in Aman's daughter, Khatira, she takes matters into her own hands and uses Dylan to free her family. Now on the run, they must make it to the border before the rebels catch up with them. Along the way, Dylan realizes that the family were just as imprisoned as he was. Bonded by survival through the treacherous landscapes, a blizzard settles in that helps to hide them when the Taliban catch up to them, but at the same time puts their lives in peril.

Marie Clements works across the arts within a variety of mediums including film, TV, radio, and live performance. Her previous film The Road Forward closed imagineNATIVE in 2018 and received accolades internationally. Her work has screened at Cannes, TIFF, MOMA, VIFF, Whistler Film Festival, American Indian Film Festival, and imagineNATIVE. As a playwright, she has presented on some of the most prestigious stages, both nationally and internationally. She has garnered numerous awards and publications. Red Snow is her feature film debut.

Supporting Partner:  **CBC**



Yá'át'ééh Abiní

Director: MorningStar Angeline (Navajo/Chippewa/Blackfoot)
Producers: Blackhorse Lowe (Navajo), Jhane Myers (Comanche/Blackfeet), Jennifer Phang
United States | 2019 | 12 min
Navajo w English Subtitles | Short Drama
World Premier | Rating: PG

Crystal is haunted by her father's death from a global virus that has ravaged her native Navajo Nation. Under constant surveillance from an unknown military, she must learn to embrace her visions, memories, and dreams to both survive and rediscover what may be left of the world.

MorningStar Angeline was born in Santa Fe, NM and participated in local theatre and acting programs growing up, to go onto studying acting while attending college in California. She has received acting awards from the American Indian Film Festival, Institute of American Indian Arts, and honoured by the New Mexico Film & Television Hall of Fame. She was a Sundance 2018 Native Lab Fellow for her short film Yá'át'ééh Abiní.

Co-Presented by: Reelworld Film Festival



FUKRY

Director/Writer/Producer: Blackhorse Lowe (Navajo)
United States | 2019 | 90 min
English | Dramatic Feature
World Premiere | Rating: 14A

Ching Yazzie and friends get through life's unexpected encounters, the ups and downs of falling in and out of love or not at all.

Award-winning director, editor, and producer Blackhorse Lowe is known for narrative films set on the Navajo reservation that explore the pull between Navajo tradition and contemporary non-Navajo ways. Lowe has screened at First Peoples Festival in Montreal, Marin County International Festival, Tribeca, Sundance Film Festival, and imagineNATIVE, where he received two honourable mentions.



D.I.Y

Director/Writer: Taran Kootenayoo (Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation/Dene Stoney)
Producer: Colin Van Loon (Blackfoot - Piikani)
Canada | 2019 | 5 min
English | Short Drama
World Premiere | Rating: G

Adam, a skateboarder, meets an unexpected stranger Joe, a Cree man who shares a traditional song which inspires him to get back to his roots.

Taran Kootenayoo is an aspiring actor and playwright. He has written and directed two short-films, this is his directorial debut at imagineNATIVE.

Drama, drama, drama. *Tribulations* is a collection of dramatic short films steeped in human struggle and emotion. Overcoming shame and trauma and acknowledging imperfections, these films find a way to the other side.



The Pit Where We Were Born

Director/Writer: Alexander Bocchieri (Hawaiian)

Producer: Bryson Chun (Hawaiian)

United States | 2019 | 12 min

English | Short Drama

International Premiere | Rating: G

A father and son reckon with a past that continues to colour their future when they reunite around the imu pit of their family farm in Waianae, Hawaii.

Since graduating from the University of Hawaii in 2012, Alex has worked in Honolulu as a freelance director creating narrative films, PSAs, and documentaries as co-creative director at his production company Lumos Media. Alongside his ongoing documentary work, Alex is a lecturer at the Academy for Creative Media at the University of Hawaii, teaching cinematic production.



Moloka'i Bound

Director: Alike Maikau (Hawaiian)

Producers: Chapin Hall (Tahitian), Alike Maikau (Hawaiian)

United States | 2019 | 9 min

English | Short Drama

World Premiere | Rating: PG

A wayward young man, recently released from prison, struggles to reconnect with his son and Hawaiian heritage.

Alike Maikau is a working filmmaker based out of Honolulu, Hawai'i with a degree in Creative Media, University of Hawai'i Mānoa. Maikau focuses on telling stories about the Hawai'i diaspora as authentically as possible. In 2017, he was invited to the 'Ohina Filmmakers Lab and mentorship under Joe Robert Cole (Black Panther) to oversee his script Mauka To Makai through completion.



XO Rad Magical

Director: Chris Grant (Mi'kmaq)

Producers: Michael Fukushima, Maral Mohammadian, Jelena Popovic, Amanda Roy, Amanda Strong (Michif)

Canada | 2019 | 2 min

No Dialogue | Short Animation

World Premiere | Rating: G

XO Rad Magical is a personal lyrical poem about the daily struggle of living with schizophrenia. This psychedelic and hypnotic film shows that there is beauty in the brains of those who are at war with themselves.

Christopher Gilbert Grant is a young Mi'kmaq artist from the Pabineau First Nation who is living with schizoaffective disorder. He studied Fine Arts at Mount Allison and animation technique at the New Brunswick Community College, and his work was featured in Young Ancestors, a 2014 group show at Fredericton's Beaverbrook Art Gallery. In 2018, he mounted a solo exhibition called Disposing Sanity: Life After the Psych Unit at the Bathurst Heritage Museum.



Koro

Director/Writer: Nicholas Riini (Iwi Ngai Tuhoe)

Producers: Simone Ashton, Nicholas Riini (Iwi Ngai Tuhoe)

New Zealand | 2019 | 12 min

English | Māori with English/Māori | Short Drama

International Premiere | Rating: PG

Koro, a Vietnam war vet, lives with his daughter and two grandsons. He finds himself lost in thought of another ANZAC service. His grandsons, Whenua and Soul, interrupt him fighting over Whenua's phone. The phone pumps out battle sounds from a digital war game catapulting *Koro* back into memories of warfare. Whenua and Soul get caught in the crossfire. *Koro* is caught in two battles, to heal from his memories and to reconcile with his grandsons.

Nicholas Riini has worked in the film industry for 17 years, mostly in technical departments. In 2016, Riini returned home with his whanau to focus on his films. He is passionate about fantasy and hopes to incorporate the genre with his Māori culture. He is proud and lucky enough to have had Merita Mita, and now Ainsley Gardiner, as mentors. Their support has allowed him to see his future as a director and writer.



Uu?uu~tah

Director/Writer: Chad Charlie (Ahousaht First Nation)

Producers: Chad Charlie (Ahousaht First Nation), Ben-Alex Dupris (Colville Confederated Tribes)

Canada | 2019 | 11 min

Ehattesah w English Subtitles | Short Drama

World Premiere | Rating: PG

In a pre-contact era, a young chief is entrusted to be the whale hunter of his village. With this title comes a lot of responsibility. To undertake such a task, his grandmother leads him along the long hard path of his rite of purification and growth.

From the village of Ahousaht First Nation, Chad Charlie is a Black and Indigenous filmmaker continuing the tradition of storytelling in a contemporary format. Charlie began writing for stand-up comedy and spoken word poetry. In 2019, he received a Telus STORYHIVE filmmaker grant and is eager to apply the same passion for power and poetry into his film practice.



Krystal

Director: Briar Grace-Smith (Nga Puhi)

Producer: Jaimee Poipoi (Ngati Kahungunu)

New Zealand | 2018 | 14 min

English | Short Drama

World Premiere | Rating: 14A

Krystal is a young woman just released from jail. Instead of going home, she goes straight to a party at her brother, Storm's, apartment to avoid her judgemental mother. Memories of the ill night keep flooding back. Storm hides his sister's shame from his roommates, but events unfold, forcing Krystal to confront facts from the past. She realizes that the person that she wants to see the least is the person she needs the most — her mum.

Briar Grace-Smith is of Nga Puhi descent and an award-winning writer of plays, short stories, and screenplays. She attended the Sundance writers lab with the feature film The Strength of Water, which premiered at the Berlin Film Festival. In 2019, she received the Merata Mita Fellowship for Indigenous Artists through the Sundance Institute.



Hunger

Director/Writer/Producer: Ariel Smith (Nehiyaw)

Canada | 2019 | 13 min

English | Short Drama

World Premiere | Rating: PG

Hunger is the story of a young family in crisis. Lucy, a stay at home mother, finds relief from her stress and emotional pain through an eating disorder, which is negatively impacting her young daughter, Lilly.

Ariel Smith is an award-winning Nehiyaw and Jewish filmmaker, video artist, writer, and cultural worker. Much of her work has shown at festivals and galleries across Canada and internationally. Ariel is mainly self-taught but honed many of her skills by becoming heavily involved in artist-run centres in Vancouver, Montréal, Toronto, and Ottawa. Her passion for artist-run culture has become an integral part of her practice.



The Dancer

Director: Justin Ducharme (Métis)

Producers: Justin Ducharme (Métis), Val Lopez

Canada | 2019 | 14 min

English | Short Drama

World Premiere | Rating: PG

A multi-disciplinary dancer finds herself faced with making a possibly life-altering decision about her health and future.

Justin Ducharme is a filmmaker, writer, dancer and curator from the small Métis community of St. Ambroise on Treaty 1 Territory. He has been jigging since the age of seven, performing with the St. Ambroise Youth Steppers, the Louis Riel Métis Dancers, and Acuhko Simowuk. His poetry was featured in Sex Worker Wisdom and PRISM International magazine. Justin is the co-editor of Hustling Verse: An Anthology of Sex Workers Poetry alongside Amber Dawn, published fall of 2019. He currently lives and works on Unceded Coast Salish Territory.

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Sembradoras de vida (Mothers of the Land)

Directors/Writers: Alvaro Sarmiento (Quechua), Diego Sarmiento (Quechua)

Producer: Alvaro Sarmiento (Quechua)

Peru | 2019 | 74 min

Quechua/Spanish w English subtitles | Documentary Feature

Ontario Premiere | Rating: G

High up in the Peruvian Andes Mountains, a group of women follow Indigenous ceremonies and rituals in correlation with the full moon to tend the crops. Challenged by unpredictable weather and planting seasons due to climate change, they attempt to pass on the teachings to a new generation of women.

Alvaro Sarmiento is a Quechua descendant documentarist, founder and director of HDPERU, a non-profit organization. Diego Sarmiento studied at Media Production, Universidad Catolica and has a Masters in Documentary Filmmaking, EICT.V.. His feature directorial debut premiered at the Berlinale Forum 2017 and the MoMA Doc Fortnight 2018.

Co-Presented by:
Latin American Studies in the
Department of Spanish and Portuguese
at the University of Toronto

Victor Masayesva, Jr. Retrospective: Dawsoma: Making Meaning

THUR 1:00PM
TIFF Bell Lightbox - Cinema 2 **OCT 24**

This year's Artist Spotlight shines on the great Hopi filmmaker Victor Masayesva, Jr. in partnership with Vtape who produced the publication of Dorothy Christian's essay on Victor Masayesva, Jr.'s films. Following the film there will be an extended Q+A with Dorothy Christian and Victor Masayesva, Jr.

Supporting Partner:

V tape
www.vtape.org



Special Presentation

Dawsoma: Making Meaning

Curated by Dorothy Christian

Hopi visual storyteller/filmmaker, Victor Masayesva, Jr., may be the most scrutinized Indigenous image-maker because he offers his culturally specific visuals in his films and photographs, without explanation and without apology. He has made bold statements about Indigenous aesthetics and accountability that have led Indigenous and non-Indigenous film theorists to many iterations and interpretations of his words. One scholar considers Masayesva, Jr. "one of the most influential Indigenous filmmakers and photographers of his generation" (2013). His words and images have invigorated many discussions of how his approach informs visual/narrative sovereignty and its many nuances.

Dawsoma: Making Meaning, is a reflective 88 minute program that screens three of Victor Masayesva, Jr.'s films. His first work, *Hopiit* (1982), *Ritual Clowns* (1988 and 2013) and *Waaki - Sanctuary* (2019), his most recent film; all of which present complex interrelationships between humans, the plants, the food systems, the animals, the birds, the ceremonies, and the cycles of the Earth, Sun, and Moon within the universe. Victor Masayesva, Jr.'s visual stories have carved a path for generations of Indigenous filmmakers to truly tell their/our stories from a visually sovereign stance. Following the screening, the audience will have an opportunity to ask questions of one of the most instrumental story keepers/makers in the global Indigenous screen world.

Padget, Martin (2013) "Hopi Film, the Indigenous Aesthetic and Environmental Justice: Victor Masayesva Jr.'s Paatuwaqatsi - Water, Land and Life" in *Journal of American Studies* (Special Collection: Art Across Frontiers), Vol. 47, Issue 2, pp. 363-384.

Dorothy Christian, Cucw-la7, PhD is from the Secwepemc and Syilx Nations of the interior of BC. Currently, she is Associate Director, Indigenous Initiatives at Simon Fraser University. Before graduate studies, Cucw-la7 worked for the national broadcaster Vision TV to bring Indigenous stories from across Turtle Island and Mexico to the Canadian screen culture.



Hopiit

Director/Writer/Producer: Victor Masayesva, Jr. (Hopi)
United States | 1982 | 15 min
English | Experimental Short | Rating: G

In this expressive work, Hopi cultural activities are observed through the cycle of the seasons. Work and play, ceremonial rituals and the rituals of everyday life throughout the year are woven together in a seamless vision that conveys the oral traditions of storytelling, the natural landscape of Arizona, and the richness of Hopi culture.



