

Inside Out

25LGBTQ+
FILM FESTIVAL
MAY 22-31, 2026

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Proud sponsor of stories that shine

RBC presents Canada's largest 2SLGBTQ+ film festival.

May 22 – 31

Your idea of *stronger communities* happens here

insideout.ca



Inside Out

WELCOME



Carly Beath
Executive Director

Executive Director

Stepping into the role of Executive Director of Inside Out this year has been a joy—and as I said, in a message to our supporters in my early days in the job, it's also a responsibility I don't take lightly.

For 36 years, Inside Out has been a space for Queer people to find each other, to see themselves on screen, and to celebrate our community with all of its many facets. I am grateful to have the opportunity to work with the smart and dedicated Inside Out team to steward this legacy and find ways to shine an even brighter light on 2SLGBTQ+ films.

It's no secret that the pandemic precipitated an era of incredible challenges for non-profit arts organizations like ours. Audience habits have changed, the film industry has undergone seismic shifts, the cost of doing everything is up, and revenue models are continuously evolving.

But the constant is that our community is resilient and our stories are vital.

So I see this moment as an opportunity to reexamine and reimagine. To keep and enhance the things we love—the platform for Queer stories, the community and connection, the celebration of our history—and on this solid foundation, build new possibilities for what a Queer film festival can be in 2026 and beyond.

Thank you to our audiences, filmmakers, members, donors, sponsors, funders, community partners, staff, and volunteers for helping to make our big dreams come to life. I hope you have a fantastic time at the 2026 Inside Out 2SLGBTQ+ Film Festival!



Jenna Dufton
Festival Director

Festival Director

Sports were my first love. I grew up playing soccer and basketball. I was eight years old when the Blue Jays won back-to-back World Series in 1992 and 1993, 12 when the WNBA launched in 1997, and 14 when the USWNT won the World Cup in iconic fashion in 1999. These moments remain some of my most vivid memories of growing up.

Film is my second love. From an early age, movies brought me comfort and joy. They helped pass the time in a small town in rural Ontario, and showed me what might be possible beyond it.

This year, we have brought these two great loves together at Inside Out with Run It Back: A League of Our Own, a Queer sports screening series. This program became the starting point for our Festival theme: collective effervescence. Coined by sociologist Émile Durkheim, the term describes the energy that emerges when people come together for a shared purpose.

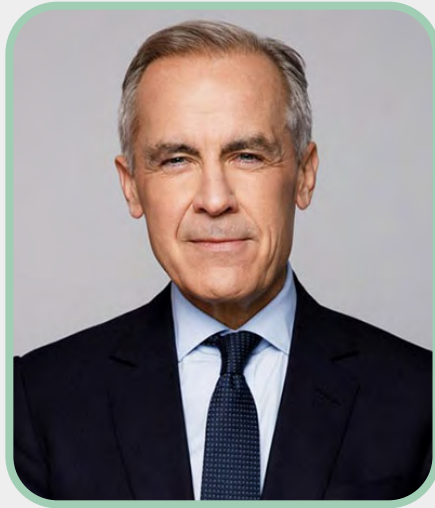
It is that electric feeling of connection you experience at a concert or a sporting event. After all, does a standing ovation after the premiere of an inspiring local documentary not feel a little like a fourth quarter comeback? That shared energy is what this year's Festival is all about.

One question we are often asked is whether Queer film festivals are still necessary. Much has changed since 1991, and access to Queer film is better than ever. What makes festivals like Inside Out so vital, however, is not just the films—it is the people. The people who attend screenings, who participate in Industry Day and Youth Day, who come to connect, to collaborate, and to launch their careers in film. It is about you, our communities, and our commitment to cheering you on.

So, this year, let's get loud.



WELCOME



Prime Minister of Canada

I would like to convey my warmest greetings to everyone attending the 2026 Inside Out 2SLGBTQ+ Film Festival.

For over 30 years, this festival has provided a platform for 2SLGBTQ+ filmmakers from across Canada and around the world to share their perspectives and stories. I am certain that audiences will be entertained and inspired by the diverse selection of films being screened this year and that the panels and discussions will stimulate a great deal of meaningful dialogue and exchange.

I would like to thank the organizers for bringing this event to the community. You can take pride in your commitment to supporting filmmakers and to fostering diversity and inclusion in the screen industry.

I wish you all a wonderful festival.

The Right Honourable Mark Carney, P.C., O.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada



Minister of Canadian Identity and Culture

Welcome to the Inside Out 2SLGBTQ+ Film Festival!

For more than three decades, Inside Out has brought Toronto's 2SLGBTQ+ communities together to celebrate the power of storytelling through film. Showcasing imaginative, authentic, and multifaceted Queer narratives from Canada and around the world, the festival creates space for voices that inspire, challenge, and connect us.

As we celebrate this milestone, I thank everyone who has made this festival possible and look forward to many more years to come. I wish you all a joyful and inspiring celebration of the vibrant spirit of 2SLGBTQ+ communities.

The Honourable Marc Miller
Minister of Canadian Identity and Culture



Inside Out enriches our cultural landscape by amplifying diverse perspectives and fostering understanding through the shared experience of cinema. Its lasting success reflects the dedication of organisers, filmmakers, volunteers, and audiences committed to representation and creative expression.

WELCOME



The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario



Premier of Ontario

Since 1991, Inside Out has played a vital role in amplifying diverse 2SLGBTQ+ voices and providing space for stories from around the world that are imaginative, authentic and deeply human.

The festival invites audiences to see the world through a different lens. Each film in this year's lineup reflects the joy, creativity and courage that define the 2SLGBTQ+ community while expanding our knowledge and understanding of its history.

Thank you to Inside Out for elevating 2SLGBTQ+ cinema and fostering a space where filmmakers and audiences can thrive and push boundaries with unconventional storylines. Your event has become a beacon for creativity where these movies are not only seen but celebrated. Your commitment to creating a space for authentic voices has shaped the

landscape in ways that resonate far beyond the screen.

My best wishes for a thought-provoking and meaningful 36th annual Inside Out Film Festival.



Kristyn Wong-Tam
Member of Provincial Parliament
Toronto Centre

**KRISTYN
WONG-TAM**

Member of Provincial Parliament

Congratulations on the 36th annual Inside Out Film Festival!

Herein, I extend my warmest congratulations to the entire team at the Inside Out 2SLGBTQ+ Film Festival on your 36th anniversary!

Once again, you have curated a powerful collection of deeply meaningful films that showcase the rich tapestry of diverse 2SLGBTQ+ stories. Your immense commitment to promoting Queer and Trans stories from across Canada, and around the world, has been groundbreaking and transformative for years, and the 2026 program furthers this legacy.

Inside Out unites our dynamic and diverse community in many culturally significant ways. From receptions to workshops to galas, we gather to support

2SLGBTQ+ stories that might otherwise be ignored or forgotten. The energy and raw emotions from the audience, along with unique 2SLGBTQ+ stories emanating from the big screen, are part of the cinematic magic at Inside Out.

I am excited to watch this year's top-notch selection of local and global Queer and trans cinema with you. Thank you for coming out, passing the popcorn, and supporting Inside Out.

Happy Film-festing!

WELCOME



Mayor of Toronto

I would like to welcome everyone to the 36th annual Inside Out 2SLGBTQ+ Film Festival.

This event celebrates Queer cinema from Canada and around the world. Through the exhibition of films by and about 2SLGBTQ+ in all their diversity, Inside Out encourages dialogue, challenges attitudes, and helps drive meaningful social change.

On behalf of Toronto City Council, I offer best wishes for a memorable and enjoyable festival.

Yours truly,

Her Worship Olivia Chow
Mayor of Toronto



I would like to thank Inside Out for its vital contributions to Toronto's media arts landscape and for providing a platform for 2SLGBTQ+ stories. I am pleased this inclusive and welcoming festival is taking place in Toronto.



Regional President, RBC

Celebrating 36 years of the Inside Out 2SLGBTQ+ Film Festival!

For over three decades, Inside Out has championed 2SLGBTQ+ voices and created space for stories that challenge, inspire, and connect us. Every year, the Festival brings together filmmakers and audiences to celebrate authentic storytelling and the power of cinema.

Michelle Waite
Regional President
Greater Toronto, RBC



For 18 years, RBC has been proud to support Inside Out as it champions bold voices and authentic storytelling. We believe in the power of film to build bridges, challenge perspectives, and create connections. This year's theme of collective effervescence reflects the sense of togetherness and shared connection that defines both our community and RBC's commitment to fostering

respect. Film represents more than artistic expression – it brings people together and contributes to the diverse perspectives that strengthen our city.

On behalf of RBC, thank you to the filmmakers for sharing your stories, to the Inside Out team for curating another exceptional Festival, and the dedicated volunteers for helping bring it to life. To all of you in the audience: thank you for being here. I hope this year's festival line up moves you.

Enjoy the Festival!

ABOUT INSIDE OUT

Inside Out is a not-for-profit registered charity that strives to be a community leader in the elevation of films by and about 2SLGBTQ+ people of all ages, races, and abilities through promotion, production, and exhibition.

For more than three decades, Inside Out has provided space for Toronto's 2SLGBTQ+ communities to celebrate imaginative, authentic, and multifaceted narratives through the best Queer film from Canada and around the world, across various community-driven touchpoints.

Our annual **Toronto Festival**, currently the largest event of its kind in Canada, attracts large-scale audiences over 10 days to screenings, artist talks, panel discussions, installations, and parties.

Run It Back offers a year-round series of curated programming. This year, we celebrate the Queer community in sports with *Run It Back: A League of Our Own*, spotlighting stories of teamwork, resilience, gender equity, and the Queer community on and off the field.

RE:Focus Fund aims to address industry inequities by providing direct financial support to women, non-binary, and/or trans filmmakers telling 2SLGBTQ+

stories, including through the newly launched RE:Focus Residency, a six-month program designed to support first-time feature filmmakers.

Look for this symbol to identify films that received support through RE:Focus.



The **International Financing Forum (IFF)** is the first and only event of its kind in the world, providing 2SLGBTQ+-identified producers, writers, and directors creating 2SLGBTQ+ content an opportunity to move their feature projects forward.

The Library is a free, online resource for youth, educators, and community organizations that houses 2SLGBTQ+ films and customized educational material.



COLLECTIVE EFFERVESCE

For our 36th Festival, we're focusing on shared connection and reflecting the sense of togetherness that has always defined our Festival and our community.

This year's identity is inspired by collective effervescence, a term coined by sociologist Émile Durkheim to describe the energy and unity that emerge when people come together for a shared purpose. It's that bubbling, electric feeling of connection—felt in shared spaces, collective emotion, and moments of recognition—that sits at the heart of Queer gathering and storytelling.

As Inside Out honours Toronto entering into a pivotal year for sports, we want to celebrate that powerful sense of togetherness. From stadiums to cinemas, and all across the city, these collective moments bring us together. It's the shared pride when your team scores or a film receives a standing ovation at Opening Night; the shared thrill when the buzzer sounds or the credits roll. Reflected through bubbles, the design symbolizes a collective identity that extends beyond the individual, and grows through shared connection.



Created by Toronto-based artist Emmy Tran, whose vibrant, expressive style centres Queer experiences, community, and liberation, our 36th Festival celebrates connection in the collective, bringing stories and people together as one.

@emmytran
emmytran.com



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TICKETS & PASSES

In-Person Tickets and Box Office

Pre-Festival

Visit insideout.ca to purchase memberships and ticket packages. To buy tickets or redeem a package for in-person or digital screenings, head to our online box office anytime at insideout.ca/festival/buy-tickets. You can also visit us in person at the Inside Out office (401 Richmond St. W, Unit 219) during box office hours. For the most up-to-date hours, please check our website.

