



CANADIAN FILM INSTITUTE
INSTITUT CANADIEN DU FILM

ANNUAL REPORT 2024 - 2025

CANADIAN FILM INSTITUTE

BROTHER
DIR. CLEMENT VIRGO

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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.

Executive Director's Report

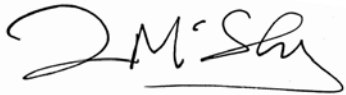
On behalf of the entire Canadian Film Institute team, I am pleased to present this annual report for our 2024-2025 fiscal year.

It has been a challenging year financially, largely due to the continued post-pandemic downturn in the global animation industry. Difficult at the best of times, fundraising in the current environment has proven to be especially challenging. That said, we did manage to trim some costs and the increased attendance at our festivals, as well as new funding received for new public outreach initiatives, have all helped with the overall financial picture. We expect 2025-2026 will look considerably better.

This past year also saw the organization mark its 90th birthday on August 26. To celebrate its nine decades of service to the Canadian public, we started a fundraising campaign called “\$90 for 90” and held several special events to raise money and awareness. This campaign will continue until Aug 26, 2026 . The Mayor of Ottawa also declared 26 August 2025 “Canadian Film Institute Day” in Ottawa, a fitting tribute recognizing the organization’s vast contributions to the cultural life of Canada’s capital city.

We are looking forward to another exciting, culturally enriching year of public programming, showcasing the best of Canadian and world cinema at our Ottawa International Animation Festival, European Union Film Festival, and the International Film Festival of Ottawa.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom McSorley', with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Tom McSorley

Executive Director
Canadian Film Institute

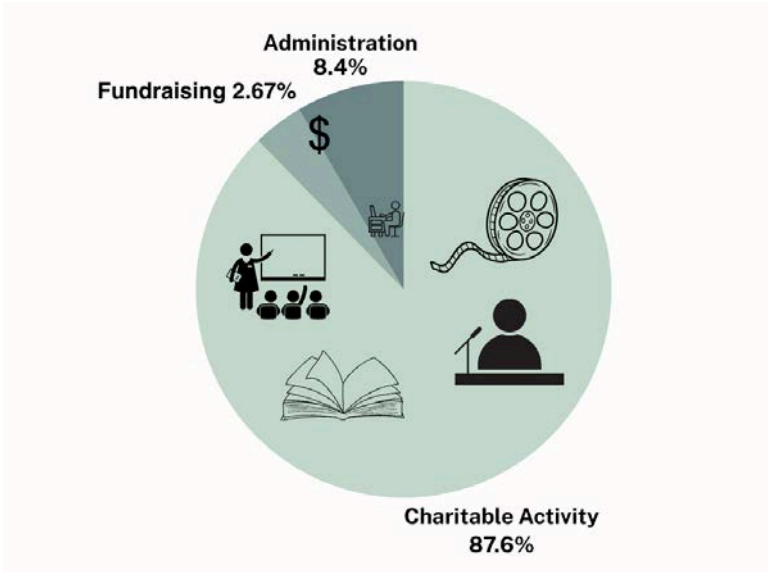
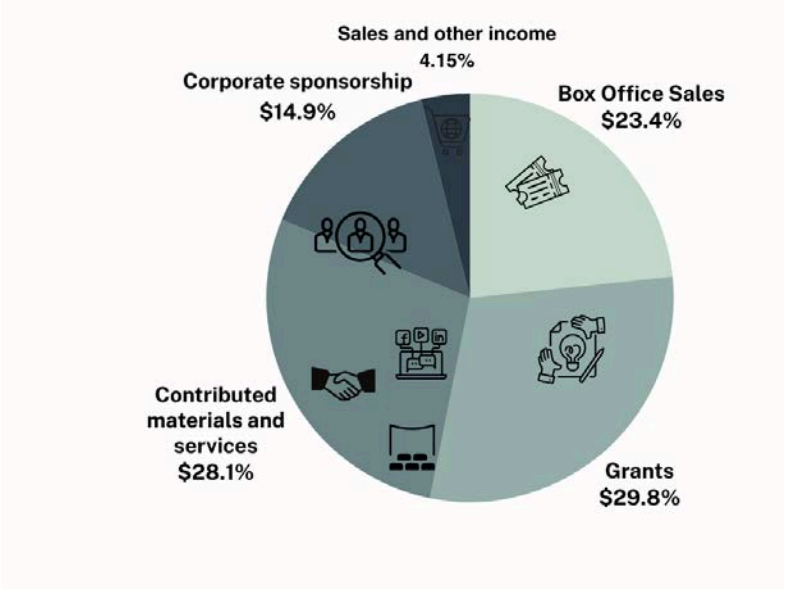
FINANCIAL REPORT

In 2024/25, the Canadian Film Institute (CFI) continued working toward long-term financial sustainability while navigating ongoing challenges across the cultural and animation sectors. To help address inflation and lower revenue levels, the organization undertook a modest internal reorganization, eliminating one staff position to streamline operations and better align resources with core programming needs. Despite leaner staffing, the CFI maintained strong festival programming, strengthened internal coordination, and continued its commitment to accessible and inclusive cultural experiences, including free and low-cost community events and significant youth outreach through OIAF programming.

Financially, the CFI continued progressing toward a balanced budget. While box office revenues have trended upward across all CFI festivals, other revenue streams remain under pressure. OIAF sponsorship remains below pre-2022 levels due to the ongoing slowdown in the animation industry, while public funding has remained largely static despite rising operational costs and expanded programming. In response, the CFI introduced new fundraising initiatives, including 50/50 draws and expanded individual-giving campaigns tied to the CFI’s 90th anniversary in 2025 and OIAF’s 50th anniversary in 2026. The organization also continued investing in artist fees aligned with IMAA recommendations and identified operational cost savings without impacting programming quality.

Preparations for upcoming anniversary initiatives are already underway, positioning the organization for expanded visibility, enhanced fundraising opportunities, and deeper community engagement in the years ahead.

For the full financial statements, click [here](#). The CFI is audited by Welch LLP.



CANADIAN FILM INSTITUTE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Aboubakar Sanogo Chair (Ottawa, joined June 2023)

Hayley Cooper Treasurer (Ottawa, joined June 2020)

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

Hoda Elatawi (Ottawa, joined June 2024)

Heather Moore (Ottawa, joined June 2024)

Maral Mohammadian (Montreal, Joined June 2024)

Kelly Beaton (Ottawa, Joined 2024)

CFI STAFF

Core Staff

Tom McSorley – CFI Executive Director

Kelly Neall – Managing Director

Chris Robinson – OIAF Artistic Director

Amanda Misko – Industry and Community Programming Manager

Amy Kassem – Development Coordinator

Christina Frolova-Gregory – Communications Manager

Devin Hartley – Director of Film Operations

Tish Black – Festivals Manager

Zachary Porter / Ben Compton – Film Operations Manager

Contract Staff IFFO:

Yvonne Squires - IFFO Industry Conference Assistant

Capriale Walling-Moore - IFFO Logistics and Travel Assistant

David Cuevas - IFFO Box Office & Volunteer Assistant

Karlyne Felix - IFFO Development Assistant

Mila Markovic - IFFO Public Relations Assistant

Contract Staff OIAF

Julia Snow – Guest Services Coordinator

Brandon Plant – Communications Coordinator

Capriale Walling-Moore – Volunteer Coordinator

David Cuevas - Box Office Manager

Niven Julien – Registration Coordinator

Juan Huerta Galicia – Film Operations Assistant

Samuel Guerrier - Film Operations Assistant

Haun Grace Rhee - Social Media Assistant

Marisse Charette – Graphic Designer

Brad Hurst – Speaker Relations Coordinator

Tom Taylor – Client Services Assistant

Brynn Niblett – Intern

Michael O'Keefe - Intern

Felicia Constantin – Special Events Coordinator

Vanessa MacDonald - Industry Events Coordinator

Gen Oliver – Arts Court Box Office Manager

Sarah Lamoureux – Development Manager

Oreon Yepes Molina – Office and Aniboutique Coordinator

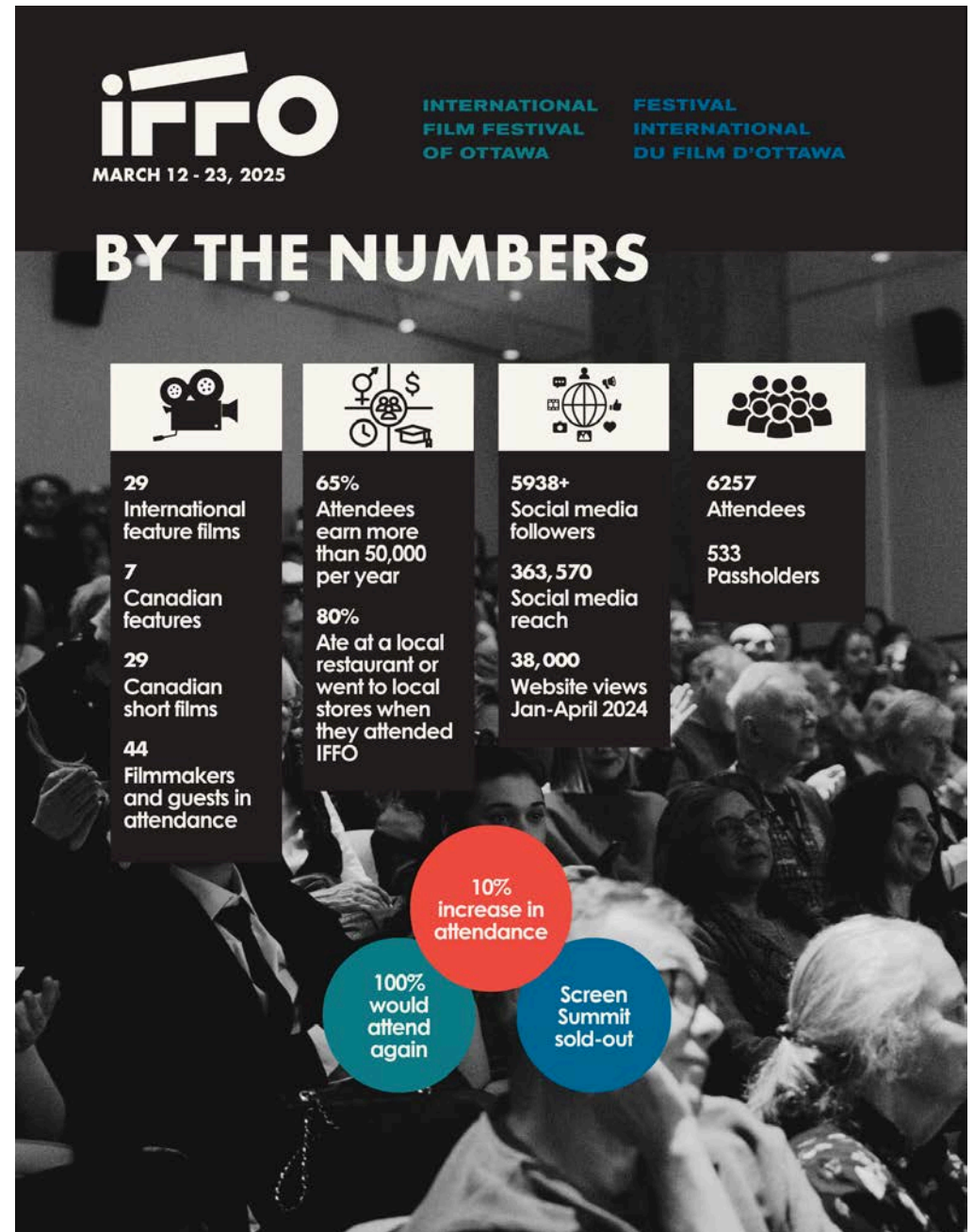
Somya Goomer – Festival Coordinator

The International Film Festival of Ottawa 2025

The International Film Festival of Ottawa (IFFO) brings the best of the global film festival circuit to Canada's Capital. The Festival's fifth edition, took place March 12-23, 2025 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 20 feature films from over 20 countries paired with 22 Canadian shorts to create the Official Selection. Other programs included perennial CFI series Canadian Masters, and The Gaze.



IFFO Screenings

This year's Festival provides cinephiles with an eclectic mix of films that have won awards and made waves in the international film circuit over the past year. In IFFO's Official Selection, programmers curated 22 Canadian and international feature films and select a new Canadian short film to accompany each feature screening. Films are curated by the IFFO programming team of Tom McSorley, Tish Black, and Devin Hartley.

Wednesday, March 12 / 7:00 pm / Ottawa Art Gallery / Attendance: 288



Can I Get A Witness?

