



Shepherds

Shepherds That They May Face the Rising Sun The Genius of Gena Rowlands
Night Moves: Rodney Decroo Janis Ian: Breaking Silence The Encampments
The Hermit of Treig Secret Mall Apartment The Teacher Bob Trevino Likes It
The Lunchbox Film Studies: Scarface Zappostrophe Duke Ellington Tribute AND MORE

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. **Some events may carry special pricing.**

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18 APR
That They May Face the Rising Sun • VC
 2:00pm
 Janis Ian: Breaking Silence • LOC
 2:30pm
 The Hermit of Treig • VC
 4:30pm
 Secret Mall Apartment • LOC
 5:00pm
 Shepherds • VC
 6:20pm
 No Other Land • LOC
 7:00pm
 The Long Good Friday • VC
 8:45pm
 Are We Done Now? • LOC
 9:00pm

19
 Shepherds • VC
 1:10pm
 Secret Mall Apartment • LOC
 1:30pm
 That They May Face the Rising Sun • VC
 3:30pm
 The Hermit of Treig • LOC
 3:45pm
 Janis Ian: Breaking Silence • LOC
 5:30pm
 The Luckiest Man in America • LOC
 7:45pm
 VIFF Live: Zappostrophe + Frank Zappa's 200 Motels • VC
 8:00pm

20
 Pantheon: The Ascent • VC
 11:00am
 The Hermit of Treig • LOC
 12:00pm
 Secret Mall Apartment • LOC
 1:45pm
 Our Blue World - A Water Odyssey • VC
 3:00pm
 Janis Ian: Breaking Silence • LOC
 3:45pm
 That They May Face the Rising Sun • VC
 5:00pm
 Are We Done Now? • LOC
 6:15pm
 The Long Good Friday • VC
 7:30pm
 Incandescence • LOC
 8:10pm

21
 Secret Mall Apartment • VC
 2:00pm
 The Hermit of Treig • LOC
 3:00pm
 Shepherds • VC
 4:00pm
 Janis Ian: Breaking Silence • LOC
 5:00pm
 Pantheon: The Ascent • VC
 6:30pm
 No Other Land • LOC
 7:15pm
 That They May Face the Rising Sun • VC
 8:45pm

22
 Shepherds • VC
 4:00pm
 The Hermit of Treig • LOC
 4:30pm
 That They May Face the Rising Sun • LOC
 6:10pm
 Our Blue World - A Water Odyssey • VC
 6:30pm
 The Luckiest Man in America • LOC
 8:30pm
 Incandescence • VC
 9:00pm

23
 African Cinema Now: Our Lady of the Nile • LOC
 6:30pm
 VIFF Live: Night Moves: Street Photography, Poetry and Music with Rodney DeCruz • VC
 7:30pm
 Secret Mall Apartment • LOC
 8:50pm



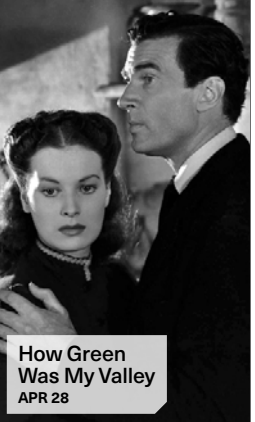
25
 The Teacher • VC
 2:00pm
 Bob Trevino Likes It • LOC
 2:20pm
 The Encampments • VC
 4:30pm
 Shepherds • LOC
 5:00pm
 The Teacher • VC
 6:20pm
 African Cinema Now: Our Lady of the Nile • LOC
 8:00pm
 Gena: Faces • VC
 8:45pm

26
 That They May Face the Rising Sun • VC
 2:00pm
 Secret Mall Apartment • LOC
 2:30pm
 The Encampments • VC
 4:20pm
 The Hermit of Treig • LOC
 4:40pm
 The Teacher • VC
 6:20pm
 Bob Trevino Likes It • LOC
 6:40pm
 The Encampments • VC
 8:45pm
 Secret Mall Apartment • LOC
 9:00pm

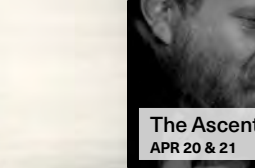
27
 VIFF Live: A Duke Ellington Tribute with the Mike Braverman Sextet + Duke on Film • VC
 2:00pm
 African Cinema Now: Our Lady of the Nile • LOC
 2:30pm
 That They May Face the Rising Sun • LOC
 4:40pm
 The Encampments • VC
 5:00pm
 Secret Mall Apartment • LOC
 6:45pm
 Gena: A Woman Under the Influence • VC
 7:00pm
 Incandescence • LOC
 8:45pm

