

**Nov 3–16**

2023



**Rustin Cabin Music & James Carson Concert The Killer Red Rooms The Tunnel to Summer, Exit to Goodbyes Dario Argento's Opera Rojek Carpet Cowboys The Giacomettis Charlotte's Castle XINEMA's One Year Cine-Celebration Beyond the Land Acknowledgement Discussion & Film** AND MORE



## FRI NOV 17, 2:00PM



viff.org





# Cabin Music + Concert featuring James Carson

JAMES CARSON, CANADA, 2022, 74 MIN.

THU NOV 9	7:30PM	VCT
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In this unique event, VIFF teams up with our Seymour Street neighbours at the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra School of Music to present James Carson's self-directed documentary, *Cabin Music*, at the VIFF Centre's Vancity Theatre (1181 Seymour St), followed by a live piano concert at the VSO School of Music's Pyatt Hall (843 Seymour St).

James Carson has been labeled a "meditative... piano texturalist" (*Time Out New York*), who creates "trance-inducing... shimmering arpeggiated figures, played with such speed as to invoke Coltrane-esque 'sheets of sound'" (*Feast of Music*). *Cabin Music* tells the story of this prodigious classical pianist who turned his back on the concert hall to travel and reflect, before returning to compose a new form of music in harmony with nature. The film is also the story of the off-grid cabin James built in the Canadian wilderness. The result is a shimmering zen movie about the nature of music and the music of nature.

**Film screening: 7:30PM**  
**followed by a Q&A**  
**VIFF Centre • 1181 Seymour Street**

**Piano concert: 9:30PM**  
**Pyatt Hall • 943 Seymour Street**

"Gorgeous widescreen landscapes and contemplative shots of nature are juxtaposed with shots of frenetic urban activity, producing a Zen-like meditation on the elusive nature of musical creativity. The abundance of otherworldly images is expertly edited, lending a sense of musicality to the visual rhythms. In sum, *Cabin Music* is a poetic journey through the mind of its creator, and a supremely immersive visual experience." *AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CINEMATOGRAPHERS*  
**CAST** James Carson

## DISCUSSION & SHORT FILM

FREE



# Beyond the Land Acknowledgement: How Indigenous governance is central to reconciliation

CANADA, 2023, 90 MIN.

WED NOV 8	7:30PM	VCT
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Join Indigenous scholars and activists (including Severn Cullis-Suzuki, Celeste Haldane, Robert Clifford, Aimée Craft, Margot Young, and Johnny Mack) for a conversation exploring the importance of Indigenous law, the vagaries of treaty interpretation and implementation, and the contentious concepts of "cede" and "surrender", plus a first look at one of the new *Treaty Promises* short film series.



# Rustin

GEORGE C WOLFE, USA, 2023, 106 MIN.

FRI NOV 3	2:00PM	VCT
SAT NOV 4	4:45PM	VCT
SUN NOV 5	3:00PM	VCT
MON NOV 6	5:30PM	VCT
TUE NOV 7	5:45PM	VCT
THU NOV 9	1:00PM	VCT
MON NOV 13	4:10PM, 9:00PM	VCT
TUE NOV 14	4:00PM	VCT
WED NOV 15	8:50PM	VCT

Colman Domingo gives one of the indelible performances of 2023 as the (gay) Black civil rights activist Bayard Rustin in this stirring historical drama from director George C Wolfe and producers Michelle and Barack Obama. His sexuality kept Rustin out of the spotlight, but he was a trusted advisor to Martin Luther King and in 1963 it was Rustin who masterminded The March on Washington, a turning point in the history of social justice in the US. Domingo plays him with immense conviction and charisma.

"A stirring performance... Domingo runs the gamut... you believe in his Rustin as a divider of boardrooms and builder of coalitions, with a searing gift for galvanizing protesters into action." JUSTIN CHANG, *LA TIMES*

**CAST** Colman Domingo, Glynn Turman, Chris Rock, CCH Pounder, Michael Potts, Jeffrey Wright



# The Killer

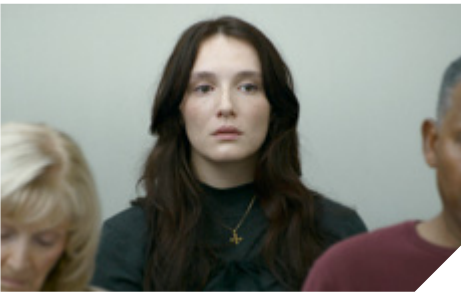
DAVID FINCHER, USA, 2023, 118 MIN.