2024 / 110 minutes / Canada

Director: Ann Marie Fleming

Writer: Ann Marie Fleming

with

perfectly a strangeness

2024 / 15 minutes / Quebec

Director: Alison McAlpine

Thursday, March 13 / 7:00 pm / Ottawa Art Gallery / Attendance: 134



Gondola

2024 / 82 minutes / Germany, Georgia

Director: Veit Helmer

Writer: Veit Helmer

with

Greenhorn

2024 / 22 minutes / Ontario

Director: Sabrina Way

Thursday, March 13 / 8:45 pm / Ottawa Art Gallery / Attendance: 96



Boomerang

2024 / 83 minutes / Iran

Director: Shahab Fotouhi

Writer: Shahab Fotouhi

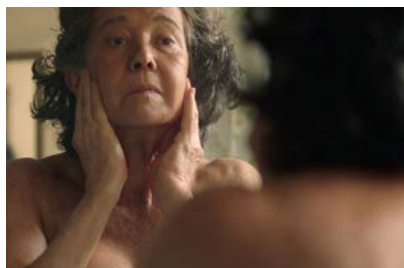
with

Like A Spiral

2024 / 28 minutes / Quebec

Director: Lamia Chraibi

Friday, March 14 / 4:00 pm / Ottawa Art Gallery / Attendance: 53



Memories Of A Burning Body

2024 / 90 minutes / Costa Rica, Spain

Director: Antonella Sudasassi Furniss

Writer: Antonella Sudasassi Furniss

with

One Day

2024 / 16 minutes / Ontario

Director: Yazmeen Kanj

Friday, March 14 / 6:30 pm / Ottawa Art Gallery / Attendance: 137



The Missile

2024 / 110 minutes / Finland

Director: Miia Tervo

Writer: Miia Tervo

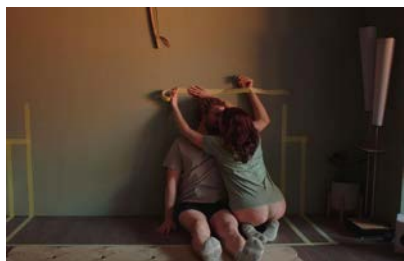
with

Two Of Hearts

2024 / 6 minutes / Ontario

Director: Mashie Alam

Friday, March 14 / 6:30 pm / Ottawa Art Gallery / Attendance: 89



Honeymoon

2024 / 84 minutes / Ukraine

Director: Zhanna Ozirna

Writer: Zhanna Ozirna

with

Zoé

2024 / 16 minutes / Quebec

Director: Rémi St-Miche

Friday, March 14 / 9:00 pm / Ottawa Art Gallery / Attendance: 89



Grand Tour

2024 / 128 minutes / Portugal

Director: Miguel Gomes

Writer: Mariana Ricardo, Telmo Churro, Maureen

Fazendeiro, Miguel Gomes

with

Buses Don't Stop Here Anymore

2024 / 7 minutes / Quebec

Director: Penny McCann

Saturday, March 15 / 1:00 pm / Bytowne Cinema / Attendance: 171



Young Hearts

2024 / 128 minutes / Belgium, Netherlands

Director: Anthony Schattelman

Writer: Anthony Schattelman

with

Himalia

2024 / 7 minutes / Quebec

Director: Clara Milo, Juliette Lossky

Saturday, March 15 / 4:00 pm / Ottawa Art Gallery / Attendance: 63



To a Land Unknown

2024 / 105 minutes / Palestine, UK, Ireland, France,

Germany, Greece, Qatar, Saudi Arabia

Director: Mahdi Fleifel

Writer: Mahdi Fleifel, Fyzal Boulifa, Jason McColgan

with

The Steak

2024 / 8 minutes / Quebec

Director: Kiarash Dadgar

Saturday, March 15 / 6:30 pm / Ottawa Art Gallery / Attendance: 211



Wet Monday

2024 / 84 minutes / Poland, Estonia, Czech Republic

Director: Justyna Mytnik

Writer: Justyna Mytnik, Rosanna Hall, Monika Dembinska

with

The Sound of You Collapsing

2024 / 12 minutes / British Columbia

Director: Rylan Friday

Saturday, March 15 / 9:00 pm / Ottawa Art Gallery / Attendance: 31



Who Do I Belong To

Mé el Aïn

2024 / 120 minutes / Tunisia, Canada

Director: Meryam Joobeur

Writer: Meryam Joobeur

with

The Sound of You Collapsing

2024 / 8 minutes / British Columbia

Director: Rylan Friday

Sunday, March 16 / 2:00 pm / Ottawa Art Gallery / Attendance: 89



Arzé

2024 / 90 minutes / Lebanon

Director: Mira Shaib

Writer: Louay Khraish, Faissal Sam Shaib

with

Before They Joined Us

2024 / 10 minutes / Quebec

Director: Arshile Khanjian Egoyan

Sunday, March 16 / 5:00 pm / Bytowne Cinema / Attendance: 98



Ciao Bambino

2024 / 100 minutes / Italy

Director: Edgardo Pistone,

Ivan Ferone

Writer: Edgardo Pistone,

Ivan Ferone

with

The Sweater

2024 / 9 minutes / Ontario

Director: Maziyar Khatam

Wednesday, March 19 / 6:30 pm / Ottawa Art Gallery / Attendance: 173



Brother

2024 / 119 minutes / Canada

Director: Clement Virgo

Writer: Clement Virgo

Thursday, March 20 / 6:30 pm / Ottawa Art Gallery / Attendance: 83



Winter Kept Us Warm

1965 / 81 minutes / Canada

Director: David Sector

Writer: David Sector, Ian Porter, John Clute

Thursday, March 20 / 8:30 pm / Ottawa Art Gallery / Attendance: 73



Toxic

Akiplėša

2024 / 99 minutes / Lithuania

Director: Saulė Bliuvaitė

Writer: Saulė Bliuvaitė

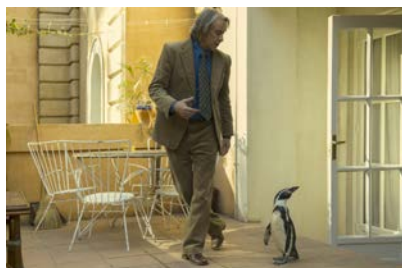
with

Gender Reveal

2024 / 12 minutes / Quebec

Director: Mo Matton

Friday, March 21 / 6:30 pm / Bytowne Cinema / Attendance: 507



The Penguin Lessons

2024 / 110 minutes / UK

Director: Peter Cattaneo

Writer: Jeff Pope

with

bridge the gap

2024 / 6 minutes / Ontario

Director: Luca Fiore

Friday, March 21 / 7:15 pm / Ottawa Art Gallery / Attendance: 241



Rêver en néon

(Neon Dreaming)

2024 / 83 minutes / Canada

Director: Marie-Claire Marcotte

Writer: Marie-Claire Marcotte

with

Café des cauchemars

(Nightmare Café)

2024 / 4 minutes / Ontario

Director: Frida Symons-Swann, Nyah Clarke

Friday, March 21 / 9:30 pm / Ottawa Art Gallery / Attendance: 54



Village Keeper

2024 / 83 minutes / Canada

Director: Karen Chapman

Writer: Karen Chapman

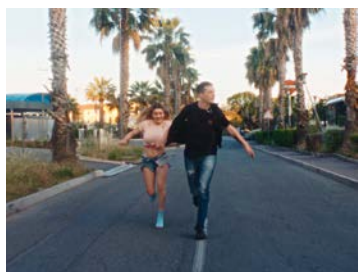
with

On a Sunday at Eleven

2024 / 9 minutes / Ontario

Director: Alicia K. Harris

Saturday, March 22 / 3:30 pm / Ottawa Art Gallery / Attendance: 99



Wild Diamond

Diamant brut

2024 / 103 minutes / France

Director: Agathe Riedinger

Writer: Agathe Riedinger

Saturday, March 22 / 1:00 pm / Bytowne Cinema / Attendance: 136



So Surreal: Behind the Masks

2024 / 103 minutes / Canada

Director: Neil Diamond, Joanne Roberston

Writer: Neil Diamond, Joanne Roberston

with

Who Loves the Sun

2024 / 20 minutes / Quebec

Director: Arshia Shakiba

Saturday, March 22 / 6:30 pm / Ottawa Art Gallery / Attendance: 246



L'histoire de Souleymane

(Souleymane's Story)

2024 / 93 minutes / France

Director: Boris Lojkine

Writer: Boris Lojkine, Delphine Agut

with

Here And There

D'ici, d'ailleurs

2024 / 19 minutes / Quebec

Director: Chadi Bennani

Saturday, March 22 / 8:45 pm / Ottawa Art Gallery / Attendance: 140



The Legend of the Vagabond Queen of Lagos

2024 / 101 minutes / Nigeria, Germany, South Africa, USA

Director: The Agbajowo Collective

Writer: The Agbajowo Collective

with

Uasheshkun

2024 / 9 minutes / Quebec

Director: Normand Junior Thirnish-Pilot

Sunday, March 23 / 4:00 pm / Ottawa Art Gallery / Attendance: 156



All Shall Be Well

從今以後

2024 / 101 minutes / China

Director: Ray Yeung

Writer: Ray Yeung

with

One Day This Kid

2024 / 18 minutes / British Columbia

Director: Alexander Farah

Sunday, March 23 / 6:30 pm / Ottawa Art Gallery / Attendance: 290



They Will Be Dust

Polvo Serán

2024 / 106 minutes / Spain, Italy, Switzerland

Director: Carlos Marques-Marcet

Writer: Carlos Marques-Marcet, Clara Roquet, Coral Cruz

with

Are You Scared To Be Yourself Because You Think That You Might Fail?

2024 / 17 minutes / Ontario

Director: Bec Pecaut

Canadian Masters with Clement Virgo

Attendance: 173

Interviewer: Aboubakar Sanogo, Professor of Film Studies at Carleton University

The Canadian Film Institute's Canadian Masters series is an annual celebration of excellence in Canadian filmmaking, featuring extensive onstage interviews, special screenings, and audience discussions with some of the greatest names in contemporary Canadian cinema.



Born in Jamaica and growing up in Toronto, Virgo's early work announced a distinctive, restless cinematic voice in the Canadian cinema of the mid-1990s. Since his impressive first feature, *Rude*, Virgo has gone on to write, direct, and produce not only feature films such as *The Planet of Junior Brown*, *Love Come Down*, *Lie With Me*, *Poor Boy's Game*, and *Brother*, but also a prodigious number of television series, including the award-winning *The Book of Negroes*. One of Canada's foremost filmmakers, Clement Virgo is a bold, articulate, startlingly versatile moving image artist whose searching, sometimes searing work investigates and recalibrates notions of race, history, power, and shifting identities in Canada.

Clement Virgo discusses his extensive career, his multiple award-winning films and television series, his approach to filmmaking, and his experiences as a creator in a prolific career spanning over three decades.

The Gaze

Saturday, March 22nd / Ottawa Art Gallery / Attendance: 119

Presented by Ambassade de France au Canada (Embassy of France) and Institut Francais du Canada.



The Gaze program (formerly The Female Gaze), created and curated by IFFO programmer Tish Black, brings the audience into the screening experience to discuss films from underrepresented filmmakers. The film and thematic talk of each screening explore, with the audience, the personal and cultural significance of seeing on film people and perspectives different from our own.

For this year's program at IFFO, Black invites St. John's-based filmmaker Jamie Miller to discuss the featured film *Wild Diamond* (France 2025) and the pressures young women face in a social media-based world of judgement and performance. Liane lives for her likes, comments, and followers. Her online persona feels far from her real life where she has to steal to pay for her breast implants. But if she gets her shot on a reality show, it will all be worth it. Centred around *Wild Diamond*, Tish and Jamie, along with the audience, will discuss the pressures and expectations put on young women, the extremes they're willing to go to, the patriarchal misogynist system that created it, and how we see this portrayed in films.

IFFO Screen Summit

Friday, March 21, 2025 / Ottawa Art Gallery / Arts Court / Attendance: 1,264

Presented by Ontario Creates and the Canada Media Fund



Screen Summit is IFFO's two-day industry event. Opportunities and resources are showcased for those looking to get involved in film production in Ottawa. These panel discussions 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.

This year's Screen Summit had 48 Industry professionals sharing their insights and advice; 39 Speakers and Special Guests taking place in discussions; and 96 Algonquin students connecting and learning from experts. 100% of attendees responded that they would attend Screen Summit 2026 and would recommend the experience.

Funding Foundations: How to Finance Your Creative Projects

10 am / Attendance: 185

Presented by Welch LLP

Join this informative panel to explore the essential steps to financing your project from concept to production. Tailored for creatives at all career levels, this session will provide valuable insights into the diverse funding options available in the film industry and strategies for securing support before cameras start rolling.



Moderator:

Sandrine Pechels de Saint Sardos, Film Commissioner, Ottawa Film Office

Speakers:

Erin Creasey, Director, Industry Development, Ontario Creates

Daniel Rodriguez, Producteur / Producer, Bell Fibe TV1

Ernest White II, Chief Executive Officer, Presidio Pictures

Penny McCann, Director, Filmmaker, Buses Don't Stop Here Anymore

In conversation with Karen Chapman

11:15 am / Attendance: 108



Join award-winning filmmaker Karen Chapman as she shares insights from her journey of crafting impactful, story-driven films. An alumna of prestigious programs like the Canadian Film Centre's Director's Lab and TIFF Talent Lab, Chapman's work—including *Measure* and *Quiet Minds* *Silent Streets*—has earned international acclaim. Her latest film, *Village Keeper*, screening at IFFO, was nominated for the 2024 Directors Guild of Canada Award for Outstanding Directorial Achievement in Feature Film. Don't miss this chance to hear from a director dedicated to storytelling that resonates.

