



July 1-15
2022



Clara Sola

Blue Island Benediction The Passengers of the Night Drunken Birds Clara Sola Apples Lost Illusions Miracle Slash/Back Official Competition Costa Brava, Lebanon Prism Prize Recipients 2022: Canada's Best Music Videos Summer in the 70s series Red Rocket Parallel Mothers We Are All Different

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT



In-Cinema

Lost Illusions

3

Blue Island • VCT
2:00 PM
Slash/Back • STU
2:45 PM
Official Competition • VCT
4:00 PM
Miracle • STU
4:30 PM
Benediction • VCT
6:15 PM
The Passengers of the Night • STU
7:00 PM

4

Benediction • VCT
5:30 PM
Official Competition • STU
5:50 PM
The Passengers of the Night • VCT
8:10 PM
Blue Island • STU
8:30 PM

5

The Passengers of the Night • VCT
5:30 PM
Blue Island • STU
6:00 PM
Benediction • VCT
7:45 PM
Official Competition • STU
8:05 PM

Miracle

7

The Passengers of the Night • VCT
5:30 PM
Official Competition • STU
5:50 PM
Benediction • VCT
7:45 PM
Blue Island • STU
8:10 PM

8

Lost Illusions • VCT
3:00 PM
Drunken Birds • STU
3:30 PM
The Passengers of the Night • STU
5:30 PM
Clara Sola • VCT
5:50 PM
Apples • VCT
8:00 PM
Blue Island • STU
8:20 PM

9

Blue Island • STU
2:00 PM
Benediction • VCT
3:00 PM
Apples • STU
4:00 PM
Lost Illusions • VCT
5:45 PM
Clara Sola • STU
6:10 PM
Drunken Birds • STU
8:15 PM
Prism Prize Recipients 2022: Canada's Best Music Videos • VCT
8:30 PM

10

Clara Sola • VCT
3:00 PM
Blue Island • STU
3:30 PM
Lost Illusions • VCT
5:15 PM
Apples • STU
5:45 PM
Drunken Birds • STU
7:40 PM
Benediction • VCT
8:00 PM

11

Clara Sola • VCT
5:20 PM
Blue Island • STU
5:45 PM
Lost Illusions • VCT
7:30 PM
Drunken Birds • STU
7:50 PM

12

Lost Illusions • VCT
5:20 PM
Drunken Birds • STU
5:40 PM
Apples • STU
7:45 PM
Clara Sola • VCT
8:00 PM

13

Clara Sola • VCT
5:20 PM
Blue Island • STU
5:45 PM
Lost Illusions • VCT
7:30 PM
Drunken Birds • STU
7:50 PM

14

Drunken Birds • STU
5:30 PM
Apples • VCT
5:50 PM
Lost Illusions • VCT
7:40 PM
Clara Sola • STU
8:00 PM

15

Costa Brava, Lebanon • VCT
3:00 PM

First Look Fridays

Enjoy \$10 tickets + free tea & coffee at these Friday matinee screenings:

Benediction
July 1, 3:00pm
Lost Illusions
July 8, 3:00pm
Costa Brava, Lebanon
July 15, 3:00pm



VIFF Connect

Now Playing



Red Rocket

Ends July 7

Parallel Mothers

We Are All Different: Program 1

We Are All Different: Program 2

Ends July 14

Love Cinema?

Become a VIFF+ member.

See more films, save on tickets and enjoy amazing free membership perks.

viff.org/plus

Join Today

Stay in the loop.

See what's on now and get the latest Festival updates.

Subscribe to VIFF News



Scan to subscribe

Tickets and Memberships

SINGLE BILL DOUBLE BILL

Adults	\$15	\$25
Senior	\$13	
Student	\$10	
VIFF+ Members	\$10-\$12	
VIFF Connect	\$10	

Tickets can be purchased in advance online at viff.org (up to 60 minutes before showtime) and also in person at our box office. Call **604.683.3456** for the latest info and listings. Double bill tickets are available in-person on the day of the screenings only.

Refunds and exchanges for in-cinema tickets may be offered at the discretion of our box office. If you have made an error with your booking, please email info@viff.org.

To attend films at the VIFF Centre, you must be 19 years of age or older. Exceptions may apply for films that have been rated by Consumer Protection BC.

VIFF Centre / 1181 Seymour St. / Vancouver

viff.org



Blue Island

CHAN TZE WOON, HONG KONG, 2022, 97 MIN.

