

44th Vancouver International Film Festival



VIFF ANNOUNCES 2025 FESTIVAL LINEUP

44th Vancouver International Film Festival
October 2 – 12, 2025

VANCOUVER, BC (AUGUST 27, 2025) Vancouver International Film Festival (VIFF) presents its 44th edition next month. The 2025 festival will feature more than 435 screenings, singular VIFF Live performances, VIFF Talks with top international creatives, a robust Artist & Industry program, and many more celebrations of film culture.

VIFF will officially open with acclaimed director **Richard Linklater's *Nouvelle Vague***, a rousing dramatization of the making of Jean-Luc Godard's *Breathless*, one of the first films marking the start of the French New Wave. Linklater's comedy-drama follows Godard (Guillaume Marbeck) as he embarks on the production of this classic film with American starlet Jean Seberg (Zoey Deutch) and boxer Jean Paul Belmondo (Aubry Dullin).

The festival will close with **Ido Fluk's *Köln 75***, which follows 16-year-old music promoter Vera Brandes's (Mala Emde) rebellious determination to organize the now famous 1975 concert that later became Keith Jarrett's *The Köln Concert*, the best-selling solo jazz recording and piano album of all time. VIFF's closing gala will feature a live performance by the versatile pianist and composer **Chris Gestrin**.

This year's program also features several notable initiatives. A special **Spotlight on Korea** will feature new films by Park Chan-wook (*No Other Choice*) and Hong Sangsoo (the Canadian premiere of *What Does That Nature Say to You*), as well as seven films from directors to watch, including three world premieres. Deepening the long tradition of Korean cinema as a cornerstone of VIFF programming, the Spotlight program will welcome the seven emerging directors to Vancouver.

As his WTF Podcast winds down, VIFF will feature **An Evening with Marc Maron**, for a special screening of ***Are We Good?*** with an extended Q&A with the internationally acclaimed comedian and podcast host.

Acclaimed Canadian director **Matthew Rankin** (*Universal Language*) serves as guest curator for this year's **Leading Lights** section. Rankin's selection of international films that influenced his career include works by Chantal Akerman, Aki Kaurismäki, Mohsen Makhmalbaf, and Elia Suleiman.

The lineup will also feature a number of significant premieres of some of the fall's buzziest titles, including the Canadian premieres of **Jim Jarmusch's *Father Mother Sister Brother***, **Noah Baumbach's *Jay Kelly***, and **Paolo Sorrentino's *La Grazia***. The festival will also showcase every major award-winner from the Cannes competition, including **Jafar Panahi's** Palme d'Or winner ***It Was Just an Accident***; **Joachim Trier's *Sentimental Value***; and the North American premiere of **Jean-Pierre and Luc Dardenne's *Young Mothers***.

VIFF will once again platform a wealth of feature films produced or co-produced in British Columbia, including world premieres for **Mayumi Yoshida's *Akashi***, **Jennifer Chiu's *Clan of the Painted Lady***, **Kent Donguines' *Treasure of the Rice Terraces***, **Jenn Strom's *The Painted Life of E.J. Hughes***, and **Bryce Hodgson's *Thanks to the Hard Work of the Elephants***.

The 2025 edition's expanded festival footprint will screen roughly 170 feature films and 100 shorts on 13 screens in 10 Vancouver venues, including two new cultural partnership locations in the form of the Granville Island Stage (Arts Club Theatre Company) and the Alliance Française. Nearly 130 titles will have premiere statuses, including 26 world premieres.

"In a world grappling with tension and austerity, it's a privilege to be at VIFF during a period of optimism and ascendance." says **Kyle Fostner**, Executive Director. "The growth we've seen over recent years is remarkable. We're preparing to host more than 110,000 patrons over 11 packed days. We have 20 percent more screenings, in new theatres and new neighborhoods. Our programming team continues to expand, with top-tier curators from around the world bringing fresh perspectives. And, our special connection to BC's film and television industry continues to grow with new programs and initiatives designed to strengthen careers and further business development. It's such a joy to be part of a festival on the rise, and to host this momentous celebration of film and film culture."

VIFF Board Chair **Am Johal** adds: "We cannot wait to share with the cinema-loving community in Vancouver and beyond the incredible program put together by this year's team of staff and volunteers. This is a festival built on passion, and it shows."

Director of Programming **Curtis Woloschuk** says: "This year's festival will be bookended by two incredible films that explore epic artistic endeavours: Godard's *Breathless* and Jarrett's *The Köln Concert*. It's a chance for audiences to both get caught up in the intoxicating rush of creating art and honour the sheer determination that's often required to stage an event of enduring cultural significance."

In addition to the film program, audiences can also look forward to five events as part of **VIFF Live**, which pushes the boundaries of traditional film festival programming by intersecting cinema culture with music in unique live shows. **VIFF Talks** bring together industry leaders who share insights into some of today's most popular and acclaimed films and series. This year, **VIFF's Artist & Industry** program embraces the theme "Create. Connect. Transform," opening doors to lasting collaborations and celebrating cinema as a collective art form enriched by cultural diversity and shared vision. As part of the Spotlight film program, the Industry Days will explore opportunities for co-productions between Canada and Korea, while also highlighting bold new approaches to documentary and animation filmmaking. **VIFF Amp** returns to examine the essential role of music in film and expands into animation and video games — fostering new talent and strengthening connections between composers and directors. **Signals Creative Tech Expo**, co-presented by VIFF and DigiBC, takes place from Oct. 3–12 and explores our connection to land, history, and human rights while confronting issues from authoritarianism to AI ethics.