Guest Speaker: Karen Chapman, Director, Writer, Producer, *Village Keeper*

Interviewed by: Rosey Ugo Edeh, Host of CTV Morning Live, Ottawa. Director, Writer, and Producer of the Documentary *Oliver Jones: Mind Hand Heart*. Founder of Micha Muse Media

One-on-one Meetings - Session 1/2

11:15 am / Attendance: 59



Guests:

Aiden Denison, Amber Munro, Anita Damiani, Barbara Gilbert, Christopher Redmond, Caitlin Delaney, Claire McCracken, Daniel Rodriguez, Eric McAllister, Erin Creasey, Ernest White II, Gail Nakamoto-Jancewicz, Hoda Elatowi, Gosia Kamela, Jamie Miller, Joanne Robertson, Jamie Miller, Iona Smyth, Lisa Soper, Karen Chapman, Marie-Claude Canuel, Michelle Michals, Penny McCann, Rosie Ugo Edeh, Sandrine Pechels de Saint Sardos, Shane Boucher, Tyler Hewitt, Vinuja Shanthasoruban

Lunch and Learn

12:15 pm / Attendance: 185

Presented by Directors Guild of Canada in Ontario (DGC Ontario) and IATSE Local 634



Recharge with a catered lunch while expanding your industry knowledge in a relaxed setting. This informal Lunch and Learn features a short explanation from the Directors Guild of Canada in Ontario (DGC Ontario) about their membership offerings and a short introduction from IATSE Local 634 on the dynamics of working within a large film production crew.

Meet the Documentary Filmmakers

1:15 am / Attendance: 145

Presented by Affinity Production Group



Join a panel of seasoned documentary filmmakers as they share their journeys, insights, and behind-the-scenes stories from the world of independent filmmaking. Discover the unique challenges of capturing real-life narratives, the creative decisions that bring them to life, and the rewarding moments that make it all worthwhile. This is your opportunity to ask questions and gain a deeper understanding of the art and craft of factual storytelling.

Moderator: Gayle Nakamoto-Jancewicz, Business Affairs Consultant/Professor, Affinity Production Group/Algonquin College

Speakers:

Jamie Miller, short documentary filmmaker, Prince's Tale

Hoda Elatawi, director So You Want to Be a Muslim, President/Producer, GAPC Entertainment Inc.

Joanne Robertson, Documentary Filmmaker, So Surreal: Behind the Masks So Surreal: Behind the Masks

Introduction to the Directors Guild of Canada in Ontario

2:30 pm / Attendance: 100



Presented by Directors Guild of Canada in Ontario (DGC Ontario)

Join us for a presentation from the Directors Guild of Canada in Ontario (DGC Ontario) who represent Directors, Assistant Directors, Production Managers, Location Managers, Production Designers and Art Directors, Accountants, Picture & Sound Editors, Post Production Supervisors and their respective departmental assistants. They'll be discussing the benefits of joining the DGC, pathways into Membership, how to navigate working freelance and advice on how to get started.

Speakers:

Michelle Michals, Director of Member Services, Directors Guild of Ontario

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

Additional panelists for discussion:

Claire McCracken, 2nd Assistant Director, Directors Guild of Ontario

Lisa Soper, Director

One-on-one Meetings - Session 2/2

2:30 pm / Attendance: 61



Guests:

Aiden Denison, Amber Munro, Anita Damiani, Barbara Gilbert, Christopher Redmond, Caitlin Delaney, Claire McCracken, Daniel Rodriguez, Eric McAllister, Erin Creasey, Ernest White II, Gail Nakamoto-Jancewicz, Hoda Elatowi, Gosia Kamela, Jamie Miller, Joanne Robertson, Jamie Miller, Iona Smyth, Lisa Soper, Karen Chapman, Marie-Claude Canuel, Michelle Michals, Penny McCann, Rosie Ugo Edeh, Sandrine Pechels de Saint Sardos, Shane Boucher, Tyler Hewitt, Vinuja Shanthasoruban

Case Study: What's the tea on Hot Frosty

3:45 pm Attendance: 106



Hear from the team at 1D Studios and the local crew who worked on Hot Frosty as they share the behind-the-scenes journey of bringing this holiday comedy to life for Netflix in Ottawa. This case study will explore the collaborative process and creative challenges, and maybe even spill some tea about the making of the film.

Moderator:

Caitlin Delaney, Producer - Founder of Up Light Academy, 1Department Entertainment Inc

Speakers:

Eric McAllister, Location Manager

Ilona Smyth, Casting Director & CEO, Smyth Casting

Shane Boucher, Producer and Chief Executive, 1Department Entertainment Inc



Networking Cocktail Reception

4:40 pm / Attendance: 130

Presented by Welch LLP

Finish off the day courtesy of Welch LLP as you mix and mingle with fellow Screen Summit attendees and solidify those final connections. After a dinner break, you are invited to the Friday night screening of *Rêver en néon (Neon Dreaming)* at 7:00 pm in Alma Duncan Salon. Don't miss this chance to connect, unwind, and get inspired.



IFFO: SAVE AS

Thursday, March 20, 2025 / Arts Court Theatre / Attendance: 360
Presented by Telefilm Canada

The **International Film Festival of Ottawa (IFFO)** presents SAVE AS, a symposium exploring Canadian and international efforts to preserve, promote, and, most importantly, distribute and exhibit Canada's and the world's cinematic heritage. An ongoing and key part of IFFO's celebration of Canadian and world cinema is its one-day annual conference, SAVE AS, dedicated to examining issues of preservation, restoration, distribution, and exhibition of the always-endangered world cinema heritage. SAVE AS consists of expert panel discussions, case studies of restored cinema classics, and special public screenings of those restored classic films. At IFFO, we are committed to cinema's past as well as its present and future.

International Spotlight: Mexico
10:00 am / Attendance: 59

Each year SAVE AS showcases an important international institution dedicated to the restoration and preservation of world cinema heritage. This year we are featuring Mexico and its renowned National School of Film Arts of the National Autonomous University of Mexico (ENAC/UNAM) and its exemplary work in the field of preservation and restoration. We are honoured to have with us Teresa Carvajal, the Head of the Film Archive at the School and a specialist in film preservation. She will share her extensive experience in film conservation and restoration and illuminate what is being done by her institution and others to ensure the survival of Mexico's rich cinema history. Teresa will be presented by the Embassy of Mexico and UNAM-Canada.

Presenter: Teresa Carvajal, Head of the Film Archive, National School of Film Arts, National Autonomous University of Mexico (ENAC-UNAM)

From Archives to Audiences with Canadian International Pictures (CIP)

1:00 pm / Attendance: 52

Canadian International Pictures co-founders Jonathan Doyle and David Marriott discuss their commitment to restoring, contextualizing, and re-releasing legacy Canadian films, many of which have fallen out of official circulation. From the company's founding in 2021 through over 10 restorations and nearly 40 Blu-ray releases, they've navigated a number of notable challenges, discoveries, and collaborations. In this discussion, they will explore the changing perception of traditional Canadian moving images and CIP's approach to selecting Canadian films – both celebrated and forgotten – for restoration and re-release. They will also discuss their efforts to build an oral history of Canadian cinema through their discs and their strategies for increasing audience engagement to expand the reach of classic Canadian cinema.

Speakers:

David Marriott , Co-founder, Canadian International Pictures (CIP)

Jonathan Doyle , Co-founder, Canadian International Pictures (CIP)



Case Study: Winter Kept Us Warm (1965)

2:45pm / Attendance: 42

Celebrating its 60th anniversary in 2025, David Sector's *Winter Kept Us Warm* is a landmark film in the LGBTQ+ canon and a milestone of Canadian independent cinema. The film has been newly restored in 4K by Canadian International Pictures with funding from Telefilm's Reignite initiative, and this case study will examine how the film was selected, restored, and made available to new domestic and international audiences through festivals, arthouse theaters, streaming platforms, and home entertainment.

Panelists:

Jonathan Doyle , Co-founder, Canadian International Pictures (CIP)

Douglas Smalley , Head Moving Images Curator, Library and Archives Canada (LAC)

Thomas Waugh , Professor, Concordia University, McGill Queen's University Press

David Sector , Writer & Director, *Winter Keeps Us Warm* (1965) (Pre-recorded)

Michael Coronado , Lead restoration artist (Pre-recorded)

National Canadian Film Day

Tuesday, April 15th / 7:00 pm

ByTowne Cinema

Presented by Reel Canada in partnership with the ByTowne Cinema and the Canadian Film Institute.

My American Cousin

Sandy Wilson | Canada | 1985 | 88 minutes

Talk with producer Peter O'Brian Screening hosted by Canadian Film Institute Executive Director, Tom McSorley.

A charming coming-of-age story set in BC's Okanagan Valley in the 1950s and based on writer-director Sandy Wilson's own experiences, *My American Cousin* revolves around 12-year-old Sandy Wilcox (Margaret Langrick), who longs for adventure and a meaningful acknowledgment of her impending adulthood. When her older cousin Butch (John Wildman) suddenly arrives in town, she finds both. His unexpected visit from faraway glamorous America sweeps her off her small Canadian feet as he introduces her to rock music, ideas of freedom and liberty, and his alluring devil-may-care rebelliousness. Although her intense crush on her cousin wavers when she learns that he's actually stolen his mother's car and run away from home, their encounter nonetheless proves unforgettable for both of them. A sly commentary on the cultural differences between Canadians and Americans – an especially timely theme these days – *My American Cousin* is a Canadian cinematic gem celebrating its 40th birthday this year.

Café Ex:



Café Ex: Mike Hoolboom

Attendance: 12

Thursday, April 17

7:00 pm

Club SAW

As the final show of its 26th season of celebrating Canada's experimental moving image artists, Café Ex is proud to showcase the recent work of internationally acclaimed, Governor General's Award for Media and Visual Arts winner, Mike Hoolboom. Hoolboom's astonishingly prolific career as a filmmaker, visual artist, writer, and critic has for decades made him one of Canada's most important and consistently daring artists.

This special evening will feature a personal video message from Hoolboom, screenings of four recent works, and the launch of a new Canadian Film Institute co-publication on Hoolboom's work, *Mike Hoolboom: Work* (Canadian Film Institute, [ConverSalon Collective](#); Ottawa-Toronto 2025), edited by Clint Enns. A former Café Ex guest artist, Enns will attend the screening to discuss the book and host a series of readings by contributors to this remarkable look at Hoolboom's extraordinary output to date.



Café Ex: Pixie Cram

Attendance: 40

Tuesday, December 10

7:00 pm

Club SAW

Pixie Cram is an Ottawa-based film director, writer and media artist. A longstanding and key figure in Ottawa's active independent media arts community, Cram's inventive, searching works explore themes of identity, gender politics, history, women's rights, nature, and technology. Working in documentary, short drama, experimental, and animation modes, Cram's versatile and engaging work offers passionate, poetic explorations of everything from motherhood to childhood to Joan of Arc to the Cold War to midwifery. We are proud to present this remarkable collection of films, representing two decades of Pixie Cram's remarkably diverse, ever-evolving catalogue of cinematic expression.

Her films have screened at festivals and galleries across Canada and internationally, including Interfilm Berlin, Filmfest Dresden, Animafest Cyprus, and the Ottawa International Animation Festival. In addition to her own work, she works as a freelance videographer and editor. The Canadian Film Institute is honoured to have Pixie Cram as the guest artist to open our 26th season of Café Ex.

Special Screenings

Sane Inside Insanity - The Phenomenon of Rocky Horror

In Attendance: 204

Rocky Horror Picture Show - Friday, August 15, 2025 / ByTowne Cinema

A special fundraising event to mark the 90th anniversary of the Canadian Film Institute

Director: Andrew Zerr, Germany 2025

Did you know the first time North American audiences ever laid eyes on The Rocky Horror Picture Show, it happened right here in Ottawa?

On August 15, 1975, the Canadian Film Institute (CFI) introduced audiences to an indie movie that would later become one of the world's most legendary cult films. Fifty years to the day, join us for the premiere of a new documentary that tells the incredible but true story behind the Rocky Horror phenomenon. On the 50th anniversary of its unleashing of Frank-N-Furter and friends to North American moviegoers, the CFI is proud to present this lively, entertaining deep dive into the remarkable chapter of cinema history that began right here in Ottawa. Sane Inside Insanity - The Phenomenon of Rocky Horror chronicles the evolution of this shaggy, randy, raucous drag musical from its controversial arrival on London's independent theatre scene to its complex development as a screenplay to its glorious film version arriving in Ottawa on August 15, 1975.