Ritual Clowns

Director/Writer/Producer: Victor Masayesva, Jr. (Hopi)
United States | 2013 | 17 min
English | Experimental Short | Rating: G

Treating the subject of ritual clowns and their contemporary roles in the Pueblo plazas of the Southwest, this program explores their ritually cleansing role. An unusual mix of video effects and montage produce a compelling perspective on Hopi clowns and humour.



Waaki - Sanctuary

Director/Writer/Producer: Victor Masayesva, Jr. (Hopi)
United States | 2019 | 56 min
English | Documentary Feature | Rating: G

Looking at how the Creation stories of the Hopi, Nahua, and Maya give them a special connection to maize/corn, synthesized in the statement, "We are corn". There are many songs, displays, and ceremonial practices that affirm this connection. *Waaki* looks deeper into the world community and how it is connected to maize/corn – what are the interrelationships that exist and celebrates the human capacity for tolerance and compassion in a time when people are becoming more intolerant of difference.

Born in 1951, Hopi visual storyteller, Victor Masayesva, Jr., has created some of the most evocative Indigenous images through his photography and visual narratives. He presents culture and traditions; particularly the Hopi, through poetic visualizations and by animating lyrical translations of Hopi stories, ceremonies, and history. He articulates the richness of his people and their culture in his own language.

Love moves past colonial states. From self-love to kinship to community love, this collection of shorts speak volumes to acceptance, nourishment and self-determination.



The Fake Calendar

Director/Writer: Meki Ottawa (Atikamewk)
Producers: Michael Fukushima, Jelena Popovic, Maral Mohammadian, Amanda Roy, Amanda Strong (Michif)
Canada | 2019 | 2 min
English | Short Animation
World Premiere | Rating: G

A neon glimpse into a personal world within an urban landscape. From FOMO to JOMO, *The Fake Calendar* is an artist's expression of how people come up with interesting and creative ways to avoid social functions in favour of their own private space.

Hailing from the Atikamewk Nation in Quebec, Meki Ottawa works across a range of genres, creating video, illustration, photography, and gallery installations. In 2017, she contributed to Kushapetshekan/Kosapitcikan: A Glimpse Into the Other World, an immersive installation at Montréal's Museum of Fine Arts, and she's exhibited in several editions of the 13 Moons: Four Nations exhibition. She has also designed album covers, created illustrations for the online magazine Working It Out Together, and made animated sequences for the award-winning music doc Rumble: The Indians Who Rocked the World. In 2018, Meki was commissioned by the Montréal-based arts organization MU to create a mural honouring Alanis Obomsawin.



Wildfire

Director: Bretten Hannam (Mi'kmaq)
Producer: Gharrett Paon (Mi'kmaq)
Canada | 2018 | 12 min
English | Short Drama | Rating: PG

Stalked by his abusive father, a two-spirit teen runaway meets a rebellious Mi'kmaq drawn to his journey. A deep bond begins to grow as he learns Mi'kmaq language and culture from his new companion.

Bretten Hannam is a two-spirit filmmaker of Mi'kmaq, Ojibwe, and Scottish ancestry living in Kespukwitk, Mi'kma'ki (Nova Scotia). His films deal with themes of community, culture, language, and tradition with a focus on Two-Spirit and LGBTQ identity. He co-wrote the short CHAMPAGNE which premiered at the TIFF. Cinema Politica commissioned Wildfire in the genre of Indigenous Futurism.



Kizungünewün epupillan

Directors: Manuel Carrión Lira (Mapuche), Antonio Catrileo Araya (Mapuche)

Producer: Manuel Carrión Lira (Mapuche)

Writers: Constanza Araya Miranda (Mapuche), Manuel Carrión Lira (Mapuche), Antonio Catrileo Araya (Mapuche)

Chile | 2019 | 30 min

Spanish/Mapudungun w English Subtitles | Short Documentary

World Premiere | Rating: PG

Three Mapuche people share their experiences as “epupillan” (two-spirit) beings through a collective video-essay. Through the use of letter exchange, each person speaks to the politics of identity, gender, and colonisation past, present, and future.

Manuel Carrión Lira is a researcher and video artist. He is a Fulbright PhD student at the University of California, San Diego focusing on the concept of materiality and how it alters the understanding of community and politics, from a Mapuche, decolonial sensibility.

*Antonio Calibán Catrileo Araya is a teacher, writer, weaver, and Mapuche researcher. With a Masters in Chilean and Hispanic American Literature, he has published poetry *Diaspora* (Editions Simiente, 2015) and *Awkan epupillan mew: two spirits in divergence* (Pehuén Editores, 2019).*

Collectively, they develop research-creation artistic projects grounded in specific territories and communities (such as Neltume, Toltén, Pirque and Icalma).



I Am Me

Director: Jazmine Smith (Cree)

Producer: Odile Joannette (Innue)

Canada | 2018 | 4 min

English | Short Documentary | Rating: G

Jazmine grew up in Flying Dust, Saskatchewan as a boy who felt out of place until discovering makeup, which helped her transition and begin her journey into womanhood. *I Am Me* is a story of acceptance, self-love, and jewellery

*Jazmine Gladue-Smith grew up on Flying Dust First Nation, a Cree reserve located in north-western Saskatchewan. She's always had a passion for grace and style and attended beauty schools in Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia. She runs a beauty studio out of her home, Jazzyjazz Style & Beauty, geared towards helping transgender woman, crossdressers and drag queens. *I Am Me* is her directorial debut.*



Keemooch

Director: Howard Adler (Anishinaabe/Lac Des Mille Lacs First Nation),
Nathan Adler (Anishinaabe/Lac Des Mille Lacs First Nation)
Canada | 2019 | 10 min
English | Short Documentary
World Premiere | Rating: G

A short film exploring Indigenous love, couples share what love means to them, navigating relationships, first kisses, what love is, and what makes you fall in love.

Howard Adler is an award-winning writer, artist, and filmmaker. Howard is currently the Co-Director and Programmer for the Asinabka Festival, an Indigenous film and media arts festival in Ottawa. Nathan Adler is the author of Wrist, an Indigenous monster story written from the monster's perspective (Kegedonce Press). He is an MFA candidate for Creative Writing from UBC, a first-place winner of the Aboriginal Writing Challenge, and a recipient of a Hnatyshyn Reveal award for Literature.



Nancy From Now On

Director/Producer: Keely Meechan (Iwi Whakatohea)
New Zealand | 2019 | 20 min
English | Short Drama | Rating: 14A

Nancy From Now On is the tale of a young Māori boy with a burning desire to become a Drag Queen.

Keely Meechan studied design and theatre before she decided to apply for film school. Her love for theatre and the arts have had a massive influence on her film practice. She is keen to create a career by writing and directing films that showcase the good, the bad and the ugly of living in Aotearoa.

Co-Presented by Inside Out LGBT Film Festival



Not Just Numbers

Director/Writer: Shirleen Campbell (Warlpiri Anmatyerre Arrente Luritja)

Australia | 2019 | 53 min

English | Documentary Feature

World Premiere | Rating: 14A

Meet the women who run Tangentyere Women's Family Safety Group. These inspirational grassroots activists work within their communities, raising awareness, and taking action against family violence in and around Alice Springs, Australia. They fight for Indigenous women who are survivors of abuse to be respected and seen as more than just statistics on a page.

Shirleen Campbell has been a leader of the Tangentyere Women's Family Safety group since 2015. She is an advocate for women and children in the area of family and domestic violence and is a strong advocate for sharing knowledge, stories and skills across all cultures.



Nanayqa mana chinkaqmi (The pain does not fade away)

Co-Directors/Co-Writers: Authorship Collective (Quechua)

Producers: CHIRAPAQ (Quechua), FEPRUMUQ (Quechua)

Peru | 2019 | 7 min

Quechua w English Subtitles | Short Documentary

North American Premiere | Rating: 14A

A group of Andean Quechua women from Peru open up about their personal experiences with violence and discuss how these experiences have shaped their lives, families and communities.

The Authorship Collective is a collective of 25 Quechua Women and young people of Ayacucho. They received filmmaking training through the Chirapaq Center for Indigenous Cultures of Peru. Through film and multi-media, they express and articulate their experiences and those of their communities.

This program of short documentaries explores the revitalisation of ancient cultural practices, repatriation of cultural artifacts, and a return to traditions in a world where culture is continually evolving and adapting.



LAKE

Director/Writer: Alexandra Lazarowich (Cree)

Producer: Coty Savard (Métis)

Canada | 2019 | 5 min

English | Short Documentary | Rating: G

Evoking the spirit of classic cinema verité documentaries from the National Film Board of Canada, *LAKE* captures two Métis women net fishing in the snowy, Albertan north on 16 mm film.

Alexandra Lazarowich is an award-winning Cree producer, director, and screenwriter whose work has premiered at film festivals around the world. She is passionate about telling Indigenous stories. Her most recent documentary FAST HORSE recently premiered and won the Special Jury Award for Directing at the 2019 Sundance Film Festival.



This Ink Runs Deep

Director/Writer: Asia Youngman (Cree/Métis/Haudenosaunee)

Canada | 2019 | 16 min

English | Short Documentary | Rating: PG

Indigenous tattoo artists from across Canada use a mix of traditional and contemporary Indigenous tattooing practices to revive this practice that was almost lost. From hand poking to machines, artists discuss the responsibility of representing their Indigenous identity and clans through tattoos.

Asia Youngman is an award-winning filmmaker from Vancouver, BC. She is a Vancouver Film School alumni and also holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Victoria.



TAKE

Director/Writer: Victoria Hunt (Te Arawa/Rongowhaakata/Ngati Kahaungunu)
Australia/New Zealand | 2019 | 9 min
English/Māori w English Subtitles | Short Documentary
Canadian Premiere | Rating: G

Blending haunting contemporary dance and the archival history of Hinemihi, a sacred Māori meeting house, director, and dancer, Victoria Hunt, tells the story of the house. Stolen by a collector 130 years ago, Hunt creatively pleads for the Hinemihi's return to Aotearoa.

After performing for many years with Tess De Quincy's Body Weather company, Victoria began to produce her dance works. Her work has been presented at national and international festivals. Take is her first film.



He Hekenga Tūhura

Director/Writer: Allen George (Māori)
Producer: Justin Scott (Māori)
New Zealand | 2019 | 8 min
Māori w English Subtitles | Short Documentary
International Premiere | Rating: G

Award-winning Māori director, Allen George, lovingly honours his late uncle, Hector Busby, in this moving short documentary. A Master Waka Builder and Celestial Navigator, Hector reflects on his journey learning the old ways in his last interview.

Allan George (Ngati Kahungunu) is a writer/director/editor. He is also a five-time Tropfest NZ finalist and winner of the LA Shorts Fest 'Best Screenplay Award'.



What If

Director/Writer: Daniel King (Indigenous Australian)
Producer: Tony Briggs (Yorta Yorta/Wurundjeri)
Australia | 2019 | 8 min
English | Short Documentary
International Premiere | Rating: G

Five First Nations community members in Australia try to imagine what a hypothetical treaty would look like if it had been signed in 1778. Desiring sovereignty of the land and laws, they speculate a different history and future with more cultural understanding.

Daniel King is an Indigenous Australian freelance filmmaker, starting in film lighting in 1999 where he worked professionally for seven years. Daniel has since made numerous documentaries for TV both nationally and internationally.

Seven Sisters
One Day in the Life of Noah Piugattuk
Hunting with my Ancestors
Dance to Miss Chief
Reclamation
Kissed by Lightning
The Peacemaker Returns
Rosie
Listen to the Land
Mohawk Midnight Runners
My Legacy
The Lodge
Sgaawaay K'uuna (Edge of The Knife)
Fire Song
Shooting Geronimo
The Embargo Project
The Cave
Electronic Totem
Atanarjuat: The Fast Runner
ingin among us
2510037901
A Windigo Tale
OChiSkwaCho
The Oldest Tree in the World
The Violence of a Civilization without Secrets
Creatura Dada
How to Steal a Canoe
2 Spirit Dreamcatcher Dot Com
Before Tomorrow
The Saver
Niagara
Stolen
The Wagon Burner
Woodcarver
The Colony
water into fire
Our Living Treasures
A Nation is...
Gift of the Grandfathers
A Grim Fairy Tale
Just One Word
and many more...

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Oursons (Bear Cubs)

Director/Writer/Producer: Nicolas Renaud (Huron-Wendat)

Canada | 2019 | 9 min

French w English Subtitles | Short Documentary

World Premiere | Rating: G

This short documentary features Wendat Elder, Rolland Sioui, sharing his life experiences and cultural artifacts. With the feel of having tea on the trapline, Rolland weaves stories behind his creations and of survival on Wendake First Nation in Quebec.

Nicolas Renaud is a filmmaker, film editor, and video installation artist. For over 20 years, he has made experimental and documentary work that often explores our relationship with nature, perception, and language.



Now is the Time

Director/Writer: Christopher Auchter (Haida)

Canada | 2019 | 16 min

English/Haida w English subtitles | Short Documentary | Rating: G

Fusing stop animation, archival footage, and present-day interviews, Haida carver, Robert Davidson, takes a nostalgic look back at a totem pole carving and raising in 1969. What began as a revival of a lost cultural practice, turned into a community celebration that bridged generations and clans on Haida Gwaii.

Christopher Auchter grew up roaming the beaches and forests of the Haida Gwaii archipelago off Canada's West Coast, and his art is rooted in the land and stories of the Haida people.