During Festival

Visit the Inside Out Festival Box Office at TIFF Lightbox, 350 King Street West. The Inside Out Festival Box Office is open every day of the festival, one hour before the first screening of the day and closing 15 minutes after the last screening of the day. All major credit cards are accepted. Please contact boxoffice@insideout.ca for ticketing assistance.

Digital Tickets

To purchase single digital screening tickets, ticket packages for digital screenings, or to redeem a ticket package for digital screenings, visit our Tickets & Passes webpage at insideout.ca/festival/buy-tickets. As films premiere each day in-person, they will be added to the digital platform the following day at 12:00PM for viewers across Ontario and remain available until May 31st at 11:59PM, or until the view cap is reached. All single tickets for digital screenings are valid for 48 hours after you press 'Play.'

Please note, digital screenings are geo-blocked to Ontario only. You must be in Ontario to access digital programming. Digital screenings will be available for select films screening in-person, therefore not every festival film will be available digitally.

Service fees and taxes apply to non-member and member prices online, phone and in-person.

Member discounts are applicable to screening tickets only and exclude ticket packages.

*Includes the RE:Focus Gala Screening & Centerpiece Gala Screening.

**Includes one ticket to each event: Opening Night Gala (Screening & Party), RE:Focus Gala (Pre-Reception & Screening), Centerpiece Gala (Pre-Reception & Screening), and Closing Night Gala (Screening & Party).

Official Ticketing Provider
eventive

Tickets

In-Person Ticket	\$17.50
Digital Ticket	\$14.75
Opening Night & Party	\$45.00
Closing Night & Party	\$35.00
Gala Screening*	\$30.00

Passes

6-Ticket Pack	\$99.00
4-Ticket Gala Pack**	\$130.00
Digital All-Access Pass	\$125.00

ACCESSIBILITY

Reel Access Discount

The Reel Access (15%) discount is available to anyone facing financial barriers to attending the Festival. This discount is valid for both in-person and digital screenings during the 2026 Inside Out 2SLGBTQ+ Film Festival, from May 22 to 31.

If you require a Reel Access discount, enter the code **IOREELACCESS26** at checkout. For any questions regarding accessibility, please email boxoffice@insideout.ca at any time.

Screening Accessibility

Inside Out is committed to improving accessibility for all audience members by identifying, removing, and preventing barriers. For the most up-to-date accessibility information, please visit our website at insideout.ca/festival/accessibility. All screenings (both in-person and online) will feature open captions or full subtitles. Industry Day will feature live captioning. ASL interpretation is available on request by email to access@insideout.ca with at least one week's notice. Audio description is available for a select number of films. For a full listing of these films, please visit our website.



Ticketing, Venue, and Box Office Accessibility

All our venues and box offices are wheelchair accessible. Inside Out also welcomes support persons and service animals in all venues. All of our cinemas have accessible seating and companion seating, which can be reserved by contacting our box office onsite or by email to boxoffice@insideout.ca.

Low Sensory Room

For any audience members with sensory sensitivities, or who may simply need a breather from Festival crowds and activities, a Low Sensory Room is available. This space provides a calming environment where individuals can de-stress, with dimmed lighting and reduced sound levels. A variety of sensory toys, weighted blankets, and other

sensory tools will also be available. The Low Sensory Room is located on the fourth floor of the TIFF Lightbox, just to the left of the elevators. If you need assistance finding the Low Sensory Room, any Inside Out staff member or volunteer will be able to direct you. The room will be open 30 minutes before the first screening and close 30 minutes after the last film begins.

Active Listeners

Active listeners are available after select screenings containing difficult content, which may be upsetting to some viewers. For a full listing of active listener availability, please visit our website.

DONORS & MEMBERS

Inside Out 2SLGBTQ+ Film Festival thrives on the unwavering support of our generous members and donors. Your contributions amplify our shared belief in the transformative impact of 2SLGBTQ+ cinema, uniting diverse audiences through empowerment and entertainment. A heartfelt thanks to all our members and donors, including our 2025/2026 donors, and our Patron, Visionary, and Deluxe members listed below.

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SPOTLIGHT CIRCLE

For 35 years, Inside Out has championed 2SLGBTQ+ cinema by elevating Queer filmmakers and enriching Toronto's cultural landscape through diverse storytelling, inclusive engagement, and industry connections. Our Spotlight Circle donors help expand community reach through partnerships; strengthen and grow programming across in-person and digital platforms; and build a more sustainable financial future through diversified and community-driven fundraising.

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Martha LA McCain
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Adam Morrison and James Owen
Ralph Pascht and Mark Le
Messurier
Bernardine Perreira
Tom Tan

Legacy Society

Neville Austin
Lambert Boenders and Barry
Trentham
Dennis Findlay
Larry Hughsam
The late Karim Ladak
Greg Lichti and Garth Norbraten
Russell Mathew and Scott Ferguson
Adam Morrison and James Owen
The late Philip Rouse
Raphael Sanchez
The late Dr. James Stewart
The late Alan Reginald Westbrook

We appreciate the support of all our members and donors. We apologize for any omissions.

Inside Out's
Charitable Registration Number is
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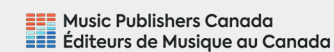


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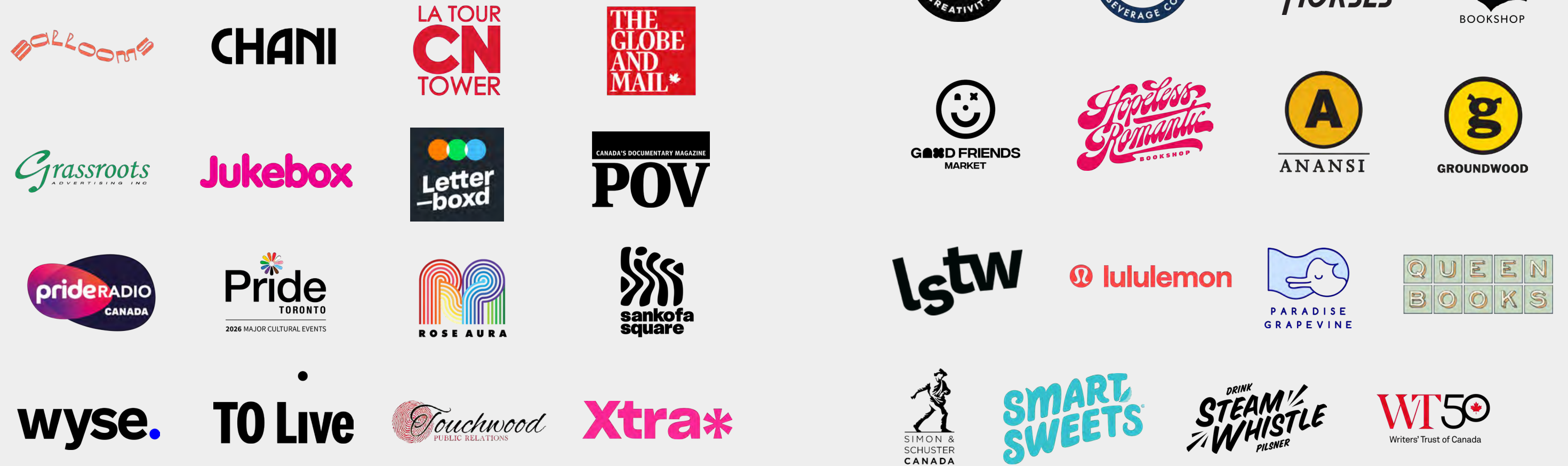


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CINEMA SCHEDULE

Fri, May 22

Sat, May 23

Sun, May 24

Tues, May 26

Wed, May 27

Thurs, May 28

Fri, May 29

Sat, May 30

<p>High School Confidential 1:30PM C1 (p. 92)</p>	<p>A Deeper Love: The Story of Miss Peppermint 11:45AM C3 (p. 60)</p>	<p>The Brittney Griner Story 11:45AM C3 (p. 61)</p>	<p>She's The He 6:45PM C2 (p. 74)</p>	<p>Queering the Process 11:00AM C2</p>	<p>Local Heroes 6:45PM C1 (p. 52)</p>	<p>Thrive 6:45PM C3 (p. 96)</p>	<p>Awards Ceremony 10:30AM TIFF Gallery</p>
<p>Stop! That! Train! 6:45PM C1 (p. 32)</p>	<p>My Brother's Killer 1:30PM C2 (p. 72)</p>	<p>Hunky Jesus 1:30PM C2 (p. 41)</p>	<p>Centrepiece Gala Pre-Reception 7:00PM TIFF Gallery</p>	<p>Final Girls, Gays, and Theys 12:15PM C2</p>	<p>Maddie's Secret 7:00PM C2 (p. 71)</p>	<p>Drunken Noodles 7:00PM C2 (p. 70)</p>	<p>Stories We Tell 11:45AM C2 (p. 54)</p>
<p>Opening Night Gala After Party 9:00PM TIFF Gallery</p>	<p>BOLD 2:00PM C3 (p. 88)</p>	<p>Bodies In Collision 2:00PM C3 (p. 86)</p>	<p>I Come Home 9:15PM C2 (p. 34)</p>	<p>Case Study: Modern Whore 2:15PM C2</p>	<p>Iván and Hadoum 9:15PM C1 (p. 42)</p>	<p>A Second Life 9:00PM C3 (p. 68)</p>	<p>Love Strikes Hard 1:30PM C1 (p. 94)</p>
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	<p>RE:Focus Gala Pre-Reception 5:00PM TIFF Gallery</p>	<p>Out of The Woods 6:45PM C2 (p. 44)</p>		<p>Tracy & Martina: Goin' Out West 6:45PM C2 (p. 51)</p>			<p>What Will I Become 4:15PM C2 (p. 76)</p>
	<p>Lunar Sway 6:45PM C3 (p. 50)</p>	<p>In The Closet 7:00PM C3 (p. 49)</p>		<p>Blood Lust 9:15PM C2 (p. 84)</p>			<p>SKIFF 6:45PM C2 (p. 75)</p>
	<p>Give Me The Ball! 7:00PM C2 (p. 33)</p>	<p>In The Closet: A Very Queer Variety Show 9:00PM TIFF Gallery</p>					<p>Heals 7:00PM C1 (p. 35)</p>
	<p>Perfect 9:15PM C3 (p. 43)</p>	<p>Gugu's World 9:15PM C2 (p. 40)</p>					<p>Closing Gala After Party 9:00PM TIFF Gallery</p>
	<p>On The Sea 9:30PM C2 (p. 73)</p>	<p>Whisperings of the Moon 9:30PM C3 (p. 77)</p>					

- Galas & Special Presentations
- Premieres
- Spotlight on Canada
- International Showcase
- Icons
- Shorts
- Industry Day
- Events

EVENTS SCHEDULE

Go beyond the screenings with a curated series of conversations, celebrations, and special events. From panels to parties, each offers a space to connect with community.



Opening Night Gala After Party
Friday, May 22
9:00PM - 12:00AM
TIFF Gallery

Free entry with an Opening Night Film & Party ticket.



RE:Focus Pre-Reception
Saturday, May 23
5:00PM - 6:30PM
TIFF Gallery

Free entry with a RE:Focus Gala Pre-Reception & Film ticket.



In The Closet: A Very Queer Variety Show
Sunday, May 24
9:00PM - 11:00PM
TIFF Gallery

Free entry with an *In The Closet* screening and show ticket. Presented in partnership with the National Film Board.



