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**30th Anniversary**  
**Canada's**  
**Largest LGBTQ+**  
**Film Festival**

Presenting  
Partner  
**NETFLIX**

**Online**  
Ontario-wide  
Oct. 1 – 11, 2020  
[insideout.ca](http://insideout.ca)  
[#InsideOut30](https://twitter.com/InsideOut30)

# Inside Out



# CONGRATULATIONS 2020 INSIDE OUT FINANCING FORUM PARTICIPANTS!

## ADOLESCENT

Kyle Reaume, Sam Rosati

## LAST SUMMER WITH IRA

Emily McCann Lesser, Gary Jaffe,  
Katie Ennis

## ALL THAT SHE WANTS

Nigel DeFriez, Maria Krovatin,  
Barbara Gruska

## MOKA

Moka Dawkins, Emily Gioskos,  
Laura Bornacelli

## DEAR STRAIGHT MEN

Sam Sorrenti, Santana Doran

## PINK CARNATIONS

Lisa Buchanan, Adam Myatt

## FOLLOWERS

Tim Marshall, Christina Radburn,  
Frances Wang-Ward

## POLARIZED

Shamim Sharif, Hanan Kattan

## GLITTER AND DOOM

Tom Gustafson, Cory Krueckeberg

## THE VIRIDIAN

Blake Mawson, Natalie Urquhart

## GYPSY BOY

Dee Koppang O'Leary, Kevin Loader,  
Mikey Walsh, James Graham

## THE YOUNG KING

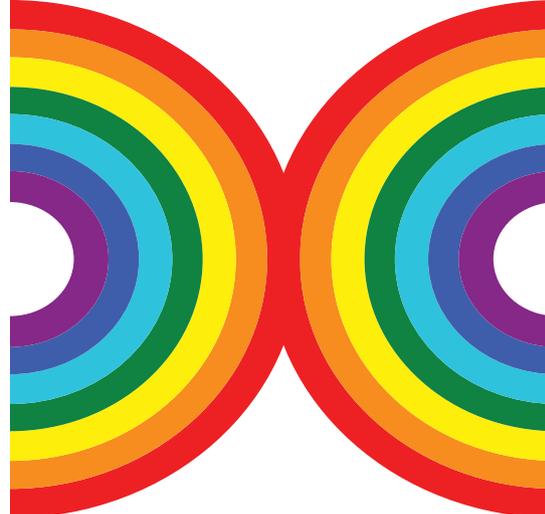
Larin Sullivan, Kim Bailey,  
Isabel Marden

## HAWA HAWAII

Amirah Tajdin, Wafa Tajdin,  
Sahar Yousefi

## YOU CANNOT ERASE ME

Tyler Rabinowitz, Jeremy Truong



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Toronto, 1990: The founders of the Inside/Out Collective gather to form Toronto's LGBTQ film festival. Were they dreaming about what that festival might be in 2020? Did they picture audiences streaming out onto King Street, queued up for sold-out screenings in a futuristic TIFF Bell Lightbox, with Inside Out-branded streetcars racing by? Could they have conceived of our current 2020 reality, where the only showcase for LGBTQ film is high-speed internet beaming the content into homes across Ontario?

When I joined Inside Out in 2016, I was dreaming of 2020, coming in after a successful 25th anniversary and building the new strategic plan to get to the 30th. Today, many of those dreams are reality. Inside Out is home to the world's only LGBTQ film financing forum, the first film festival development fund for queer women, trans and non-binary filmmakers, and we're also the first LGBTQ film festival to sign a major partnership deal with Netflix. We built new networks, initiating the North American Queer Film Festival Alliance and building Canada's first free, nationwide LGBTQ film platform for educators.

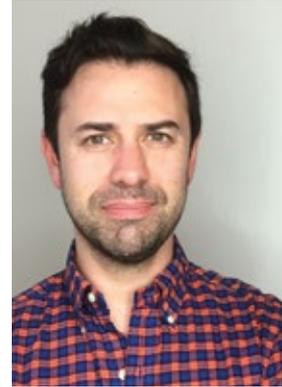
I don't think our founders could've predicted this version of 2020 (she writes while wearing an Inside Out-branded cloth facemask). But I know that Queer Film is Essential. I know that the work that has been done, and continues to be done, to advance the equitable representation of LGBTQ2 people in media is vital. I know that now is the time for a new vision, a new dream, that reaches to 2030, to 2050, to a horizon we can't imagine yet.

To our supporters: you built this house. I am grateful to have lived in it for four years and built a new extension. As I step down as Executive Director, I'm handing the keys back to you with faith in our exceptional staff team, our committed Board, and a new leader, whose vision I can't wait to support.

To every one of our staff members, who are my greatest teachers and closest friends,  
 To my wife (who I met at Inside Out 2017 on the rooftop of the Thompson Hotel), who inspires me every day to take my work to the next level,  
 To our filmmakers, who all of this is for, and all of this is because of,  
 To our partners, who invested so that we could invest,  
 To the Inside/Out Collective Members, who dreamed so that we could, too.

And to you: Thank you.

**Andria Wilson**  
 Executive Director  
 Inside Out



In our current climate, film is really the safest way to travel, and this year's lineup provides a unique opportunity to escape into the many complicated queer worlds accessed through the brilliant minds of our filmmakers, icons, and peers.

It already feels like a lifetime since the early days of the pandemic, where panicked Zoom meetings and virtual hangouts with friends and colleagues were scheduled out of fear of isolation. These circumstances, however, allowed for a time of pause, for thoughtfulness, and for clear action. Our global festival family rallied together to discuss challenges and to collaborate on new ways to fulfill mandates. The queer community is no stranger to extraordinary situations, and a global pandemic became an entry point for mobilization. New ideas and connections ensured we could still deliver the year's best in queer film and provide networking and business opportunities in the safest ways possible.

As it was 30 years ago, it remains today: your safety is our priority. We may not be able to gather together in cinemas right now, or welcome our filmmaking family from around the world, but we can do our best to bring the world to you through an extraordinary film lineup, thanks to our digital Cinesend platform and by way of a few, special drive-in experiences.

I am in awe every day of the creators, programmers and directors who have come to work alongside us to build and maintain an organization with so much care, and to provide not only a vital place to premiere and exhibit queer work but also act as a place for celebration, conversation – even when conversation is difficult – education, business, and artistic expression. Our job is to provide space and opportunity to have queer work seen; to have artists meet and network, and to help projects get financed. Every day, we strive to do better and be better.

Here's to our founding fathers, mothers, drag mothers, drag daughters, drag kings, butch dykes, non-binary folk, trans folk, and queers for seeing the need and the potential for what Inside Out could be and is still becoming. We stand humbly on your shoulders. Thank you.

**Andrew Murphy**  
 Director of Programming  
 Inside Out



I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to everyone attending the 30th Annual Inside Out Film Festival.

For three decades, this festival has showcased LGBTQ film and video from Canada and around the world. I would like to congratulate everyone presenting films for their hard work and efforts to bring their stories to the screen.

I would also like to commend the organizers for their commitment to fostering unity and inclusion in the film industry. Your efforts ensure the continued success of this outstanding event.

Please accept my best wishes for a successful festival.

Sincerely,

**The Rt. Hon. Justin P.J. Trudeau, P.C., M.P.**  
Prime Minister of Canada



PREMIER MINISTRE • PREMIER MINISTER



Welcome to the 30th Annual Inside Out Film Festival.

This year, queer stories that break down barriers, challenge prejudice, and strive for a truly open and inclusive society will take centre stage at Canada's largest LGBTQ2 film fest.

The 2020 festival will show the very best features from Canada and beyond online. The pandemic has been particularly challenging for these communities, which is why it's encouraging that Inside Out has found creative ways to come together to celebrate what makes our country great. This celebration gives LGBTQ2 people a forum to express their humanity and share their unique stories. That is why our government is proud to support this festival.

As Minister of Canadian Heritage and Minister of Diversity and Inclusion and Youth, we congratulate the organizers and volunteers whose hard work means this dynamic community's voices will continue to be heard and shared.

**Steven Guilbeault**  
Minister of  
Canadian Heritage

**Bardish Chagger**  
Minister of Diversity and  
Inclusion and Youth



On behalf of the Government of Ontario, I am delighted to welcome everyone to the 30th Annual Inside Out Film Festival.

In these challenging times, I am encouraged to see the ingenuity that festival presenters are showing as they bring their events to audiences in this landmark year. As the largest event of its kind in Canada, Inside Out exemplifies the power of film to entertain, inform and inspire us – while showcasing our diversity.

Ontario is proud to support Inside Out and the creativity, hard work and passion of the queer writers, directors and actors sharing their stories with the world. Ontario's filmmakers continue to earn accolades in the world of film, putting our province on the global stage as a centre of creativity and innovation on both sides of the camera.

I wish the creators and audiences a memorable festival – and congratulate Inside Out on 30 years of film excellence.

**Lisa MacLeod**  
Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries



I am so pleased to share greetings with you as we celebrate the 30th anniversary of Inside Out. I wish we could all be together in theatres and at parties throughout this festival to celebrate the best of Queer cinema – but I know our hearts are together regardless of our physical distance.

While we are all social distancing and thinking a little extra about essential workers, I find myself reflecting on Inside Out's recent campaign: "Queer Film is Essential". It resonated with me deeply.

To the amazing team at Inside Out – congratulations on celebrating your 30th year! And to every Queer film lover – know that not even a pandemic can hold back the power of Queer stories.

See you all in the (virtual) theatre.

With love and solidarity,

**Suze Morrison**  
MPP, Toronto Centre





It gives me great pleasure to extend greetings and a warm welcome to everyone attending the 30th annual Inside Out Toronto LGBT Film Festival.

This year's film festival is being reinvented as a digital festival, during the COVID-19 pandemic. By going virtual, film buffs can continue to stay connected to each other and celebrate the best in queer film while physically distancing at home.

As an international centre for film production, Toronto promotes the development of quality cinema by the creative and innovative works of filmmakers whose talent and creativity have enhanced and enriched our entertainment industry.

On behalf of Toronto City Council, I wish everyone an enjoyable and memorable event. Please accept my best wishes for continued success.

**John Tory**  
Mayor of Toronto



It is my pleasure to extend my heartfelt congratulations to organizers and supporters of the Inside Out Toronto LGBT Film Festival for the tremendous achievement of 30 successful years of artistic endeavor and social change in the city of Toronto.

By showcasing the best and most diverse queer cinema from Canada and around the world, this festival acts to inspire and unite Toronto's LGBTQ community.

This year, the Inside Out Toronto LGBT Film Festival returns as a largely digital format from October 1st to October 10th 2020, showcasing over 175 films from thirty countries. For eleven exciting days, Toronto will be in the international spotlight, showing the world the incredible diversity and creativity of our city's LGBTQ communities and the strength of Toronto's rich cultural and social fabric.

Once again, congratulations on 30 years of success! I look forward to many more years of the Inside Out Festival in Toronto, which I know will continue to grow and make significant impacts on building a healthy, vibrant and dynamic city.

Happy film-festing,

**Kristyn Wong-Tam**  
City Councillor  
Ward 13, Toronto Centre



On behalf of RBC, welcome to the 2020 Inside Out Toronto LGBT Film Festival.

This year has certainly been an unprecedented one as the entire world has paused in light of global challenges. But if there's one thing we've come to understand, it's that our voices, our stories and our passion, cannot be cancelled.

For the past 30 years, Inside Out has been a staple of this city's identity and an important platform for our LGBTQ+ community to tell their incredible stories.

As presenting sponsor for the 12th time, we've seen this festival showcase some of the most compelling, thought-provoking and inspiring LGBTQ+ cinema in the world.

So congratulations to all the filmmakers. And congratulations to the Inside Out Toronto team for rising above the challenges and putting together an outstanding event this year.

Enjoy the festival!

**Kris Depencier**  
Regional President, RBC  
Greater Toronto



## About Inside Out

Inside Out is a not-for-profit registered charity that exists to challenge attitudes and change lives through the promotion, production and exhibition of film by and about LGBTQ persons of all sexual and gender identities, ages, races and abilities.

### Vision

Founded in 1991 as an LGBTQ film festival in Toronto, Inside Out is now the largest event of its kind in Canada, spanning multiple cities with year-round programming.

Inside Out seeks to be

- an innovative leader in the production, exhibition and promotion of LGBTQ film
- an incubator and support for LGBTQ filmmakers both emerging and established
- a leading advocate for LGBTQ issues using the medium of film
- an inclusive cultural gathering place for Canadian LGBTQ communities

### Values

Inside Out strives to reflect the following values in our operations and programming:

- **Innovation:** We give our audience new opportunities to engage with LGBTQ stories through the medium of film. We are constantly improving our programming and efficiency of operations by adopting new technologies and systems.
- **Excellence:** We are committed to seeking out the best LGBTQ stories from around the world and providing audiences with unique film-based experiences.
- **Community:** We play a vital role in the social, educational and cultural health of our communities by connecting them with their stories. We are dedicated to reflecting and expanding the dialogue within the LGBTQ communities in collaboration with other organizations.

- **Inclusion:** Inside Out is accessible and inclusive: a safe and welcoming space for filmmakers and film fans from around the world. We at Inside Out respect, reflect and celebrate our communities' diversity and strive for inclusion of all persons.

In addition to its annual festivals, offered this year as a combined, Ontario-wide digital edition, Inside Out offers year-round programming, as well as filmmaker grant programs through the RE:Focus Fund, the Pitch Please Short Film Competition and the OUTtv Documentary Financing Fund. Inside Out is home to the world's only **LGBTQ Feature Film Financing Forum**, presented by Netflix.

