

February 7-20

2025

Mami Wata

Black History Month Screenings *Twin Peaks: Fire Walk With Me* *No Other Land* 2025 Oscar Shorts Pantheon: *Les Enfants du Paradis* *Doctor Zhivago* Brief Encounter *Paying For It* *Mongrels* *Dancing on the Moon*: *Fleischer Cartoon Valentines* *Intercepted* *James and the Giant Peach* *Sherlock Jr.* AND MORE

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

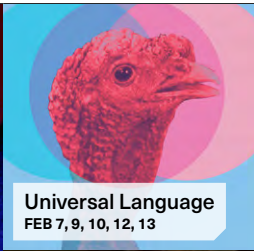
THU

FRI

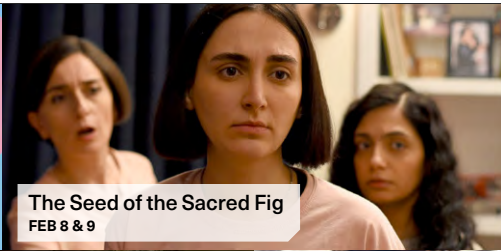
SAT



Twin Peaks: Fire Walk With Me FEB 11



Universal Language FEB 7, 9, 10, 12, 13



The Seed of the Sacred Fig FEB 8 & 9



The Return FEB 11, 12, 15



LIZA FEB 9 & 12

7 FEB

Luther: Never Too Much • VC 2:00pm
 Sugarcane • LOC 2:30pm
 No Other Land • VC 4:15pm
 Every Little Thing • LOC 5:50pm
 Universal Language • VC 6:20pm
 No Other Land • LOC 8:00pm
 Play It Loud! How Toronto Got Soul • VC 8:30pm

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Flow • VC 12:00pm
 Sugarcane • LOC 12:30pm
 Lunar New Year: Hao Are You? • VC 2:00pm
 The Seed of the Sacred Fig • LOC 3:00pm
 Lunar New Year: Stand Up Story • VC 5:00pm
 Luther: Never Too ... • LOC 6:15pm
 Lunar New Year: Granny Must Die • VC 7:30pm
 Play It Loud! ... • LOC 8:30pm
 Sherlock Jr. with R.E.M.'s Monster and ... • VC 9:30pm

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Universal Language • VC 12:45pm
 The Seed of the Sacred Fig • LOC 1:00pm
 No Other Land • VC 2:45pm
 LIZA: A Truly Terrific ... • LOC 4:20pm
 Lunar New Year: Come Home My Child • VC 5:00pm
 Play It Loud! ... • LOC 6:30pm
 Lunar New Year: Picnic • VC 7:00pm
 Luther: Never Too Much • LOC 8:30pm
 Sherlock Jr. with R.E.M.'s Monster and ... • VC 9:30pm

10

Film Studies: Adapting Shakespeare — Throne of Blood • VC 2:00pm
 Soundtrack to a Coup D'Etat • LOC 3:30pm
 Universal Language • VC 5:00pm
 Celebrating Black Futures: Mami Wata + Drexciya • LOC 6:30pm
 No Other Land • VC 7:00pm
 Play It Loud! ... • LOC 9:00pm

11

The Return • VC 1:30pm
 Every Little Thing • LOC 2:00pm
 The Room Next Door • VC 4:00pm
 Porcelain War • LOC 4:15pm
 No Other Land • VC 6:20pm
 Arthur Erickson: Beauty Between the Lines • LOC 6:40pm
 Every Little Thing • LOC 8:15pm
 Tribute to David Lynch — Twin Peaks: Fire Walk With Me • VC 8:30pm

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Luther: Never Too Much (Open Captions) • LOC 12:00pm
 The Room Next Door • VC 1:30pm
 LIZA: A Truly Terrific Absolutely True Story • LOC 2:00pm
 The Return • VC 3:45pm
 Black Box Diaries • LOC 4:15pm
 No Other Land • VC 6:20pm
 Universal Language • LOC 6:40pm
 The Pirogue • VC 8:15pm
 Luther: Never Too Much • LOC 8:45pm

13

Conclave + Carlos Diehz in person • VC 1:30pm
 Porcelain War • LOC 4:00pm
 Universal Language • LOC 5:50pm
 Intercepted • VC 6:10pm
 Mother of George • LOC 8:30pm
 No Other Land • VC 8:30pm