HiFunny World Art Toy & Animation Festival (Dongguan, China)

December 5, 2024

Attendance: 120



OIAF22 Signal Film, Winston Hacking

In the Shallows, Arash Akhgari

Meneath: The Hidden Island of Ethics, Terril Calder

Herzog's chicken, Lukas Conway

Return to Hairy Hill, Daniel Gies

Jump Cut, Winston Hacking

Don't Let the Sun Catch you Crying, Natalie Baird, Toby Gillies

Flying Sailor, Amanda Forbis & Wendy Tilby

OIAF23 Signal Film, Matthew Rankin

European Union Short Film Festival

Friday and Saturday, May 2nd and 3rd, 2025 / Arts Court Theatre

Attendance: 735

The 12th edition of the European Union Short Film Festival (EUSFF) took place on May 2 and 3 at Arts Court Theatre. Featuring 23 short films from 23 EU Member States, the festival was presented in three unique programs:

Program 1: Women on the Verge

Friday, May 2 / 7:00 pm / Attendance: 190

Stories about womanhood that spotlight the chaotic, mysterious, and triumphant lives of their memorable protagonists.

(This program is meant for audiences 18+.)

Friday, May 2 | Tastes of Europe: 6:30 pm | Screening: 7:00 pm

InstaLove, Marchin Niemkiewicz, Poland.

Amarradas, Carmen Cordoba Gonzalez, Spain.

Sewing Machine, Ulo Pikkov, Estonia.

1001 Nights, Rea Rajcic, Croatia.

Three Birds, Zarja Menart, Slovenia.

Flavours, Agnes Skonare Karlsson, Sweden.

Letter of Forgiveness, Alina Serban, Romania.

Young Lady, Simao Cayatte, Portugal.

Tuulikki, Teemu Nikki, Finland.



Program 2: The Places You'll Go

Saturday, May 3 / 3:00 pm / Attendance: 138

Family-friendly shorts about the people, places, and memories we share on the road of life.
(This program is recommended for audiences 8+.)

Saturday, May 3 | Tastes of Europe: 2:30 pm | Screening: 3:00 pm

A Cup of Coffee?, Magdalena Steiner, Austria.
L'Acquario, Gianluca Zonta, Italy.
The Corner of My Eyes, Domonkos Erhardt, Hungary.
What's Inside That Crate?, Bram Algoed, Belgium.
Hello Summer, Martin Samatana, Veronika Zacharova, Czech Republic.
Summer 96, Mathilde Bedouet, France.
Waking Up In Silence, Mila Zhluktenko, Daniel Asadi Faezi, Germany.

Program 3: Band of Outsiders

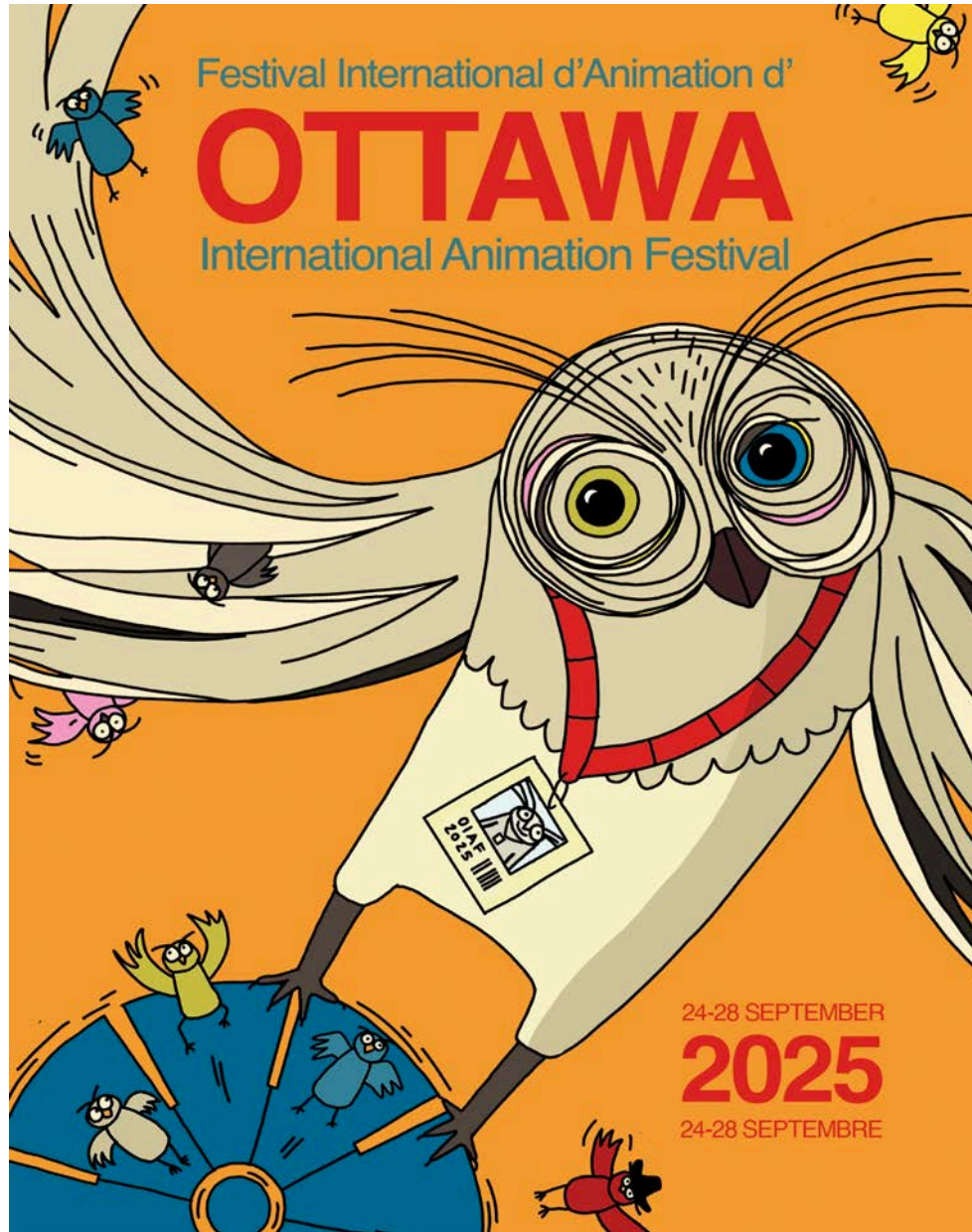
Saturday, May 3 / 7:00 pm / Attendance: 136

The final selection of film embodies the resilience of outsiders, as the perspectives of marginalized characters unveil the beauty and ugliness of contemporary society.
(This program is recommended for audiences 8+.)

Saturday, May 3 | Tastes of Europe: 6:30 pm | Screening: 7:00 pm

A Good Mind Grows in Thorny Places, Katarina Gramatova, Slovakia.
Tsikitigklon, The Fairy and The Man, Marios Mettis, Cyprus.
Name Day, Kostas Dimitriadis, Greece.
The One Who Knows, Eagle Davidavice, Lithuania.
Pauline's Story, Velta Emilija Platupe, Latvia.
The Red Suitcase, Cyrus Neshvad, Luxembourg.
Room Taken, TJ O'Grady-Peyton, Ireland.

Ottawa International Animation Festival



Wednesday September 24th - Sunday September 28th, 2025
Multiple locations (Arts Court Theatre, ByTowne Cinema, Club Saw, National Arts Centre, Ottawa Art Gallery)
Attendance: 27,208

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.

This year's signal film was created by Academy Award-nominated director Torill Kove.



OIAF 2025 By the Numbers

Programs

Screenings

63

Films

206

Networking events

22

Talks

38

Youth outreach events

15

Meetings

Fast Track meetings

234

Meet a Mentor sessions

91

Students

Students at Teen Day Fair

445

Post-secondary Student
Passes

192

Free Teen Passes

77

Community

Kids and All Ages Day
attendees

1,219

Guests

61 Filmmakers
in attendance

62 Speakers

Reach

Social media followers

51,152

E-newsletter recipients

17,946

Website active users
July - October, 2025

53,800

Artists

Artist Gallery
submissions

100

Attendance

Animation Exposé
attendees

3,010

Unique OIAF 2025
attendees

3,639

Total attendance at all
OIAF 2025 events

27,208

Volunteers

229

Passholders

Total passholders
for OIAF 2025

1,849

Industry professionals

37%

Students

20%

Surveyed passholders
planning to return

98%

63.24%

of passholders
from within
Canada

36.76%

International
passholders

Official Selections

The OIAF accepts animated works of all lengths and subject matters. An open call was made in January, as it is done each year, through advertising as well as both online and mail communications. In 2025, we received 2850 submissions.

With 7 competition categories and special prizes, we had the opportunity to explore diverse artist styles in our high-calibre competition with prominent accolades for participating artists. The OIAF takes great pride in the fact that it has never charged an entry fee to filmmakers who submit work to the Festival. The OIAF believes that entry fees minimize the benefit of providing filmmakers with artist fees.

Commissioned Shorts:

- 18th ZubrOFFka International Short Film Festival 'Signal Film' (dir. Sander Joon)
- 37 Filmfest Dresden 2025 Trailer (dir. Petra Stipetić)
- Across My Jaw (dir. Isabelle Aspin, Brian Smee)
- Allied ABLE (dir. Christopher Rutledge, Dan Hanafin)
- Avec pas d'casque 'Cardinal' (dir. Joël Vaudreuil)
- Camel Power Club 'Dont Make It a Song' (dir. Stefano Bertelli)
- CNESST 'Qu'à un fil' (CNESST 'Hanging By A Thread') (dir. Dale Hayward)
- Daftar Yaddasht (Notebook) (dir. Aghil Hosseinian, Sogol Sanago)
- Desi Oon (dir. Suresh Eriyat)
- Join (dir. Brennan Bova)
- Naive New Beaters ft. Star Feminine Band 'Ye Kou Si Kuo' (dir. Lola Lefèvre)
- Nap Eyes 'Dark Mystery Enigma Bird' (dir. Jordan Minkoff)
- Natlan Impressions Trailer 'Blaze to Natlan' (dir. Thomas Schmid, Junyi Xiao)

Narrative Short Animation:

- Basketball Explorer Presents: The Shot Doctor (dir. Keith Pakiz)
- Bread Will Walk (dir. Alex Boya)
- Dark Globe (dir. Donato Sansone)
- Dollhouse Elephant (dir. Jenny Jokela)
- Existential Greg (dir. Will Anderson)
- I Beg Your Pardon (dir. John W. Lustig)
- ICan't (dir. Renato Klieger Gennari)
- Il burattino e la balena (dir. Roberto Catani)
- Kiievi Tort (Kyiv Cake) (dir. Mykyta Lyskov)
- La jeune fille qui pleurait des perles (The Girl Who Cried Pearls) (dir. Chris Lavis, Maciek Szczerbowski)
- La vie avec un idiot (Life With an Idiot) (dir. Theodore Ushev)
- Luna Rossa (dir. Priit Pärn, Olga Pärn)
- Off-Time (dir. Nata Metlukh)
- Paradaiz (dir. Matea Radic)
- Paul Y Sus Amigos (Paul and His Friends) (dir. Rafael Esteban Trujillo)
- Pobre Marciano (Poor Marciano) (dir. Alex Rey)
- Quota (dir. Job, Joris & Marieke)
- Rakugaki (The Graffiti) (dir. Ryo Orikasa)
- S The Wolf (dir. Sameh Alaa)
- Shadows (dir. Rand Beiruty)
- Soixante-sept millisecondes (Sixty-Seven Milliseconds) (dir. fleuryfontaine)
- 啤酒的滋味 (A Taste of Beer) (dir. Li Xie)

Non-Narrative Shorts:

- Body Burden (dir. Ben Fox)
- Dédé (Ancestor) (dir. Yasmine Djedje-Fisher-Azoume)
- Evacuations (dir. Lilli Carré)
- Fusion (dir. Richard Reeves)
- Green Lung (dir. Simon Hamlyn)
- How (dir. Marko Mestrovic)
- States of Matter (dir. Marvin Hauck)
- The Weaver (dir. Yiorgos Tsangaris)
- Долго доаѓање на огнот (The Long Coming of the Fire) (dir. Zharko Ivanov)
- 普通の生活 (Ordinary Life) (dir. Yoriko Mizushiri)

Animation for Teen Audiences (ages 13+):

- Autokar (dir. Sylwia Szkiłdź)
- Balconada (dir. Iva Tokmakchieva)
- Dječak i Demon (The Boy and the Demon) (dir. Paula Petković)
- L'étrange humeur adolescente (Strange Teen Spirit) (dir. Frank Tierney)
- OLIVE PLACE, Luxury Inn (dir. Jarrod Prince)
- Play Fight! (dir. Katrina Lerner)
- Supar Pilut (dir. Keith Pakiz)
- Superspice (dir. Adriana Lopez Escalante)

Animated Feature:

- ChaO (dir. Yasuhiro Aoki)
- L'Olivia i el terratrèmol invisible (Olivia and the Invisible Earthquake) (dir. Irene Iborra)
- La gran historia de la filosofía occidental (The Great History of Western Philosophy) (dir. Aria Covamonas)
- La mort n'existe pas (Death Does Not Exist) (dir. Félix Dufour-Laperrière)
- Pohádky po babičce (Tales from the Magic Garden) (dir. David Súpup, Patrik Pašš, Leon Vidmar & Jean-Claude Rozec)