FRI NOV 3	7:00PM	VCT
SAT NOV 4	8:55PM	VCT
SUN NOV 5	7:55PM	VCT
MON NOV 6	7:45PM	VCT
WED NOV 8	1:45PM	VCT

The professional hit man remains irresistible: an independent contractor with a godlike determination over life and death, an ascetic with a bullet and—as represented by Michael Fassbender—a penchant for The Smiths. After an unfortunate turn of events he finds himself on the receiving end of a termination order, but he knows better than anyone that the best form of defense is attack. Teaming up with *Seven* screenwriter Andrew Kevin Walker, David Fincher slyly upends expectations in this lean thriller.

"Horribly addictive... It is all entertainingly absurd and yet the pure conviction and deadpan focus that Fassbender and Fincher bring to this ballet of anonymous professionalism makes it very enjoyable... This is a thriller of pure surface and style and managed with terrific flair." PETER BRADSHAW, *THE GUARDIAN*

**CAST** Michael Fassbender, Tilda Swinton, Charles Parnell, Arliss Howard



# Red Rooms

PASCAL PLANTE, CANADA, 2023, 118 MIN.

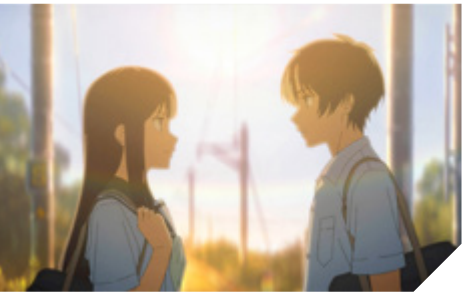
WED NOV 1	7:30PM	STU
THU NOV 2	2:30PM	STU
FRI NOV 3	6:30PM, 8:50PM	STU
SAT NOV 4	2:30PM	STU
MON NOV 6	3:30PM	STU
THU NOV 9	6:30PM	STU

In this unsettling, stylishly sinister drama from Pascal Plante, model and mathematician Kelly-Anne (Juliette Gariépy) becomes obsessed with the trial of Ludwig Chevalier (Maxwell McCabe-Lokos), a loner accused of the torture and murder of three teenage girls. Even more disturbingly, these atrocities were streamed online in the Dark Web's "red rooms". Kelly-Anne's personal life and career unravel as she plunges deeper into the abyss.

"Blending courtroom drama and claustrophobic tech-tinged nightmare, *Red Rooms* is a striking and austere examination of the true-crime industrial complex that benefits from its formality and disturbingly removed protagonist." HANNAH STRONG, *LITTLE WHITE LIES*

*In French with English subtitles.*

**CAST** Juliette Gariépy, Laurie Babin, Elisabeth Locas, Natalie Tannous, Pierre Chagnon, Maxwell McCabe-Lokos



# The Tunnel to Summer, The Exit to Goodbyes

TOMOHISA TAGUCHI, KANJI MIYAKE, JAPAN, 2022, 82 MIN.

MON NOV 13	6:00PM	STU
TUE NOV 14	6:00PM	STU
WED NOV 15	6:00PM	STU
THU NOV 16	8:00PM	STU
FRI NOV 17	5:00PM	STU
SAT NOV 18	7:20PM	STU
SUN NOV 19	11:30AM	STU

Tomohisa Taguchi's anime won the prestigious Paul Grimault Award at the Annecy Animation Festival. It's a beguiling teen romance with one foot in the real world and the other in the stars. Kaoru and Anzu are near neighbours and high school classmates. Chancing across a disused tunnel Kaoru realizes it holds extraordinary magic within, but its mysteries come at a cost: exploring for five minutes translates as hours in the outside world; hours become days and weeks. And yet the teens venture further...

"Ravishingly beautiful." *SCREEN INTERNATIONAL*

*In Japanese with English subtitles.*

**CAST** Ouji Suzuka, Marie Itoyo, Tasuku Hatanaka

Winner: Paul Grimault Award, Annecy Animation Film Festival



# May December

TODD HAYNES, USA, 2023, 113 MIN.

FRI NOV 17	2:00PM, 6:30PM, 8:50PM	VCT
SAT NOV 18	3:30PM, 5:50PM, 8:10PM	VCT
SUN NOV 19	1:45PM	VCT
MON NOV 20	3:30PM, 5:50PM, 8:10PM	VCT
TUE NOV 21	3:50PM, 8:25PM	VCT
WED NOV 22	3:30PM, 5:50PM, 8:10PM	VCT
THU NOV 23	3:50PM, 8:25PM	VCT
FRI NOV 24	4:00PM	VCT
SAT NOV 25	8:55PM	VCT
SUN NOV 26	3:50PM, 8:10PM	VCT
WED NOV 29	8:10PM	VCT
THU NOV 30	8:10PM	VCT

Todd Haynes (*Carol*; *Safe*) is the master of the post-modern melodrama. Here a tabloid tale about a thirtysomething wife and mother who seduced a seventh grade student becomes a teasingly deceptive drama about identity, desire, and codependency. 20 years after the scandal, TV star Elizabeth (Natalie Portman) comes to visit Gracie (Julianne Moore) to prep for a movie. Gracie figures affording access will win her some sympathy. But Elizabeth's presence stirs up turmoil in her marriage and beyond...

