





**Mar 17–Apr 2**

2023



Godland

**Godland Enys Men Chess Story Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon Until  
Branches Bend Queens of the Qing Dynasty Riceboy Sleeps Tenzin A  
Cedar Is Life Beau Travail Pandora and the Flying Dutchman XINEMA  
Program 6 In Viaggio: The Travels of Pope Francis Studio Ghibli Forever!**

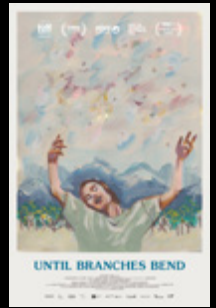
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT												
 <div>Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon MAR 17-18</div>		 <div>Kiki's Delivery Service MAR 17</div>		<b>17</b> <b>MAR</b> <div>Chess Story • VCT 12:40 PM Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon • STU 1:00 PM Only Yesterday • VCT 3:00 PM Chess Story • STU 3:30 PM Godland • VCT 5:30 PM Queens of the Qing Dynasty • STU 5:50 PM Kiki's Delivery Service • VCT 8:20 PM</div>	<b>18</b> <div>Godland • VCT 12:20 PM Chess Story • STU 1:00 PM Tenzin • VCT 3:30 PM Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon • STU 3:50 PM Queens of the Qing Dynasty • VCT 5:45 PM Only Yesterday • STU 6:10 PM Grave of the Fireflies • VCT 8:30 PM Chess Story • STU 8:50 PM</div>													
<b>19</b> <div>Beau Travail • VCT 11:00 AM Tenzin • STU 12:00 PM Pandora and the Flying Dutchman • VCT 2:00 PM Godland • STU 2:20 PM My Neighbor Totoro • VCT 5:10 PM Queens of the Qing Dynasty • STU 5:30 PM XINEMA Program 6 • VCT 7:15 PM Grave of the Fireflies • STU 8:00 PM</div>	<b>20</b> <div>Porco Rosso • VCT 3:00 PM Pandora and the Flying Dutchman • STU 3:30 PM Godland • VCT 5:10 PM</div>	<b>21</b> <div>Ocean Waves • VCT 3:00 PM Chess Story • STU 3:30 PM Queens of the Qing Dynasty • STU 5:50 PM Beau Travail • VCT 6:20 PM Porco Rosso • VCT 8:30 PM</div>	<b>22</b> <div>Pom Poko • VCT 3:00 PM Godland • VCT 5:30 PM Tenzin • STU 5:50 PM Chess Story • STU 7:45 PM Ocean Waves • VCT 8:30 PM</div>	<b>23</b> <div>Whisper of the Heart • VCT 3:00 PM Godland • VCT 5:30 PM Queens of the Qing Dynasty • STU 5:50 PM Pom Poko • VCT 8:20 PM Chess Story • STU 8:40 PM</div>	<b>24</b> <div>Until Branches Bend • VCT 12:50 PM My Neighbours the Yamadas • VCT 3:00 PM Riceboy Sleeps • STU 3:20 PM Whisper of the Heart • VCT 5:20 PM Until Branches Bend • STU 5:45 PM Princess Mononoke • VCT 7:40 PM Riceboy Sleeps • STU 8:00 PM</div>	<b>25</b> <div>Princess Mononoke • VCT 12:00 PM Until Branches Bend • VCT 3:00 PM Chess Story • STU 3:30 PM My Neighbours the Yamadas • VCT 5:30 PM Riceboy Sleeps • STU 5:50 PM Godland • VCT 7:45 PM Queens of the Qing Dynasty • STU 8:10 PM</div>												
 <div>My Neighbor Totoro MAR 19</div>	<b>27</b> <div>Riceboy Sleeps • STU 5:45 PM Until Branches Bend • VCT 6:20 PM</div>	 <div>In Viaggio: The Travels of Pope Francis MAR 31, APR 6 &amp; 12</div>		<b>30</b> <div>Until Branches Bend • VCT 4:30 PM</div>	<b>31</b> <div>In Viaggio: The Travels of Pope Francis • STU 5:50 PM A Cedar Is Life • VCT 6:20 PM Enys Men • VCT 8:50 PM</div>	<b>1</b> <b>APR</b> <div>A Cedar Is Life • STU 2:00 PM Enys Men • STU 4:10 PM Until Branches Bend • STU 6:15 PM Enys Men • STU 8:20 PM</div>												
<b>2</b> <div>A Cedar Is Life • STU 2:00 PM Enys Men • STU 4:10 PM Until Branches Bend • STU 6:15 PM Enys Men • VCT 8:00 PM</div>	<div><div><div>Become a VIFF+ member.</div><div>See more films, save on tickets and enjoy amazing membership perks.</div><div><div>VIFF+</div><div><div></div></div><div>Premium</div></div></div><div><div>Tickets and Memberships</div><table><tr><th></th><th>SINGLE BILL</th><th>DOUBLE BILL</th></tr><tr><td>Adults</td><td>\$15</td><td rowspan="2">\$25</td></tr><tr><td>Senior</td><td>\$13</td></tr><tr><td>Student</td><td>\$10</td><td rowspan="2"></td></tr><tr><td>VIFF+ Members</td><td>\$10-\$12</td></tr></table><div><div>Tickets can be purchased in advance online at <a href="http://viff.org">viff.org</a> (up to 60 minutes before showtime) and also in person at our box office. Call <b>604.683.3456</b> for the latest info and listings. Double bill tickets are available in-person on the day of the screenings only. Prices do not include GST.</div><div>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 <a href="mailto:info@viff.org">info@viff.org</a>.</div><div>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.</div></div></div></div>						SINGLE BILL	DOUBLE BILL	Adults	\$15	\$25	Senior	\$13	Student	\$10		VIFF+ Members	\$10-\$12
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# First Look Fridays

