



CANADIAN FILM  
INSTITUTE • INSTITUT  
CANADIEN DU FILM

# Final Report

December 2022 to November 2023

Soft (dir. Joseph Amenta)

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## **ABOUT THE CANADIAN FILM INSTITUTE**

Founded in 1935 in Ottawa, the Canadian Film Institute (CFI) is the oldest film institution in Canada and the second oldest in the world. Established as a non-governmental, non-profit cultural organization dedicated to the presentation and appreciation of the moving image, the CFI has had a longstanding and significant impact on the evolution of Canadian cinema itself while also giving Canadian audiences access to Canadian and international films that are often hard to find in the context of commercial film exhibition. The original impetus for creating the organization in 1935 – to present Canadian and international works unavailable through conventional exhibition channels – remains a guiding vision for its public programming nine decades later.

One of the CFI's most significant achievements is the Ottawa International Animation Festival (OIAF), founded in 1976. Held every September, it is one of the leading events of its kind in the world attracting a global audience of artists and enthusiasts. The festival offers Canadian filmmakers a prestigious platform to showcase their work, network, and participate in professional development activities. It provides unique experiences for Ottawa audiences and features many free events for school groups, teens, and families.

In 2019, the CFI identified a need in Ottawa for a major international live-action film event that would bring the best of the film festival circuit to local audiences while also allowing the CFI to double the number of Canadian films that it was able to showcase. This festival could reach different audiences within Ottawa through a diverse array of programming. It could also promote and develop the careers of local and Canadian filmmakers. And so in 2021, the CFI established the International Film Festival of Ottawa (IFFO), which now runs every March. Curated by the CFI's programming team, IFFO showcases feature films from Canada and around the world and includes a Canadian short film shown before each feature. Additional events at IFFO such as the "Screen Summit" and "Save As" offer panels focused on professional development and the preservation of Canadian and world cinematic heritage, respectively.

Beyond these flagship festivals, the CFI's commitment to cinema extends throughout the year. Created in 1998, Café Ex is a guest artist series featuring Canada's most daring moving image makers and offers the audience the opportunity to hear from and see the work of these experimental filmmakers in a casual setting. The Female Gaze series focuses on women not just behind the camera, but women on-screen and in the audience. The film and thematic talk of each screening explores, with the audience, the personal and cultural significance of films created by women, about women, and for women.

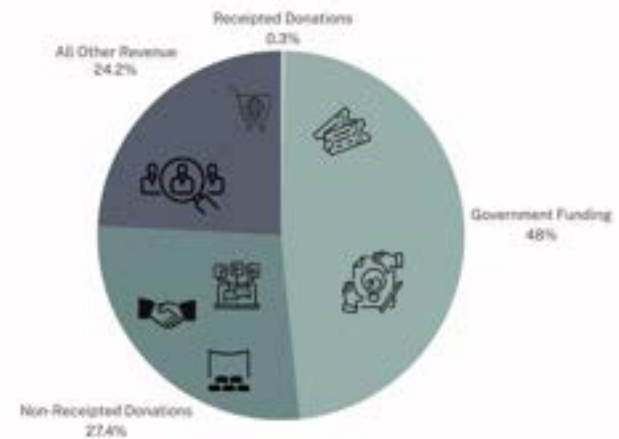
## FINANCIAL REPORT

The next few years will be a challenge for the Canadian Film Institute and other arts organizations as we deal with higher costs and audience numbers which are lower due to the effects of the pandemic. 22/23 ended with a deficit but the CFI aims to return to a balanced budget by 25/26. In 23/24 and 24/25, it will draw on an accumulated surplus that it built during 2020 and 2021. The CFI was fortunate to have run many highly successful online events as well as receiving additional public and private support. For the full financial statements, click [here](#). The CFI is audited by Welch LLP.