Tickets are on sale now to VIFF+ Members at viff.org, and on sale to the public from Aug. 28 at 12pm (noon) PDT. Single tickets are \$21 for regular screenings and Special Presentations. Ticket packs are available in six and 10 packs. VIFF+ Members enjoy discounts on all VIFF tickets and the free U25 membership offers further discounts to youth between 19 and 25 years of age.

View the full press kit and the VIFF 2025 sizzle reel [here](#).

VIFF 2025 FILMS

OPENING FILM: *Nouvelle Vague* dir. Richard Linklater (France)

CLOSING FILM: *Köln 75* dir. Ido Fluk (Germany/Belgium/Poland)

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS: The year's most anticipated films

After the Hunt dir. Luca Guadagnino (USA)
Christy dir. David Michôd (USA)
Father Mother Sister Brother dir. Jim Jarmusch (USA/Ireland/France) | Canadian Premiere
Franz dir. Agnieszka Holland (Czech Republic/Germany/Poland)
It Was Just an Accident dir. Jafar Panahi (Iran/France/Luxembourg)
Jay Kelly dir. Noah Baumbach (USA/UK/Italy) | Canadian Premiere
Kokuho dir. Sang-il Lee (Japan)
The Mastermind dir. Kelly Reichardt (USA)
Mile End Kicks dir. Chandler Levack (Canada)
Nirvana the Band the Show the Movie dir. Matt Johnson (Canada)
No Other Choice dir. Park Chan-wook (South Korea) | Spotlight on Korea
Palestine 36 dir. Annemarie Jacir (Palestine/UK/France/Denmark/Norway/Qatar/Saudi Arabia/Jordan)
A Private Life dir. Rebecca Zlotowski (France)
Rental Family dir. HIKARI (USA/Japan)
The Secret Agent dir. Kleber Mendonça Filho (Brazil/France/Netherlands/Germany)
Sentimental Value dir. Joachim Trier (Norway/France/Denmark/Germany/Sweden/UK)
Sirât dir. Óliver Laxe (Spain/France)
Steal Away dir. Clement Virgo (Canada/Belgium)
Wake Up Dead Man: A Knives Out Mystery dir. Rian Johnson (USA)
Young Mothers dirs. Jean-Pierre Dardenne, Luc Dardenne (Belgium/France) | North American Premiere

SHOWCASE: A selection of exceptional cinema

Arco dir. Ugo Bienvenu (France)
Blue Moon dir. Richard Linklater (USA/Ireland)
The Blue Trail dir. Gabriel Mascaro (Brazil/Mexico/Chile/Netherlands)
Calle Malaga dir. Maryam Touzani (Morocco/France/Spain/Germany/Belgium)
Case 137 dir. Dominik Moll (France) | North American Premiere
Father dir. Tereza Nvotová (Czech Republic/Poland/Slovakia) | Canadian Premiere
In the Room dir. Brishkay Ahmed (Canada) | BC Feature | World Premiere
Köln 75 dir. Ido Fluk (Germany/Poland/Belgium)
La Grazia dir. Paolo Sorrentino (Italy) | Canadian Premiere
Left-Handed Girl dir. Shih-Ching Tsou (Taiwan/France/USA/UK)
The Little Sister dir. Hafsia Herzi (France/Germany)
Living the Land dir. Huo Meng (China) | North American Premiere
The Love That Remains dir. Hlynur Pálmason (Iceland/Denmark/Sweden/France)
Lovely Day dir. Philippe Falardeau (Canada)
Miroirs No. 3 dir. Christian Petzold (Germany)
Orphan dir. László Nemes (Hungary/France/Germany/UK)

Orwell: 2+2=5 dir. Raoul Peck (France/USA)

Pillion dir. Harry Lighton (UK) | Canadian Premiere

Renoir dir. Chie Hayakawa (Japan/France/Singapore/Philippines/Indonesia/Qatar)

Resurrection dir. Bi Gan (China/France)

Romería dir. Carla Simón (Spain/Germany)

Silent Friend dir. Ildikó Enyedi (Germany/France/Hungary)

Sound of Falling dir. Mascha Schilinski (Germany)

Tuner dir. Daniel Roher (USA)

Two Prosecutors dir. Sergei Loznitsa (France/Germany/Netherlands/Latvia/Romania/Lithuania)

What Does That Nature Say to You dir. Hong Sangsoo (South Korea) | Spotlight on Korea | Canadian Premiere

Wrong Husband dir. Zacharias Kunuk (Canada)

Youngblood dir. Hubert Davis (Canada)

PANORAMA: Narratives from every corner of the globe

As the Water Flows dir. Zhuo Bian (China) | North American Premiere

Bidad dir. Soheil Beiraghi (Iran) | Canadian Premiere

Blood Lines dir. Gail Maurice (Canada)

Brand New Landscape dir. Yuiga Danzuka (Japan) | North American Premiere

Broken Voices dir. Ondřej Provozník (Czech Republic/Slovakia)

The Condor Daughter dir. Álvaro Olmos Torrico (Bolivia/Peru/Uruguay)

Fantasy dir. Kukla (Slovenia/North Macedonia) | Canadian Premiere

Human Resource dir. Nawapol Thamrongrattanarit (Thailand) | North American Premiere

Hysteria dir. Mehmet Akif Büyükkatalay (Germany) | Canadian Premiere

The Ice Tower dir. Lucile Hadžihalilović (France/Germany)

Idiotka dir. Nastasya Popov (USA) | Canadian Premiere

If I Had Legs I'd Kick You dir. Mary Bronstein (USA)

The Ivy dir. Ana Cristina Barragán (Ecuador/Mexico/France/Spain) | North American Premiere

Kontinental '25 dir. Radu Jude (Romania)