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



Mar 17, 12:40PM



Mar 24, 12:50PM

Help share the love and power of cinema!





### Godland

HLYNUR PÁLMASSON, DENMARK/ICELAND, 2022, 143 MIN.

FRI MAR 17	5:30PM	VCT
SAT MAR 18	12:20PM	VCT
SUN MAR 19	2:20PM	STU
MON MAR 20	5:10PM	VCT
WED MAR 22	5:30PM	VCT
THU MAR 23	5:30PM	VCT
SAT MAR 25	7:45PM	VCT

In the late 19th century, a Danish Lutheran priest is dispatched to a far corner of Iceland where a devout farmer has seen fit to build a church. The journey is arduous but spectacular. This first half of the film evokes the epic colonial odysseys of Herzog, Scorsese, and Lucrecia Martel... In the second half, our missionary is forced to contend not with the forboding landscapes, but a crippling crisis of faith, his attraction to the farmer's daughter, and the suspicious locals. From the director of *A White, White Day*, this is a stark, bitterly funny, elemental fable.





### Chess Story

PHILIPP STÖTLZL, GERMANY/AUSTRIA, 2022, 112 MIN.

FRI MAR 17	12:40PM	VCT
FRI MAR 17	3:30PM	STU
SAT MAR 18	1:00PM, 8:50PM	STU
TUE MAR 21	3:30PM	STU
WED MAR 22	7:45PM	STU
THU MAR 23	8:40PM	STU
SAT MAR 25	3:30PM	STU

In a standoff he can't win with a Nazi SS officer, Josef Bartok is condemned to solitary confinement until he gives up his secrets. Fate throws him a lifeline: a stolen book... to his dismay it's a book of chess games. Yet this book will be key to his escape... Freely adapted from Stefan Zweig's novella, and dominated by Oliver Musucci's multifaceted performance, Philipp Stölzl's gripping movie is a compelling psychological study of torture, defiance and the kind of mind games no one can hope to control.