"Haynes has done something spellbinding here: heady, grown-up and committed to a refreshing dose of moral ambiguity at a time in cinema where moral pandering sadly seems to be the default." TOMRIS LAFFLY, *THE WRAP*

**CAST** Natalie Portman, Julianne Moore, Charles Melton, Piper Curda



# The Stones and Brian Jones

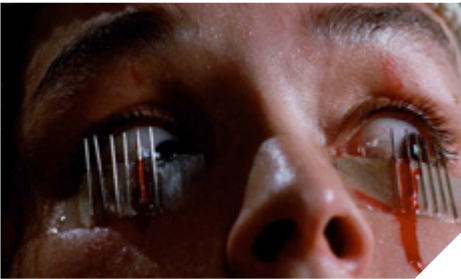
NICK BROOMFIELD, UK, 2023, 93 MIN.

FRI NOV 17	4:30PM	VCT
FRI NOV 17	9:15PM	STU
SAT NOV 18	5:20PM, 9:10PM	STU
MON NOV 20	4:00PM	STU
TUE NOV 21	6:40PM	STU
WED NOV 22	6:10PM	STU

Who started the Rolling Stones? Why, Brian Jones of course. But a band can't have two leaders and when push came to shove, it was Brian who was left out in the cold, fired just a few weeks before his death at the age of 27. The latest from documentary legend Nick Broomfield (*Marianne & Leonard: Words of Love*; *Kurt & Courtney*) scores candid interviews with the (many) women in Jones's life, and with Bill Wyman, among others, to relate the sad story of how maybe the most gifted of the group went off the rails.

"Tremendously well-made, intensely watchable and, in the end, achingly sad." PAT STACEY, *THE IRISH INDEPENDENT*

**FEAT** Bill Wyman, Marianne Faithful, Volker Schlöndorff, Linda Lawrence



# Dario Argento's Opera

DARIO ARGENTO, ITALY, 1987, 107 MIN.

FRI NOV 3	9:30PM	VCT
TUE NOV 7	8:10PM	VCT

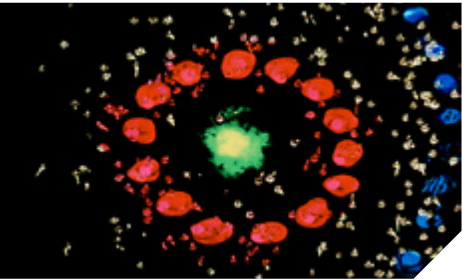
A horror director, Marcus (Ian Charleson), has been invited to stage Verdi's *Macbeth*, and his modernist tropes are driving his diva to distraction. So much so, she dies in a car accident. Enter the understudy, Betty (Cristina Marsillach). But her big break is not be so lucky: the opera may be cursed, and a killer has her in his sights... Argento is playing with notions of high art and low, here, riffing on Shakespeare, Verdi and Hitchcock, and pulling off his last hurrah, the final word on the *giallo*.

4K restoration by Severin Films

"*Opera* is a violent aria of memory, bad luck, the artistic drive and the horror of the stare... a film of rare beauty, a celebration of love's absence and the ferocious force of the gaze." ED GONZALEZ, *SLANT*

*In Italian with English subtitles.*

**CAST** Cristina Marsillach, Ian Charleson, Urbano Barberini, Daria Nicolodi



# XINEMA's One Year Cine-Celebration

2023, 100 MIN.

THU NOV 16	7:30PM	VCT
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Join XINEMA for their One Year Cine-Celebration, an open submission screening showcasing short works by XINEMA alumni and close supporters. Celebrating BC's rich film community, the program will showcase films from 1997 to the present that explore topics of love, longing, new imaginaries, the Anthropocene, and more. Surprise merch available!