To learn more about Inside Out and to view our 2018-2020 Strategic Plan, please visit please visit [insideout.ca](http://insideout.ca)

## Inside Out 2020 Board, Committees & Staff

### Board

**Chair:** Thomas Park  
**Treasurer:** Dave Singh  
**Secretary:** Adam Stewart  
 Sujata Berry  
 Tania Cheng\*  
 Harry Cherniak  
 Ashley Cooper  
 Aisha Fairclough  
 Michael Ghent\*  
 Japneet Kaur  
 Jo Proulx\*  
 Mike Rudolph

### Committees

**Finance Committee**  
**Chair:** Japneet Kaur  
 Dave Singh  
 Nathan Heinrichs  
 Zak Miljanic  
 David Vella  
 Thomas Park  
 Andria Wilson

**Fundraising Committee**  
**Chair:** Adam Stewart  
 Deanna Bickford\*\*  
 Ashley Cooper  
 John Duwyn  
 Jason Novelli  
 Mitzi Reinsilber

**Governance & Nominating Committee**  
**Chair:** Thomas Park  
 Harry Cherniak  
 Sujata Berry

**Human Resources**  
**Chair:** Mike Rudolph  
 Deborah Berwick  
 Ali Khan  
 Alexander Khrapov  
 Stef Rigada  
 Joel Rodrigues  
 Amy Talbert  
 Ashind Thukral  
 Andria Wilson

**Marketing Committee**  
**Chair:** Tania Cheng\*  
 Melissa Benner  
 Daniel Burns  
 Beau Gomez\*\*  
 Rina Kazavchinski  
 Carine Lalonde  
 Vivian Or  
 Marcelino Rodriguez  
 Tom Threndyle  
 Jimmy Weaver

**Programming Committee**  
 Ferdosa Abdi  
 Rasheed Bailey  
 Katherine Connell  
 Jacob Crepeault  
 Jenna Dufton  
 Ferrin Evans  
 Scott Ferguson  
 Claire Jarvis  
 Zeinah Kalati  
 Allia McLeod  
 Andrew Murphy  
 Nik Redman  
 Scott Smart

### Pre-Screener Committee

Rachel Beattie  
 Laurence Blais  
 Aaron Brown  
 Tish Chambers  
 Santiago Rodrigo Hilara  
 Erum Khan  
 Sarah Lane  
 Julia Lewis  
 Angela Morrison  
 Rupali Morzarria  
 Catherine Williams-Brown

### Program Note Writers

Rachel Beattie  
 Allen Braude  
 Jacob Crepeault  
 Jenna Dufton  
 Laura Friesen  
 Paul Gallant  
 Sarah Lane  
 Chloe Legault  
 Andrew Murphy

### Strategic Planning Committee

**Chair:** Sujata Berry  
 Aisha Fairclough  
 Adam Morrison  
 Jo Proulx  
 Andria Wilson

### 30th Anniversary Committee

Chris Chin  
 Michele Pearson Clarke  
 Scott Ferguson  
 Nik Redman  
 Sonya Reynolds

### Staff

**Executive Director**  
 Andria Wilson

**Director of Programming**  
 Andrew Murphy

**Director of Fundraising and Partnerships**  
 Elie Chivi

**Programming Manager**  
 Jenna Dufton

**Audience and Partnership Development Manager**  
 Kelsey Butt

**Marketing and Partnerships Manager**  
 Carine Lalonde

**Patron Services and Membership Manager**  
 Bran Ramsey

**Festival Operations Manager**  
 Victoria Yeung

**Office Manager**  
 Jayne Schneider

**Financial Clerk**  
 Sunny Kim

**Publications and Materials Coordinator**  
 Nirujaa Vasantharajah

**Membership Coordinator**  
 Kirsten Bligh

**Programming Assistant**  
 Jacob Crepeault

**Sponsorship Assistant**  
 James Nicholson

**Finance Forum Producer**  
 Jan Nathanson

**Curator, 30th Anniversary Exhibition**  
 Krista Davis

**Grant Writer and Reel Access Coordinator**  
 Steen Starr

**Reel Access Working Group**  
 Steen Starr, Co-Project Manager  
 Michael McNeely, Co-Project Manager  
 Kelsey Butt  
 Alicks Girowski  
 Andrew Gurza  
 Ken Harrower  
 Liviya Mendelsohn

**Graphic Design and Festival Identity**  
 Monnet Design

**Program Guide Copy Editor**  
 Jennifer Coffey

**Publicist**  
 K2 Publicity

**Website Design and Development**  
 Co-Effect

**Official Ticketing Provider**  
 Elevent

**Festival Video Production**  
 Merik Williams

**Technical Producer**  
 Raphael Sanchez

**Digital Producer**  
 Kyle Jarencio

**Festival Communications Coordinator**  
 Jason Szwimer

**Industry Programs Assistant**  
 Camille Johnson

**Memberships Assistant**  
 Alexander Kentris

**Tech Customer Support**  
 Jillian Campbell

**Box Office Customer Support**  
 Beth Airtton  
 Christopher Chiu

**Interns**  
 Emma Pitters-Fisher, Short Film Mentorship Program

Hogan Lam, Archives and Research  
 Jillian Dale, Fundraising  
 Laurreta Wen, Marketing  
 Sarah Orman, 30th Anniversary Archive  
 Keren Yu, Community Partnerships  
 Sarah Fellows, Assistant to Executive Director

\* Stepped down from the Board prior to the AGM  
 \*\* Stepped down prior to the 2020 Festival

## Pricing

	GENERAL	MEMBER
All-Access Pass	\$250	\$200
Reel Access Pass	\$60	\$53
5-Pack	\$40	\$35
Single Tickets	\$11	\$9

## How it Works

All single tickets are valid for 48 hours after you press 'Play'.

The All-Access Pass allows for one viewing per household of all films on the platform. Once you press 'Play' on a film, you'll have 48 hours to complete your viewing.

Thanks to the generous support of CBC, all films in the Spotlight on Canada section are available for one free viewing per household, until capacity is reached. You must redeem a single ticket for these screenings.

The Reel Access Pass allows for one viewing per household of all films that are provided with captions or full subtitles. View our frequently updated list of these films at [insideout.ca](https://insideout.ca).

Buy Now

### Industry Passes

Email [programming@insideout.ca](mailto:programming@insideout.ca) for accreditation information.

Inside Out is a lead organization in the Reel Access initiative that aims to improve the accessibility of film festival programming in Toronto and beyond. For more information please visit [insideout.ca/accessibility](https://insideout.ca/accessibility).

## Box Office Info

Purchase your tickets, passes and memberships through our virtual box office at [insideout.ca](https://insideout.ca). All major credit cards are accepted.

Already purchased a ticket package for the May 2020 festival? Contact [boxoffice@insideout.ca](mailto:boxoffice@insideout.ca) for details on your digital festival access.

Buy Now

### Box Office Customer Support

Contact [boxoffice@insideout.ca](mailto:boxoffice@insideout.ca) or call 416-977-6847 and press 1

### Membership Customer Support/Concierge

Contact [concierge@insideout.ca](mailto:concierge@insideout.ca) or call 416-977-6847 and press 2

### Tech Support

Contact [jill@insideout.ca](mailto:jill@insideout.ca) or call 416-977-6847 and press 3 (10am-6pm, daily)

### Customer Support Hours

September 8-30, 2020

10am-6pm, daily

October 1-11, 2020

10am-10pm, daily

Official Ticketing Provider

eLevent

## Ticketing FAQs

### Where can I get tickets, passes, or packages?

Single Tickets, Reel Access Passes, and 5-Packs are available to Inside Out Members on September 7, 2020 at 12pm, and to the public on September 8, 2020 at 12pm.

All-Access Passes are available now and can be purchased at [insideout.ca](https://insideout.ca).

If you are a member, please log into your account to receive your member discount on all passes, packages, and tickets.

### How do I get tickets?

Please visit [insideout.ca](https://insideout.ca) to view our full list of Inside Out films.

When you find a film that you would like to watch, simply add it to your cart and proceed to checkout. You will receive a voucher code that will unlock access to that film on our Inside Out online portal at [watch.insideout.ca](https://watch.insideout.ca).

Tickets are subject to availability, so please book yours in advance to avoid disappointment.

### How do I get tickets with a 5-Pack, All-Access Pass or Reel Access Pass?

Ticket packages need to be redeemed in order to access individual films by logging into your account and simply selecting the "package ticket" option on the films you would like to watch.

Pass holders will receive an email to set up their account and view films on-demand on our Inside Out online portal at [watch.insideout.ca](https://watch.insideout.ca). If you did not receive an email to set up your password, simply indicate that you 'forgot your password' in order to create a new one or contact [boxoffice@insideout.ca](mailto:boxoffice@insideout.ca) for additional support.

### Do Inside Out members receive member pricing?

Yes, this year we are offering member pricing on all tickets, passes, and packages being sold. Find out more about Inside Out memberships at [insideout.ca/become-a-member](https://insideout.ca/become-a-member).

### Can I share my ticket package, or pass with friends and family?

Passes are tied to the purchaser's account and cannot be shared. Passes only allow for one stream per film, per household.

Tickets may be purchased for other people, but the voucher code cannot be used more than once. A voucher code will unlock the film when it is entered, and the viewer will only have 48 hours to complete the film after pressing 'Play' for the first time.

### How can I use my vouchers?

To use your vouchers, add all the films you would like to see into your cart and proceed to the checkout page. At the top of the screen you will see a pop up that says 'Wait. You can use your extra vouchers for items in your cart'. Please click REDEEM NOW to apply the vouchers to the appropriate items in your cart.

### I want to watch a film but tickets are sold out! Why?

Just like with our in-person festival, each screening is subject to capacity and there is a finite amount of tickets available for each film. Please ensure you purchase your tickets early to avoid disappointment.

### Can I refund or exchange my tickets?

Refunds and exchanges are not available. All sales are final, so please ensure your order is correct before completing your transaction.

### I have not received my ticket voucher or confirmation email. What do I do?

Ticket vouchers and confirmation emails are sent automatically when an order has been made. If you do not receive them within a few minutes, please check your junk or spam folders. If you need any assistance beyond this, please contact [boxoffice@insideout.ca](mailto:boxoffice@insideout.ca) at any time.

### When can I begin streaming my films?

You will have access to start streaming films at 12pm on October 1, 2020. Films will only be available for 48 hours after pressing 'Play' for the first time. Please note that there will be some scheduled films this year.

### Can I stream films if I am outside Ontario?

All films included in Inside Out's digital festival are geo-blocked to Ontario. You must be within the province to stream our digital programming.

### Can I stream a film more than once?

Once you press 'Play' on your film, you will have 48 hours to view it. You can start it, and re-watch it within this 48-hour viewing window.

## Funders and Sponsors

### Lead Sponsor



### Presenting Partner



### Premier Sponsor



### Official Airline



### Government



### Foundations



### Industry and Awards



## Funders and Sponsors

### Gold Sponsors



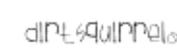
### Silver Sponsors



### Bronze Sponsors



### Hospitality Partners



### Supporters



# We Love Our Members and Donors!

Inside Out exists only with the support of our Inside Out Members and Donors.

Inside Out is grateful for your generosity and shared belief in the transformative power of LGBTQ film and its ability to bring people of diverse backgrounds together to engage, empower, educate and entertain our audiences.

It is with tremendous gratitude that we thank all of our Members and Donors including our 2020 Associate to Deluxe Members listed below.

## Deluxe

Adam Morrison and James Owen

Carl Bremner and Kenneth Holt

Donald McKay and Jim Laughlin

Jim Knoop and Ed Piotrowski

Joe E. Teves and David Rankin

Kimahli Powell

Marcus Law

Mark Bonham

Dr. Richard Isaac and Brian Sambourne

Steve Khan and Frédéric Prigot

Trevor Stevenson and Justin Schurman

Lawrence Bennett

Russell Mathew and Scott Ferguson

Scott Windsor

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Andy Chong

Christopher Field and Changming Guo

Chris Chin

Dennis Findlay

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Adam Hyatt

Alexander and James Boecker-Fitzgerald

Jim Lawrence and David Salak

Lambert Boenders and Barry Trentham

Claire Lavoie and Lisa Landrey

Michelle Robertson and Naomi Brooks

Mike Loader

Neville Austin

Philip Rouse

Ralph Pascht and Mark Le Messurier

Patrick David and Michael Smith

Ryan Birks

Suzy Zucker

Michael Leshner and Mike Stark

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Jill Andrew and Aisha Fairclough, Body Confidence Canada

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Keith Medley

Larry Hughsam

Martha LA McCain

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Murray Gaudreau

Steve Nardi and Kevin Meloche

Chris Black and Paul Butler

## Benefactor

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Allen Braude

Andrew Pruss

Tony De Franco and Stephen McGregor

Bassel Dick / Paul Melville-Gray

Adam Benn

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L. Pragg and Nanky Rai

Philip Wong

Amaze Film + Television

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Lulu Wei

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Peter McNaughton

Sam D'Alfonso

Samuel Lapidus and Evan LeBlanc

## Associate

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Alan Moon

Amir Azadeh

Adam Peer and Andres Laxamana

Adam Stewart

Andrew Chang

Thean W Beckerling

Miriam Kaufman and Roberta Benson

Bob Gallagher

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Janine and Christine Baillie-Roos

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Mark Klajman

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Mara Chaplin

Patrick Keleher

Ralph Topp

Raymond Seton

Jason Brown

Rosanna Mastrandrea

Rob Davis

Serene Carter

Shane Smith

SC Aubé

Dora Catalarranas

Steven Kim

Samuel Laredo

Peter Wren

D. Arcand and A. Karmali

Sam Festino

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We appreciate the support of all our members and donors. We apologize for any omissions. Inside Out's Charitable Registration Number is 871515995RR0001.

## Leadership Circle

Launched in Inside Out's 25th anniversary year, The Leadership Circle brings together a special group of supporters who wish to champion Inside Out's goal of challenging attitudes and changing lives through supporting our LGBTQ stories and storytellers.

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## RE:Focus Fund

Established in 2018, Inside Out's RE:Focus Fund aims to address industry inequities by providing direct financial support to women, non-binary, and trans filmmakers telling LGBTQ stories. Founded through a lead gift from Martha McCain, the fund has distributed more than \$150,000 in grants and professional development programs for filmmakers since its creation.

In 2019, Inside Out expanded the fund with the launch of the RE:Focus Fund Post-Production Grants to support post-production and promotion of short and feature films. In 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on our industry, Inside Out launched an emergency relief arm of the fund.

The RE:Focus Fund has also been generously supported by the KM Hunter Foundation and David Carter, as well as the RBC Foundation.

## Legacy Society

Inside Out's Legacy Society donors have made a lasting commitment to our future by including Inside Out in their wills and estate plans.

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Dennis Findlay  
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Karim Ladak  
Greg Lichti and Garth Norbraten  
Russell Mathew and Scott Ferguson  
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## Inside Out

# Queer Film Is Essential

#InsideOut30 #QueerFilmIsEssential

In this unprecedented year, our LGBTQ filmmakers need our support more than ever before. As we navigate what the future will hold for independent queer storytelling, Inside Out is committed to increasing our granting and professional development programs to provide more financial aid and career-advancing opportunities to our artists.

Through the generous assistance of donor **Karim Ladak**, all donations made to the Queer Film Is Essential Campaign at the point of sale when buying your Inside Out Online tickets or All-Access Pass will be matched, up to \$5,000. Every dollar counts, and this is a way to double your impact by adding a few extra dollars to your Inside Out 2020 purchases.

We would also like to recognize **Neville Austin**, the longtime funder of 'Neville's Nudge,' who helped cover travel and accommodation costs for international filmmakers to Inside Out. This year, while

international travel is not an option, Neville's generous contribution will allow all Inside Out filmmakers to receive their festival welcome packages by mail, and to access the Inside Out film program online through a filmmaker-only, international access portal. Neville's unwavering support of our LGBTQ filmmakers has been integral to the growth of our festival and initiatives.

Visit [insideout.ca/donate](https://insideout.ca/donate) or contact [inside@insideout.ca](mailto:inside@insideout.ca) to learn more about how to support the Queer Film Is Essential campaign.



