

Vancouver International Film Festival

26 Sept – 06 Oct

VIFF

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VIFF ANNOUNCES FIVE OFFICIAL SELECTIONS, VIFF LIVE PERFORMANCES, AND FESTIVAL PASSES

43rd Vancouver International Film Festival
September 26 – October 6, 2024

VANCOUVER, BC (AUGUST 8, 2024) The 43rd Vancouver International Film Festival (VIFF) announces five selections for the Special Presentations and Showcase sections, and the complete VIFF Live program, curated by Indigenous scholar and media maker Jarrett Martineau. In addition, today sees the launch of the VIFF+ Members' Early Bird Day, which offers advance access to tickets. General festival passes, ticket packs, and VIFF Live tickets are on sale to the public tomorrow, Aug. 9 from 12pm.

The festival's Special Presentations and Showcase sections feature the year's most highly anticipated films and titles that will resonate with Vancouver audiences. The first titles revealed for this year's edition feature several standouts from the prestigious Berlinale and Cannes festivals: ***All We Imagine as Light*** (dir. Payal Kapadia, France/India/Netherlands/Luxembourg), ***Caught by the Tides*** (dir. Jia Zhangke, China), ***Dahomey*** (dir. Mati Diop, France/Senegal/Benin), ***Flow*** (dir. Gints Zilbalodis, Latvia/France/Belgium), and ***My Favourite Cake*** (dirs. Maryam Moghaddam, Behtash Sanaeeha, Iran/France/Sweden/Germany).

"As we put the finishing touches on the lineup behind the scenes, we're excited to unveil five official selections," says Curtis Woloschuk, Director of Programming. "While we'll be announcing dozens of premieres later this month, we take this opportunity to announce a complement of films that have garnered acclaim with their premieres in Berlin and Cannes. Running the gamut from gripping social realist drama to evocative animation, each of these films offers an enthralling cinematic experience as they investigate colonialism, climate crisis, and other contemporary issues while championing love, friendship, and independence."

VIFF Live is a series of performances that push the boundaries of traditional film festival programming by intersecting cinema culture with music and storytelling in unique live shows. This year's program features a two-part performance by the legendary filmmaker **Alanis Obomsawin** and once-in-a-generation talent **Jeremy Dutcher**; JUNO Award-winner **Elisapie** in her most personal

concert yet that incorporates film shot by **Émilie Monnet**; Japanese singer-songwriter **Eiko Ishibashi** reframing visual storytelling by performing live to a silent film by **Ryusuke Hamaguchi** (*Drive My Car*); and avant-garde composer **William Basinski** manipulating analog technology in a longstanding creative partnership with filmmaker **James Elaine**.

"I'm excited to present artists that work at the outer edges of sound and image," says VIFF Live Curator Jarrett Martineau. "Each artist experiments with form by exploring the deep relationships between memory, time, history, and presence in their storytelling. This year's program also features an intergenerational spectrum of voices, from emerging names to renowned icons in the film industry. In their own way, all the artists respond to questions around collaboration, archives, and what we carry forward from the past."

Registration for the Artist & Industry Pass is now open. This year, VIFF has made it even easier for all film and television industry professionals to take part. The Artist & Industry Pass grants access to Industry-focused programming, VIFF Amp Music in Media Summit panels and keynotes, the Signals Digital Expo (an exhibition showcasing the intersection of art and creative technology), Swapcard, VIFF's Industry networking and scheduling app, and nightly hospitality and networking opportunities at VIFF's Hospitality House.

The Artist & Industry Premium Pass takes the festival experience to the next level with access to over 300+ screenings, including Special Presentations, as well as the opportunity to attend VIFF Talks. This pass is available at an early bird price through Aug. 29.

The remainder of the programming for VIFF's 43rd edition will be announced Wednesday, Aug. 28, 2024. VIFF+ Members will have access to advance single ticket sales from Aug. 28 at 12pm. General sales to the public will begin on Aug. 29 at 12pm.

JUST ANNOUNCED

First official selections in Special Presentations and Showcase

All We Imagine as Light dir. Payal Kapadia (France/India/Netherlands/Luxembourg)

Winner: Grand Prix, Cannes 2024

In Mumbai, Nurse Prabha's routine is troubled when she receives an unexpected gift from her estranged husband. Her younger roommate, Anu, tries in vain to find a spot in the city to be intimate with her boyfriend. A trip to a beach town allows them to find a space for their desires to manifest.

Caught by the Tides dir. Jia Zhangke (China)

An enduring but fragile love story shared by Qiaoqiao and Bin, set in China, from the early 2000s to the present day. Caught up in each other, Qiaoqiao and Bin enjoyed all that the city had to offer, singing and dancing. Until one day, Bin finds himself wanting to try his luck in a bigger place than Datong. He left without any notice. Some time later, Qiaoqiao decides to go on a journey to look for him.

Dahomey dir. Mati Diop (France/Senegal/Benin)

In 2021, 26 objects from the Kingdom of Dahomey leave Paris and are returned to present-day Benin. How should these art treasures, stolen from ancestors, be received in a country which has reinvented itself in their absence?