Vai

Directors/Writers:

Becs Arahanga (Aotearoa)
Amberley Jo Aumua (NZ Born Samoa)
Matasila Freshwater (Solomon Islands)
Dianna Fuemana (Niue)
Miria George (Kūki ' irani)
'Ofa-Ki-Levuka Guttenbeil-Likiliki (Tonga)
Marina Alofagia McCartney (Samoa)
Nicole Whippy (Fiji)

Writer: Sharon Whippy (Fiji)

Producers: Kerry Warkia (Papua New Guinean), Kiel McNaughton (Waikato/Tainui)
New Zealand | 2019 | 88 min
English/Māori/Tongan/Samoan w English Subtitles |
Dramatic Feature
Toronto Premiere | Rating: G

From the producers of *Waru* (2017), comes a new and highly anticipated portmanteau film written and directed by a sisterhood of Pacific filmmakers, and shot on location in seven different pacific countries. Themes of womanhood, tradition, and empowerment are explored through the story of the eponymous character of Vai who is portrayed at various stages in her life from the age of seven to eighty by eight different actresses.

Becs Arahanga wrote and directed the short film Laundry which had its international premiere at imagineNATIVE in 2017 and was selected for the New Zealand International Film Festival 'Best Shorts'. Becs' latest short film, Hinekura, is having its North American Premiere at imagineNATIVE this year.

Amberley Jo Aumua is a writer/director. Her first short film Waiting (2017) won the Jury Prize for Best Film at the New Zealand International Film Festival, Best Student Film at the Show Me Shorts International Film Festival and was in competition at Toronto International Film Festival. Her short film Moa Ma Le Pinko (Chicken & Bingo, 2018) screened at imagineNATIVE in 2018.

Matasila Freshwater is a writer/director with a background in anthropology, film, and animation. She is passionate about exploring cultural complexities through storytelling. Matasila's last animated short film Shmeat (2016), was a New Zealand International Film Festival Official Selection for New Zealand's Best Short Film.

Dianna Fuemana's career as a playwright and theatre director spans twenty years with her plays being published and produced internationally. She delved into filmmaking in 2012 when she won the Script to Screen Writers' Internship with Killer Films in NYC. Her first short film Sunday Fun Day won the Sun Jury Prize at imagineNATIVE in 2017.

Miria George is a poet and writer, director, producer of theatre. As an award-winning playwright, Miria's work toured New Zealand, Australia, Hawai'i, Canada, and the United Kingdom. Her plays include And What Remains, Sunset Road, The Vultures and The Night Mechanics. The Wet Season is Miria's debut collection of poetry, published by the Wai-te-ata Press. Vai is Miria's film directorial debut.

'Ofa-Ki-Levuka Guttenbeil-Likiliki is guided by gender equity, feminism, human rights and human rights. What she loves most is telling stories and prioritises giving voice to the lived realities of women and children's stories across the Pacific.

Marina Alofagia McCartney is powerfully aware of her cultural heritage, how this affects the way we are viewed, and how we view others. She holds an MA in Screen Production First Class Honours and is an award-winning filmmaker and teaching fellow at Pacific Studies, University of Auckland.

Nicole Whippy was born in Suva, Fiji where she lived for the first couple of years of her life until her family migrated to NZ. She is best known for her work as a television and theatre actress. Vai will be her film directorial debut.

Co-Presented by:
Women in Film & Television - Toronto



Liremu Barana (Soul of the sea)

Director: Elvis Rigoberto Caj Cojoc (Maya/Q'qchi'/Alta Verapaz)

Writers: Elvis Rigoberto Caj Cojoc (Maya/Q'qchi'/Alta Verapaz), Elisa Pirir (Pirir/kaqchikel/San Juan Sacatepequez Guatemala)

Producer: Elisa Pirir (Pirir/kaqchikel/San Juan Sacatepequez Guatemala)

Guatemala/Norway | 2019 | 9 min

**Guarayo w English subtitles | Short Drama
World Premiere | Rating: G**

Arisa dances every day and night to songs that tell of the struggles of her people. Her mother warns her not to make the same mistakes that she did as a young woman. Poetic and atmospheric, *Liremu Barana* subtly addresses themes of race and colonialism.

Elvis Rigoberto Caj Cojoc's work has screened at the Havana Film Festival, Vancouver Latin American Film Festival, and the Icaro Film Festival. He is now developing his first feature with the Norwegian company Mer Film.

This program is also available as a second screening on Sat, Oct 26 at 12:30PM in TIFF Bell Lightbox Cinema 2.



Dark Place

Director/Writers: Kodie Bedford (Djaru), Perun Bonser (Aboriginal), Rob Braslin (Aboriginal), Liam Phillips (Aboriginal), Bjorn Stewart (Kuku Yalanji)
Producers: Majhid Heath (Gumbaynggirr/Dunghutti), Hayley Johnson (Wiradjuri)
Australia | 2019 | 75 min
English | Dramatic Feature
Canadian Premiere | Rating: R

A horror film that has it all, welcome to a *Dark Place*, a collection of shorts films from five filmmakers from the First Nations of Australia. Full of revenge, insomnia, supernatural forces, water zombies, land zombies, and of course, comedy!

Kodie Bedford is a freelance writer for television and film and co-founded the Indigenous arts group Cope ST Collective. She produced Last Drinks at Frida's which had its International Premiere at imagineNATIVE in 2017.

Perun Bonser is a freelance filmmaker who recently has written and directed various documentaries and short-dramas through ScreenWest and Screen Australia. His films screened on ABC, NIT.V., and various internationally recognised film festivals.

Rob Braslin is a filmmaker from Tasmania, Australia. In 2017, his short film Film B-side 48 horror received an honourable mention for the 48 horror challenge. He will write and direct his first fully funded short horror film Vale Light coming out in Oct 2019 on ABC iView.

Liam Phillips is a writer-director. While attending the University of Melbourne, he studied creative writing and cultural studies, with a focus on film. Foe is his first financed short film.

Bjorn Stewart is a Sydney based actor, writer, and director. He directed the short film Last Drinks at Frida's, which had its international premiere at imagineNATIVE in 2017. Bjorn is currently working on his most controversial film yet, Killer Native.



Zombies and Indians

Director/Writer: Keith Lawrence (Cree)

Producer: Spencer Estabrooks, Keith Lawrence (Cree)

Canada | 2018 | 12 min

English | Short Drama | Rating: PG

It's the zombie apocalypse, and two friends, Kirt and Will, are on watch at the barricades surrounding the Rez. With visions and ammunition, can they save the Rez from another Zombie attack?

Keith Lawrence is a Cree filmmaker from Alberta, Canada and has written and directed short films that have garnered various short film awards and nominations for short films Last Winter (1998), Magical (2001) and Dead Walkers (2010).

Blood Quantum

THUR 9:30PM
TIFF Bell Lightbox - Cinema 3 **OCT 24**



Special Presentation

Blood Quantum

Director/Writer: Jeff Barnaby (Mi'gmaq)

Producers: John Christou, Rob Vroom

Canada | 2019 | 96 min

English/Mi'gmaq | Dramatic Feature | Rating: 18A

**Limited
Seating!**

Supporting Partner:



The feverishly-anticipated second feature film from Jeff Barnaby is here! On the seemingly idyllic Mi'gmaq community of Red Crow the dead are starting to rise. Amidst this rising zombie apocalypse the only people who are immune are those with Native blood. Eviscerating the zombie genre, Barnaby presents a remarkably potent story of survival and identity...with a fair helping of blood and guts. The star studded cast includes Michael Greyeyes, Elle-Máijá Tailfeathers, Brandon Oakes, Forrest Goodluck, and Gary Farmer.

Jeff Barnaby was born on a Mi'gmaq reserve in Listuguj, Quebec. He has directed the shorts From Cherry English (2004), The Colony (2007), File Under Miscellaneous (2010), and Bleed Down (2015). His award-winning debut feature, Rhymes for Young Ghouls (2013), screened at imagineNATIVE. Blood Quantum (2019) is his latest film.



The Book of the Sea

Director/Writer/Producer: Aleksei Vakhrushev (Yupik)
Russia | 2018 | 85 min
Chukchi/Russian with English Subtitles |
Documentary Feature | Rating: 14A

A hybrid documentary that introduces the viewer to the Chukotkan way of life following a group of whale hunters who practice their traditional harvesting within the contemporary Russian state. Blended throughout the film is Elders, Alexander and Alexei's, story of the woman who gave birth to a whale" told through vivid animation in this ongoing struggle for survival and preservation of culture.

Alex Vakhrushev, a Yupik native of Anydyr Chukotka, has been in the film industry for over 20 years focusing mainly on northern Russian content. A graduate from the Russian filmmaking institute, Vakhrushev returns to imagineNATIVE for the first time in 20 years.

Co-Presented by:
Toronto Animated Image Society
Toronto Animation Arts Festival International

Supporting Partner: **Inuit Art**
FOUNDATION



Names for Snow

Director: Rebecca Thomassie (Inuk)
Producer: Odile Joannette (Innu)
Canada | 2018 | 5 min
Inuktitut with English Subtitles | Documentary Short
World Premiere | Rating: G

Rebecca Thomassie teaches her daughter the different names for snow in Inuktitut in this uplifting tale of cultural perseverance.

Rebecca Thomassie is an emerging Inuit filmmaker who centres her work around Inuit culture.

Perceptions are everything, but they are not always accurate. See, hear and become aware of the truth through this selection of inspiring, confronting and confusing stories that reflect the community, their friends and their foes... which are sometimes themselves.

Supporting Partner:



43%

Directors/Producers: Simon Mckerral, Carter Rainville (Mi'kmaq)
Canada | 2019 | 3 min
English | Short Documentary
World Premiere | Rating: PG

Featuring Rita Olink, a transgender activist who talks about her struggles with depression and inspiring others to overcome it, so they do not become part of the 43% who don't.

Carter Rainville is an emerging filmmaker based in North Bay, Ontario, currently attending Canadore College for Digital Cinematography.



Ngā Koekoeā

Directors: Joshua Teariki Baker (Cook Islands), Chaplin Hall (Kanaka Maoli), Jamiee Poipoi (Ngāti Kahungunu)
Producer: Libby Hakaraia (Ngati Raukawa/Ngati Toa Rangatira/Te Ati Awa)
New Zealand | 2019 | 9 min
English | Short Documentary
International Premiere | Rating: G

A young Māori girl reflecting on a bad day meets Shaniqua (30 years old) who inspires her to be strong and be who she is with no regrets or shame.

NGĀ KOEKOEA was created through Māoriland Film Festival's NATIVE Slam, an international Indigenous collaboration challenge. Joshua Teariki Baker has studied film production in New Zealand and Australia. His short film A Boy From Rarotonga was selected to screen at the New Zealand International Film Festival in 2018. Chapin Hall is a Hawai'i and Los Angeles based cinematographer. Out of State, for which he was cinematographer, screened at imagineNATIVE in 2017. Jaimee Poipoi is a NZ filmmaker who has worked her way up from art department with significant roles on projects such as Born to Dance and produced the short film Krystal which will premiere at imagineNATIVE this year.



Forgive Me

Director/Producer/Writer: Chelsea Winstanley (Māori)
United States | 2019 | 11 min
Persian w English Subtitles | Short Drama
World Premiere | Rating: PG

A friendly game of chess becomes a game of lies and deception, where there is no winner.

An award-winning filmmaker, Chelsea Winstanley has been a producer, writer and director for over 15 years, with titles that include What We Do in the Shadows, the acclaimed feature documentary MERATA; How Mum Decolonised the Screen and Waru.



Indians Never Die - Black Belt Eagle Scout

Director/Producer: Evan James Benally Atwood (Diné/Navajo)
United States | 2018 | 5 min
English | Music Video | Rating: G

Indians Never Die is beautifully simple and authentic, while honoring ancestral Indigeneity.

Evan James Benally Atwood is a queer Diné photographer who is passionate about working within the queer, Indigenous feminist communities, documenting stories that need to be heard, and uplifting marginalised voices.



What Do You See

Director/Writer: Michael Bonner (Yanyuwa/Jingili)
Australia | 2018 | 5 min
English | Short Documentary
Canadian Premiere | Rating: G

In this short hybrid documentary, Sereena, instead of justifying who she is, confronts stigma and stereotypes around being transgender by using her surrounds as a visual metaphor to express that everything is not as it appears to be.

Michael Bonner is an experienced filmmaker with eight years in the industry. He is currently writing and directing for two short films currently in production, and an Indigenous feature documentary Warrior Nation.



Gently, Jennifer

Director / Producer: Katie Avery (Inupiaq)

United States | 2019 | 9 min

English | Short Drama

World Premiere | Rating: PG

A fun coming of age film about two teen girls exploring what it means to be a woman by looking at a porn magazine. Through fantasy and a kiss, unexpected things happen.

Katie Doane Avery is a filmmaker whose stories focus on feminine, queer, and Indigenous character-driven narratives that seek to blend cinematic realism with surreal and musical moments. Her short film Polar Sun screened at imagineNATIVE in 2016.



A Song Often Played on the Radio

Director/Writer: Raven Chacon (Dine), Cristobal Martinez (Xicano)

Producers: Raven Chacon (Dine), Blackhorse Lowe (Navajo), Cristobal Martinez (Xicano)

United States | 2019 | 23 min

English/Spanish w English Subtitles | Short Drama

Canadian Premiere | Rating: G

In a search for the mythological cities, a horseman finds himself in a race against another rogue. Spurred by the justification of moralistic 'dichos', the rival explorers come to learn about what truly brought them to this land, understanding their true identities and finding they were only stealing from themselves.

Raven Chacon is a composer and artist. He is the recipient of the United States Artists fellowship in Music, The Creative Capital award in Visual Arts, The Native Arts and Cultures Foundation artist fellowship, and won the American Academy's Berlin Prize for Music Composition.