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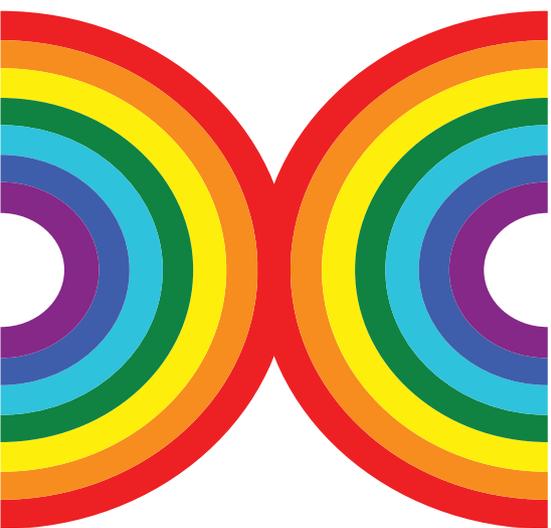
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# **Gala and Special Presentations**





## Stardust

Have you ever wondered how David Bowie became *the* David Bowie? *Stardust* introduces us to those early days as he arrives in America and discovers his alter-ego, the iconic Ziggy Stardust.

In 1971, a young David Bowie (Johnny Flynn) is promoting his newest record, *The Man Who Sold the World*. Leaving behind his pregnant wife, Angie (Jena Malone), Bowie sets out on a coast-to-coast promotional tour with struggling Mercury Records publicist, Rob Oberman (Marc Maron). Initially met with a less than welcoming audience, Bowie begins to reinvent himself – embracing his gender-bending glam rock true self and discovering that this is what audiences were craving all along.

Shot in Toronto, *Stardust* features stellar performances by an all-star indie cast, uncovering the origin story of one of the most legendary queer icons in rock history. A stardust is born.

**Director:** Gabriel Range  
**Screenplay:** Christopher Bell, Gabriel Range  
**UK/Canada | 2020 | 104:00**

Official Selection, 2020  
 Tribeca Film Festival

Screening Sponsor



[Buy Tickets](#)



## Jump, Darling

One of the recent success stories to come out of Inside Out's LGBTQ Finance Forum (2017) and Telefilm's Talent to Watch program (2018), *Jump, Darling* is an offbeat family drama set in the heart of Eastern Ontario.

When rookie drag queen Russell, a.k.a. Fishy Falters (Thomas Duplessie), escapes to Prince Edward County to fulfill his wine country fantasy, he reunites with his ailing grandmother Margaret (Oscar and Emmy-winning actress Cloris Leachman) to discover that he isn't the only one dealing with drama. Margaret is determined to avoid the local nursing home, but Russell knows she won't be able to take care of herself anymore. Torn between his career aspirations and helping his family, Russell is given the chance to decide what really matters the most.

Featuring, among others, legendary Toronto drag queens Tynomi Banks, Miss Fiercalicious, and Fay Slift, *Jump, Darling* blends comedy and drama as seen from the colourful viewpoint of a newcomer to the world of drag.

**Director:** Philip J. Connell  
**Screenplay:** Philip J. Connell  
**Canada | 2020 | 90:00**

Screening Sponsor



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## The Obituary of Tunde Johnson

Tunde Johnson, an African-American teen, is stuck in a Groundhog Day nightmare, waking up to experience the same day over and over again – the day he dies at the hands of Los Angeles police officers.

On the day of his death, Tunde attends a film seminar; visits his secret boyfriend Soren (who happens to be dating his best friend Marley), and comes out to his supportive parents, all the while trying to survive as a Black gay high school student. We witness each 'new' day a little differently, as Tunde is forced to confront difficult truths about the world he lives in.

Written by Stanley Kalu at the age of nineteen, *The Obituary of Tunde Johnson* tackles issues of racism, police brutality, LGBTQ acceptance, mental health, and addiction, offering an urgent and timely commentary on what it means to grow up as a Black American.

**Director:** Ali LeRoi  
**Screenplay:** Stanley Kalu  
**USA | 2019 | 104:00**

Q&A with filmmakers to follow  
online screening

Official Selection, 2019 Toronto  
International Film Festival

Screening Sponsor

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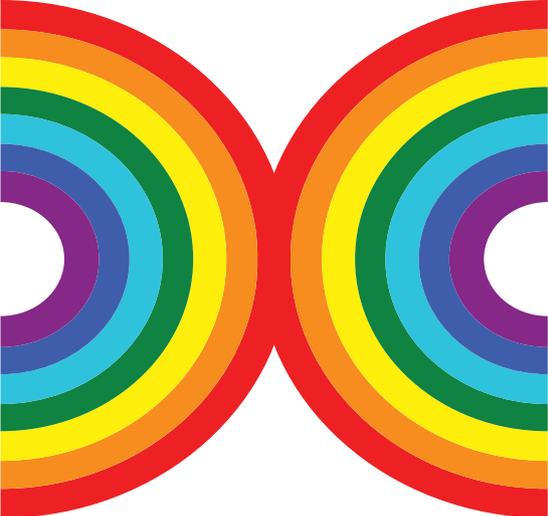
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# Spotlight on Canada



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Spotlight on Canada Sponsor





## Sex, Sin & 69

The decriminalization of homosexuality in Canada may seem like it happened centuries ago, but Sarah Fodey's retrospective documentary explores how Canada's push for LGBTQI2S equality was met with resistance in the 20th century.

In June 1969, Canada made the monumental decision to decriminalize homosexuality nationwide. Now, more than 50 years later, contemporary queer voices from across the country share their thoughts and experiences about living as a young queer person amid these changes. While the legislation was put into action across Canada, prejudice against the LGBTQI2S community didn't stop immediately. This film expands on how this historical act overshadowed the misconceptions of how the legislation affected the more vulnerable members of LGBTQI2S communities.

Told from the perspective of queer academics, historians, activists, artists, and community builders, *Sex, Sin & 69* is essential viewing for all Canadians.

**Director:** Sarah Fodey  
**Canada | 2019 | 75:00**  
 English and French with English subtitles

Screening Sponsor



[View Trailer](#)

[Buy Tickets](#)



## Spiral

*Spiral*, an atmospheric horror film set in 1995, headlines Jeffrey Bowyer-Chapman (*Canada's Drag Race*; *UnReal*) and Ari Cohen (*It*) as couple Malik and Aaron.

Ten years after a traumatic incident, Malik is still haunted by his past. To start afresh, he and Aaron, with Aaron's daughter Kayla, move to a small town. Initially, they are warmly greeted by the town's residents, but soon Malik senses that something is wrong. His discomfort escalates when his new house is vandalized, and he begins having visions of hooded figures that are lurking in the dark. As Malik investigates the town's history and inhabitants, he finds himself tangled in a spiral of ominous secrets.

Following in the footsteps of contemporary horror films such as Jordan Peele's *Get Out* and *Us*, *Spiral* is a suspenseful tale that comments on the deeply rooted prejudices inherent in a small town and the sinister traditions that accompany them.

**Director:** Kurtis David Harder  
**Screenplay:** Colin Minihan, John Poliquin  
**Canada | 2019 | 90:00**

Screening Sponsor



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## There's No Place Like This Place, Anyplace

If you grew up in Toronto, it's likely that Honest Ed's comes to mind as one of the city's historic landmarks. Unfortunately, the now demolished Honest Ed's no longer welcomes guests to its Bloor and Bathurst corner, but its impact lives on in this captivating documentary from local filmmaker Lulu Wei.

Located in one of Toronto's liveliest neighbourhoods for almost 70 years, Honest Ed's was an essential store for anyone wanting a great bargain. When it closed in 2016, the closure became a warning sign for the impending gentrification of some of Toronto's most beloved buildings. Lulu Wei, a resident of the area at that time, reflects on the city's rapid development and how the construction of luxury condos has affected independent businesses and artists.

*There's No Place Like This Place, Anyplace* constructs a focused narrative of Toronto's past, present, and potential future, anchored by testimonials about Honest Ed's and how its memory lives on in the hearts and minds of Torontonians.

Director: Lulu Wei  
Canada | 2020 | 75:00

Official Selection, 2020 Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival

Screening Sponsors



Larry Hughsam

[View Trailer](#)

[Buy Tickets](#)



## Well Rounded

*Well Rounded* is a documentary for all the fat, queer, racialized women who so rarely see themselves represented in the media. Here, six female entertainers are given space to share their stories and celebrate their bodies.

Through interviews with fashion-lovers and academics, among them beloved comedian Candy Palmater, *Well Rounded* discusses the impact of fatphobia, its origins and how we can fight back against it. Topics cover dating, self-esteem, familial support (or lack thereof), medical biases and the societal stigma around being fat, these vibrant women share their traumas and their triumphs without holding anything back.

This entertaining, colourful documentary encourages us all to be proud of our bodies and to love ourselves and one another unabashedly.

Director: Shana Myara  
Canada | 2020 | 61:00

Screening Sponsors



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# Local Heroes

Total program runtime: 91:00

Buy Tickets



## Liar

Director: Wayne Burns  
Canada | 2019 | 18:00

Two young men meet for a hookup on a church rooftop.



## They Looked at Me and I Smiled

Director: Ben Edelberg  
Canada | 2020 | 12:00

Artists use their bodies as a medium and canvas while existing in their natural environments. Are they performing?



## Swimmers

Director: Chris Ross  
Canada | 2019 | 9:00

*Swimmers* follows two strangers – Gloria and Sarah – after they meet one summer evening when Sarah pool hops through Gloria's backyard.



## A Brief History of the Unicorn

Director: Mina Sewell Mancuso  
Canada | 2019 | 15:00

A young girl argues with her parents and her Catholic school, demanding that her confirmation sponsor be her transgender aunt.

Local Heroes Screening Sponsors



Andrew Mainprize and Philip Kocev



## The Way We Are

Director: Amanda Ann-Min Wong  
Canada | 2020 | 16:00

The stories of four queer Asian women are presented within an immersive experience of past and present, revealing the real-lives of a different generation.



## Ghost

Director: M. H. Murray  
Canada | 2019 | 11:00

Benjamin is ghosted by his lover.



## Bing! Bang! Bi!

Director: Jessica Huras  
Canada | 2020 | 10:00

Inside Out | RE:Focus Fund

At an inopportune moment, a struggling actor takes a stance on her bisexuality.

# Icons





## Ahead of the Curve

Franco Stevens' bestselling magazine *Curve* has raised visibility and shown the world that lesbian culture is everywhere.

*Ahead of the Curve* documents the incredible life of Stevens through remarkable archival footage and interviews with superstars Melissa Etheridge, Kim Katrin Milan, Lea Delaria, among others. The film follows Stevens' ups and downs that include a divorce at 19, homelessness, queer activism, a lawsuit brought on by Catherine Deneuve, and an accident that changed her life. Through it all, including the potential sale of the magazine, Stevens remains a steadfast advocate for queer women around the world.

*Ahead of the Curve* is a tribute to Franco Stevens' bravery and to the power of a glossy lifestyle magazine that burst out, proclaiming, into a largely homophobic world.

**Director:** Jen Rainin, Rivkah Beth Medow  
**USA | 2020 | 98:00**

Screening Sponsors

Heather Gibson



[View Trailer](#)

[Buy Tickets](#)



## No Ordinary Man

Billy Tipton, the influential jazz musician, became more of a sensation when, upon his death, it was revealed that he was a trans man and the late-20th century world was unable to accept his identity.

For decades, Tipton's private life was never a concern. His eclectic talent for jazz music spoke for itself and he mapped out a fulfilling career with his wife and adopted children. When his death provoked a media frenzy surrounding his gender identity, Billy Tipton became both the target for tabloid headlines and an unlikely role model for the transmasculine community. Tipton's story is the portrait of an unlikely hero, stitched together in this documentary with accounts from Tipton's son and trans artists in awe of his quiet accomplishments.

*No Ordinary Man* captures Billy Tipton's complicated legacy, a burden for some and an inspiration for others, with in-depth critiques and affirmations for the trans icon and his portrayal in the media.

**Director:** Aisling Chin-Yee, Chase Joynt  
**Canada | 2019 | 80:00**

Official Selection, 2020 Toronto International Film Festival

Screening Sponsor

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[Buy Tickets](#)



## Unapologetic

*Unapologetic* is an empowering documentary that shines a light on organizations that fight racial injustices against Black women in the United States.

Janaé and Bella, two Black queer women living in Chicago, unveil a pocket of American corruption when two Black Chicagoans are murdered by police. Their organization, The Movement for Black Lives, challenges an administration complicit in state violence and police funding, the women's clear goal resounding through their passionate activism and protests against the Chicago police department. The film also highlights the prejudice against Black women and femmes in particular, underscoring that these voices are often silenced in conversations about racism.

By chronicling Janaé and Bella's fearless leadership, *Unapologetic* elevates these icons, giving them a platform to voice their concerns and speak directly to those who are willing to help in the fight against racism.

**Director:** Ashley O'Shay  
USA | 2020 | 86:00

Screening Sponsor

Jill Andrew and  
Aisha Fairclough

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## Your Mother's Comfort

In the face of a crumbling Brazilian democracy, trans activist and politician Indianara Siqueira fights to protect a safe house on behalf of herself and her chosen family.

Indianara has been ousted by her political party days before the 2018 Brazilian national elections. In the same election cycle, extreme right candidate Jair Bolsonaro is the frontrunner for President of the Republic. As Brazil's democracy – and in turn the community's safety – are threatened, Indianara sets her sights on saving Casa Nem, a Rio de Janeiro homeless shelter and community centre for trans sex workers. The shelter is a squat and the residents are facing eviction, so Indianara and her followers occupy a nearby colonial palace in order to bargain with the city and save the house.

A true fighter living under an unimaginable threat, Indianara risks everything to save her community from uncertainty and to offer them a place of their own.

**Director:** Adam Golub  
Brazil | 2020 | 75:00  
Portuguese with English  
subtitles

[View Trailer](#)

[Buy Tickets](#)

## Icons Mixed Shorts

Total program runtime: 90:00

Icons Mixed Shorts Sponsor

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Donald McKay and  
Jim Laughlin



### Perfectly Frank

**Director:** Dan Hunt  
**USA | 2020 | 11:00**

*Perfectly Frank* is a short documentary chronicling the life of Frank Vilardi, a retired accountant from Long Island who, in his late sixties and after forty years of marriage, comes out.



### Living Out Loud: LBTQI Movement Building and Feminism in Georgia

**Director:** Sharmeen Obaid-Chinoy  
**USA/Georgia | 2019 | 17:00**  
English and Georgian with English subtitles

While officially a secular nation, church and state are far from separate in Georgia, where homophobia is common. Eka Aghdgomelashvili, a Georgian feminist activist and trailblazer, is on the front lines of the fight against homophobia.