Last Night in Taipei dir. Cheng-Chui Kuo (Taiwan/France) | World Premiere

The Last One for the Road dir. Francesco Sossai (Italy/Germany)

Late Shift dir. Petra Volpe (Switzerland/Germany) | North American Premiere

Lucky Lu dir. Lloyd Lee Choi (USA/Canada)

Ma - Cry of Silence dir. The Maw Naing (Myanmar/South Korea/Singapore/France/Norway/Qatar) | Canadian Premiere

Mad Bills to Pay (or Destiny, dile que no soy malo) dir. Joel Alfonso Vargas (USA)

Meadowlarks dir. Tasha Hubbard (Canada) | BC Feature

The Message dir. Iván Fund (Argentina/Spain/Uruguay) | Canadian Premiere

Middle Life dir. Pavan Moondi (Canada/USA)

My Father's Son dir. Qiu Sheng (China/France) | Canadian Premiere
The Mysterious Gaze of the Flamingo dir. Diego Céspedes (Chile/France/Germany/Spain/Belgium)
Peak Everything dir. Anne Émond (Canada)
A Poet dir. Simón Mesa Soto (Colombia/Germany/Sweden)
The President's Cake dir. Hasan Hadi (Iraq/USA/Qatar)
Saikai Paradise dir. Keiko Tsuruoka (Japan) | World Premiere
The Scout dir. Paula González-Nasser (USA) | International Premiere
Skin of Youth dir. Ash Mayfair (Vietnam/Singapore/Japan) | Canadian Premiere
Solomamma dir. Janicke Askevold (Norway/Latvia/Lithuania/Denmark/Finland) | North American Premiere
Tape dir. Bizhan Tong (Hong Kong/UK) | Canadian Premiere
The Things You Kill dir. Alireza Khatami (France/Poland/Canada/Turkey)
Train Dreams dir. Clint Bentley (USA)

VANGUARD: Rising international talents

The Bora dir. Mohammad Esmaili (Iran) | North American Premiere
Dance of the Living dir. José Alayón (Spain/Colombia) | International Premiere
Eel dir. Chu Chun-Teng (Taiwan) | North American Premiere
Gazelle dirs. Nadir Saribacak, Samy Pioneer (USA/Turkey) | World Premiere
God Will Not Help dir. Hana Jušić (Croatia/Italy/Romania/Greece/France/Slovenia) | North American Premiere
Little Trouble Girls dir. Urška Djukić (Slovenia/Italy/Croatia/Serbia) | Canadian Premiere
Thus Spoke the Wind dir. Maria Rigel (Armenia) | Canadian Premiere
Wind, Talk to Me dir. Stefan Djordjevic (Serbia) | North American Premiere

NORTHERN LIGHTS: The next wave of Canadian and Indigenous storytellers

Presented by Telefilm Canada

100 Sunset dir. Kunsang Kyirong (Canada)
Akashi dir. Mayumi Yoshida (Canada) | BC Feature | World Premiere
Blue Heron dir. Sophy Romvari (Canada/Hungary) | BC Feature
Clan of the Painted Lady dir. Jennifer Chiu (Canada) | BC Feature | World Premiere
Finch & Midland dir. Timothy Yeung (Canada/Hong Kong) | World Premiere
Follies dir. Eric K. Boulianne (Canada)
Hemela dir. Pirouz Nemati (Canada/Iran) | World Premiere
Modern Whore dir. Nicole Bazuin (Canada)
Nesting dir. Chloé Cinq-Mars (Canada)
Nika & Madison dir. Eva Thomas (Canada)
Solitudes dir. Ryan McKenna (Canada) | Canadian Premiere
Thanks to the Hard Work of the Elephants dir. Bryce Hodgson (Canada) | BC Feature | World Premiere
The Track dir. Ryan Sidhoo (Canada/Bosnia) | BC Feature
Treasure of the Rice Terraces dir. Kent Donguines (Canada/Philippines) | BC Feature | World Premiere

A Welcome Distraction dir. Brian Daniel Johnson (Canada) | BC Feature | World Premiere

SPOTLIGHT ON KOREA

Presented in cooperation with KOFICE and through collaboration with Jeonju International Film Festival

3670 dir. Park Joon Ho (South Korea) | Canadian Premiere

The Nonsense dir. Lee Je-hui (South Korea) | World Premiere

Savon dir. Lee Jun Sup (South Korea) | World Premiere

Sua's Home dir. Yun Simkyoung (South Korea) | North American Premiere

Winter Light dir. Cho Hyun-suh (South Korea) | International Premiere

Wrangler dir. Seo Eun-sun (South Korea) | World Premiere

LEADING LIGHTS: Celebrated Canadian filmmaker Matthew Rankin curates a selection of international films that influenced his artistic journey

Divine Intervention dir. Elia Suleiman (France/Palestine)

Lights in the Dusk dir. Aki Kaurismäki (Finland)

A Moment of Innocence dir. Mohsen Makhmalbaf (Iran)

News From Home dir. Chantal Akerman (France)

FOCUS: EDGES OF BELONGING - TALES OF GRIT AND GRACE FROM INDIA: Guest programmer Deepika Suseelan embarks on a thematic exploration using cinema as her guide

Presented by Warner Bros. Discovery Access Canada

Bad Girl dir. Varsha Bharath (India)

CycleMahesh dir. Suhel Banerjee (India) | Canadian Premiere

Hidden Tremors dir. Sreekanth PG (India) | World Premiere

I Am Revathi dir. P. Abhijith (India) | International Premiere

Secrets of a Mountain Serpent dir. Nidhi Saxena (India/Italy/Sri Lanka) | North American Premiere