### CFI Expenses '22/'23



### CFI Revenue '22/'23



## CANADIAN FILM INSTITUTE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Joy Yang**, Chair (Toronto, joined May 2018)

**Hayley Cooper**, Treasurer (Ottawa, joined June 2020)

**Lauren Brown** (Ottawa, joined February 2018)

**Patrick Dion** (Ottawa, joined May 2018)

**Sandrine Pechels de Saint Sardos** (Ottawa, joined June 2023)

**Aboubakar Sanogo** (Ottawa, joined June 2023)

## CFI STAFF

**Tom McSorley**, CFI Executive Director

**Kelly Neall**, Managing Director

**Chris Robinson**, OIAF Artistic Director

**Tish Chambers**, Festivals Manager

**Ben Compton**, Film Operations Manager

**Christina Frolova-Gregory**, Communications Manager

**Devin Hartley**, Director of Film Operations

**Sarah Lamoureux**, Development Manager

**Amanda Misko**, Industry and Community Programming Manager

**Sari Buksner**, TAC Programming Specialist

**Derek Daniher**, Film Operation Assistant

**Annie Doane**, Communications Coordinator

**Patti Gerrard**, Volunteer Coordinator

**Anna Graves**, Pitching and Industry Events Coordinator

**Catharine Horsley**, Special Events Coordinator

**Amy Kassem**, Logistics and Travel Assistant

**Jordon Lee**, Community Events Assistant

**Rachel McColl-Williams**, Clients Services Coordinator

**Kianna Mkhonza**, Graphic Designer

**Candace Nelsom**, Office Assistant

**Evelyn Sifton**, Speaker Relations Coordinator

**Fionna Wilson**, Office Assistant, Registration Coordinator

**Jarret Stoll**, Festival Announcer

**Matthew Rankin**, Poster and Signal Film Designer

**Heather Marie Connors**, Bookkeeping

## FILM FESTIVALS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

### Japanese Film Festival

December 11 and 13, 2022

One of the Canadian Film Institute's longest-running annual festivals, the Japanese Film Festival, has, for almost four decades, showcased the best in contemporary filmmaking in Japan. Another CFI tradition continues with this year's **40th Japanese Film Festival**. As always, these screenings are **free admission** for all. Different this year is the addition of short animated films with each feature film, and a special performance by a J-pop Idol group from Québec!

Film	Creator
<i>Mogu and Perol</i>	
<i>Pop in Q</i>	Naoki Miyahara
<i>Komaneko, Home Alone</i>	
<i>We Make Antiques!</i>	Masaharu Take



## IFFO: The International Film Festival of Ottawa

March 8 - 19, 2023

Attendance: 3444

The International Film Festival of Ottawa (IFFO) is a new event bringing the best of the global film festival circuit to Canada's Capital. The Festival's third edition, took place March 8 - 19, 2023 in venues across Ottawa's downtown core.

IFFO was founded by the Canadian Film Institute (CFI) to bring an exciting, high-profile film festival to the Capital in the tradition of a 'festival of festivals'. IFFO provides international cinema to Ottawa in a way it hasn't seen before, expanding the cinematic scope of the city alongside existing theatres and festivals. This live-action film festival complements the CFI's other major film event, the Ottawa International Animation Festival, creating another opportunity for this established organization to bring exceptional film content to Ottawa.

This year provided cinephiles and Ottawa locals with an eclectic mix of films that won awards and made waves in the international film circuit in the past year. IFFO programmers curated 29 feature films from over 20 countries paired with 29 Canadian shorts to create the Official Selection. Other programs included perennial CFI series Canadian Masters and The Enlightened Screen.