Winner: Golden Bear for Best Film, Berlinale 2024

Flow dir. Gints Zilbalodis (Latvia/France/Belgium)

The world seems to be coming to an end, teeming with the vestiges of a human presence. Cat is a solitary animal, but as his home is devastated by a great flood, he finds refuge on a boat populated by

various species, and will have to team up with them despite their differences. In the lonesome boat sailing through mystical overflowed landscapes, they navigate the challenges and dangers of adapting to this new world.

My Favourite Cake dirs. Maryam Moghaddam, Behtash Sanaeeha (Iran/France/Sweden/Germany)
Mahin lives alone in Tehran since her husband's death and her daughter's departure for Europe, until an afternoon tea with friends leads her to break her solitary routine and revitalize her love life. But as Mahin opens herself up to new romance, what begins as an unexpected encounter quickly evolves into an unpredictable, unforgettable evening.

VIFF LIVE: Unparalleled experiences that go beyond the screen

Elisapie - *Uvattini* | Saturday, Sept. 28, 8pm

Venue: Chan Centre for Performing Arts

JUNO Award-winner Elisapie returns to the Chan Centre for an immersive multimedia show. *Uvattini*, which means "home" in Inuktitut, combines music, narration, video and performance to reveal the intimacies of her Salluit community, located in the very north of Nunavik. Mixing poetry with projections of landscapes and slices of life, she conveys the Inuit experience. This concert will give audiences Elisapie's most personal offering yet — that of her own story. Mixing modernity with tradition, Elisapie is a trailblazing artist. Her 2018 album *The Ballad of the Runaway Girl* was shortlisted for the Polaris Music Prize, earned her numerous Félix Awards, and resulted in a coveted NPR Tiny Desk concert. On her most recent Juno-winning album *Inuktitut*, she covers 10 classic rock and pop songs in her native tongue, inviting listeners to "embrace the beauty of diversity and celebrate the rich tapestry of the voices that make up our world" (APTN News).

GIFT: A Film by Ryusuke Hamaguchi X Live Score by Eiko Ishibashi | Tuesday, Oct. 1, 7pm

Venue: Rio Theatre

Multi-instrumentalist and composer Eiko Ishibashi, who scored director Ryûsuke Hamaguchi's Oscar-winning film *Drive My Car* (VIFF 2021) presents the Canadian Premiere of *GIFT* — a new silent film directed by Hamaguchi, and accompanied by a dynamic, live soundtrack performed by Ishibashi. Developed in collaboration with Hamaguchi's latest feature film, *Evil Does Not Exist* (VIFF 2023), *GIFT* has been hailed as its "concentrated, wordless flipside" (Lincoln Centre). Using visual source material drawn from *Evil Does Not Exist*, Ishibashi's live performance adds a dynamic layer to the cinematic experience of *GIFT*, by offering a vital recomposition of the relationship of sound to narrative, and composer to filmmaker.

William Basinski: *Arcadia Archives* | Wednesday, Oct. 2, 8pm

Venue: Rio Theatre

Acclaimed ambient and experimental composer William Basinski presents the Canadian premiere of *Arcadia Archives* — an immersive, transcendent live performance that combines music drawn from Basinski's extensive archival work with 40+ year-old tape loops, and accompanied by a new "nocturnal video work" created by Basinski's longtime partner collaborator, artist-filmmaker James Elaine.

Jeremy Dutcher & Alanis Obomsawin | Friday, Oct. 4, 8pm

Venue: Chan Centre for Performing Arts

Two of the most compelling voices in Indigenous music and cinema meet for an intimate, unique, and unforgettable evening of intergenerational story and song featuring award-winning Wolastoq tenor and composer Jeremy Dutcher and renowned Abenaki filmmaker and musician Alanis Obomsawin. Wolastoqiyik song carrier Jeremy Dutcher performs with his trio, blending songs from his community of Tobique First Nation in New Brunswick with neoclassical, jazz, and pop influences. Obomsawin, hailed as "one of the most acclaimed Indigenous directors in the world," offers a rare live performance of *Bush Lady*, her acclaimed and only full-length album, originally released in 1988. Accompanied by an ensemble led by Montreal's Radwan Moumneh, this will be only Obomsawin's third performance of this music since Constellation Records remastered and re-released the album in 2018.

Co-presented with the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts, as part of the Chan EXP Series, in partnership with the Vancouver Art Gallery.

Festival Passes and Information

Festival Pass	\$425
Platinum Pass	\$1,200
Artist & Industry Pass	\$175
Artist & Industry Premium Pass (Early Bird, through Aug. 29)	\$350
Artist & Industry Premium Pass	\$425
VIFF Live & Chan EXP: Elipsapie - <i>Uvattini</i>	\$16-\$60
VIFF Live & Chan EXP: Jeremy Dutcher & Alanis Obomsawin	\$16-\$60
VIFF Live: <i>GIFT: A Film by Ryusuke Hamaguchi</i> X Live Score by Eiko Ishibashi	\$40
VIFF Live: William Basinski: <i>Arcadia Archives</i>	\$40

Film Ticket Packs

Pack Type	Regular Price for Non-VIFF+ Members	VIFF+	VIFF+ Premium & U25
6 Pack	\$108	\$94	\$86
10 Pack	\$170	\$150	\$136

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 səliłwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

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