Cristóbal Martínez is an artist in Postcommodity and Radio Healer. He has exhibited in the 18th Biennale of Sydney, Nuit Blanche, Sundance Film Festival, Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art, Museum of Modern Art, and 2017 Whitney Biennial.

Co-Presented by:
2-Spirited People of the 1st Nations



Special Presentation

nîpawistamâsowin: We Will Stand Up

Director: Dr. Tasha Hubbard (Cree)

Producers: Tasha Hubbard (Cree), George Hupka, Bonnie Thompson, Jon Montes

Canada | 2019 | 98 min

English | Documentary Feature | Rating: PG

Supporting Partner:



In her third feature documentary, award-winning director, Tasha Hubbard, follows Colten Boushie's family in their quest for justice. Colton, a young Cree man, was shot and killed by Gerald Stanley, a farmer, after entering his property. Stanley was tried and acquitted by an all-white jury. Hubbard tries to make sense of the verdict while reflecting on raising a young Indigenous son on the prairies where it all happened.

Dr. Tasha Hubbard is a writer, filmmaker, and associate professor at the University of Alberta. She is from Peepeekisis First Nation in Treaty Four Territory. Her first solo writing/directing project, Two Worlds Colliding (NFB), about Saskatoon's infamous "starlight tours," premiered at imagineNATIVE in 2004 and won the Canada Award at the Gemini Awards in 2005.

The short documentary *From Up North* (2017, 13 minutes), directed by Trudy Stewart (Cree) and produced by Janine Windolph (Cree), will screen prior to *nîpawistamâsowin* as a tribute to Trudy's life. See page 21 to read the In Memoriam to Trudy Stewart.

imagineNATIVE Originals presents three short films created through imagineNATIVE's partnerships with four artist-run centres in Canada, and a brand-new music video from the 2018 iN Bullseye Prize winner.

Supporting Partner:



Breathe

Director/Producer/Writer: Kristin Fithern-Stiele (Teslin/Tlingit)

Canada | 2019 | 5 min

English | Short Drama

World Premiere | Rating: G

A young woman struggles to keep her head above water as she struggles to come to terms with her personal identity.

Kristin Fithern-Stiele focuses on stories of people finding themselves and having to deal with two sides of themselves and how those parts fit together, if at all. She has a degree in writing as well as an education in film and in 2018 co-created Of Broken Vessels, a Telus STORYHIVE production.



Into Water

Director/Writer: Cole Forrest (Ojibwe)

Canada | 2019 | 6 min

English | Experimental Short

World Premiere | Rating: G

Into Water is an experimental short film honouring the Indigenous ceremony and medicines connected to water. In the film, June, a water spirit, is preparing through ceremony to return to those very waters.

Cole Forrest is a spoken word poet originally from Nipissing First Nation. He strives for compassion and acceptance within the arts and is proficient in movement, theatre, media, music, and most notably, writing.

Supporting Partner:



Mni Wiconi: Mitakuyelo (Water is Life: Protect It, Defend It)

Director: Victoria Anderson-Gardner (Ojibway)

Producer: K.J. Edwards (Kanien'kehá:ka), Victoria Anderson-Gardner (Ojibway)

Canada | 2019 | 12 min

English | Short Documentary

World Premiere | Rating: G

Nearly a year after meeting at the Oceti Sakowin camp during the NoDAPL resistance movement at Standing Rock, five Indigenous Water Protectors are reunited in Toronto, Ontario to share the ways in which the 'spirit of the camp' created a family out of their shared passion and action, ultimately transforming their lives forever. Brought together by a calling to protect the water, their experiences moved them to further elevate their voices in solidarity with the global Indigenous community.

Victoria Anderson-Gardner is a queer, gender non-conforming Indigenous filmmaker and activist. With a BFA in Film Production from Ryerson, the most recent projects they have worked on include: An Inconvenient Indian directed by Michelle Latimer and the CBC documentary In Search of a Perfect World.



The Light

Director: Tim Myles (Mi'kmaq)

Writer: Indigo Villeneuve-Hollis (Métis), Michael Lantz, Marlon Pennant

Canada | 2019 | 4 min

English | Music Video

World Premiere | Rating: G

Indigo seeks revenge on her abusive ex-boyfriend with the help of her two girlfriends.

Tim Myles is a Toronto based writer/director originally from Newfoundland, with the strong support from the Miawpukek Mi'kamawey Mawi'omi reserve in Conne River. He has directed multiple music videos for artists signed with Universal Music, Island Records, and OVO Sound. He is currently in development for his short film I Don't Throw Small Tantrums.

Experimental in their approach or form these works evoke diverse themes such as memory, trauma, land and body landscapes, nostalgia, and the archive.



Caribou in the Archive

Writer/Director/Producer: Jennifer Dysart (Cree)

Canada | 2019 | 8 min

English | Experimental Short | Rating: PG

A filmmaker works to save a piece of family history from being lost forever while contemplating the differences between archives kept within the family and those belonging to the nation-state.

Jennifer Dysart is an archive enthusiast with a deep love of found footage. Her films, including Kewekapawetan: Return After the Flood (2014), and Moss Origins (2011) have screened around the world.



Rock Piece (Ahuriri Edition)

Writer/Director: Asinnajaq (Inuk)

Producer: Leo Koziol (Kahungunu/Rakaipaaka)

Canada/New Zealand | 2018 | 4 min

No Dialogue | Experimental Short

World Premiere | Rating: G

This experimental film explores the connection between the body and land using natural elements and sounds.

Asinnajaq is a visual artist, film-maker, and writer. She studied cinema at NSCAD University in Halifax. Her film Three Thousand (2017) won the award for best experimental film at the 2017 imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival.



Tune In

Writers/Directors: Tiffany Kewageshig (Ojibway), Cassidey Ritchie (Ojibway),
Canada | 2018 | 4 min
Anishinaabemowin w English Subtitles | Short Documentary
Toronto Premiere | Rating: 14A

Multiple generations of Indigenous women drum by the water as archival photographs animated ghostly superimpositions through layered exposures. Shot on celluloid and hand processed using flowers in place of chemicals, *Tune In* offers visuals that are at once abstract and representational.

Cassidy Ritchie and Tiffany Kewageshig are an Anishnaabekwe youth from Saugeen First Nation and members of the young women's group Ishkiniikwek. They both participated in the 2019 Saugeen Takes on Film workshop, a collaborative youth project who produced Tune In.



Midland Motel Room 77'

Director/Writer/Producer: Bawaadan Collective
Producer: Bawaadan Collective
Canada | 2019 | 20 min
English | Experimental Short
Toronto Premiere | Rating: 14A

Voice over and music along with both still and moving images are employed to tell the story of two lovers are on the run to Northern Ontario after robbing a bank.

Bawaadan Collective (Ojibway, Cree, Oji-Cree, Mohawk) are an Indigenous Collective of local artists who have an incredible respect for the power of sound, cinema, and storytelling.



Spirit Glitch

Writer/Director: Mary Galloway (Cowichan)
Producers: Greg Delmage, Mary Galloway (Cowichan), Annette Reilly, Patrick Sabongui
Canada | 2019 | 8 min
English | Experimental Short
World Premiere | Rating: PG

Alice is spiralling into a pit of despair and anxiety. She must summon every ounce of her willpower to push back at the negativity that threatens to eat away at her and find the strength to face another day.

Mary Galloway made her directorial debut with Unintentional Mother in 2017 and is currently working as a writer and story coordinator on the hit CBC television show Burden of Truth.



Hunkpapa Woman in Black

Director/Producer: Dana Claxton (Lakota Sioux)

Canada | 2018 | 4 min

English | Experimental Short

Ontario Premiere | Rating: G

As a descendant of the victims and survivors of the Wounded Knee Massacre, the artist employs song and multiple layers of video and audio recording to reinterpret a brutal moment in American and Indigenous history.

Dana Claxton is a Hunkpapa Lakota filmmaker, photographer, and performance artist. Her practice investigates beauty, the body, the socio-political, and the spiritual. She has been exhibited, commissioned, and collected both nationally and internationally. Claxton is an Associate Professor at UBC.



Awaskitê-kinêpik - No Black Snake

Director/Producer: Melanie Lefebvre (Métis)

Canada | 2019 | 5 min

English | Experimental Short

World Premiere | Rating: PG

Created in response to the theft of Indigenous land for resource extraction by the oil industry, Moe Clark's music anchors this conceptual film which layers and manipulates images of both natural and corporal landscapes.

Melanie Lefebvre is an artist, writer, and researcher whose work has been exhibited in galleries and published by The Walrus, Maclean's, Muskrat Magazine, and Canadaland. Mel is currently a graduate student in Indigenous Studies at Concordia University.



Lore

Director/Producer: Sky Hopinka (Ho-Chunk/Pechanga)

United States | 2019 | 10 min

English | Experimental Short

North American Premiere | Rating: 14A

Cut-up photos of homeland and landscape are reconstructed and animated by hand using overhead projection while a lyrical voiceover reflects on memory and nostalgia.

Sky Hopinka was awarded the Tom Berman Award for Most Promising Filmmaker at the 54th Ann Arbor Film Festival and exhibited at the 2017 Whitney Biennial.

Co-Presented by:
Images Festival

OCT 25 **FRI 5:15PM**
TIFF Bell Lightbox - Cinema 1

TD Free Friday

**The Incredible 25th Year
of Mitzi Bearclaw**



The Incredible 25th Year of Mitzi Bearclaw

Director/Writer/Producer: Shelley Niro (Mohawk)

Canada | 2019 | 96 min

English | Dramatic Feature | Rating: PG

Mitzi Bearclaw turns 25 years old, and that means making big decisions for the future. Her dream to design cool hats is put on hold when she decides to move from the city back to her isolated reserve to look after her sick and bitter mother. With the reserve bully constantly at her heels and an old flame in her sights, she is grateful that her cousin is there to help her in the fight to stay sane in such a hard place to keep positive. With spirit guides and laughs along the way, join Mitzi in her battle to get her family back on the right track!

Shelley Niro is a member of Six Nations Reserve, Turtle Clan, Bay of Quinte Mohawk. She holds an honours degree in painting and sculpture and a Masters in Fine Art. Her work has been exhibited across Northern America, and she has received considerable recognition for her work as an independent filmmaker with screenings at the Venice Biennale and Sundance Film Festivals.

Co-Presented by:
OCAD University



Nimkii

Writer/Director/Producer:: Ishkwaazhe Shane McSauby
(Gichi Wiikwedong Odawa Anishinaabek)

United States | 2018 | 4 min

No Dialogue | Short Drama

World Premiere | Rating: G

A little girl tests her power as a Nimkii (thunderer) in Brooklyn New York.

Shane McSauby has a Bachelor's Degree in filmmaking at Grand Valley State University and in 2016 became the first Sundance Institute & Native Arts and Cultures Foundation Fellow for his script Mino Bimaadiziwin. Shane is currently in his first year of the MFA program in Writing/Directing at NYU Tisch School of the Arts.

**This program is also available as a sensory
friendly screening on Sat, Oct 26 at 2:00pm in TIFF
Bell Lightbox Cinema 5**



N. Scott Momaday: Words from a Bear

Director: Jeffrey Palmer (Kiowa)

Producers: Jeffrey Palmer (Kiowa), Youngsun Palmer (Kiowa)

USA | 2018 | 84 min

English | Documentary Feature | Rating: G

Supporting Partner:



Up until the late sixties, an Indigenous writer had yet to win a major literary award within the US. That all changed when Kiowa author, N. Scott Momaday, received the 1969 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction for his debut novel *House Made of Dawn*. That recognition helped launch the “Native American Renaissance,” a nationwide emergence of art and literature in a wide variety of forms, and solidified Momaday as one of the most celebrated Native American storytellers. Momaday himself is also a poet and playwright, as well as a short story writer, a breadth of skill and experience charismatically captured in Jeffrey Palmer’s distinctive documentary debut. *Words from a Bear* reveals the inspiring beauty of Momaday’s work while also guiding audiences through the grave historical struggles that Native American communities have faced. The result is a profound celebration of not only Momaday’s writing and history, but also the art of storytelling itself.

Jeffrey Palmer is currently an Assistant Professor of Film at Cornell University. His films have screened around the world at the Sundance Film Festival, HotDocs, Seattle International Film Festival, The Berlinale European Market, PBS Online Film Festival, Māoriland Film Festival, Borneo International Film Festival, imagineNATIVE, and Festival International du Film Ethnographique du Québec (FIFEQ). This film is Palmer’s directorial feature debut. It premiered at the 2019 Sundance Film Festival and will be nationally televised in the USA on the PBS series American Masters in the fall of 2019.

Co-Presented by:

The Word On The Street

**This program is also available as a sensory friendly screening on
Sun Oct 27 4:00PM in TIFF Bell Lightbox Cinema 5.**

OCT 25 **FRI 6:00PM**
TIFF Bell Lightbox - Cinema 3

TD Free Friday

**Night of the
Indigenous Devs**

NIGHT OF THE INDIGENOUS DEVs

Night of the Indigenous Devs

Fri Oct 25 6:00PM

TIFF Bell Lightbox Cinema 3

Think the iNDigital space looks really cool? Not sure what you think of Indigenous video games? Come and experience a taste of the iNDigital Space at *Night of the Indigenous Devs*. Listen to the creators talk while you watch their game played on the big screen, all in the comfort of a TIFF Theatre.