Conclave FEB 13

14

Mongrels • VC 1:00pm
 The Room Next Door • LOC 1:30pm
 2025 Oscar Shorts (Live Action) • VC 3:30pm
 Porcelain War • LOC 3:45pm
 Brief Encounter • VC 5:30pm
 Fleischer Cartoon Valentines • LOC 5:45pm
 Fleischer Cartoon Valentines • LOC 7:10pm
 Doctor Zhivago • VC 7:30pm
 2025 Oscar Shorts (Animation) • LOC 8:30pm

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Fleischer Cartoon Valentines • VC 11:30am
 The Room Next Door • LOC 12:00pm
 2025 Oscar Shorts (Animation) • VC 1:00pm
 The Return • LOC 2:15pm
 2025 Oscar Shorts (Live Action) • VC 3:00pm
 Mongrels • LOC 4:40pm
 Doctor Zhivago • VC 5:00pm
 2025 Oscar Shorts (Docs) • LOC 7:00pm
 Paying For It • VC 8:50pm

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Pantheon: Les Enfants du Paradis • VC 11:00am
 2025 Oscar Shorts (Docs) • LOC 12:20pm
 Brief Encounter • VC 3:15pm
 Celebrating Black Futures: The Inheritance • LOC 3:30pm
 Mongrels • VC 5:15pm
 The Pirogue • LOC 6:15pm
 Paying For It • VC 7:45pm
 Mother of George • LOC 8:10pm

17

Kids Club: James and the Giant Peach • VC 11:00am
 2025 Oscar Shorts (Live Action) • LOC 1:00pm
 Film Studies: Interior Monologue — The Hours • VC 2:00pm
 Fleischer Cartoon ... • LOC 3:00pm
 The Room Next Door • LOC 4:30pm
 2025 Oscar Shorts (Live Action) • VC 5:00pm
 Mongrels • LOC 6:40pm
 2025 Oscar Shorts (Live Action) • VC 7:00pm
 Paying For It • VC 9:00pm

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Anora • VC 3:00pm
 Black Box Diaries • LOC 3:30pm
 Pantheon: Les Enfants du Paradis • VC 6:30pm

19

Anora • VC 2:30pm
 Mongrels • LOC 6:00pm
 2025 Oscar Shorts (Animation) • VC 6:30pm
 Atlantics • VC 8:30pm

20

Chez Jolie Coiffure • LOC 8:30pm



The Room Next Door FEB 11, 12, 14, 15, 17

Tickets and Memberships

	Adult	VIFF+	VIFF+ Premium & U25	Senior	Student	Accessible	Group Rate (10+)
VIFF Cinema	\$16	\$13	\$11	\$14	\$11	\$11	\$13
Lochmaddy Studio Theatre	\$14	\$11	\$9	\$12	\$9	\$9	\$11

Tickets can be purchased in advance online at viff.org (up to 60 minutes before showtime) and also in person at our box office. Prices do not include GST.

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.

Free Entry to VIFF Centre screenings for Self-Identifying Indigenous Peoples. Call to book your tickets or visit our box office.

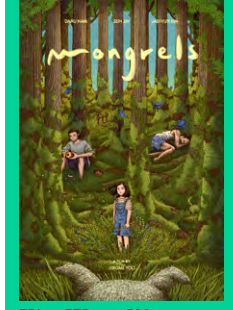
Call **604.683.3456** for the latest info and listings.

First Look Fridays

Friday matinee screenings for \$10



FRI 07 FEB, 2:00PM



FRI 14 FEB, 1:00PM

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viff.org/plus

2025 Oscar Shorts

From February 14



Every year VIFF Centre showcases the short film nominees across three categories: Best Live Action Short, Best Animated Short, and Best Short Documentary. While feature films seem to stretch longer and longer and audiences remain hungry to binge endless TV series, these mini masterpieces remind us that brevity is the soul of wit, and very often less can be more. Full details of the programmes are still being worked out, but look for them at viff.org, with screenings starting from Feb 14 and continuing through the month.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH SCREENINGS

The Pirogue

MOUSSA TOURÉ, SENEGAL/FRANCE/GERMANY, 2012, 87 MIN.

WED FEB 12	8:30PM	VC
SUN FEB 16	6:15PM	LOC

Baye Laye is the captain of a fishing pirogue. Like many of his Senegalese compatriots, he dreams of new horizons, where he can earn a better living for his family. When he is offered to lead one of the many pirogues that head towards Europe via the Canary Islands, he reluctantly accepts the job, knowing full-well the dangers that lie ahead. Leading a group of 30 men who don't all speak the same language, some of whom have never seen the sea, Baye Laye will confront many perils in order to reach Europe.

In French and Wolof with English subtitles.

CAST Souleymane Seye Ndiaye, Laïty Fall, Malaminé 'Yalenguen' Dramé



Mongrels

JEROME YOO, CANADA, 2024, 111 MIN.