FRI JUL 1	5:45PM	VCT
SAT JUL 2	2:00PM	VCT
SAT JUL 2	6:50PM	STU
SUN JUL 3	2:00PM	VCT
MON JUL 4	8:30PM	STU
TUE JUL 5	6:00PM	STU
THU JUL 7	8:10PM	STU
FRI JUL 8	8:20PM	STU
SAT JUL 9	2:00PM	STU
SUN JUL 10	3:30PM	STU
MON JUL 11	5:45PM	STU
WED JUL 13	5:45PM	STU

“What does Hong Kong mean to you...?” That’s the question hanging over Chan Tze Woon’s memorable film. *Blue Island* takes a longer view on China’s authoritarian crackdown on the democracy movement. Chan draws parallels between today’s struggle and the arrival of refugees from mainland China 50 years ago fleeing the Cultural Revolution, while also looking at the impact of Tiananmen Square and the Umbrella protests as he explores the unique identity of the city and its people.

In Cantonese, Mandarin, and English with English subtitles.
July 1 screening followed by a Q&A with the producer.



Clara Sola

NATHALIE ÁLVAREZ MESÉN, COSTA RICA, 2021, 106 MIN.

FRI JUL 8	5:50PM	VCT
SAT JUL 9	6:10PM	STU
SUN JUL 10	3:00PM	VCT
MON JUL 11	5:20PM	VCT
TUE JUL 12	8:00PM	VCT
WED JUL 13	5:20PM	VCT
THU JUL 14	8:00PM	STU

As if a mythical being has graced the Costa Rican village, everyone is inexplicably drawn to Clara’s magnetic orbit, including her beloved mare, Yuca. Likewise, when Clara starts to rebel against her oppressive religious upbringing, her wrath reverberates with equal force. This deeply evocative, mesmerizing feature debut by Nathalie Álvarez Mesén has been drawing easy parallels to Brian de Palma’s *Carrie*, but also fuses coming-of-age elements with feminism, mysticism, and Gaianism for a visceral ride.

In Spanish with English subtitles.
CAST Wendy Chinchilla Araya, Daniel Castañeda Rincón, Ana Julia Porras Espinoza, Flor María Vargas Chaves



Slash/Back

NYLA INNUKSUK, CANADA, 2022, 86 MIN. RATING 14A

FRI JUL 1	6:10PM	STU
SAT JUL 2	8:50PM	STU
SUN JUL 3	2:45PM	STU

Sleepy Pangnirtung, Nunavut transforms into a chaotic battleground when Inuit teens confront alien invaders who’ve slithered into the skins of local policemen and wildlife. Drawing from Hollywood classics like *The Thing* and traditional Inuit stories of the shapeshifting Ijiraq, Nyla Innuksuk’s exuberant debut harnesses genre cinema’s allegorical power to revisit colonial histories and explore contemporary Indigeneity while also delivering enough suspense and spectacle to put many studio efforts to shame.

“The girls from Pang seriously kick ass, and I can’t wait to see what Innuksuk does next.” MARYA E. GATES, *ROGER-EBERT.COM*
In English and Inuktitut with English subtitles.

CAST Tasiana Shirley, Alexis Vincent-Wolfe, Nalajoss Ellsworth, Chelsea Prusky, Frankie Vincent-Wolfe, Shaun Benson, Kristian Bruun
CC This film has Closed Captioning.



Benediction

TERENCE DAVIES, UK, 2021, 137 MIN.

FRI JUL 1	3:00PM	VCT
SAT JUL 2	8:30PM	VCT
SUN JUL 3	6:15PM	VCT
MON JUL 4	5:30PM	VCT
TUE JUL 5	7:45PM	VCT
THU JUL 7	7:45PM	VCT
SAT JUL 9	3:00PM	VCT
SUN JUL 10	8:00PM	VCT

Achingly intimate, visually sumptuous, and richly detailed, the latest from Terence Davies is a portrait of WWI poet Siegfried Sassoon. The subversive writer is played in old age by Peter Capaldi and in younger years by Jack Lowden; both give superb performances, and they’re matched by the rest of the ensemble cast. The real star, however, is Davies himself: with his musical treatment of images and his sublime articulation of emotion, he delivers a tour de force of filmmaking.

“Achingly beautiful... a movie of acute sadness and intense pleasure.” JUSTIN CHANG, *LA TIMES*

In English
CAST Jack Lowden, Peter Capaldi, Gemma Jones, Ben Daniels, Kate Phillips, Simon Russell Beale, Jeremy Irvine



Apples

CHRISTOS NIKOU, GREECE/POLAND/AUSTRALIA/SLOVENIA, 2020, 91 MIN.

FRI JUL 8	8:00PM	VCT
SAT JUL 9	4:00PM	STU
SUN JUL 10	5:45PM	STU
TUE JUL 12	7:45PM	STU
THU JUL 14	5:50PM	VCT

Can you remember life before the pandemic? Aris can’t... but then the worldwide pandemic in writer-director Greek Christos Nikou’s debut feature (written in 2019) is different from the one we have experienced since 2020; it’s an amnesia virus, not deadly, but debilitating all the same. Enrolled in a recovery program Aris (Aris Servetalis) is prescribed daily tasks so he can create new memories and rebuild an identity.

