

11 DAYS. 115 MOVIES. IT'S A MARATHON.



FESTIVAL PROGRAM GUIDE

 EDMONTON
 INTERNATIONAL
 FILM FESTIVAL

SEP 21—OCT 1 • EDMONTONFILMFEST.COM • #EIFF23

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The Edmonton International Film Festival Society respectfully acknowledges that the land on which we gather is Treaty 6 territory, the traditional land, meeting ground and home for many Indigenous Peoples, including Cree, Ojibway/Saulteaux/Anishinaabe, Niitsitapi/Blackfoot, Métis, Nakota Sioux, Iroquois, and Dene. We also acknowledge all of the Indigenous, Inuit and Métis peoples who make Alberta their home today. Thank-you to the diverse Indigenous peoples whose footsteps have marked this territory for centuries. Their spiritual and practical relationships to the land create a rich heritage for our learning and our life as a community.

LIGHT THE BRIDGE: SEPTEMBER 21!

The High Level Bridge will be lit up in sparkly lights to celebrate the **37th Edmonton International Film Festival!**

GREETINGS



GREETINGS



Message from the Executive Director
and CEO, Telefilm Canada

JULIE ROY

Showcasing and celebrating the works of Canadian creators is at the heart of what we do at Telefilm. That is why we are proud to partner with the Edmonton International Film Festival, to further boost our support for Canadian creatives at home and around the world.

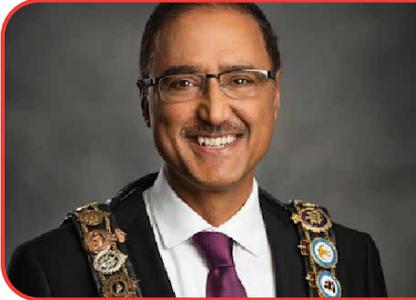
In this ever-evolving cultural landscape, festivals continue to play an important role in the screen-based industry, growing the talent pool, as well as allowing audiences to celebrate and connect with distinctive Canadian films and the talent behind them.

We encourage you to keep supporting Canadian talent in theatres and on digital platforms!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Julie Roy". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Julie Roy
Executive Director and CEO, Telefilm Canada

GREETINGS



Message from His Worship

MAYOR AMARJEET SOHI

On behalf of City Council and the people of Edmonton, welcome to the 37th annual Edmonton International Film Festival!

Each year, film enthusiasts from around the world spend time in our city to immerse themselves in high-quality cinema and network with other film lovers. Once again, Edmonton is honoured to host you.

This year's festival has expanded into many of Edmonton's significant landmarks—the Garneau Theatre, the TELUS World of Science, the Art Gallery of Alberta and the Stanley Milner Library—which showcases the diversity of our arts and culture community.

For almost 40 years, the Edmonton International Film Festival has been enhancing our reputation as an arts and culture hub by implementing this internationally recognized festival. And I congratulate you for being an Oscar-qualifying festival in the categories of Live Action, Animation and Documentary.

I also commend the work of the filmmakers for sharing your passion and captivating stories with us.

Enjoy the films!

A. Sohi

Amarjeet Sohi

Mayor, City of Edmonton

GREETINGS



Message from Minister of Arts, Culture
and Status of Women, Honourable

TANYA FIR

I am thrilled to welcome you to the much-anticipated Edmonton International Film Festival! This is an incredible event celebrating the art of storytelling through the magic of film.

The captivating world of film creates a place we can escape to, where we can experience emotion and story in a unique way. Each screening showcases the diversity and creativity of filmmakers from around the globe. Prepare to be enchanted by heart-wrenching dramas, mind-twisting science fiction, thought-provoking documentaries and whimsical animations.

This festival is a testament to the deep love and enthusiasm for all things cinematic here in Alberta. Our province is making its mark on the world of filmmaking, and this world-class event demonstrates that both Edmonton and Alberta are places filmmakers want to be. Thank you to everyone—organizers, volunteers, participating filmmakers and to the avid moviegoers sitting in theatres across the city, taking in the amazing shows.

See you at the movies!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tanya Fir'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Honourable Tanya Fir
Minister of Arts, Culture and Status of Women

GREETINGS



Message from Executive Director

SYDNEY MOULE

I'm so thrilled to welcome you to the 37th year of the Edmonton International Film Festival! With 115 films spread over 11 days, EIFF truly is every movie-lovers favourite marathon. I have no doubt that you are going to enjoy every second of the international movies, made-in-Canada content and non-stop filmmaker events we have planned for you.

Every year, the EIFF programme continues to exceed expectations of our patrons. As an Academy Awards Qualifying Festival, we are proud to boast that two—I repeat TWO—short films to win at EIFF went on to eventually win an Oscar that year. This is such an incredible achievement for our festival and for the outstanding filmmakers that chose to bring their works here. Only way to make sure you see these Oscar nominated films before the Academy Awards is to not miss a second at EIFF this week.

This year has been a difficult one for the film industry. Even though it's across the border, the SAG-AFTRA strike has impacted production, talent and festivals here in the north. And while EIFF stands with those fighting for important work protections in the industry, it has impacted this year's festival. But, the show still goes on, providing us an even bigger opportunity to showcase our own homegrown talent from across the nation. Make sure not to miss any of our filmmaker Q+As, where you get to engage with the talent—up close and personal!

Perennial festival goers, along with festival newbies have helped grow this festival into one of the most anticipated festivals in Festival City every year. But we would not be where we are today without the tremendous amount of hard work of the EIFF team. These dedicated all-stars do everything from managing the box office to lending a hand in developing what is always an amazing schedule. Over the past few months, they have been planning an incredible lineup of films and parties that will keep you on the edge of your seat all night.

The red carpet is rolled out and your friendly filmmakers are ready to get the show started! It's a movie marathon, but we all know we are going to run it like a sprint. See you in the theatre.

Sydney Moule
Executive Director

GREETINGS



Message from Artistic Director

VINCENT BRULOTTE

Hello once again to our friends, filmmakers, distinguished guests, filmgoers (veteran or novice!), and... marathon runners? Hope you're hydrating if you just ran to see us—our 37th Edmonton International Film Festival is a Marathon! With FOUR spectacular venues to visit, tons of films, and countless entertainment options in between, EIFF 2023 is your chance to explore the world of cinema, and maybe a bit of Edmonton too!

I'm Vincent, Artistic Director for the Edmonton International Film Festival, and we have been running this race as fast as we can to bring you the year's best in local, national, and international cinema! With 70 short films and over 20 feature films EIFF is your starting line, finish line, and at least a dozen water stations along the way.

Looking for quick bites of cinema? Our shorts come from all over the world—we are an INTERNATIONAL festival after all! Shorts from India and Israel coalesce with shorts from Germany and Ireland in our Short Stops programs; they're the closest thing to a trip around the world that we can offer, and they're MUCH cheaper than airfare. LUNCHBOX Shorts™ returns in a new location too! Come visit the Muttart Theatre at the Stanley A. Milner Library for a lunch hour of fun, film, and of course food! It wouldn't be EIFF without our STUDIO A programs— the very best of Albertan short films, with accompanying Q&As.

Tired yet? We're at the halfway mark! Our feature films this year are going to blow you away, with incredible Canadian films bookending our ten days of programming! Our Opening Night Gala, A SH*T DAY, is sure to delight you as we ease you into our lineup. After screening films from France, Hungary, the Netherlands, and more, we'll bring you right back to Canadian soil for our Closing Night Gala: HEY VIKTOR!

Finally, let's talk about the BIGGEST change in years! We're so excited to be showcasing four amazing venues in our city. The monstrous size of the IMAX Theatre at the Telus World of Science Edmonton, the historical beauty of the Metro Cinema at the Garneau Theatre, the delightful newness of the Muttart Theatre at the Stanley A. Milner Library, and the gracious and polished LEDCOR Theatre at the Art Gallery of Alberta are wonderful new additions to our EIFF family— we hope you love them as much as we already do!

So get out there and see some films! With four venues to visit, there's ample opportunity to explore our wonderful city along the way. Grab a bite to eat on 124 Street, it's on the way to the Telus World of Science. You can stop in at one of our many local hangs downtown—they're right by the Muttart Theatre! Or trip the light fantastic along Whyte Avenue, what a great way to cap off a screening at the Garneau Theatre!

Just remember to pace yourself, stay hydrated, and try to enjoy the ride along the way— It's a Marathon!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'V. Brulotte', with a long, sweeping underline.

Vincent Brulotte
Artistic Director

ABOUT EIFF



ABOUT EIFF

The Edmonton International Film Festival Society (EIFFS) is a non-profit, charitable organization governed by a volunteer Board of Directors whose mandate is to present a multi-day film festival that showcases independent cinema from around the world in Edmonton movie-theatres. The annual schedule includes 40+ feature-length dramas and documentaries, dozens of short films, and welcomes up to 50 filmmaker guests who participate in audience Q&A.