FRI FEB 14	1:00PM	VC
SAT FEB 15	4:40PM	LOC
SUN FEB 16	5:15PM	VC
MON FEB 17	6:40PM	LOC
WED FEB 19	6:00PM	LOC

"If you can catch and eat one hundred airplanes, you can make a wish come true..." Taking her mother's whimsical notion to heart, Hana is determined to bring about the family reunion that will restore her happiness. Meanwhile older brother Hajoon seeks connection from his new Canadian peers while risking the fury of their angry, alienated dad, Sonny (Jae-Hyun Kim). Like *Riceboy Sleeps*, Jerome Yoo's debut feature is a beguiling, introspective film looking back on the Korean immigrant experience, here split across three chapters, each with a distinct visual aesthetic.

In English, and Korean with English subtitles.

CAST Sejin Jin, Jae-Hyun Kim, Da-Nu Nam, Candyce Weir, Jedd Sharp, Morgan Derera



No Other Land

BASEL ADRA, HAMDAN BALLAL, YUVAL ABRAHAM, RACHEL SZOR, PALESTINE/NORWAY, 2024, 96 MIN.

FRI FEB 7	4:15PM	VC
FRI FEB 7	8:00PM	LOC
SUN FEB 9	2:45PM	VC
MON FEB 10	7:00PM	VC
FEB 11-13	ADDITIONAL SCREENINGS	VC

Deemed by many critics one of the essential films of 2024, a multiple festival award winner and a nominee for the Academy Award for Best Documentary, *No Other Land* is a reminder that mass expulsion is by no means a new reality for Palestinians—indeed for Basel Adra, an activist from Masafer Yatta in the West Bank, this has been his life. Filmed over a five year period by a collective of Arab and Israeli filmmakers as a community is demolished to make way for a new military training ground, this is a harrowing and often heartbreaking account of life under the Israeli occupation.

In Arabic, Hebrew, and English with English subtitles.



Black History Month

African Cinema Now! Atlantics

MATI DIOP, FRANCE/SENEGAL/BELGIUM, 2019, 106 MIN.

WED FEB 19	8:30PM	VC
SUN FEB 23	6:20PM	LOC

Along the Atlantic coast, a soon-to-be-inaugurated futuristic tower looms over a suburb of Dakar. Ada, 17, is in love with Souleiman, a young construction worker. But she has been promised to another man. One night, Souleiman and his co-workers leave the country by sea, in hope of a better future. Several days later, a fire ruins Ada's wedding and a mysterious fever starts to spread. Little does Ada know that Souleiman has returned.

In English, French, and Wolof with English subtitles.

CAST Mama Sané, Amadou Mbow, Ibrahima Traoré, Nicole Sougou, Amina Kane, Mariama Gassama



Black History Month

African Cinema Now! Mother of George

ANDREW DOSUNMU, USA, 2013, 107 MIN.

THU FEB 13	8:30PM	LOC
SUN FEB 16	8:10PM	LOC

Adenike and Ayodele are a Nigerian couple living in Brooklyn. Following the joyous celebration of their wedding, complications arise from their inability to conceive a child—a problem that devastates their family, defies cultural expectations, and leads Adenike to make a shocking decision. Director Andrew Dosunmu captures the nuances of this unique and fascinating culture by creating a beautiful, vibrant, and moving portrait of a couple whose joys and struggles are at once intimate and universal.

CAST Danai Gurira, Isaach De Bankolé



Dancing on the Moon: Fleischer Cartoon Valentines

MAX FLEISCHER, DAVE FLEISCHER, USA, 60 MIN.

FRI FEB 14	5:45PM, 7:10PM	LOC
SAT FEB 15	11:30AM	VC
MON FEB 17	3:00PM	LOC

In this specially curated package of vintage family-friendly cartoons from the 1920s and 30s by animation pioneer Max Fleischer, the emphasis is on love and romance. Featuring Betty Boop & Bimbo the dog, Popeye the Sailor Man and what is probably the first ever instance of the "moonwalk" move that would become Michael Jackson's signature move. Newly restored in high definition, these cartoons will look beautiful on the big screen!

CAST Betty Boop, Popeye, Koko the Clown



Paying For It

SOOK-YIN LEE, CANADA, 2024, 85 MIN.