IFFO 2023 Attendance

<b>Film (Country) Short (Country)</b>	<b>Creator</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
I Like Movies (Canada) <i>Rocket Fuel (Canada)</i>	Chandler Levack <i>Jessie Posthumus</i>	259
When Night is Falling (Canada)	Patricia Rozema	55
Rush to Judgment (Canada)	Emile de Antonio	26
Return to Seoul (France) <i>Brown Enough (Canada)</i>	Davy Chou	141
Carajita (Dominican Republic, Argentina) <i>So I Married Myself (Canada)</i>	Silvina Schnicer, Ulises Porra Guardiola <i>Amen Jafri</i>	50
R.M.N. (Romania) <i>Paco (Canada)</i>	Cristian Mungiu <i>Kent Donguines</i>	128
Queens of the Qing Dynasty <i>Pro Pool (Canada)</i>	Ashley McKenzie <i>Alec Pronovost</i>	75
We Won't Kill Each Other With Guns (Spain) <i>Municipal Relaxation Module (Canada)</i>	Maria Ripoll <i>Mathew Rankin</i>	38
Balaban (Kazakhstan) <i>Blaze (Canada)</i>	Aysulu Onaran <i>Emilie Mannering</i>	41
Soft (Canada) <i>The Passing (Canada)</i>	Joseph Amenta <i>Jackson Harvey</i>	28
Bones of Crows (Canada) <i>Spirit Emulsion (Canada)</i>	Marie Clements <i>Siku Allooloo</i>	174



Sonne (Austria) <i>Simo (Canada)</i>	Kurdwin Ayub <i>Aziz Zoromba</i>	86
Ice Under His Feet (Russia) <i>Tibi (Canada)</i>	Kirill Nenashev <i>Jarret Twoyoungmen</i>	45
Plan 75 (Japan, France, Philippines, Qatar) <i>Grown in Darkness (Canada)</i>	Chie Hayakawa <i>Devin Shears</i>	135
Vicenta B. (Cuba, Colombia, France, Norway) <i>Meeting with Robert Dole (Canada)</i>	Carlos Lechuga <i>Francois Harvey</i>	83
Ordinary Failures (Czech Republic ) <i>No Ghost in the Morgue (Canada)</i>	Cristina Grosan <i>Marilyn Cooke</i>	55
We Might As Well Be Dead (Germany) <i>Scaring Women at Night (Canada)</i>	Natalia Sinelnikova <i>Karimah Zakia Issa</i>	108
Coyote (Canada) <i>Baba (Canada)</i>	Katherine Jerkovic <i>Anya Chirkova, Meran Ismailsoy</i>	68
Mandabi (Senegal)	Ousmane Sembene	63
We Will Never Belong (Mexico) <i>Adore (Canada)</i>	Amelia Eloisa <i>Beth Warriar</i>	88
We Are Still Here (Australia,New Zealand) <i>A Feller and the Tree (Canada)</i>	Beck Cole, Dena Curtis, Tracey Rigney, Danielle MacLean, Tim Worrall, Renaë Maihi, Miki Magasiva, Mario Gaoa, Richard Curtis, Chantelle Burgoyne <i>Kalainithan Kalaichelvan</i>	138
Shimoni (Kenya)	Angela Wanjiku Wamai	44

<i>Irninnu Unikaara (Canada)</i>	<i>Ipeelie Ootoova</i>	
A Male (Colombia) <i>More Than Hair (Canada)</i>	Fabian Hernández <i>Fitch Jean</i>	31
Under the Fig Trees (Tunisia, France, Switzerland) <i>Waiting for Lolo (Canada)</i>	Erige Sehiri <i>Jules Ronfard</i>	89
Canadian Masters: Meditation Park (Canada)	Mina Shum	48
The Maiden (Canada) <i>Song for the New World (Canada)</i>	Graham Foy <i>Miryam Charles</i>	58
Una Femmina- The Code of Silence (Italy) <i>Shallots and Garlic (Canada, Indonesia)</i>	Francesco Costabile <i>Andrea Nirmala Widjajanto</i>	49
PHI 1.618 (Bulgaria, Canada) <i>Corners (Canada)</i>	Theodore Ushev <i>James Brylowski</i>	57
Until Tomorrow (Iran, France, Qatar) <i>Everything Will Be Alright (Canada)</i>	Ali Asgari <i>Farhad Pakdel</i>	48
"The Female Gaze" Maya Nilo (Laura) (Sweden, Finland, Belgium) <i>Likeness (Canada)</i>	Lovisa Sirén <i>Emily Diana Ruth</i>	60
The Flag (Palestine) <i>Most of the Time We Are Just Waiting (Canada)</i>	Firas Khoury <i>Molly Shears</i>	199
The Christmas Setup (Canada, USA)	Pat Mills	71
Cinema's First Nasty Women: Gender Adventures (USA)	Various	199
Tales from the Gimli Hospital (Canada)	Guy Maddin	90
Marcell! (Italy) <i>Desi Standard Time Travel (Canada)</i>	Jasmine Trinca <i>Kashif Pasta</i>	99