INSIGHTS: Documentaries that change the way we see the world

Cover-Up dirs. Laura Poitras, Mark Obenhaus (USA)

Cutting Through Rocks dirs. Sara Khaki, Mohammadreza Eyni

(Iran/Netherlands/USA/Germany/Qatar/Chile/Canada)

Everest Dark dir. Jereme Watt (Canada) | BC Feature

Factory dir. Hao Zhou (China) | North American Premiere

Free Leonard Peltier dirs. Jesse Short Bull, David France (USA) | Canadian Premiere

How to Build a Library dirs. Maia Lekow, Christopher King (Kenya)

I Died dir. Ana Ts'uyeb (Mexico)

Landmarks dir. Lucrecia Martel (Argentina/USA/Mexico/France/Netherlands/Denmark)

Life After dir. Reid Davenport (USA)

Marriage Cops dirs. Shashwati Talukdar, Cheryl Hess (India/USA)

Remaining Native dir. Paige Bethmann (USA)

Seeds dir. Brittany Shyne (USA) | Canadian Premiere

The Shadow Scholars dir. Eloise King (UK) | Canadian Premiere

Shifting Baselines dir. Julien Elie (Canada)

Walls – Akinni Inuk dirs. Sofie Rørdam, Nina Paninnguaq Skydsbjerg (Greenland)

With Hasan in Gaza dir. Kamal Aljafari (Palestine/Germany/France/Qatar)

SPECTRUM: Innovative nonfiction filmmaking

Agatha's Almanac dir. Amalie Atkins (Canada)

Always dir. Deming Chen (USA/France/Taiwan/China)

Ancestral Visions of the Future dir. Lemohang Jeremiah Mosese (France/Lesotho/Germany/Qatar/Saudi Arabia) |
North American Premiere

BLKNWS: Terms & Conditions dir. Kahlil Joseph (USA)

Edhi Alice: Take dir. Kim Ilrhan (South Korea) | Spotlight on Korea | Canadian Premiere

Fiume O Morte! dir. Igor Bezinović (Croatia/Italy/Slovenia) | Canadian Premiere

The Great North dir. Jenn Nkiru (UK) | Canadian Premiere

Khartoum dirs. Anas Saeed, Rawia Alhag, Ibrahim Snoopy, Timeea Mohamed Ahmed, Phil Cox
(UK/Sudan/Germany/Qatar)

Memory of Princess Mumbi dir. Damien Hauser (Kenya/Switzerland)

WTO/99 dir. Ian Bell (USA) | International Premiere

Your Touch Makes Others Invisible dir. Rajee Samarasinghe (Sri Lanka/USA) | Canadian Premiere

PORTRAITS: A kaleidoscope of ground-breaking artists, great performances, and cultural icons

Presented by the Audain Foundation

Are We Good? dir. Steven Feinartz (USA) | International Premiere

The Art of Adventure dir. Alison Reid (Canada) | World Premiere

Assembly dirs. Rashaad Newsome, Johnny Symons (USA)

Caravaggio dirs. David Bickerstaff, Phil Grabsky (UK) | Canadian Premiere

The Essence of Eva dirs. Malcolm Willis, Alex Fegan (Ireland)

Half Moon: Kinan Azmeh dir. Frank Scheffer (Netherlands) | North American Premiere

I Want It All. Hildegard Knef dir. Luzia Schmid (Germany) | North American Premiere

John Candy: I Like Me dir. Colin Hanks (USA)

La Salsa Vive dir. Juan Carvajal (Colombia/USA)

The Painted Life of E.J. Hughes dir. Jenn Strom (Canada) | BC Feature | World Premiere

particle dance dir. Hiromoto Oka (Japan) | North American Premiere

Sun Ra: Do the Impossible dir. Christine Turner (USA) | Canadian Premiere

ALTERED STATES: Where the wild ones come out to play

Dead Lover dir. Grace Glowicki (Canada)

Death Does Not Exist dir. Félix Dufour-Laperrière (Canada/France)

Deathstalker dir. Steven Kostanski (USA/Canada)

Dracula dir. Radu Jude (Romania/Austria/Luxembourg/Brazil)

Foreigner dir. Ava Maria Safai (Canada) | BC Feature

Fucktoys dir. Annapurna Sriram (USA)

Honey Bunch dirs. Madeleine Sims-Fewer, Dusty Mancinelli (Canada)

Night Stage dirs. Filipe Matzembacher, Marcio Reolon (Brazil) | Canadian Premiere

OBEX dir. Albert Birney (USA)

Our Hero, Balthazar dir. Oscar Boyson (USA)

The Plague dir. Charlie Polinger (USA)

A Useful Ghost dir. Ratchapoom Boonbunchachoke (Thailand/France/Singapore/Germany)

VIFF SHORT FORUM AND SHORT FUSE: Short-form storytellers from Canada and beyond

Supported by Warner Bros. Discovery Access Canada

The 12 Inch Pianist dir. Lucas Ansel (USA)

Adieu Ugarit dir. Samy Benammar (Canada)

Ambush dir. Yassmina Karajah (Canada/Jordan)

Arguments in Favor of Love dir. Gabriel Abrantes (Portugal)

Baadarane dir. Samah El Kadi (Lebanon) | North American Premiere

Ball Lightning dir. Catriona Trina Baker (USA) | Canadian Premiere

Bleat! dir. Ananth Subramaniam (Malaysia/ Philippines) | North American Premiere

Bread Will Walk dir. Alex Boya (Canada)

Budget Paradise dir. LaTajh Simmons-Weaver (USA) | International Premiere

Canada in the 12th Century dir. Jack Parker (Canada) | BC Premiere

Cardboard dir. Jean-Philippe Wine (UK)