Presented games:

DON'T WAKE THE NIGHT

Brujería @ Werk

Terra Nova

SlipCycle

When Rivers Were Trails

Indian Land Tenure Foundation & Games for Entertainment and Learning Lab

Full of Birds

Ashlee Bird & Sarah Biscarra Dilley

Hold My Hand

Nathan Powless-Lynes

Wao Kanaka

Ka Lei Milika'a Collective

Supporting Partner:



This collection of international short films paints a panorama of Indigenous experiences. As a collection, they run the gamut of drama, comedy, documentary, animation, and experimental forms, weaving some of the most stylistically daring and exciting work by Indigenous filmmakers. While each dives into their respective cultural specificities, they translate into universal themes that connect to any community.



Shinaab, Part II

Director/Producer: Lyle Corbine, Jr. (Ojibwe)

United States | 2018 | 5 min

English | Short Drama | Rating: PG

A young man seeks to honour the memory of his late father while navigating a world that he feels is on the verge of an apocalyptic rebirth. As a meditation on Ojibwe ideas around the processes of death and mourning, we are led on a journey into a foreboding unknown.

Lyle Mitchell Corbine, Jr.'s short films, Shinaab (2017) and Shinaab, Part II (2018), have screened at the Sundance Film Festival and the Toronto International Film Festival. He was supported at the Sundance Institute Screenwriters and Directors Labs.



Giitu giitu (Thank you Lord)

Director/Producer: Elle Sofe Sara (Sámi)

Norway | 2019 | 6 min

Sámi w English Subtitles | Short Documentary

Canadian Premiere | Rating: G

The boundless, religious ecstasy and physical marvel of the Læstadian trance in Sápmi create a soundscape and physical motion unlike anything else. This observation of this culturally specific spiritual practice provides access to the poetry and the history of how this unique form of worship came to be and how it could be passed on.

Elle Sofe Sara, a founding member of Dáiddadállu/ Sámi artist collective, is a choreographer and director who works at the interlaces of video art, filmmaking, and dance. In her works, she regularly sheds light on the social, political, and cultural peculiarities and challenges of the Sámi.



Toa'ipuapuaga Strength in Suffering

Writer/Director/Producer: Vea Mafileo (Tongan/Māori)

New Zealand | 2018 | 10 min

English | Short Documentary

North American Premiere | Rating: PG

In a Samoan village, a young woman appeared to not only resurrect from the dead but also afflicted by the religious phenomenon known as stigmata. She struggles with her newfound attention, her conviction of claiming to be a messenger of God, and her desire for a normal life with her family.

Vea Mafileo is a film-television director and visual artist. In 2011, she was nominated for the International Signature Art Prize (SAPB) and her video work, Monomono 2.0, was selected for an exhibition at the Venice Biennale in 2015. She co-founded the Pasifika production company, Malosi Pictures. She is a co-founder of The Nuku'alofa Film Festival in Tonga and founder of the Okalani Film Festival in New Zealand.



Tuyuku (Ahuehuete Tree)

Writer/Director/Producer: Nicolás Rojas Sánchez (Mixteco)

Producer: Casandra Casasola, Erik Baeza

Mexico | 2019 | 17 min

Mixtec w English Subtitles | Short Documentary

International Premiere | Rating: G

The memory of an ancient, storied tree is rekindled in the collective memory of locals. As both tone poem and examination of time and recollection, the tree acts as a reminder and plead for coexistence with the natural world.

Nicolás Rojas Sánchez graduated with a BA in Communication Sciences. In 2018, he wrote a script for his projects Yutu (Tree) and El hombre que salió bajo tierra (The underground man); he also filmed the documentary Tuyuku (Ahuehuete). He is currently developing his debut film Welcome to Pueblo Viejo at the story laboratory in Morelia: Sundance 2018.



You, the Choice of My Parents

Director: Tumeli Tuqota (Fijian)

Writer: Konai Helu Thaman (Fijian)

Fiji | 2019 | 4 min

Tongan w English Subtitles | Short Animation

Canadian Premiere | Rating: PG

Based on a poem by the prolific Konai Heli Thaman, one woman's musings of her arranged marriage are laid bare over a series of traditional Tongan tapestries. Through a series of chapters, her life is animated by her inner turmoil and struggles to find her place as a woman in a new world.

Meli Tuqota Jr.'s father hails from Vanua Levu, Fiji and his mother is from Ha'apai, Tonga. He has over 15 years of experience with graphic design, motion design, 2D and 3D animation, filmmaking, and drawing stick figures with both hands.



Ho mamma e dau for hælvetē (Mum's Dead for Fuck's Sake)

Director: Per Ivar Jensen (Sámi)

Norway | 2019 | 14 min

Norwegian w English Subtitles | Short Drama | North American Premiere | Rating: 14A

After the passing of their mother, a family is reunited. After respective conflicts with their Sámi identity, they are pushed to a breaking point. As the brothers and their wives duke it out, their jabs reach comedic levels of pettiness before coming to their understandings of what it means to accept or deflect their culture.

Per-Ivar Jensen was educated at Oslo Film & TV Academy and has directed several short films. Jensen is an accomplished musician as the leading figure of the band The Replaceable Heads and Per Ivars Orchestra.



Down on the Sidewalk in Waikiki

Director/Producer: Justyn Ah Chong (Kanaka Maoli)

Producer: Kekama Amona (Kanaka Maoli), Iwalani Kualii Kahoohanohano (Kanaka Maoli)

United States | 2019 | 20 min

English | Short Drama

Canadian Premiere | Rating: 14A

Inspired by the poetry of the late Hawaiian poet Wayne Kaumualii Westlake, this portrait of Hawaii delves into the world of a meek janitor triggered by memories of trauma buried deep beneath the veneer of a seemingly Pacific paradise. While navigating a homeland overwrought and desecrated by tourism, the janitor finds and strengthens his voice to cut through the noise.

Born and raised on the island of Oahu, Justyn is a Native Hawaiian filmmaker seeking to share unique and culturally-rooted stories. Upon graduating from USC's School of Cinematic Arts, Justyn returned home to Hawaii where he began working as a full-time videographer and editor at OIwi Television Network - Hawaii's first and only Indigenous television station. Justyn continues to share culturally inspired, place-based stories through his production company, Olona Media.

Co-Presented by:
Regent Park Film Festival





The Cursed Harp

Director/Writer/Producer: Peter Hiki (Sakha)

Russia | 2019 | 83 min

Sakha w English Subtitles | Dramatic Feature

International Premiere | Rating: 14A

A young teacher, Sardaana arrives at a village for work as a teacher. She meets a young photographer Nyurgun, and he invites her to look at the museum full of spooky items. When Nyurgun is absent for business, Sardaana falls under the influence of the call of an ancient khomus in a locked box. With jumps and scares at every turn, this film is a must-see for any horror fan.

Peter Hiki is currently working at MyTona LLC as a senior motion designer. His first short film The Phantom Khomus won 1st place award at the Far Eastern festival of feature shorts Point of Return in 2018.

Sardana Savvina is a producer, promoter of Sakha cinema, researcher - film studies. A founder and a leader of the Sakha Cinema Club - Yakutia's Independent Filmmakers' Community. For 13 years she has worked at the Arctic State Institute of Culture & Arts as a lecturer and a head of International Office. Alternate member of the University of the Arctic. Currently works as a producer at National Company Sakhafilm.

Dmitrii Shadrin graduated from the Mikhail Shchepkin Higher Theatre School (Moscow) in 2006. Together with Alexey Egorov and Roman Dorofeev he established the DetSAT an Academic Theater. For the last four years, Dmitrii Shadrin has been working as a head of Sakhafilm State National Film Company. He is a general producer of Toyon kyyi (The Lord Eagle).

Co-Presented by:
The Bloody Mary Film Festival



Breaking Down

Director/Writer/Producer: Jessica Lea Fleming (Métis)

Canada | 2019 | 4 min

English | Music Video | Rating: PG

Breaking Down celebrates the power of metamorphosis and the journey of an evolving artist.

Jessica Lea Fleming is of Métis and Scottish ancestry, from Penetanguishene, Ontario. She is an award-winning filmmaker, published poet, producer, and performer, this is Jessica's imagineNATIVE directorial debut.



The Beat

Friday, October 25 | 9:00pm

Featuring: Drmngnow, Sebastian Gaskin, Piqsiq, Sufyvn, Boogey the Beat
The Horseshoe, 370 Queen St W

Join us for an evening of new and live Indigenous music!
Presented in partnership with Revolutions Per Minute (RPM)

We will also announce this year's iN Bullseye contest winner- a national talent search
for emerging music talent in partnership with Slight Music.

SLAIGHT
MUSIC



Featuring:

Boogey The Beat (Winnipeg) - Anishinaabe beatmaker, producer, and DJ. Boogey The Beat blends traditional Indigenous songs with modern electronic beats. His DJing skills have landed him on stages for the Indspire Awards, Canada Day 150 Main Stage in Ottawa, National Aboriginal Day LIVE presented by APTN, and multiple festivals across Turtle Island.

Sebastian Gaskin (Winnipeg) - Indigenous soul, blues, and R&B from Manitoba - performing with Boogey the Beat. Sebastian Gaskin is an R&B singer/songwriter and guitarist that creates music for your late nights and early mornings, creating reverb-soaked soundscapes combined with heart-thumping bass and melancholic melodies.

Drmngnow (Australia) - Decolonial Indigenous hip-hop with deep ancestral connections. Neil Morris has established Drmngnow as a captivating blend of forward-thinking hip-hop production, R&B fundamentals, and resolute messaging regarding Australia's Indigenous history and Indigenous future.

Piqsiq (North West Territories) - ethereal beats and soundscapes meet Inuit throat-singing experiments. With a style perpetually galvanized by darkness and haunting northern beauty, sisters, Tiffany Kuliktana Ayalik and Kayley Inuksuk Mackay, come together to create Inuit style throat singing duo.

NWT Artist Supported by:



Sufyvn (Sudan) - Sudanese beats & electronics
Growing up in Sudan, Sufyvn (government name Sufyan Ali) was steeped solely in the incredible diversity of Sudanese music, where hundreds of distinct languages and ethnicities collide. (credit: Vogue July 25, 2017)

Ruthless Souls

SAT 10:00AM
TIFF Bell Lightbox - Cinema 2 **OCT 26**



Ruthless Souls

Director: Madison Thomas (Ojibwe/Saulteaux)

Producer: Darcy Waite (Cree)

Canada | 2019 | 84 min

English | Dramatic Feature

World Premiere | Rating: 14A

Ruthless Souls follows Jackalope "Jackie" Cambell, a tough as nails Ojibwe artist born and raised in the strange land of Winnipeg, Manitoba. On the first anniversary of her partner's tragic death, she's back at work and spends her free time, drinking and smoking up "on the regular". Trying to cope with the guilt around her partner's death due to complications from gender reassignment surgery, she finds that her relationships are on the brink.

Madison Thomas is a filmmaker from Winnipeg, Manitoba. Her work reflects her mixed cultural roots, Ojibwe, Saulteaux, Russian, and Ukrainian. Thomas has a BA with a major in Filmmaking, University of Winnipeg and attended the Prague Film School's summer intensive program. She is also the co-owner of Prairie Kid Productions.



Kuobžâ já mun (The Bear and I)

Director: Heli Huovinen (Sámi)

Finland | 2019 | 2 min

Inari Sámi w English Subtitles | Short Animation

International Premiere | Rating: G

The bear has always been significant to Inari Sámi mythology, both honoured and feared of all animals. In this dreamy story, Huovinen weaves together poetry, drawing and traditional Inari Sámi vocals together paint a picture of the relationship of love and transformation.

Heli Huovinen, an Inari Sámi artist from Finnish side of Sápmi, has worked with Sámi media and theatre since 2007. She is a Drama Instructor and studied Sámi Music and Media at the Sámi Educational Institute. Huovinen produces Sámi children programs in Yle for the Finnish public service broadcasting company. Autumn 2019, she will be working as an actress in opera produced by Soundstream and Beaivváš Sámi National Theatre in Toronto.



Wik vs Queensland

Director/Writer: Dean Gibson (Aboriginal)

Australia | 2018 | 84 min

English | Documentary Feature

International Premiere | Rating: PG

As Australia goes through a period of political upheaval, the Indigenous people of Wik are fighting for their right to their native title through the courts. Whether or not the law will fall in their favour or even passed hangs in the federal election that co-indices with their historic court battle.

Dean Gibson is an Indigenous Australian Director with many years of experience in the industry moving between broadcast and film throughout his career.

Co-Presented by:
Cinema Politica



Hae Hawai'i

Director: Ty Sanga (Hawaiian)

Producers: Grey Doi (Hawaiian), Caleb Lucero (Hawaiian)

United States | 2018 | 17 min

English/Hawaiian w English Subtitles | Short Drama

Canadian Premiere | Rating: PG

A story of the annexation of Hawaii and the plight of native Hawaiians to keep some piece of their sovereignty.

Born and raised in Hawaii Ty Sanga achieved an MFA in film making and BFA in ethnic studies. An accomplished short film director and successful television director this is their fourth short film.

This collection of short films reveal reflections of choice, actions before mobilisation or following. A moment, Precipice, the power to select.

Supporting Partner:



IKAAKIIMAAT

Director/Producer: Conor McNally (Métis)

Canada | 2019 | 9 min

English | Short Documentary

World Premiere | Rating: G

A young woman recounts her time in foster care and how the trials and tribulations of life in care affected her artistic practice.

Conor McNally is a filmmaker based in Amiskwaciy (Edmonton, Treaty 6). Bypassing formal film training, Conor creates works through a combination of instinct and hands-on trial and error as well as a community of friends that contribute in massive ways. He is a proud father and member of the Métis Nation of Alberta.