Fogareu (Brazil, France) <i>Ori Mi Agbe (Canada)</i>	Flávia Neves <i>Iyunade Judah</i>	110
The Worst Ones (France) <i>N'xaxaitkw (Canada)</i>	Lise Akoka, Romane Gueret <i>Asia Youngman</i>	106
<b>Total Attendance</b>	-	<b>3444</b>

## IFFO Presents: “The Female Gaze”

March 18, 2023

Created by CFI Festivals Manager and IFFO programmer Tish Chambers, this program brings the focus to women not just behind the camera, but women on-screen and in the audience. The film and talk of each screening explores, with the audience, the personal and cultural significance of films created by women, about women, and for women. (Once more for effect: women!)

Film (Country)	Creator	Attendance
Likeness (Canada)	Emily Diana Ruth	60
Maya Nilo (Sweden)	Lovisa Siren	60



## Canadian Masters : Mina Shum Interview and Special Screening: “Meditation Park”

March 16, 2023

Attendance: 48

We are proud to have Mina Shum as one of IFFO’s Canadian Masters. Mina was here in Ottawa to discuss her career and to present a special screening of one of her works.

The Canadian Film Institute’s Canadian Masters series is IFFO’s annual celebration of excellence in Canadian filmmaking, featuring extensive onstage interviews, special screenings, and audience discussions with some of the greatest names in Canadian film history.

In the three decades since her award-winning 1993 short documentary, *Me, Mom and Mona*, Vancouver-based director, writer, and producer Mina Shum has created some of Canadian cinema’s most endearing and enduring feature films. From her first feature, *Double Happiness* (featuring the big screen debut of Sandra Oh and winner of the Best Canadian Feature Film at the Toronto International Film Festival) in 1994 through to the present, her vision and versatility have taken her from fiction features to documentary to extensive work in series television.

Canadian Film Institute Executive Director Tom McSorley conducted an extensive, career-spanning onstage conversation with Mina Shum, looking at her film works, her approach to filmmaking and screenwriting, and her experiences in a career that has spanned over three decades in making short films, feature drama, documentary, and series television.

Mina Shum introduced her 2017 feature film and discussed it in a post-screening Q&A.

## Special Screening: Cinema's First Nasty Women: Gender Adventures

March 18, 2023

Attendance: 199

Presented in partnership with Carleton University’s School For Studies In Art and Culture: Film Studies, IFFO is proud to showcase selections from the recently released celebration of women performers and filmmakers in the silent era. The collection *Cinema’s First Nasty Women*, co-curated by Carleton University Film Studies Professor Laura Horak, features rarely-seen silent films about feminist protest, anarchic slapstick destruction, and suggestive gender play. The films span a range of genres including slapstick comedy, genteel farce, the trick film, cowboy melodrama, and adventure thriller.

In collaboration with Professor Horak, IFFO presented a selection of daring, entertaining shorts from this amazing collection, with live piano accompaniment.



## **IFFO: The International Film Festival of Ottawa - SAVE AS**

March 9, 2023

Attendance: 81

As part of its Screen Summit industry programming and based on a soon-to-be published comprehensive survey on public policy and film restoration practices, the CFI's International Film Festival of Ottawa (IFFO), with Telefilm Canada and the French Embassy in Canada gather Canadian and international film archivists, distributors, exhibitors, and streaming services to discuss the current state of our endangered cinematic heritage. Celebrating recent restorations of classic films with case studies and special screenings, this one-day conference also hosts panel discussions on ways to increase the accessibility of this heritage to audiences worldwide.



