



May 2-15

2025



Kryptic

Kryptic Caught by the Tides Thom Yorke's Tall Tales One to One: John and Yoko Pema Tseden Mother's Day: Steel Magnolias & Terms of Endearment Marcella Rose The Penguin Lessons Freaks VIFF Live: Mary Ancheta plays Betty Davis Sabbath Queen Minnie and Moskowitz Gloria Mambar Pierette AND MORE

Secret Mall Apartment
MAY 3, 10, 11

Janis Ian: Breaking Silence
MAY 5, 7

Thom Yorke's Tall Tales
MAY 8

2 MAY

Rose • VC
1:30pm
One to One: John and Yoko • LOC
1:45pm

3

One to One: John and Yoko • VC
12:00pm
Secret Mall Apartment • LOC
12:15pm
Rose • VC
2:00pm
The Encampments • LOC
2:15pm

DOXA

4

Minnie and Moskowitz • VC
1:30pm
Mambar Pierrette • LOC
2:00pm

5

Film Studies: Freaks • VC
2:00pm
Universal Language • LOC
2:45pm
One to One: John and Yoko • VC
4:30pm
Janis Ian: Breaking Silence • LOC
4:45pm
Rose • VC
6:40pm
Universal Language • LOC
7:10pm
The Penguin Lessons • VC
8:50pm

6

Mambar Pierrette • LOC
6:10pm
Minnie and Moskowitz • LOC
8:00pm

7

One to One: John and Yoko • LOC
4:15pm
Janis Ian: Breaking Silence • LOC
6:20pm
Rose • LOC
8:40pm

8

Thom Yorke's Tall Tales • VC
12:00am
One to One: John and Yoko • LOC
4:15pm
Thom Yorke's Tall Tales • LOC
6:30pm
Thom Yorke's Tall Tales • LOC
8:00pm

9

Marcella • VC
1:00pm
Sabbath Queen • LOC
1:20pm
Caught by the Tides • VC
3:20pm
The Penguin Lessons • LOC
3:45pm
Sweet Summer Pow Wow • LOC
6:00pm
One to One: John and Yoko • LOC
8:00pm
VIFF Live: Kryptic • VC
8:30pm

10

The Penguin Lessons • VC
2:00pm
Are We Done Now? • LOC
2:15pm
Sweet Summer Pow Wow • LOC
4:00pm
Marcella • VC
4:20pm
Universal Language • LOC
6:00pm
Caught by the Tides • VC
6:30pm
Secret Mall Apartment • LOC
8:00pm
Kryptic • VC
8:50pm

DOXA DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL

11

Mother's Day: Steel Magnolias • VC
12:00pm
Rose • LOC
12:30pm
Mother's Day: Terms of Endearment • VC
2:30pm
Marcella • LOC
2:45pm
Sabbath Queen • LOC
4:45pm
Caught by the Tides • VC
5:10pm
Kryptic • LOC
7:00pm
Gloria • VC
7:30pm
Secret Mall Apartment • LOC
9:00pm

12

Film Studies: Trouble in Paradise • VC
2:00pm
Bob Trevino Likes It • LOC
2:45pm
Marcella • VC
4:45pm
The Penguin Lessons • LOC
5:00pm
Caught by the Tides • VC
7:00pm
Kryptic • VC
9:20pm

13

Gloria • VC
4:00pm
Marcella • LOC
6:00pm
Caught by the Tides • VC
6:30pm
Sabbath Queen • LOC
8:10pm
Kryptic • VC
8:50pm

14

Marcella • LOC
6:20pm
VIFF Live: They Say I'm Different: Mary Ancheta plays Betty Davis • VC
7:30pm
Sabbath Queen • LOC
8:20pm

15

Caught by the Tides • VC
5:20pm
Sabbath Queen • LOC
5:20pm
Queering Cinema: Tehran: City Of Love • VC
7:45pm
Marcella • LOC
8:00pm

Tehran: City of Love
MAY 15

Tickets and Memberships

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

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 2 MAY, 1:30PM



FRI 9 MAY, 1:00PM

Give Mom a Gift that Lasts all Year

Enter code **LOVEYOU MOM** for \$20 off VIFF+ Premium Membership

viff.org/plus

Caught by the Tides

JIA ZHANGKE, CHINA, 2024, 111 MIN.