Cocotte Coulombe, Filmmaker dir. Charles-François Asselin (Canada)

Confluence dirs. Charlene R Moore, Oliver Darrius Merrick King (Canada)

The Death of the Fish dir. Eva Lusbaronian (France)

Dinner dir. Hyejin Yoo (South Korea) | World Premiere

Dundun dir. Wangbin (China) | Canadian Premiere

Extra Life (And Decay) dir. Stéphanie Lagarde (Netherlands/France)

Father Alphonse and the Fight Between Carnival and Lent dir. Diana Thorneycroft (Canada) | Canadian Premiere

The Foreigner dir. Wen-Shuo Hsueh (Taiwan) | International Premiere

Four Walls of Memory dir. Joanna Płatek (Poland) | Canadian Premiere

The Glass Essays dir. River Yuhao Cao (UK/China) | North American Premiere

Good Luck to You All dir. Cordell Barker (Canada)

Healer dir. Chelsea McMullan (Canada)

The Housekeeper dir. surya balakrishnan (India) | North American Premiere

How to Live Together dir. Tim Nicholas (USA) | World Premiere

In My Hand dirs. Marja Helander, Liselotte Wajstedt (Norway)

Inanna dir. Dragos Badita (Romania/Canada) | World Premiere

Jeff dir. Julia Hebner (USA) | Canadian Premiere

Le Tour De Canada dir. John Hollands (Canada) | BC Feature

The Light of Immortality dir. Mikotaj Janik (Poland) | International Premiere

A Light That Doesn't Dim dir. Colby Barrios (USA) | International Premiere

The Littles dir. Andrew Duplessie (USA/Canada) | Canadian Premiere

Living Grounds dir. Emile Lavoie (Canada) | World Premiere

Loynes dir. Dorian Jespers (Belgium) | North American Premiere

A Metamorphosis dir. Lin Htet Aung (Myanmar) | Canadian Premiere

Mother of Dawn dir. Clara Trevisan (Belgium/Brazil/Finland/Portugal)

Mujil: Diving dir. Young Eun Yoo (Yooye) (South Korea) | International Premiere

My Comrade dir. Tathagata Ghosh (India) | Canadian Premiere

My Dad is an Astronaut dir. Bianca Rose Cheung (Canada) | BC Feature | World Premiere

My Grandmother's Tipi dir. Lindsay Chewanish (Canada)

Nine Times Better dirs. Lorenzo Follari, Emma Dock (Sweden) | North American Premiere

No Matter the Weather dir. Florence Lafond (Canada)

No One Knows I Disappeared dir. Hanxiong Bo (China) | North American Premiere

No Skate! Dir. Guil Sela (France)

Not Enough for the Love Inside dirs. Marcelo Matos de Oliveira, Wallace Nogueira (Brazil) | North American Premiere

One Duck Down dir. Lindsay Aksarniq McIntyre (Canada) | BC Feature

Origin dir. Marion Chuniaud-Lacau (Canada/Colombia) | Canadian Premiere

Orlo with Karma dir. Kangdrun (China)

Our Pantheons dir. Rosalie Charrier (France) | Canadian Premiere

Our Room dir. Jaume Claret Muxart (Spain) | North American Premiere

Paradaiz dir. Matea Radic (Canada)

Paradise Heights dirs. Karl Kai, Robert Mentov (Canada) | Canadian Premiere

Pidikwe (Rumble) dir. Caroline Monnet (Canada)

Pow! dir. Joey Clift (USA)

Ramón Who Speaks to Ghosts dir. Shervin Kermani (Canada)

Resistance Meditation dir. Sara Wylie (Canada) | BC Feature

ripe dir. Solara Thanh Binh Đặng (Canada) | BC Feature

The River dir. Herrana Addisu (USA)

Santa Clara. Birth In Three Phases dirs. Arturo Franco, Tono Mejuto (Spain) | Canadian Premiere

Skin on Skin dir. Simon Schneckenburger (Germany) | Canadian Premiere

A Soft Touch dir. Heather Young (Canada)

The Sphinx dir. Jesse Padveen (Canada/USA)

Tears Burn to Ash dir. Natalie Murao (Canada) | BC Feature | World Premiere

Thanks to Meet You! dir. Richard Hunter (UK)

There's a Devil Inside Me dir. Karina Lomelin Ripper (USA) | International Premiere

Tiger dir. Loren Waters (USA)

To Look, And to Look Again dir. Monica Cheema (Canada) | BC Feature | World Premiere

Two People Exchanging Saliva dirs. Alexandre Singh, Natalie Musteata (France/USA) | Canadian Premiere

A Very Straight Neck dir. Neo Sora (Japan) | North American Premiere

WASSUPKAYLEE dir. Pepi Ginsberg (France/USA) | Canadian Premiere

Water Girl dir. Sandra Desmazières (France/ Netherlands/ Portugal)

Wednesdays with Gramps dir. Chris Copeland, Justin Copleland (USA)

We Were the Scenery dir. Christopher Radcliff (USA) | Canadian Premiere

Weekend One dir. Mykea Fairweather Perry (UK) | Canadian Premiere

Winkie dir. Daniel Duranleau (Canada)

Yves et Ses Bonsaïs dir. Ophelia Spinosa (Canada)

MODES: Form-bending international short work

MODES 1

Anatomy of a Lost Sound dir. Zuko Garagić (Bosnia/ Herzegovina/ Czech Republic/ USA) | North American Premiere

The Uniformed dir. Timon Ott (Germany) | North American Premiere

Monument dir. Jeremy Drummond (USA) | Canadian Premiere

Sixty-Seven Milliseconds dir. Fleuryfontaine (France)

