



January 16–30

2026



L'Étranger

L'Étranger The Chronology of Water VIFF Live: Vince Mai + A Shot in the Dark Yunan Happy Holidays All That's Left of You The Track Islands Holding Liat Breaking the Waves Dangerous Liasons Smoke Sauna Sisterhood The Secret Agent Sentimental Value Orwell: 2+2=5 It Was Just an Accident AND MORE

Sirât
COMING SOON

A Poet
COMING SOON

16 JAN

Yunan • VC
12:00pm
Happy Holidays • LOC
12:30pm
The Track • LOC
3:10pm
The Mother and the Bear • LOC
5:30pm
It Was Just an Accident • LOC
7:45pm

17

It Was Just an Accident • LOC
12:45pm
The Track • VC
1:00pm

18

Pantheon: Breaking the Waves • VC
11:00am
The Track • LOC
12:00pm

19

Happy Holidays • LOC
5:00pm
Yunan • LOC
7:30pm

20

The Secret Agent • VC
2:00pm
The Mother and the Bear • LOC
3:30pm
Yunan • VC
5:30pm
The Track • LOC
6:00pm
Pantheon: Breaking the Waves • VC
8:00pm
Happy Holidays • LOC
8:15pm

The Mother and the Bear
JAN 16, 20, 29

21

Yunan • VC
5:30pm
The Track • LOC
6:00pm
Pantheon: Breaking the Waves • VC
8:00pm
Happy Holidays • LOC
8:15pm

22

Yunan • LOC
4:30pm
It Was Just an Accident • LOC
7:10pm

Auction
JAN 24 & 27

23

L'Étranger • VC
1:00pm
Yunan • LOC
1:30pm
Sentimental Value • VC
3:40pm
Happy Holidays • LOC
4:10pm
The Chronology of Water • VC
6:30pm
Orwell: 2+2=5 • LOC
6:40pm
L'Étranger • VC
9:10pm

24

The Secret Agent • VC
11:45am
Auction • LOC
12:10pm
La venue de l'avenir • LOC
2:15pm
Sentimental Value • VC
3:00pm
Yunan • LOC
5:00pm
L'Étranger • VC
5:50pm
Orwell: 2+2=5 • LOC
7:45pm
The Chronology of Water • VC
8:30pm

25

VIFF Live: A Shot in the Dark • VC
2:00pm
It Was Just an Accident • LOC
2:20pm
Happy Holidays • LOC
4:30pm
L'Étranger • VC
6:00pm
Orwell: 2+2=5 • LOC
7:00pm
The Chronology of Water • VC
8:30pm

26

L'Étranger • VC
1:30pm
The Chronology of Water • LOC
2:00pm
La venue de l'avenir • LOC
4:45pm
L'Étranger • LOC
7:30pm

27

Smoke Sauna Sisterhood • VC
11:00am
La venue de l'avenir • LOC
1:15pm
L'Étranger • VC
1:30pm
Auction • LOC
3:50pm
The Secret Agent • VC
4:00pm
The Chronology of Water • LOC
5:50pm
Dangerous Liaisons • VC
7:30pm
It Was Just an Accident • LOC
8:30pm

28

La venue de l'avenir
JAN 24, 26, 27

29

Sentimental Value • VC
3:00pm
L'Étranger • VC
6:00pm
The Mother and the Bear • LOC
8:15pm
The Chronology of Water • VC
8:30pm

30

Islands • VC
1:00pm
Holding Liat • LOC
1:30pm
L'Étranger • VC
3:45pm
The Chronology of Water • LOC
4:00pm
All That's Left of You • VC
6:30pm
L'Étranger • LOC
6:45pm
Islands • VC
9:30pm

31

All That's Left of You
STARTS JAN 30

1

All That's Left of You
STARTS JAN 30

2

All That's Left of You
STARTS JAN 30

3

All That's Left of You
STARTS JAN 30

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.