Centrepiece Pre-Reception
Tuesday, May 26
7:00PM - 9:00PM
TIFF Gallery

Free entry with a Centrepiece Pre-Reception & Film ticket



Industry Day & Pitch, Please!
Wednesday, May 27
11:00AM - 6:30PM
TIFF Gallery

Free ticketed events. Visit our website for panel details.

Look for this symbol to identify past Pitch, Please! winners.



Thrive Official After Party
Friday, May 29
10:00PM - late
Buddies in Bad Times

Presented in partnership with Slur & Buddies in Bad Times. Tickets can only be purchased at the door, \$10 cover.



Awards Ceremony
Saturday, May 30
10:30AM - 11:30AM
TIFF Gallery

This is a free ticketed event.



Closing Night Gala After Party
Saturday, May 30
9:00 PM - 12:00AM
TIFF Gallery

Free entry with a Closing Night Film & Party ticket. Presented in partnership with New Ho Queen.



Inside Out

Low Sensory Room

Open to anyone who needs a quiet reset.

In Partnership with

TIFF Lightbox, 4th Floor
May 22-30, 2026

THE QUEER BOOK NOOK

A thoughtfully curated selection of 2SLGBTQ+ stories and voices.

TIFF Lightbox, 4th Floor
May 22-30, 2026

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**GALAS
& SPECIAL
PRESENTATIONS**

Stop! That! Train!



Date: Friday, May 22
Time: 6:45PM
Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 1

Director: Adam Shankman
Writers: Christina Friel, Connor Wright
United States | 2026 | 90:00
Canadian Premiere

Screening Sponsor



The wildly hilarious new film from Adam Shankman (*Hairspray*, *The Wedding Planner*) *Stop! That! Train!* combines absurd comedy, outrageous drag, and high-speed disaster-movie chaos to deliver a nonstop thrill ride of action, glamour, and laugh-out-loud camp.

DeeDee (Jujubee) and Tess (Ginger Minj) are grateful for their jobs as train stewardesses for Stank Rail, but they dream of the big time aboard the luxurious Glamazonian Express. When the chance comes to upgrade to those iconic red uniforms, they jump at it—only for their journey to be derailed by a massive

“stormaganza” threatening everyone on board. As panic spreads among a train full of celebrities and elite passengers, DeeDee and Tess must step up to save the day. With help from President Gagwell (RuPaul) and a woman with glasses (Rachel Bloom), they just might pull it off. Featuring Sarah Michelle Gellar, Monét X Change, Matt Rogers, Nicole Richie, Chris Parnell, and Lisa Rinna—among many, many others—*Stop! That! Train!* is a star-studded affair and guaranteed instant Queer classic.

Give Me the Ball!



Date: Saturday, May 23
Time: 7:00PM
Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 2

Director: Liz Garbus and Elizabeth Wolff
United States | 2026 | 102:00
Toronto Premiere

Screening Sponsor



Leadership Circle
 Martha LA McCain

Billie Jean King is a global icon whose impact on tennis and equality resonates around the world. But the personal turmoil behind this transformational figure has, in many ways, remained hidden from view. *Give Me the Ball!* shines an overdue spotlight on the sacrifices King was forced to make behind the scenes.

From struggling to escape an unhappy marriage and hiding her sexual orientation, to facing an eating disorder and staring down misogyny at every turn, her march to triumph was a long and often lonely one. The film reveals

King as the relentless fighter she was compelled to become, taking on high-profile battles to professionalize her sport and demand equal treatment for women. Through a trove of rarely-seen archival material and powerfully honest interviews with King herself, this film explores the depths of agony she endured so that others might follow on a less painful path. It is the story of selflessness, struggle, and triumph that celebrates a figure who is widely admired but never properly understood—until now.

I Come Home



Date: Tuesday, May 26
Time: 9:15PM
Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 2

Director: Glen Wood
Writer: Andreas Vatiliotou
Canada | 2026 | 97:00
World Premiere

Screening Sponsor

CRave

Leadership Circle
 Andrew Mainprize and
 Phillip Kocev

It's stressful enough attending the wedding of your normie sister to the guy next door, especially when the event is presided over by your controlling and dysfunctional parents. Now try doing it with your two polyamorous partners in tow.

In Glen Wood's honest and emotionally complex feature debut, we meet Christine (Hannah Cheesman) and longtime partner Alex (Carlos Gonzalez-Vio) as they're finding their rhythm with a new, younger partner, Stephane (Ryan Ali). When Christine discovers she's unexpectedly pregnant, all three have very different reactions, causing tensions to arise. To

make matters worse, much of this plays out at the wedding of Christine's sister, Kat (Jordan Hayes), where the throuple must navigate judgmental relatives as well as their own, very complicated feelings.

Heals



Date: Saturday, May 30
Time: 7:00PM
Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 1

Director: Pailin Wedel
Thailand | 2026 | 102:00
Language: Thai and English with English subtitles
World Premiere

Screening Sponsors

blue ant

SHAFTESBURY

Heals traces the life of international drag star Pangina Heals from a traumatic childhood to becoming Asia's first drag queen with a Las Vegas residency.

Behind the lashes and laughter is Pan Pan Narkprasert, a Queer Thai artist who transformed pain into power. Once a lonely, bullied child, Pan Pan found refuge in drag—and through it, rose to become one of Asia's most celebrated performers. This intimate documentary follows his journey from family turmoil to a groundbreaking Las Vegas residency, set against the vibrant backdrop of Thailand's Queer culture. Raw and emotionally charged, *Heals* explores how

drag becomes more than performance: it is a means of healing intergenerational trauma, reclaiming identity within a traditional Thai-Chinese family, and building a chosen family of one's own.

RE:
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Leviticus

👁️ This film contains scenes of violence with graphic images of blood and gore.



Date: Friday, May 29
Time: 9:15PM
Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 2

Director: Adrian Chiarella
Writer: Adrian Chiarella
Australia | 2026 | 88:00
Canadian Premiere

It Follows meets *Heated Rivalry*: Adrian Chiarella's *Leviticus* confronts conversion therapy, religious fanaticism, and the turbulence of coming of age, emerging as a thrilling, deeply poignant addition to the Queer horror genre.

In a small, isolated Australian town, little ever seems to happen—until it does. Naim (Joe Bird) and Ryan (Stacy Clausen), seated with their families in church, communicate through stolen glances, guarding a secret that could cost them everything. When it's exposed, their families intervene, determined to "save" them from a life they refuse to accept. But the ritual meant to

cure them unleashes something far more dangerous. Now, hunted by a violent entity that takes the form of the person they desire most—in their case, each other—the boys must work together to break the curse or risk being torn apart forever.

SHAFTESBURY CONGRATULATES THIS YEAR'S INSIDE OUT RE:FOCUS FUND RECIPIENTS



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PRENTERES

Gugu's World (Feito Pipa)



Date: Sunday, May 24
Time: 9:15PM
Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 2

Director: Allan Deberton
Writers: Camila Agustini, Andre Araujo
Brazil | 2026 | 93:00
Language: Portuguese with English subtitles
Canadian Premiere

Leadership Circle
 Andy Chong

With a football at his feet and a heart that refuses to fit within the lines drawn for him, Gugu is a young boy with a larger-than-life spirit. But as his grandmother's health begins to decline, the dazzling inner world and support system that sustain him are at risk of slipping away.

Gugu (Yuri Gomes) is an almost 12-year-old who dreams of becoming a soccer player, living under the loving, open-minded care of his grandmother, Dilma (Teca Pereira), whose warmth allows him to simply be himself. In their small community by the Araújo Lima reservoir—now slowly drying up and revealing the ghostly remains of a

submerged town—the two share a quiet yet powerful bond that shields them from the disapproval of Gugu's father and those around them. As long-buried memories resurface, subtle shifts begin to unsettle their routine: Dilma grows increasingly fragile, and Gugu, determined to preserve their fragile world, is forced to confront the possibility of losing the only safe haven he has ever known.

Hunky Jesus



Date: Sunday, May 24
Time: 1:30PM
Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 2
 Digital Screening Available

Director: Jennifer M. Kroot
United States | 2026 | 85:00
North American Premiere

Join the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence as San Franciscans gather to present their most creative interpretations of an iconic figure (twink Jesus, anyone?) where only one lucky contestant will be crowned the official Hunky Jesus.

For more than 45 years, the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence have served San Francisco's 2SLGBTQ+ communities with compassion, activism, and bucket loads of joy. From producing one of the first community pamphlets about HIV/AIDS during the early days of the epidemic to championing education, outreach, and Queer visibility, the Sisters have long

combined information with positivity for those who needed it most. Filmmaker Jennifer M. Kroot (*To Be Takei* and *The Untold Tales of Armistead Maupin*) returns to shine a spotlight on one of the organization's most beloved traditions: its annual Easter celebration.

Iván & Hadoum



Date: Thursday, May 28

Time: 9:15PM

Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 1

Director: Ian de la Rosa

Writer: Ian de la Rosa

**Spain, Germany, Belgium | 2026
| 100:00**

Language: Spanish and Arabic
with English subtitles

Canadian Premiere

In a greenhouse in southern Spain, Iván falls in love with newly hired coworker, Hadoum. However, his long-awaited promotion interferes with their relationship, forcing Iván to decide what kind of person he wants to be.

Iván's (Silver Chicón) days always seem the same but newly-hired packer Hadoum (Herminia Loh), who has returned to Almería after years away, changes everything when a love without judgment blooms between them. But these star-crossed lovers are put under immediate strain as external forces—culture, identity, class, and economic aspirations—threaten to turn

their dream into a nightmare. Ian de la Rosa's feature directorial debut beautifully explores how romantic connection can triumph, even when faced with the mundane socioeconomic pressures and traditional mindsets that seek to pull us apart.

Perfect



Date: Saturday, May 23

Time: 9:15PM

Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 3

Director: Millicent Hailes

Writer: Millicent Hailes, Kendra Miller

**United States | 2026 | 94:00
International Premiere**

In a world devastated by a contaminated water supply, Kai, a lost and guarded soul, finds herself living out of her car after a bad breakup. When a chance stop in a small town offers her a rare sense of shelter and connection, she's faced with a choice: remain closed off, or risk opening herself to something new.

With both clean water and human connection in short supply, each day is a struggle for Kai (Ashley Moore) until her journey leads her to a hidden utopian lake, where the water is pure and life flourishes. At this secret haven, Kai encounters a band of eccentric misfits, each with their own stories of loss and

hope. Among them is Mallory (Julia Fox), an enigmatic and wealthy pregnant woman living out an escapist fantasy. Despite their starkly different backgrounds, Kai and Mallory are drawn to each other, and a sudden, passionate romance ignites. As their bond deepens, it is also threatened as Kai begins to uncover the layers of Mallory's life and the secrets she harbours.

Out of the Woods



Date: Sunday, May 24
Time: 6:45PM
Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 2
 Digital Screening Available

Director: Sal Bardo
Writer: Sal Bardo
United States | 2026 | 92:00
 World Premiere

Featuring stellar performances by Frances Fisher, Mimi Kennedy, and Bruce Davison, *Out of the Woods* follows Max at a pivotal turning point in her life. Just as her memory begins to fail, an old friend reenters her world, complicating an already uncertain time.

Max (Frances Fisher) is gradually losing her memory. As she struggles to confront and accept this new reality alongside her husband and daughter, the unexpected return of Diana (Mimi Kennedy) brings unresolved feelings back to the surface. Through fragments of memory and rediscovered letters, a hidden part of Max's

past begins to reemerge. As her condition progresses, Max is forced to make a difficult choice: spend the precious time she has left with the woman she has always loved, or remain loyal to the husband who has stood by her.