Despite the state of the world these days, more than 2,000 films were submitted to this year's EIFF—compare that with 100 in 2003 and 800 in 2010. Proof that our unique brand of film festival is resonating with filmmakers who have been here and are spreading the word about EIFF to their peers. Our commitment to honoring film MAKERS and celebrating what they do, continues to set our festival apart. We are told time and again that this kind of care for filmmakers is rarely expressed by film festivals in general, and it makes us genuine.

Through the cinematic voices that we present, it is our hope that audiences achieve a better understanding of communities outside of their own. Film festivals certainly offer a unique perspective on the world! And, we have to be creative about how we entice filmmakers to come to Edmonton. As noted above, our approach has been to create a festival that is about the film MAKERS. We focus on directors, writers, producers, short films, creators in (and from) our own province, Canadiana and

international, cinematic storytellers. Every guest to EIFF is given our unique version of “star” treatment and when they go to their next festival, or back to their families, they talk about Edmonton and our audiences who appreciate, and support, independent film.

Outside of the festival dates—in March—EIFFS presents the **OSCAR® NOMINATED Short Films** in these three (3) categories: LIVE ACTION, ANIMATION and DOCUMENTARY. Programmed the week before the Academy Awards are televised, audiences can enjoy **ALL of the nominees in three (3) categories**—when's the last time you could say that about any of the other categories?

The next Academy Awards take place on MARCH 10, 2024. Watch for the **OSCAR® NOMINATED Short Films** in-theatres **MARCH 5 to 10**.

CONSIDER A CHARITABLE DONATION TO EIFF!

The Edmonton International Film Festival Society (EIFFS) is a not-for-profit, charitable organization. Donations to EIFFS support production costs and donors receive a tax receipt for income tax purposes at the end of each calendar year.

ABOUT EIFF

EIFF is an OSCAR® Qualifying Festival

Earlier this year, EIFF earned status as an **OSCAR® Qualifying Festival** in ALL three (3) of the short film categories—**ANIMATION**, **LIVE ACTION** and **DOCUMENTARY**. This means that the EIFF Grand Jury winners in each of those categories can submit their short film to the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS) for OSCAR® consideration. EIFF is the final OSCAR® Qualifier in the calendar year. Once submitted, the Academy then announces a short list of the Top 10 films in each category. Then... it's the announcement of ALL the nominees—typically 6 short films per category.

MARCH 12, 2023

OSCAR® Night! Our fingers and toes are crossed for Director/Writers Tom Berkeley & Ross White. Their short, *AN IRISH GOODBYE*, is up for OSCAR®! We are over the moon. 30 minutes into the ceremony it happens. "And the OSCAR® for Best Live Action Short goes to... *AN IRISH GOODBYE!*" We cheer, we cry, and then we all sing Happy Birthday to James Martin, star of the film. CONGRATULATIONS Tom and Ross. We are SO proud to have 'lit the fuse' to your OSCAR® journey!

INFORMATION IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Again. Sometimes we don't receive the 'keys' (meaning: password) for the DCP in time. Occasionally a film has to back out at the last minute. All we can do is apologize and hope that you will come back. And we trust that you know we do our EIFF'n best to present you with a positive experience. Sometimes, you just gotta roll with it. It's a festival!

THE MOST UP-TO-DATE EIFF INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE DURING THE FESTIVAL ON OUR WEBSITE!

We also update our website as soon as we are aware of things gone awry.

www.edmontonfilmfest.com

VENUES

It wouldn't be EIFF without a few changes every year. This year is a big one! Landmark Cinemas 9 City Centre is closed for renovations and upgrades, so we had to pivot and seek out other venues. Our team searched hard and landed on 4 venues.

The MUTTART Theatre at the STANLEY MILNER LIBRARY 7 Sir Winston Churchill Square

EIFF will have security at these events to make sure our audiences feel safe. Please use either the Parkade entrance that takes you directly to the theatre, or the main entrance on 102 Avenue.

The LEDCOR Theatre at the ART GALLERY OF ALBERTA 2 Sir Winston Churchill Square

Please use the main entrance and take the elevator down to the lower level.

The IMAX Theatre at the TELUS WORLD OF SCIENCE 11211 142 Street NW

Please note that EIFF is NOT screening films in IMAX.

METRO CINEMA at the GARNEAU 8712 109 Street NW

Metro Passes are not admissible for these screenings.

Doors open 30 minutes prior to each film.

BOX OFFICE

Things are different (AGAIN) this year! All tickets must be purchased through EVENTIVE. We brought back the All-Access pass (\$199) and the 6-Pack (\$75). The All-Access gets you ONE ticket to all films at EIFF (subject to availability) and the 6-Pack gets you and combination of 6 tickets to any regular priced film (excludes Lunchbox and Gala films)

ALL TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED IN ADVANCE. There will be absolutely NO box office available at the door.

<https://eiff2023.eventive.org/welcome>

WE REMEMBER...



MICHAEL. JOHN. HAMM.

March 12, 1953 to May 16, 2023.

With apple trees in full bloom, our beautiful boy slapped on his Frame 30 hat, slid into his favorite pair of jeans, signature cowboy boots, and took his seat on a rocket ship headed for the stars. Typewriter in tow, the journey will be documented in his next film, titled TO BE CONTINUED.

MJH. Filmmaker. Producer/Director/Writer. Entrepreneur. Mentor. Philanthropist. Pioneer. Hippy. Cowboy. Passionate about politics, climate change, classic cars, filmmaking, journalism, philosophy, history, Michael encouraged long discussions with friends (and strangers) on the family porch, where everyone was always welcome.

Michael was a huge supporter of EIFF, serving as a volunteer Board member for a term. You'd often find him in deep conversations with visiting, and local, filmmakers, offering advice and encouraging everyone who would listen, to 'come, shoot in Alberta'. Other Boards which Michael proudly contributed to include AMPIA, the Advertising Club of Edmonton (ACE) and the Edmonton Arts Council (EAC).

Michael moved to Edmonton in 1978, after completing his B.A. at York University (1976) and M.A. in Political Science at the University of Waterloo (1977). The thesis he wrote and published for his M.A. is titled LAOS: A Triangle of Opium, Politics, and the Effects of U.S. Involvement. His first writing gig was commissioned by ACCESS Television—a 13-part half-hour series for the 75th anniversary of Alberta—and he then became a member of the Writer's Guild of Canada (WGC).

On January 28, 1980, he launched Frame 30 Film Productions Ltd. with headquarters located on Whyte Avenue for more than 40 years. One location. One philosophy: "Hire the best and always put the money on the screen." Specializing in high end commercial production, Frame 30 was a force, producing national and international films that swept awards shows across North America. Michael was also an innovator, pioneering new film techniques, both in-camera and in post-production.

Together since 1999, Michael married his best friend, Kerrie LONG in 2018. This dynamic duo was inseparable, and unstoppable. They produced documentaries, spoken word films, promotional videos, and Michael continued to direct/write hundreds of television commercials and music videos under the Frame 30 banner.

Ask anyone in Canada's film/television world whether they know Michael HAMM and/or Frame 30 Productions and expect a raucous chorus of 'Hell yeah's'. On a visit to Vancouver recently, a spontaneous cocktail gathering at The Sylvia drew dozens of grips, gaffers, production managers, casting directors, etc. All working in the film industry. All with ties to Michael and Frame 30. He loved BIG.

The Team at EIFF is forever grateful that he chose to circle his arms around US! And we feel him with us every day.

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Warm, heartfelt, THANK-YOU to this elite cast of sponsors and supporters!

Besides being good karma, supporting Edmonton's cultural and not-for-profit sector is vital to our citizens and our community. At EIFF, we enjoy playful partnerships—show us your creativity! Bring your entire staff to the festival, name a theatre with your brand, donate your product for filmmaker swag bags, make a charitable donation... info@edmontonfilmfest.com

CANADIAN FILMS HAVE IT ALL.

BIG HITS
BIG HITS

BIG HITS
BIG TALENTS

BIG TALENTS
BIG TALENTS
BIG TALENTS



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BY**
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seeitall.telefilm.ca

FEATURE FILMS



FEATURE FILMS

A DIFFICULT YEAR

Directors: Éric Toledano & Olivier Nakache
120-mins. | France | 2023

**Metro Cinema at the Garneau
Theatre (8712 109 St NW):**
Saturday, September 23 @7pm | \$15



Drama.

Compulsive spenders, Albert and Bruno are in debt up to their necks. While seeking help from community workers to get their lives back on track, they run into a group of young green activists. Lured by the free beer and snacks rather than by the ideals of eco-activists, Albert and Bruno find themselves joining the movement without much conviction. Their values soon align with the group and although their goals may not be the same, their causes dovetail creating friction and awakening within Albert, Bruno and various eco-activists.