MÉNA
Film Festival
January 15-23

menafilmfestival.com

First Look Fridays

Friday matinee screenings for \$10

Yunan
A film by Houssain Fateh Elidi

FRI 16 JAN, 12:00PM

L'ÉTRANGER
FRANÇOIS OZON
ALBERT CAMUS
BIEN EN CINÉMA

FRI 23 JAN, 1:00PM

ISLANDS
JAN-OLE CHRISTENSEN

FRI 30 JAN, 1:00PM

SUBSCRIBE

L'Étranger

FRANÇOIS OZON, FRANCE, 2025, 122 MIN.

FRI JAN 23	1:00PM	VC
FRI JAN 23	9:10PM	VC
SAT JAN 24	5:50PM	VC
SUN JAN 25	6:00PM	VC
MON JAN 26	1:30PM	VC
MON JAN 26	7:30PM	LOC
TUE JAN 27	1:30PM	VC
THU JAN 29	6:00PM	VC
FRI JAN 30	3:45PM	VC
FRI JAN 30	6:45PM	LOC
SAT JAN 31	1:30PM	LOC

One of the seminal literary texts of the 20th Century, Albert Camus's 1942 novel *The Stranger* frames the arbitrary killing of an Arab by a French colonial in Algiers as an act of existential alienation. François Ozon's superbly realised and meticulously controlled adaptation honours Camus's crisp, cruel prose while offering sharp inflections of his own regarding sexuality and colonialism. Recreating 1940s Algeria in vivid, high contrast black and white cinematography, *L'Étranger* is erotic, enigmatic and brutal in equal measures, a masterful screen version of an insoluble classic.

In French with English subtitles.

CAST Benjamin Voisin, Rebecca Marder, Pierre Lottin, Denis Lavant. Swann Arlaud



VIFF | Live Vince Mai plays Mancini

+ A Shot in the Dark

BLAKE EDWARDS, USA, 1964.
FILM: 102 MIN./EVENT: 180 MIN.

SUN JAN 25 2:00PM VC

Trumpeter and film composer Vince Mai returns to the VIFF Centre with his quintet to play selected hits of celebrated film composer Henry Mancini prior to a screening of the beloved Pink Panther movie *A Shot in the Dark*. Mancini was a well known composer whose scores include *Peter Gunn*, *Breakfast at Tiffany's*, *Days of Wine and Roses*, *10, The Party*, and of course the *Pink Panther* series. Joining Vince will be Miles Black on keys, Bernie Arai on drums, Laurence Mollerup on bass, and Steve Kaldestad on saxophone.

CAST Peter Sellers, George Sanders, Elke Sommer, Herbert Lom, Burt Kwouk



Yunan

AMEER FAKHER EL DIN, GERMANY/CANADA, 2025, 125 MIN.

FRI JAN 16	12:00PM	VC
MON JAN 19	7:30PM	LOC
TUE JAN 20	5:30PM	VC
THU JAN 22	4:30PM	LOC
FRI JAN 23	1:30PM	LOC
SAT JAN 24	5:00PM	LOC

In this haunting mood piece, Munir (Georges Khabbaz) is a middle-aged Syrian writer in exile in Germany. In crisis, he takes himself up to one of the Halligan islands in the North Sea, a sparsely populated place of severe beauty, prone to frequent flooding. A widow, Valeska (Hanna Schygulla) offers him a room and kindness. It's enough to keep him from giving in to despair. Writer-director Ameer Fakher Eldin has hit on a remarkable setting for his bleak meditation on displacement and depression; this is a film which seems almost torn from its windswept landscape.

In German and Arabic with English subtitles.

CAST Georges Khabbaz, Hanna Schygulla, Ali Suliman, Sibel Kekilli, Tom Wlaschiha, Nidal Al Achkar



Happy Holidays

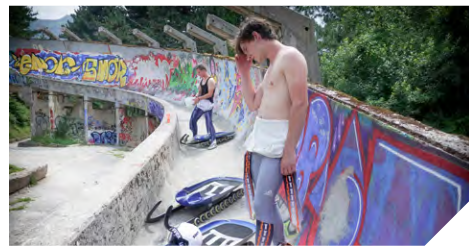
SCANDAR COPTI, PALESTINE/GERMANY/FRANCE/ITALY/QATAR, 2024, 123 MIN.