Screening works by: Kaila Bhullar, Dave Biddle, Dana Bontempo, Nita Bowerman, Inanna Cusi, Celina de Leon, Andy Dongan Liu, Barry Doupe, Deborah Edmeades, Mena El Shazly, Owen Ellis, Iisa g, Jo Gaffney, Chantal Gering, Miriam Goi, Sidney Gordon, Patricia Gruben, MilleFeuille, Miss Marr, Richard Martin, Richard Martin, Tizeana La Melia, Oliver New, Hân Phạm, Ileana Pietrobruno, Jaewoo Kang, Niloufar Samadi, Juli Saragosa, Coral Short, Michael V Smith, Joshua Stevenson, Amanda Thompson, Kirk Tougas, Richard Reeves, Sara Wylie, and Rafael Zen + Khalil Alomar.

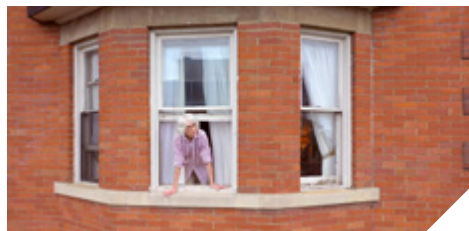


## Carpet Cowboys

NOAH COLLIER, M EMILY MACKENZIE, USA, 2023, 85 MIN.

FRI NOV 3	2:20PM	STU
SAT NOV 4	7:40PM	STU
SUN NOV 5	5:00PM	STU
MON NOV 6	8:40PM	STU
TUE NOV 7	6:00PM	STU
THU NOV 9	3:10PM	VCT
WED NOV 15	7:50PM	STU

85 percent of carpets in the US come from the town of Dalton, Georgia, the Carpet Capital of the World. Turns out this hitherto overlooked industrial powerhouse is a gift to documentary filmmakers Noah Collier and M Emily Mackenzie, populated by quirky eccentrics with entertainingly arcane business practices and who take a philosophical view of the American Dream. That dream turned sour for the doc's de facto hero, Roderick James, a Scottish-born cowboy with an eye for style and a love for Country.



## Charlotte's Castle

JAMIE KASTNER, CANADA, 2023, 84 MIN.

FRI NOV 3	4:35PM	STU
SAT NOV 4	7:00PM	VCT
SUN NOV 5	7:00PM	STU
TUE NOV 7	7:55PM	STU
THU NOV 9	4:35PM	STU
MON NOV 13	1:00PM	STU
THU NOV 16	6:00PM	STU

Spadina Gardens is a throwback to an earlier conception of downtown living: a mid-rise apartment complex built in the heart of Toronto in 1904, it offers rental tenants a suite of spacious rooms off a long corridor. Not surprisingly the building has attracted an eclectic array of tenants, many of them bohemian, creative types with a taste for character over mod cons. When an international developer becomes the new landlord they fear the worst... Director Jamie Kastner was there to film the fall out.

**FEAT** Margaret Atwood, Louise Denny, Maureen Forrester, Daniel Kash



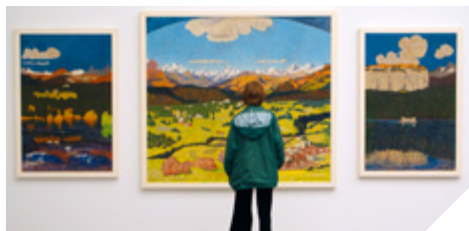
## Rojek

ZAYNÉ AKYOL, CANADA, 2022, 127 MIN.

FRI NOV 3	4:20PM	VCT
SAT NOV 4	5:00PM	STU
SUN NOV 5	5:15PM	VCT
MON NOV 6	6:00PM	STU
THU NOV 9	2:00PM	STU
TUE NOV 14	7:45PM	STU

Canada's submission for the Academy Awards this year is a fascinating and impactful introduction to the mindset of defeated ISIS prisoners. Many of these men and women remain unapologetic believers in the fundamentalist dogma of radical Islam; others claim to have been duped; some are wary of what they say for fear of reprisals. Interspersed with savage, lyrical images of war-torn Syria and Kurdistan, these testimonies reflect the rise and fall of the Caliphate from a perspective we have not heard before.

*In Kurdish, English, Arabic, French and German with English subtitles.*



## The Giacomettis

SUSANNA FANZUN, SWITZERLAND, 2023, 104 MIN.

MON NOV 13	6:30PM	VCT
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The rugged Swiss mountain valley of Bregaglia has produced an entire dynasty of artists: the Giacomettis. Alberto Giacometti would become a talismanic artist with his revolutionary slender sculptures. Before him, his father was among the first wave of impressionist painters. And his siblings, likewise, devoted their lives to creativity and art. What is it about this valley that makes it the birthplace of so many artists? Director Susanna Fanzun traces the footsteps of an extraordinary family.

*In German with English subtitles.*



**Vancouver**  
Artgallery