Student Animation:

- Anklebones (dir. Nicole Altan)
- Mother's Child (dir. Naomi Noir)
- Poppy Flowers (dir. Evridiki Papaiakevou)
- The 12 Inch Pianist (dir. Lucas Ansel)
- Two Point Five Stars (dir. Sina Lerf, Dario Marti, Dario Boger)
- Vogelleben (Bird Life) (dir. Lukas Wind)
- გაბნეული შუქები (Lights, Haze) (dir. Tata Managadze)
- マミ子のウン子 (Mamiko's Poop) (dir. Yasuteru Ohno)
- 海星, 乌鸦, 独角兽 (Crow, Starfish, and Unicorn) (dir. Xiaoxuan Han)

Animation for Young Audiences (ages 7-12):

- Complexo Floral Artesanal (The Handmade Flowery Complex) (dir. Class 5ºB Elementary School 2 and 3 Palmeira, Braga)
- Family Dinner (dir. Huayi Yu)
- Get a Grip (dir. Abbey Collings)
- Kinder Conversations (Big Stories, Small Scribbles) (dir. Diana Reichenbach)
- Le tunnel de la nuit (The Night Tunnel) (dir. Annechien Strouven)
- Les bottes de la nuit (The Night Boots) (dir. Pierre-Luc Granjon)
- Omedodeedu (Edu's Fear) (dir. Bruno Mazzilli, Tiago Judas)
- Rajske Ptaki (Birds of Paradise) (dir. Tomek Ducki)
- Robot Leo (dir. Piret Sigus, Silja Saarepuu)
- We're Kinda Different (dir. Ben Meinhardt)

Animated Series:

- Beantown 'Trial by Fire' (dir. Mike Manor)
- Big Big Baby 'Episode #1 - Hey Buddy' (dir. Travis Pelto, Shawn Golden, Joe Hingelberg)
- Chips 'Chip Joins a Cult' (dir. Maddie Brewer)
- Common Side Effects 'Pilot' (dir. Camille Bozec)
- Eggland (dir. Cole Kush, Chris Rutledge)
- One Minute Movies 'The Wolf Ma'am' (dir. Nicolas Mahler, Stefan Halaus)
- Tenderland (dir. Juho Maurinen)

The Short Competitions and Panorama Screenings

The Short Competitions and Panorama screenings were and have always been the highlight of the Festival. They feature a mixture of films from all categories selected by the programming team. Unlike other animation festivals, commercial works are not segregated into their own screenings but are thrown into the mix of all the accepted submissions for the festival. 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 were introduced to the audience, and the jury was present. At the secondary screenings, all the filmmakers in attendance are introduced together at the beginning of each show. This year, filmmakers engaged in a post-screening Q&A and were virtually presented after their film’s screening.

Short Film Competition One

Wednesday, September 24th / 7:00 pm / ByTowne Cinema / Attendance: 466

Saturday, September 27th, 1:00 pm / ByTowne Cinema / Attendance: 268

[Fusion, Richard Reeves, Canada - In Attendance](#)

Pobre Marciano (Poor Marciano), Alex Rey, Spain

マミ子のウン子 (Mamiko's Poop), Yasuteru Ohno, Japan

Off-Time, Nata Metlukh, United States, Japan, Ukraine

[Across My Jaw, Isabelle Aspin, Brian Smee, United States - In Attendance](#)

[Dollhouse Elephant, Jenny Jokela, Finland In Attendance](#)

[Allied ABLE, Christopher Rutledge, Dan Hanafin, United States In Attendance](#)

Vogelleben (Bird Life), Lukas Wind, Estonia

Basketball Explorer Presents: The Shot Doctor, Keith Pakiz, United States

[States of Matter, Marvin Hauck, Netherlands In Attendance](#)



Short Film Competition Two

Thursday, September 25, 3:00 pm /ByTowne Cinema / Attendance: 372

Saturday, September 27, 3:00 pm /ByTowne Cinema / Attendance: 284

Dark Globe, Donato Sansone, Italy, France

[I Beg Your Pardon](#), John W. Lustig, United States - In Attendance

[Daftar Yaddasht \(Notebook\)](#), Aghil Hosseinian, Sogol Sanago, Iran - In Attendance

普通の生活 (Ordinary Life), Yoriko Mizushiri, France, Japan

Shadows, Rand Beiruty, France, Jordan

Avec pas d'casque 'Cardinal', Joël Vaudreuil, Canada

[Paradaiz](#), Matea Radic, Canada In Attendance

[Anklebones](#), Nicole Altan, United States In Attendance

[La jeune fille qui pleurait des perles \(The Girl Who Cried Pearls\)](#), Chris Lavis, Maciek Szczerbowski, Canada In Attendance

Desi Oon, Suresh Eriyat, India

Short Film Competition Three

Thursday, September 25, 7:00 pm / ByTowne Cinema / Attendance: 411

Saturday, September 27, 5:00 pm / ByTowne Cinema / Attendance: 424

La vie avec un idiot (Life With an Idiot), Theodore Ushev, France

[Green Lung](#), Simon Hamlyn, United Kingdom In Attendance

[Mother's Child](#), Naomi Noir, Netherlands In Attendance

[CNESST 'Qu'à un fil' \(CNESST 'Hanging By A Thread'\)](#), Dale Hayward, Canada In Attendance

海星, 乌鸦, 独角兽 (Crow, Starfish, and Unicorn), Xiaoxuan Han, China

Naive New Beaters ft. Star Feminine Band 'Ye Kou Si Kuo', Lola Lefèvre, France

[Долго доаѓање на огнот \(The Long Coming of the Fire\)](#), Zharko Ivanov, North Macedonia

[Join](#), Brennan Bova, Canada In Attendance

[Evacuations](#), Lilli Carré, United States In Attendance

[The 12 Inch Pianist](#), Lucas Ansel, United States In Attendance

Il burattino e la balena, Roberto Catani, France, Italy

ICan't, Renato Klieger Gennari, Brazil

Short Film Competition Four

Friday, September 26, 11:00 am / ByTowne Cinema / Attendance: 397

Sunday, Sept 28, 1:00 pm / ByTowne Cinema / Attendance: 164

Dédé (Ancestor), Yasmine Djedje-Fisher-Azoume, United Kingdom

37 Filmfest Dresden 2025 Trailer, Petra Stipetić, Germany

[Rakugaki \(The Graffiti\)](#), Ryo Orikasa, Japan In Attendance

Quota, Job, Joris & Marieke, Netherlands

[The Weaver](#), Yiorgos Tsangaris, Cyprus In Attendance

S The Wolf, Sameh Alaa, France

[გაბნეული პუქები \(Lights, Haze\)](#), Tata Managadze, Belgium, Finland, Georgia, Portugal

[Natlan Impressions Trailer 'Blaze to Natlan'](#), Thomas Schmid, Junyi Xiao, United States In Attendance

Short Film Competition Five

Friday, September 26, 7:00 pm / ByTowne Cinema / Attendance: 577

Sunday, September 28, 3:00 pm / ByTowne Cinema / Attendance: 125

Camel Power Club 'Don't Make It a Song', Stefano Bertelli, Italy

[Bread Will Walk](#), Alex Boya, Canada In Attendance

[Body Burden](#), Ben Fox, United Kingdom In Attendance

Paul Y Sus Amigos (Paul and His Friends), Rafael Esteban Trujillo, Spain, United States

Soixante-sept millisecondes (Sixty-Seven Milliseconds), fleuryfontaine, France

18th ZubrOFFka International Short Film Festival 'Signal Film', Sander Joon, Estonia, Poland

啤酒的滋味 (A Taste of Beer), Li Xie, China

[Nap Eyes 'Dark Mystery Enigma Bird'](#), Jordan Minkoff, Canada In Attendance

Poppy Flowers, Evridiki Papaiakevou, Estonia

[Two Point Five Stars](#), Sina Lerf, Dario Marti, Dario Boger, Switzerland In Attendance

[How](#), Marko Mestrovic, Croatia In Attendance

[Existential Greg](#), Will Anderson, United Kingdom In Attendance

Animated Series

Thursday, September 25, 9:00 pm / Ottawa Art Gallery; Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance: 93

Friday, September 26, 3:00 pm / Ottawa Art Gallery; Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance: 190

[Beantown Trial By Fire 'Trial By Fire', Mike Manor, United States In Attendance](#)

[Big Big Baby '#Episode #1 - Hey Buddy', Travis Peltó, Shawn Golden, Joe Hingelberg, United States In Attendance](#)

[Chips 'Chip Joins a Cult', Maddie Brewer, United States In Attendance](#)

[Common Side Effects 'Pilot', Camille Bozec, United States](#)

[Eggland, Cole Kush, Chris Rutledge, United States In Attendance](#)

[One Minute Movies 'The Wolf Ma'am', Nocolas Mahler, Stefan Holaus, Switzerland, Austria](#)

[Tenderland, Juho Maurinen, Finland In Attendance](#)

Animation Made for Young Audiences (7-12)

Wednesday, September 24, 9:30 am / Ottawa Art Gallery; Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance: 150

Wednesday, September 24, 1:00 pm / Ottawa Art Gallery; Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance: 128

Saturday, September 27, 9:30 am / Ottawa Art Gallery; Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance: 77

[Complexo Floral Artesanal \(The Handmade Flowery Complex\), Class 5ºB Elementary School 2 and 3 Palmeira, Braga, Portugal](#)

[Family Dinner, Huayi Yu, United States In Attendance](#)

[Get A Grip, Abbey Collings, Canada In Attendance](#)

[Kinder Conversations \(Big Stories, Small Scribbles\), Diana Reichenbach, United States In Attendance](#)

[Le tunnel de la nuit \(The Night Tunnel\), Annechien Strouven, Belgium, France, Netherlands](#)

[Les bottes de la nuit \(The Night Boots\), Pierre-Luc Granjon, France](#)

[Omedodeedu \(Edu's Fear\), Bruno Mazzilli, Tiago Judas, Brazil In Attendance](#)

[Rajskie Ptaki \(Birds of Paradise\), Tomek Ducki, Poland, France](#)

[Robot Leo, Piret Sigus, Silja Saarepuu, Estonia](#)

[We're Kinda Different, Ben Meinhardt, Canada In Attendance](#)

Animation Made for Teen Audiences (13+)

Saturday, September 27, 3:00 pm / Ottawa Art Gallery; Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance: 245

Autokar, Sylwia Szkiłdź, Belgium, France

[Balconada](#), Iva Tokmakchieva, Bulgaria, France In Attendance

Dječak i Demon (The Boy and the Demon), Paula Petković, Croatia

L'étrange humeur adolescente (Strange Teen Spirit), Frank Ternier, France

[OLIVE PLACE](#), Luxury Inn, Jarrod Prince, Australia In Attendance

[Play Fight!](#), Katrina Larner, United States In Attendance

Supar Pilut, Keith Pakiz, United States

Superspice, Adriana Lopez Escalant, United States

Canadian Student Competition

Thursday, September 25, 1:00 pm / Arts Court; Theatre / Attendance: 139

Sunday, September 28, 11:00 am / Ottawa Art Gallery; Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance: 167

[3 x 2³](#), Justin Lemay In Attendance

[Blindfold](#), Peter De Souza-Samanek In Attendance

[Bouteille Fusée \(Bottle Rocket\)](#), Yann Le Bihan In Attendance

[Bugsick](#), Venya Aggarwal In Attendance

[February 3rd, 2023](#), Kseniia Inchakova In Attendance

[Hogar](#), Olly Norambuena In Attendance

[lullaby for a deathdream](#), Charlie Galea McClure In Attendance

[Monarchomania](#), Ariel Rutherford In Attendance

[Monkey Bar](#), Mya Van Dyk In Attendance

[Music in the Pocket](#), Veronika Kostyuk In Attendance

[Nos fleurs en perles](#), Maxime Kornachuk In Attendance

[Rudy Boyles' Spore-nographic Journey](#), Mitchell Green In Attendance

Stalin's Toast, Alexandra Ouchev

[Stride & Shine!](#), Xinyi Tian In Attendance

[The Clown Film](#), Silvan Ghahri In Attendance

[Une nuit debout \(Awaken Night\)](#), Julie-Ann Déry In Attendance

[Uproar](#), Camille Vandelac In Attendance

[When the Moon Sings](#), Jesu Medina In Attendance

Feature Film Competition

Death Does Not Exist Félix Dufour-Laperrière, Canada Filmmaker In Attendance Wednesday, September 24, 5:00 pm / ByTowne Cinema Attendance: 157 Friday, September 26, 7:00 pm / Ottawa Art Gallery; Alma Duncan Salon Attendance: 65	La gran historia de la filosofía occidental (The Great History of Western Philosophy), Aria Covamonas, Mexico Filmmaker in Attendance Wednesday, September 24, 9:00 pm ByTowne Cinema / Attendance: 58 Sunday, September 28, 1:00 pm / Ottawa Art Gallery; Alma Duncan Salon Attendance: 104
 2025 72 minutes France Director: Félix Dufour-Laperrière Language: French Subtitles: English	 2025 73 minutes Mexico Director: Aria Covamonas Language: Spanish Subtitles: English
L'Olívia i el terratèrmol invisible (Olivia and the Invisible Earthquake), Irene Iborra, Spain, France, Switzerland, Belgium Filmmaker In Attendance Wednesday, September 24, 9:00 pm / ByTowne Cinema Attendance: 58 Sunday, September 28, 1:00 pm / Ottawa Art Gallery; Alma Duncan Salon Attendance: 104	Pohádky po babičce (Tales from the Magic Garden), David Súpup, Patrik Pašš, Leon Vidmar & Jean-Claude Rozec, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Slovenia, France Filmmaker In Attendance Thursday, September 25, 5:00 pm ByTowne Cinema In Attendance: 114 Saturday, September 27, 11:00 am OAG: Alma Duncan In Attendance: 106



