



VIFF ANNOUNCES FIRST ROUND OF SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS AND VIFF LIVE PERFORMANCES, ALONGSIDE EARLY BIRD TICKET PACKS

42nd Vancouver International Film Festival
September 28 – October 8, 2023

VANCOUVER, BC (AUGUST 10, 2023) The 42nd Vancouver International Film Festival (VIFF) returns this fall with 130 features and 100 shorts, including a star-studded lineup for Special Presentations and VIFF Live — unique, cinema-infused performances that push the boundaries of traditional film programming. Tickets are now on sale for two VIFF Live events, and VIFF+ Members can purchase festival ticket packs starting today. Ticket packs go on sale to the general public on August 17.

VIFF announced an initial eight Special Presentations today, including several Canadian stories: *Mr. Dressup: The Magic of Make-Believe* by Robert McCallum, a heartfelt documentary that celebrates the life and work of the iconic Canadian children's television personality; *Swan Song* by Chelsea McMullan, an inside look at the National Ballet of Canada's 2022 production of *Swan Lake* directed and staged by the legendary Karen Kain; and *Seven Veils* by Atom Egoyan, a psychodrama about a young theatre director forced to re-examine her own trauma while working on a remount of *Salome*.

VIFF mainstay Hirokazu Kore-eda returns with *Monster*, a powerful critique of bullying and family dysfunction that explores the same events through different perspectives. Other international standouts include: *The Old Oak* by Ken Loach, a working class drama about a bar owner who steps up when an influx of Syrian refugees stokes xenophobic backlash; *Anatomy of a Fall* by Justine Triet, an engrossing courtroom drama that won the Palme d'Or at Cannes this year; *Last Summer* by Catherine Breillat, about a lawyer who begins a taboo relationship with her 17-year-old stepson; and *La Chimera* by Alice Rohrwacher, an exhilaratingly wild, mysterious, rough and tumble tale of a disheveled English tomb raider living with a boisterous group of Italian bohemians.

"We're excited to include tributes to two Canadian icons — Mr. Dressup and Karen Kain — along with the latest by a legendary homegrown filmmaker — Atom Egoyan — in this year's Special Presentations

program,” says Curtis Woloschuk, Director of Programming. “And while these three films hinge on the power of performance, other marquee attractions at this year’s festival offer narratives that dramatically shift perspective, immerse us in moral entanglements, and remind us of the power of simple acts of kindness.”

This year’s VIFF Live program is guest curated by PuSh International Performing Arts Festival Co-Founder Norman Armour. Two highlights are *32 Sounds* by filmmaker Sam Green, a profound documentary and live sensory experience that shifts our perception of the world, and *Machine Folklore* by Software2050 & NAXS FUTURE, an immersive audio-visual performance screening in which AI meets virtual consciousness to depict a portrait of humanity and the infinite possibilities of the future.

“VIFF Live events are occasions to witness boundaries lovingly teased and toyed with of what we commonly refer to as cinema,” says Armour. “The spotlighted works and artists embrace a dizzying range of aesthetic and subject matter concerns. For many of the creators, the moniker ‘filmmaker’ or ‘image maker’ being the farthest from their sense of creative identity. Here, unfettered play is the goal. And play, they do!”

Applications for industry accreditation are now open. Intended for film and television professionals, VIFF Industry Passes offer access to Industry Days (Oct 1–3), which feature keynotes, panels, ask-me-anything sessions with funders, and case studies. Industry passholders will also have access to four to six panels and keynotes of the VIFF Amp Music in Film Summit (Oct 4-7), and a sneak peak of Signals (an exhibition showcasing the intersection of art and creative technology). Rounding out the experience, passholders can enjoy nightly hospitality and networking opportunities plus access to the festival's 300+ screenings.

The remainder of the programming for VIFF's 42nd edition will be announced Wednesday, September 6, 2023.

JUST ANNOUNCED

SELECT SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS: The year’s most anticipated films

Anatomy of a Fall dir. Justine Triet (France)

La Chimera dir. Alice Rohrwacher (Italy/France/Switzerland)

Last Summer dir. Catherine Breillat (France)

Monster dir. Hirokazu Kore-eda (Japan)

Mr. Dressup: The Magic of Make-Believe dir. Robert McCallum (Canada)

The Old Oak dir. Ken Loach (UK)

Seven Veils dir. Atom Egoyan (Canada)

Swan Song dir. Chelsea McMullan (Canada)

VIFF LIVE: Unparalleled experiences that go beyond the screen

32 Sounds | Thursday, Oct. 5, 7pm

Venue: Vancouver Playhouse

An immersive documentary and profound sensory experience from filmmaker Sam Green that explores the elemental phenomenon of sound. The film is a meditation on the power of sound to bend time, cross borders, and reshape our perception of the world around us. Each audience member will be provided headphones to create an incredible binaural sound mix and add a new, deeply immersive

element to the live documentary form. The “live cinema” event will feature live narration, directed and performed by Sam Green, and composed by JD Samson.

Machine Folklore | Sunday, Oct. 1, 7pm & 9pm

Venue: Roundhouse Community Arts & Recreation Centre – Performance Centre

Machine Folklore by Software2050 & NAXS FUTURE introduces Vancouver audiences to Taiwan’s vibrant and deeply experimental interdisciplinary arts scene. In this immersive audio-visual performance screening, artificial intelligence meets virtual consciousness. Together, we see humanity through non-human AI eyes. Using music, imagery, and light design, *Machine Folklore* is a glimpse into the infinite possibilities of the future of digital culture and virtual technology in this hypnotic audio-visual work.

Early Bird Tickets and Information

Industry Pass Earlybird - \$375
After September 5 - \$450

Industry Days Pass \$175

VIFF Live: *32 Sounds*
at Vancouver Playhouse \$38

VIFF Live: *Machine Folklore*
at Roundhouse Community Arts & Recreation Centre - Performance Centre \$22

Film Ticket Packs

Pack Type	Regular Price for Non-VIFF+ Members	VIFF+	VIFF+ Premium & U25
6 Pack	\$102	\$87	\$75
10 Pack	\$165	\$140	\$120
20 Pack	\$320	\$270	\$230
Student 6 Pack	\$78	N/A	N/A
Senior 6 Pack	\$93	N/A	N/A
Senior 10 Pack	\$150	N/A	N/A
Senior 20 Pack	\$290	N/A	N/A

More ticket details at viff.org/ticket-info/#festival.

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About VIFF | viff.org

Beyond film exhibitions, VIFF strives to engage and empower communities, encourage dialogue and champion local artists. With decades of experience and an unwavering commitment to creating exceptional programs, VIFF has transformed into a highly esteemed annual festival and a premier arthouse cinema.

Founded in 1982, the Greater Vancouver International Film Festival Society is a not-for-profit cultural society and federally registered charitable organization that operates the internationally acclaimed Vancouver International Film Festival (VIFF) and the year-round programming at the VIFF Centre. All year, VIFF produces screenings, talks, conferences and events that act as a catalyst for the community to discover the creativity and craft of storytelling on screen.

VIFF is presented on the traditional and unceded territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and sə́lilwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

For media inquiries and media kit:

press@viff.org

Laura Murray | lmurray@mpmgarts.com | 604.418.2998
Ariane Bell Vila | avila@mpmgarts.com | 519.362.9486