“An offbeat treat that manages to embrace ironic distance and emotional weight through a prism of perfectly judged absurdism.” *EMPIRE MAGAZINE*

In Greek with English subtitles.
CAST Aris Servetalis, Sofia Georgovasilis, Anna Kalaitzidou, Argiris Bakirtzis



Official Competition

MARIANO COHN, GASTÓN DUPRAT, SPAIN/ARGENTINA, 2021, 114 MIN.

FRI JUL 1	3:30PM, 8:05PM	STU
SAT JUL 2	4:00PM	VCT
SUN JUL 3	4:00PM	VCT
MON JUL 4	5:50PM	STU
TUE JUL 5	8:05PM	STU
THU JUL 7	5:50PM	STU

In this sharp Spanish satire on moviemaking, actors, and egos, Antonio Banderas plays an international film star cast opposite a revered, and deeply self-serious stage thespian (Oscar Martínez) by arty, unorthodox director Lola Cuevas (Penélope Cruz). Cuevas figures the two men’s antithetical approach to acting will bring an edge to their performances. But she is going to need all her acumen to keep their rivalry from upending her movie. From the Argentine team behind 2016’s *The Distinguished Citizen*.

“Two hours of sharp reflections deliciously wrapped in entertaining antics.” LOVIA GYARKYE, *HOLLYWOOD REPORTER*
In Spanish with English subtitles.

CAST Penélope Cruz, Antonio Banderas, Oscar Martínez, José Luis Gómez
Audience Award, VIFF 2021



The Passengers of the Night

MIKHAËL HERS, FRANCE, 2022, 111 MIN.

FRI JUL 1	7:45PM	VCT
SAT JUL 2	6:15PM	VCT
SUN JUL 3	7:00PM	STU
MON JUL 4	8:10PM	VCT
TUE JUL 5	5:30PM	VCT
THU JUL 7	5:30PM	VCT
FRI JUL 8	5:30PM	STU

Elizabeth (Charlotte Gainsbourg) has given herself to her two children and her husband. But the marriage is over, and the kids are teenagers, on the cusp of making their own way. Now, in the middle of life, Elizabeth needs to do that too: to make a living, and, simply, to live. On a whim, she writes to the host of her favourite late night radio call-in (Emmanuelle Béart). Meanwhile, her teenage son becomes involved with a runaway girl, Talulah (Noée Abita), one of the radio show’s callers...

In French with English subtitles.
CAST Charlotte Gainsbourg, Noée Abita, Emmanuelle Béart, Quito Rayon Richter



Lost Illusions

XAVIER GIANNOLI, FRANCE, 2021, 141 MIN.

FRI JUL 8	3:00PM	VCT
SAT JUL 9	5:45PM	VCT
SUN JUL 10	5:15PM	VCT
MON JUL 11	7:30PM	VCT
TUE JUL 12	5:20PM	VCT
WED JUL 13	7:30PM	VCT
THU JUL 14	7:40PM	VCT

Winner of 7 Cesar awards including Best Film, this adaptation of Balzac’s *Illusions perdues* is a lavish costume drama with a thoroughly modern bite, a tragi-comedy about a young romantic poet who arrives in Paris with his aristocratic mistress full of hope and conviction and discovers a world as corrupt and treacherous as any sinkhole of iniquity.

“Sensational... if there’s any justice this movie will become a touchstone among the grasping, scheming denizens of the current media jungle.” *THE NEW YORK TIMES*

In French with English subtitles.
CAST Benjamin Voisin, Cécile De France, Vincent Lacoste, Xavier Dolan, Salomé Dewaels, Jeanne Balibar, Gérard Depardieu



Costa Brava, Lebanon

MOUNIA AKL, LEBANON/FRANCE/SPAIN/SWEDEN/DENMARK/NORWAY/QATAR, 2021, 106 MIN.

FRI JUL 15	3:00PM	VCT
FRI JUL 22	4:45PM	VCT
SAT JUL 23	4:45PM	VCT
SUN JUL 24	6:20PM	VCT
MON JUL 25	6:20PM	VCT
TUE JUL 26	8:00PM	STU
WED JUL 27	8:10PM	STU

Disaffected activists Soraya (Nadine Labaki) and Walid (Saleh Bakri) have made their home high in the hills, living off the grid, sheltering their two daughters from the madness of modern Beirut. Or so they imagine. One day they wake up to discover the government has annexed the land immediately adjoining their property; the olive trees are to be bulldozed for a landfill. This impressively nuanced, novelistic drama from Mounia Akl subtly reveals the bonds and tensions within the family unit.