2025 | 70 minutes | Spain,
France, Belgium, Chile,
Switzerland
Director: Irene Iborra
Language: Catalan
Subtitles: English



2025 | 71 minutes | Czechia,
Slovakia, Slovenia, France
Directors: David Súp, Jean-Claude Rozec, Leon Vidmar & Patrik Pašš
Language: Czech
Subtitles: English

ChaO, Yasuhiro Aoki, Japan

Thursday, September 25, 9:00 pm / ByTowne Cinema
Attendance: 221
Saturday, September 27, 7:00 pm / ByTowne Cinema
Attendance: 403

**Decorado, Alberto Vazquez, Spain
Filmmaker In Attendance**

Friday, Sept 26, 5:00 pm / ByTowne Cinema
In Attendance: 300
Saturday, September 27, 9:00 pm / ByTowne Cinema
In Attendance: 215



2025 | 90 minutes | Japan
Director: Yasuhiro Aoki
Language: Japanese
Subtitles: English



2025 | 94:48 minutes | Spain
Director: Alberto Vázquez
Language: Spanish
Subtitles: English

Canadian Short Film Panorama

Thursday, September 25, 5:00 pm / Ottawa Art Gallery; Alma Duncan Salon

Attendance: 124

Friday, September 26, 9:00 pm / Arts Court; Theatre

Attendance: 132

[King Kong vs. Pinocchio](#), Janet Perlman, Canada in Attendance

[Ce qu'on laisse derrière \(What We Leave Behind\)](#), Alexandra Myotte & Jean-Sébastien Hamel

[Window](#), Andreas Fobes, Canada in Attendance

[Sosuke the Duck](#), Bekky O'Neil in Attendance

[Lessons on Flight](#), Cecilia Araneda

[Mangittatuarjuk \(The Gnawer of Rocks\)](#), Louise Flaherty

[Imprint](#), Duncan Major in Attendance

[A Flame the Colour of Air](#), Emily Pelstring in Attendance

[Rabid Beach](#), Jesi Jordan in Attendance

[Panoptic](#), Katie Finn in Attendance

[Hypersensible \(Hypersensitive\)](#), Martine Frossard in Attendance

[Cavalerie étourdie \(Dizzy Cavalry\)](#), Patrick Doyon in Attendance

[Still Moving](#), Rui Ting ji

[HECKIN' WEENS](#), Vinson Chan in Attendance

Universe Room – A Tribute to Clyde Henry



Thursday, September 25, 1:00 pm

ByTowne Cinema

Attendance: 76

Sunday, September 28, 11:00 am

ByTowne Cinema

Attendance: 41

Discover Clyde Henry—the stop-motion and illustration studio of Chris Lavis and Maciek Szczerbowski—at this comprehensive retrospective screening. From humble toothpaste-and-jam sculptures to their utterly original and mesmerizing debut *Madame Tutli-Putli* (Academy Award-nominated), their work brims with surreal detail, dark humor, and captivating artistry.

Inspired by Svankmajer, The Brothers Quay, and 1970s film magazines—and fueled by late-night pub brainstorm—Clyde Henry has redefined animation across short films (Higglety Pigglety Pop!, Cochemare, The Girl Who Cried Pearls), satirical vignettes (We Eat Shit, We Drink Too Much), music collaborations (Patrick Watson, Arcade Fire), gaming promos (South of Midnight), VR (Gymnasia), and Cirque du Soleil projections. Haunting yet familiar, their evocative and mysterious visuals ultimately contains deeply layered and compassionate explorations of the oddity known as the human heart. (Chris Robinson)

Kinetic Curiosities: The Films of Gina Kamentsky



Arts Court: DARC Microcinema

Wednesday, September 24, 3:00 pm – 9:00 pm - Attendance: 38

Thursday, September 25, 10:00 am – 9:00 pm - Attendance:177

Friday, September 26, 10:00 am – 9:00 pm - Attendance:220

Saturday, September 27, 10:00 am – 11:00 pm - Attendance:223

Sunday, September 28, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm - Attendance: 55

A frequent (and beloved) presence at the OIAF, Kamentsky's camera-less, abstract animations combine technical innovation with wild, hilarious, and often saucy storylines. The result is a mixed-media buffet of found sounds and images, infused with a comic and often absurdist sensibility. In a rare feat, her work proves that abstract animation can be both entertaining and genuinely funny! (Chris Robinson)

Films:

House Bunny

Secret Bee

Give Me a Pie

Jiro Visits the Dentist

If you say Something, See something

Tracheal Shave

Spank Shot

Cupcake

Silo

Sun Zoom Spark

Trauma Chameleon

Rock Paper Thistle

Stunting Cunts

Soft and White

Sed Saepe Cadendo

Pony Henge

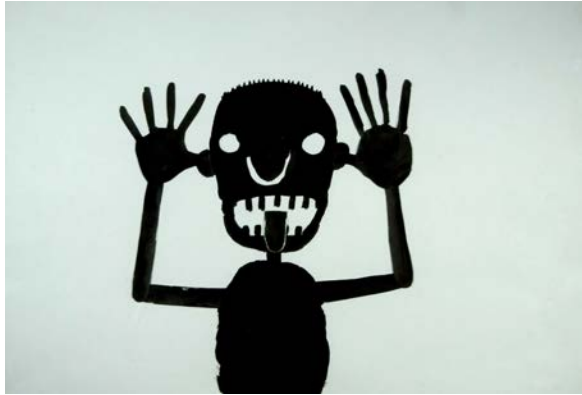
Universe Moves so Fast

Foot Print Shop

Gina Kamentsky's Pinocchio in 70mm

Dead Name

Raw Outrage – The Films of Phil Mulloy



Thursday, September 25:

11:00 am, 3:00pm, 9:00 pm

Arts Court Theatre - Attendance: 10

Friday, September 26

5:00 pm, 7:00 pm

Arts Court Theatre - Attendance: 20

Sunday, September 28

1:00 pm, 2:30pm, 3:00pm, 4:45pm

OAG: Alma Duncan - Attendance: 15

If Disney is animation's heart, then Phil Mulloy is its dark, pulsating bowels. Far from cuddly heroes and moral fables, Mulloy's crude, bold-lined animations skewer social, political, and religious hypocrisy with biting cynicism. In *Cowboys*, *The Christies*, *Endgame*, *Intolerance*, and *The Ten Commandments*, his grotesque stick figures inhabit a world where repression breeds absurdity, and violence feels inevitable. In today's chaotic age, his scathing satire feels more relevant than ever, exposing the cycles of greed, cruelty, and self-delusion that define humanity. Relentlessly bleak yet wickedly sharp, Mulloy's work reminds us that if we started over, we'd end up right back here.

This three-part retrospective will be accompanied by an exhibition of Mulloy's art. He will also give a talk about his career and serve as a member of the OIAF25 Short Film Competition jury. (Chris Robinson)

Eternal Stories: Animating Ancient Greek Myths



Thursday, September 25, 7 pm

Arts Court Theatre - Attendance: 80

Saturday, September 27, 1 pm

Arts Court Theatre - Attendance: 126

Greek myths, first told almost three thousand years ago, have had fascinating afterlives in Western cultural history. Each era tells these stories again, in the visual arts, in novels, poems, plays and films. We never cease to be inspired by these eternal narratives of dysfunctional families, the ravages of war, the stubbornness of free will in the face of an inexplicable destiny. And each version reflects the atmosphere, ideology and current crises of the time and place that does the retelling.

The films in this program are inspired by Greek myth, with a particular, but not exclusive, focus on Greek drama. These versions are subversive in the free-wheeling way unique to animation. They are satirical, poetic, psychoanalytical; they contain social critique and fresh interpretations. Their aesthetic often contains a tribute to the material evidence of antiquity, or includes meta-dramatic elements that remind us of our continuing, complex and exciting relationship with the ancient world. (Magdalena Zira)

Films:

Harpya, Raoul Servis

A Greek Tragedy, No single director

Achilles, Farhad Delaram

AMF's Tiresias, Ann Marie Fleming

Alcestis, Euripides

Electra, Daria Kashcheeva

New Way, New World – Connecting Japanese Animators to the World



Thursday, September 25, 7:00 pm

OAG Alma Duncan Salon - Attendance: 67

Friday, September 26, 5:00 pm

OAG Alma Duncan Salon - Attendance: 219

New Way, New World: Connecting Japanese Animators to the World (NeW NeW), a pioneering initiative by the Agency for Cultural Affairs (Japan) and the Japan Arts Council, empowers Japanese animation creators on the global stage. By fostering international connections and providing access to premier animation festivals, NeW NeW propels filmmakers towards collaborative partnerships. At this special program, witness the brilliance of past OIAF Grand Prix laureates—Sarina Nihei, Honami Yano, and Ryo Orikasa. Joining

them are three dynamic talents handpicked by the project: Ryo Hirano, Kazuki Sekiguchi, and Isaku Kaneko. Through insightful screenings and talks, these visionaries will unveil their remarkable achievements and exciting future endeavors. (Nobuaki Doi)

Films:

Small People with Hat, Sarina Nihei

Bite of Bones, Honami Yano

Miserable Miracle (English version), Ryo Orikasa

Paradise, Ryo Hirano

Self-Honest Me, Kazuki Sekiguchi

The Balloon City, Isaku Kaneko

Georgia on My Mind – 95 Years of Georgian Animation /



Thursday, September 25, 5:00 pm

Arts Court Theatre / 38

Sunday, September 28, 3:00 pm

Arts Court Theatre

Attendance: 57

Discover the poetic and often surreal world of Georgian animation—a unique blend of visual experimentation, folklore, and quiet resistance. Georgia on My Mind marks 95 years of this powerful art form with a curated program of short films spanning generations. Opening with a vibrant 4-minute montage of archival gems, the screening features works by acclaimed directors including David Takaishvili, David Sikharulidze, and Mariam Kandelaki. From lyrical tales to allegorical fables, these films reflect the soul of a culture and the vision of artists who

continue to redefine animation. A rare journey through a deeply personal and universal cinematic language, this program invites audiences to see the world through a uniquely Georgian lens.

Films:

The Story of Alexander the Great's Horse, Mariam Kandelaki

Chiri (The Plague), David Takaishvili

The Pocket Man, Ana Chubinidze

Mitovebuli Sofeli (Abandoned Village), Mariam Kapanadze

Efemera (Ephemera), David Sikharulidze

The Youth and The Leopard, Mariam Kandelaki

Tsutisopeli, Mariam Kandelaki

Korani (The Raven), David Takaishvili

A Return to Memory /



2024 / Canada
Donald McWilliams

Friday, September 26, 3 pm
Arts Court Theatre / Attendance: 25
Saturday, September 27, 11 am
ByTowne Cinema / Attendance: 40

Companion Screening – The Films of Return to Memory
Thursday, September 25, 1pm
OAG: Alma Duncan Salon / 54

Attendance: 25

The intrepid women who helped create Canadian cinema come to vibrant life in *A Return to Memory*, a documentary masterwork illuminating their vital but little-known role in establishing Canada's National Film Board.

Juxtaposing a dazzling array of archival material with dynamic animation by NFB infographics artist Mélanie Bouchard, director Donald McWilliams evokes the heady wartime years, when women played a key part in transforming the NFB into a major international studio.

With men engaged elsewhere in the war effort, hundreds of women pursued careers at the newly formed public producer—and pioneering figures like Evelyn Spice Cherry, Red Burns and Jane Marsh Beveridge made movie history, creating work that spoke to the world with a distinctive Canadian voice.

Animation Expo

September 27th, 9:30 AM - 4:00 PM, NAC Le Salon, NAC Babs Asper Theatre, NAC Canal Foyer

Artist Talks

Babs Asper Theatre, National Arts Centre (NAC), 1 Elgin Street

Get the ultimate animation experience at Animation Exposé! Meet the wizards behind the curtain at the Artist Talk Series, showcasing artists from your favourite projects, including never-before-seen surprises and tips on a career in animation!

Walt Disney Animation Studios presents **Between the Frames: A Filmmaker's Journey**

10:00 am – 11:00 am, Babs Asper Theatre, NAC (Canal Level) - Attendance: 236



Join Walt Disney Animation Studios' Malcon Pierce as he shares his career as an animator and artistic director, the creative inspirations that shaped his work, and the intersection of his personal and professional journey — culminating in a screening of his new short film, Versa.