### **Panel 1: DIY Archiving**

March 9, 2023

Attendance: 81

In the absence of coordinated state-run archival activities, inspired and motivated individuals and NGOs have been engaged in the daunting tasks of restoring, preserving, archiving and exhibiting audiovisual artifacts from a variety of sectors. What is the range and reach of these 'do-it-yourself' activities? What are the outlines of this 'ground up' approach to the archiving, restoring, and exhibiting processes and how can these practitioners inform and even help shape potential future public sector/government policy frameworks?

Moderator: Brian Belovarac, Theatrical Distribution, Janus Films/Criterion Channel

Panelists: Viviana García Besné, Director of Permanencia Voluntaria  
Ron Mann, Founder of FilmsWeLike  
Justin D. Williams, Archivist & Project Manager, South Side Home Movie Project

### **Case Study 1: When Night is Falling (1995)**

March 9, 2023

Attendance: 81

Acclaimed Canadian director Patricia Rozema will be showcasing the 4K restoration of her 1995 groundbreaking LGBTQ+ film, *When Night is Falling* (1995) starring Pascale Bussi eres, Rachel Crawford and Henry Czerny.

Panelist: Patricia Rozema, Director

Interviewed by: Paulina Abarca-Cantin, Programming Specialist

### **Panel 2: Decolonizing the Archive**

March 9, 2023

Attendance: 81

A reflection on the actions underway to expand the spectrum of archival processes, with a view toward integrating meaningfully and disseminating and exhibiting historically marginalized works. This panel will also interrogate the colonial structures and attitudes that have shaped the idea of ‘the archives’ and highlight the work being done now to make that idea and its institutions more responsive and inclusive.

Moderator: Janine Marchessault, Professor, York University, Archive/Counter-Archive

Panelists: Brian Virostek, Archivist, Audiovisual Private Specialized Media, Library and Archives Canada  
Laura Horak, Professor of Film Studies, Carleton University, Marjorie Beaucage, Filmmaker and  
Jean Pierre Marchant, Director, CineMobilia

**Case Study 2: *Tales from the Gimli Hospital* (1988) and *Rush to Judgment* (1967)**

March 9, 2023

Attendance: 81

Award-winning Canadian filmmaker Ron Mann will discuss his work on the restorations of Guy Maddin's first feature film, *Tales from the Gimli Hospital* (1988) as well as the adaptation film by director Emile de Antonio, *Rush to Judgment* (1967).

Panelist: Ron Mann, Founder of FilmsWeLike

Interviewed by: Paulina Abarca-Cantin, Programming Specialist

**Panel 3: Focus 2023: Africa**

March 9 2023

Attendance: 81

What are the international activities being undertaken to restore, preserve, and disseminate the classics of African cinema? In addition to a presentation and panel discussion on this subject, SAVE AS will present a special tribute screening of *Mandabi* (1968), a key recently restored work by African cinema pioneer, Ousmane Sembene, in celebration of the centenary of his birth in 1923.

Moderator: Aboubakar Sanogo, Professor, Carleton University

Panelists: Ahmed Bedjaoui, Academic, Producer and film critic,  
Judith Opoku-Boateng, Archivist, University of Ghana

## IFFO: The International Film Festival of Ottawa - Screen Summit

March 18, 2023

Attendance: 84

### Meet the Ottawa Film Resources

March 18, 2023

Attendance: 84

Screen Summit is IFFO's industry event. Opportunities and resources are showcased for those looking to get involved in film production in Ottawa! This panel will provide an overview of the local organizations offering training and an introduction to an Ottawa network. The Summit brings together professionals in the live-action production community for an exchange of information and expertise. The day is designed for a specialized audience in screen-based content creation, development, production, post-production and distribution.