### Keyboard Fantasies: The Beverly Glenn-Copeland Story

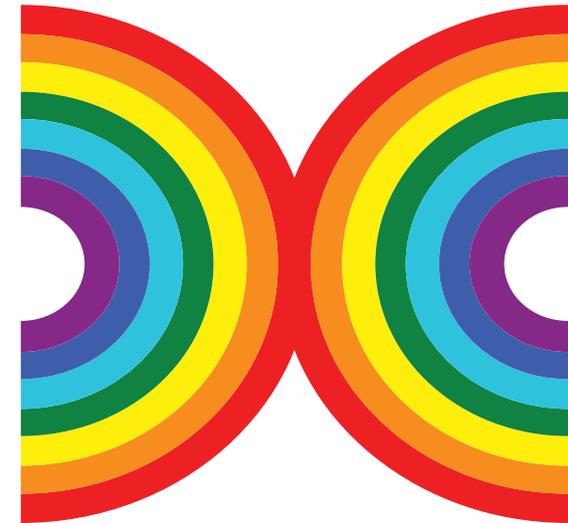
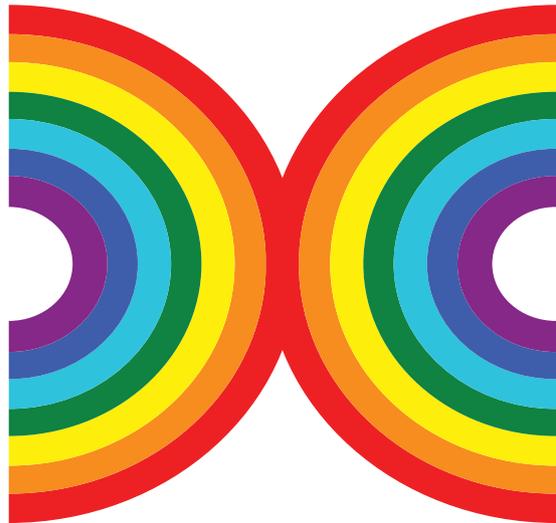
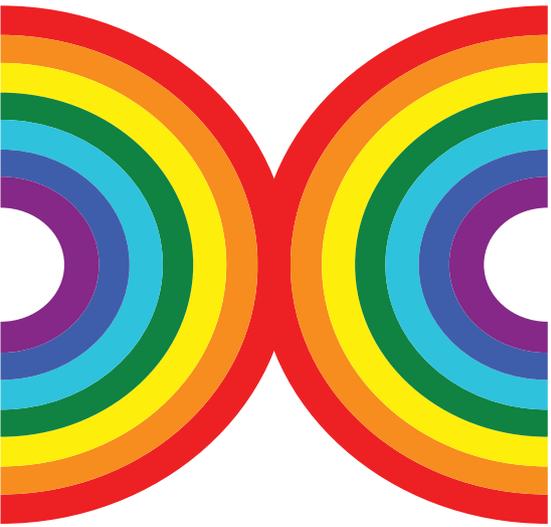
**Director:** Posy Dixon  
**U.K. | 2019 | 62:00**

Capturing five decades of relentless musical output and shifting manifestations of gender and sexual identity, and set against a backdrop of profound social change, the film celebrates the life of Beverly Glenn Copeland who, at 75, is embarking on his first international tour.

# Monnet Design.

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# International Showcase





## Alice Junior

Shimmering on the surface and full of heart, *Alice Junior* centres on the titular Alice, a trans YouTuber determined to experience her first kiss.

The film introduces Alice as a fortunate youth who is living with her father in the Brazilian city of Recife. Alice has the world's attention with her vlog series, which is decorated with emojis and bubbling with style. Her perfect world comes crashing down when she moves to a small, conservative town in the South. Unexpected obstacles arise when Alice is enrolled in the town's Catholic school, but Alice's unbreakable personality allows her to thrive, even when her peers and teachers are difficult to handle.

*Alice Junior* targets Gen Z youth with shiny visuals and contemporary elegance, but its message transcends generations. The film is a touching portrayal of a young woman who wants nothing more than a normal high school life.

**Director:** Gil Baroni  
**Screenplay:** Luiz Bertazzo,  
 Adriel Nizer Silva  
**Brazil | 2019 | 87:00**  
 Portuguese with  
 English subtitles

Official Selection, 2020 Berlin  
 International Film Festival

[View Trailer](#)
[Buy Tickets](#)


## Breaking Fast

Where does a gay practising Muslim fit into the myriad pleasures of West Hollywood life? In writer-director Mike Mosallam's sweet romantic comedy, *Breaking Fast*, there are no hard and fast rules.

Mo is out to his family, but fixed in his ideas of how the world should work. "Even a single impure thought will ruin this day's fast," he says, irritated during Ramadan. When his lover announces that, for the sake of family harmony, he's getting married, Mo finds himself single and more lost than ever. Enter Kal, a WeHo hunk who is full of surprises and who just might have what it takes to help Mo rebuild.

This charming feature-length expansion of Mosallam's much lauded short film (*Inside Out* 2016) fleshes out the characters' deeply held emotions, and deftly explores how it feels to be religious in a secular and politicized world.

**Director:** Mike Mosallam  
**Screenplay:** Mike Mosallam  
**USA | 2019 | 92:00**  
 English and Arabic with English  
 subtitles

Screening Sponsor

Karim Ladak

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## Cicada

Set against the backdrop of New York in 2013, *Cicada* examines the bond between two troubled strangers who develop an honest connection.

Ben, a brooding bisexual, greets each day with a routine of hookups, numbing the pain of his traumatic past. Ben's casual encounters rarely make him feel at ease but when he meets Sam, a charming and receptive man, he finds a sense of comfort. As the two become close they realize that to grow as a couple they must take the necessary steps to come to terms with what is haunting them.

Ben and Sam's pairing feels effortless, both actors bringing vulnerability and grace to their performances. *Cicada* strikes a delicate balance in a complex narrative where humour and melodrama share the spotlight.

**Director:** Matthew Fifer, Kieran Mulcare  
**Screenplay:** Matthew Fifer  
**USA | 2020 | 93:00**

Official Selection,  
2020 BFI Flare

Screening Sponsor

Adam Morrison and  
James Owen

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## Cowboys

When all else fails, Troy and his son, Joe, head out into the Montana wilderness toward the Canadian border, and their freedom.

Troy has struggled in his life but has always been a great father to Joe. When Joe's mother, Sally, refuses to accept him, Troy sees no other option than to take Joe away. When Sally discovers he is missing, she enlists the help of local police detective, Faith, but as Faith unearths more clues about the case, she realizes there is more to this than Sally has admitted. As the manhunt intensifies, Faith must find the father and son before less understanding members of the search team do, and Sally must embrace Joe for who he is.

With standout performances by Steve Zahn, Ann Dowd, Jillian Bell, and young trans actor Sasha Knight, *Cowboys* is the captivating story of a young man who knows exactly who he is, and a father who will do anything to protect that.

**Director:** Anna Kerrigan  
**Screenplay:** Anna Kerrigan  
**USA | 2020 | 83:00**

Official Selection, 2020 Tribeca  
Film Festival

Screening Sponsors

Steve Khan and Frédéric Prigot

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## Dark City Beneath the Beat

Marketed as an audiovisual experience, *Dark City Beneath the Beat* explores Baltimore club culture through profiles of the city's rising DJs, dancers, producers, and artists.

The musical odyssey kicks off with a vivid assortment of local club icons whose collective dream is to use their art for the betterment of the community. Baltimore's culture landscape and social climate are the inspiration for many of the film's imaginative segments. Each artist is given a turn to show off their skills, which range from beat production to intense dance choreography. While the film does not shy away from addressing Baltimore's clash with drugs and violence, the artistic montages leaves an impression of hope during uncertain times.

*Dark City's* good intentions shine through with nonstop needle drops and eye-popping visuals. As far as music documentaries go, this is far from a passive experience. Turn up the volume and get ready to dance.

**Director:** TT The Artist  
**USA | 2020 | 65:00**

Official Selection, 2020 SXSW  
Film Festival

Official Selection, 2020 Hot  
Docs Canadian International  
Documentary Festival

Screening Sponsors

Paul Butler and Chris Black

Xtra



[View Trailer](#)

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## Dating Amber

Eddie and Amber decide to stage a relationship in order to stop everyone speculating about their sexuality.

Eddie is determined to follow in his father's footsteps and enlist in the military after graduation. Amber has her sights set on moving to London. Dreams are good, but dreams don't help in the schoolyard when you're being teased and accused of being gay. And so the two friends hatch the perfect plan: to be each other's beards, posing as high school sweethearts to deflect further speculation. The plan seems solid, but as their arrangement begins to fall apart, Eddie's denial grows deeper as Amber realizes that a perilous future awaits her best friend unless she intervenes.

Fionn O'Shea (*Handsome Devil*, *Normal People*) and newcomer Lola Petticrew deliver delightful performances in this gentle, bittersweet Irish charmer that quickly became the quarantine summer sleeper hit across the UK.

**Director:** David Freyne  
**Screenplay:** David Freyne  
**Ireland | 2020 | 92:00**

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## Dear Leo

*Dear Leo* follows the story of Annie Duncan as told through letters to her pen pal, her younger cousin, Leo.

Annie Duncan is at a precarious time in her life, having graduated from high school and about to embark on her freshman year at college. Annie struggles to find her footing as old friendships become strained and new friendships present opportunities to be more than just friends... maybe. Who can tell, really? When family tragedy strikes, Annie must find the courage to face her problems and do what every college freshman must learn to do: grow up.

Leading a crew who are all under the age of 25, director Emma Rappold and co-writer/star Jill Young have burst onto the scene with their charming debut, proving that the future of queer cinema is in good hands.

**Director:** Emma Rappold  
**Screenplay:** Emma Rappold,  
 Jill Young  
**USA | 2020 | 93:00**

Screening Sponsors



[Buy Tickets](#)



## Dry Wind

This provocative film, set in Brazil's rural Southwest, follows the daily life of Sandro, a middle-aged bear who is consumed by his sexual fantasies.

Sandro's daily routine reflects the monotony surrounding him, from morning swims, to work at the fertilizer factory, to trips to the grocery store. One activity bordering on routine as well is his sexual encounters with co-worker Ricardo, be it in a car, in the woods, or in a silo. Sandro's world (and routine) is turned upside down, however, when he meets Maicon, a man who dresses in motorcycle leathers and resembles a Tom of Finland drawing come to life. Soon, Sandro's sexual dreams become increasingly elaborate and explicit, and the lines between reality and fantasy begin to blur.

Featuring powerful cinematography and lighting, Daniel Nolasco's feature provides an erotically charged look at the gaps between our sexual desires and our day-to-day lives.

**Director:** Daniel Nolasco  
**Screenplay:** Daniel Nolasco  
**Brazil | 2020 | 110:00**  
 Portuguese with English subtitles

Official Selection, 2020 Berlin International Film Festival

[View Trailer](#)

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## Ellie & Abbie (& Ellie's Dead Aunt)

*Ellie & Abbie (& Ellie's Dead Aunt)* is a refreshing – and hilarious – queer take on that age-old genre, the romcom.

The film follows Ellie (Sophie Hawkshaw) as she works up the courage to ask her crush, Abbie (Zoe Terakes), to the formal (*not* prom, as this distinctly Australian film takes care to point out). Typical adolescent hijinks and awkwardness ensue, especially when the ghost of Ellie's queer aunt Tara (Julia Billington) pops up to play fairy godmother.

Monica Zanetti's quirky, heartfelt feature debut is a sweet treat that delivers big emotion along with peals of laughter, made all the sweeter by the fact that the cast and crew are predominantly women, many of them queer themselves.

**Director:** Monica Zanetti  
**Screenplay:** Monica Zanetti  
 Australia | 2020 | 120:00

Preceded by *Maggie Mysteries*  
 (10:00)

[View Trailer](#)
[Buy Tickets](#)


## Gossamer Folds

Two Kansas City neighbours forge an unlikely but charming friendship in *Gossamer Folds*, the feature film debut by Lisa Donato, who penned the Inside Out 2017 hit, *Signature Move*.

It's 1986 and Gossamer (a luminous Alexandra Grey from *Transparent*) is a Black trans woman with big plans. Living with her father in a sleepy suburb, she designs costumes for a drag club in the city, but dreams of becoming a designer in New York. When Tate – a precocious ten-year-old obsessed with looking up new words in the dictionary – and his troubled and soon to-be-divorced parents move in next door to her, Gossamer recognizes a kindred spirit and steps up to befriend the lonely young boy.

With a beautiful script, nuanced performances, and a delightfully nostalgic 80s pop soundtrack, *Gossamer Folds* reveals the sweet story of an unlikely but powerful bond.

**Director:** Lisa Donato  
**Screenplay:** Bridget Flanery  
 USA | 2020 | 96:00

Preceded by *Last Summer with Uncle Ira* (13:00)

Screening Sponsors

Marcus Law


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## I Am Samuel

“I can’t really be myself. It’s like they’re seeing just half of who I am.” This harrowing statement is a common phrase for closeted queer folks living in places where tradition is more valued than acceptance.

Growing up in the Kenyan countryside, Samuel was never able to be himself. His conservative family’s involvement with the local church has caused a rift between them. When Samuel’s family continuously asks why he is not married yet, Samuel takes the opportunity to leave home and start a new life in Nairobi. There he meets a group of like-minded queer men and falls in love with Alex. Now Samuel must choose whether or not to return home to face his family’s judgment and bring his two drastically different worlds together.

Filed over five years, *I Am Samuel* highlights Samuel and his queer friends as they grapple with the prospect of freedom at the cost of losing connection with their families.

**Director:** Peter Murimi  
**Kenya/Canada/UK/USA | 2020 | 70:00**  
 Swahili and English with English subtitles

Official Selection, 2020 Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival

Screening Sponsors

Kimahli Powell

 pride & remembrance run

 JAYU

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## Lingua Franca

Isabel Sandoval’s third feature film is a gentle portrait of Olivia, an undocumented transgender Filipino woman in desperate need of a green card in Trump’s America.

Olivia works as a caregiver for Olga (Lynn Cohen), an older woman with dementia who spends her days lost in photo albums. Olivia’s hot-tempered, alcoholic grandson Alex (Eamon Farren) has recently returned home under dubious circumstances. When he begins to share caregiving duties with Olivia, they form an unlikely bond despite their differences, each looking for comfort and a hopeful, better future.

As the director, writer, editor, producer, and star of *Lingua Franca*, Sandoval has created a quietly revolutionary film that never descends into melodrama despite its challenging subjects. Instead, she lingers on the emotional intimacies of everyday life, even as the threats of ICE raids and anti-trans hatred lurk in the background of every frame.

**Director:** Isabel Sandoval  
**Screenplay:** Isabel Sandoval  
**USA/Philippines | 2019 | 89:00**  
 English and Tagalog with English subtitles

Screening Sponsors

 reel asian  
 INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

 TRANSFORMERS  
 MOVIE FESTIVAL

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## Little Girl (Petite fille)

Sasha has always known exactly who she is and, at seven years of age, she is letting the world know, too.

As society fails to treat her like other children her age, Sasha's supportive family lead a constant battle to ensure that her life is understood and accepted. Throughout her daily life at school; during dance lessons, and attending birthday parties, we see at close range moments of Sasha's joy and her heart-breaking challenges, as the family works to provide the best possible childhood for their little girl.

Award-winning filmmaker Sébastien Lifshitz follows the family for a year, capturing with insightful and delicate, subtle camerawork, a year in the life of a family who are setting an example for trans youth and for families around the world.

**Director:** Sébastien Lifshitz  
**France | 2020 | 85:00**  
 French with English subtitles

Official Selection, 2020 Berlin  
 International Film Festival

Screening Sponsor

Philip Rouse

[Buy Tickets](#)



## Milkwater

*Milkwater*, Morgan Ingari's sharp first feature, tenderly balances humour and drama while focusing on the distinctive challenges faced by queer folks who are trying to become parents.