28
 Film Studies: Scarface • VC
 2:00pm
 Bob Trevino Likes It • LOC
 2:20pm
 That They May Face the Rising Sun • LOC
 4:20pm
 The Hermit of Treig • VC
 4:40pm
 How Green Was My Valley • VC
 6:30pm
 Shepherds • LOC
 7:00pm

29
 Talking Pictures: The Lunchbox • VC
 11:00am
 The Encampments • LOC
 12:00pm
 Bob Trevino Likes It • LOC
 2:00pm
 Gena: Faces • VC
 3:30pm
 Secret Mall Apartment • LOC
 4:00pm
 That They May Face the Rising Sun • LOC
 6:00pm
 The Teacher • VC
 6:20pm
 The Hermit of Treig • LOC
 8:15pm
 The Encampments • VC
 8:40pm

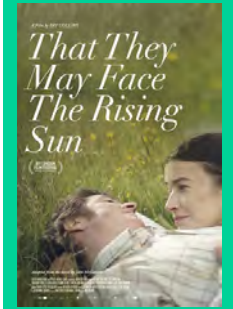


1 MAY
 Gena: A Woman Under the Influence • VC
 3:30pm
 The Encampments • VC
 6:30pm
 African Cinema Now: Mambar Pierrette • LOC
 7:00pm
 The Teacher • VC
 8:20pm



First Look Fridays

Friday matinee screenings for \$10



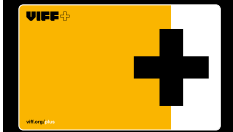
FRI 18 APR, 2:00PM



FRI 25 APR, 2:00PM

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That They May Face the Rising Sun

PAT COLLINS, IRELAND, 2023, 111 MIN.

FRI APR 18	2:00PM	VC
SAT APR 19	3:30PM	VC
SUN APR 20	5:00PM	VC
MON APR 21	8:45PM	VC
TUE APR 22	6:10PM	LOC
SAT APR 26	2:00PM	VC
SUN APR 27	4:40PM	LOC
MON APR 28	4:20PM	LOC
TUE APR 29	6:00PM	LOC

An Irish reverie, based on a 2002 novel by John McGahern but effortlessly evoking reams of Irish literature from James Joyce to JM Synge and Samuel Beckett, Pat Collins' film is about nothing but the rain, the sun, the grass growing, the normal stuff of everyday lives... which is to say, it's also about life and death, fleeting happiness, friends and foes. Lyrical, lovely, and perfectly judged, this one will haunt you.

CAST Barry Ward, Anna Bederke, Sean McGinley, Lalor Roddy



The Teacher

FARAH NABULSI, UK/PALESTINE, 2023, 118 MIN.

FRI APR 25	2:00PM	VC
FRI APR 25	6:20PM	VC
SAT APR 26	6:20PM	VC
TUE APR 29	6:20PM	VC
THU MAY 1	8:20PM	VC

The first feature from Farah Nabulsi is a potent thriller about an English teacher, Basem (Saleh Bakri) charting a course of smart resistance to Israeli occupiers. (The background here is very similar to the picture painted in the Oscar-winning documentary *No Other Land*). In a horrifying turn of events, Basem witnesses the murder of a teenager by a settler. While the subsequent investigation rolls slowly towards a foregone conclusion, the teacher is caught up in a parallel kidnapping case...

In Arabic, English, and Hebrew with English subtitles.

CAST Saleh Bakri, Imogen Poots, Muhammad Abed Elrahman, Stanley Townsend, Paul Herzberg, Mahmoud Bakri



The Encampments

MICHAEL T. WORKMAN, KEI PRITSKER, USA, 2025, 82 MIN.

FRI APR 25	4:30PM	VC
SAT APR 26	4:20PM, 8:45PM	VC
SUN APR 27	5:00PM	VC
TUE APR 29	12:00PM	LOC
TUE APR 29	8:40PM	VC
THU MAY 1	6:30PM	VC

Few documentaries are more timely than this fast-tracked account of the Columbia student Gaza protests. At the centre of this story is student activist Mahmoud Kahlil, who hit the headlines just last month after he was detained by ICE and who is fighting a deportation order. Another prominent character in the film, Grant Miner, who is Jewish, was recently expelled by Columbia. At a time when the right to free speech is policed with such rigour, *The Encampments* provides an opportunity to hear what the protestors have to say.