Moderated by Ottawa Film Commissioner Sandrine Pechels de Saint Sardos

#### Panelists:

Christine Maki, Creator Network Producer, CBC Ottawa

Emily Ramsay, Director, DARC

Maissa Hourri, Director of Equity Initiatives, Digi60 Filmmakers' Festival

Amber Munro, Apprenticeship, Outreach & Equity Manager, Directors Guild of Canada – Ontario

Gayle Nakamoto-Jancewicz, Faculty, School of Media and Design, Algonquin College





## Hometown Heroes With Pat Mills

March 18, 2023

Attendance: 84

Ottawa-born Pat Mills talks showbiz, sharing industry insights and lessons learned during his award-winning career as a director and writer. An alumnus of the National Screen Institute, the Canadian Film Centre, TIFF's Talent Lab and winner of TIFF's Pitch This, Pat's recent directing credits include drag queen comedy series, *Queens*, on CBC Gem and the queer thriller *The Retreat*, which was nominated for three Canadian Screen Awards. Returning to his hometown, Pat directed Lifetime's first LGBTQ+ Christmas movie, *The Christmas Setup*, in Ottawa in 2020.

Guest: Pat Mills, Director, *The Christmas Setup* (2020)

Interviewed by: Vladimir Jean-Gilles, Film Columnist for CBC All in a day

**Screening: Made in Ottawa Holiday Movie: *The Christmas Setup* (2020)**

Presented by Welch LLP



## European Union Short Film Festival Online

May 26, 27, 2023

Attendance: **735**

The European Union Short Film Festival offers cinematic delights in short form from over 20 EU Member States, featuring everything from short dramas to experimental works to animation. Presented in collaboration with European Union Delegation to Canada and the participating EU Member States.

This year, there were three separate programs presented on the big screen in the Ottawa Art Gallery's magnificent Alma Duncan Salon. The 2023 selection includes short dramas, documentaries, animation, and experimental films.

Film (Country)	Creator	Attendance
<b>PROGRAM 1: The Roles We Play</b>		<b>245</b>
Fibonacci (Czech Republic)	Tomáš Hubáček	
Sierra (Estonia)	Sander Joon	
Yes (Hungary)	Géza M. Tóth	
Cradle (Cântec de leagăn) (Romania)	Paul Muresan	
Airborne (Poland)	Andrzej Jobczyk	
Danube traces, digital wideness and other things (Donauspuren, digitale Weite und andere Dinge) (Austria)	Carola Dertnig	
Cyclists (Croatia)	Veljko Popović	



Huldra (Sweden)	John Boisen and Björn Fävremark	
<b>PROGRAM 2: The Friends We Make</b>		<b>245</b>
Luce and the Rock (Belgium)	Britt Raes	
The Parrot Lady (Cyprus)	Michalis Kalopaidis	
Hugo & Holger (Hugo og Holger) (Denmark)	Teddy Halkier Kristiansen	
Connected (Slovakia)	Peter Kolos	
Hedgehogs and the City (Latvia)	Evalds Lacis	
Winter Lake (Talvinen järvi) (Finland)	(Petteri Saario)	
<b>PROGRAM 3: The Care We Give</b>		<b>245</b>
Sand Mother (Madre Arena) (Spain)	Didi Rodan	
It Doesn't Have to Be Today (Muss ja nicht sein, dass es heute ist) (Germany)	Sophia Groening	
A Night at the Cemetery (Mia nyhta sto nekrotafeio) (Greece)	Stelios Polychronakis	
4 Beats (4 Battiti) (Italy)	Natalia Piervincenzi	
La vita nuova (France)	Arthur Sevestre	
Cherries (Uogos) (Lithuania)	Vytautas Katkus	
The Bull (Bik) (Slovenia)	Bojan Labovic	

For the Birds (Ireland)	Ciaran O'Connor	
<b>Total Attendance</b>		<b>735</b>

## The Female Gaze: The Venus Effect

August 23, 2023

Attendance: **56**

Queerness and family don't always go well together. For Liv, in *The Venus Effect*, it's the family pressure on her current relationship with a man to get married and churn out some grandchildren that makes her new relationship with Andrea difficult to share. Even in a family which already has a gay child, coming out as something other than straight can be fraught with fear of disappointment and upsetting the status quo. In films, a coming out story can be dramatic and tragic or played for comedy and often the most important coming out is to the family. As John says in *Happiest Season*, "Everybody's story is different. There's your version and my version, and everything in between."