Milo (played brilliantly by Molly Bernard) feels abandoned when Noor, her best friend, becomes pregnant and devotes all of her time to her wife. In a quick-thinking act of humility, and after a few drinks, Milo offers to become the surrogate and egg donor for a gay bar owner who is struggling to have a child of his own. From here, Milo endures all the trials of pregnancy while trying to juggle friendships and a relationship and, at the same time, attempting to define what exactly her relationship is to Roger, the near-stranger whose child she will give birth to.

Ingari's screenplay feels like a fresh take on the complexities of parenthood, blending the comedic antics of parental responsibility and the struggles facing members of the LGBTQ+ communities.

**Director:** Morgan Ingari  
**Screenplay:** Morgan Ingari  
**USA | 2020 | 102:00**

Screening Sponsors

Bernardine Perreira



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## Monsoon

Kit (Henry Golding) returns to his native Ho Chi Minh City for the first time since childhood to scatter his parents' ashes across a city that is completely foreign to him.

Decades after he and his parents fled the Vietnam War, Kit finds himself on an emotional journey that takes him back to his roots in search of a connection with a culture and country that is no longer entirely his. Unable to speak his native language, he nevertheless attempts to reconnect with family members and meet new people, striking up a budding romance with a handsome expat named Lewis (Parker Sawyers). Through these new relationships and conversations, Kit attempts to process his loss and find new hope in the future.

Informed by personal experience, which found his own family relocating as political refugees to the United Kingdom in the 1980s, filmmaker Hong Khaou (*Lilting*) paints an intimate and evocative portrait of displacement and the rootless experience of immigration.

**Director:** Hong Khaou  
**Screenplay:** Hong Khaou  
**U.K. | 2020 | 85:00**  
 English and Vietnamese with English subtitles

Screening Sponsors

Ralph Pascht and  
 Mark Le Messurier



[Buy Tickets](#)



## No Hard Feelings (Futur Drei)

It's easy to see why *No Hard Feelings* won this year's Teddy, the award for best LGBT film at the Berlin Film Festival. Smart and sexy, impassioned and playful, globally minded but dealing with matters of the heart, the film contains all the ingredients of a real festival smash.

As a punishment for shoplifting, Parvis (Benjamin Radjaipour) must perform community service as a Farsi translator at a refugee shelter. Born in Germany to Iranian exiles, Parvis is not shy about his queerness. He's always hitting the clubs and setting selfie thirst traps. But there's as much awkwardness as intrigue when he befriends Iranian shelter residents, brother and sister Amon (Eidin Jalali) and Banafshe (Banafshe Hourmazdi), who are waiting to find out if they have a future in Germany.

The partly autobiographical world that director Faraz Shariat creates for his young cast is engrossingly magical and yet utterly believable, handling themes of displacement, migration, assimilation and racism with humour and hope.

**Director:** Faraz Shariat  
**Screenplay:** Faraz Shariat, Paulina Lorenz  
**Germany | 2020 | 92:00**  
 German and Farsi with English subtitles

Preceded by *Flood* (12:00)

Teddy Award for Best Feature Film, 2020 Berlin International Film Festival

Screening Sponsors

Russell Mathew and  
 Scott Ferguson

**Monnet Design.**



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## One in a Thousand (Las Mil y Una)

With its long, handheld takes, Clarisa Navas' second feature feels like a documentary, intimately following a group of queer teens as they dance bodily, swap sensuous stories, and play sexually charged games of hide-and-peek.

Iris (Sofia Cabrera), one of those teens, is a self-described "angel," and yet she's been expelled from school. While she tries to figure out who she is, she spends her days wandering through her claustrophobic social housing complex, dribbling her basketball, shyly chatting with friends, and dodging rude men. Things come into focus when the utterly cool, very mysterious Renata (Ana Carolina Garcia) catches her eye, and the two grow closer even as Iris's friends spread rumours about Renata's sexual history.

*One in a Thousand* poignantly captures the awkward, beautiful period between childish innocence and the harsh realities of adulthood when anything is possible and just as easily lost.

**Director:** Clarisa Navas  
**Screenplay:** Clarisa Navas  
**Argentina/Germany | 2020 | 120:00**  
 Spanish with English subtitles

Official Selection, Berlin Film Festival 2020

Screening Sponsors

David Vella



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## Pier Kids

*Pier Kids* opens with a striking title card: "In the wake of the Stonewall Riots of 1969, the world cheered the advancement of white queers and ignored the fates of queer people of color."

Elegance Bratton's documentary rectifies this erasure through portraits of queer adolescents who are both homeless and people of colour, and who find community and connection in Christopher Street, NYC. The film gently explores the many challenges they face in their day-to-day lives. When family members continually misgender Krystal LaBeija, one of the film's main subjects, we can tell that they genuinely love her despite their painful choice. In the same way, we understand why another subject shoplifts to survive, or ponders purposefully becoming HIV-positive in order to access health-related supportive housing programs.

This intimate, incisive work insists that all of these young people's lives are no less precious for their precarity. *Pier Kids* is long overdue.

**Director:** Elegance Bratton  
**USA | 2019 | 96:00**

Screening Sponsors

Stephen Johnson



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## Shiva Baby

Danielle is already dreading meeting her neurotic parents at a family shiva, but what awaits her is far worse than she could have ever imagined.

Following a date with sugar daddy Max, Danielle has to rush to a shiva where she will no doubt be quizzed by relatives about her post-grad plans, or lack thereof. Adding insult to injury, Danielle's ex-girlfriend, Maya, is in attendance and has just been accepted into law school, an accomplishment that Danielle's family cannot shut up about. Making matters worse, Max has just unexpectedly arrived with his wife, Kim, and their crying baby. As the day unfolds, Danielle struggles to keep up appearances, fend off pressures from her family, and manage the feelings that linger between her and Maya.

The debut feature from Canadian filmmaker, Emma Seligman, *Shiva Baby* is a quick-witted, delightfully dark comedy about a young woman trying to navigate the scenic route to adulthood.

**Director:** Emma Seligman  
**Screenplay:** Emma Seligman  
**USA | 2020 | 77:00**

Official Selection, 2020 SXSW Film Festival

Official Selection, 2020 Toronto International Film Festival

Screening Sponsors

Greg Lichti and Garth Norbraten



[Buy Tickets](#)



## The Strong Ones (Los Fuertes)

Located on the coast of southern Chile, the town of Niebla ("fog" in Spanish) is a uniquely evocative historic site and a stunning setting for a sexy story of romance and self-discovery.

While down south visiting his sister and her husband, big city boy Lucas (Samuel González) meets small-town boatswain Antonio (Antonio Altamirano). The two young men first get to know each other piling firewood. Although Niebla's not the most open-minded place for a gay courtship, it's not the main obstacle standing in their way. What ratchets up the tension is the distinct path each man has been following – and would like to follow – in life.

Considered an expansion of writer-director Omar Zúñiga Hidalgo's 2015 award-winning short *San Cristóbal*, his debut feature *The Strong Ones* sparkles with scenic delights: bike rides, bingo, beach walks, adorable toques and excellent performances from handsome young actors.

**Director:** Omar Zúñiga Hidalgo  
**Screenplay:** Omar Zúñiga Hidalgo  
**Chile | 2019 | 98:00**  
 Spanish with English subtitles

Screening Sponsors

Nelson Carvalho and Zak Miljanic



[View Trailer](#)

[Buy Tickets](#)



## Tahara

First queer love – that painful, terrifying, yet ultimately freeing feeling – doesn’t always turn out the way we expect, especially when the object of our desire is a self-serving manipulator.

Carrie (Madeline Grey DeFreece) and Hannah (Rachel Sennott) have been inseparable since childhood. Things change suddenly when, during a grief counseling session following the funeral of a classmate who committed suicide, Hannah suggests that she and Carrie kiss for educational purposes. Carrie’s hidden feelings bubble to the surface, while Hannah casually shrugs off the encounter. Rather than consider the events around their classmate’s death, Hannah and Carrie are consumed by the toxicity in their own relationship.

*Tahara’s* pitch-perfect tone examines the loss and betrayal, and the messy rite of passage, of falling for your best friend.

**Director:** Olivia Peace  
**Screenplay:** Jess Zeidman  
**USA | 2020 | 82:00**

Official Selection, 2020  
 Slamdance Film Festival

Screening Sponsor



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[Buy Tickets](#)



## Through the Glass Darkly

An unlikely duo team up to solve the recent kidnapping of a local girl in a community with a dark past.

Charlie has struggled to keep her head above water but has refused to give up on the search for her young daughter, who has been missing for over a year. Others have lost hope, but Charlie is still plastering missing posters throughout the small town of Elrod, Georgia. At home, her relationship with her partner Angela is falling apart, and her only remaining friends keep her company at the local bar, where she drowns her sorrows. When another young girl goes missing, Charlie believes the two disappearances are connected and she teams up with local reporter, Amy, to connect the dots, hoping to find the girls before it’s too late.

With masterful twists and turns, *Through the Glass Darkly* draws you into one woman’s desperate mission to find her daughter and save her family.

**Director:** Lauren Fash  
**Screenplay:** Lauren Fash,  
 Susan Graham  
**USA | 2020 | 103:00**

[Buy Tickets](#)



## Twilight's Kiss (Suk Suk)

Romantic encounters can happen at any age, and Ray Yeung's new feature sweetly portrays the unexpected attraction between two elderly men in Hong Kong.

Pak, a 70-year-old taxi driver committed to his job, meets Hoi, a 65-year-old retired single father, in a park one day and they form an immediate connection. Closeted, they live conventional lives with their families. But Pak and Hoi's mutual infatuation flourishes, and Hoi worries that his son will discover his secret. The new lovers must choose whether to remain grounded in their established way of life or embrace the freedom of personal desires.

*Twilight's Kiss* explores the everyday moments of two men in their golden years who, in each other's company, uncover their true longing for a full life together.

**Directors:** Ray Yeung  
**Screenplay:** Ray Yeung  
**Hong Kong | 2019 | 92:00**  
 Cantonese with English subtitles

Official Selection, 2020 Berlin  
 International Film Festival

Screening Sponsor

Andy Chong

[View Trailer](#)

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## Two of Us (Deux)

Nina and Madeleine have hidden their deep, passionate love for decades but, when their love is put to the ultimate test, only the truth can save them.

To outsiders, including Madeleine's meddling daughter, Nina and Madeleine are simply two neighbours sharing a hallway during their sunset years. In reality, this hallway is a bridge between two worlds: one belonging to a widowed, doting grandmother, the other to a free-spirited, fiercely independent woman who longs to spend her life with the person she loves. Clandestinely, Nina and Madeleine share a tender life, moving freely between their apartments until, one day, an unexpected event closes the portal.

A heartbreakingly beautiful tale, and a romance rarely seen onscreen, *Two of Us* proves that love, no matter the obstacles, is worth fighting for.

**Directors:** Filippo Meneghetti  
**Screenplay:** Filippo Meneghetti,  
 Malysone Boverasmy  
**France/Luxembourg/Belgium |**  
**2019 | 95:00**  
 French with English subtitles

Official Selection, 2019 Toronto  
 International Film Festival

Screening Sponsor

Anne-Marie Vanier

[View Trailer](#)

[Buy Tickets](#)



## Welcome to the USA

Don't be misled by the title. This debut feature by Kazakhstani director Assel Aushakimova is a memorial not to the United States but to the director's home country and the tortuous navigation it takes to be queer in a former Soviet republic.

In the opening shots, Aliya (Saltanat Nauruz) is shocked when she learns she has been accepted as a permanent U.S. resident in the famed Green Card Lottery. After receiving the life-changing news, we follow the introspective thirtysomething for several days as she evaluates every aspect of her life: her ailing mother, her unhappy sister who is trapped in a strict Muslim marriage, her inscrutable lover, the secretiveness it takes to be a lesbian in Kazakh society, and the country's corruption and subtle abuses.

With sharp observance and in a beautifully shot documentary style, Aushakimova avoids soapy clichés and, in their place, has us sit with Aliya's family and friends, all of whom she can, if she wants, leave behind.

**Director:** Assel Aushakimova  
**Screenplay:** Assel Aushakimova  
**Kazakhstan | 2019 | 95:00**  
 Kazakh and Russian with English subtitles

[View Trailer](#)
[Buy Tickets](#)


## The Whistle

LGBTQ2S+ communities have long developed symbolical ways of finding one another while remaining in plain sight. *The Whistle* brings us to the town of Albuquerque, New Mexico, where local queer women have discovered each other through, you guessed it, a whistle.

Trans Latinx filmmaker StormMiguel Florez returns to his hometown of Albuquerque to interview the women who are his chosen family. Together, they talk about first love, coming out, finding friends, building community, and just where that whistle came from. A picture emerges of a town that had a thriving, and whistling, LGBTQ2S+ culture that, below the radar, still managed to be loud and proud.

*The Whistle* shines a light on pre-Internet LGBTQ2S+ community-building, creating an incredible archive of queer life in 1970s and '80s Albuquerque.

**Director:** StormMiguel Florez  
**USA | 2019 | 57:00**

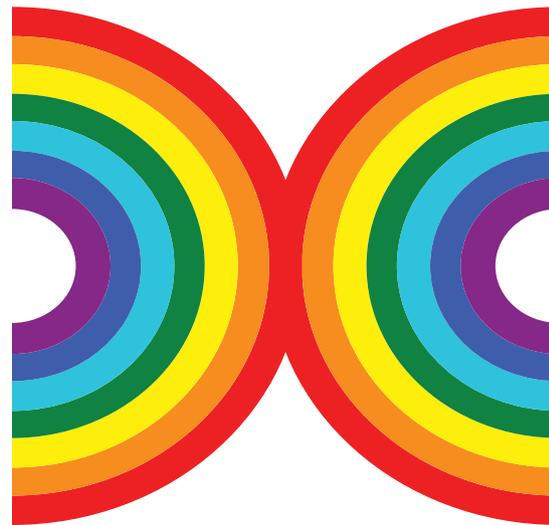
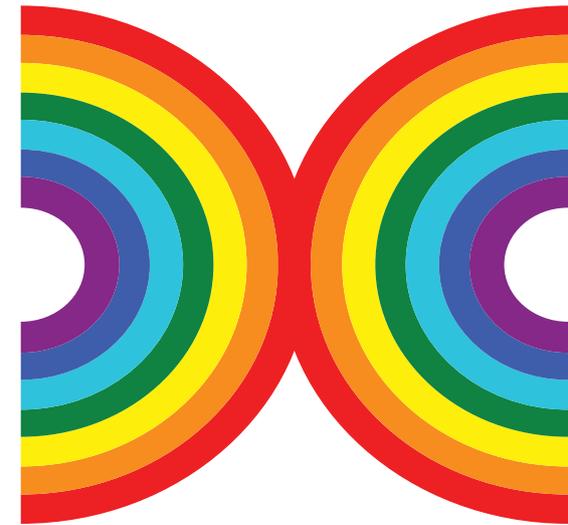
Screening Sponsor

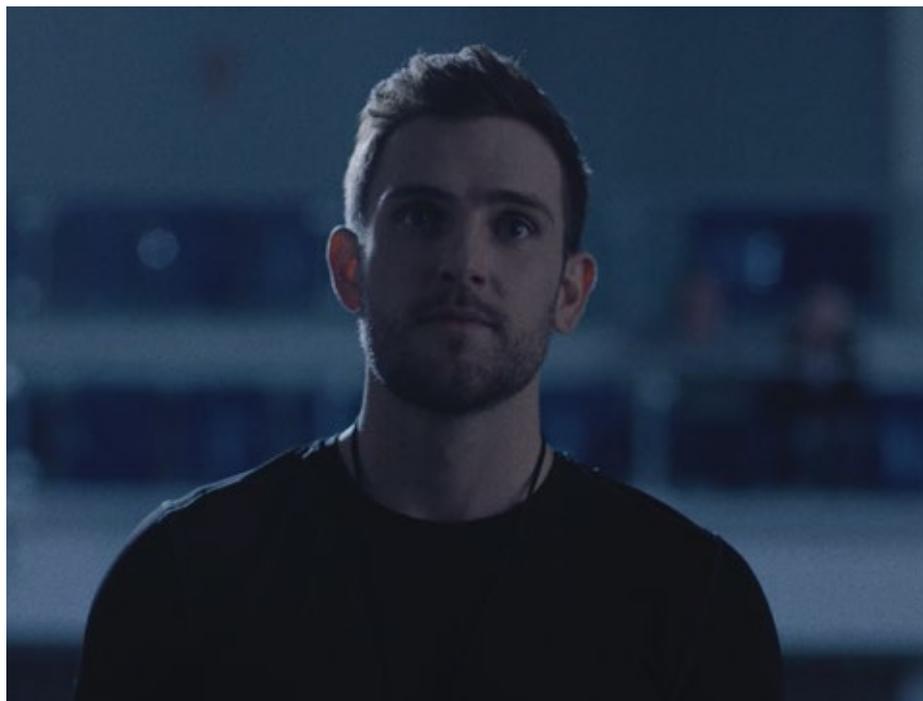
Jo-Ann Chiam and  
 Janet Koecher

[View Trailer](#)
[Buy Tickets](#)



# Shorts and Episodic





## I Am Syd Stone

Hollywood heartthrob Syd Stone finds a connection that immediately creates drama onscreen and off.