FRI JAN 16	12:30PM	LOC
MON JAN 19	5:00PM	LOC
TUE JAN 20	8:15PM	LOC
FRI JAN 23	4:10PM	LOC
SUN JAN 25	4:30PM	LOC

Offering a different angle on the Palestinian experience, Scandar Copti's film focusses on the personal and domestic tribulations of a middle-class family in Haifa: a young man panics when his Jewish girlfriend reveals she's pregnant and she means to keep the baby; his sister has secrets of her own to cover up; their parents are planning a wedding for their firstborn daughter but money is tight... *Happy Holidays* (the title is ironic) is an expansive, acutely observed sociopolitical family saga which thoughtfully considers the myriad intricacies of Israeli Arab life.

In Arabic and Hebrew with English subtitles.

CAST Manar Shehab, Wafaa Aoun, Meirav Memoresky, Toufic Danial



The Track

RYAN SIDHOO, CANADA/BOSNIA, 2025, 91 MIN.

FRI JAN 16	3:10PM	LOC
SAT JAN 17	1:00PM	VC
SUN JAN 18	12:00PM	LOC
TUE JAN 20	6:00PM	LOC

In a forest above Sarajevo, an Olympic luge track lies abandoned since the 1984 Winter Games, riddled with bullet holes from the Yugoslav Wars. Three teenage boys—Hamza, Mirza, and Zlatan—dream of competing in luge as a way to a better life, but a lack of institutional and financial support and sociopolitical issues in Bosnia and Herzegovina challenge their Olympic dreams. Ryan Sidhoo's documentary offers an ambitious, hopeful look at the next generation striving to overcome the sins of their fathers.

Q&A with director Ryan Sidhoo on Saturday, January 17.

In English and Bosnian with English subtitles.

FEAT Mirza Nikolajev, Zlatan Jakić, Hamza Pleho, Coach Senad Omanović



Pantheon: Breaking the Waves

LARS VON TRIER, DENMARK, 1996, 158 MIN.

SUN JAN 18	11:00AM	VC
TUE JAN 20	8:00PM	VC

Lars von Trier's breakout film is a devastating melodrama grappling with Big Themes: Sex, Religion, Good and Evil. Emily Watson made an indelible film debut as Bess, a Scottish innocent whose love for her husband (Stellan Skarsgård) brings down the wrath of the strict Calvinist community in which they live. It's a movie that shakes us up and breaks up expectations. Sunday's Pantheon screening will feature a 15-minute introduction and talkback.

"This epic melodrama about love, faith, suffering and redemption is emotionally overwhelming. Its raw power is assured not only by the forthright performances and the increasingly cruel, violent events of the last hour, but by Robby Müller's edgily realist 'Scope camerawork.'" GEOFF ANDREW, *TIME OUT*

CAST Emily Watson, Stellan Skarsgaard, Katrin Cartlidge, Jean Marc Barr, Udo Kier



The Chronology of Water

KRISTEN STEWART, FRANCE/LATVIA/USA, 2025, 128 MIN.

FRI JAN 23	6:30PM	VC
SAT JAN 24	8:30PM	VC
SUN JAN 25	8:30PM	VC
MON JAN 26	2:00PM	VC
TUE JAN 27	5:50PM	LOC
THU JAN 29	8:30PM	VC
FRI JAN 30	4:00PM	LOC

Fearless. That's the word that comes to mind to describe Kristen Stewart's bold and accomplished directorial debut, based on the best-selling memoir by Lidia Yuknavitch. Played across an impressive age range by Imogen Poots, Lidia suffers the rages of her domineering, abusive father as a teenager, throws herself into competitive swimming and wins a college scholarship, which she blows through drink and drugs en route to recovering her sense of self through writing. Stewart presents us with a blistering barrage of intense, fragmented images, the kind of memories that sear themselves to your brain.

CAST Imogen Poots, Thora Birch, Susannah Flood, Tom Sturridge, Kim Gordon, Michael Epp



Smoke Sauna Sisterhood

ANNA HINTS, ESTONIA/FRANCE/ICELAND, 2023, 89 MIN.