SAT FEB 15	8:50PM	VC
SUN FEB 16	7:45PM	VC
MON FEB 17	9:00PM	VC
THU FEB 20	6:30PM	LOC

Talk about a hall of mirrors! Sook-Yin Lee adapts the graphic novel of the same name by her ex-boyfriend, Canadian cartoonist Chester Brown, about the end of their relationship in the early naughts and Brown's subsequent decision to start paying for sex. Dan Beirne (*The Twentieth Century*) plays Brown, and he's joined by a cast that includes Emily Lê (*Riceboy Sleeps*) as Sook-yin stand-in "Sonny". The tone here is affectionately comedic, matter of fact, and sex positive, not salacious or leering; it may even have you reconsidering your views on sex work.

CAST Daniel Beirne, Emily Lê, Andrea Werhun, Noah Lamanna



Black History Month

Celebrating Black Futures: Mami Wata + Drexciya

C.J. "FIERY" OBASI, BENIN, 2023, 107 MIN.

MON FEB 10	6:30PM	LOC
SUN FEB 23	3:30PM	LOC

Waves smack across the shore at night as a young woman silently knots her braids, rises, and walks into the ocean. She has given herself to Mami Wata, the water goddess. So begins Fiery Obasi's tremendous, dreamy fable, shot in inky, lustrous black and white and playing out an elemental tale of magic, devotion, and generational restlessness.

+ *Drexciya* (Akosua Adoma Owusu, 2011, 12 minutes)

In West African Pidgin, Fon, and English with English subtitles.

Celebrating Black Futures is copresented with the Vancouver Art Gallery and curated by Kika Memeh

CAST Rita Edochie, Uzoamaka Aniunoh, Evelyn Ily, Emeka Amakeze, Kelechi Udegbe



Black History Month

Celebrating Black Futures: The Inheritance

EPHRAIM ASILI, USA, 2020, 102 MIN.

SUN FEB 16	3:30PM	LOC
MON FEB 24	6:30PM	LOC

The inheritance is a house in Philadelphia bequeathed to Julian by his grandmother. He asks his girlfriend Gwen to move in, and next thing he knows there's an entire collective, The House of Ubutu, a commune that will be a safe space for Black folk. On the wall, prominently, there is a poster for Godard's *La Chinoise*, and this is clearly a key inspiration for writer-director Ephraim Asili. It's heady but playful, a call to arms that resonates loud and clear.

Celebrating Black Futures is copresented with the Vancouver Art Gallery and curated by Kika Memeh

CAST Nozipho McClean, Eric Lockley, Chris Jarell, Julian Rozzell Jr.



Doctor Zhivago (Diamond Anniversary)

DAVID LEAN, UK/USA, 1965, 197 MIN.

FRI FEB 14	7:30PM	VC
SAT FEB 15	5:00PM	VC

This Valentine Day, wrap yourself in David Lean's epic, all-star adaptation of Boris Pasternak's love story, set against the tumult of the Russian Revolution. With Maurice Jarre's haunting score, Omar Sharif as the soulful doctor/poet, and Julie Christie as his soul-mate, this is unapologetically a decadent's take on the Revolution. Adjusted for inflation, it remains one of the ten biggest box office movies ever made. Restored DCP.

"It's impossible not to swoon." *TIME OUT*

CAST Omar Sharif, Julie Christie, Alec Guinness, Rod Steiger, Ralph Richardson, Tom Courtenay, Geraldine Chaplin, Rita Tushingham

WINNER 5 Academy Awards



Brief Encounter (80th Anniversary)

DAVID LEAN, UK, 1945, 87 MIN.

FRI FEB 14	5:30PM	VC
SUN FEB 16	3:15PM	VC

Celia Johnson and Trevor Howard meet by chance at a railway station. Both are married and neither will stoop to impropriety. Yet there is an immediate attraction and a series of stolen lunch dates develops into one of the cinema's most affecting love affairs. It's not so far from Wong Kar-wai's *In the Mood for Love*, with Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No 2 in place of Nat King Cole. Considered one of the greatest British films ever made, the movie consolidated director David Lean's growing reputation.

"Lean's sad, buttoned-up account of unconsummated love is about all of us and our cautious natures." *ZADIE SMITH*

CAST Trevor Howard, Celia Johnson



Black History Month

Play It Loud! How Toronto Got Soul

GRAEME MATHIESON, CANADA, 2024, 84 MIN.

FRI FEB 7	8:30PM	VC
SAT FEB 8	8:30PM	LOC
SUN FEB 9	6:30PM	LOC
MON FEB 10	9:00PM	LOC

Born in Montego Bay, Jay Douglas came to Canada as a teenager in the 1960s and brought reggae with him. As lead singer for The Cougars, he spearheaded Caribbean soul, ska and funk on the Toronto Yonge Street scene. Despite a voice to die for, dapper looks and charisma to spare, Canada wasn't quite ready for Jay. It wasn't until 2006 and hip-hop's discovery of Wayne McGhie's *Dirty Funk* that The Cougars found belated fame and respect. Still going strong, Jay proves the perfect guide to this joyful reclamation of Canadian soul and funk history.