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Antidiva: The Carole Pope Confessions



Date: Saturday, May 23
Time: 4:15PM
Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 3

Director: Michelle Mama
Canada | 2026 | 89:00

Screening Sponsors



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Leadership Circle
 Bernardine Perreira

Antidiva: The Carole Pope Confessions is a bold, intimate, and darkly funny portrait of Carole Pope: Canada's original Queer rock icon and a taboo-shattering provocateur, whose voice once reverberated across radios, television screens, and underground clubs, only to be quietly sidelined by the very industry she helped disrupt.

From the audacious art-rock band Rough Trade scandalizing the mainstream, to a fearless solo career and a clandestine relationship with Dusty Springfield, *Antidiva* weaves together present-day vérité, candid interviews, never-before-seen archival footage, and electrifying

performances to tell a blistering story of reinvention and resilience. Featuring insights from k.d. lang, Peaches, Rufus Wainwright, Jann Arden, Jeanne Beker, and more, this essential documentary reclaims and recontextualizes Pope's place in Queer and Canadian cultural history. Unvarnished, sexy, and unrepentant, the film reinstates Carole Pope not as a footnote, but as a godmother of punk glam, Queer pride, and radical authenticity.

In the Closet



Date: Sunday, May 24
Time: 7:00PM
Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 3

Director: Ajahnis Charley
Canada | 2026 | 72:00
World Premiere

Screening Sponsors



Figuring out who you are is messy—especially when the world is telling you that you're "not non-binary enough". In this equally hilarious and heartwarming docuseries, comedian and host Ajahnis Charley raids their enby besties' closets looking to affirm both their identity and their hotness.

Ajahnis is joined by iconic comedian Bren D'Souza, and enables their use of psychedelics—psychedelic prints, that is. Actor Amanda Cordner challenges Ajahnis to a dance-off, and improviser to the stars D.J. Mausner breaks down their upscale-playful-masculine-sleazy style. Creator Meg MacKay

brings dress-up back, and drag queen extraordinaire Chelazon Leroux explores the deeper meaning behind their iconic red dress. Clothing will be swapped, laughs will be had, and tears will be shed. That's tears, not tears—no clothing was harmed in the making of this show!

Lunar Sway



Date: Saturday, May 23
Time: 6:45PM
Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 3
 Digital Screening Available

Director: Nick Butler
Writer: Nick Butler
Canada | 2026 | 98:00
Canadian Premiere

Screening Sponsors



Leadership Circle
 Keith Medley

In this dark, quirky comedy, we follow the handsome Cliff (Noah Parker) through a series of misadventures—sexual, romantic, familial, criminal, and otherwise—in the small desert town of Mooncrest.

Cliff spends his days making neon signs, thinking about his ex-boyfriend, quietly borrowing money from his parents, and sparring with his therapist. His routine is upended when a woman (Liza Weil) arrives in town claiming to be his birth mother. Close behind her comes another woman (Grace Glowicki), who claims to be a bounty hunter and warns Cliff that nothing is as it seems. What follows is a

coming-of-age story with a surreal, dreamlike edge, drifting through a world of seedy motels, unexpected sexual encounters, low-level scams, and some truly stellar fringed cowboy shirts.

Tracy & Martina: Goin' Out West



Date: Wednesday, May 27
Time: 6:45PM
Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 2
 Digital Screening Available

Director: Brendan Lyle
Writers: Greg Vardy, Justine Williamson, Brendan Lyle
Canada | 2025 | 77:00
Toronto Premiere

Screening Sponsors



Leadership Circle
 Christopher McKenzie

If Barb and Star were headed to the West Edmonton Mall instead of Vista Del Mar, this offbeat and wildly entertaining mockumentary would be the result.

If you've ever prepared for a trip by cashing in your empties or packing your clothes into a Sobeys bag, you may have found your people in Tracy (Justine Williamson) and Martina (Greg Vardy), two best friends from Cape Breton who got famous online by documenting their distinctly East Coast lifestyles. *Tracy & Martina: Goin' Out West* follows the duo as they head to Alberta on tour to open for a local band. But when plans fall through and resentments rise to

the surface, they must band together to find a way home or risk being stuck in Alberta forever (not that there's anything wrong with that).

Shorts: Local Heroes

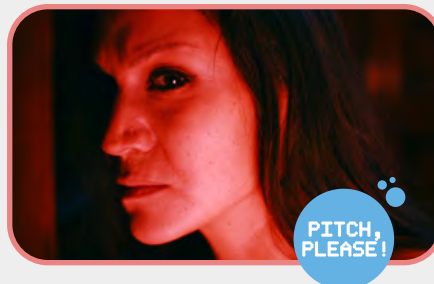
From eye appointments to sex appointments, cheating boyfriends to dancing dogs, this collection of local shorts puts Toronto filmmakers in the spotlight in the way only Inside Out knows how to do. We are here, we are Queer, and we've brought you these incredible, strange, and unforgettable local stories.

Date: Thursday, May 28
Time: 6:45PM
Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 1
 Digital Screening Available

Total program runtime: 97:00

Leadership Circle
 Ralph Pascht and Mark Le
 Messurier

Screening Sponsors



There is Light

Director: Judith Schuyler
 Canada | 2025 | 13:00

Wild, grappling with internalized homophobia, spirals into addiction and denial within a surreal world until an ancient force compels her to choose darkness or healing.



Rooms of Her Own

Director: Yi Shi
 Canada, China | 2026 | 10:00
 Mandarin Chinese with English subtitles

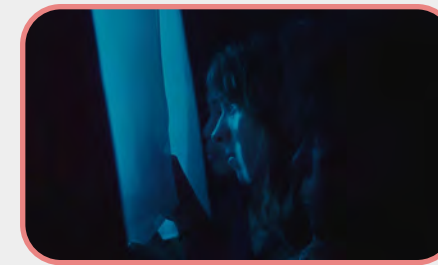
Returning home, a Queer filmmaker finds their mother awakened to a new understanding beyond patriarchy, as the two reconcile amidst a past shaped by unspoken pain.



One or Two

Director: Lief Ramsaran
 Canada | 2025 | 9:00

When everything seems blurry after a recent breakup, Tobi visits an optometrist, convinced she needs new glasses.



Cherry

Director: Shaun Soutar
 Canada | 2026 | 13:00

While their best friend loses their virginity in an adjoining motel room, high school sophomores Charlie and Emmett bond over the sexual insecurity of adolescence.



Devils in the Bush

Director: Juliet Belisario
 Canada | 2025 | 8:00
 English and Korean with English subtitles

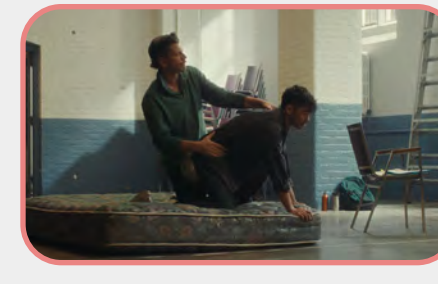
In a humid Toronto summer, 20-something Fei begins to suspect her boyfriend is cheating. As doubt takes root for Fei, she searches for connection elsewhere.



Boygirl

Director: Michal Heuston
 Canada | 2026 | 12:00

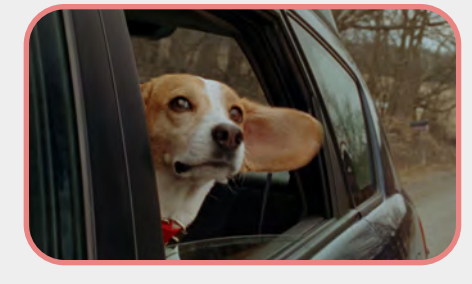
Segments from childhood diaries intertwine with poetry to tell the story of Boygirl: a genderqueer child who is traversing the complexity of their inner world.



Brief Somebodies

Director: Andy Reid
 Canada | 2025 | 15:00

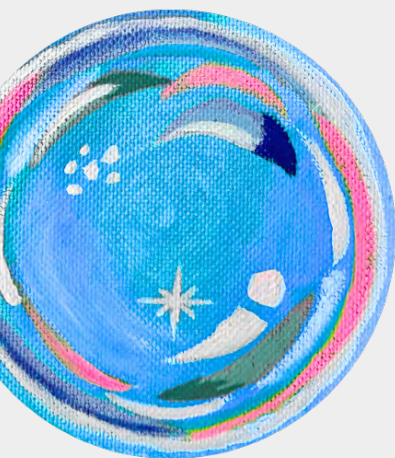
While rehearsing a sexual assault scene, a pair of actors form a connection they'll be forced to reconfigure once filming begins.



How's Archie?

Director: Jessie Posthumus
 Canada | 2025 | 17:00

Charlie and Mere navigate co-parenting their dog, Archie, after their relationship falls apart.



Shorts: Stories We Tell

We're back for our annual journey across Canada to offer up the best of the best of 2SLGBTQ+ filmmakers from coast to coast to coast. A love letter to the work created here, this program is Made in Canada and proud of it.

Date: Saturday, May 30

Time: 11:45AM

Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 2
Digital Screening Available

Screening Sponsors



Total program runtime: 99:00



Same Time Next Year?

Director: Anushay Sheikh
Canada | 2025 | 8:00

Arabic, English, and Urdu with English subtitles

Expecting another uneventful Jumma, Safa finds herself trapped between her overbearing family and an angry ex.

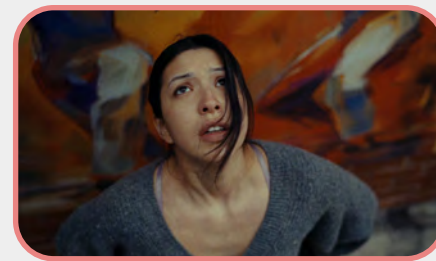


Can't make a flower grow by pulling on it (On tire pas sur une plante pour qu'elle pousse)

Director: Gabrielle Bergeron-Leduc
Canada | 2025 | 16:00

French with English subtitles

During a summer in their chosen Haute-Gaspésie, Rosie-Roch confides in us about their complex relationship with their body and the recent unfolding of their identity.



Niimi

Director: Dana Solomon
Canada | 2025 | 15:00

An Indigenous ballerina attempts to reignite her passion for dancing following a traumatic incident with her previous coach.



The D Word

Director: Mya Van Dyk
Canada | 2025 | 3:00

A butch lesbian is accosted by a manifestation of their Catholic-school-going, homophobic, younger self.



Can You Feel It Now?

Director: Isak Vaillancourt
Canada | 2025 | 9:00

English, Anishinaabemowin, Yoruba, and Fulani with English subtitles

In a speculative future, a First Nations Welcomer and an Arrivant from the African Diaspora reshape first contact, weaving solidarity and healing through poetic exchange.



ACCISMUS

Director: Brandy Marien
Canada | 2026 | 10:00

A woman enters a nightclub where she is desired but never truly seen.



Good Daze

Director: Jonelle Belcourt
Canada | 2025 | 14:00

On the rez and restless, two best friends, Jas and Ari, light up, break free, and stumble into an adventure that will change how they see home, and themselves, forever.

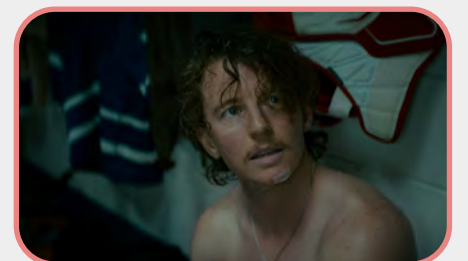


Queen Mother (Inang Reyna)

Director: King Louie Palomo
Canada | 2025 | 14:00

English and Tagalog with English subtitles

When a mother visits her son, a drag performer, a night of raw confessions forces them to confront the unhealed wounds of their past.