Content: Sexuality, Coarse Language

Language: French with English subtitles

Print Source: Sphère Films

ANATOMY OF A FALL

Director: Justine Triet
150-mins. | France | 2023

**Metro Cinema at the Garneau
Theatre (8712 109 St NW):**
Sunday, September 24 @12:30pm | \$15



Drama.

For the past year, Sandra, her husband Samuel, and their eleven-year-old son Daniel have lived a secluded life in a remote town in the French Alps. When Samuel is found dead in the snow below their chalet, the police question whether he was murdered or committed suicide. Samuel's suspicious death is presumed murder, and Sandra becomes the main suspect. What follows is not just an investigation into the circumstances of Samuel's death but an unsettling psychological journey into the depths of Sandra and Samuel's conflicted relationship.

This film contains depiction and discussion of suicide.

Content: Violence, Sexuality, Coarse language, Mature themes

Language: French/English/German with English subtitles

Print Source: Elevation Pictures

FEATURE FILMS

THE ANIMAL KINGDOM

Director: Thomas Cailley
130-mins. | France | 2023

Telus World of Science Edmonton
IMAX Theatre (11211 142 St NW):
Sunday, September 24 @9pm | \$15



Sci-Fi.

In a world hit by a wave of mutations that are gradually transforming some humans into animals, François does everything he can to save his wife, who is affected by this mysterious condition. This condition strikes at random, with no way of knowing when one will transform, or which animal one will transform into. As some of the creatures begin to disappear into a nearby forest, he embarks with Émile, their 16-year-old son, on a quest that will change all of their lives forever. All of us, human or otherwise, are animals after all.

Content: Mature themes, Violence

Language: French with English subtitles

Print Source: Mongrel Media

ANOTHER BODY

Directors: Sophie Compton
& Reuben Hamlyn
80-mins. | USA | 2023

Telus World of Science Edmonton
IMAX Theatre (11211 142 St NW):
Sunday, September 24 @7pm | \$15



Documentary.

Approaching the end of her undergraduate degree, a college student is horrified when a peer notifies her of pornographic content with her likeness online. Diving deep into the world of deepfakes, the student is soon confronted with a mountain of abuse, violence, and anonymity in this fast-evolving and largely unaccountable sector. Her search for justice will uncover urgent and radical truths about AI, misinformation, gendered violence, and bodily autonomy; whether or not justice can be served in this lawless area of the internet is still in question.

Content: Sexuality, Nudity, Mature themes

Language: English

Print Source: LevelFilm

FEATURE FILMS

THE BOOK OF SOLUTIONS

Director: Michel Gondry
102-mins. | France | 2023

Telus World of Science Edmonton
IMAX Theatre (11211 142 St NW):
Thursday, September 28 @9pm | \$15



Comedy.

Marc, a bipolar and paranoid filmmaker, cannot tolerate seeing his current project picked apart by his producers. The clips he's been able to sneak a look at lead him to fear the worst. With his editor as an accomplice, he manages to spirit away the rushes to his aunt's place in the Cévennes, to finish the film as he envisions it. Instead, its completion is constantly postponed, as he creates endless diversions and impasses, which alternate between the comic and the downright disturbing. An ode to indulgence in pursuit of life, *THE BOOK OF SOLUTIONS* is another cinematic treat from director Michel Gondry.

Content: Coarse language, Mature themes

Language: French with English subtitles

Print Source: Elevation Pictures

CLOSE TO YOU

Director: Dominic Savage
95-mins. | Canada | 2023

Metro Cinema at the Garneau
Theatre (8712 109 St NW):
Wednesday, September 27 @9pm | \$15



Drama.

Sam (Elliot Page) hasn't been home since his transition, and after four years in Toronto, he takes a long-dreaded trip back to Cobourg for his father's birthday. On the train there, he runs into Katherine (Hillary Baack), a friend from high school with her own complicated life now, and feelings from their unresolved past begin to bubble to the surface. It's a serendipitous encounter, as Sam worries about seeing his family after so much time apart—not for fear that they'll reject him, but because of the unsolicited comments and questions he'll receive about his transition, placing the weight of his family's ignorance and discomfort squarely on his shoulders.

This film contains depiction and discussion of suicide.

Content: Coarse language, Sexuality, Mature themes

Language: English

Print Source: Mongrel Media

FEATURE FILMS

FATHERS & SONS

Director: Jörgen Scholtens
80-mins. | Netherlands | 2023

**Telus World of Science Edmonton
IMAX Theatre (11211 142 St NW):**
Friday, September 22 @6:30pm | \$15



Drama/Comedy.

Loet is over forty years old, but still lives together with his slightly younger brother Winnie at home with their dominant father Baltus. The sons have lived their entire life of their father's pension and do everything he tells them to, until Baltus suddenly dies in front of the TV. Now what? The brothers have always heard they are capable of nothing and have never been further away from home then to the local supermarket. To keep living off their father's pension, they decide to put him in the freezer for the time being and find someone in a retirement home who can temporarily replace him.

Content: Coarse language, Mature themes

Language: Dutch with English subtitles

Print Source: MillStreet Films

FOUR SOULS OF COYOTE

Director: Aron Gauder
106-mins. | Hungary | 2023

**Telus World of Science Edmonton
IMAX Theatre (11211 142 St NW):**
Tuesday, September 26 @6:30pm | \$15



Animation.

An epic adventure based on a Native American creation myth, highlighting the increasingly pressing need to live in harmony with the environment—before it is too late. Set in the present day, Native Americans confront the crew of an oil pipeline project, just down the hill from the land of their ancestors. The grandfather evokes the ancient tale of their Creation myth, reminding all of us that the challenges facing humanity are universal, and we need to find our place in the great circle of creatures. Through adventures filled with animals, magic, hunger, greed and the sacred circle of all creations, the story gives us hope that humans can correct our course and preserve our species' existence on Earth.

Content: Mature themes, Mild violence, Nudity

Language: English

Print Source: Goodfellas Distribution

FEATURE FILMS

GEOFF MCFETRIDGE: DRAWING A LIFE

Director: Dan Covert
80-mins. | USA | 2023

Muttart Theatre at the Stanley A. Milner
Library (Lower Level, 7 Winston
Churchill Square):
Saturday, September 23 @6:30pm | \$15



Documentary. Q&A!

What defines a life? How do you decide what matters? Geoff McFetridge's art is everywhere: from Apple watch faces, to solo shows around the world, to movie titles for Spike Jonze. But this film is more than a primer on Geoff's prolific career. It's about the choices we confront in trying to lead meaningful lives. Is there value in commercial success or artistic independence? In responsibility or freedom? And ultimately, how do we use our most precious resource: time? "Drawing a Life" is a poetic and intimate portrait of an artist. In an era dominated by influencers and social media, Geoff works to live with intention and authenticity, an increasingly rare practice—more relevant now than ever.

Join us for a Q&A with Director Dan Covert following the screening

Content: Mature themes
Language: English
Print Source: Visit Films

HEY VIKTOR!

Director: Cody Lightning
102-mins. | Canada | 2023

Muttart Theatre at the Stanley A. Milner
Library (Lower Level, 7 Winston
Churchill Square):
Saturday, September 30 @6:30pm
\$20 (General Admission)
\$40 (Film + Gala After-Party)



Comedy/Drama.

Closing Night Gala! Q&A! Twenty years removed from childhood fame as Little Viktor in 1998's *Smoke Signals*, Cody Lightning has been forced to move home to his reserve in northern Alberta. When Cody learns his wife and kids are leaving him for a younger, more successful actor, he decides it's time to make his masterpiece— writing, directing, & starring in *SMOKE SIGNALS 2: STILL SMOKING* with a documentary crew following his every misguided step.

Join us for a Q&A with Director Cody Lightning and guests following the screening.

Join us at The Art Gallery of Alberta (2 Sir Winston Churchill Square) for small bites and celebration following the screening and Q&A.

Content: Mature themes, Coarse language, Sexuality and Nudity
Language: English
Print Source: Visit Films

FEATURE FILMS

THE (IN)FAMOUS YOUSSEF SALEM

Director: Baya Kazmi
97-mins. | France | 2022

Telus World of Science Edmonton
IMAX Theatre (11211 142 St NW):
Tuesday, September 26 @9pm | \$15



Comedy.

Youssef Salem (popular comic actor Ramzy Bedia) is a 45-year-old writer specializing in obscure historical biographies that barely sell but make his dad (Abbes Zahmani) proud. When his first novel brings him overnight success, trouble begins. For better and mostly for worse, Youssef drew inspiration for the novel from his family, and now he must stop them from reading it or face the repercussions. A series of hilarious twists and misunderstandings ensue as Youssef's success keeps growing, thanks in part to his endearing publisher, delightfully portrayed by actress-director Noémie Lvovsky. A laugh-out-loud comedy rooted in the Algerian culture of its protagonists and director, *The (In)Famous Youssef Salem* reflects on universal themes like family ties, generation gaps, lies, and literature, while telling the fabulous destiny of a son of Algerian immigrants being shortlisted for the Goncourt Prize, France's most coveted annual literary award!