Blind, Into the Eye dirs. Atefeh Kheirabadi, Mehrad Sepahnia (Iran/Germany) | North American Premiere

happiness dir. Firat Yücel (Netherlands/Turkey) | North American Premiere

MODES 2

Abortion Party dir. Julia Mellen (Spain) | North American Premiere

Daria's Night Flower dir. Maryam Tafakory (Iran/UK/France)

Goodbye, Fishies dir. Jonathan Zhang (Australia) | World Premiere

It Must be Because I Decided to Leave dir. Zhuoyun Chen (China/USA) | North American Premiere

Lloyd Wong, Unfinished dir. Lesley Loksi Chan (Canada)

Rezbotanik dir. Pedro Gonçalves Ribeiro (Portugal/Brazil/Spain) | North American Premiere

MODES 3

+10K dir. Gala Hernández López (Spain/France) | Canadian Premiere

BOA dir. Alexandre Dostie (Canada/France) | Canadian Premiere

Force Times Displacement dir. Angel Wu (Taiwan) | North American Premiere

L'mina dir. Randa Maroufi (Morocco/France/Italy/Qatar) | Canadian Premiere

Samba Infinito dir. Leonardo Martinelli (Brazil/France) | North American Premiere

Special Events

An Evening with Marc Maron

Sunday, Oct. 5, 6pm

Venue: The Rio

Tickets: \$42

Presented by Destination Vancouver

An Evening With Marc Maron features a screening of *Are We Good?*, a candid, funny, and deeply personal portrait of the comedian navigating loss with his signature wit. After the film, Marc takes the stage for a live talk and audience Q&A, blending sharp humor with unflinching honesty and no-nonsense insight in a one-of-a-kind event.

VIFF Talks: Creators and innovators share expertise on their craft

Supported by Creative BC

Community Broadcast Partner: TELUS originals

VIFF Talks connects fans of film culture with the brilliant minds behind the work they love. The 2025 lineup features expertly moderated conversations with experts from directors, writers, producers, and craftspeople celebrated for their outstanding contributions to groundbreaking film and television.

From Intimate to Infinite With Writer, Creator Jenny Lumet

Thursday, Oct. 9, 5:30 pm

Venue: The Rio

Tickets: \$32

Jenny Lumet is a compelling voice in film and television, known for crafting deeply human stories across diverse formats. From her Academy Award-nominated screenplay for *Rachel Getting Married* to her groundbreaking work as co-creator of *Star Trek: Strange New Worlds* and *The Man Who Fell to Earth*, she moves fluidly between film, television, and franchise storytelling. Join us for a discussion of her remarkable body of work.

Breaking the Rules: Janicza Bravo on Unconventional Narratives and Fearless Filmmaking

Saturday, Oct. 4, 6pm

Venue: VIFF Centre

Tickets: \$29

Presented by Destination Vancouver

One of the most versatile voices in contemporary storytelling, Janicza Bravo pushes creative boundaries and seamlessly moves between film, television, and acting. From the critically acclaimed feature *Zola* to episodes of *Atlanta*, *Poker Face*, and *The Bear*, she masterfully blends incisive observations on race and identity, unafraid to tackle provocative material with electric energy and social commentary. Join us for a deep dive into her cinematic world.

Jeremy Dawson

Friday, Oct. 10, 6pm

Venue: Annex

Tickets: \$29

Since starting his film career designing the title sequence for Darren Aronofsky's debut feature, *π* , Jeremy Dawson has established himself as a consummate auteur's producer. Not only did he produce *The Whale*, which won fellow Canadian Brendan Fraser an Oscar, he's established a long-standing partnership with Wes Anderson that scored him a Golden Globe for *The Grand Budapest Hotel*.

Zacharias Kunuk

Saturday, Oct. 11, 1 pm

Venue: SFU Goldcorp Centre for the Arts

Tickets: \$29

Before he was the first Inuk filmmaker to win Cannes' Camera d'Or for best debut feature in 2001, Zacharias Kunuk was also simply the first Inuk filmmaker. Today, the director of *Atanarjuat: The Fast Runner* continues to present his work on the world stage — *Wrong Husband (Uiksaringitara)* premiered at this year's Berlinale — while making his home in the 2,000-person hamlet of Ingloolik, Nunavut. In this VIFF Talk, Kunuk reflects on establishing a filmmaking practice after first encountering television in his 20s (and then trading a soap sculpture for his first camera) and the affinities he's found between film genres and stories Inuit have been telling for centuries. This is a rare opportunity to hear directly from this legendary filmmaker.

More VIFF Talks will be announced in September.

VIFF Live

VIFF Live, curated by Jarrett Martineau, is a series of performances and experiences which push the boundaries of traditional film festival programming, exploring the connections between cinema culture with music, comedy, and performance in unique, cinematic live shows.

Mad Professor: Live AV in Dub

Sunday, Oct. 5, 7:30 pm

Venue: Chan Centre for Performing Arts

Tickets: \$54

Tickets available at [Chan Centre Box Office](#)

Co-presented by Chan Centre for the Performing Arts | Chan EXP

Presented by Destination Vancouver

Dub legend Mad Professor performs a rare live set celebrating his *No Protection* Massive Attack remix album's 30th anniversary — a hypnotic trip into the psychedelic worlds of dub and trip-hop with live visuals from Vancouver artist Saghi Ehteshamzadeh.

claire rousay, *The Bloody Lady* (Live Score) and Robert Aiki Aubrey Lowe

Tuesday, Oct. 7, 8 pm

Venue: The Rio Theatre

Tickets: \$45

An evening of haunted sound and cinema with claire rousay performing her live score of the animated classic *The Bloody Lady*, and composer Robert Aiki Aubrey Lowe presenting a performance of timbres and textures tethered directly to his cinematic sound worlds (*Candyman; Seeds; After Life*).