*In German with English subtitles.*

**CAST** Oliver Masucci, Albrecht Schuch, Birgit Minichmayr, Rolf Lassgard, Andreas Lust, Samuel Finzi

### Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon

ANG LEE, TAIWAN/HONG KONG/USA/CHINA, 2000, 120 MIN.

FRI MAR 17	1:00PM	STU
SAT MAR 18	3:50PM	STU

A rich, romantic take on the wuxia, China's heroic swordsman genre from Taiwanese director Ang Lee pitting veterans Michelle Yeoh and Chow Yun Fat against the wilful aristocratic thief Zhang Ziyi. They clash over the Green Destiny, a priceless sword. Once it's taken flight the movie never touches the ground, spinning myriad exhilarating duels of the body and spirit. A feast for the senses, this remains a breathtaking spectacle more than 20 years after it crushed it at the North American box office.

*Mandarin with English subtitles.*

**CAST** Chow Yun Fat, Michelle Yeoh, Zhang Ziyi, Chang Chen, Lung Sihung, Cheng Pei Pei



### Pantheon, The Greatest Films of All Time: Beau Travail

CLAIRE DENIS, FRANCE, 1999, 93 MIN.

SUN MAR 19	11:00AM	VCT
TUE MAR 21	6:20PM	VCT

Inspired by Herman Melville's *Billy Budd*, *Beau Travail* is set in East Africa. Sgt Galoup (Denis Lavant) reflects on his time in the French Foreign Legion, and the impact of the handsome Sentain (Gregoire Colin) on the other soldiers, and on the commanding officer (Michael Subor). The movie is a kind of militarized ballet of bodies in rest and motion (the score includes Benjamin Britten, Neil Young, and Corona's disco anthem "Rhythm of the Night"). It polled #7 in the *Sight & Sound* list of all-time greats.

*In French, Italian, and Russian with English subtitles.*

**CAST** Denis Lavant, Grégoire Colin, Michel Subor



### Pandora and the Flying Dutchman

ALBERT E. LEWIN, UK, 1951, 126 MIN.

SUN MAR 19	2:00PM	VCT
MON MAR 20	3:30PM	STU

Love doesn't come easily in this surrealist romance from maverick filmmaker Albert Lewin. Ava Gardner is American singer in exile Pandora Reynolds, perhaps the most beautiful woman in the world, and certainly the most desired. She meets her match in James Mason's dour Dutch sea captain, doomed forever to sail the high seas until he meets a woman ready to die for him. You have never really experienced colour until you have seen Jack Cardiff's Technicolor cinematography, restored to eye-scorching glory here.

This screening is copresented with Vancouver Opera, whose production of Wagner's *The Flying Dutchman* runs from April 29.

**CAST** Ava Gardner, James Mason, Nigel Patrick, Sylvia Sim



### XINEMA Program 6: Roleplay, Fantasy, PLEASURE!

ILEANA PIETROBRUNO AND JAEWOOD KING, CANADA, 2023, 90 MIN.

SUN MAR 19	7:15PM	VCT
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XINEMA is thrilled to present a duo of gender-defying films—a 2002 feature-length erotic pirate adventure, *Girl King*, and a 2013 short film, a tender homage to the Czech feminist filmmaker, Věra Chytilová, *Rosa Rugosa*. Join us for a night of fantasy, strap-ons, and (pirate's) booty.

Advisory: Includes sexually explicit imagery

XINEMA is an ongoing series that showcases emerging and established experimental filmmakers within and around "Vancouver", BC, curated by Celina de Leon and Sidney Gordon.



### In Viaggio: The Travels of Pope Francis

GIANFRANCO ROSI, ITALY, 2022, 82 MIN.

FRI MAR 31	5:50PM	STU
THU APR 6	6:30PM	STU
WED APR 12	6:20PM	VCT

Master documentarian Gianfranco Rosi (*Fire At Sea; Notturmo*) assembles a mixed progress report on the current pontiff, drawing largely from archives' of Francis's seemingly never-ending travels (he's visited 53 countries in a decade), including last summer's trip to Canada. Counterpoint is provided by Rosi's own images of conflict, refugees and poverty in the Middle East, Lampedusa and elsewhere. The Pope is eloquent and empathetic speaker, revered by many, but it's hard not to notice the disconnect.