FRI MAY 9	3:20PM	VC
SAT MAY 10	6:30PM	VC
SUN MAY 11	5:10PM	VC
MON MAY 12	7:00PM	VC
TUE MAY 13	6:30PM	VC
THU MAY 15	5:20PM	VC

In the early 2000s, lovers Qiaoqiao and Bin bide their time in a song-and-dance troupe in the city of Datong. When Bin leaves town and Qiaoqiao goes in search of him, however, the two are swept up in the long drift of the 21st century. Anchored by a luminous performance by longtime partner and artistic collaborator Zhao Tao, Jia Zhangke's magisterial film boldly charts two decades of China's rapid transformations through a reflexive look at his own era-defining filmography.

In Mandarin with English subtitles.

CAST Zhao Tao, Li Zubin

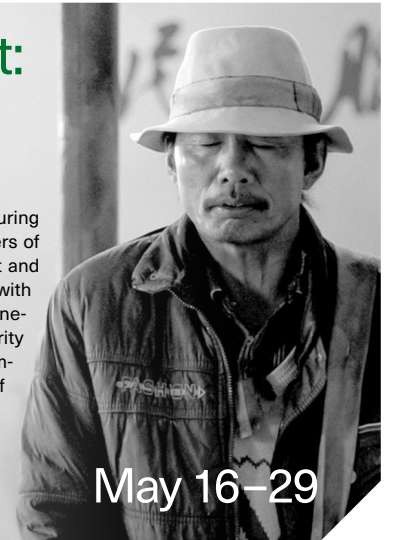


"An achievement by turns fleeting and monumental"

JUSTIN CHANG, THE NEW YORKER

Compassionate Light: Stories of Tibet by Pema Tseden

Tibetan director Pema Tseden (1969–2023) became, during his all-too-short life, one of the most remarkable filmmakers of this century. He revolutionized the representation of Tibet and Tibetans and shared his visions of authentic Tibetan life with the entire film-going world by reimagining how narrative cinematic fiction could operate within so-called "Chinese minority cinema". His alternative formal strategies and narrative framings were inspired by the contemporary lived experience of Tibetans, centering in his works their culture, language, religion, and ways of inhabiting and interpreting their world. Pema Tseden died mid-career, at the age of 53. Yet he left us eight features remarkable for their formal range and quiet, rhapsodic beauty. SHELLY KRAICER, CURATOR



May 16–29



Rose

AURÉLIE SAADA, FRANCE, 2021, 102 MIN.

FRI MAY 2	1:30PM	VC
SAT MAY 3	2:00PM	VC
MON MAY 5	6:40PM	VC
WED MAY 7	8:40PM	LOC
SUN MAY 11	12:30PM	LOC

Veteran French actress Françoise Fabian (*My Night at Maud's*; *Belle de Jour*; *Out 1*) enjoys a luminous late role in this touching first feature by singer, songwriter Aurélie Saada. Fabian's Parisienne Rose — an Orthodox Jew — is widowed after a long and happy marriage. Initially she turns recluse in her grief, but this is a film about re-awakening; rediscovering your lust for life in old age.

"A feature steeped in love." VARIETY

In French and Yiddish with English subtitles.

CAST Françoise Fabian, Aure Atika, Gregory Montel, Damien Chapelle



Marcella

PETER MILLER, USA, 2024, 98 MIN.

FRI MAY 9	1:00PM	VC
SAT MAY 10	4:20PM	VC
SUN MAY 11	2:45PM	LOC
MON MAY 12	4:45PM	VC
TUE MAY 13	6:00PM	LOC
WED MAY 14	6:20PM	LOC
THU MAY 15	8:00PM	LOC

Marcella Hazan taught North Americans that there was more to Italian food than pizza and meatballs. She wrote what remains the definitive book on the subject (*Essentials of Classic Italian Cooking*) and her tomato sauce is second to nonna. A science teacher in Italy who had never cooked before her marriage, to Victor Hazan, a Sephardic Jew who brought her to New York, she made it her mission to revive the flavours and traditions she remembered from her youth. Italian cooking is simple, she insisted. But it isn't easy. This is her story.

FEAT Marcella Hazan, Jacques Pépin, Lidia Bastianich, April Bloomfield, Danny Meyer



Kryptic

KOURTNEY ROY, CANADA, 2024, 96 MIN.

FRI MAY 9	8:30PM	VC
SAT MAY 10	8:50PM	VC
SUN MAY 11	7:00PM	LOC
MON MAY 12	9:20PM	VC
TUE MAY 13	8:50PM	VC

Kourtney Roy's fascinating feminist (?) horror movie —shot in and around Hope, BC—feints toward creature-feature quirk, but its oddity morphs into something altogether stranger, slipping and sliding across fixed identities like a David Lynch movie, purposefully pitching us into a cosmic space beyond sat nav, where our coordinates have been scrambled. It gets murkier, muckier, yuckier... Roy does not hold back! Oozing psycho-sexual anxiety, *Kryptic* is awkward, erotic, scary and exciting, just like the real thing.