Pink Light

Director: Harrison Browne
Canada | 2025 | 11:00

Scott, a transgender man and ex-pro hockey player, is injured during a beer league game. Disoriented from the hit, he is pulled to a moment from his past: a college frat party.



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Icons

two docs

A Deeper Love: The Story of Miss Peppermint



Date: Saturday, May 23
Time: 11:45AM
Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 3

Director: Oriol Pe'er
United States | 2025 | 86:00
Toronto Premiere

Screening Sponsor

tvo docs

Champion Circle
Neil Betteridge

A Deeper Love: The Story of Miss Peppermint follows trailblazing performer and activist Peppermint across nearly a decade of her life and career, capturing her journey from the underground stages of nightlife to global visibility through *RuPaul's Drag Race* and her groundbreaking appearances on Broadway.

Moving between intimate private moments and major public milestones, this highly entertaining and insightful documentary reveals the realities behind the spotlight: the struggle to survive as a working artist, the pressure of becoming a symbol, and the friendships that sustain her along the way. Executive produced by

Elliot Page and Bob the Drag Queen, and featuring appearances from icons including Laverne Cox, Michaela Jaé Rodriguez, and Sasha Velour, the film expands beyond a single biography to explore the vibrant Queer community that surrounds and inspires Peppermint. At its heart, *A Deeper Love* is a story about persistence, chosen family, and the power of Queer artists to shape culture while fighting to live authentically.

The Brittney Griner Story



Date: Sunday, May 24
Time: 11:45AM
Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 3

Director: Alexandria Stapleton
United States | 2026 | 105:00
Canadian Premiere

Screening Sponsor


tvo docs

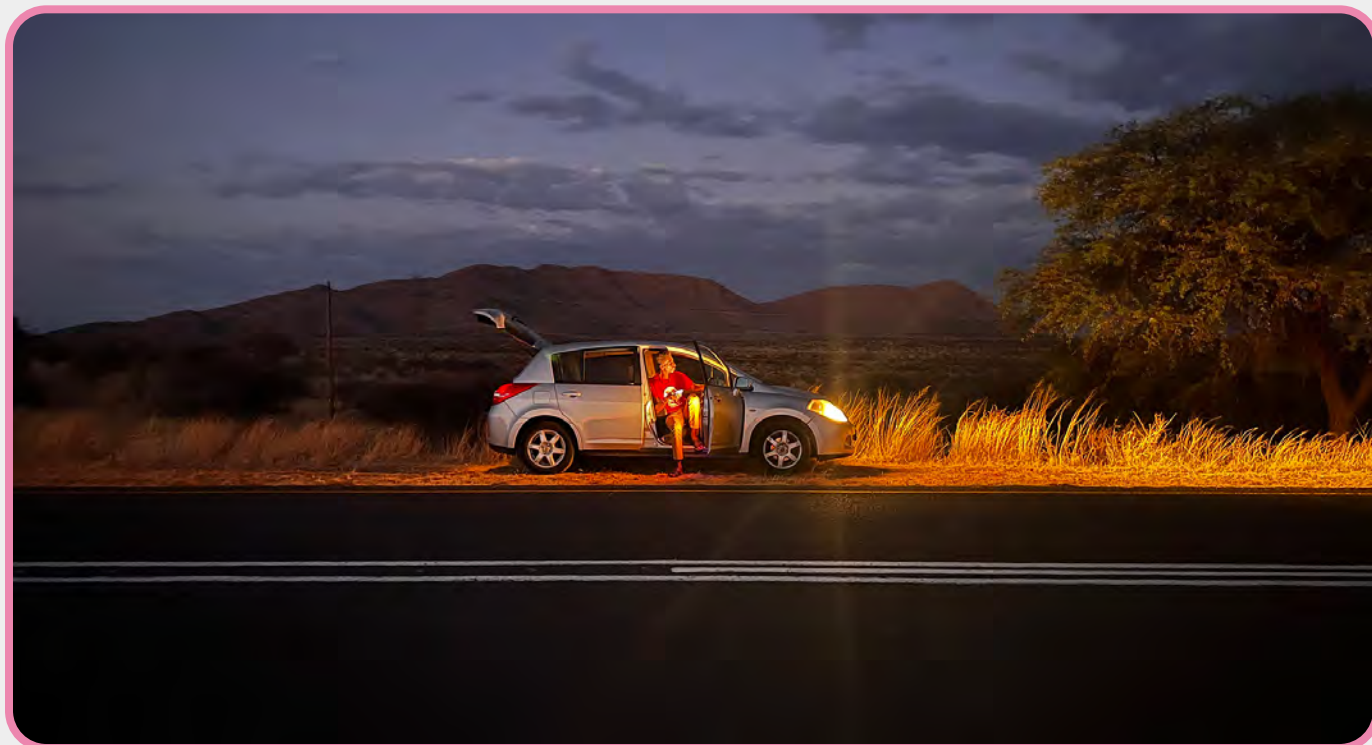
This personal and profound odyssey follows basketball star Brittney Griner from her playing career, harrowing imprisonment in Russia, and through the extraordinary geopolitical battle to bring her home.

Like so many talents of women's basketball before her, U.S. star Brittney Griner pursues a better financial opportunity by playing in Russia. In 2022, she was detained by Russian authorities, and her high-profile imprisonment set off a far-ranging geopolitical struggle, one that would reach the highest levels of power in Washington, D.C. and Moscow. This extraordinary odyssey tells the tumultuous

story of a towering presence on and off the court, including the circumstances that led her to Russia, the unwavering determination to return home, and her renewed perspective upon securing her freedom.

Out Laws

 This film includes discussions of extreme homophobia and transphobia, including the murder of 2SLGBTQ+ individuals.



Date: Saturday, May 30
Time: 2:00PM
Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 2
Digital Screening Available

Director: James Lewis,
Lexi Powner
United Kingdom, Namibia |
2026 | 79:00
International Premiere

Screening Sponsor
tvo docs

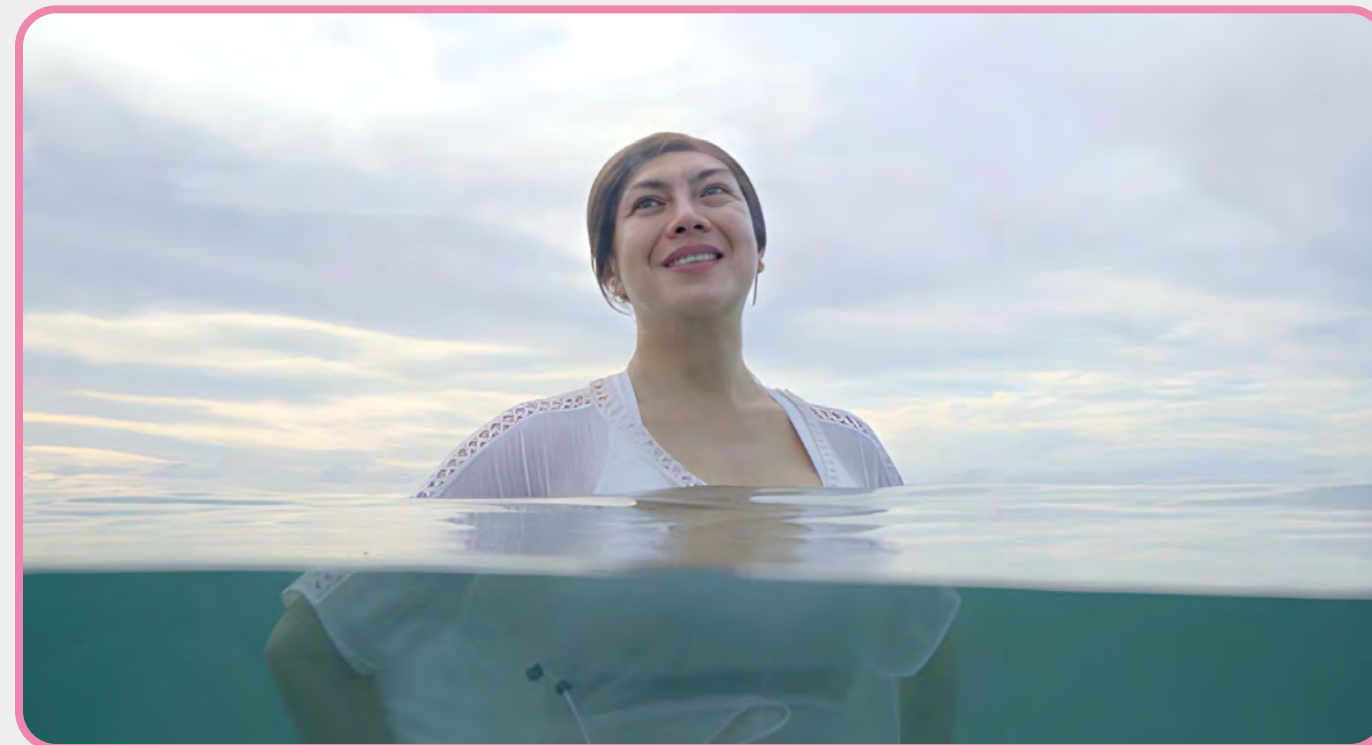
Leadership Circle
Greg Taylor, Sentinel Maintenance Inc.

One part striking Queer history lesson and one part introduction to some of the most courageous activists of our time, *Out Laws* follows three litigants putting their own lives at risk to make their countries safer places for 2SLGBTQ+ people.

Friedel Dausab is at the heart of a battle centuries in the making. Challenging Namibia's criminalization of same-sex love, Friedel becomes a beacon of hope for countless Queer Namibians who long for freedom and safety. Amid death threats, relentless public scrutiny, and the chilling spectre of a serial killer, Friedel takes his country to court. The film traces the roots of this

injustice: an ancient and enduring legacy born in Tudor England, spread through colonialism, and amplified by contemporary Christian evangelism. Prominent Queer historians illuminate this history as Friedel joins fellow activists Rosanna (Sri Lanka) and Raven (Barbados) in London, where they prepare to deliver a rousing speech at Pride, and await Friedel's judgment.

The Road to Sydney



Date: Saturday, May 23
Time: 4:00PM
Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 2
Digital Screening Available

Director: Benito Bautista
United States, Canada,
Phillipines | 2026 | 100:00
International Premiere

Screening Sponsor
tvo docs

Leadership Circle
Tom Tan

Filmmaker Benito Bautista introduces us to Sydney, a renowned choreographer who left the Philippines to follow her dreams as a dancer. After years of putting her own needs on the back burner, she has finally transitioned into the woman she always knew she was—though this journey comes with its own set of challenges.

The Road to Sydney follows Filipina choreographer Sydney Loyola, who found refuge and happiness in dance while navigating a difficult childhood in Palawan. Now living in San Francisco, Sydney has finally decided to put herself first, beginning her medical transition

with the support of her chosen family. However, her path is soon complicated by the harsh realities of job loss and eviction. Seeking a way forward, Sydney travels back to her hometown in Palawan, returning as her true self for the first time. Her journey proves that no matter the obstacles, following your heart will always lead you to the right destination.

We Are Pat



Date: Sunday, May 24
Time: 4:30PM
Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 3

Director: Rowan Haber
United States | 2025 | 92:00
Toronto Premiere

Screening Sponsor

tvo docs

Many iconic *Saturday Night Live* characters made the leap to the big screen in the 1990s: Mary Katherine Gallagher, the Roxbury Guys, Wayne and Garth, and, of course, Pat. These films are unmistakably products of their time, but *We Are Pat* confronts the aging of comedy head-on.