Special guests (Friday only): Jay Douglas and producer Andrew Munger

CAST Jay Douglas, Jackie Richardson, Lowell Sly Dunbar, Lillian Allen, Adrian Miller, Grub Cooper, DJ Supreme La Rock, Rollie Pemberton, Michael Williams



Black History Month

Luther: Never Too Much

DAWN PORTER, USA, 2024, 101 MIN.

FRI FEB 7	2:00PM	VC
SAT FEB 8	6:15PM	LOC
SUN FEB 9	8:30PM	LOC
WED FEB 12	12:00PM, 8:45PM	LOC

The dazzling but all too short career of singer-songwriter Luther Vandross gets revelatory reappraisal in Dawn Porter's moving biographical documentary. The trailblazing soul artist was a titanic musical force in the 1980s and 90s, arranging and producing songs for David Bowie, Dionne Warwick and Mariah Carey, to name just a few. Drawn from roughly four decades of interview and performance footage, *Luther* restores the rightful reputation of an artist who couldn't be appreciated on his own terms in his era.

FEAT Luther Vandross, Mariah Carey, Jamie Foxx, Dionne Warwick, Roberta Flack



\$10 incl. Film & Kids Activities

VIFF | Kids Club James and the Giant Peach

HENRY SELICK, USA, 1996, 79 MIN.

MON FEB 17 **11:00AM** **VC**

Join us on Family Day for a classic family matinee with fun activities! Arrive early for bug antennae building, face painting, and peachy snacks before our noon screening. Forced to live with his cruel aunts, James finds a new life aboard an enormous, enchanted peach. Together with a group of friendly and caring insects who welcome him with open arms, James sets sail for adventure. Along the way, he and his friends offer young audiences positive messages about friendship, bravery, acceptance, and teamwork.

Doors Open and Activities Begin: 11am. Film: 12pm.

CAST Paul Terry, Joanna Lumley, Miriam Margolyes



Pantheon: Les Enfants du Paradis

MARCEL CARNÉ, FRANCE, 1945, 190 MIN.

SUN FEB 16 **11:00AM** **VC**

TUE FEB 18 **6:30PM** **VC**

Widely acknowledged as the crowning glory of classical French cinema, this sumptuous melodrama defies the Occupation stringencies under which it was made. Set in the early 19th century Boulevard du Crime, where popular audiences for mime shows and carnival rubbed shoulders with wealthy patrons of classical theatre, it's an extraordinarily rich tapestry, a consummate piece of filmmaking with a scintillating screenplay by the surrealist poet Jacques Prévert. It's the most romantic film ever made.

Sunday's PANTHEON screening will feature a 15 minute introduction and talk-back.

In French with English subtitles.

CAST Arletty, Jean-Louis Barrault, Pierre Brasseur, Marcel Herrand, Pierre Renoir



Intercepted

OKSANA KARPOVYCH, CANADA/France/UKRAINE, 2024, 93 MIN.

THU FEB 13 **6:10PM** **VC**

Of all the films to come out of the Ukraine over the past few years, this one stands out for its rigour, its visual restraint and eloquence, and the sheer horror it imparts. Director Oksana Karpovych juxtaposes shots of broken buildings, bombed out roads and bridges, scarred landscapes, with a soundtrack consisting of intercepted messages from Russian soldiers to their loved ones. In these uncensored phone calls, the men casually confess to (in some cases, boast of) widespread looting, murder and torture.

Q&A with director Oksana Karpovych

In Russian and Ukrainian with English subtitles.



Buster Keaton's Sherlock Jr. with R.E.M.'s Monster and New Adventures in Hi Fi

BUSTER KEATON, USA, 1924, 60 MIN.

SAT FEB 8 **9:30PM** **VC**

SUN FEB 9 **9:30PM** **VC**

It didn't take long for cinema to become self-reflexive. Buster Keaton's *Sherlock Jr* anticipates post-modernism by decades. Buster plays a projectionist who dreams himself onto (and into) the movie screen, where he finds himself in high slapstick peril. The formal mastery here is dazzling and more than a century after the film's release, audiences will be in gales of laughter. Hopefully none of them will end up on screen.

This screening comes with a jukebox score from those indie rock dreamers REM, and specifically tracks from the albums *Monster* and *New Adventures in Hi Fi*.

No Dialogue, with English subtitles.

CAST Buster Keaton, Kathryn Maguire, Joe Keaton