*In Italian, Spanish, and English with English subtitles.*

### Enys Men

MARK JENKIN, UK, 2022, 96 MIN.


FRI MAR 31	8:50PM	VCT
SAT APR 1	4:10PM, 8:20PM	STU
SUN APR 2	4:10PM	STU
SUN APR 2	8:00PM	VCT
WED APR 5	6:00PM	STU
THU APR 6	8:15PM	STU
FRI APR 7	3:00PM	STU

Mark Jenkin's follow up to *Bait* speaks in a strange cinematic tongue, appropriate to its remote Cornish setting ("Enys Men" means Stone Island), but which will feel familiar to anyone who has spent time alone in a cottage by the sea. Here we find a woman monitoring the blooming of a rare flower. She is alone. And not. The past steadily creeps up on her seclusion. Folk horror-adjacent... *Enys Men* builds an eerie, ominous ode to island life from echoes, intimations, hallucinations and a dark bottomless pit.



### Home Truths

What is this place we call home? Between now and National Canadian Film Day (April 19) we invite you to take a closer look at the evolving face of a country busily reimagining itself. This 8-film series includes revelatory local documentaries and some of the most acclaimed new dramas to hit the festival circuit over the past year. For the full series and updates on filmmaker in-person events, check out [viff.org](http://viff.org).





### Until Branches Bend

SOPHIE JARVIS, CANADA/SWITZERLAND, 2022, 98 MIN.

FRI MAR 24	12:50PM	VCT
FRI MAR 24	5:45PM	STU
SAT MAR 25	3:00PM	VCT
MON MAR 27	6:20PM	VCT
THU MAR 30	4:30PM	VCT
SAT APR 1	6:15PM	STU
SUN APR 2	6:15PM	STU

Discovering a potentially invasive insect inside a peach, fruit packer Robin (Grace Glowicki) immediately reports it. When management refuses to take action, she goes public with her concerns and precipitates a widescale shutdown in her Okanagan town. Parallels and allegories abound as Sophie Jarvis' psychological drama delves into the ills of this seemingly postcard-perfect community. This intimate whistleblowing drama ultimately grows apocalyptic in scale, all while preserving the human story at its core.

**CAST** Grace Glowicki, Alexandra Roberts, Quelemia Sparrow, Lochlyn Munro, Antoine DesRochers



### Queens of the Qing Dynasty

ASHLEY MCKENZIE, CANADA, 2022, 122 MIN.

FRI MAR 17	5:50PM	STU
SAT MAR 18	5:45PM	VCT
SUN MAR 19	5:30PM	STU
TUE MAR 21	5:50PM	STU
THU MAR 23	5:50PM	STU
SAT MAR 25	8:10PM	STU

Recovering from a suicide attempt, a neurodiverse Cape Breton teen is drawn into the orbit of a gender-queer hospital volunteer who hails from Shanghai. Despite their disparate backgrounds, the pair operate on identical idiosyncratic frequencies. A heady mix of unvarnished-yet-eloquent dialogue, transportive electronic compositions, and visual flourishes, Ashley McKenzie's second feature upholds her social realist principles while exploring a more expansive, sensorially rich brand of cinema.

*In English, Mandarin, and Russian with English subtitles.*

**CAST** Sarah Walker, Ziyin Zheng, Wendy Wishart, Jana Reddick, Yao Xue, Cherlena Brake



### Riceboy Sleeps

ANTHONY SHIM, CANADA, 2022, 117 MIN.