Content: Sexuality, Mature themes,
Coarse language
Language: French with English subtitles
Print Source: Charades

KAREN CARPENTER: STARVING FOR PERFECTION

Director: Randy Martin
98-mins. | USA | 2023

Muttart Theatre at the
Stanley A. Milner Library
(Lower Level, 7 Winston Churchill Square):
Thursday, September 28 @7pm | \$15



Documentary. Q&A!

For the first time, we hear Karen Carpenter's personal struggle in her own voice through never-before-released recordings—and through the legendary voices of those who knew her and were inspired by her music. As the #1 American musical act of the 1970s, the Carpenters were on "Top of the World," producing a string of pop masterpieces. But behind closed doors, Karen's quest for perfection resulted in low self-esteem, a disheartening love life, and a public battle with anorexia nervosa, which resulted in her untimely death at the age of only 32. *Karen Carpenter: Starving for Perfection* is a captivating, revealing, and unvarnished documentary providing astounding new insight into the singer's tragically short life and enduring musical legacy.

This film contains discussion and depiction of eating disorders.

Join us for a Q&A with Producer Jon Gann following this screening.

Content: Mature themes
Language: English

FEATURE FILMS

LESSONS FROM THE SUNFLOWER

Director: Ava Karvonen
81-mins. | Canada | 2023

Muttart Theatre at the
Stanley A. Milner Library
(Lower Level, 7 Winston Churchill Square):
Friday, September 29 @7pm | \$15



Documentary. Q&A!

Lessons from the Sunflower is the inspiring story of one artist's determination to make the most of a second go at life. Steven Csorba uses his experience as a survivor of devastating illness, and the example of resilience and beauty in the struggle that he draws from a simple, common garden plant to help others understand how they too can overcome enormous challenges to healing, improve their overall health, discover a deeper purpose in life and ultimately find the happiness all of us yearn for.

Join us for a Q&A with Director Ava Karvonen and Star Steven Csorba following this screening

Content: Mature themes
Language: English

LOST LAKE CONFESSIONS

Director: Jason William Lee
108-mins. | Canada | 2023

Muttart Theatre at the Stanley A. Milner
Library (Lower Level, 7 Winston
Churchill Square):
Sunday, September 24 @6:30pm | \$15



Drama/Comedy. Q&A!

Following a short lived career as a director in Los Angeles, Jahan "JD" Davani returns to Vancouver only to find out the devastating news that his cancer has relapsed and his life now hangs in the balance. In an attempt to escape this harsh reality, if only for a fleeting time, JD takes his 3 best friends, Hilary, Ray and Connie on a camping trip to Lost Lake for one last nostalgic hoorah. Upon arrival, the standard Canadian camping experience ensues as the group enjoys playing games, barbecuing, hiking and swimming. While JD's initial plan was not to speak a word of his recent diagnosis on the trip, his friends know him well enough to quickly suspect that something's off. After some prodding, JD eventually reveals his cancer secret and in doing so sets off a chain reaction of truth bombs throughout the group that will change their lives forever.

Join us for a Q&A with Director Jason William Lee and guests following this screening

Content: Mature themes, Coarse language
Language: English

FEATURE FILMS

THE MATTACHINE FAMILY

Director: Andy Vallentine
98-mins. | USA | 2023

LEDCOR Theatre at the Art Gallery of Alberta
(Lower Level, 2 Winston Churchill Square):
Friday, September 22 @7pm | \$15



Drama.

Thomas and Oscar are a couple very much in love, but after their first foster child returns to his birth mother, they find they have different ideas about what it means to make a family. Oscar's long-stagnant career as an actor has picked up and sent him to Michigan for months of filming. In the bewildering lurch of change and loss, Thomas embarks on a journey to figure out what he wants from life and what it means to be gay in 2021, when so many possibilities have opened up for people who grew up thinking that marriage and children were closed off to them.

Content: Coarse language, Sexuality
Language: English

MONSTER

Director: Hirokazu Kore-eda
126-mins. | Japan | 2023

Telus World of Science Edmonton
IMAX Theatre (11211 142 St NW):
Monday, September 25 @6:30pm | \$15

Telus World of Science Edmonton
IMAX Theatre (11211 142 St NW):
Saturday, September 30 @9pm | \$15



Drama.

When her young son Minato starts to behave strangely, his mother feels that there is something wrong. Discovering that a teacher is responsible, she storms into the school demanding to know what's going on. But as the story unfolds through the eyes of mother, teacher and child, the truth gradually emerges. From legendary director Hirokazu Kore-eda (SHOPLIFTERS, EIFF 2019; BROKER, EIFF 2022)

Content: Coarse language, Mature themes
Language: English
Print Source: Photon Films

FEATURE FILMS

THE PERSIAN VERSION

Director: Maryam Keshavarz
107-mins. | USA | 2023

Telus World of Science Edmonton IMAX
Theatre (11211 142 St NW):
Friday, September 29 @6:30pm | \$15



Drama/Comedy.

Coming from two countries at odds with each other, Iranian-American Leila (Layla Mohammadi) strives to find balance and embrace her opposing cultures, while boldly challenging the labels society is so quick to project upon her. When her family reunites in New York City for her father's heart transplant, Leila navigates her relationships from arms length in an effort to keep her "real" life separate from her family life. However, when her secret is unceremoniously revealed, so are the distinct parallels between her life and that of her mother Shireen (Niousha Noor). Punctuated by a bright color palette, snappy comedic relief, and vibrant dance numbers, The Persian Version delivers an honest portrayal of a woman who remains unapologetically herself, blended seamlessly into a heartfelt story about family, belonging, and the undeniable influence of pop music.

Content: Coarse language, Sexuality

Language: English, Persian with English subtitles

Print Source: Mongrel Media

POISSON ROUGE

Directors/Writers: Hugo Bachelet,
Clément Vallos, Matthieu Yakovleff
100-mins. | France | 2023

Metro Cinema at the Garneau Theatre
(8712 109 St NW):
Monday, September 25 @7pm | \$15



Drama/Comedy.

Suffering from a neuro-degenerative disease, 35 years old Guillaume forgets so many things that he is about to be held in a care facility. In the hope of leaving him happy memories, his childhood friends organize a last festive weekend for him, under the sign of good wine. But if Guillaume can place the same order at the bar three times, some wounds from his past are still open. Along with his friends, he decides to embark on a road trip which may allow him to solve his problems before he forgets them...

Content: Coarse language, Mature themes
Language: French with English subtitles

FEATURE FILMS

THE POTAU FEU

Director: Anh Hung Tran
135-mins. | France | 2023

Telus World of Science Edmonton IMAX
Theatre (11211 142 St NW):
Sunday, October 1 @6:30pm | \$15



Drama/Romance.

The relationship between Eugenie (Juliette Binoche), an esteemed cook, and Dodin (Benoît Magimel), the gourmet she has been working for over the last 20 years. Growing fonder of one another, their bond turns into a romance and gives rise to delicious dishes that impress even the world's most illustrious chefs. When Dodin is faced with Eugenie's reluctance to commit to him, he decides to start cooking for her.

Content: Mature themes, Sexuality
Language: French with English subtitles
Print Source: Mongrel Media

PURGATORY JACK

Directors/Writers: Brett & Jason Butler
110-mins. | Canada | 2023

Muttart Theatre at the Stanley A. Milner
Library (Lower Level, 7 Winston
Churchill Square):
Wednesday, September 27 @6:30pm | \$15



Thriller. Q&A!

A neo-noir mystery thriller set against the backdrop of Purgatory, a dangerous and destitute landscape run by outlaws and outcasts. Former musician turned grizzled private detective, Jack Marlin, has a new case and it's helping new arrival Viv Vacious, a punk pop star who overdosed, find her mother who committed suicide twenty years earlier. By outwitting the outlaws, these two musicians from clashing eras will unlock a murderous conspiracy and discover why blood is more than a drug.

Join us for a Q&A with directors Brett & Jason Butler following this screening

Content: Violence, Coarse language
Language: English

FEATURE FILMS

A SH*T DAY (JOUR DE MERDE)

Director/Writer: Kevin T. Landry
91-mins. | Canada | 2023

Metro Cinema at the Garneau Theatre
(8712 109 St NW):

Thursday, September 21 @6:30pm
\$20 (General Admission)
\$40 (Film + Gala After-Party)



Drama/Thriller. Opening Night Gala! Q&A!

Racking up the abuse of a narcissistic perverted ex-boyfriend and a condescending superior, a young single mother working for Loto-Gold is sent to the depths of nowhere to interview a strange hermit— who is now a newly minted lottery winner. The uncompromising new millionaire will be the one to finally push her, but there's more than what's on the surface for both of these new acquaintances.