Awa

Director: Morningstar Derosier (Anishinaabe), Tyson Mowarin (Ngarluma), Jason Taylor (Ng Ti Maniapoto/Ng Ti Rora/Tainui/Ng Ti Tipa)

Producer: Libby Hakaraia (Ngati Raukawa/Ngati Toa Rangatira/Te Ati Awa)

New Zealand | 2019 | 8 min

English | Short Drama

International Premiere | Rating: G

Awa must choose between school and tradition in a beautiful tale that shows the power of one's connection with the natural environment and the love she has for her Grandmother. On this day, Awa ventures into the bush to collect rongoa (medicine) to heal her ailing Nan.

Awa was created through Māoriland Film Festival's NATIVE Slam, an international Indigenous collaboration challenge. Morningstar Derosier is an Indigenous filmmaker who specializes in environmental and human rights subjects. Jason Taylor is a Māori Filmmaker and educator. Tyson Mowarin is a filmmaker, musician, and journalist.



Home

Director/Producer/Writer: Joshua Robinson (Ngati Ruanui/Ngati Maniapoto/Ngapuhi)
New Zealand | 2018 | 2 min
No Dialogue | Short Animation
North American Premiere | Rating: 14A

An animation where a small child hides within his room from the prospect of violence.

Joshua Robinson is a young Māori filmmaker at just 20 years old and Home is his directorial debut. Robinson is passionate about portraying stories that are universal and accessible.



Freedom Road: YOUTH / OSHKAADIZIIG

Director/Writer: Angelina McLeod (Anishinaabe)
Canada | 2019 | 14 min
English | Short Documentary
World Premiere | Rating: PG

Freedom Road is a five-part documentary series that tells the inspiring story of Shoal Lake 40 Anishinaabe First Nation and their battle to build a road after their community was forcibly relocated and cut off from the mainland so that water could be diverted to Winnipeg. Despite the systemic and personal racism they've already experienced, Freedom Road: YOUTH reveals a sense of optimism and instills hope in them for the future of their community and their ability to contribute.

A member of the Shoal Lake 40 Band, Angelina McLeod is an emerging filmmaker. Freedom Road, a collection of community-based vignettes, is her first collaboration with the National Film Board. She is a masters student at the University of Manitoba.



TIES THAT BIND

Director/Writer: Michael Hudson (Bangarang/Yorta Yorta)
Producer: Gillian Moody (Wodi Wodi/Monaro)
Australia | 2019 | 12 min
English | Short Drama
International Premiere | Rating: PG

17-year-old Thomas is escorted home by police. Arriving home, Thomas is confronted by an overbearing mother, Marlene, who isn't interested in his side of the story. Thomas' punishment turns into reflection, as sounds from the neighbouring house enter his conscious world, triggering him to make a life-changing decision.

Michael Hudson is an emerging writer and director hailing from Shepparton in Victoria, Australia. In 2019, he received the Event Cinemas Best Australian Short Screenplay Award at the 2019 Sydney Film Festival for Ties That Bind.



Bub

Directors: Oriwa Hakaraia (Māori), Te Mahara Tamahana (Māori)

Producers: Libby Hakaraia (Māori Ngati Kapumanawawhiti), Arahia Kapa (Māori Ngati Kuri)

New Zealand | 2019 | 10 min

English | Short Drama

World Premiere | Rating: PG

A small boy comes home to find his grandmother has gone and he has to fend for himself.

Oriwa and Te Mahara are two youth filmmakers who have won youth awards throughout their young filmmaking careers. This is their first professional film.



Collector

Director/Writer: Kassia Ward (Enoch Cree Nation)

Producers: Maral Mohammadian, Jelena Jelena Popovic

Canada | 2019 | 2 min

No Dialogue | Short Animation

World Premiere | Rating: PG

A pair of unlikely travellers encounter a young man on the highway who seems to have forgotten that he can be seen. *Collector* explores the concept of semi-private spaces and how we act when we forget that we might be being watched.

Born in Edmonton and raised on the Enoch Cree Nation, Kassia Ward traces her artistic bent to hearing stories about the trickster Wesakechak as a child and youthful exposure to traditional beading. Having completed BAs in both psychology and biology, she went on to study 3D animation at the Vancouver Institute of Media Arts. Kassia's interests extend from life drawing to oil painting and lighting design. She has created animation for Spotted Fawn Productions and is artist-in-residence at Vancouver's Skwacháys Lodge, Canada's first Indigenous arts hotel.



Tsi Teyoto:te (Even in the Silence)

Director/Writer: Jonathan Elliott (Tuscarora)
Producer: Jonathan Elliott (Tuscarora), Erica Orofino
Canada | 2019 | 4 min
Mohawk w English Subtitles | Short Drama
Canadian Premiere | Rating: 14A

A story of love and loss. Where can young life go after the loss of young love?

Jonathan Elliott is a Tuscarora filmmaker from the Six Nations Reserve, Ontario. Since attending York University's Film Production program, he has worked as a director and cinematographer on a variety of projects. Currently, Jonathan is in development on several projects, including his first feature film. He is a creative director and founder of Paper Frame Pictures, a Toronto-based film production company.

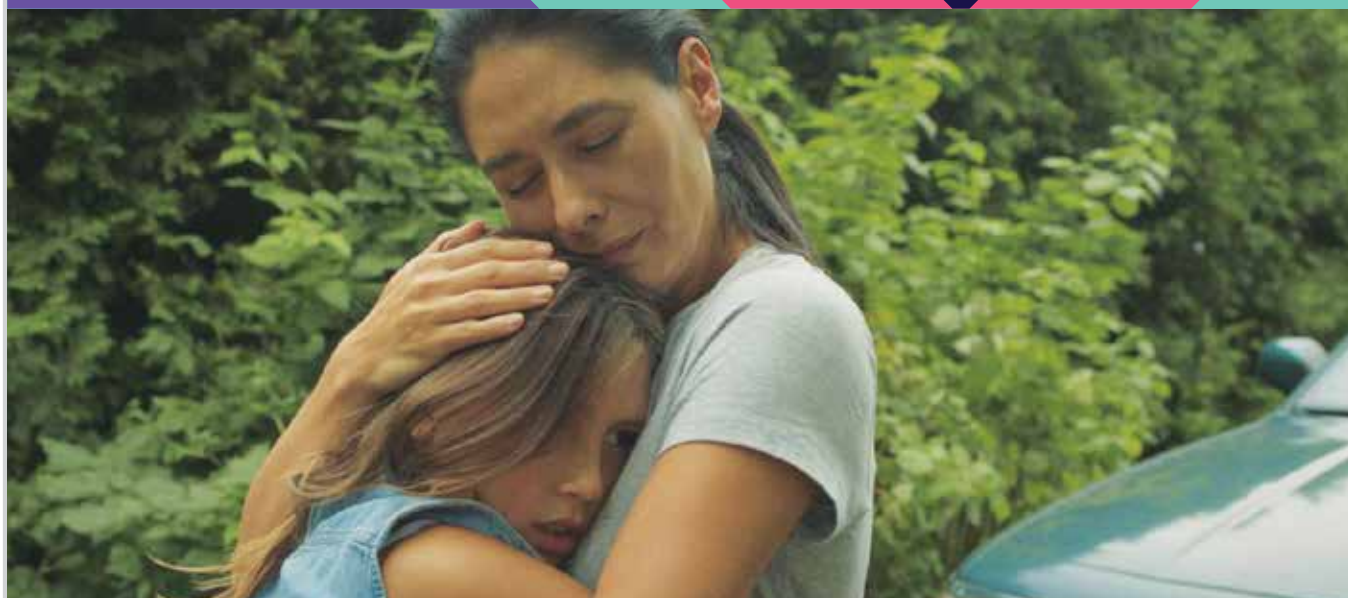


Hinekura

Director/Writer: Becs Arahanga (Kai Tahu/Ngati Raukawa)
Producer: Kath Akuhata-Brown (Ngati Porou), Sharlene George (Rarotonga/Tahiti)
New Zealand | 2019 | 17 min
Māori w English Subtitles | Short Drama
North American Premiere | Rating: 14A

Hinekura, a young Māori girl, embarks on the right of passage ceremony in her community that changes her relationship forever. Hinekura returns to her friend Tama during the ceremony hoping to continue their childhood games. Tama sends her back. She's met on the pathway by her mentor Te Haeata, who trains her in combat. An unhinged warrior, Wairangi, attempts to abduct Hinekura's sister and she is forced to fight him and in doing so accepts her role as a protector of her people.

Becs Arahanga is a 12-year veteran of the film industry and accomplished short film director having won many awards in her native New Zealand. Her incredible passion for telling heartfelt and real NZ stories and is of Kai Tahu/Ngati Raukawa descent. She is currently a producer on the web series Colonial Combat.



Rustic Oracle

Director/Writer: Sonia Boileau (Mohawk)
Producer: Jason Brennan (Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg)
Canada | 2019 | 103 min
English | Dramatic Feature
Toronto Premiere | Rating: 14A

Following her acclaimed first feature film, *Le Dep*, Sonia B. Boileau weaves a spell-binding story from the perspective of eight-year-old Ivy. Her exasperated mother keeps essential information and clues from her because of her age. Frustrated, Ivy tries to unravel the mystery of her older sister's sudden disappearance from their Mohawk community.

Sonia B. Boileau is a bilingual Mohawk filmmaker and a graduate from Concordia University's Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema. Over the last decade, Sonia has developed and produced television projects in English and French, ranging from children's programming to socially driven documentaries.

Supporting Partner: les films **re:zolution**
pictures



Tawaw?

Director/Producer: Tristin Greyeyes (Muskeg Lake Cree Nation)
Canada | 2019 | 3 min
English | Short Drama
World Premiere | Rating: G

A young Indigenous couple moves into their new house. While unpacking, the nosy neighbourhood welcoming committee pops by with friendly chit-chat and food with a side of racism.

Tristan Greyeyes is an emerging filmmaker currently in her third year at Capilano University. She is a feminist who is determined to empower Indigenous people in Canada using the art of filmmaking.

OCT 26 SAT 4:00PM
TIFF Bell Lightbox - Cinema 1

Jordan River Anderson, The Messenger



Special Presentation

Jordan River Anderson, The Messenger

Director/Producer: Alanis Obomsawin (Abenaki)

Canada | 2019 | 65 min

English | Documentary Feature | Rating: PG

Alanis Obomsawin's 53rd film follows the incredible story of Jordan River Anderson. His short life became an issue with the federal and provincial government arguing over who was responsible for his care while in hospital. The lack of support led to the family and Indigenous activist creating "Jordan's Principle", legislation that forces equitable access to government-funded services for First Nations. The film features moving testimonials from children who have been affected by the Principle shared with his family.

Alanis Obomsawin is one of the most prolific Indigenous filmmakers. Hired by NFB in 1967 as a consultant, she went on to make some of Canada's landmark documentaries like Incident at Restigouche (1984) and Kanehsatake: 270 Years of Resistance (1993). A dynamic and highly acclaimed director, Obomsawin is a force that has helped to make Indigenous cinema what it is today.

Following this special screening will be an extended conversation with legendary filmmaker Alanis Obomsawin.



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AIR CANADA



Top End Wedding

Director: Wayne Blair (Batjala/Mununjali/Wakkawakka)
Producers: Rosemary Blight, Kate Croser, Kylie Du Fresne, Miranda Tapsell (Larrakia)
Writers: Miranda Tapsell (Larrakia), Joshua Tyler
Australia | 2018 | 101 min
Tiwi/French w English subtitles | Dramatic Feature
Toronto Premiere | Rating: 14A

An Indigenous lawyer, Lauren, lives in Sydney with her non-Indigenous boyfriend, Ned. They are madly in love and when Ned proposes, they decide to get married immediately in Lauren's home town of Darwin. Once they arrive at her parent's house, they quickly realise that Lauren's mother, Daffy, has run off, leaving behind only a cryptic note and a heartbroken husband. Now Lauren and Ned have only ten days to plan a wedding and track down Daffy, who they believe to be somewhere in the remote far north of Australia. Will they be able to pull it off? *Top End Wedding* is a delightful and romantic comedy that uses charm and humour to examine family, cross-cultural relationships, and Indigenous identity.

Wayne Blair is a television and theatre director, writer, actor and producer. His debut feature The Sapphires (2012) was Australia's highest-grossing film of the year, it premiered at Cannes and has earned worldwide recognition winning eleven Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts Awards (Australian Oscars), including Best Picture and Best Director. In 2015, Wayne co-produced and directed the acclaimed series Cleverman for US network ABC-TV.



Yellow Roses

Director/Writer/Producer: Paula Whetu Jones (Te Aitanga Mahaki/Whakatohea/Ngati Porou)
New Zealand | 2018 | 17 min
English | Short Drama
International Premiere | Rating: 14A

In response to missing her husband and dance partner of 50 years, an elderly woman hires a younger male sex worker to be her companion. A touching story of loneliness, friendship, and unconditional love.

Paula Jones is a New Zealand based filmmaker and the director of Whitiara Production Ltd. She has worked in television production for over 20 years. Her film directorial debut was with her film Mere (2017) which is one of eight vignettes in the internationally acclaimed anthology feature film Waru (2017).

This program is also available as an open captioned screening on Thu, Oct 24 11:00AM in TIFF Bell Lightbox Cinema 3.

Powerful women in dangerous situations, they handle each situation with courage, stamina, hope, and sometimes failure. No matter the outcome, there is always a lesson to be learned from a higher power.



Rū

Director/Writer: Awanui Simich-Pene (Māori)

New Zealand | 2019 | 16 min

English | Short Drama

Canadian Premiere | Rating: 18A

A pregnant woman finds herself alone and in a dangerous situation with a violent gang member.