Guest Speaker:

[Malcon Pierce](#), Artistic Director, Walt Disney Animation Studios

The Raccoons: Celebrating 40 Years in the Evergreen Forest

11:30 am – 12:30 pm, Babs Asper Theatre, NAC (Canal Level) - Attendance: 154



From Christmas special to global cult classic, The Raccoons is one of Canada's most beloved animated series—and it all started in Ottawa. In celebration of the 40th anniversary of the series, creator Kevin Gillis shares the behind-the-scenes story of how the series came to life—from its earliest concept stages and partnerships with CBC, to the music, animation, and values that shaped a generation of viewers.

Gillis is joined by Ottawa writer and animation historian Dan Lalande, with CBC Ottawa's Omar Dabaghi-Pacheco moderating the conversation. The panel will also explore the 2023 4K restoration process and how the show continues to find new audiences through platforms like YouTube, Boomerang, CRAVE, and BritBox.

Guest Speakers:

[Kevin Gillis](#), President & Executive Producer, Run With Us Productions

[Dan C. Lalande](#), Freelance Writer

Moderated by:

[Omar Dabaghi-Pacheco](#), Host, CBC

Netflix presents The Making of In Your Dreams

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm, Babs Asper Theatre, NAC (Canal Level) - Attendance: 216



Join Director/Writer Alex Woo, VFX Supervisor Nicky Lavender, and Head of Character Animation Sacha Kapijimpanga for an inside look at the creative vision behind Netflix's upcoming animated feature, In Your Dreams. The team will dive into the film's journey from concept to screen, highlighting the craft and collaboration that shaped its striking animation and emotionally resonant storytelling.

Guest Speakers:

[Sacha Kapijimpanga](#), Head of Character Animation, Sony Pictures ImageWorks

[Nicky Lavender](#), VFX Supervisor, Sony Pictures ImageWorks

[Alex Woo](#), Director / Writer, Kuku Studios / Netflix

Moderator:

[Ramin Zahed](#), Editor in Chief, Animation Magazine

The Strange Universe of Clyde Henry

3:30 pm – 4:30 pm, Babs Asper Theatre, NAC (Canal Level) - Attendance: 97



Step into the universe of Clyde Henry Productions, the surreal and darkly funny stop-motion duo behind Madame Tutli-Putli (Academy Award-nominated), Higglety Pigglety Pop!, The Girl Who Cried Pearls, and more. In this candid conversation with OIAF Artistic Director Chris Robinson, Chris Lavis, Director and Co-Founder of Clyde Henry Productions, will reveal the offbeat inspirations, handcrafted artistry, and strange magic that power the studio's hauntingly beautiful work.

Guest Speakers:

[Chris Lavis](#), Director, Co-Founder, Clyde Henry Productions

Moderated by:

[Chris Robinson](#), Artistic Director, Ottawa International Animation Festival

TAC 2025

This animation business forum is designed for professionals in content creation, development, production, distribution and marketing. TAC brings together key players in North America and international markets and provides a forum for active networking, practical information exchange, and trade in a comfortable and intimate environment. Running alongside the OIAF, attendees also get access to some of the world's best talent in animation.

Panels and Activities



Tribute to Rick Morrison, presented by Jam Filled Entertainment

9:15 am to 10:00 am, O'Born Room (Terrace Level) - Attendance: 117

Join us for a heartfelt tribute to Rick Morrison, a visionary producer and pillar of Ottawa's animation community. From his work on The Raccoons to helming Big Jump Entertainment, Rick's legacy spans decades of storytelling, studio-building, and mentorship. As part of the tribute, Jam Filled Entertainment will present the TAC Lifetime Achievement Award to Rick posthumously, with his brother Cory Morrison accepting the honour on his behalf. A reception will follow.

Host: [Frank Taylor](#), Principal, SOGO Strategic Consulting

Reception for Rick Morrison

10:00 am to 11:00 am, TAC Delegate Lounge (Terrace Level Foyer) - Attendance: 113

Following the Tribute to Rick Morrison, join industry friends and family in the Delegate Lounge for a reception for Rick, featuring a mimosa toast in honour of Rick and his enduring legacy.



State of the Industry: Canadian Animation Seizing Opportunity, presented in partnership with CASO

10:15 am to 11:00 am, O'Born Room (Terrace Level) - Attendance: 93

This year's State of the Industry panel explores Canada's potential in a rapidly evolving global animation landscape. Around the world, studios are navigating uncertainty stemming from market slowdowns, industry consolidation, and the creative and economic shifts driven by new technologies. But amid this turbulence, Canada may be well-positioned to take a more strategic role. With deep creative talent, institutional support, and growing interest in international collaboration, the conditions are right to think more ambitiously about Canada's place in the industry. Together, the panelists will explore how the sector can move from a mindset of adaptation to one of strategy. What would it take to seize this moment? And what might Canada offer or learn from the global community in return?

Speakers:

[Wes Lui](#), Co-General Manager, House of Cool / Wildbrain

[Daniel Fill](#), President, Dark Slope

[Tamara Boutcher](#), Head of Feature Animation Production, Cinesite

[Andrew Pelekis](#), CEO, Claynosaurz

Moderator:

[Virginie Lavallée](#), Co-Founder, The Happy Producers



Spinning a Classic: Reimagining Charlotte's Web for a New Generation

11:30 am to 12:30 pm, O'Born Room (Terrace Level) - Attendance: 100

The creative teams at Sesame Workshop and Guru Studio reveal their latest collaboration: a brand-new animated adaptation of E.B. White's beloved classic Charlotte's Web for HBO Max. In this exclusive sneak peek, they'll share the challenges they faced reimagining this timeless story, the inspirational art behind the iconic countryside setting, and the beloved characters Wilbur and Charlotte. Hear how they weaved their magic to breathe new life into this timeless tale for today's kids and their nostalgic

parents.

Speakers:

[Olexa Hewryk](#), VP & Head of Animation, Sesame Workshop

[Gyimah Gariba](#), Art Director, Charlotte's Web, Guru Studio

[Yurie Rocha](#), Director, Charlotte's Web, Guru Studio

[Frank Falcone](#), President and Executive Creative Director, Guru Studio

Moderator:

[Dan Sarto](#), Co-Founder and Publisher, Animation World Network – [AWN.com](https://www.awn.com)

Prepare to Pitch, Part 1 with Emily Brundige

12:00 pm to 12:45 pm, Le Salon (Canal Level) - Attendance: 89

Get ready to pitch with acclaimed animation writer [Emily Brundige](#) (Goldie, Hilda, Pubertina) in this hands-on workshop designed to help you shape your animated series concept for the spotlight. Drawing from her recently self-published [A Guide to Developing Animated Shows](#), Emily will share practical tools for crafting pitch materials that highlight your voice, characters, and world. This interactive session will focus on early development, concept clarity, and building a strong foundation before you pitch.

Pick up Emily's book on-site or purchase it digitally here: <https://www.sendowl.com/hub/lil-toughy>

TAC Luncheon, presented by the High Commission of India

12:30 pm to 1:45 pm, TAC Delegate Lounge (Terrace Level Foyer) - Attendance: 200

Connect with fellow TAC delegates over lunch, presented by the High Commission of India, and reflect on the day's sessions. This informal midday gathering provides an opportunity to continue conversations, expand your network, and explore international collaboration opportunities in animation.

Perfect Your Pitch, Part 2 with Eric Calderon

1:15 pm to 2:00 pm, Le Salon (Canal Level) - Attendance: 75

In this advanced session, 30-year industry veteran [Eric Calderon](#), and host of the popular Surviving Animation YouTube Channel, will guide you through refining your pitch. Building on foundational concepts, Eric will focus on wider commercial opportunities for your intellectual property and mastering the art of an authentic performance. Gain practical insights to confidently showcase your project's unique strengths, leave a lasting impression on decision-makers, and speak directly to your actual audiences.

Watch [Surviving Animation on YouTube](#) or follow [Eric on LinkedIn](#) for his ongoing discussions about the business of cartoons.

Meet the Canadian Broadcasters

1:45 pm to 2:30 pm, O'Born Room (Terrace Level) - Attendance: 125

Meet decision-makers from Canadian broadcast networks, hear about their current and future priorities, and discover what drives their programming decisions. Panellists will discuss how they receive and assess pitches, what to include, and what is working (or not) for their audiences. The discussion will also explore their creative and financial contributions during development and production, as well as how they ensure that commissions and acquisitions align with their brand identity and viewer expectations.

Speakers:

[Lisa Cinelli](#), Executive in Charge of Production, CBC

[Magali Boccaccio](#), Head of Content, TFO

[Kirsten Hurd](#), Commissioning Editor, TVOkids

Moderator:

[Lisa Broadfoot](#), VP, Industry & Business Affairs, Canadian Media Producers Association

Ask the Experts: Realistic Budgeting for Co-Productions

2:45 pm to 3:30 pm, O'Born Room (Terrace Level) - Attendance: 74

From funding breakdowns to production planning, this practical session dives into the realities of budgeting for co-productions and large-scale animated projects. Industry experts will share firsthand insights on how to approach budgets for co-productions from different regions, access available funding, and navigate common challenges. Designed as a "how-to" conversation with ample room for audience questions, the panel provides useful starting points, smart strategies, and hard-earned advice.

Speakers:

[Damien Dornford](#), Creative Director, AirStride Entertainment

[Athena Georgaklis](#), Executive Producer, AthenaG Productions

Moderator:

[Jessica Beirne](#), President and Executive Producer, The Producer Place



Toon Boom Boat Cruise

3:30 pm – 4:15 pm - Attendance: 266 [Sparks St. and Elgin St.](#)

The Toon Boom Boat Cruise bus shuttle service operates between 3:30 pm and 4:15 pm, departing from the corner of [Sparks St. and Elgin St.](#) and travelling to the Hull Marina, located at [160, rue Laurier](#). There will be two buses doing two rounds of pick-ups. If you miss the first pick-up, wait with OIAF volunteers at [Sparks St. and Elgin St.](#) for the second pick-up. 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm, Ottawa River

Catch a shuttle bus, up the street from the NAC at [Sparks St. and Elgin St.](#), to make it to the boat before launch! The boat will launch from a new dock for 2025, the Hull Marina, at [160, rue Laurier, Gatineau, Québec](#). The Toon Boom Boat Cruise is the perfect opportunity to catch up with other TAC delegates and grow your network in an informal setting with incredible views. This 2-hour sightseeing cruise tours the Ottawa River between Ontario and Quebec, passing by Rideau Falls, Parliament Hill, the Canadian Museum of History, and other popular sites in the beautiful Capital. Guests will be treated to drinks and charcuterie. Afterwards, take a direct shuttle to the Bytowne Cinema to attend the Opening Ceremonies and Short Competition 1, or the secondary shuttles back to the pick-up point at Sparks St. & Elgin St.

Activity: Art + Biz Breakfast

9:15am / September , 26 , 2025

Animation Community Roundtable

A structured networking session that brought participants together for rotating conversations focused on community building and inclusive collaboration. Attendees connected directly with representatives from major organizations including the National Film Board of Canada, ACE Canada Society, Women in Animation Montreal, CAG & IATSE Local 938, the Disability Screen Office, Black Women Film & Media, the Ottawa Film Office, ASIFA-Hollywood, TAIS, and the Canada Media Fund.

Meet a Mentor Sessions

10:00am / September , 26 , 2025

Emerging creators and entry-level professionals took part in pre-registered one-on-one meetings with studio and industry representatives. Participants received feedback on demo reels, portfolios, pitch materials, and career pathways. Priority access was provided to creators from equity-deserving groups, reinforcing OIAF's commitment to inclusive talent development.

Brilliant Careers: Spotlight on Animators

10:30am / September , 26 , 2025

A panel highlighting the diverse paths of established animators, offering insights on creative growth, challenges, and career progression. Speakers included Celeste Koon, Chadd Ferron, and Diana Reichenbach, moderated by Ella Cooper.

Advice from Recruiters

11:30am / September, 26 , 2025

Recruiters from Guru Studio, Brown Bag Films | 9 Story, and LAIKA shared practical guidance on hiring expectations, how candidates can stand out, and navigating today's competitive job market. Moderated by Theresa Scandiffio of Sheridan College.

Young Audiences | Ottawa International Animation Festival



All Ages Day | OIAF

A full day of screenings and hands-on activities for animation fans of all ages. Family-friendly events take place on the Saturday of the Festival throughout the Ottawa Art Gallery (OAG) and Arts Court. Screening tickets are free for kids 13 and under, and adult general admission tickets are \$15 each. [Teens can register for a free Saturday Teen Pass](#), which gives them access to all OIAF screenings and talks on Saturday before 6:00 pm, including [Animation Exposé](#). Sit with the OIAF Kids Jury at the Animation Made For Young Audiences 7+ competition screening, where winners are decided! Teens, have your say! OIAF needs your help to decide the winner of the Animation Made for Teen Audiences 13+ competition screening. Stay after the screening to vote for your favourite and help decide the winner of the Teen Vote @ OIAF Public Prize. Learn how to animate at various free hands-on workshops and demonstrations throughout the building.