Syd Stone, a former A-List Hollywood actor, has seen better days. In need of work, he reluctantly finds himself in a small town shooting a B-movie. While getting drunk one night in his hotel bar, he meets Matt, a handsome young lawyer on the verge of his biggest case yet. Through their work stresses, the men connect instantly and things become more than friendly. An intense affair ensues, putting Syd's personal life and career in jeopardy.

*I Am Syd Stone* is a beautifully directed six-episode series and an expansion of the award-winning 2014 short of the same name. The project was selected as a series for Telefilm's Talent to Watch program in 2019.

**Director:** Denis Theriault  
**Screenplay:** Denis Theriault  
**Canada | 2020 | 80:00**

Screening Sponsor

William and Gary Klein

[Buy Tickets](#)



## Rūrangi

Returning home can be challenging, and *Rūrangi* reveals how one individual navigates the pitfalls of a rural, conservative town in order to reconnect with his loved ones.

When tragedy strikes, young trans activist Caz (played by smouldering newcomer Elz Carrad) can't bear the tense situation in Auckland and he decides to return to Rūrangi, his troubled hometown. He hasn't seen his father, his best friend, or his ex-boyfriend since before his transition. Can Caz reconcile with the people he left so long ago and help in the environmental fight that is dividing the town?

*Rūrangi* features trans and gender diverse people both onscreen and off, from the actors, to the crew and the creative team, the production fully embraces the #ByUsNotAboutUs philosophy of telling stories from the perspective of lived experience. This translates into a sensitive, nuanced and addictive new series that will leave you clamouring for Season 2.

**Director:** Max Currie  
**Screenplay:** Cole Meyers, Oliver Page  
**New Zealand | 2019 | 97:00**  
 English and Māori with English subtitles

Screening Sponsors

Jim Lawrence and David Salak



[View Trailer](#)

[Buy Tickets](#)

# Mixed Episodic

Total program runtime: 126:00

Buy Tickets



My Trans Journey

## My Trans Journey

Director: Elizabeth Trojian  
Canada | 2019 | 25:00

Transgender icon Dr. Carys Massarella helps patients work to overcome personal challenges and thrive in their transitions.



Bananas

## Bananas

Director: Rachel Anderson  
Australia | 2019 | 16:00

*Bananas* takes a curious, playful look at two awkward, honest, and warm Australian-born Asian friends who are growing up between two cultures in Australia's Sunshine State, Queensland.



The Alternative

## The Alternative

Director: Adesua Okosun  
Nigeria/Côte d'Ivoire | 2019 | 20:00  
French and English with English subtitles

This story follows three people in the LGBTQ community, one queer woman, one trans man, and one trans woman, living in Abidjan. Each character takes us into their world and changes the narrative of West Africa.



Miseducated

## Miseducated

Director: Kevin Pinckney  
USA | 2019 | 15:00

In this coming-of-age story, Anton finds himself in his first love triangle – which happens to involve his “straight” best friend Dillion.

Mixed Episodic Screening Sponsor



Crazy

## Crazy

Director: Rachel Leyco  
USA | 2020 | 7:00

Inside  
Out | RE:Focus  
Fund

*Crazy* follows two queer Asian-American frenemies in their early twenties who are battling mental health conditions that teach them they are more alike than they realize.



Apricot

## Apricot

Directors: Sam Icklow, Jake G Thompson  
USA | 2019 | 10:00

A queer Romy and Michele for the 21st century, *Apricot* is your fruity summer obsession packed into ten dreamy episodes.



Butch Pal for the Straight Gal

## Butch Pal for the Straight Gal

Director: Assaad Yacoub  
USA | 2020 | 33:00

This reality-based comedy about five women, known as the Fierce5, empowers straight women to throw away societal gender norms and fearlessly harness their unique inner voice.

## BOLD

Total program runtime: 86:00

[Buy Tickets](#)

Pompeii

## Pompeii

**Directors:** Marco Alessi, Harry Lighton, Matthew Jacobs Morgan  
**U.K. | 2019 | 8:00**

Wearing only a crop-top and high-waisted jeans, Tam feels conspicuous. So he plugs in his earphones and begins reliving his messy Halloween night via social media.



2 Dollars

## 2 Dollars

**Director:** Robin Cloud  
**USA | 2019 | 15:00**

As a black queer artist, Syd deals with daily challenges from ignorant co-workers and a killer workload. When they enter the office lotto pool, everything changes.



Across, Beyond, and Over

## Across, Beyond, and Over

**Directors:** Brit Fryer, Noah Schamus  
**USA | 2019 | 12:00**

Two trans men who used to date in middle school reconnect over a long weekend and develop a hybrid documentary about their past.



Adeline, The Great

## Adeline, The Great

**Director:** Jessica Siqueiros  
**USA | 2019 | 12:00**

A woke boarding school student questions her commitment to activism when she finds herself with no friends, countless enemies and facing some very serious accusations that threaten to get her expelled.

BOLD Screening Sponsor



Zanmi

## Zanmi

**Director:** Nadia Charlery  
**Martinique | 2019 | 10:00**  
 French with English subtitles

A New Year's Eve party in Martinique with friends and champagne leads to an innocent game with unexpected consequences.



Body So Fluorescent

## Body So Fluorescent

**Director:** David Di Giovanni  
**Canada | 2020 | 9:00**

Desiree and Shenice go out for a fun night of dancing, but when Shenice takes things a step too far, Desiree is confronted with who Shenice really is and how Desiree may be the one responsible for her insidious transformation.



Postmarked

## Postmarked

**Director:** Malakai  
**USA | 2019 | 20:00**

With the help of an eccentric woman, some gas station snacks, and a torch of bright burning hope, Scooter sets out to find his estranged trans sister.

# Boy Problems

Total program runtime: 101:00

Buy Tickets



Before It's Too Late

## Before It's Too Late

**Director:** Leandro Goddinho  
**Brazil | 2019 | 15:00**  
 Portuguese with English subtitles

It is the first week of 2019 in Brazil and a new president takes office. Locked in a hotel room, two teenagers decide to change the course of their lives.



How to Say I Love You at Night

## How to Say I Love You at Night

**Director:** Andree Ljutica  
**USA | 2019 | 17:00**

A single-take film explores notions of male-on-male intimacy, sexuality, and violence, during one romantic encounter gone wrong.



Havana

## Havana

**Director:** Faith Strongheart  
**USA | 2019 | 12:00**  
 English and Chinese with English subtitles

Antonio, an immigration officer by day, sells exit visas illegally by night. His secrets go beyond his work, though: he is also hiding his relationship with Jian.



En Mi Alma

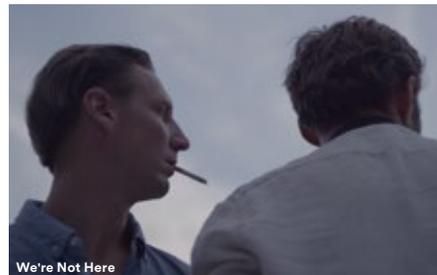
## En Mi Alma

**Director:** Sara Pinar Onder  
**USA | 2019 | 12:00**

Power dynamics shift between an asylum officer and an asylum seeker when they run into each other at a bar.

Boy Problems Screening Sponsor

Michael Lockhart



We're Not Here

## We're Not Here

**Director:** Bonnie Moir  
**Australia | 2019 | 11:00**

Anton, a closeted right-wing Finnish politician, meets his secret lover, Ryan, for a weekend getaway in the Mediterranean.



Pompeii

## Pompeii

**Directors:** Marco Alessi, Harry Lighton, Matthew Jacobs Morgan  
**U.K. | 2019 | 8:00**

Wearing only a crop-top and high-waisted jeans, Tam feels conspicuous. So he plugs in his earphones and begins reliving his messy Halloween night via social media.



Buck

## Buck

**Directors:** Elegance Bratton, Jovan James  
**USA | 2020 | 13:00**

Caught in the midst of a depressive fugue, Lynn turns to debauchery to ease his troubled soul only to discover that achieving happiness is complicated.



I Want to See Gellivare Burn

## I Want to See Gellivare Burn

**Director:** André Vaara  
**Sweden | 2019 | 13:00**  
 Swedish with English subtitles

Teenage misfits Amandus and Johan find solace in an unconventional friendship, challenging the norms of their provincial Swedish town.

# Call Me Maybe

Total program runtime: 91:00

Buy Tickets



Cindy

## Cindy

**Director:** Rosanagh Griffiths  
Australia | 2020 | 14:00

Cindy's first time performing in drag might be camp and outrageous, but is it a success?



Quest for Jasmine

## Quest for Jasmine

**Directors:** Amanda Hawkes, Jackie MacLean  
USA | 2020 | 2:00

Amara tries to make a love potion in hopes of finding romance.



Ladylike

## Ladylike

**Directors:** Rachel Bickert, Emily Tapanes  
USA | 2019 | 20:00

A queer woman in the American South shatters deep-rooted religious beliefs and cultural stereotypes within her conservative community.



Throuple

## Throuple

**Director:** Chrissie De Guzman  
USA | 2019 | 19:00

Hungover from a bad breakup, a not-so-great stripper makes a house call to a progressive married couple.

Call Me Maybe Screening Sponsor



Origami

## Origami

**Director:** Marjan Hashemi  
Iran | 2020 | 14:00  
Persian with English subtitles

A young woman makes an origami bracelet for her crush but when it's intercepted by her teacher, she must go to great lengths to retrieve it.



Square One

## Square One

**Director:** Emily Jo Sargent  
U.K. | 2019 | 12:00

A semi-autobiographical film demonstrates fishing as a way to avoid sex.



Super Zee

## Super Zee

**Director:** Nathalie Younglai  
Canada | 2019 | 7:00

A queer Black superhero swoops in to save her woman crush from the microaggressions at the office.



I Know Her

## I Know Her

**Director:** Fawzia Mirza  
USA | 2019 | 3:00

In the afterglow of a seemingly fated hookup, two women realize that perhaps they have a little too much in common.

# Cut to the Feeling

Total program runtime: 89:00

[Buy Tickets](#)

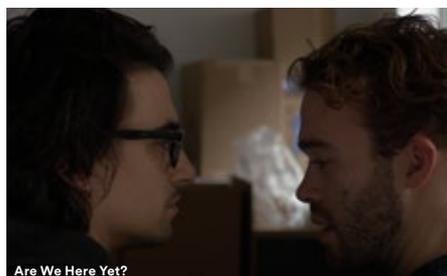


Dirty

## Dirty

**Director:** Matthew Puccini  
USA | 2020 | 11:00

Marco cuts class to spend the afternoon with his boyfriend. Things do not go as planned.



Are We Here Yet?

## Are We Here Yet?

**Director:** S. Chidi Amadiume  
USA | 2020 | 10:00

A couple moving in together discover they don't know as much about each other as they thought.



Sunday

## Sunday

**Director:** Arun Fulara  
India | 2020 | 10:00  
Hindi with English subtitles

When Kamble makes his weekly visit to the neighbourhood barber shop, it's not just for a shave.



Black Hat

## Black Hat

**Director:** Sarah Smith  
USA | 2018 | 15:00

Shmuel is a pious Hasidic man but, when his family leave town for a few days, he will step out of his simple life and into a more complex world.



Boldly Go

## Boldly Go

**Director:** Christopher Cosgrove  
Australia | 2019 | 6:00

A young gay man is hiding an embarrassing secret about his body but when a long-term crush begins seducing him at a party, he is forced to confront his shame.



See You Soon

## See You Soon

**Director:** Tyler Rabinowitz  
USA | 2019 | 16:00

A gay man travels across the country to spend the weekend with someone he's been talking to for months on a dating app.



Acuitzeramo

## Acuitzeramo

**Director:** Miguel Angel Caballero  
USA | 2019 | 16:00  
English and Spanish with English subtitles

Salvador, a gay Mexican elder who has lost his partner of 15 years, calls his partner's estranged son, Anthony, to tell him of his father's passing.



Dungarees

## Dungarees

**Director:** Abel Rubenstein  
U.K. | 2019 | 5:00

Transgender Blake and cisgender Cane hang out, play video games and grapple with their insecurities. This is their love story.

## E·MO·TION

Total program runtime: 97:00

[Buy Tickets](#)

## Tape

**Director:** Jojo Erholtz  
**USA | 2020 | 15:00**

A high school hockey team is preparing for the most important game of the season. Sixteen-year-old Rooney, however, is more focused on her teammate Alex.

Tape



## The Butterfly

**Director:** Shiho Fukada  
**Japan | 2019 | 11:00**  
 Japanese and English with English subtitles

Kota Ishijima spent most of her life hiding from who she is. After finding the strength to emerge, her life comes full circle as she awaits the birth of her first grandchild.

The Butterfly



## Rehearsal

**Director:** Valentina Gordeeva  
**U.K. | 2019 | 13:00**  
 English and Russian with English subtitles

Anna and Emma have decided to marry but first they must come out to Anna's conservative mother.

Rehearsal



## La Gloria

**Director:** Mary Evangelista  
**USA | 2019 | 15:00**  
 English and Spanish with English subtitles

In the days following her suicide attempt, a queer lovelorn teen finds connection and solace with her abuela through the secret language of dreams.