Awanui Simich-Pene is a director of Waru which opened imagineNATIVE in 2017. She was a recipient of the NZFC Māori Screen Excellence Award in 2018 and is currently developing her debut feature film.



Sisters of Sorrow

Director: Jordan Waunch (Métis)

Producers: James Kingstone, Sean Ronan, Lindsay Willier (Sucker Creek First Nation)

Writer: Gerald Auger (Bigstone Nation), James Kingstone

Canada | 2019 | 10 min

English | Short Drama

World Premiere | Rating: PG

An all-female biker gang set out on a journey to regain their place in the circle of life. They harness their superpowers and battle between dark and light.

Jordan Waunch is a Métis performing artist, public speaker, and filmmaker. As a camera operator and casting associate at Studio 3 Media, Vancouver, Waunch continues to write, direct, and produce his on-line media and collaborate on independent film productions.



Inyanka Sni

Director/Writer/Producer: Razelle Benally (Oglala Lakota/Diné)

United States | 2018 | 5min

No Dialogue | Short Drama

International Premiere | Rating: G

A young woman training in self-defence techniques is distracted by the presence of a man watching her.

Razelle Benally is a writer and director currently in the second year for her MFA in film production. Benally's film I Am Thy Weapon screened at imagineNATIVE in 2016. She is currently developing her first feature narrative film.



The Boxers of Brule

Director: Jesse Adler

Producers: Jesse Adler, Hanna Nordenswan, Tracy Rector (Choctaw/Seminole)

Writer: Shiala Grey-Sky King (Rosebud Sioux Tribe)

United States | 2019 | 39 min

English | Short Documentary

Canadian Premiere | Rating: PG

Devastated by her best friend's suicide, a young Lakota woman creates a girls' boxing team with urgent hope that sport, sisterhood, and tradition will guide herself and the youth toward a safer path.

Tracy Rector is a filmmaker, curator, community organiser, co-founder of Longhouse Media and a 2016 Stranger Genius award winner. She has made over 400 short films and is currently in production of her fifth feature documentary.

Shiala is a Lakota painter with a passion for philosophy and a member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe. Today she fights for Indigenous rights through projects ranging from traditional Navajo weaving to the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous issues, working to expose the plight of her people through film, art, writing, graphic design, and community outreach campaigns.



Ways to See

Director: Jessica Sanderson (Ngati Kahungunu ki Heretaunga/Te Ati Awa)

Producer: Desray Armstrong (Te Aitanga-a`-Hauiti/Nga`ti Porou)

New Zealand | 2019 | 15 min

Māori/English w English Subtitles | Short Drama

International Premiere | Rating: PG

Ways to See is a beautiful dark film about a grieving little girl trying to connect with her depressed mother.

Jessica Sanderson has a joint degree from both Massey University and Toi Whakaari: New Zealand Drama School. Ways to See is her first short film funded by the New Zealand Film Commission. She is currently directing an eight-part documentary television series called Moko and is in script development for a feature film Wai.

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OCT 25
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OCT 26 SAT 9:00PM
Pilsner Hall (Steam Whistle)

imagineNATIVE's 20th Birthday Party!



imagineNATIVE's 20th Birthday Party!

In celebration of imagineNATIVE's 20th year in presenting the best in Indigenous film + new media we invite you to join us for an evening of dance, music, food and fun. You will not want to miss this one!

Plus a special surprise!

Venue: Pilsner Hall (Steam Whistle)
255 Bremner Blvd

Free Shuttle Service
TIFF Bell Lightbox to Pilsner Hall 9:00pm

Featuring: DJ Shub



Maui's Hook

SUN 10:00AM
TIFF Bell Lightbox - Cinema 1 **OCT 27**



Maui's Hook

Director/Writer: Paora Te Oti Takarangi Joseph (Māori)

Producer: Quinton Hita (Māori)

New Zealand | 2018 | 91 min

English/Māori w English Subtitles | Hybrid Documentary Feature

Canadian Premiere | Rating: R

The Māori population has the highest suicide rate in New Zealand. Maui's Hook gives insight into the life and spiritual journey of a young Māori man through dramatic portion.

Paora Joeseeph is a Māori filmmaker from Kaiwhaiki Pa, and a former theatre actor turned director. With a degree in psychology, Joseph uses that knowledge to try and push his films forward.

Co-Presented by:
Toronto Aboriginal Support Services Council (TASSC)



Hugo Blanco, Río Profundo

Director/Producer: Malena Martinez Cabrera (Quechua)

Austria/Peru | 2019 | 108 min

Spanish/Quechua w English Subtitles | Feature Documentary

North American Premiere | Rating: PG

A superstar of the activism world in Peru, he changed the way people view politics freeing communities with his words and his spirit, meet Hugo Blanco. The "Peruvian Che Guevara", a famous Trotskyist guerrilla and legendary peasant leader of the sixties, who preferred to deconstruct his leadership and to encourage self-government, becoming an anonymous activist: Hugo Indio. Today he is an older man, but his spirit and his vision for a better world based on Indigenous values remain strong.

Malena Martinez Cabrera is a Peruvian filmmaker, photographer and cultural journalist based in Vienna, Austria, since 2000. She has a Masters in Creative Documentary (University Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, 2007). Artistic Photography (Schule Friedl Kubelka, Vienna, 2014). Mag. Romanic Philology (University of Vienna, 2006). Bachelor Literature and Linguistics (Universidad Católica, Peru, 1999). Mentoring program with Ruth Beckermann (FC Gloria, Vienna, 2015). ARCHIDOC alumna (La Fémis, 2015). Music studies (Conservatorio Nacional, Lima).

**Special Presentation**

In honour of the late Kwakwaka'wakw filmmaker, Barb Cranmer, Dorothy Christian will introduce a selection of her prolific work curated by Cranmer's family in partnership with the Vancouver International Film Festival.

Barb Cranmer was one of the most prolific and acclaimed Indigenous documentary filmmakers of her generation. Her films have been screened at festivals throughout the world, including the prestigious Sundance Festival, and were regularly celebrated at the American Indian Film Festival in San Francisco where they won numerous awards. Collaborating with members of her family and the community, Barb committed herself to producing a magnificent series of films about cultural renewal and contemporary Kwakwaka'wakw life. "The inspiration for my work," she said, "comes from our people's rich history." Her most recent film, *Our Voices, Our Stories* (2015), produced on the occasion of the St. Michael's residential school demolition in Yalis (Alert Bay), is a necessary document of our time. Barb carried the names T'akwagilogwa (Copper Woman, or woman of wealth), and Lakwalogwa (woman who calls people to join the feast with her). She was politically and socially active, serving for 13 years on Band Council and as co-founders (with her sisters) of the Culture Shock Gallery presenting authentic Indigenous art and the best coffee in Alert Bay.

In an interview in *First Nations Drum* in 2000, Barb described her films this way: "It was important for me to get the truth out there, from our own perspective, and do it with the respect and integrity that comes from our community. That's been a driving force, for me...I see myself as a kind of messenger of stories. Basically, the way I see it is that I can look at these films twenty years from now and know that I've helped in maintaining the history and the culture of our people." It is with much love and affection that we gather to pay tribute to Barb Cranmer, to remember her generous spirit, and to acknowledge all that she accomplished in her life.

Description provided by Vancouver International Film Festival

imagineNATIVE is honoured to host Barb's sisters, Donna and Andrea Cranmer, for this special screening. Miikwehc to Barb's community members from 'Namgis First Nation, of the Kwakwaka'wakw of Alert Bay, British Columbia, Moving Images Distribution, and Vancouver International Film Festival for assisting us with this screening.



Our Voices: Our Stories

l'tustogalis Rising Up Together

Director: Barb Cranmer (Kwakwaka'wakw)

Canada | 2015 | 39 min

English | Short Documentary | Rating: G

An estimated 9,200 children passed through the doors of St. Michael's Indian Residential School in Alert Bay, British Columbia between 1929 and 1975. Numbers replaced their names, their Indigenous languages were forbidden, family ties broken, and histories denied. Scores of children died at the school, many were abused and many never returned to their families; following generations continue to be fractured by the horrors of the residential school systems.

In 2015, an important step was taken towards healing for coastal First Nations communities when the looming old Anglican school building was finally demolished. St. Michael's brick walls tumbled down as the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada prepared its comprehensive call to action 'to redress the legacy of residential schools and advance the process of Canadian reconciliation. *Our Voices: Our Stories* features the powerful accounts of residential school survivors.



Gwishalaayt - The Spirit Wraps Around You

Director: Barb Cranmer (Kwakwaka'wakw)

Canada | 2001 | 47 min

Tsimshian w English Subtitles | Short Documentary

Rating: G

While art forms such as carved masks depicting mythic beings by Northwest coast native people have received worldwide recognition, little is known about Chilkat or Northern Geometric weaving also practiced traditionally by these people. Although the art form is thousands of years old, today there are only 15 weavers alive who practice it. Barb Cranmer travelled to Alert Bay, British Columbia, the Yukon, and Alaska to document the work of these six weavers.

Gwishalaayt, which in the Tsimshian language means *The Spirit Wraps Around You*, follows the work of these weavers and presents their woven regalia in cultural context at potlatches and other ceremonies. The weavers share their knowledge and personal experience of practicing an art form that has become a way of life for them, while addressing some of the misconceptions about the weaving that were presented by those who have written about it in the past.



Congratulations to this Year's Winners!

Join us as we recognize and honour this year's jury-selected prize winners!

This year we are pleased to present Ryan McMahon as our host as he guides us through an afternoon of celebrating Indigenous achievement in film and media arts.

Ryan McMahon is an Anishinaabe comedian, writer, and media maker from Couchiching First Nation in Treaty 3 Territory. In 2012, McMahon became the first Indigenous comedian to ever record a solo one hour mainstream comedy special for CBC, when he taped *Ryan McMahon - UnReserved*.

Ryan's five part series, *A 12 Step Program For Canada*, aired on CBC Radio 1's flagship Saturday show, *CBC Day 6 With Brent Bambury*. In the series, McMahon lays out a path to decolonisation and reconciliation, which, of course, is absolutely side splittingly hilarious. It won the 2018 RTDNA award for Best Opinion/Commentary.

When not standing onstage trying to make hundreds of strangers laugh, McMahon's podcasts *Thunder Bay*, *Red Man Laughing* and *Stories From The Land* have garnered millions of downloads globally. *Thunder Bay*, a podcast deep dive into the legacy of colonialism on a small city in Canada, was named to dozens of "Best Of" podcast lists at the end of 2018, including lists in the New York Times, Globe and Mail, and Apple Podcasts.

Award Winners Screenings

Sunday 9:00pm | Oct 27, TIFF Bell Lightbox Cinema 2
Sunday 9:15pm | Oct 27, TIFF Bell Lightbox Cinema 3

imagineNATIVE showcases a selection of works recognized with awards during Sunday afternoon's Awards Presentation. The two screenings are FREE and the selected works being shown will be announced Sunday immediately following the Awards Presentation through imagineNATIVE's website and social media

**The Kent Monkman Award for
Best Experimental Work**



\$500 cash award

Best Audio Work



\$500 cash award

Best Digital or Interactive Work



\$500 cash award

**Best Emerging Digital or
Interactive Work**



\$500 cash award

**Best Indigenous Language
Production**

Supporting Partner



INDIGENOUS
MEDIA
INITIATIVES

\$1,000 cash award

**The Audience Choice Award -
Feature Film**

Supporting Partner



AIR CANADA

\$1,000 cash award

**The Audience Choice Award -
Short Film**

Supporting Partner



VIA Rail Canada

\$1,000 cash award

(Audience Choice Awards to be
announced post Festival via press
release and social media)

**The Jane Glassco Award for
Emerging Talent**

Supporting Partner



Foundation

\$2,000 cash award

**The Ellen Monague Award for Best
Youth Work**



\$500

**The Cynthia Lickers-Sage Award
for Best Short Work**

Supporting Partner



\$1,000 cash award

**Best Documentary Work
Short Format**

Supporting Partner



\$1,000 cash award

The Sun Jury Award



\$1,000 cash award

The Moon Jury Award



\$1,000 cash award

**The Alanis Obomsawin Award for Best
Documentary Work Long Format**

Supporting Partner



\$2,000 cash Award

**Best Dramatic Feature
Supporting Partner**



\$2,000 cash Award

Awards Juries

Moon Jury



Nanobah Becker (Diné) is an award-winning writer/director originally from Albuquerque. Her dramatic shorts *Flat* and *Conversion* have screened at imagineNATIVE and Sundance. She directed Laura Ortman's *I Lost My Shadow*, which won Best Music Video at imagineNATIVE. Their second collaboration, *My Soul Remainer*, was chosen to be part of Ortman's 2019 Whitney Biennial exhibition. Nanobah also wrote and directed *The 6th World*, a sci-fi short about Mars colonisation. Additionally, she was a dialogue director on Disney Pixar's *Finding Nemo* Navajo language dub. Nanobah currently lives in Los Angeles and has several projects in the works.



Jing Haase (Danish) is the Festival Manager for docs and shorts at the Swedish Film Institute. She selects shorts for distribution, plans festival strategies, consults on international distribution, and handles the festival distribution of the selected films. For ten years, Jing organized the Nordisk Panorama Market, the industry part of Nordisk Panorama Film Festival. Year-round she promoted Nordic shorts and docs internationally - including works by Sámi filmmakers - and provided advice on international distribution strategies for short films.