TUE JAN 27	11:00AM	VC
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Within the confines of a smoke sauna deep in an Estonian forest, groups of women gather to cleanse themselves in both body and soul, sharing in traditional sauna-based rituals, while also revealing their hurts and longings, joys and pains. In this Sundance-winning documentary, filmmaker Anna Hints boldly combines an intimate documentary approach with sensuous lyrical expressionism. Less an act of individual portraiture than a kind of collective diary, the film sees a hotbox become a place of healing.

Aimed at film lovers 55+ (but open to all), Talking Pictures offers audience-friendly festival films, refreshments, and an open invitation to chat about our shared experience of the movie. Tickets are just \$10. Bring a buddy and get two tickets for \$16!

In Estonian, Seto, and Võro with English subtitles.

Winner: World Documentary Directing Award, Sundance 2023



Dangerous Liaisons

STEPHEN FREARS, UK/US, 1988, 119 MIN.

TUE JAN 27	7:30PM	VC
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This Academy Award-winning film was adapted by Christopher Hampton from his own play, based on the 1792 novel by Pierre Choderlos de Laclos. It's a sexually charged revenge drama set in pre-Revolutionary France. The Marquise de Merteuil (Glenn Close) plots to humiliate her ex-lover by engaging the Vicomte de Valmont (John Malkovich) to seduce his fiancée, the virtuous Cécile (Uma Thurman). Join Vancouver Opera General Director Tom Wright and Director of Engagement Ashley Daniel Foot for a special introduction, exploring affinities with the upcoming production of *Così fan tutte*.

"A decadent celebration of wanton cruelty." JAY SCOTT, *GLOBE AND MAIL*

CAST John Malkovich, Glenn Close, Michelle Pfeiffer, Uma Thurman, Keanu Reeves



Islands

JAN-OLE GERSTER, GERMANY, 2025, 123 MIN.

FRI JAN 30	1:00PM	VC
FRI JAN 30	9:30PM	VC
SAT JAN 31	7:00PM	VC
SUN FEB 1	7:45PM	LOC
TUE FEB 3	5:50PM	VC
WED FEB 4	8:40PM	VC

A washed up English tennis pro, Tom (Sam Riley) now coaches tourists in a middling resort in the Canary Islands. Drawn to the mother of one of his students, Tom agrees to show the family the island. But when the father, Dave, vanishes after a night of heavy drinking, suspicion falls on Tom and Anne (Stacy Martin). Jan-Ole Gerster's compelling mystery is a sly character study masquerading as a sunswept neo-noir. To say more would be to undermine the movie's subtle play on desire and gratification, insinuation and ambivalence; this is a thoroughly engrossing slow reveal of a film.

In English and Spanish with English subtitles.

CAST Sam Riley, Stacy Martin, Jack Farthing, Dylan Torrell



Holding Liat

BRANDON KRAMER, USA, 2025, 97 MIN.

FRI JAN 30	1:30PM	LOC
SAT JAN 31	4:15PM	LOC

During the October 7 attacks, Liat Beinon Atzili and her husband Aviv Atzili were kidnapped from their home in a kibbutz near the border. Shortly afterwards, Brandon Kramer began filming with Liat's parents, Yehuda and Chaya Beinon, as they advocated with policy makers in Israel, Washington and across the media in hopes of a speedy resolution. Often, this campaign put them at loggerheads with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, but also sometimes with their own family, and even within the marriage. This is an intimate, close up portrait of Jewish anguish but also a nuanced take on the wider political situation. Winner: Best Documentary, Berlin Film Festival 100% Fresh, *ROTTEN TOMATOES*

In English and Hebrew with English subtitles.

FEAT Yehuda Beinon, Liat Beinon Atzili, Chaya Beinon, Tal Beinon

Winner: Best Documentary, Berlin Film Festival



All That's Left of You

CHERIEN DABIS, JORDAN/PALESTINE/GERMANY, 2025, 145 MIN.

FRI JAN 30	6:30PM	VC
SAT JAN 31	1:00PM	VC
SUN FEB 1	4:30PM	LOC
TUE FEB 3	8:20PM	VC
THU FEB 5	8:15PM	VC

In the Occupied West Bank of the 1980s, a Palestinian teenager is swept into a protest that changes the course of his family's life. Reeling from its aftermath, his mother, Hanan (writer-director Cherien Dabis), shares the story that led them to that fateful moment, going back to the Arab-Israeli War of 1948, when the boy's grandfather (Adam Bakri) elects to stay in Jaffa to entreat for peace, even as his family and neighbours flee their homeland. Spanning seven decades, this epic drama traces the hopes and heartaches of one Palestinian family across three generations.