Liv's version is a surprising one that instigates big changes in her close-knit family. In *Ellie & Abbie* (& *Ellie's Dead Aunt*), coming out to her mom is not nearly as big a deal as getting her crush to like her and in *To Each, Her Own*, her coming out is complicated by an unexpected attraction to a man. Everybody's story is different. Living as one's honest, queer self can be the best thing one can do but the journey there can be complicated, weird, funny, dramatic, and beautiful.

Tish is pleased to welcome Jessie Posthumus to "The Female Gaze" to talk about *The Venus Effect* and queerness and family in film.



Jessie is a Canadian writer, director, and editor working in both documentary and narrative film. Since graduating from Toronto Metropolitan University's Film Studies program with the award for Best Screenplay in 2017, they have continued to make films that put characters first. In their work you will find a deep understanding of world-building, as well as a keen sense of humour.

Centered around *The Venus Effect*, Tish and Jessie will have a conversation about queerness, family, and the ways they intersect.

## Ottawa International Animation Festival (In-Person)

September 20 - 24, 2023

Attendance: 26 830

The Ottawa International Animation Festival (OIAF) is one of the world's leading animation events providing screenings, exhibits, workshops and entertainment since 1976. OIAF is an annual five-day event bringing art and industry together in a vibrant hub, attracting artists, producers, students and animation fans from around the world.

[OIAF 2023 Program Guide](#)

### Official Competition

Attendance: 5112

The OIAF takes great pride in the fact that it has never charged a submission/entry fee to filmmakers who submit work to the Festival. The OIAF feels that entry fees minimize the benefit of providing filmmakers with artist fees. The OIAF accepts animation works of all lengths and subject matters. An open call is made in January of each year through advertising as well as both online and mail communications. In 2023 we received 2165 submissions. With 7 competition categories, we have the opportunity to explore diverse artist styles creating a high caliber competition with prominent accolades for participating artists. Categories



include:

- Feature Competition
- Short Competition 1 - 5
- Panorama Competition (Canadian and World)
- Young Audience Competition
- Animated Series Competition
- Canadian Student Competition
- Virtual Reality Competition

The Short Competitions and Panorama screenings are the highlights of the Festival. They feature a mixture of films from all the categories selected by the programming team with Artistic Director Chris Robinson, Devin Hartley and Ben Compton. Unlike other animation festivals, commercial works are not segregated into their own screenings but are thrown in the mix. This practice gives the OIAF its unique reputation as the place where art and industry intersect. At the “In person” Gala screenings, filmmakers in attendance are introduced to the audience, and the jury is present. At the secondary screening, all the filmmakers in attendance are introduced together at the beginning of the screening. This year, filmmakers engaged in a post-screening Q&A and were virtually presented after their film’s screening.

## **Retrospectives / Special Screenings**

Attendance: 3904

In 2023, we featured two artist retrospectives. Each retrospective included two screenings to exhibit the artists' work and contributions to animation.

A Soothing Sigh - The Films of Xi Chen and Xu An

A Change Comin' On - Exploring the Mindscapes of Masaaki Yuasa

Chicken Soup Symbiosis

Dots, Lines, Washes: Animating Ink

History, Mystery & Odyssey — Six Portland Animators

Hilda Season Three Sneak Peek

Nelvana Presents: Jelly, a new film by Robin Budd

ONLY YOU: An Animated Shorts Collection

## **TAC - The Animation Conference**

Attendance: 7660

TAC is the only event in Canada designed for professionals in the animation industry. Our aim is to create effective business opportunities for emerging, mid-level and established producers, as well as increase export potential for Canadian properties. TAC gives Canadian producers the unique opportunity to meet with key buyers and potential partners from around the world. This year the Conference drew 33 key buyers, financiers and influential industry executives from North America, Asia and Europe. The variety of events at the Conference allows producers to hear from these distinguished guests and to then meet with them formally and informally to pitch projects, initiate partnerships and build strong, long-term relations.