“A stellar near-future family drama. Costa Brava, Lebanon comfortably occupies a space between *Beasts of the Southern Wild* from Honeyland.” *THE PLAYLIST*
In Arabic with English subtitles.
CAST Nadine Labaki, Saleh Bakri, Nadia Charbel, Ceana Restom, Geana Restom, Yumna Marwan
Audience Award, BFI London Film Festival 2021; Grand Jury Award, Seville 2021; NETPAC Award, TIFF 2021



Drunken Birds

IVAN GRBOVIC, CANADA, 2021, 105 MIN.

FRI JUL 8	3:30PM	STU
SAT JUL 9	8:15PM	STU
SUN JUL 10	7:40PM	STU
MON JUL 11	7:50PM	STU
TUE JUL 12	5:40PM	STU
WED JUL 13	7:50PM	STU
THU JUL 14	5:30PM	STU

When Willy (Jorge Antonio Guerrero), a Mexican cartel henchman, falls for Marlena (Yoshira Escárrega), his boss’ wife, the star-crossed lovers must separate and go to ground. Convinced that Marlena is secreted away in Montreal, Willy becomes a migrant worker at a Quebec farm. Employing an intricate narrative structure and visually arresting sequences, Ivan Grbovic examines how new beginnings often run afoul of cycles of exploitation. Impressionistic yet immediate, *Drunken Birds* is exhilarating cinema.

In Spanish and French with English subtitles.
CAST Jorge Antonio Guerrero, Hélène Florent, Claude Legault, Marine Johnson, Maxime Du Montier, Amaryllis Tremblay, Yoshira Escárrega



Miracle

BOGDAN GEORGE APETRI, ROMANIA/CZECH REPUBLIC/LATVIA, 2021, 118 MIN.

SAT JUL 2	4:30PM	STU
SUN JUL 3	4:30PM	STU

In *Miracle*, *Unidentified* director Bogdan George Apetri returns to the same area in northern Romania. This time he tells the story of a novice nun, Cristina (Ioana Bugarin). In the film’s first half, she slips out of the convent to journey to the nearest city—for reasons which only gradually become clear. In the film’s second half, her steps are retraced by a police inspector (Emanuel Părvu) who believes he knows the true story, but lacks the evidence to prove it...

“*Miracle* lives up to its name, seamlessly blending narrative, style and technique with devastating results. Simple in scope, yet complex and precise in its execution, the result is a marvel befitting its title.” *THE PLAYLIST*
In Romanian with English subtitles.

CAST Ioana Bugarin, Emanuel Părvu, Cezar Antal, Ovidiu Crișan, Valeriu Andriuță
Grand Prix, Warsaw 2021



Prism Prize Recipients 2022: Canada's Best Music Videos (Free Screening)

VARIOUS, CANADA, 2022, 60 MIN.

SAT JUL 9	8:30PM	VCT
-----------	--------	-----

Come enjoy the Best Canadian Music Videos of the year as determined by a jury of 120 film and music industry professionals for the annual Prism Prize. The top ten shortlist includes work by BADBADNOTGOOD, Chad VanGaalen, Debby Friday, Mustafa, and The Beaches. You haven’t really seen these videos until you’ve seen them on the big screen, with top of the line projection and sound, at the VIFF Centre.

Tickets are free—booking in advance is recommended.

Summer in the 70s

From July 15



It was the best of times, it was the worst of times. For progressives, the high hopes of the radical 60s gave way to a conservative retrenchment when Richard Nixon was elected by a landslide in 1969. (His re-election, of course, would be undone by the Watergate scandal.). In Ohio, student protestors were shot and killed by National Guardsmen at Kent State in May 1970 as the American death toll in the Vietnam War climbed over 50,000 (Vietnamese casualties were still higher). In Hollywood, the system seemed irreparably broken; studios had lost touch with their audience. Yet from this tumult a new generation emerges ready to seize the day: this is the era of the so-called "movie brats", who grew up at the cinema and came of age under the influence of auteur theory, the idea that movies should reflect the artistic vision of the director... Martin Scorsese, Francis Coppola, Hal Ashby, Robert Altman, Steven Spielberg,

William Friedkin propel American moviemaking into an exhilarating new era, what critic Diane Jacobs' would dub the "Hollywood Renaissance". Actors like Jack Nicholson, Gene Hackman, Elliott Gould, Robert De Niro, Richard Dreyfuss, Dustin Hoffman and Al Pacino transform expectations for what a movie star looks like. For the first time, African Americans found a niche in mainstream cinema. And while opportunities for women directors remain negligible (Elaine May and Joan Micklin Silver somehow buck the system) women's lib makes its mark in films as varied as *Klute*, *A Woman Under the Influence*, and *Norma Rae*.

Our survey of American 70s Cinema reflects the extraordinary creative explosion of this turbulent time, arguably the only decade in Hollywood history when the artists called the shots...