The Hermit of Treig

LIZZIE MACKENZIE, UK, 2022, 79 MIN.

FRI APR 18	4:30PM	VC
SAT APR 19	3:45PM	LOC
SUN APR 20	12:00PM	LOC
MON APR 21	3:00PM	LOC
TUE APR 22	4:30PM	LOC
SAT APR 26	4:40PM	LOC
MON APR 28	4:40PM	VC
TUE APR 29	8:15PM	LOC

In this rather special film, Lizzie MacKenzie trains her camera on octogenarian Ken Smith, who has lived more than four decades off-the-grid on the shores of Loch Treig, in the Scottish Highlands. This cheerful hermit is a personable storyteller and you can sense the warm bond that is forged between the filmmaker and her unusual subject.

"When a film-maker is clearly captivated by their subject, the film can compel viewers to fall in love as well." PHUONG LE, *THE GUARDIAN*

FEAT Ken Smith



Shepherds

SOPHIE DERASPE, CANADA/FRANCE, 2024, 113 MIN.

FRI APR 18	6:20PM	VC
SAT APR 19	1:10PM	VC
MON APR 21	4:00PM	VC
TUE APR 22	4:00PM	VC
FRI APR 25	5:00PM	LOC
MON APR 28	7:00PM	LOC

Advertising man Mathyas (Félix-Antoine Duval) quits his job in Montreal with the romantic notion of becoming a shepherd in the French Alps. Of course the reality is less bucolic than he imagines: hunger, loneliness, wolves... And yet, and yet..., there is life on the Alps, and love too... Based on a true story, Sophie Deraspe's follow up to *Antigone* (2019) effectively plays spiritual uplift off against some 3000 sheep, one donkey, assorted hens, goats, and several valiant dogs.

"Majesterial... as rejuvenating to watch as the effect of being in nature." STEPHEN SAITO, *THE MOVEABLE FEAST*

In French with English subtitles.

CAST Félix-Antoine Duval, Solène Rigot



Janis Ian: Breaking Silence

VARDA BAR-KAR, USA, 2024, 114 MIN.

FRI APR 18	2:30PM	LOC
SAT APR 19	5:30PM	LOC
SUN APR 20	3:45PM	LOC
MON APR 21	5:00PM	LOC

In the mid-60s, Janis Ian, a tiny teenage Jewish singer-songwriter from New Jersey, scores a controversial hit single called *Society's Child*, about an interracial love relationship. The song launches her illustrious career but also ignites death threats, plunging her into an emotional tailspin—only to emerge from the ashes in the 1970s with an even bigger hit, *At Seventeen*. Janis overcomes embezzlement, record industry misogyny, and heartbreak to find love and produce an indelible body of searingly honest songs.

FEAT Janis Ian, Joan Baez, Lily Tomlin, Arlo Guthrie, Tom Paxton



Secret Mall Apartment

JEREMY WORKMAN, USA, 2024, 91 MIN.

FRI APR 18	5:00PM	LOC
SAT APR 19	1:30PM	LOC
SUN APR 20	1:45PM	LOC
MON APR 21	2:00PM	VC
WED APR 23	8:50PM	LOC
SAT APR 26	2:30PM, 9:00PM	LOC
SUN APR 27	6:45PM	LOC
TUE APR 29	4:00PM	LOC

In 2003, Michael Townsend and several of his friends created one of the most original guerrilla art projects of the 21st century: they built and furnished a hidden 750 sq. foot apartment inside the Providence Mall in Rhode Island, remaining undetected for four years. *Secret Mall Apartment* strikes a balancing act between the absurdity of its story and surprisingly profound questions about gentrification, the nature of social art, and what truly makes a home.

FEAT Michael Townsend



The Genius of Gena Rowlands

April 25–June 3

Last year, we lost one of the greatest of all screen performers: Gena Rowlands (1930-2024). Not a box-office star, Rowlands nevertheless racked up more than 30 notable film roles in a career that stretched across more than five decades. Of these, the parts she embodied for her writer-director husband John Cassavetes are the bedrock of her reputation.