Join us for a Q&A with Director Kevin T. Landry and Producer Macha Houssart following this screening.

Join us at Bell In Scona (10416 80 Avenue) for small bites and celebration following the screening and Q&A.

Content: Violence, Coarse language
Language: French with English subtitles
Print Source: K-Films Amérique

SLEEP

Director: Jason Yu
95-mins. | South Korea | 2023

Telus World of Science Edmonton IMAX
Theatre (11211 142 St NW):
Friday, September 22 @9pm | \$15



Horror.

A young couple's life is turned upside down when the husband sleepwalks and turns into someone else after dark. His wife, overwhelmed by the fear that he will harm their newborn baby, can no longer sleep. What starts out as some light sleep-talking soon escalates to unexpectedly grotesque behaviour. They consult a sleep clinic without success and as his nightmarish behaviour escalates, they desperately seek help from a shaman.

Content: Violence, Mature themes
Language: Korean with English subtitles
Print Source: Mongrel Media

FEATURE FILMS

SUZE

Directors: Dane Clark & Linsey Stewart
93-mins. | Canada | 2023

Telus World of Science Edmonton IMAX Theatre (11211 142 St NW):
Thursday, September 28 @6:30pm | \$15



Horror/Comedy.

Vincent is an average, unremarkable man living an average, unremarkable life. Today is unlike any other day in Vincent's life though. Random strangers have suddenly started attacking Vincent with murderous intent, whenever they make eye contact. At first, he tries to continue about his daily business, but as things spiral violently out of control, Vincent is forced to flee and change his life completely.

Content: Mature themes, Coarse language, Sexuality

Language: French with English subtitles

Print Source: Elevation Pictures

VINCENT MUST DIE

Directors: Stéphane Castang
115-mins. | France | 2023

Telus World of Science Edmonton IMAX Theatre (11211 142 St NW):
Friday, September 29 @9pm | \$15



Horror/Comedy.

Vincent is an average, unremarkable man living an average, unremarkable life. Today is unlike any other day in Vincent's life though. Random strangers have suddenly started attacking Vincent with murderous intent, whenever they make eye contact. At first, he tries to continue about his daily business, but as things spiral violently out of control, Vincent is forced to flee and change his life completely.

Content: Mature themes, Coarse language, Sexuality

Language: French with English subtitles

Print Source: Elevation Pictures

FEATURE FILMS

WERNER HERZOG - RADICAL DREAMER

Directors: Thomas von Steinaecker
100-mins. | Germany/UK | 2022

**Metro Cinema at the Garneau Theatre
(8712 109 St NW):**
Tuesday, September 26 @7pm | \$15



Documentary.

"Nothing is typical for Werner, only the atypical is typical for him." This is just one of many attempts to characterize Werner Herzog. Documentary filmmaker Thomas von Steinaecker spoke to actors, directors, directors of photography and producers who have worked with Herzog over his long career—including directors Chloé Zhao, Joshua Oppenheimer and Wim Wenders, singer Patti Smith and actors Nicole Kidman, Christian Bale and Robert Pattinson. We also hear from Herzog himself, with extraordinary anecdotes about film locations and shoots, his admiration for Lotte Eisner, and his eternal search for beauty. The interviews are carefully punctuated by archive footage of Herzog never seen before, iconic excerpts from his feature films and documentaries, and his cameos in cartoon series such as The Simpsons. Together they create a kaleidoscopic image of a radical visionary and dreamer, and of his very own "Werner World."

Content: Mature themes

Language: English, German with English subtitles

Print Source: LevelFilm



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LUNCBOX SHORTS™



LUNCHBOX SHORTS™

LUNCHBOX SHORTS™: SHORT FILM SERIES

MONDAY, Sept. 25 thru FRIDAY, Sept. 29 @ 12:10pm

Tix: \$20 each program (includes lunch!) | Beverage NOT included.

LUNCHBOX SHORTS™ is a series of five (5) unique short film programs curated from thousands of film submissions received this year. Each program begins at 12:10pm and runs about 50-mins. in length. You may be a few minutes late getting back to the office, but hey, it's a festival.

Lunch consists of a sandwich/wrap and something sweet. Vegetarian options are limited. If you require GLUTEN-FREE, we recommend you bring your own lunch. To reduce our collective carbon footprint, we encourage guests to BRING YOUR OWN WATER (BYOW). NO discounted admission for bringing your own lunch.

Doors open at 11:45am. Tickets to LUNCHBOX SHORTS™ MUST be purchased in advance. NO TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR.

The logo for CKUA, featuring the lowercase letters 'ckua' in a white, sans-serif font, centered within a yellow circle. The entire graphic is set against a black background with a colorful, multi-line border that resembles a film strip frame. Along the top and bottom edges of the frame are five teal-colored film reels, and on the left and right sides are two teal-colored film reels.

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LUNCHBOX SHORTS™

LUNCHBOX SHORTS™ 1.0

Directors: Various | 49-mins. | 5 short films

Muttart Theatre at the Stanley A. Milner Library (Lower Level, 7 Winston Churchill Square):

Monday, September 25 @12:10pm | \$20 (includes lunch!)

Today's lunch provided by: The Italian Centre

We begin our week of **LUNCHBOX Shorts™** with a theme we hold dear to our hearts: the passing of time, and how it affects us all. Our shorts have subjects with wisdom beyond their years, acts of kindness and love, and reminders that the connections we make transcend our age and bind us together. Sweet, funny, and heartfelt, this program is a perfect way to kick off our lunchtime series.



AUTUMN LEAVES

Director: Elizabeth Lewis

4-mins. | Canada | Animation.

Autumn brings bitter sweet memories. A woman, missing her husband, struggles to control the leaves and her emotions.



CONFESSIONS

Producer/Director/Writer: Stephanie Kaznocha

11-mins. | USA | Comedy.

After the death of a friend, two nuns in their golden years contemplate what their future holds. One confession leads to another and before they know it, they're embarking on an adventure.



THINGS UNHEARD OF

Producer/Director/Writer: Ramazan Kilic

16-mins. | Turkey | Drama.

A little Kurdish girl tries to put a smile back on her grandmother's face after the disappearance of her television, her only window into the world.



ALL CHOKED UP

Director/Writer: Allison Volk

4-mins. | USA | Drama.

A woman must decide whether to save her husband when he starts choking on a sandwich during lunch.



MADELEINE

Producer/Director/Writer: Raquel Sancinetti

15-mins. | Canada | Documentary.

Every week, two friends born 67 years apart share their life stories in a senior home's living room. The younger friend convinces the 107-year-old lady to join her in an adventure: a road trip to the sea.

LUNCHBOX SHORTS™

LUNCHBOX SHORTS™ 2.0

Directors: Various | 45-mins. | 5 short films

Muttart Theatre at the Stanley A. Milner Library (Lower Level, 7 Winston Churchill Square):

Tuesday, September 26 @12:10pm | \$20 (includes lunch!)

Today's lunch provided by: Dalla Tavola Zenari

Have you ever felt misunderstood? As if the world is against you, by design or by happenstance? Tuesday's **LUNCHBOX Shorts™** will feel a bit familiar. Follow along through these stories of longing for a different life, or maybe just a different perspective! You never know what you'll learn along the way, or who you'll meet. It's the journey, not the destination right?



THE GIRL WITH THE RED BERET

Director/Writer: Janet Pearlman

6-mins. | Canada | Animation.

A girl takes a wild ride on the metro in Montreal. Travelling from station to station, she encounters an array of colourful characters in a bizarre musical journey that's peppered with hilarious and unexpected incidents.



A NIGHT OF GHARAM

Director: Michael Gamarano Singleton

15-mins. | UK | Drama.

Iman, a niqab-wearing woman, is fed up with her cheating husband. At a shopping mall an opportunity presents itself for her to impersonate another man's wife. This takes her on an unexpected adventure of self-realisation.



REGULAR RABBIT

Director/Writer: Eoin Duffy

8-mins. | Ireland | Animation.

With story and visuals purposefully separated, a Regular Rabbit battles a comically absurd onslaught of disinformation. He is not the nightmare being told. He is as shown, a regular ol' stupid rabbit doing his usual rabbit stuff! The narrator is full of s#!t!!! How is this so hard to believe?! Fake news!! Where's the evidence?! Agh!!! He is nothing more than a Regular Rabbit!



A PARTIAL GLIMPSE AT AN UNUSUAL MORNING

Director: David Tangarife

10-mins. | Spain | Comedy.

Elisa's life goes by at full speed between the office, the routine and the office again. She gives everything for her professional reputation, to the point of forgetting herself and putting the reports ahead, what they will say and the damn tick-tock of the clock that reminds her that she is late. But one morning, an accidental mistake makes her see everything slightly differently...



DINNER AT THE SMYTHS'

Directors/Writers: Ash Hamilton & Bex Conyngham-Hynes

6-mins. | UK | Drama.