Tearepa Kahi (Waikato, Ngāti Paoa) has been telling stories on stages and screens in Aotearoa for 20 years. His teachers were Merata Mita (film), Jim Moriarty (theatre), and Don Selwyn (acting). His early short film *TAUA: War Party* screened at imagineNATIVE in 2007. Since then, he has gone on to write, direct and produce other Kaupapa Māori films which have screened across the world, most notably *Mt. Zion* (imagineNATIVE 2013), *POI E: the story of our song*, and *Merata: How Mum Decolonised the Screen* (imagineNATIVE 2019). He is a devoted husband, father of four children and, when not making films, he coaches the Under 12 Waitakere Viper Rugby Team.

The Moon Jury adjudicates the following awards:

- Dramatic Feature
- Short Work
- Experimental Work
- Indigenous Language Production
- Moon Jury Prize

Sun Jury



Marjorie Beaucage is a proud Métis Two-Spirited filmmaker, cultural worker, leader, and community-based video activist based in Saskatchewan. Marjorie was a cofounder of the Aboriginal Film and Video Art Alliance, which was a precursor to imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival. As a 'Runner' she worked as a cultural ambassador to negotiate self-governing partnerships and alliances with the Banff Centre for the Arts, V-tape, and Canada Council for the Arts, which resulted in the development of Indigenous arts programs. She also programmed the first Aboriginal Film Festival in Toronto in 1992. In 2018, imagineNATIVE presented a retrospective of her work.



Roger Boyer (Saulteaux) is a writer and director based in Winnipeg. His numerous short films have screened at the American Indian Film Festival, LA Skins Film Festival, and imagineNATIVE, including his short doc *Lost Mocassin* in 2018. Roger is a founder of the Winnipeg Indigenous Filmmaker Collective and the Indigenous Filmmakers Association (IFA). Roger and other IFA Members founded Canada's first Indigenous Film Summit in 2018, which has quickly become a vital annual meeting point for Indigenous screen content creators. Roger is currently working on his first feature film.



Carla Robinson (Haisla/Heiltsuk) is a screenwriter and producer who draws on her experience as a television broadcaster with CBC-TV, a print journalist, and an entrepreneur. Carla is currently a creative consultant on *The Trickster* television series. In 2018 she helped produce *Monkey Beach*, the feature film adaptation of her sister Eden Robinson's award-winning book of the same name. She also wrote and co-produced *The Guide* which screened at the American Indian Film Festival, LA Skins Festival, the Hamilton Film Festival, and won Best Drama in Top Shorts, an on-line film festival.

The Sun Jury adjudicates the following awards:

- Documentary Work - Long Format
- Documentary Work - Short Format
- Emerging Talent
- Youth Work
- Sun Jury Prize

Awards Juries

Water Jury



Gabrielle Hughes (Wampanoag)

Gabe is a member of the Wampanoag Nation. She grew up in Newfoundland, and is a drum carrier for the Qalipu Mi'kmaq Nation. She is currently completing her doctoral thesis on Indigenous video games and the protection of traditional knowledges at the University of Oxford.



Lindsay Nixon (Cree-Métis-Saulteaux)

Lindsay Nixon is a Cree-Métis-Saulteaux curator, editor, writer, SSHRC doctoral scholarship recipient, and McGill Art History Ph.D. student. For their first book *nîtisânak*, Nixon won the prestigious 2019 Dayne Ogilvie Prize and has been nominated for a Lambda Literary Award, an Indigenous Voices Literary Award and several National Magazine Awards.



iskwē (Métis/Cree)

Bridging cross-cultural aesthetics while exploring her own struggle to both fit into and breakaway from modern Western archetypes is an important part of iskwē's artistic vision. She garnered a win at the 2017 West Coast Music Awards (WCMA) for Electronic/Dance Artist of the Year and her 2017 album *The Fight Within* recently received a JUNO nomination for Indigenous Music Album of the Year.

The Water Jury adjudicates the following awards:

Digital or Interactive Work

Emerging Digital or Interactive Work

August "Augie" Schellenberg Award



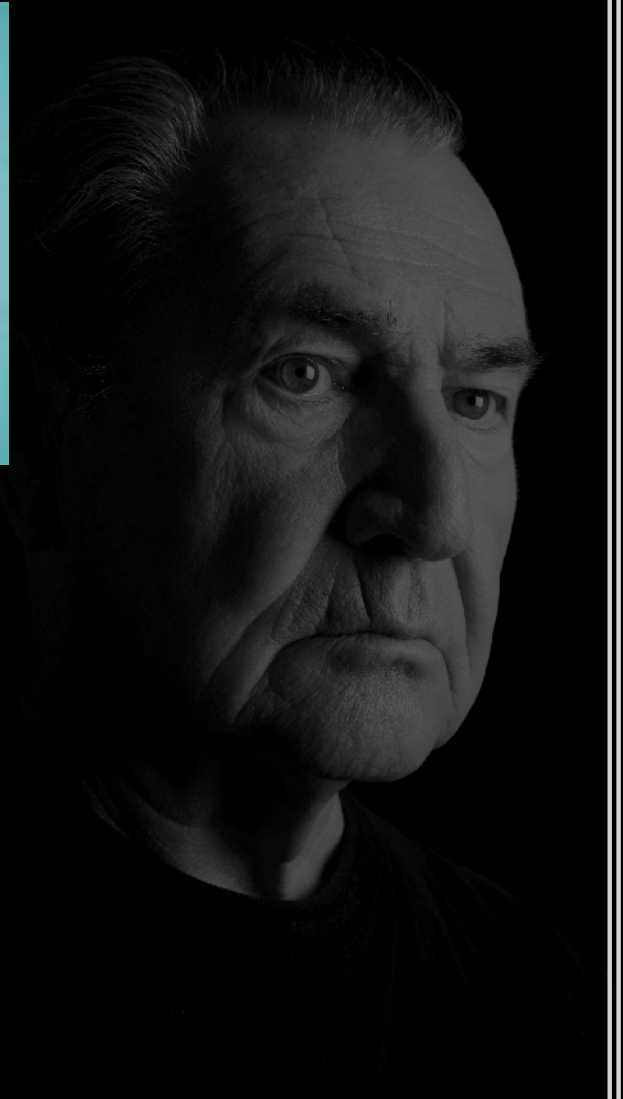
This year imagineNATIVE is proud to honour Michelle Thrush (Cree) with the 2019 August Schellenberg Award of Excellence.

Michelle Thrush has worked professionally in film, television, and theatre for more than 25 years, with her first film role at the age of 17. She has over 40 professional credits in the entertainment industry with numerous awards and special recognitions throughout her illustrious career.

One of Michelle's most celebrated roles - Gail Stoney on the dramatic series *Blackstone* - won her the 2011 Gemini Award for Best Performance by an Actress in a Continuing Leading Dramatic Role. She was also nominated for Best Supporting Actress in 2009 at the American Indian Film Festival, and received a nomination for Best Actress in a TV series at the 2014 Canadian Screen Awards.

Michelle has starred opposite Benecio Del Toro in the feature film *Aka: Jimmy P* which premiered at the Cannes Film Festival. Other feature films include the award winning *Unnatural And Accidental*, *Pathfinder*, *Don't Call Me Tonto*, *Bury My Heart At Wounded Knee*, and *Dreamkeeper*. One of Ms. Thrush's most memorable experiences was working opposite Johnny Depp and Gary Farmer in the feature film *Deadman* directed by Jim Jarmush.

An alumni member of Crazy Horse Aboriginal Theatre Company, where she served for a period of time as Artistic Director. Ms. Thrush continues to write, direct, and produce theatre, and has played many leading roles across Canada.



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

This award is supported by ACTRA National, AFBS and individual donations.





The Sun Above Me Never Sets

Director: Lyubov Borisova (Sakha)
Producer: Sardaana Savvina (Sakha)
Russia | 2019 | 108 min
Sakha w English Subtitles | Feature Drama
North American Premiere | Rating: 14A

Altan gets a job on a desolate island. Unsure and alone, Altan discovers he has a neighbour – elderly Baibal with a special request. Baibal is ready for death and asks the boy to bury him near his wife's grave when he dies. Afraid, everyday Altan does everything to make the old man look forward to living another beautiful day.

Lyubov was born in 1982 in Verkhnevilyuisk. She graduated from the Financial and Economic Institute of Yakutsk State University in 2004 with a degree in World Economy. Since 2011, she has worked in film as an assistant director, second director, executive producer, editing director, screenwriter and director. Currently, she is working as a director in the film company Sakhafilm.

Sardana Savvina is a Producer, promoter of Sakha cinema, researcher. A founder and a leader of the Sakha Cinema Club – Yakutia's Independent Filmmakers' Community. Alternate member of the University of the Arctic. Currently works as a producer at National Company Sakhafilm.

Dmitry Shadrin graduated from the Mikhail Shchepkin Higher Theatre School (Moscow) in 2006. Last four years Dmitrii Shadrin has been working as a head of State National Film Company Sakhafilm. He is a general producer of Toyon kyyi (The Lord Eagle).

Supporting Partner: **MADE**



Old Bead Store

Director/Writer/Producer: Amy Norman (Nunatsiavummuik)
Canada | 2019 | 2 min
English | Music Video
World Premiere | Rating: G

Old Bead Store is a parody of Lil Nas X's massive hit song Old Town Road. It uses the modern meme-parody format of rewriting lyrics to suit a new lyrical narrative, accompanied by familiar image macros that reflect this new retelling. It thematically centres artisanship, and in particular beadwork, as a pivotal aspect of Indigenous life.

Amy Norman is a proud Inuk woman born and raised in Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Labrador - with family ties to North West River and Nain, Nunatsiavut. She is a land protector, a passionate activist, a Girl Guide leader, and a musician. She also makes memes under the handle @ijotiKak on Instagram - focusing on Indigenous issues, politics, and humour, through an Inuit lens.

2019 imagineNATIVE Delegate Bag Design: Ode'imín Mukwa by Catherine Dallaire



Artist Statement

Our communities are beautiful and thriving but also sick with physical illnesses, mental illnesses, and lateral violence. When we're suffering we often ask mukwa, the bear for strength and courage. Also important is ode'imín, the heart berry/strawberry. The berry itself represents love and the plant represents community with all the berries attached to the vine - connected hearts as one entity. This piece, Ode'imín Mukwa is a visual prayer in which manidoo mukwa, the bear spirit, is shown clawing its chest open as a vibrant strawberry plant pours out from inside it, reminding us of the strawberry teachings. This action and the bear's unafraid expression are suggestive of love, empathy, and complete selflessness for the people.

- Catherine Dallaire (cdmetisart.com)



Catherine Dallaire was born in 1979 in Kitchener, Ontario. She is Métis with roots in both the Kichesipirini band of Algonquin (Allumette Island) and the Weskarini band of Algonquin (Trois-Rivières). She is a multidisciplinary fine artist and graphic designer and enjoys working in both traditional and contemporary mediums.

iN20 Special Merchandise



This year, imagineNATIVE will be bringing you a stunning display of artistic and original items to coincide with our 20th year activities. All merchandise will be available at the TIFF Shop located at 350 King St W on sale from October 15 - October 31, 2019.

iN20 Tshirt

For our 20th year tee we are proud to feature art by 2018 Sobey award winning artist Joi T. Arcand of Muskeg Lake Cree Nation, Saskatchewan. The imagineNATIVE logo has been translated into Cree in recognition of 2019 being the year of Indigenous Languages as declared by the United Nations General Assembly.

Thank you to Sage Paul and Shawn Grey for their expertise and guidance. Authentic Appropriations.



Silk Scarves featuring the Art of Alanis Obomsawin

imagineNATIVE presents this extremely limited run of silk scarves by noted filmmaker and artist, Alanis Obomsawin. Obomsawin is recognized as one of Canada's foremost documentary filmmakers, and it is through her films that the language and stories and lives of Indigenous people are portrayed with dignity and authenticity.

On Screen Protocols & Pathways: A Media Production Guide To Working With First Nations, Metis, And Inuit Communities, Cultures, Concepts & Stories

Commissioned by imagineNATIVE and prepared by Marcia Nickerson with support from Communications MDR, this highly-anticipated guide provides cultural principles, key findings from a national consultation process, and best practices for filmmakers, production companies, and funders when depicting Indigenous content on screen, and how communities can be collaborative partners.

This guide was made possible through the support of: Canada Media Fund, the National Film Board of Canada, Ontario Creates, Telefilm Canada, Creative BC, and Inspirit Foundation.

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Our eternal gratitude is given to this remarkable group of volunteers, who gave countless hours of their time as members of imagineNATIVE's Board of Directors.

For most of imagineNATIVE's history, imagineNATIVE's governing body was a working board and was vital in the planning, execution, and success of the Festival and in the growth of the organisation.

We truly could not be here without their generosity, brilliance, and support. Our deepest thanks.

A special and eternal thank you to the founders of The Centre for Aboriginal Media/imagineNATIVE Cynthia Lickers-Sage and Vtape (Lisa Steele, Kim Tomczak, Wanda vanderStoop), and to those tireless trailblazers who cleared the path in decades past so that imagineNATIVE could exist.

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Their kindness, expertise, and passion were instrumental in those early years and remain with us in the present.

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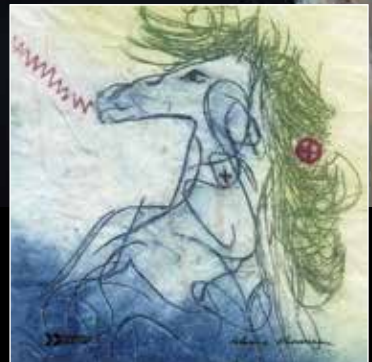


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