FRI MAR 24	3:20PM, 8:00PM	STU
SAT MAR 25	5:50PM	STU
MON MAR 27	5:45PM	STU

Raising her son Dong-hyun (Ethan Hwang) in Vancouver's suburbs, So-young (Choi Seung-yoon), a South Korean immigrant, desperately wants to instill a sense of pride in the boy. Meanwhile, he just wants to fit in. Elegantly entwining social realism with fable-like sequences, Anthony Shim (*Daughter*, VIFF 2019) crafts an emotionally and sensorially rich film. Wedding the autobiographical and universal, he likewise achieves an exquisite balance between Dong-hyun and So-young's perspectives.

*In English and Korean with English subtitles.*

**CAST** Choi Seung-yoon, Ethan Hwang, Dohyun Noel Hwang, Anthony Shim, Hunter Dillon, Jerina Son

Winner: Best Canadian Feature, VIFF; Platform Prize, TIFF; Best BC Film, Vancouver Film Critics Circle



### Tenzin

MICHAEL LEBLANC, JOSHUA REICHMANN, CANADA, 2021, 86 MIN.

SAT MAR 18	3:30PM	VCT
SUN MAR 19	12:00PM	STU
WED MAR 22	5:50PM	STU

In the first Tibetan language film to be made in Canada, Tenzin (Tenzin Kelsang) is a young man living in Toronto, struggling to come to terms with the death by self-immolation of his older brother, and navigating the exigencies of Western culture on one hand and the Buddhist beliefs of his community on the other. Made collaboratively with Ontario's Tibetan community, *Tenzin* is a poignant character study with deft political and philosophical shadings and a striking score by Colin Stetson (*Hereditary*).

*In English and Tibetan with English subtitles.*

**CAST** Tenzin Kelsang, Chemi Lhamo, Salden Kunga, Tenzin Yeshi, Tenzin Choekyi



### A Cedar Is Life

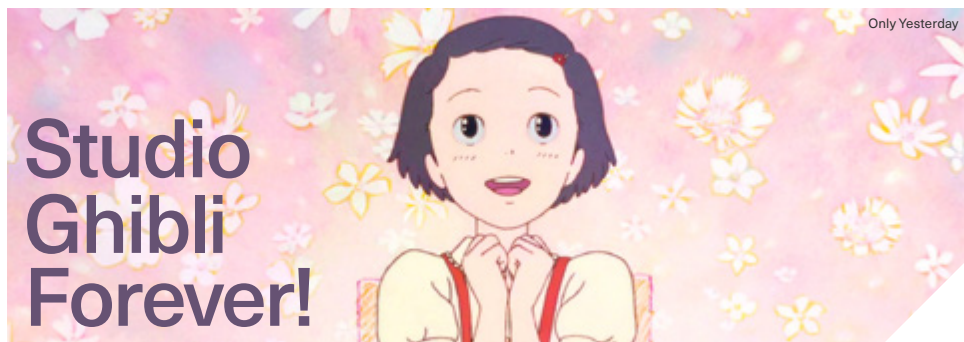
HAROLD C. JOE, LESLIE D. BLAND, C. GAVIN ANDREWS, CANADA, 2023, 90 MIN.

FRI MAR 31	6:20PM	VCT
SAT APR 1	2:00PM	STU
SUN APR 2	2:00PM	STU
WED APR 5	8:00PM	STU

Good wood. That is one Indigenous name for cedar. This tree has always been central to First Nations cultural practice on the northwest coast. As one carver observes, "You are born in cedar, the cradle, and you are laid to rest in cedar." It is used for long houses, totem poles, canoes, bowls, and chests; the bark is used for weaving clothes, blankets, baskets, and sails. *A Cedar Is Life* is an illuminating, passionate film which speaks to a definitive aspect of this part of the world.

**CAST** Florence James, Art Sterritt, Todd DeVries, Micah McCarty, Chuck Seymour, Bridgid Peters





Matinee family-friendly shows will feature the English-language version, all ages welcome. Evening screenings will play in Japanese with English subtitles.

## Only Yesterday

ISAO TAKAHATA, JAPAN, 1991, 118 MIN.