Julianna Barwick and loscil

Thursday, Oct. 9, 8:30pm

Venue: The Rio Theatre

Tickets: \$45

Acclaimed ambient, experimental musicians Julianna Barwick and loscil share the stage for the first time to immerse audiences in their ethereal soundscapes and hypnotic new live AV performances.

Wilfred Buck's Star Stories Live: With Wilfred Buck and Lisa Jackson

Supported by Indigenous Screen Office

Friday, Oct. 10, 6:30pm

H.R. MacMillan Space Centre

Tickets: \$35

Join renowned Inineew (Cree) astronomer, star knowledge keeper, and author Wilfred Buck for *Star Stories*: a cosmic journey into teachings and tellings of the northern night sky, narrated live by Buck, and in conversation with co-director Lisa Jackson.

Köln 75 with Live Performance By Chris Gestrin

Saturday, Oct. 11, 6pm

Venue: The Playhouse
Tickets: From \$29
Co-presented by Infidels Jazz

Experience the transcendent power of improvised music for a special VIFF Live film screening and concert. Renowned Vancouver pianist Chris Gestrin performs a solo set of Keith Jarrett-inspired music to complement this special event screening of Ido Fluk's *Köln 75* — a film that captures the compelling, entertaining, and, until now, unknown backstory of jazz pianist Keith Jarrett's one-hour, entirely improvised concert, which became the best-selling solo album in jazz history.

Signals: Exploring Creative Technology's Potential in Storytelling

Venue: The Signals Studio at The Centre for Digital Media

Presented by DigiBC and VIFF

Supported by Pacific Economic Development Canada, Creative BC, Invest Vancouver, and the Canada Media Fund.

Signals Creative Tech Expo 2025 returns as an essential destination for storytelling with immersive and interactive technology. This year's expo runs from Oct. 3–12 and explores our connection to land, history, and human rights while confronting issues from authoritarianism to AI ethics.

Signals Exhibition | Oct. 3–12

This newly expanded showcase, titled *Lightening Stories and Collective Dreams*, presents 30+ groundbreaking projects spanning XR installations, AI-driven art, interactive performances, speculative futures and playful worlds. Visitors will explore interactive and immersive works that prioritize healing over extraction, connection over isolation, and human agency over algorithmic control.

XP Indie Biz Connect x Beta Lounge | Oct. 3–4

An exclusive two-day industry event featuring high-level discussions, strategic networking, and hands-on experiences with emerging creative technologies. Industry leaders, investors, and creators gather to explore funding opportunities, business development strategies, and the evolving landscape of XR, gaming, and AI. Get early access to cutting-edge projects, participate in expert panels on market trends, and connect with the innovators shaping the future of interactive media.

Stories Woven In Light | Oct. 4–5

In this new 360° cinema program, *Stories Woven In Light* highlights the power of new storytelling forms. Featuring Indigenous films that immerse audiences in different worldviews, these experiences showcase how Indigenous creators are weaving light into innovative narrative formats that invite viewers to see the world through new perspectives.

IM4 Media Lab Day | Oct. 7

Part of the *Stories Woven In Light* curation by Loretta Todd, this global gathering of Indigenous innovators explores how communities are building technologies rooted in cultural values—technologies that safeguard sovereignty, protect the planet, and ensure stories endure to guide generations. Hear from visionaries turning traditional teachings into tools for today's most urgent challenges, from environmental stewardship to digital self-determination.

Game @ Signals | Oct. 9

A live, interactive performance where audiences direct an artist through Vancouver's streets via real-time prompts, blurring the lines between player and observer, performance and play. This gamified exploration of agency and surveillance transforms public space into a dynamic stage.

Date Night: Pop-Up Performance Night @ Signals | Oct. 10

An evening of spontaneous performances that activate the exhibition space, transforming installations into stages for unexpected encounters. Artists respond to and reimagine the showcased works through live interventions, creating a carnival of connection between performers, technology, and audiences.

Learn more at signals.digibc.org

Artist & Industry Development

This year, the Artist & Industry Program focuses on deepening support for filmmakers' careers through curated panels and workshops, in addition to new programs focused on creative business, documentary, and animation. The goal is to pave a path for increased international collaboration while embracing original, visionary, and genre-defying work. Learn more at viff.org/artist-industry.

VIFF Industry

Oct. 6–11 | Venues: Beaumont Studios, Birdhouse, VIFF Centre, The Exchange

Curated by: Ana Belén Asfura

Supported by: Knowledge Network, Indigenous Screen Office, UBCP/ACTRA, CMPA

Community Partners: Filmable, Collective Bunch Society, RESO

Curator quote: "Cinema reveals hidden truths, sparks dialogue, and unites us. I envision a space where creative freedom meets opportunity — supporting filmmakers' craft and guiding them through an evolving storytelling landscape. This year's expansion into documentary, animation, and creative business fosters community, growth, and technological integration. Rooted in international collaboration, we nurture bold, diverse voices, building a film ecosystem where innovation, equity, and imagination thrive." — Ana Belén Asfura, Director of Artist and Industry Programs"

This year, Industry Days embraces the theme "Create. Connect. Transform." We focus on revolutionary filmmaking methods and universal connections, opening doors to lasting opportunities through curated conversations, masterclasses, case studies, and networking sessions. More than ever, artists — and the stories they create — need space to grow. These sessions provide a unique opportunity for accredited filmmakers and industry professionals to connect behind the scenes and engage in mutual learning, recognizing cinema as a collective art form enriched by cultural diversity and shared visions. This year's highlights include:

Co-Producing Across the Pacific: Bridging Canadian and Korean Stories

As part of our Spotlight on Korea, we will explore treaty mechanisms, financing strategies, and creative collaboration, guiding participants through the opportunities and challenges of co-productions between Canada and Korea.