Much more than a muse, Rowlands was a versatile, courageous and profound actor, and their films together—including *Faces* (April 25, 29), *A Woman Under the Influence* (April 27, May 1), *Minnie and*

Moskowitz (May 4, 6), *Gloria* (May 11, 13), *Opening Night* (May 18, 20), and *Love Streams* (May 25, 27)—confront the fraught complexity of relationships with a candor that feels like revelation. As Manohla Dargis wrote in *The New York Times*, "Rowlands and Cassavetes changed American cinema, and they also, as importantly, changed the women in it, making films that spoke to their liberated moment. Cassavetes may not have been a feminist, strictly speaking. Yet he and Rowlands made some of the greatest, truest films about women."

VIFF | Live Night Moves: Street Photography, Poetry and Music with Rodney DeCroo

120 MIN.

WED APR 23	7:30PM	VC
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Rodney DeCroo is a singer-songwriter, playwright, poet and screenwriter. To mark the publication of his first collection of street photography, *Night Moves* (Anvil Press), this will be a multimedia event with slides, poetry, music, film and conversation. *Night Moves* is a gritty, touching and truthful portrayal of contemporary urban life, largely shot in and around Commercial Drive.

7pm • Social mixer (atrium)

7:30 • Introduction and slide show: Images from *Night Moves*

7:45 • Conversation with Mike Usinger on the art and ethics of street photography, followed by Q&A and intermission

8:30 • Poetry, Music and Short Films with Rodney and his band, The Wise Blood



African Cinema Now

Our Lady of the Nile

ATIQU RAHIMI, FRANCE/BELGIUM/RAWANDA, 2019, 106 MIN.

WED APR 23	6:30PM	LOC
FRI APR 25	8:00PM	LOC
SUN APR 27	2:30PM	LOC

Rwanda, 1973. Veronica and Virginia are inseparable friends at an elite Catholic boarding school, *Our Lady of the Nile*, but what binds them together is the very thing that separates them forever. Months before graduation, the students' lives are rocked by the venomous atmosphere that clouds the country. What comes first, sisterhood or politics?

Screening in our African Cinema Now series curated by the Aoko Collective

"A heart-breaking look at the corruption of innocence." ORLA SMITH, *SEVENTH ROW*

In French and Kinyarwanda with English subtitles.

CAST Amanda Santa Mugabekazi, Albina Sydney Kirenga, Malaika Uwamahoro, Clariella Bizimana, Belinda Rubango Simbi, Pascal Gregory



African Cinema Now

Mambar Pierrette

ROSINE MBAKAM, BELGIUM/CAMEROON, 2023, 93 MIN.

THU MAY 1	7:00PM	LOC
SUN MAY 4	2:00PM	LOC
TUE MAY 6	6:10PM	LOC

The third and final film of the spring session of African Cinema Now! is the first dramatic feature from Cameroonian non-fiction filmmaker Rosine Mbakam (*Chez Jolie Coiffure*). Mbakam presents a glimpse into the daily life of her cousin, Mambar Pierrette. A quiet but persistent journey through the city of Douala, Cameroon, invites us into the goings-on of Pierrette's life. Moving through joy and disaster, we are able to quietly follow a film invested in the quotidian pleasures and worries of life as a woman.

"An original filmmaker of exquisite sensibility; one of the foremost filmmakers of creative nonfiction working right now." RICHARD BRODY, *THE NEW YORKER*

In Bamileke, French, and Pidgin with English subtitles.

CAST Pierrette Aboheu, Karelle Kenmogne, Cécile Tchana, Fabrice Ndjéuthat



Our Blue World: A Water Odyssey Earth Day

RUÁN MAGAN, IRELAND, 2024, 90 MIN.

SUN APR 20	3:00PM	VC
TUE APR 22	6:30PM	VC

Connecting ancient wisdom with practical 21st century solutions, *Our Blue World* is a spectacular and eye-opening film about our deepest and most precious resource. As anthropologist Wade Davis points out, every culture holds water sacred. Ecologist and philosopher Li An Phoa experienced an epiphany drinking water directly from the Rupert River in northern Quebec... She now campaigns to (re-)create drinkable rivers all over the world. The film takes us to the Mississippi, to Cambodia, Europe, Burundi, China and Peru.

Join us Tuesday, April 22 (Earth Day) for a post-screening discussion with author and anthropologist Wade Davis, Paul O'Callaghan (BlueTech Research, producer, *Our Blue World*) and others.

CAST Liam Neeson (narrator), Wade Davis, Li An Phoa, Paul O'Callaghan



Bob Trevino Likes It

TRACIE LAYMON, USA, 2024, 102 MIN.