Seemingly ordinary Pandora introduces her boyfriend, Tom, to her parents. All is normal until he opens the door to a minotaur and a mermaid. In the dinner from hell, Tom tries his best to win over Pandora's dismissive, mythological parents, who despise the fact he's 'only' human.

LUNCHBOX SHORTS™

LUNCHBOX SHORTS™ 3.0

Directors: Various | 44-mins. | 5 short films

Muttart Theatre at the Stanley A. Milner Library (Lower Level, 7 Winston Churchill Square):

Wednesday, September 27 @12:10pm | \$20 (includes lunch!)

Today's lunch provided by: Bridges Catering

We've been known to shake things up in the middle of the week, and this **LUNCHBOX Shorts™** knows how to mix things up. These shorts might feel a little off-kilter, but that's a-ok! The world we live in is a weird, sometimes incomprehensible place—these films try to make sense of it all, or just give up and give into the absurdity of life. Whatever conclusions they draw, it's all worth questioning!



SNIF & SNÜF

Director: Michael J Ruocco

5-mins. | USA | Animation.

Two characters discover an interesting new object, and learn about what it means to share.



LUCKY MARKET

Director/Writer: Eric Wang Schwager

13-mins. | USA | Drama.

On her last day at work, an elderly grocery store owner decides she cannot leave the community she loves, until a violent racial attack changes her perspective.



THINK SOMETHING NICE

Producer/Director/Writer: Claudius Gentinetta

6-mins. | Switzerland | Animation.

At the mercy of the dentist's chair, the protagonist cannot escape the confrontation with pain and the dregs of the miserable human condition. To distract himself, he takes refuge in a fantasised story of fishermen and the sea.



TABLE FOR 3

Directors: Alvaro G. Company & Meka Ribera

13-mins. | Spain | Drama.

Five friends go to dinner at a high-end restaurant. Upon arrival, they discover that the reserved table, initially for five people, is now a table for three. An unforeseen situation that will test friendship and the bonds that exist within this group of friends.



CRAB

Director/Writer: Piotr Chmielewski

8-mins. | Poland | Animation.

Animals are our silent companions; they have witnessed the greatest achievements and most horrible failures of humankind. They live their lives parallel to ours—they are our food, our tools or, in the best case, we just don't notice them. Usually our victory means death for them, but there are moments where the situation changes...

LUNCHBOX SHORTS™

LUNCHBOX SHORTS™ 4.0

Directors: Various | 47-mins. | 5 short films

Muttart Theatre at the Stanley A. Milner Library (Lower Level, 7 Winston Churchill Square):

Thursday, September 28 @ 12:10pm | \$20 (includes lunch!)

Today's lunch provided by: Dalla Tavola Zenari

Our penultimate **LUNCHBOX Shorts™** is one where we're ready to let loose and let our inhibitions go! This collection is wacky and full of energy and heart, just the way we like it. Sometimes sweet, sometimes icky, our program will get your blood pumping and put a skip in your step! Or at least make you laugh, very very loudly.



THE ALGONQUIN BRIDGE

Director: Txesco Montalt

2-mins. | Canada | Animation.

While hurrying to catch a ferry from Toronto Island, a bald man in a fancy white scarf falls off his bicycle and spends a day contemplating why we rush and where we're trying to get.



MEETING MR SAMUEL

Producer/Director/Writer: Rob Leggatt

17-mins. | UK | Comedy.

After dying of a cocaine induced heart attack in a pub toilet, loveable rogue and absent father, Christian Stoner wakes to find himself in what appears to be a waiting for the afterlife staffed by his former school Geography teacher, Mr Samuels.



THE NECTAR INSTEAD

Producer/Director/Writer: Yoo Lee

4-mins. | USA | Comedy.

A young fly gets trapped in the fly trap in the stop-motion studio only to have the existential realization that it spent its entire life chasing after the wrong thing.



THEY GROW UP SO FAST

Director/Writer: John Beach

10-mins. | Ireland | Comedy.

When Brian meets Amy during a night out on the town, things move a little faster than he anticipated.



DEATH & RAMEN

Director/Writer: Tiger Ji

14-mins. | USA | Drama.

A ramen chef spends his final night alive hanging out with the Grim Reaper.

LUNCHBOX SHORTS™

LUNCHBOX SHORTS™ 5.0

Directors: Various | 49-mins. | 5 short films

Muttart Theatre at the Stanley A. Milner Library (Lower Level, 7 Winston Churchill Square):

Friday, September 29 @12:10pm | \$20 (includes lunch!)

Today's lunch provided by: The Italian Centre

You made it! It's finally Friday, and it's time to celebrate with our final **LUNCHBOX Shorts™!** We started with a theme near and dear to our hearts, and we'd like to leave you with another: relationships. The bonds we make can be as close as family, or as distant as strangers in a dark theatre, but they're the fabric of everything we do. Watch these shorts and think of your loved ones, both human and animal; don't worry if you shed a couple of tears, lunch comes with napkins.



"MEET CUTE"

Director: Shawn Patrick Tilling

3-mins. | Canada | Animation.

Inspired by the silent films of the 1920s, Meet Cute tells the story of a fateful day between two people waiting for the bus.



SHADOW BROTHER SUNDAY

Director/Writer: Aiden Ehrenreich

15-mins. | USA | Drama.

A down-on-his-luck musician returns home on the day of his younger brother's movie premiere to steal his computer and sell it to the paparazzi.



LEO & CHESTER

Director: Andrea Wing

8-mins. | Canada | Documentary.

Leo, a sought-after rock star with a promising career, turns his back on the industry to pursue a life on the land with a herd of buffalo.



APOCALYPSE DOG

Director: Various

7-mins. | France | Animation.

In a post-apocalyptic universe, Bob and his dog Pasha survive in a wasteland. They are hungry, thirsty and tired. When suddenly, they see a city in the distance!



DEAD CAT

Directors/Writers: Annie-Claude Caron & Danick Audet

13-mins. | Canada | Comedy.

What were Catherine and Louis thinking when they chose a cat with distinctive white spots? It would have been much easier to replace if they had picked the all-back one! Now, they will have to tell their daughter Sophie that Nugget's dead. Unless....

SHORT STOP



SHORT STOP

SHORT STOP 1.0

Directors: Various | 101-mins. | 6 short films

LEDCOR Theatre at the Art Gallery of Alberta (Lower Level, 2 Winston Churchill Square):

Sunday, September 24 @NOON | \$15

Our **Short Stop** series returns, each a carefully crafted program of shorts that wowed us this year. Reflect on life with us in **Short Stop 1.0**, as we meet people from all walks of life. We all struggle, we all love, and we all fear what comes next; with films like these, and an audience like you, there's so much to enjoy. Don't forget, EIFF rhymes with life!



NINETY-FIVE SENSES

Directors: Jerusha Hess & Jared Hess

14-mins. | USA | Animation.

An ode to the body's five senses delivered by a man with little time left to enjoy them. no longer able to help him.



MINE MINE MINE

Director: Duncan Ragg

20-mins. | Australia | Drama.

A bed-bound man reflects on his childhood with Peter Pan, and how sometimes everyone grows up without you.



DUOS

Director/Writer: Marion Defer

22-mins. | France | Drama.

A couple of vagabonds break into a house while the owners are on vacation.



HARD TO REACH

Director/Writer: Darryl Foster

14-mins. | UK | Drama.

When an anxiety-fuelled mentor takes his disruptive teenage student on a photography trip, an altercation on a train leads to a cathartic exchange that changes them forever.

SHORT STOP



STONE

Director: Jake Graf
13-mins. | UK | Drama.

When Tess learns of her estranged father's death, she travels to the funeral hoping for nothing more than some closure and the chance to meet the woman who stole him from her. Immediately blindsided by the revelation that her father was a transgender woman, Tess starts to wonder what else has been kept from her, turning to her mother for answers. Realising that nothing is as it seems, Tess must challenge not only everything she has been told about her childhood but, most importantly, her understanding of what it meant to be a father.



HABITAT

Director/Writer: Elena Escura
18-mins. | Spain | Drama.

Every day, Marisa observes that house from the street: the building, the balcony, the life that goes on behind the window. One day Marisa decides to do something that she left pending: say goodbye.

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SHORT STOP

SHORT STOP 2.0

Directors: Various | 96-mins. | 7 short films

LEDCOR Theatre at the Art Gallery of Alberta (Lower Level, 2 Winston Churchill Square):

Sunday, September 24 @2:30pm | \$15

Short Stop 2.0 is all about family— the ones we choose, the ones we're stuck with, even the furry ones. Family is there to help us through our toughest times, even when we can't be together. Sometimes the idea of a family can be scary— especially starting one! But without them, the world can seem a lot more hostile. Bring your whole gang to this one, you might see yourselves reflected back at you! *Join us following this screening for a Q&A with attending guests from the films.*



APOCALYPSE DOG

Director: Various

7-mins. | France | Animation.