La Gloria



## Like Father, Like Daughter

**Director:** Siew-Hong Leong  
**Taiwan | 2019 | 21:00**  
 Chinese with English subtitles

On the day Taiwan passes its same-sex marriage law, Wen-de's daughter is at home, celebrating her new engagement to her girlfriend.

Like Father, Like Daughter



## The Mistress

**Director:** Pati Cruz  
**Puerto Rico | 2019 | 11:00**  
 Spanish with English subtitles

During her husband's funeral, Maritere receives an unexpected visit.

The Mistress



## Momster

**Director:** Drew Denny  
**USA | 2019 | 11:00**

When notorious bank robber "the Momster" catches her daughter Angel mid-gunfight, Angel thinks she's being rescued – until she realizes she has to do the saving.

Momster

# Gimme Love

[Buy Tickets](#)

Total program runtime: 91:00



## Ifé

Ifé and Adaora fall in love on their first date, but can their love withstand the reality of being lesbian in Nigeria?

Nervous but excited for their first date, Ifé invites Adaora into her home. Three days later when the date hasn't ended and the two women have fallen in love, they are faced with the first significant test of their relationship. Ifé is looking for a partner with whom she can openly share her life, but Adaora has a less accepting family and isn't ready to take the leap. When a critical secret is revealed, the two women will need to face the truth and decide how much they are willing to give up for each other.

Having already received threats from the Nigeria Censors Board, filmmaker Uyaiedu Ikpe-Etim's bold film is a defining work of LGBTQ cinema that seeks to create much-needed space for queer characters in Nollywood.

**Director:** Uyaiedu Ikpe-Etim  
**Screenplay:** Uyaiedu Ikpe-Etim  
 Nigeria | 2020 | 35:00

[View Trailer](#)

Gimme Love Screening Sponsors

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NightwoodTheatre



## Kelet

Being an outsider is a common queer trope. Kelet, a Black trans woman living in Finland, embraces her individuality to follow her lifelong dream.

After leaving her family in Manchester, a young Somali woman named Kelet returns to her childhood city in Finland to pursue a career as a professional model. In the meantime, she is also performing in vogue balls, shedding her shy personality to become the confident star she knows she can be. With the support of her friends and ballroom community, her glamorous future seems within arms reach. Guided by journalist-turned-documentarian Susani Mahadura, the cinematic approach inspires a story of undaunted perseverance.

Complete with all the elegance of ballroom culture and the glamour of the fashion world, *Kelet* is a melange of beauty and personal expression as seen through the eyes of a young Black trans woman possessed with a fiery passion for mainstream attention.

**Director:** Susani Mahadura  
 Finland | 2020 | 56:00  
 English and Finnish with English subtitles

[View Trailer](#)

# I Didn't Just Come Here to Dance

[Buy Tickets](#)

Total program runtime: 94:00



The Woodpecker

## The Woodpecker

**Directors:** Courtney Bush, Will Carington, Jake Goicoechea  
**USA | 2019 | 7:00**

On his way to Brad's animal-themed housewarming party, Richard stops at a pharmacy and calls a close friend for advice about his costume.



Island Queen

## Island Queen

**Directors:** Zackary Grady, Jenn Harris  
**USA | 2019 | 10:00**

On the day a teenage hockey player secretly plans to try out for the figure skating team, he gets trapped on a ferry boat.



Muy Gay Too Mexicano

## Muy Gay Too Mexicano

**Director:** Lorena Lourenco  
**USA | 2019 | 13:00**

As he prepares for a date, J.D. seeks advice from two dissimilar people.



Acrimonious

## Acrimonious

**Director:** Olivia Emden  
**U.K. | 2020 | 14:00**

Returning to the London council house he grew up in after a non-acrimonious divorce, Emeka's caught between worlds – left wondering how to belong.

I Didn't Just Come Here to Dance  
 Screening Sponsor

pride & remembrance run



Pete Can't Play Basketball

## Pete Can't Play Basketball

**Director:** Nick Borenstein  
**USA | 2019 | 8:00**

In a world where all that matters is basketball, Pete can't play basketball.



After That Party

## After That Party

**Director:** Caio Scot  
**Brazil | 2019 | 15:00**  
 Portuguese with English subtitles

Leo never imagined he would see his dad kissing another man in the middle of a party... until it happened.



Deceased Ones

## Deceased Ones

**Director:** Kate Hopkins  
**USA | 2019 | 14:00**

When two friends get involved in the niche service of role playing the dead, they're forced to help heal grieving strangers through a surreal game of make-believe.



Lazy (Sunday)

## Lazy (Sunday)

**Director:** Cameron Miller-Desart  
**USA | 2019 | 13:00**

Tired of their friends trying to set them up, two friends turn errands into a fake date, only to find it might not be fake at all.

# I Really Like You

Total program runtime: 96:00

[Buy Tickets](#)



## Polly and the Pockets

**Director:** Gabriella Arno  
Canada | 2020 | 9:00

Lead singer of the band Polly and the Pockets, Polly must face her fears when her crush arrives at the school dance where her band is performing.



## My Brother is a Mermaid

**Director:** Alfie Dale  
U.K. | 2019 | 20:00

*My Brother is a Mermaid* is a social realist fairy tale about a transfeminine teenager, as seen through the eyes of their 7-year-old brother.



## Were You Gay in High School?

**Director:** Niki Ang  
USA | 2019 | 13:00

Inside Out | RE:Focus Fund

Two queer women recall their awkward, closeted high school days of kissing boys and experiencing straight-girl crushes.



## Lit

**Director:** Emma Miranda Moore  
U.K. | 2019 | 2:00

Tension and excitement run high as a clandestine game of Spin the Bottle has unexpected consequences.

I Really Like You Screening Sponsors

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## S.A.M.

**Directors:** Lloyd Eyre-Morgan, Neil Ely  
U.K. | 2020 | 16:00

Two teenage boys, both named Sam, meet at the swings each week to escape their dysfunctional homelives, while slowly falling in love.



## Wonder

**Director:** Javier Molina  
USA | 2019 | 16:00

An 11-year-old kid growing up in the hood secretly dreams of trick-or-treating as Wonder Woman for Halloween.



## Nancy From Now On

**Director:** Keely Meechan  
New Zealand | 2019 | 20:00  
English and Māori with English subtitles

*Nancy From Now On* is a coming-of-age film about a young Māori boy who has a burning desire to become a drag queen.

# Now That I Found You

[Buy Tickets](#)

Total program runtime: 98:00



Break In

## Break In

Director: Alyssa Lerner  
USA | 2020 | 15:00

Inside  
Out | RE:Focus  
Fund

When Nousha accidentally texts erotic fiction to her crush, she enlists best friend Oliver to set out on a mission to delete the text.

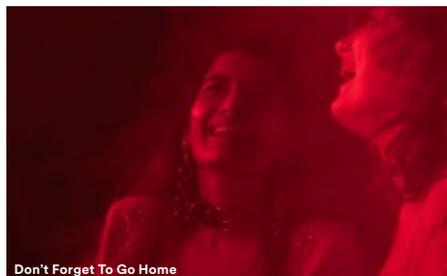


Candis for President

## Candis for President

Director: Michelle Peerali  
USA | 2020 | 12:00

Candis Cayne sets out to become the President of the United States with the help of her sarcastic television producer sidekick, Andrea.



Don't Forget To Go Home

## Don't Forget To Go Home

Director: Victoria Singh-Thompson  
Australia | 2020 | 10:00

Two Indo-Fijian sisters miss their cousin's wedding to go on a drug-fuelled bender.



Tomoko

## Tomoko

Director: Margaux Esclapez  
France | 2019 | 17:00  
French with English subtitles

After losing her eyesight, Tomoko meets a young stripper named Amber who allows her to explore her fantasies and liberate herself.

Now That I Found You  
Screening Sponsor

GOOD  
FOR HER  
SINCE 2017



A Postcard to Nina

## A Postcard to Nina

Director: Ronald Baez  
USA | 2019 | 16:00

English and Spanish with English subtitles

Longtime Instagram pen pals Jean and Nina meet in person for the first time and stumble through a well-meaning dinner with Nina's ultra-conservative father.



Hyped

## Hyped

Director: Alkis Papastathopoulos  
Greece | 2019 | 13:00

Greek with English subtitles

Vera and Lola are anxious about their first big night out together, and struggle to connect.



Friends Like That

## Friends Like That

Director: Francesca de Fusco  
USA | 2019 | 8:00

After getting dumped, Maia seeks solace by crashing with her best ex Alex.



Hush

## Hush

Director: Tin Lee  
USA | 2019 | 7:00

A teenage girl sets out to discreetly master her burgeoning sexuality with the help of a new friend.

# Real Love

Total program runtime: 99:00

Buy Tickets

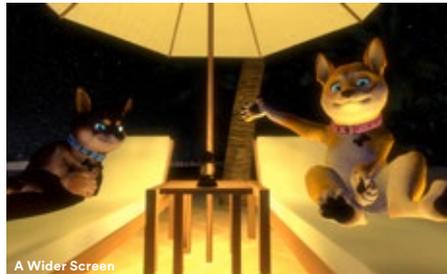


## Where My Girls

Director: Mads Engels  
USA | 2019 | 22:00

Three queer women reflect on the creativity, community, and hustle required to make it in a culture that has left them to their own devices.

Where My Girls



## A Wider Screen

Director: Joe Hunting  
U.K. | 2019 | 13:00

Shot within VRChat, *A Wider Screen* takes an intimate, insightful look into how virtual reality is affecting people's social lives for the better.

A Wider Screen



## Breakwater

Director: Cris Lyra  
Brazil | 2019 | 27:00  
Portuguese with English subtitles

A group of young lesbians from São Paulo go on a trip to a remote beach for the new year's celebration.

Breakwater



## Jesse Jams

Director: Trevor Anderson  
Canada | 2020 | 16:00

A young Indigenous musician and his rock band bring mumblepunk to the Interstellar Rodeo. *Jesse Jams* is a rock 'n' roll survival story of a different stripe.

Jesse Jams



## The Suck

Director: Austin Bunn  
USA | 2020 | 8:00

A collector finally decides to give up his strange collection.

The Suck



## Dress Up Like Mrs. Doubtfire

Director: Will J. Zang  
USA | 2019 | 13:00

This throwback looks at the 1993 film, *Mrs. Doubtfire*, and its cultural impact on drag culture in Hollywood films.

Dress Up Like Mrs. Doubtfire

# Thrive

Total program runtime: 105:00

[Buy Tickets](#)


Darling

## Darling

**Director:** Saim Sadiq  
**Pakistan/USA | 2019 | 16:00**  
 Urdu and Punjabi with English subtitles

An erotic dance theater in Lahore prepares for a new show just as a sacrificial goat disappears.

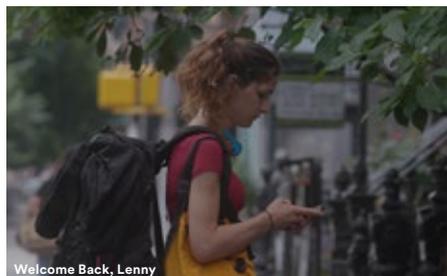


Memories Revealed

## Memories Revealed

**Director:** Quentin Worthington  
**France | 2019 | 23:00**  
 Spanish with English subtitles

Over the course of 10 months, a camera travels to Buenos Aires, Argentina and Hanover, Germany to meet the founding members of the Archivo De La Memoria Trans Argentina, the first existing Trans Archive in the world.



Welcome Back, Lenny

## Welcome Back, Lenny

**Director:** Vuk LK  
**USA | 2019 | 9:00**

Lenny is back in NYC and crashing at her cousin's place. As a thank you, she cooks dinner for her and some friends, but the night takes a turn.



Across, Beyond, and Over

## Across, Beyond, and Over

**Directors:** Brit Fryer, Noah Schamus  
**USA | 2019 | 12:00**

Two trans men who used to date in middle school reconnect over a long weekend and develop a hybrid documentary about their past.

Thrive Screening Sponsor

Dennis Findlay



The Change Up

## The Change Up

**Director:** Jordan Auten  
**USA | 2020 | 14:00**

When Tatum and Harley go out for drinks, Tatum becomes distracted by memories of his troubled childhood.



The Rogers

## The Rogers

**Directors:** Dean Hamer, Joe Wilson  
**USA | 2020 | 16:00**  
 English and Samoan with English subtitles

An intimate glimpse of the Rogers of Samoa, the first visible group of transgender men in the Pacific.



Fratello

## Fratello

**Director:** Jamie DiNicola  
**USA | 2019 | 9:00**

*Fratello* explores the ways in which gender warps and infiltrates intimacy.



Here with You

## Here with You

**Director:** Noah Schamus  
**USA | 2018 | 6:00**

When Imani goes to her friend's housewarming party, she meets a man who piques her interest.

# Tug of War

Total program runtime: 96:00

Buy Tickets



Vert

## Vert

Director: Kate Cox  
U.K. | 2019 | 11:00

When Jeff and Emelia are gifted a virtual reality set that reveals a person's "ideal self," they discover a secret that could shift their relationship indelibly.



In Orbit

## In Orbit

Directors: Soham Chakraborty, Hanxu Chen, Meton Joffily, Justin Polley, Julia Trouvé  
France | 2019 | 5:00

In a far future, Sonia is about to be transferred from her space station to a newer one, but isn't ready to let go.



This is a Teenage Love Letter

## This is a Teenage Love Letter

Director: Tessa Hill  
Canada | 2019 | 7:00

A young woman writes a letter to her past love and to what the future might hold.



Safe Among Stars

## Safe Among Stars

Director: Jess X. Snow  
USA | 2019 | 10:00

A queer Chinese-American woman struggles to tell her immigrant mother and her partner the reason why she left school.



Fifth Floor on the Left

## Fifth Floor on the Left

Director: Renata Lučić  
Croatia | 2018 | 15:00  
Croatian with English subtitles

When Maja's parents come to Zagreb to visit their daughter, she must hide the truth about her relationship with her roommate, Nika.



Ride or Die

## Ride or Die

Director: Josalynn Smith  
USA | 2019 | 10:00

Paula and Jamie are on their way to Thebes – Thebes, Kentucky that is. As they drive through the Midwest, they make a few stops along the way that deepen their relationship.



Swipe Up, Vivian!

## Swipe Up, Vivian!

Director: Hannah Welever  
USA | 2019 | 14:00

Two agoraphobic women find love via a virtual dating app.



Tender

## Tender

Director: Felicia Pride  
USA | 2019 | 15:00

After an unexpected one-night stand, two women at very different stages of their lives share an even more intimate morning after.



Feeling Flush

## Feeling Flush

Director: Erin Brown Thomas  
USA | 2019 | 9:00

Vicki idolizes her new girlfriend Samantha but draws the line when it comes to her time on the porcelain throne.

# Want You In My Room

[Buy Tickets](#)

Total program runtime: 92:00



Suckmeoff, Princess!

## Suckmeoff, Princess!

**Director:** Tristan Scott-Behrends  
**USA | 2019 | 2:00**

Enjoy this menagerie of colourful Busby Berkeley dicks and heartbreaking autobiographical anecdotes.