Kids Jury | OIAF

The OIAF Kids Jury is a unique opportunity for animation enthusiasts ages 8-12 to judge animation made for young audiences at North America's largest animation festival. Join them at All Ages OIAF competition screening: Animation Made for Young Audiences 7+ on the Saturday of the Festival, in the Alma Duncan Salon. After the screening the Kid Jurors will deliberate in private to determine the film they will award at the OIAF Awards Ceremony on Saturday night.



Kids Day | OIAF

Field Trip! Every year the OIAF invites elementary school students and their teachers to attend a one-hour screening and talk with an animation professional that will give the students an inside look at the art of animation. Kids Day OIAF (formerly called Animation Celebration) has featured many special guests, including Aardman Animation (Wallace and Gromit), Laika (Coraline) and the National Film Board of Canada. In 2022, guest animator Britt Raes screened her short film *Luce and the Rock* and then led the captivating and exciting Q&A session about how she made the film! There were also fun rock characters and colouring crafts for after the presentation.



Teens Day | OIAF

High school students interested in animation will not want to miss this event. Teachers, bring your students to check out amazing animated films from around the world, followed by a special presentation from top animation schools or guest filmmakers – program to be determined! Teens, OIAF needs your help to decide the winner of the Animation Made for Teen Audiences 13+ competition screening. As part of your field trip to OIAF, you'll watch this screening and then vote for your favourite and help decide the winner of the Teen Vote @ OIAF Public Prize. The

awards are given out on Saturday night at the OIAF Awards Ceremony.

Saturday Day Pass for Teens



FREE Saturday Day Pass for Teens

The Saturday Day Pass for Teens grants all local teens access to all OIAF screenings and programming on the Saturday of the Festival before 6:00 pm, including All Ages Day, [Animation Exposé](#) talks, the Exhibition fair, and the Awards Ceremony. Don't miss [Animation Exposé](#): featuring live "Talks" with animation artists and the opportunity to meet representatives from animation schools as part of the career fair. Secondary school teachers can also get a free Saturday Day Pass! Tell your colleagues!

European Union Film Festival (EUFF)



November 15 - November 30, 2025

Total Attendance: 3,896

The 40th annual European Union Film Festival showcased 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.

**Friday, November 14 / 6:30 pm / Alma Duncan Salon /
Attendance: 245**

The Land of Short Sentences | Meter i sekundet



2023 | 106 minutes | Denmark
Director: Hella Joof
Languages: Danish
Subtitles: English

**Friday, November 14 / 8:40 pm / Alma Duncan Salon /
Attendance: 33**

The Land of Shadows



2024 | 73 minutes | Luxembourg
Director: Lukas Grevis
Language: Luxembourgish and Portuguese
Subtitles: English

Saturday, November 15 / 4:00 pm / Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance: 129

Ciao Ciao



2025 | 90 minutes | Malta
Director: Keith A. Tedesco
Language: Maltese and English
Subtitles: English

Sunday, November 16 / 4:00 pm / Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance: 83

Savanna and the Mountain



2024 | 77 minutes | Portugal
Director: Paulo Carneiro
Languages: Portuguese
Subtitles: English

Sunday, November 16 / 6:50 pm / Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance: 184

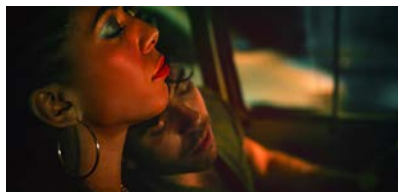
Even Pigs Go to Heaven | Nosila je rubac črleni



2022 | 86 minutes | Croatia
Director: Goran Dukić
Language: Croatian
Subtitles: English

Saturday, November 15 / 6:00 pm / Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance: 104

Brando with a Glass Eye



Saturday, November 15 / 6:00 pm /
Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance: 104

Sunday, November 16 / 4:00 pm / Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance: 101

Whites Wash at Ninety | Belo se pere na devetdeset



2025 | 142 minutes | Slovenia
Director: Marko Naberšnik
Language: Slovene
Subtitles: English

Wednesday, November 19 / 6:30 pm / Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance: 113

Drowning Dry | Seses



2024 | 88 minutes | Lithuania
Director: Laurynas Bareisa
Language: Lithuanian
Subtitles: English

Wednesday, November 19 / 8:30 pm / Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance : 77

Smaragda: I Got Thick Skin and I Can't Jump | Σμαράγδα



2024 | 99 minutes | Cyprus
Director: Emiliós Avraam
Languages: Greek
Subtitles: English

Thursday, November 20 / 8:30 pm / Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance 151

Réveillon | A máme, čo sme chceli



2023 | 101 minutes | Slovakia

Director: Michal Kunes Kováč
Languages: Slovak, Czech, English, French, German

Friday, November 21 / 8:30pm / Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance 133

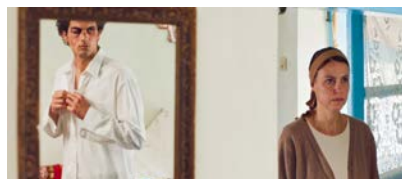
Making Of



2023 | 119 minutes | France
Director: Cédric Kahn
Language: French
Subtitles: English

Thursday, November 20 / 6:30 pm / Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance: 135

Three Kilometers to the End of the World | Trei kilometri pâna la capatul lumii



2024 | 105 minutes | Romania
Director: Emanuel Pârvu
Language: Romanian
Subtitles: English

Friday, November 21 / 6:30 pm / Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance 276

Memory Lane | De terugreis



2024 | 98 minutes | Netherlands
Director: Jelle de Jonge
Language: Dutch
Subtitles: English

Saturday, November 22 / 2:00 pm / Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance 160

Wedlock | CBATBA



2024 | 117 minutes | Bulgaria
Director: Magdalena Ralcheva
Language: Bulgarian
Subtitles: English

Saturday, November 22 / 4:15 pm / Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance 75

8 Views of Lake Biwa | Biwa järve 8 nägu



2024 | 126 minutes | Estonia
Director: Marko Raat
Languages: Estonian
Subtitles: English

Saturday, November 22 / 8:40 pm / Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance 142

Dreamtown



2024 | 97 minutes | Ireland
Director: Steven McKenna
Languages: English

Sunday, November 23 / 6:30 pm / Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance 135

Maria's Silence | Marijas Klusums



2024 | 104 minutes | Latvia
Director: Dāvis Sīmanis Jr.
Language: Latvian, Russian, and German
Subtitles: English

Saturday, November 22 / 6:40 pm / Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance 202

We Treat Women Too Well | Tratamos demasiado bien a las mujeres



2024 | 97 minutes | Spain
Director: Clara Bilbao
Languages: Spanish
Subtitles: English

Sunday, November 23 / 4:00 pm / Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance 234

Peacock | Pfau—Bin ich echt?



2024 | 102 minutes | Austria

Director: Bernhard Wenger
Language: German
Subtitles: English

Wednesday, November 26 / 6:30 pm / Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance: 184

The Summer Book



2024 | 95 minutes | Finland
Director: Charlie McDowell
Language: English
Subtitles: English

Wednesday, November 26 / 8:30 pm / Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance: 101

Omen | Augure



2023 | 83 minutes | Belgium
Director: Balaji
Language: French, Swahili, Lingala, English
Subtitles: English

Thursday, November 27 / 8:40 pm / Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance: 139

I Accidentally Wrote a Book | Véletlenül írtam egy könyvet



2024 | 98 minutes | Hungary
Director: Nóra Lakos
Language: Hungarian
Subtitles: English

Friday, November 28 / 8:45 pm / Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance: 140

Casanova's Return | Il ritorno di Casanova



2023 | 94 minutes | Italy
Director: Gabriele Salvatores
Languages: Italian
Subtitles: English

Saturday, November 29 / 4:00 pm / Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance: 288

Thursday, November 27 / 6:30 pm / Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance: 226

Beyond the Blue Border | Jenseits der blauen Grenze



2024 | 102 minutes | Germany
Director: Sarah Neumann
Language: German
Subtitles: English

Friday, November 28 / 6:30 pm / Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance: 283

Hammar skjöld



2023 | 114 minutes | Sweden
Director: Per Fly
Language: English, Swedish
Subtitles: English

Saturday, November 29 / 2:00 pm / Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance: 271

Porcelain War | Порцелянова війна



2024 | 87 minutes | Ukraine
Directors: Brendan Bellomo, Slava Leontyev
Language: Ukrainian
Subtitles: English

Saturday, November 29 / 6:45 pm / Alma Duncan Salon / Attendance: 155

Franz



2025 | 127 minutes | Czech Republic
Director: Agnieszka Holland
Language: German, Czech
Subtitles: English

The Breach | Wyrwa



2023 | 95 minutes | Poland
Director: Bartosz Konopka
Language: Polish
Subtitles: English

European Union Film Festival Online 2024 (EUFF)

December 1st - 15th, 2024

Total Attendance: 2,691

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.

**Sunday, December 1 2024 / 3:00 am / Online/
Attendance: 133**

#annaissing



2023 | 108 minutes | Czech Republic
Director: Pavel Soukup
Languages: Czech
Subtitles: English

**Sunday, December 1 2024 / 3:00 am / Online/
Attendance: 133**

A Blue Flower



2021 | 85 minutes | Croatia
Director: Zrinko Ogresta
Language: Croatian
Subtitles: English

**Sunday, December 1 2024 / 3:00 am / Online/
Attendance: 146**

A Hundred Sundays



2023 | 94 minutes | Italy
Director: Antonio Albanese
Language: Italian
Subtitles: English

**Sunday, December 1 2024 / 3:00 am / Online/
Attendance: 162**

Because I Love Bad Weather



2024 | 100 minutes | Bulgaria
Director: Yana Lekarska
Languages: Bulgarian
Subtitles: English

**Sunday, December 1 2024 / 3:00 am / Online/
Attendance: 141**

A Postcard from Rome



2022 | 90 minutes | Latvia
Director: Elza Gouja Language: Latvian
Subtitles: English

**Sunday, December 1 2024 / 3:00 am / Online/
Attendance: 220**

Bolero



2024 | 120 minutes | France
Director: Anne Fountaine
Language: French
Subtitles: English

**Sunday, December 1 2024 / 3:00 am / Online/
Attendance: 151**

Cats of Malta



2023 | 69 minutes | Malta
Director: Sarah Jayne Portelli
Language: English
Subtitles: English

**December 1 2024 / 3:00 am / Online/
Attendance: 155**

Fathers and Sons



2022 | 80 minutes | Netherlands
Director:
Jörgen Scholtens
Languages: Dutch
Subtitles: English

**December 1 2024 / 3:00 am / Online/
Attendance: 216**

Hygge!



2022 | 100 minutes | Denmark
Director: Dagur Kári
Languages: Danish
Subtitles : English

**Sunday, December 1 2024 / 3:00 am / Online/
Attendance: 128**

Dodo



2022 | 120 minutes | Greece
Director: Laurynas Bareisa
Language: Greek
Subtitles: English

**December 1 2024 / 3:00 am / Online/
Attendance: 175**

Hilma



2022 | 120 minutes | Sweden
Director: Lasse Hallström
Language: Swedish
Subtitles: English

**December 1 2024 / 3:00 am / Online/
Attendance: 115**

Light Light Light



2023 | 91 minutes | Finland
Director: Inari Niemi
Language: Finnish

Subtitles: English

**December 1 2024 / 3:00 am / Online/
Attendance: 111**

Mermaids Don't Cry



2022 | 91 minutes | Austria
Director:
Franziska Pflaum
Language: German
Subtitles: English

**December 1 2024 / 3:00 am / Online/
Attendance: 104**

Salgueiro Maia: The Implicated



2023 | 90 minutes | Hungary
Director:
Dániel Hevér
Languages: Hungarian, English
Subtitles: English

**December 1 2024 / 3:00 am / Online/
Attendance: 131**

Some Birds



2023 | 90 minutes | Hungary
Director:
Dániel Hevér
Languages: Hungarian, English
Subtitles: English

**December 1 2024 / 3:00 am / Online/
Attendance: 128**

Never Say Never



2023 | 104 minutes | Slovakia
Director: Branislav Misík
Language: Slovak, Czech
Subtitles: English

**December 1 2024 / 3:00 am / Online/
Attendance: 118**

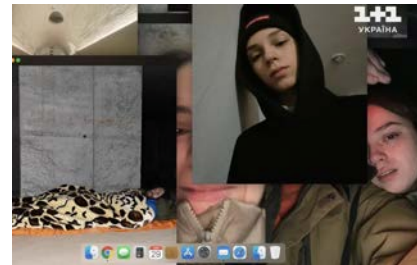
Scarborn



2023 | 120 minutes | Poland
Director:
Paweł Maślona
Languages: Polish
Subtitles: English

**December 1 2024 / 3:00 am / Online/
Attendance: 92**

The Hardest Hour



2023 | 120 minutes | Ukraine
Director: Yana Mazana
Language: Ukranian
Subtitles: English

December 1 2024 / 3:00 am / Online/

Attendance: 132

Un Amor



2023 | 130 minutes | Spain

Director: Isabel Coixet

Language: Spanish

Subtitles: English