In a post-apocalyptic universe, Bob and his dog Pasha survive in a wasteland. They are hungry, thirsty and tired. When suddenly, they see a city in the distance!



LAST CALL

Director: Harry Holland

19-mins. | UK | Drama.

A desperate mother who wants to reconnect with her son. On the complexity of depression and grief and search for understanding and absolution.



IAGO AND TRISTAN

Director/Writer: Miguel Ibáñez Monroy

13-mins. | Spain | Drama.

After several years of relationship, Iago and Tristan have decided to separate. The afternoon that Tristan is collecting his things to leave the apartment they shared, he receives the unexpected visit of Iago, who was not meant to return until Tristan had left. The uncomfortable reunion between them becomes a distressing experience when Tristan receives a phone call that will change everything.



GIDDH (The Scavenger)

Director/Writer: Manish Saini

24-mins. | India | Drama.

The old man found himself tossing his son's clothes away after watching his pyre burn all evening. He died young, succumbing to an illness and perhaps also because of hunger. The son was gone, the old man still lived as did his hunger. He walked back to the crematorium, pulled out his son's shirt from a Banyan tree and sold it. He ate a whole meal that day.

SHORT STOP



THE SNIP

Director: Various

10-mins. | UK | Comedy.

Tony and Lindsay are looking for a permanent solution to their family's fertility, but for Tony, the simple procedure threatens his masculinity.



TREASURES

Director: Welf Reinhart

8-mins. | Germany | Drama.

The eight year old Max is always bullied by his older brother and his friend when they go for a treasure hunt in the woods. At an old lake they do magnet fishing. The dynamic of the group changes as they find a grenade among the rusty treasures.



CHICKEN

Directors: Lucy McNulty & Emma Pollard

14-mins. | Canada | Drama.

When Sam splits up with her partner, she is forced to move back into her childhood home with her mother and neurodivergent brother. When depression sinks in, her brother Emmett gets in her face trying to cheer her up and in doing so makes everything worse. But when Emmett is confronted with a situation at a baseball game where he is called a chicken, Sam rises to the challenge to come to his aid and is reminded of what is truly important.

SHORT STOP

SHORT STOP 3.0

Directors: Various | 101-mins. | 7 short films

LEDCOR Theatre at the Art Gallery of Alberta (Lower Level, 2 Winston Churchill Square):

Sunday, September 24 @5pm | \$15

Take a walk on the dark side! **SHORT STOP 3.0** casts its net across the globe to bring you tales to move you closer to the edge of your seat. Mythical creatures, body horror, and just plain weirdness abound in this package. If you're a fan of horror, or just open to something twisted, these shorts are unmissable! It's ok to close your eyes though, we don't judge. *Join us following this screening for a Q&A with attending guests from the films.*



DINNER AT THE SMYTHS'

Directors/Writers: Ash Hamilton & Bex Conyngham-Hynes
6-mins. | UK | Drama.

Seemingly ordinary Pandora introduces her boyfriend, Tom, to her parents. All is normal until he opens the door to a minotaur and a mermaid. In the dinner from hell, Tom tries his best to win over Pandora's dismissive, mythological parents, who despise the fact he's 'only' human.



BAD BOY BUCK

Director/Writer: James Fitzgerald
22-mins. | Ireland | Drama.

After a one night stand with another man, a married farmer attempts to hide the affair from his family as the truth drives him to breaking point.



A WEDDING DAY

Producer/Director/Writer: Brendan Beachman
21-mins. | USA | Comedy.

For newlyweds Brad and Jill, it seems the honeymoon is over before it even began. When an eccentric stranger named Jess White stumbles into the couples first argument as man and wife, the day takes an abrupt turn and changes their lives forever.



DEADLINE

Producer/Director/Writer: Idan Gilboa
13-mins. | Israel | Animated.

Deadline is a black comedy Stop-motion short that explores the power balance between bureaucracy, death and feline devotion of the elderly. At its center is a story of a brave friendship and solidarity between two senior ladies sickened by society's disregard and disrespect.

SHORT STOP



SWEET JUICES

Directors: Will Suen & Sejon Im

15-mins. | Australia | Drama.

Genius cooks Shirong and Tony face eviction and incarceration; on a mission to clear their names, they leave a trail of saucy vomit, stolen bicycles, unhinged government officials, and squirting dumplings that deliver enlightenment.



FAIRPLAY

Director: Zoel Aeschbacher

18-mins. | France | Drama.

A teenager in search of recognition, a worker ready to do anything to hit the jackpot, a senior executive at the end of his career who wants to prove to himself that he is still alive. Three characters who are losing speed on the competition highway...



STOP DEAD

Director: Emily Greenwood

8-mins. | UK | Horror.

When a workaholic city detective and her laid-back partner try to stop a dishevelled girl staggering down the middle of a country road, they discover she's being stalked by some unseen entity with a horrifying ultimatum: you stop moving, you die.

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SHORT STOP

SHORT STOP 4.0

Directors: Various | 88-mins. | 6 short films

Muttart Theatre at the Stanley A. Milner Library (Lower Level, 7 Winston Churchill Square):

Saturday, September 30 @NOON | \$15

Kick off your final weekend of EIFF with **Short Stop 4.0**, a program all about passion! Passion is what drives us to excel, and these shorts are real-life (and fictional!) examples of how far we can go when our ambition and drive is the wind in our sails! Learn about some incredible subjects, or marvel at how many obstacles that can be overcome with a bit of love, and a lot of passion. *Join us following this screening for a Q&A with attending guests from the films.*



SUGARING

Producer/Director/Writer: Clem McIntosh

3-mins. | Canada | Documentary.

Sugaring is an audiovisual meditation on the traditional practice of maple syruping in rural New Brunswick.



WE HAVE NOTES

Director/Writer: Jordan McKittrick

15-mins. | USA | Drama.

A film studio struggles with one scene in a Joan of Arc film.



GOOD BOY

Director: Russell Chadwick

35-mins. | USA | Documentary.

Doug Seus found kinship in the arms and claws of a 1500 pound Grizzly bear. Featuring interviews with Robert Duvall, Sean Penn & Brad Pitt, GOOD BOY is a look at how Bart The Bear, Doug Seus, and his incredible family built a bond that took them all over the world and on-screen with some of Hollywood's biggest stars.



THE ALCHEMY OF DAVID

Producer/Director: Nicholas Woytuk

15-mins. | USA | Documentary.

An artist-photographer reflects on the state of his medium and wonders if the digital age has taken the magic out of making art.

SHORT STOP



ABOUT MEMORY AND LOSS

Director/Writer: Amélie Hardy

8-mins. | Canada | Documentary.

Capture, document, record, share, restart.



III

Director/Writer: Salomé Villeneuve

12-mins. | Canada | Drama.

By a hot summer day on the lake shore, three siblings face death for the first time through their contact with nature.

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SHORT STOP

SHORT STOP 5.0

Directors: Various | 93-mins. | 5 short films

Muttart Theatre at the Stanley A. Milner Library (Lower Level, 7 Winston Churchill Square):

Saturday, September 30 @2:30pm | \$15

Our final Short Stop (and final shorts package of the festival!) is **Short Stop 5.0**, all about overcoming! What better way to send us off for the year than a reminder of the fights we wage for respect, for decency, and for humanity. Sometimes tough to watch, we hope this program is eye-opening and inspiring– a perfect note to leave us on until we return in 2024. *Join us following this screening for a Q&A with attending guests from the films.*



AYOR

Director/Writer: Tom Bakker

11-mins. | Netherlands | Drama.

During the national commemoration of Remembrance Day in 1970, two men try to make a statement against gay discrimination. Right after Queen Juliana and Prince Bernhard had laid the first wreath, two young men, Enno den Daas and Ad van Delden, ran from the Krasnapolsky Hotel to The Dam. Between them was a green wreath with a pink triangle, in memory of the gays who died during the Second World War. Before they could lay the wreath, however, they were arrested by military police and undercover agents. The film cuts back and forth between two moments in which their doubt, fear and firm belief becomes clear: the boys waiting at Hotel Krasnapolsky for the right moment, and after their arrest, when they are questioned by the police at the Warmoesstraat station.



INFRACTION

Director/Writer:

21-mins. | USA | Drama.

When a prison guard is murdered on the job, his replacement and an inmate form an unlikely relationship with life-altering ramifications.

This film is based on the real life story of Philadelphia native Terrance Lewis who served 21 years in prison for a murder he did not commit.



RED, WHITE AND BLUE

Producer/Director/Writer: Nazrin Choudhury

22-mins. | USA | Drama.

RED, WHITE AND BLUE is the story of a young mother, Rachel (BRITTANY SNOW), who is forced to travel with her young daughter in tow from their hometown in Arkansas to Illinois in search of an urgent and necessary abortion. As Rachel makes this arduous journey into a fun road trip, we learn a heartbreaking truth and come to know the dark secret that means her life will never be the same again.