FRI APR 25	2:20PM	LOC
SAT APR 26	6:40PM	LOC
MON APR 28	2:20PM	LOC
TUE APR 29	2:00PM	LOC

John Leguizamo has a peach of a role in this touching crowd-pleaser inspired by writer-director Tracie Laymon's own experience. "Lily Trevino" (Barbie Ferreira) is a young woman in her 20s saddled with a toxic, narcissistic dad, Robert (French Stewart). After a fight, he cuts her out of his life. Then lonely Lily looks him up on Facebook and happens across Bob Trevino (Leguizamo), a gentle, genial contractor who happens to live nearby, and who turns out to be an altogether better dad...

"A celebration of friendship, and the small acts of everyday kindness that have their own redemptive power." *SCREEN DAILY*

CAST Barbie Ferreira, John Leguizamo, French Stewart, Lauren 'Lolo' Spencer



VIFF | Live: Zappostrophe + Frank Zappa's 200 Motels

TONY PALMER, FRANK ZAPPA, USA, 1971, 150 MIN.

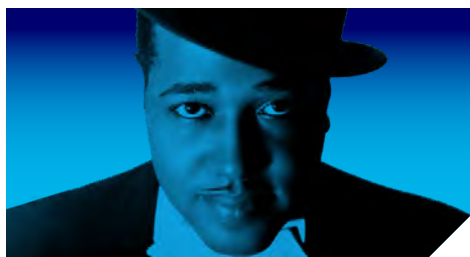
SAT APR 19

8:00PM

VC

A prodigious and prolific talent, Zappa (1940-1993) composed, recorded and produced more than 60 albums; music that brought to rock the complexity and sophistication of classical composition, drawing on jazz, blues, pop and *music concrete*, but leavened with a surreal and satiric wit. Enjoy an electrifying set of Zappa tunes resurrected and reimagined by the eclectic 8-piece band **Zappostrophe**, followed by a rare screening of Zappa's cult movie *200 Motels*, with Keith Moon and Ringo Starr.

"Zappostrophe dares to take on Zappa's weird and wonderful world—recreating his tunes with jaw-dropping musicianship, and a wink to his irreverent humour." *CHEK TV*



VIFF | Live: A Duke Ellington Tribute with the Mike Braverman Sextet + Duke on Film

VARIOUS, USA, 150 MIN.

SUN APR 27

2:00PM

VC

Celebrate Duke Ellington's birthday with a career-spanning selection of short films and excerpts from his first filmed performance in *Black and Tan* (1929) to *Symphony in Black* (1935) featuring Ellington alongside a young Billie Holiday to excerpts from *Anatomy of a Murder* (1959), *Paris Blues* (1961) and more. The Mike Braverman Sextet will add to the festivities with a live performance of tunes from Ellington vast repertoire that will exemplify legendary vocalist Joe Williams' declaration, "Ellington is only forever."



Scarface Introduced by Michael van den Bos

HOWARD HAWKS, USA, 1932, 95 MIN.

MON APR 28

2:00PM

VC

Along with Warner Brothers' *Little Caesar* and *Public Enemy*, the independently-produced *Scarface* was the most violent film of the era. All were big hits. Paul Muni stars as the low level gangster with ambitions for greater things. In his pre-screening talk, Michael gives an overview of the genre conventions established in the early gangster movies and examines director Howard Hawks's stylish and symbolic-laced cinematic presentation, an outlier in his filmography as a whole.

Intro 2pm; Film: 2.30

"Its seminal importance in the early gangster movie cycle outweighed only by its still exhilarating brilliance"

TIME OUT

CAST Paul Muni, Ann Dvorak, George Raft, Boris Karloff



Talking Pictures

The Lunchbox

RITESH BATRA, INDIA, 2013, 104 MIN.

TUE APR 29

11:00AM

VC

Aimed at film lovers 55+, our new Talking Pictures series offers audience-friendly festival films, refreshments, and an open invitation to chat about our shared experience of the movie. Our first presentation is a modern classic rom-com from India. Irfan Khan is the lonely office worker who is delighted and perplexed to receive an unexpected lunch every day—no matter that it was meant for someone else. A correspondence develops, and with it, feelings both parties had almost put behind them...

"One thing that makes *Lunchbox* so strong is that a touch of melancholy hangs over its sweetness. Finally this is a film about the wheel of life, about what helps us cope with its turns and find our way in its unforgiving labyrinth." *KENNETH TURAN, LA TIMES*

In Hindi and English with English subtitles.

CAST Irfan Khan, Nimrat Kaur, Nakul Vaid