Friday May 9, join us for KRYPTIC LIVE a one-time-only screening live scored by composer Cayne Mackenzie + Q&A with director Kourtney Roy

CAST Chloe Pirrie, Jeff Gladstone, Jason Deline, Ali Rusu-Tahir, Kamantha Naidoo



VIFF | Live: They Say I'm Different: Mary Ancheta plays Betty Davis (live music + film)

PHIL COX, UK, 2017, 150 MIN.

WED MAY 14	7:30PM	VC
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If you don't know the Betty Davis, prepare to be blown away. With her deep, raw, earthy voice, a knack for stringing together funky riffs, and her sexually super-charged lyrics, Davis shook and shocked American soul in the early 70s. As her husband Miles Davis said: "She was Madonna before Madonna, Prince before Prince." In this VIFF Live event, keyboardist Mary Ancheta and her band channel Davis' funkier tunes, featuring Dawn Pemberton on vocals. The live music portion of the event will be followed by a rare screening of Phil Cox's invaluable 2017 documentary.

FEAT Mike Canton, Oliver Wang, Al Gee

FILM STUDIES • INTRODUCED BY MICHAEL VAN DEN BOS



Freaks

TOD BROWNING, USA, 1932, 64 MIN.

MON MAY 5	2:00PM	VC
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Beautiful circus trapeze artiste Cleopatra likes to flirt with one of the sideshow attractions, Hans, a dwarf — much to the dismay of his fiancée, Frieda. When Cleopatra learns that Hans is a wealthy man she decides to marry him. It's a choice she will live to regret... One of the most shocking films to come out of the studio system, *Freaks* is now regarded as a masterpiece. Michael van den Bos examines why and how this freak of a film was made, its horror elements, the controversy it generated and director Browning's visual approach.

Intro 2pm; Film: 2.30

CAST Wallace Ford, Leila Hyams, Olga Baclanova, Rosco Ates, Henry Victor, Harry Earles, Daisy Earles



Trouble in Paradise

ERNST LUBITSCH, USA, 1932, 83 MIN.

MON MAY 12	2:00PM	VC
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Herbert Marshall and Miriam Hopkins play lovers and thieves attempting to fleece the chic owner of a French perfume company, played by Kay Francis. What ensues is a sort-of modern *ménage à trois* in the most elegant, innuendo indulgent film comedy of all time. For his pre-screening talk, Michael van den Bos discusses the "Lubitsch Touch" in the director's approach to sex on screen and his suggestive visual flair, and an appreciation for the beguiling actresses Miriam Hopkins and Kay Francis.

Intro 2pm; Film: 2.30

CAST Miriam Hopkins, Kay Francis, Herbert Marshall, Charles Ruggles, Edward Everett Horton



2-for-1 Tickets!

Steel Magnolias

HERBERT ROSS, USA, 1989, 118 MIN.

SUN MAY 11	12:00PM	VC
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Oh momma! In a Louisiana parish, Shelby Eatenton (Julia Roberts) is getting married and, soon enough, getting pregnant. But this great news comes with considerable risk, due to her type 1 diabetes. Shelby's mother M'Lynn (Sally Field) is terrified of losing her. Fortunately they have an extensive support group ready to offer advice, hugs and wisecracks: Louisa, Truvy, Annelle, Clairee (Shirley MacLaine, Dolly Parton, Daryl Hannah, Olympia Dukakis).

CAST Sally Field, Shirley MacLaine, Olympia Dukakis, Julia Roberts, Dolly Parton, Daryl Hannah



2-for-1 Tickets!

Terms of Endearment

JAMES L BROOKS, USA, 1983, 132 MIN.

SUN MAY 11	2:30PM	VC
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Spanning three decades in the lives of Aurora Greenway (Shirley MacLaine) and her daughter Emma (Debra Winger), the film chronicles the ups and downs of their romantic liaisons (Emma makes the mistake of marrying someone called Flap; Aurora dates an astronaut named Garrett Breedlove) as well as their own love-hate dynamic. You'll laugh, you'll cry, you'll give your mom an extra hug. Winner: 5 Academy Awards including Best Picture, Best Actress (Shirley MacLaine), Supporting Actor (Jack Nicholson), Best Director, and Adapted Screenplay.