We Are Pat explores the evolution of gender identity and comedy from the '90s to the present day through the lens of the iconic Saturday Night Live sketch, *It's Pat*. The film examines Pat's origins as a joke rooted in the cultural anxiety of the '90s while drawing striking parallels to today's culture wars. To work through its findings, trans and

non-binary comedians and culture-makers reimagine the original Pat sketches, using camp and humour in an attempt to reclaim the iconic character. Through these reinterpretations, alongside interviews with Julia Sweeney herself, the film ultimately asks: is Pat worth saving?






INTERNATIONAL SHOWCASE

MUBI 

A Second Life

 This film explores mental health struggles, including suicidal ideation.



Date: Friday, May 29
Time: 9:00PM
Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 3
Digital Screening Available

Director: Laurent Slama
Writer: Thomas Keumurian, Laurent Slama
France | 2025 | 77:00
Language: English and French with English subtitles
Toronto Premiere

Screening Sponsor



Leadership Circle
William and Gary Klein

On the opening day of the Olympic Games, we meet Elisabeth as she performs the thankless job of taking rich tourists to their apartment rentals across Paris. In one such tourist, she meets her foil, a free spirit who threatens to find fault in her jaded worldview.

Elisabeth (Agathe Rousselle) is barely holding it together under the weight of a deep depression. She finds solace losing herself in Monet's *Waterlilies* at the Musée de l'Orangerie, but as tourists flock to Paris, her oasis turns foul. Her last respite from the chaos and overwhelming noise of the city is removing her hearing aids and retreating into silence

and herself, but when a rental gets double-booked, and she has to babysit the anything but quiet Elijah (Alex Lawther) until his room is ready, that, too, is now out of reach. While at first glance this appears to be just another obstacle, the brief encounter turns into an unexpected, but vital, connection. Shot almost exclusively on location during the 2024 Olympics, *A Second Life* captures the vibrancy of Paris in full bloom.

Black Burns Fast



Date: Sunday, May 24
Time: 4:00PM
Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 2
Digital Screening Available

Director: Sandulela Asanda
Writer: Sandulela Asanda
South Africa | 2026 | 96:00
Language: English and Xhosa with English subtitles
Canadian Premiere

Screening Sponsor



A film about the joy that comes from owning one's own story and identity, *Black Burns Fast* follows a bookish scholarship student at a prestigious boarding school whose rigid life is upended by the arrival of a magnetic new student.

Behind the doors of a prestigious all-girls boarding school in South Africa, another year of academic politics, cliques, and head-scratching teenage shenanigans is afoot, and 17-year-old Luthando (Eshile Ndleleni) is unfortunately getting wrapped up in it. As the poster child and designated gifted scholarship girl of the school, Luthando is determined to not make a splash;

meet her overzealous religious mother's expectation; and succeed with little notice from the sharks. However, that hope is thrown out the window when new student Ayanda (Muadi llung) steps onto campus. A budding romance sparks an internal change that is expressed boldly in Sandulela Asanda's vibrant, funny, and wholesome coming-of-age teen romcom.

Drunken Noodles

👁️ This film contains scenes with graphic sexual content.



Date: Friday, May 29
Time: 7:00PM
Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 2

Director: Lucio Castro
Writer: Lucio Castro
United States, Argentina | 2025 | 81:00
Language: English and Spanish with English subtitles
Toronto Premiere

Screening Sponsor



Leadership Circle
Neville Austin

Drunken Noodles follows an art student through space and time in this collection of intimate encounters ranging from the mundane to the magical.

Adnan (Laith Khalifeh) finds himself alone in Brooklyn, but a clandestine meeting on a warm summer night with a delivery driver-cum-poet brings the echo of past lovers to the forefront of his mind. Set across two summers, we join Adnan on an odyssey through memory as he meets the alluring men of his past, whose influence still lingers in his present. In *Drunken Noodles*, director Lucio Castro expertly captures the dreamlike sensuality of midsummer's

twilight. Alive with a sense of freedom and possibility, this film is as savoury and sweet as its namesake.

Maddie's Secret

👁️ This film includes depictions of eating disorders and related trauma, specifically bulimia nervosa.



Date: Thursday, May 28
Time: 7:00PM
Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 2

Director: John Early
Writer: John Early
United States | 2025 | 98:00

Screening Sponsor




Maddie's Secret, comedian John Early's debut feature, masterfully blends the campy tone and aesthetic of a 1980s movie-of-the-week with a deeply affecting portrait of a young woman struggling with an eating disorder.

From the outside, Maddie Ralph (John Early) seems to have it all: a solid partner (Eric Rahill); a career she loves creating food-related content; and a supportive, loving best friend (Kate Berlant). But beneath this carefully curated life lies a dark history of self-harm and disordered eating that now threatens to resurface. As her struggle inches closer to the surface,

Maddie enters a treatment program where she is forced to confront the person at the root of many of her issues: her mother (Kristen Johnston). Expertly balancing sharp comedy with emotional depth, and elevated by nuanced, pitch-perfect performances from some of today's most compelling comedic actors, the film is an experience you truly have to see to believe.

My Brother's Killer

 This film contains graphic discussions around violence, including the murder of 2SLGBTQ+ individuals.



Date: Saturday, May 23
Time: 1:30PM
Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 2

Director: Rachel Mason
United States | 2026 | 95:00
Canadian Premiere

Screening Sponsor



Just before Halloween of 1990, the decapitated head of Billy London, a gay adult film actor, was found in a West Hollywood dumpster. For over 30 years, Billy's unsolved murder has haunted his family, friends, and police investigators. Could new clues finally solve the mystery?

This gripping true crime documentary chronicles the quest to find out who killed 25-year-old William Arnold Newton. Under the name Billy London, he worked both in front of and behind the camera in Los Angeles's gay adult video industry. Several people connected to the industry were once suspects, including Billy's ex-boyfriend,

Marc Rabins, and Jeffrey Dahmer. But the lack of concrete evidence continued to stump the LA Police Department—until relentless amateur investigation uncovered some promising new leads. Director Rachel Mason (*Circus of Books*) mixes archival footage and new interviews to show how those who cared about Billy never stopped trying to bring him justice.

On The Sea



Date: Saturday, May 23
Time: 9:30PM
Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 2

Director: Helen Walsh
Writer: Helen Walsh
United Kingdom | 2025 | 111:00
Canadian Premiere

Screening Sponsors



Leadership Circle
 Tony Markotich

Middle-aged Jack (Barry Ward) is faced with a dilemma: should he continue his life with his wife and son, or start a new one with Daniel, a charming younger man he recently met?

Set in a remote fishing village in North Wales, this atmospheric and moving film follows Jack as he faces a difficult choice. Jack is married to Maggie (Liz White) and a father to teenage Tom (Henry Lawfull), who Jack hopes will follow him into the family mussel business. When Daniel (Lorne MacFadyen), a deckhand, arrives in town, Jack's long buried desire to be with a man surfaces, and the two begin a steamy and tender affair. As the

affair grows, Daniel wants more but Jack is reluctant to give it. He still values his married life but also wants to explore living openly with a man. Which will he choose and what will he have to give up in the process?

She's The He



Date: Tuesday, May 26
Time: 6:45PM
Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 2

Director: Siobhan McCarthy
Writer: Siobhan McCarthy
United States | 2025 | 81:00
Canadian Premiere

Screening Sponsor



Siobhan McCarthy's feature debut brings us the high school coming-of-age comedy you knew you needed. With authenticity and joy both behind and in front of the lens, *She's The He* delivers a refreshing, warm, and hilarious story about acceptance, friendship, and trans joy.

One week before their high school graduation, best friends Alex (Nico Carney) and Ethan (Misha Osherovich) concoct a plan to finally dispel the rumors that they're gay... By coming out as trans women. With newfound access to the girls' locker room, Alex's goal to lose his virginity before college seems to be on track, while Ethan slowly realizes

that her new identity is starting to feel more real than the one she left behind. The two must reckon with their changing friendship, coming out, and coming of age.

SKIFF



Date: Saturday, May 30
Time: 6:45PM
Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 2
 Digital Screening Available

Director: Cecilia Verheyden
Writer: Cecilia Verheyden, Vincent Vanneste
Belgium, Netherlands, Sweden | 2025 | 106:00

Language: French and Flemish with English subtitles
Toronto Premiere

Screening Sponsor



Champion Circle




SKIFF captures the volatile intensity of coming of age, unfolding over a summer that feels both liberating and tense. With sensitivity and restraint, the film traces 15-year-old Malou's journey through self-discovery, where innocence gives way to experience, and every decision carries a deeper consequence.

Malou (Femke Vanhove) lives in a small town where she struggles to make friends but excels in the local rowing club. Growing up with a mother who is often absent, and bullied by her teammates, Malou sees her brother Max (Wout Vleugels) as the only person with whom she can truly be herself. When Max brings

home his new girlfriend, Nouria (Lina Miftah), Malou finds herself drawn to her and, as the two spend more time together, it begins to appear that the feeling is mutual. Plunged into a complex and turbulent love triangle over the course of the summer, Malou will have to accept herself as she truly is, but can she do so without hurting her beloved brother?

What Will I Become?

 This film addresses depression, suicide, sexualized violence, and anti-trans discrimination.



Date: Saturday, May 30
Time: 4:15PM
Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 2
 Digital Screening Available

Director: Lexie Bean, Logan Rozos
United States | 2026 | 86:00
Canadian Premiere

Screening Sponsor



Leadership Circle
 Paul Cadiente

In a world where trans rights remain fragile, directors Lexie Bean and Logan Rozos use a lens of love and honesty to delve into the harsh reality of the high suicide rate within the transmasculine community.

What Will I Become? intertwines the personal experiences of directors Lexie and Logan with the stories of two young trans men who died by suicide. Homecoming king Blake Brockington and animal lover Kyler Prescott were poets, musicians, and community advocates. The film traces their joys and challenges, their deaths, and the aftermath within their communities. *What Will I Become?* asks why

transmasculine people are particularly vulnerable to living briefly and dying quietly, while providing hope that community, prevention practices, and genuine care can change the future for those who remain.

Whisperings of the Moon



Date: Sunday, May 24
Time: 9:30PM
Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 3
 Digital Screening Available

Director: Yuqing Lai
Writer: Zoey Cao, Yuqing Lai, Jatla Siddartha
Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, India | 2025 | 87:00
Language: Khmer and English with English subtitles
Canadian Premiere

Screening Sponsor



Leadership Circle
 Chris Chin

Whisperings of the Moon, the debut feature from late filmmaker Yuqing Lai, is a tender, time-shifting portrait of love, memory, and loss from a singular artistic voice whose vision knew no bounds.

Following her father's death, theatre actor Nisay (Sopheanith Thong) returns from New York to Phnom Penh, where she is unexpectedly reunited with Thida (Deka Nine), her former lover. As past and present intertwine, the film traces the quiet intensity of their secret relationship and the forces that drove

them apart. Now, under the weight of family and societal expectations, can their passion endure beyond memory and performance—or is it destined to fade once more?