<b>FRI MAR 17</b>	<b>3:00PM</b>	<b>VCT</b>
<b>SAT MAR 18</b>	<b>6:10PM</b>	<b>STU</b>



A wistful, lyrical film about a young woman escaping the city and taking stock of her life at 27. Visiting relatives in the countryside, Taeko is enthusiastic about helping out on the farm, but she's also preoccupied with memories of her childhood.

## Grave of the Fireflies

ISAO TAKAHATA, JAPAN, 1988, 89 MIN.

<b>SAT MAR 18</b>	<b>8:30PM</b>	<b>VCT</b>
<b>SUN MAR 19</b>	<b>8:00PM</b>	<b>STU</b>

After their mother is killed in an air raid, and with their father serving Japan during WWII, Seita and his little sister Setsuko are forced to fight for survival in the devastated countryside. PG violence; frightening scenes.

 Guest introduction on Saturday, March 18.
  Contains somber and sometimes harrowing content.

## Porco Rosso

HAYAO MIYAZAKI, JAPAN, 1992, 94 MIN.

<b>MON MAR 20</b>	<b>3:00PM</b>	<b>VCT</b>
<b>TUE MAR 21</b>	<b>8:30PM</b>	<b>VCT</b>

Pigs will fly! This spirited adventure yarn features an anti-fascist flier (who happens to look like a pig) tracking sky pirates over the Adriatic in the 1930s. An exhilarating romp with a melancholy undertow—and amazing flying machines!

## Ocean Waves

TOMOMI MOCHIZUKI, JAPAN, 1993, 72 MIN.

<b>TUE MAR 21</b>	<b>3:00PM</b>	<b>VCT</b>
<b>WED MAR 22</b>	<b>8:30PM</b>	<b>VCT</b>


Taku and his best friend Yutaka are headed back to school for what looks like another uneventful year. But they soon find their friendship tested by the arrival of Rikako, a beautiful new transfer student from Tokyo...

## Pom Poko

ISAO TAKAHATA, JAPAN, 1994, 119 MIN.

<b>WED MAR 22</b>	<b>3:00PM</b>	<b>VCT</b>
<b>THU MAR 23</b>	<b>8:20PM</b>	<b>VCT</b>

As their habitat is stripped and paved by the encroaching humans, good-natured but rather undisciplined shape-shifting raccoons embark on a campaign of disruption and distraction. Another charmer from the director of Kiki's Delivery Service.

 Guest introduction on Thursday, March 23.

## Whisper of the Heart

YOSHIFUMI KONDO, JAPAN, 1995, 111 MIN.

<b>THU MAR 23</b>	<b>3:00PM</b>	<b>VCT</b>
<b>FRI MAR 24</b>	<b>5:20PM</b>	<b>VCT</b>

A lovely change of pace from Studio Ghibli, this is a teenage first-love story, set in a realistically observed modern day Tokyo. Bookish schoolgirl Shizuku meets her soul mate with a little help from a portly cat.

"A beautiful film." *TIME OUT*

## My Neighbours the Yamadas

ISAO TAKAHATA, JAPAN, 1999, 104 MIN.

<b>FRI MAR 24</b>	<b>3:00PM</b>	<b>VCT</b>
<b>SAT MAR 25</b>	<b>5:30PM</b>	<b>VCT</b>



Takashi Yamada and his wacky wife Matsuko navigate their way through the ups and downs of work, marriage, and family life with a sharp-tongued grandmother who lives with them, a teen son who wishes he had cooler parents, and a pesky daughter.

## Princess Mononoke

HAYAO MIYAZAKI, JAPAN, 1997, 134 MIN.

<b>FRI MAR 24</b>	<b>7:40PM</b>	<b>VCT</b>
<b>SAT MAR 25</b>	<b>12:00PM</b>	<b>VCT</b>

A mystical fight between humans and the Animal Gods of the forest. Ashitaka, the last prince of a dying race, struggles to find a way for both sides to co-exist. But the fighting only becomes more and more bloody and all hope seems to be lost...

 Guest introduction on Friday, March 24.
  Includes violent combat scenes.