New Documentary Frontiers: Tech, Poetics & Politics

Addressing urgent questions in documentary today, we will focus on how emerging technologies intersect with bold nonfiction storytelling. Filmmakers, funders, technologists, and curators will discuss evolving forms shaping the future of the genre.

The Future is Drawn: Independent Animation as Auteur Cinema

Independent animation is pushing the boundaries of narrative and form. Animators, curators, and producers discuss how bold visual storytelling and risk-taking redefine what animated cinema can be.

Embodied Futures: Acting, Identity, and AI on Screen

This session will explore global performance practices, emphasizing diverse acting methods and their role in fostering international collaboration. It will also examine how AI is reshaping performance, voice-over, authorship, and embodiment across film and video games, within an evolving expressive landscape.

Decolonizing the Frame: New Voices, New Structures

This conversation centers BIPOC creators and industry allies who are dismantling dominant film languages and rebuilding storytelling systems, grounded in equity, imagination, and collective power.

Crafting the Cut: Post-Production as Creative Authorship

Post-production is more than polish, it's authorship. Editors, colorists, and directors unpack the creative power of editing, sound, and color, and explore how AI is reshaping the post workflow.

VIFF Amp Music in Media Summit

Oct. 6–11 | Venues: Beaumont Studios, Birdhouse, The Warehouse Studio, SFU Djavad Mowafaghian Cinema

Curated by: Rob Calder (Secret Study), Tony Scudellari (Senior Vice President of Television Music at Sony Pictures Entertainment)

Funded by: Creative BC, FACTOR Canada, Music BC, and RBC Foundation

Supported by: SOCAN

Curator quote: "Ten years on, VIFF Amp continues to foster creativity, collaboration, and careers while championing underrepresented voices. In expanding to include directors, writers, and producers, this year's program offers panels, workshops, performances, and networking — connecting storytellers from music and visual media with industry leaders in a singular, dynamic gathering." — Rob Calder and Tony Scudellari

VIFF Amp's Music in Media Summit nurtures, educates, and champions emerging and established composers, songwriters, and music entrepreneurs, with a strong emphasis on supporting marginalized and underrepresented communities through mentorship, career development, and connections with international industry experts. This year's highlights include:

Art of Music Supervision in Documentary

Music supervision involves unique challenges when it comes to documentary filmmaking. This lively conversation will explore how music supervisors like Burt Blackarach (*Stamped From The Beginning*, Netflix) and Paty Carrera (President of ASM) work with directors and composers to shape narratives while navigating tight budgets and the unique demands of the documentary form.

Building Music Experiences that Players Remember

The relationship between music and video games has evolved beyond "in-game radio." Moderated by Daniel Turcotte (Monstercat), this session dives into real-world case studies to demonstrate how developers and music rightsholders like Mike Ault (Riot Games), Heather Johnson (Sub Pop Records), and Ryan Clark (Brace Yourself Games) are teaming up to build co-branded activations and integrated player experiences that go beyond traditional sync placement.

Pixar's *Onward*: The Story Behind the Score with the Danna Brothers

Presented by SOCAN, award-winning composer Mychael Danna and Jeff Danna explain the strange symmetry between the plot of *Onward* (2020) and their own lives, while exhibiting the techniques of thematic composition and how powerful it can be to help tell a story, especially in animation.

Stages-to-Screens

Presented by Music BC, this edition focuses on musical artists who have made the transition to allied entertainment roles — studio executives, actors, showrunners, and so on. Moderated by Dante Berardi Jr. (Anthem Music Group), this conversation will explore how the experience of working in music can help lay the foundation for a broader career in media.

Composer Filmmaker Accelerator

Three-time Emmy-nominated composer Miriam Cutler curates this intensive program pairing 12 composers with four filmmakers, culminating in recording and mixing at Vancouver's Warehouse Studios with the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra.

Music BC's SOUNDOFF

BC's most promising local musicians perform live in front of a panel of music supervisors at this special showcase.

Tickets and Information

Adult Ticket	\$21
Senior Ticket	\$19
Student/Youth	\$16
Accessible	\$16
VIFF+ Members	\$18
VIFF+ Premium/Patron/U25	\$16
Ticket Pack of 6	\$120 / \$105 VIFF+ / \$95 Premium/Patron/U25
Ticket Pack of 10	\$180 / \$160 VIFF+ / \$145 Premium/Patron/U25
Student 6 Pack	\$95
Student 10 Pack	\$145
Senior 6 Pack	\$110
Senior 10 Pack	\$165
Festival Pass	\$475
Platinum Pass	\$1,300
Artist & Industry Pass	\$195
Artist & Industry Premium Pass	\$475
VIFF Talks	Various
VIFF Live Tickets	Various
Signals	\$35 plus fees and taxes

More ticket details at viff.org/ticket-info.

To explore VIFF's complete 2025 programming, visit viff.org.

Premier Partner



Premier Supporters



Public Supporters



Supported by the Province of British Columbia

Social Media

facebook.com/VIFFest

youtube.com/VIFFest

twitter.com/VIFFest

instagram.com/VIFFest

#VIFF2025

Press Kit

[CLICK HERE](#)

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 xʷməθkʷəyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səli#wətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tseil-Waututh) Nations.

For media inquiries and media kit:

press@viff.org

Laura Murray | lmurray@mpmgarts.com | 604.418.2998

Ines Min | imin@mpmgarts.com | 604.440.0791