WATCH

GREAT



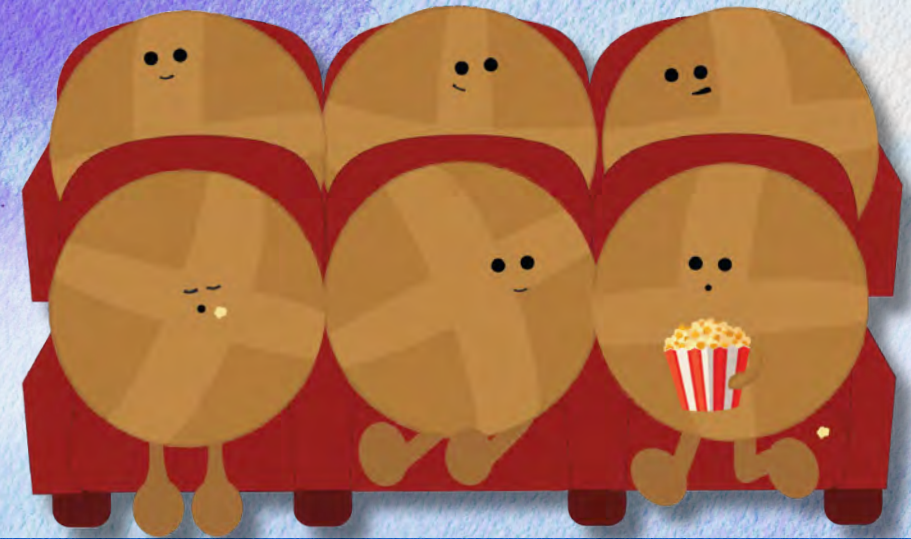
CINEMA

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SHORTS

Shorts: Beg For It

Whether it is competition, the presence of a serial killer, or even the ghost of your grandmother, many things can affect our relationships. Though dating is difficult, this collection of shorts explores the ups and downs of relationships while searching for a light at the end of the tunnel.

Date: Thursday, May 28

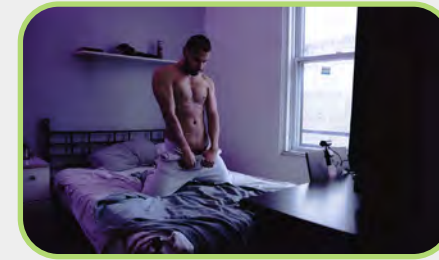
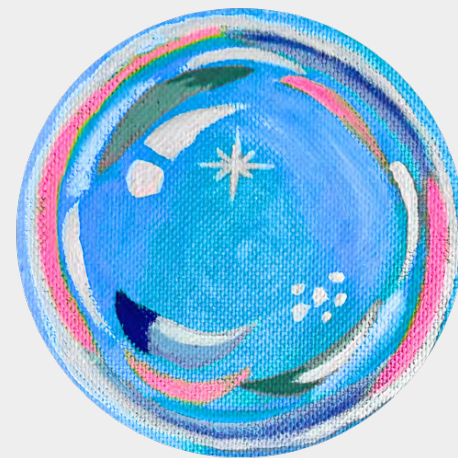
Time: 9:30PM

Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 2
Digital Screening Available

Leadership Circle

Larry Hughsam

Total program runtime: 90:00



0004NGEL

Director: Eli Jean Tahchi
Canada | 2025 | 12:00
Spanish, French, and English
with English subtitles

To support his mother in Mexico, Angel, a nude dancer, turns the internet into his new stage.



Pakka

Director: Iniyavan Elumalai
Netherlands | 2026 | 18:00
English, Dutch and Hindi with
English subtitles

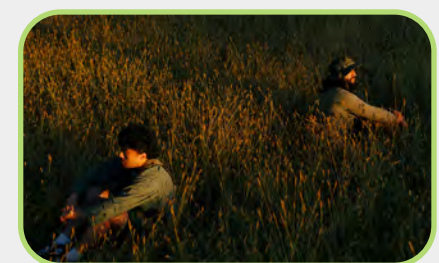
Four gay Indian friends share an unbreakable bond on a Dutch cricket field. But when one agrees to an arranged marriage in India, their chosen family begins to unravel.



Purebred

Director: Caleb J. Roberts
Ireland, United Kingdom | 2025 | 15:00

During a heatwave, a transgender man returns to the flat of his on-again, off-again lover after taking a pregnancy test.



Picking Crew

Director: Tanu Gago
New Zealand | 2025 | 12:00
English and Samoan with English
subtitles

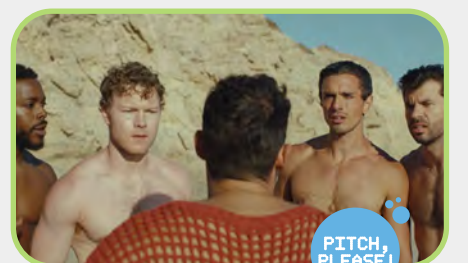
Tomasi craves connection amidst the isolation of a rural apple orchard manned by a picking crew of young guys.



Grandma Nai Who Played Favourites (Chao Somnop Chet)

Director: Chheangkea
Cambodia, France, United States | 2025 | 19:00
Khmer with English subtitles


During her chaotic family's Qingming visit, dead Grandma Nai sneaks away from her peaceful afterlife after overhearing that her Queer grandson is about to get engaged to a woman.



I'm Gonna Kill You

Director: Andrew Chappelle
United States | 2025 | 14:00

Cal and Spector have been paired to carry on humanity as we know it...Even if it kills them.

 This film contains scenes with graphic violence, including the murders of 2SLGBTQ+ individuals.

Shorts: Blood Lust

Chaos and murder, but make it fun? Yes, absolutely. From sci-fi crushes to literal trash people, and trauma demons to the monsters we love, this collection of shorts is designed to have you questioning whether to laugh, cry, or scream—though, honestly, why choose just one?

Date: Wednesday, May 27

Time: 9:15PM

Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 2
Digital Screening Available

⚠️ This program contains scenes that may be disturbing, including depictions of violence, murder, blood, and gore.

Total program runtime: 104:00



Scissors

Director: Hannah Alline
United States | 2026 | 12:00

A slasher with a grudge meets his match when a group of Queer friends on a weekend getaway turn his killing spree into a bloody night he never saw coming.



Tuna Tartare

Director: Lena Greene
United States, France | 2025 | 11:00

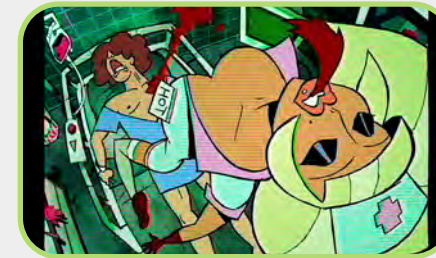
In a karaoke bar in a post-apocalyptic Los Angeles, an expired can of tuna fish and a fake Louis Vuitton purse encourage each other to believe in their artistic voices even if the world sees them as trash.



My Gay Demon Girlfriend

Director: Samantha Wyss
Canada | 2025 | 6:00

Human, Andie, brings her demon girlfriend, Ogg, to meet her friends for the first time.



Skin Flick

Directors: Louise Bailly, Daniela Del Castello, Alice Levy, Bruno De Mendonça, Elifsu Meriç, Joey Quoc Tran
France | 2025 | 8:00

An X-actress stars in the Devil's cannibalistic snuff movies in exchange for a beautiful, bombshell skin, but when she lures a runaway bride to the studio, she develops feelings that will disrupt the Devil's plan.



Houston, We Have a Crush

Director: Omer Ben Shachar
United States | 2025 | 11:00

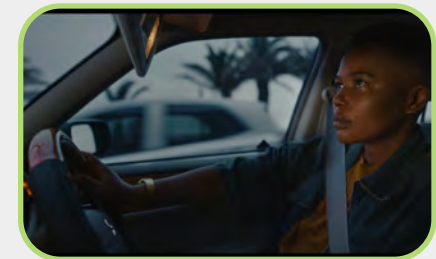
After finding a phone accidentally left behind by an astronaut, a lonely alien develops an all-consuming crush that tests his hold on reality.



Next in Line

Director: Danny Dolan
United States | 2026 | 21:00

After losing out on the job of a lifetime, a jaded choreographer's escape to the desert is hijacked by an unhinged and malicious rival.



Dread

Directors: Loren Loubser, Gabe Gabriel
South Africa, United Kingdom | 2026 | 9:00

A Black transmasculine Uber driver's car becomes dangerously possessed when a German hippie offloads her trauma demon on a ride through the racially segregated, tourist-infested Cape Town.



Mothballs

Director: Aisha Evelynna
Canada | 2025 | 11:00

A puppet named AL and his favourite human hide out from the authorities in a not-so-distant future where puppets have become a persecuted class.



Matches

Director: Jake Delaney
United States | 2026 | 15:00

After matching with a famous actor on a dating app, Ryan is invited to a party at his mansion and is unexpectedly thrown into a cutthroat competition for the actor's heart.

Shorts: Bodies in Collision

Put two or more people in a room and there are endless ways for competition to emerge. From a callback for a role to a good old mud wrestling match, it can take many forms. This collection of shorts is all about how confrontation can build into very heated rivalries.

Date: Sunday, May 24
Time: 2:00PM
Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 3
 Digital Screening Available



Leadership Circle
 Greg Lichti and Garth Norbraten

Total program runtime: 86:00



Stalling

Director: Jasia Ka
United States | 2025 | 13:00

An unlikely love story unfolds when two women bond over a shared cheating ex, and continue to connect year after year in the same bar bathroom.



Lesbian Mud Wrestling

Director: Kirsty Wilson
Australia | 2025 | 15:00

Every night, Kit dreams of the golden strap: the ultimate prize for the ultimate lesbian mud wrestler.



Cottonmouth

Director: Ama Anane
United States | 2025 | 15:00

A Black graduate student gets cold feet about bringing her white girlfriend on a research trip to visit the Cottonmouth Plantation & Wine Cellar.



Bare Roots

Director: Ellen McDougall
United Kingdom | 2025 | 15:00

Sue's farm is about to be buried by second homes, but her daughter's return unearths deeper truths.



This House That Bears No Fruit

Director: Chantal Leong
Canada | 2026 | 6:00

A teenage girl reckons with her relationship with her mother while suspecting that she may be eating far more than just fruits from their garden.



Clean Slate

Director: Emily May Jampel
United States | 2025 | 9:00

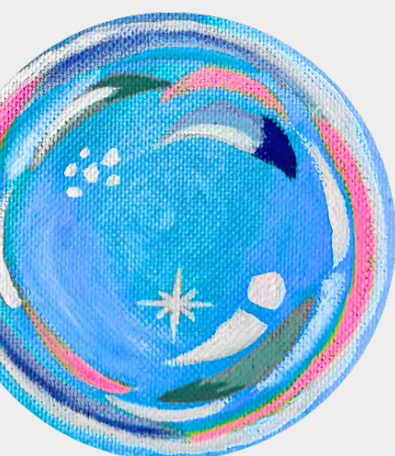
Two Asian nonbinary best friends and actors must make some sacrifices when they go up for the same breakout role.



Ronita Rambo

Director: Michael Doshier
United States | 2026 | 13:00

At a small-town diner in rural Missouri, a tough-talking waitress finds the courage to ask a pair of gay teens for help texting her new crush.



Shorts: BOLD

Experience BOLD, a vibrant short film program celebrating the work of Black Queer filmmakers. From digital-age intimacy and post-apocalyptic archive hunts to fervent dream chasing and surreal deli break-ins, these stories defy convention. Join us to witness a powerful, unapologetic exploration of identity, connection, and creative brilliance.