Motta

## Motta

**Director:** Nish Gera  
**Netherlands/U.K. | 2020 | 16:00**  
 Portuguese with English subtitles

*Motta* follows Brazilian artist Fabio da Motta as he questions the boundaries between fantasy, power, provocation and art.



Plantonic

## Plantonic

**Director:** Krit Komkrichwarakool  
**Canada | 2019 | 15:00**

A unique relationship flourishes between an aspiring artist and the plant man who is growing in his garden.



Kiko's Saints

## Kiko's Saints

**Director:** Manuel Marmier  
**France | 2019 | 25:00**  
 Japanese with English subtitles

Kiko, a Japanese illustrator on assignment in France, is suddenly overwhelmed with inspiration while spying on a gay couple on the beach.

Want You In My Room  
 Screening Sponsors

Scott Windsor



Floss

## Floss

**Director:** Popo Fan  
**China | 2019 | 15:00**  
 Chinese with English subtitles

Ting finds it difficult to commit to his relationship because he has a secret that is difficult to reveal: he has a tooth fetish.



Free Fun

## Free Fun

**Director:** Fehmi Öztürk  
**Turkey | 2019 | 5:00**  
 Turkish with English subtitles

When Kika enters a virtual reality world looking for fun, she encounters something she never expected.



The Fathers Project: Chapter 4

## The Fathers Project: Chapter 4

**Director:** Leo Herrera  
**USA | 2019 | 10:00**

Fathers is a sci-fi short docuseries that imagines the world if AIDS had never happened and a generation had lived to change the world.



Deep Clean

## Deep Clean

**Director:** David Wilson  
**U.K. | 2019 | 4:00**

Cleanliness is next to godliness, as illustrated in this celebration of objectophilia and self-pleasure.

# Warm Blood

Total program runtime: 97:00

[Buy Tickets](#)



## Connective Tissue

**Director:** Oliver Bernsen  
USA | 2019 | 16:00

Over the course of one night, six people are bound together by one thing: a 7-year-old girl's severed leg.



## Something in the Closet

**Director:** Nosa Eke  
U.K. | 2019 | 12:00

A queer teenager struggles with her sexuality, as desires manifest their way from the depths of her eerie closet into reality.



## Family

**Director:** Mark Pariselli  
Canada | 2019 | 11:00

Partners Cal and Jamal embark on an autumn road trip to the cottage. A roadside flirtation turns ominous and the creeping sense of dread intensifies at a deserted farm.



## Black Pill

**Director:** Jessi Gaston  
USA | 2019 | 11:00

Set in a near-future techno-dystopia, a suicidal shut-in orders pills from a mysterious online company in a last-ditch attempt to fulfill their wildest fantasies.

Warm Blood Screening Sponsors

Jason Wagar



## Cleanse

**Director:** Magdalene Burger  
USA | 2019 | 12:00

A lonely energy healer continues to push her body and her spiritual health to the brink when she is confronted with an especially horrific healing session.



## Hand of Power

**Director:** Dara Gellman  
Canada | 2020 | 6:00

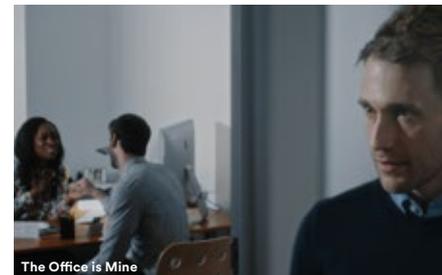
Interrogating both present-day and retrospective cultural narratives about gender, this video work examines the gestures of the filmic hand.



## The Quieting

**Director:** Ali Liebert  
Canada | 2020 | 15:00

On the night before an important date, Maggie, 33 and newly queer, confronts her crushing anxiety and internalized homophobia.



## The Office is Mine

**Director:** Michael Varrati  
USA | 2019 | 14:00

Fuelled by paranoia that he's being replaced by a new gay at work, Zac sets off on a collision course, ready to prove the office isn't big enough for them both.

# PLANET in FOCUS

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## Audience Awards

Exercise your right to vote! On the front page of each film in CineSend, you will see five stars. When you finish viewing the film, simply click the number of stars you wish to submit as your vote.

★★★★★ “Who allowed you to take my breath away?” (*Booksmart*, 2019)

★★★★ “Divine decadence, darling” (*Cabaret*, 1972)

★★★★ “Well, nobody’s perfect!” (*Some Like It Hot*, 1959)

★★★ “I’ll admit, I may have seen better...” (*All About Eve*, 1950)

★ “This is life’s ultimate cruelty” (*Death Becomes Her*, 1992)

### Best Narrative Feature

Sponsored by Entertainment One



This \$2,500 cash award generously provided by Entertainment One will be presented to the audience’s favourite feature-length film.

### Best Documentary Feature

Sponsored by Entertainment One



This \$2,500 cash award generously provided by Entertainment One will be presented to the audience’s favourite feature-length documentary film.

### Best Short Film

This cash award is presented to the audience’s favourite film within a shorts program.

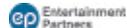
## Canadian Juried Awards

Canadian works completed in the last 18 months and screening at this year’s Festival are eligible for consideration by the jury.

### Best Canadian Feature (Narrative or Documentary)

Sponsored by Netflix

Sponsored by Entertainment Partners Canada



## Canadian Jurors



**Ashley Iris Gill** is a queer cinematographer from Toronto. She has worked on projects ranging from music videos, documentaries, shorts and commercials that have aired on many platforms. Her previous clients include Mercedes Benz Canada, Absolut Vodka, Sprite, NBA, Toyota, Fiat, Rogers, and Sleep Country. Ashley is currently working as a commercial DP at Video Nerve, a division of Publicis, and also freelances as much as her schedule allows. Ashley plans to continue capturing the world through her emotive and unique gaze. She’s continuously growing, exploring her craft, and wants to focus on scripted work in the future.

This award includes a cash prize of \$2,000 from our Presenting Partner, Netflix, and a \$1,000 in-kind package from Entertainment Partners Canada. This award is presented to an established Canadian artist for their feature-length narrative or documentary film.

### Emerging Canadian Artist

Sponsored by RBC Royal Bank

Sponsored by Entertainment Partners Canada



This award includes a cash prize of \$2,500 from our Lead Sponsor, RBC, and a \$1,000 in-kind package from Entertainment Partners Canada. It will be presented to an early-career Canadian filmmaker. The recipient must have directed no more than two fiction narrative short films or no more than one fiction narrative feature-length film.

### Best Canadian Short

Sponsored by Accenture



This \$750 cash award is presented to a Canadian filmmaker for their short-form narrative or documentary film.

## International Juried Awards

### Best First Feature Award

Sponsored by Inside Out’s Leadership Circle

This \$5,000 cash award is presented to the International Jury’s selection for best film by a first-time feature director.

### Pitch, Please!

Our pitch competition livestreamed on May 30, 2020, and saw 10 competitors from across the globe present a short, two-minute pitch to a virtual jury and audience, with one winner taking home a \$5,000 production grant sponsored by Netflix, and an in-kind production package sponsored by Chargefield Key Art, The Black List, Final Draft, and Moondog Labs.

**Congratulations to our winning project, *Rejoice in the Lamb*, by Jake Goicoechea, Will Carington, and Courtney Bush.**



**Scott Jones** is a writer, musician, and educator from Nova Scotia. After a hateful attack left him paralyzed, Scott explored various forms of artistic expression to process his grief. Scott worked with filmmaker Laura Marie Wayne and the National Film Board of Canada to create a feature length documentary, *Love, Scott* (2018) that explores his trauma in relation to small town homophobia. Scott is currently working with playwright Robert Chafe (Artistic Fraud Theatre) and director Jillian Keilley (NAC) to co-write a play about the effects of toxic masculinity on young boys and society. He has received the support of the Toronto Arts Council, the Banff Centre for the Arts, and the Canada Council for past and future artistic projects (music, film, theatre, and memoir).



**Natasha Negovanlis** is a Canadian Screen Award winning, openly pansexual actress, best known for playing the “broody lesbian vampire” in the digital phenomenon-turned-feature film *Carmilla*. Other LGBTQ2+ screen credits include: lead roles in *Almost Adults* (2016) and *Freelancers Anonymous* (2018) which both premiered at Inside Out. In addition to acting, Natasha has worked as a host, writer, and producer, and she co-created the New York Web Fest award-winning queer series *CLAIREvoyant*. Currently, you can find her acting in the female-driven comedy series *Band Ladies* now playing on HighballTV.

## International Jurors



**Inuka Bacote-Capiga** is a recovering attorney with 10+ years of entertainment professional experience. She develops and produces original unscripted and scripted content for digital, TV and film. She is co-executive producer for the Daytime Emmy-Nominated LGBTQ series, *EastSiders* (seasons 1-4 can be seen on Netflix).

Inuka produced the feature film, *The 40-Year-Old Version*, which won the U.S. Dramatic Directing Award at 2020 Sundance Film Festival and was recently acquired by Netflix. She oversees music video and audiovisual content creation for Nettwerk Music Group. Inuka also served as marketing consultant for the publicity campaigns of Spike Lee’s *She’s Gotta Have It* (Netflix) and Academy-Award winning *BlackKkLansman* (Focus Features). She serves as an affiliate of The Blackhouse Foundation, a non-profit organization that promotes diversity in film and television.



**Jude Dry** is Associate Editor at IndieWire, where they write entertainment criticism with a focus on LGBTQ film and TV. Jude is also an actor, having most recently appeared in Shaina Feinberg’s BRIC-produced web series *Dinette* and Matthew Fifer’s *Cicada*. Jude was a fellow of the 2013 New York Film Festival Critics Academy. Their previous work can be found at Variety, Splitsider, FilmLinc, Office Magazine, and Teachers & Writers Magazine.



**Jazz Tangcay** is the Artisans editor at Variety where she focuses on the craftspeople below the line. She is also on the awards team where she spotlights the Oscar race with her colleagues.

# Short Film Lab Showcase

[Buy Tickets](#)

The 2019-20 Inside Out & ASAAP Short Film Lab mentored eight LGBTQ South Asian and Indo-Caribbean filmmakers in writing, directing, and producing their first short films. The participants receive dedicated mentorship from LGBTQ film professionals, and over \$20,000 of in-kind production support.



Call Me Krishna

## Call Me Krishna

**Director:** Rojelio Palacios  
**Producer:** Aneel Vyas

Afraid of what the world will think of their true self, Aria sets off on a journey in which they must face their insecurities, by overcoming their fear of passing and coming out. With the support of their best friend Skyler, a trans woman, they are finally able to build up the courage to come out.



Snowbird

## Snowbird

**Director:** Sadiya Rahman  
**Producer:** Mirusha Yogarajah

Life at home for Maya isn't the best. Things are different when she's with Neelam, her free-spirited friend. After a heated argument with her parents, Maya goes over to Neelam's home. They go on a walk and have a playful fight. Tensions rise and reveal an undeniable love and hurt they carry.



With Love from Munera

## With Love from Munera

Natalie Elisha

A young queer Somali Muslim storyteller, Munera Yusuf, walks us through the spaces that have shaped her healing from the most trying moments of her past, from the chair of Tee Fergus' tattoo studio, to strolling the streets of Toronto with her friends. Munera's journey illustrates that self-discovery is an ongoing process, rather than an ultimate destination.



# 30th Anniversary Online Exhibition

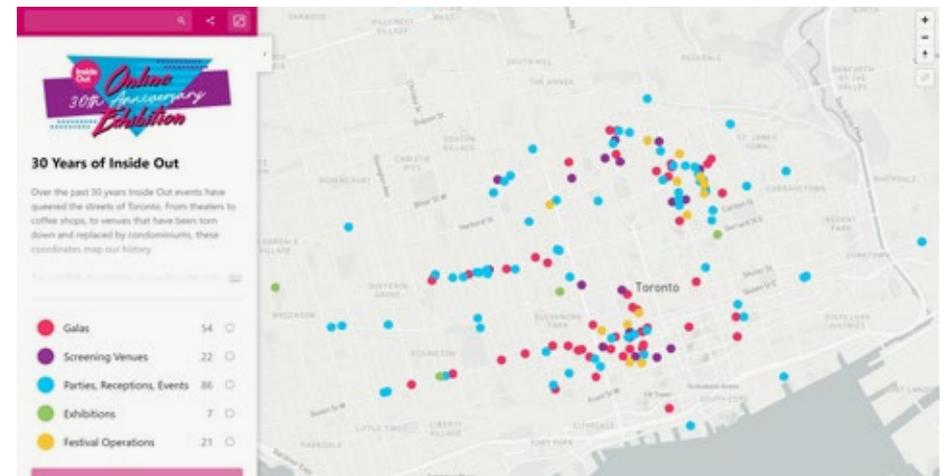


Over the past 30 years, Inside Out events have queered the streets of Toronto. From theatres to coffee shops to venues that have been torn down and replaced by condominiums, these coordinates map our history.

For our 30th Anniversary we've dug into our archives for memories and pulled out pictures, press clippings, posters for sing-a-longs, flyers for dance parties and exhibition co-presentations, and a whole bunch of other materials we've saved. Join us for a walk through this digitized ephemera at [insideout.ca/30years](https://insideout.ca/30years) as we remember events that helped shape this queer city.

For more information regarding the 30th Anniversary exhibition, please contact Krista Davis at [krista@insideout.ca](mailto:krista@insideout.ca). For general inquiries about Inside Out's archival collection, please contact Jacob Crepeault at [programming@insideout.ca](mailto:programming@insideout.ca).

With support from



## Inside Out Merchandise

To support our creators through these uncertain times and into an uncharted future, we ask you to raise your voices in support of queer film and filmmakers. Be the first to wear one of our new Queer Film Is Essential shirts or Inside Out branded cloth face masks! All proceeds go to our grants and professional development programs.

Join us in telling the world that now, more than ever, Queer Film Is Essential. Visit [insideout.ca/shop](https://insideout.ca/shop).



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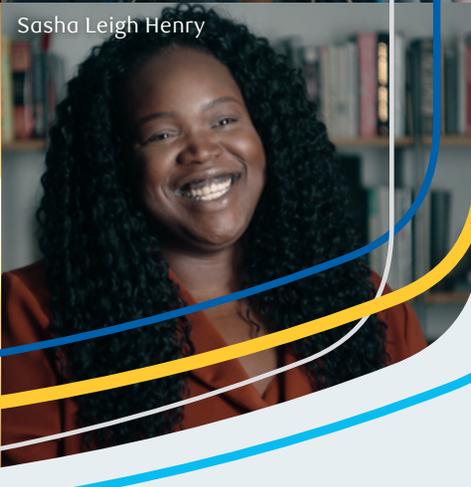
V. T. Nayani



Jennifer Podemski



Jennifer Liao



Sasha Leigh Henry

## Film has the power to unite us.

Film, through thought-provoking and inspiring narratives, can connect us all. That's why we're committed to supporting Inside Out's passion for inspiring us.

We are especially proud to support Inside Out as they address industry inequalities by working with women, non-binary, and trans filmmakers to tell their stories.

Join us October 1 – 11, 2020

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