TAC allows producers to gain insight into current trends and developments in the national and international industries in order to become more competitive in the global marketplace. As a side event to the OIAF, TAC has the unique ability to showcase a wide range of new Canadian programming to domestic and foreign buyers.

TAC 2023 included its signature events; Fast Track, Pitch This!, TAC talks and a copro focus with a spotlight on the recently renewed Canada-France treaty and a delegation of French producers in attendance. This year's program included the return of everybody's favourite boat cruise.

## **Animation Expose Fair**

Attendance: 2400

In 2023 Animation Exposé Fair featured in person booths. Passholders had the opportunity to meet with studios, representatives from animation schools, and connect with key resources. There was an opportunity for attendees to meet with representatives from Canadian and international companies to learn about upcoming opportunities in the world of animation.

Participating Studios were as follows:

- Atomic Cartoons
- Brown Bag Films
- Cartoon Network Studios
- DNEG Animation
- Guru

- Jam Filled
- Mainframe Studios
- Mercury Filmworks
- Nelvana
- Pipeline Studios

- ReDefine
- Sphere Animation
- Warner Bros Animation

## **Family Day**

Attendance: 1055

The Ottawa International Animation Festival (OIAF) continued its partnership with Shaw Rocket Fund to provide a Festival block dedicated to family fun. Families and children had the opportunity to explore the world of animation with several screenings and workshops.

## **Youth Outreach**

Attendance: 710

The Ottawa International Animation Festival, in partnership with Jam Filled Entertainment, offered high school students across Canada an opportunity to take in free screenings, try their hand at some animation activities, and meet with leading animation schools at home or in the classroom with the Toon Apprentice Program.

The Animation Celebration is a program for elementary school students to come to OIAF and get a behind-the-scenes look at animation.



## European Union Film Festival

November 16 - November 26, 2023

Attendance: 2561

The European Union Film Festival is an annual showcase of the best of contemporary cinema produced in the European Union. Over the span of two to three weeks, the Canadian Film Institute brings Ottawa audiences a wide selection of award-winning films from the Festival circuit, never-before-seen in the capital city.



Film (Country)	Creator	Attendance
Ramona (Spain)	Andrea Bagney	135
The Man with the Answers (Cyprus)	Stelios Kammitis	63
Io sto bene (Luxembourg)	Donato Rotunno	40
Remains of the Wind (Portugal)	Tiago Guedes	75
The Last Temptation of the Belgians (Belgium)	Jan Bucquoy	60

Yasmine's Wedding (Netherlands)	Johan Nijenhuis	178
Freestyle (France)	Didier Barcelo	178
Riders (Slovenia)	Dominik Mencej	104
A Viper's Pit (Malta)	Martin Bonnici	48
Miss Viborg (Denmark)	Marianne Blicher	140
Listen (Greece)	Maria Douza	99
Runner (Lithuania)	Andrius Blaževičius	65
Double Blind (Ireland)	Ian Hunt Duffy	63
Elfriede Jelinek: Language Unleashed (Austria)	Claudia Müller	70
Mother (Bulgaria)	Zornitsa Sophia	82
Rap and Reindeer (Finland)	Petteri Saario	66
107 Mothers (Slovakia)	Peter Kerekes	55
Soviet Milk (Latvia)	Ināra Kolmane	105
Mikado (Romania)	Emanuel Pârvu	71
Carbide (Croatia)	Josip Žuvan	57
Till the End of the Night (Germany)	Christoph Hochhäusler	111
Kalev (Estonia)	Ove Musting	76
Semmelweis (Hungary)	Lajos Koltai	243

The Spring of My Life (Italy)	Zavvo Nicolosi	245
The Bohemian (Czech Republic)	Petr Václav	154
Luxembourg, Luxembourg (Ukraine)	Antonio Lukich	220
Leave No Traces (Poland)	Jan P. Matuszynski	114
Comedy Queen (Sweden)	Sanna Lenken	107
<b>Total Attendance</b>		2561