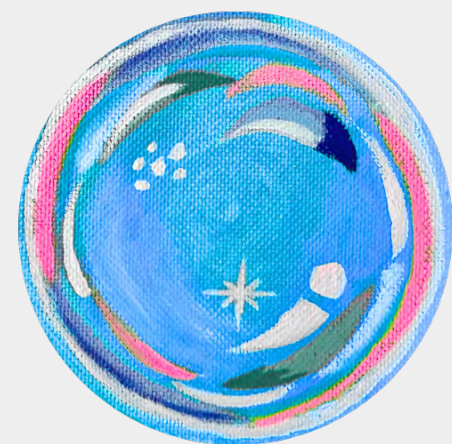
Date: Saturday, May 23

Time: 2:00PM

Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 3
Digital Screening Available

Total program runtime: 97:00

Screening Sponsor



We will be who we are

Director: Priscillia Kounkou Hoveyda
Sierra Leone | 2025 | 16:00
Krio with English subtitles

In Sierra Leone, best friends Aya and Boi decide to marry each other in an attempt to escape society's pressures to conform.



FLY

Director: Carlton Daniel Jr.
United States | 2026 | 15:00

When a ballet company holds auditions for a competitive apprenticeship, a perfection-driven dancer has their world upended by a rival who rekindles their love for the craft.



Blind Spots

Director: Missy Ngamlana
South Africa | 2025 | 13:00

When Nandi and Sinethemba connect online, their budding romance is tested by past heartbreaks and unspoken truths, forcing them to confront whether love can survive their blind spots.



Wholesome

Director: Kimmy Campbell
United States | 2025 | 12:00

After accidentally breaking into their favorite deli when it closes without notice, two friends attempt to recreate the home they once found there.



The Adventures of the Black Girl in her Search for Mabel Dove

Director: Nnenna Onuohai
Ghana, Germany | 2025 | 15:00

In a post-apocalyptic world where archives have been destroyed, a young Black woman sets out in search of Mabel Dove, a writer from the past whose work inspires her.



Lázaro's Temptation (A Perdição de Lázaro)

Director: Diego Paulino
Brazil | 2026 | 26:00
Portuguese with English subtitles

Lázaro spends a lot of time at the gym, but he does not see the expected results... Until one day he signs up for the premium plan.

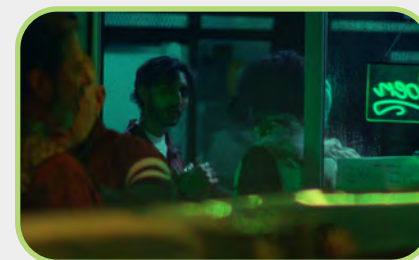
Shorts: Crimes of Passion

From the intensity of two actors in a relationship to the frenzy of a busy takeaway restaurant, or even the complications of inviting a third into your dynamic, sometimes there really can be too much heat. This collection of shorts explores how passion, ambition, and desire can sometimes become a little too hot to handle.

Date: Saturday, May 30
Time: 4:00PM
Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 1
 Digital Screening Available

Leadership Circle
 Adam Morrison and James Owen

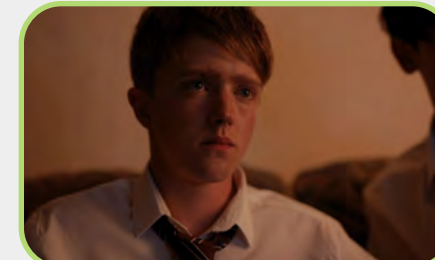
Total program runtime: 90:00



MAGID / ZAFAR

Director: Luís Hindman
United Kingdom | 2025 | 19:00
 English and Urdu with English subtitles

Tensions arise amidst the heat of a busy British Pakistani takeaway.



Yellow Bucket

Director: Simon Brooke
United Kingdom | 2025 | 15:00

A scientific discovery about the origins of homosexuality forces Connor and his family into a standoff during his young brother's birthday party.



Xylella Fastidiosa

Director: Thomas Colineau
France | 2025 | 22:00
 French with English subtitles

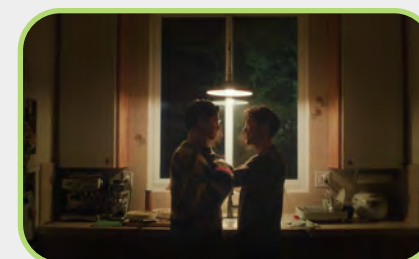
Simon works in a garden centre in southern France with his overbearing mother. Ghosted by Corentin, Simon finds solace in Hyacinth, confronting loneliness and a generation lost to AIDS.



something still

Director: Ariel Mahler
United States | 2025 | 19:00

When a heartbroken man reunites with his ex-boyfriend, they're forced to confront the aftermath of a boundary they chose to blur.



Callback

Director: Matthew Puccini
United States | 2026 | 16:00

Max arrives home to find that his boyfriend has booked a callback. All hell breaks loose.

Shorts: High School Confidential

First crushes, history lessons, bold moves, and K-Pop—this collection of shorts by and about youth captures the energy, curiosity, and chaos of growing up. What do you need to bring? Just an open mind and a youthful heart.

Date: Friday, May 22
Time: 1:30PM
Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 1
 Digital Screening Available

Total program runtime: 72:00



I Wanna Hold Your Hand

Director: Conor Larsen, Zachary Kornblum
Canada | 2026 | 2:00

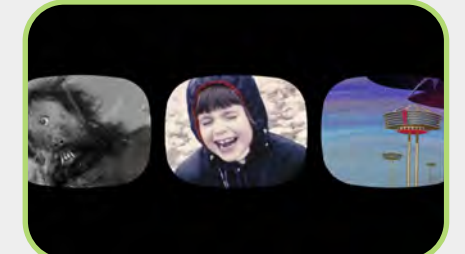
In a dark movie theatre, a young boy's anxiety swells as he debates making the first move—until a small act of courage speaks louder than words.



Sister of Mine (Syster min)

Director: André Vaara
Sweden | 2025 | 12:00
 Swedish with English subtitles

Ten-year-old Noel wants to be more like his older sister. A visit to the hairdresser sparks jealousy, bringing sibling rivalry to the surface.



The Fruit Machine: A Space Opera

Director: Lorri Millan, Shawna Dempsey
Canada | 2025 | 6:00

In the 1960s, a Queer little space alien crashes to earth and uses TV as a survival guide.



Q-Pop

Director: Adri Murguia
United States, Peru, South Korea | 2026 | 27:00
 English, Korean, Quechua, and Spanish with English subtitles

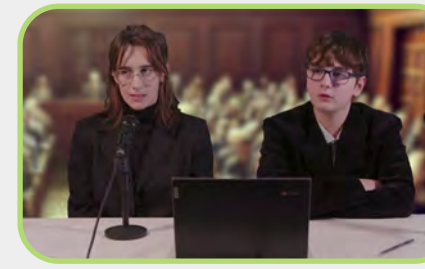
23-year-old “Q-Pop” artist and TikTok sensation, Lenin Tamayo, revolutionizes the Peruvian music scene, combining infectious K-Pop sounds with his ancestral tongue.



Wheels & Roses

Director: Pearl Low
United States, Thailand | 2025 | 8:00

In a whirlwind of magical mishaps and roller-skating mayhem, Sahara, a magic-less teenager, unwittingly finds herself thrust into the fantastical world of roller derby.



Sicari

Director: Lola Huertas
Spain | 2025 | 3:00
 Catalan and Spanish with English subtitles

A hitwoman faces a trial... Of values.



With Love, Lottie

Director: Lily Drummond
Australia | 2025 | 14:00

A disabled teenager enlists her friends as mentors in the unpredictable world of dating and discovers that love can come in unexpected ways and different forms.



Shorts: Love Strikes Hard

From the spark of a first Queer crush to the ache of watching your one true love from the afterlife, love is rarely simple. It can be tender and sweet and at other times... Not so much. This collection of shorts captures both the pleasure and the pain that comes when love strikes you hard.

Date: Saturday, May 30
Time: 1:30PM
Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 1
 Digital Screening Available

Screening Sponsor



Total program runtime: 85:00



A Cat in the Rain

Director: Carly Balestreri
 Canada | 2026 | 11:00

Classmates Samantha and Melissa get carried away while finishing a project for their high school English class.



I Like the Way You Taste

Director: Maya Williams
 United Kingdom | 2025 | 5:00

Kaeshelle and Nicholle embody softness, Black Queer love, and the unspoken power of touch. Through intimate moments and the challenges of public affection, they explore how love fosters self-acceptance and growth.



First Death

Director: Alyssa Lerner
 United States | 2026 | 26:00

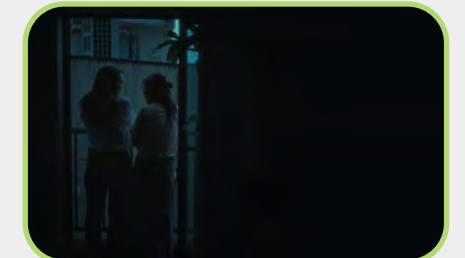
Dead and down-bad, Margot makes one last play for eternal love with the avoidant woman she loved on earth.



How a River is Born (Como Nasce Um Rio)

Director: Luma Flôres
 Brazil | 2025 | 9:00

Ayla wakes up in a mountainous landscape, surrounded only by vegetation and a river. Driven by curiosity and a desire to get to know the place, she goes on a journey of discovery and diving.



peach

Director: Angela Wang
 Canada | 2025 | 6:00
 Japanese with English subtitles

An unexpected reunion between two ex-best friends unravels the delicate space between friendship and Queer desire.



I'll Try to Explain It

Director: Lucia Fella Pellegrino
 Canada | 2025 | 15:00

When a lesbian is haunted by recurring dreams of her high school ex-boyfriend, she embarks on a documentary to reenact the dreams, awakening uncomfortable truths about her relationship to men.



I'm The Most Racist Person I Know

Director: Leela Varghese
 Australia | 2025 | 13:00

When Lali unexpectedly ends up on a date with another woman of colour for the first time, it unravels prejudices she has long ignored.



Shorts: Thrive

Summoning demons, dancing with axes, online shopping, chosen families, and suspicious encounters. Dive into the weird and gorgeous world of trans creators in our annual program celebrating the work of our trans and nonbinary community. Because even when the world is strange, we keep thriving—together.

Date: Friday, May 29

Time: 6:45PM

Venue: TIFF Lightbox Cinema 3
Digital Screening Available

Total program runtime: 89:00

Screening Sponsor



Homemade Gatorade

Director: Carter Amelia Davis
United States | 2026 | 9:00

A woman embarks on a late-night road trip to deliver homemade Gatorade to a mysterious online buyer.



Dolls

Director: Geena Rocero
United States | 2025 | 19:00

Yan, a junior private investigator, goes undercover to attend a relationship workshop for trans women called Dolls. She quickly realises that a sinister force is at play.



The Dysphoria

Director: Kylie Aoibheann
Australia | 2025 | 13:00

A trans woman inadvertently summons a demon while performing a ritual in the hopes of getting a vagina.

This film contains scenes that may be disturbing, including depictions of blood and gore.



They, With an Axe (Entró con un hacha)

Director: Cande Lázaro
Spain | 2025 | 13:00
Spanish with English subtitles

An axe, a dress, and hairy legs like those of a man.



TTT (TET)

Director: kimura byol lemoine
Canada | 2025 | 3:00

After the 100th 'The Thursday Testo' (TTT), Kě breaks down the word TRANS across three languages while reflecting on his identity after HRT.



Tender Chosen

Director: Mason McDonald
Canada | 2026 | 12:00

A transmasculine person navigating an unwanted pregnancy must face a medical system ill-equipped to address the intersections of trans and reproductive healthcare.



Mis-Angel

Director: Wyatt Carson
United Kingdom | 2025 | 6:00

What's the difference between me and you? *Mis-Angel* is a love story between two people who will never meet.



Are You Being Thanked Endlessly?

Director: Gulzar
Canada | 2026 | 15:00

Filmmaker Gulzar and their two best friends spend a tired afternoon together discussing the ever-present relationship between hair and gender.





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