CAST Debra Winger, Shirley MacLaine, Jack Nicholson, Danny DeVito, Jeff Daniels, John Lithgow

5 Academy Awards



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 Mambar Pierrette, played by her cousin. 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.

In Bamileke, French, and Pidgin with English subtitles.

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



One to One: John and Yoko

KEVIN MACDONALD, SAM RICE-EDWARDS, UK, 2025, 100 MIN.

FRI MAY 2	1:45PM	LOC
SAT MAY 3	12:00PM	VC
MON MAY 5	4:30PM	VC
WED MAY 7	4:15PM	LOC
THU MAY 8	4:15PM	LOC
FRI MAY 9	8:00PM	LOC

Both a concert film (Madison Square Gardens, August 1972) and a time machine, dropping us into the dizzying political kaleidoscope of the early 1970s, Kevin Macdonald's latest documentary is a rewarding addition to Lennon Studies, illuminating a fractious point in his career shortly after the Beatles bust up, and in the midst of his activist phase. Yoko Ono is an equal point of fascination here. Their idealism and commitment remains inspiring and the concert synthesizes much of what is best about their union.

CAST John Lennon, Yoko Ono, Shirley Chisholm, Allen Ginsberg, Stevie Wonder, Jerry Rubin



The Penguin Lessons

PETER CATTANEO, USA, 2024, 110 MIN.

MON MAY 5	8:50PM	VC
FRI MAY 9	3:45PM	LOC
SAT MAY 10	2:00PM	VC
MON MAY 12	5:00PM	LOC

Steve Coogan nails a juicy role in the true story of an English teacher in 70s Argentina who reluctantly p-p-picked up a penguin. *Full Monty* director Peter Cattaneo deftly conveys the contrast between a country in turmoil and the gated tedium of life in a boarding school for the upper classes. Cynical English teacher Tom Michell rescues the penguin from an oil slicked beach, but his new friend is stickier than he looks. It's an appealing mixture of pathos and comedy, and a timely parable of resistance.

In English and Spanish with English subtitles.

CAST Steve Coogan, Jonathan Pryce, Vivian El Jaber, Alfonsina Carroccio, Bjorn Gustafsson, David Herrero



Sabbath Queen

SANDI DUBOWSKI, USA, 2024, 105 MIN.

FRI MAY 9	1:20PM	LOC
SUN MAY 11	4:45PM	LOC
TUE MAY 13	8:10PM	LOC
WED MAY 14	8:20PM	LOC
THU MAY 15	5:50PM	LOC

The dynastic heir of 38 generations of Orthodox rabbis, including the Chief Rabbi of Israel, Amichai Lau-Lavie is what you might call the black sheep of the family. Certainly his queer identity has led him down a different path: an activist with the Radical Faeries in New York City, he hit upon a provocative drag act alter ego—Reb-betzin Hadassah Gross—and cofounded a "God-optional" Jewish sect with Lab/Shul. Yet Amichai's journey, filmed across 21 years, has more twists in store...

"Enthralling. It is one of the best films I've seen this year." HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

In English, Hebrew, and Yiddish with English subtitles.



Minnie and Moskowitz

JOHN CASSAVETES, USA, 1971, 114 MIN.

SUN MAY 4	1:30PM	VC
TUE MAY 6	8:00PM	LOC

John Cassavetes' deliciously witty take on Hollywood romance is a modern screwball comedy, a mismatched love story between a car park attendant (Seymour Cassel sporting a Yosemite Sam moustache) and a museum administrator (Gena Rowlands) who believes herself to be too good for him. Cassavetes' funniest film is also full of rough edges and underpinned with an acute sense of what it means to be alone. It furnishes Gena Rowlands with her first great leading role.

CAST Gena Rowlands, Seymour Cassel, John Cassavetes, Val Avery



Gloria

JOHN CASSAVETES, USA, 1980, 121 MIN.

SUN MAY 11	7:30PM	VC
TUE MAY 13	4:00PM	VC

Gena Rowlands was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Actress for her portrait of gangster's moll Gloria Swenson: a tough, chain-smoking broad who's run with the mob all her life, but now finds herself running from it to protect her next door neighbour's orphaned six-year-old kid. And she hates kids. This one especially. It's a gift of a part and Rowlands eats it up. Winner of the Golden Lion at the Venice Film Festival, this is Cassavetes' most accessible and entertaining movie.

CAST Gena Rowlands, John Adames, Julie Carmen

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