SHORT STOP



A CHOCOLATE LENS

Director: Gabriel Veras

21-mins. | USA | Documentary.

How do you take a picture and tell a whole story. A Chocolate Lens chronicles Steven Cummings's photographic journey through a disappearing Black Washington. His approach was simple: use the camera lens to find the power amidst the storm. His images are a love letter to Black people across America.



GRAVEYARD OF HORSES

Director/Writer: Xiaoxuan Jiang

17-mins. | USA | Drama.

A frigid winter on the Mongolian steppe, an untimely snowstorm aggravated the lives of a pregnant herder and her 8-year-old daughter: the missing flock of sheep, the unborn child, the absent husband, traces of wolves..... everything led the mother and daughter to places they've never been.

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RES

STUDIO A: SHORT FILM SERIES



STUDIO A: SHORT FILM SERIES

SHORT STOP 5.0

Friday, September 22 and Saturday, September 23 at the Muttart Theatre at the Stanley A. Milner Library

Tix: \$15 each program

STUDIO A(Alberta) is a series of five (5) short film programs created by, and featuring Alberta talent! Meet filmmakers, actors, writers, directors, grips, gaffers... who work elsewhere (but still call Alberta home) along with the talented creators who play, and live, right here in our own Studio, eh. Q&A with visiting filmmakers following each program in-theatre.

STUDIO A 1.0

Directors: Various | 49-mins. | 5 short films

**Muttart Theatre at the Stanley A. Milner Library
(Lower Level, 7 Winston Churchill Square):**

Friday, September 22 @6pm | \$15

Our first **STUDIO A** showcases the unique voices we've come to expect from our Alberta talent. And it's always fun to see where those voices direct their energy. This year, we're opening with our **LATE NIGHT** package! Demons, monsters, angry wives who have had enough; there's something for everyone! You never know what will spring from the minds of our Albertan filmmakers! *Join us following this screening for a Q&A with attending guests from the films.*



GET IN, GET IT OUT

Producer/Director/Writer: Leah Beaudry

7-mins. | Vancouver | Comedy.

This mockumentary follows three wildly ill-informed Priests as they attempt to "save the world, one demon at a time."



PRAIRIE TWO STEP

Producer/Director/Writer: Dani Alvarado

8-mins. | Calgary | Drama.

In the moments following a domestic dispute, two young women grapple with their understandings of love and the purpose of their friendship.



IN THE SHADOW OF GOD

Director/Writer: Brian Sepanzyk

18-mins. | Vancouver | Horror.

As a woman packs up her childhood home following the passing of her father, she comes to learn that there may have been a more sinister threat behind his death, long buried on the grounds of the family home.

STUDIO A: SHORT FILM SERIES



NOWHERE NORMAL

Director: Matt Kloster

7-mins. | Edmonton | Drama.

A young woman must find the heirlooms of her recently dead grandmother, before her intolerant, debt-ridden father does.



SUZY MAKES CUPCAKES

Director: Jayson Therrien

10-mins. | Calgary | Drama.

Suzy has a unique talent. She makes the best tasting red velvet cupcakes. She parlays that talent into getting even with her abusive husband, deceiving the local crime family and making out with a bowling full of cash.

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STUDIO A: SHORT FILM SERIES

STUDIO A 2.0

Directors: Various | 46-mins. | 4 short films

**Muttart Theatre at the Stanley A. Milner Library
(Lower Level, 7 Winston Churchill Square):**

Friday, September 22 @7:45pm | \$15

Our **Studio A** continues with more homegrown talent, and a collection of fascinating shorts. We're bringing you the laughs, the emotion, and the catharsis that could only come from Alberta! Meet a family of resourceful Manitobans, a soldier on the brink, a struggling artist, and... a pile of flesh. They'll be your guides through this journey, we hope you love them as much as we have. *Join us following this screening for a Q&A with attending guests from the films.*



TOY TRAIN

Director: Kyle Tiernan

12-mins. | Edmonton | Drama.

A young soldier faces his internal delusions, while being surrounded with the bitter realities of war.



MONSTR

Director/Writer: Tank Standing Buffalo

6-mins. | Calgary | Animation.

How do you go on living when everything is taken from you in the blink of an eye? A young artist confronts his inner demons while apprenticing with a northwest totem carver after the death of his beloved.



MAKING MONEY IN... MANITOU, MANITOBA

Producer/Director/Writer: Austin Ladouceur

24-mins. | Calgary | Comedy.

Seven half-brothers reflect on their mother, pastimes, and insurance fraud in the slow-paced town of Manitou, Manitoba.



FLESH BALLET

Director: Various

4-mins. | Edmonton | Drama.

A quadruple amputee and a seamstress metamorphose into a giant flesh mound.

STUDIO A: SHORT FILM SERIES

STUDIO A 3.0

Directors: Various | 91-mins. | 2 short films

**Muttart Theatre at the Stanley A. Milner Library
(Lower Level, 7 Winston Churchill Square):**

Saturday, September 23 @NOON | \$15

Studio A 3.0 is a rarity for our Studio A series! Enjoy this spotlight on two fascinating and eye-opening films from Albertan filmmaker Colin Waugh. Learn of the architectural wonders that lie within our beautiful prairie lands, and meet Dr. Wilton Littlechild in Waugh's stunning conclusion to his three-part short series produced by Ermineskin Cree Nation. *Join us following this screening for a Q&A with filmmaker Colin Waugh.*



OHTE NIKAHN KESP YO

Director: Colin Waugh

31-mins. | Edmonton | Documentary.

From Residential School to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, *ohte nikahn kespâyo* (future) is the story of former Member of Parliament, Treaty 6 Grand Chief, and UN Delegate Dr. Wilton Littlechild. It is the final instalment in a three part series produced by Ermineskin Cree Nation, featuring music by Grammy nominated Northern Cree.



ARTHUR ERICKSON'S DYDE HOUSE

Director: Colin Waugh

60-mins. | Edmonton | Documentary.

Nestled among the aspen parkland of Alberta, a hidden masterpiece by one of Canada's most celebrated architects has been found. Arthur Erickson's Dyde House tells the story of an undiscovered piece of history and the architects fighting for its future.

STUDIO A: SHORT FILM SERIES

STUDIO A 4.0

Directors: Various | 41-mins. | 4 short films

**Muttart Theatre at the Stanley A. Milner Library
(Lower Level, 7 Winston Churchill Square):**

Saturday, September 23 @2:30pm | \$15

STUDIO A 4.0, our final collection of Albertan short films, features four filmmakers who all hail from our amazing Edmonton, Alberta! The artistry we hold within this city is wondrous, and it shows on the screen! Beautiful animation lives alongside heart-warming humanity in this package, not to mention stunning music and inventive cinematography. Join us following this screening for a Q&A with attending guests from the films.



PAPER PLANES

Directors: Sina Sultani & Katrin Frantz

6-mins. | Edmonton | Animation.

Following the loss of his father, a young boy crippled by grief struggles to reconnect with his distant mother.



NO BEDROOM

Director: Ryan Leedu

12-mins. | Edmonton | Drama.

A young woman selectively arranges viewings for her one-bedroom house, which she may not be genuine about actually renting.



YOU ARE THE BLUE

Director/Writer: Beatrice King

14-mins. | Edmonton | Drama.

'You Are the Blue' is a gripping coming-of-age film about teenage Kay, an aspiring dancer who reckons with her identity amidst a terrifying secret.



SWALLOW, DEAR SWALLOW

Producer/Director: Eva Colmers

9-mins. | Edmonton | Drama.

Wistful accordion music and stunning shadow imagery swirl together in this visually and acoustically lush short film about two dreamers that unite in a quest to help others.

Based on Oscar Wilde's short story *The Happy Prince*, the images in *Swallow, Dear Swallow* are all handmade and are a love letter to creative analog cinematography.

With a simple, transforming set, elements of live puppetry and minimal edits, the viewer is transported to different places following the brave little swallow - evoking the magic of a live performance.

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THANK-YOU!

To OUR FAMILIES and FRIENDS... we could not do this without you. FACT! And although we say this every year, it continues to be relevant—we think about you all the time and can't wait to catch up! Thank-you for picking apples, bringing us food, completing the sentences which we can't find the words for and for telling us "that shirt really doesn't go with those shoes". We are the little festival that could. Thank YOU for your passionate, all-in, ambassadorship and for holding us all accountable as a festival that values inclusiveness, respect and... grace.

THANK YOU to all the filmmakers who granted us permission to unleash their 'cinematic babies' to Edmontonians. And massive, heartfelt, full-body hugs to our tireless VOLUNTEERS, SPONSORS, FUNDERS and to YOU... for being here, taking the ride with us and for supporting our **Edmonton International Film Festival!**

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HERE'S LOOKIN' AT YOU 2024!
SEPTEMBER 26 to October 5.

INDEX OF ALL FILMS



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