In English and Arabic with English subtitles.

CAST Saleh Bakri, Cherien Dabis, Adam Bakri, Maria Zreik, Mohammad Bakri



VIFF | Live: Laura Crema sings Lorenz Hart + Blue Moon film screening

RICHARD LINKLATER, USA, 2026, 180 MIN.

SUN FEB 1	7:30PM	VC
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For this unique show, leading jazz vocalist Laura Crema has put together a set of some of Lorenz Hart's most memorable songs written for stage & screen, which she will be performing with a quartet featuring Sharon Minemoto on keyboard, Bill Coon on guitar, Conrad Good on bass, and Nino DiPasquale on drums. After their set, stay for Richard Linklater's acclaimed movie about Lorenz Hart, *Blue Moon*, starring Ethan Hawke.

"*Blue Moon* revels in a fine mind and a great soul, and Hawke's embodiment of both is exalted and startling." RICHARD BRODY, *NEW YORKER*

CAST Ethan Hawke, Margaret Qualley, Bobby Cannavale, Andrew Scott



VIFF | Live: Krystle Dos Santos sings Jackie Shane + Any Other Way: The Jackie Shane Story

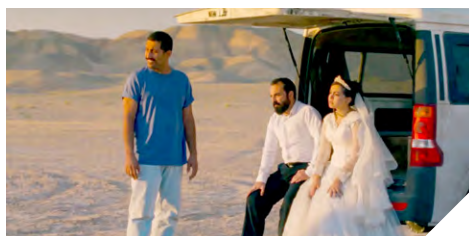
MICHAEL MABBOTT, LUCAS ROSENBERG, CANADA, 2026, 180 MIN.

SAT FEB 7	7:00PM	VC
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A pioneer of both 1960s Soul music and transgender rights, Jackie Shane never achieved the stardom she deserved. The 2024 documentary *Any Other Way* goes some way to ensure that Shane is properly enshrined as the trailblazer she was. Two-time Western Canadian Music Award winner Krystle Dos Santos will be performing a rare set of Shane's music, followed by a screening of the film.

Krystle Does Santos - Vocals; Jonny Holisho - Drums; Gavin Youngash - Guitar; Bryan Binnema - Piano

"An eye-opening, jaw-dropping, foot-stomping wave of jubilation." *FILM THREAT*



It Was Just an Accident

JAFAR PANAHI, IRAN/FRANCE/LUXEMBOURG, 2025, 105 MIN.

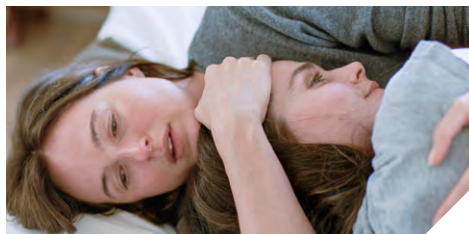
FRI JAN 16	7:45PM	LOC
SAT JAN 17	12:45PM	LOC
THU JAN 22	7:10PM	LOC
SUN JAN 25	2:20PM	LOC
TUE JAN 27	8:30PM	LOC

Having offered some late-night assistance to Eghbal (Ebrahim Azizi) in the wake of an auto accident, Vahid (Vahid Mobasseri) grows convinced that he recognizes the supposed stranger's voice as that of his torturer during a grueling prison spell. And so, what was intended as a small act of kindness instead sets this traumatized everyman on a twisting path of revenge in this morally complex, psychologically astute thriller from the legendary Jafar Panahi.

In Farsi with English subtitles.

CAST Vahid Mobasseri, Ebrahim Azizi, Madjid Panahi, Maryam Afshari, Hadis Pakbatan, Mohamad Ali Elyasmehr

Winner: Palme d'Or, Cannes 2025



Sentimental Value

JOACHIM TRIER, NORWAY/FRANCE/DENMARK/GERMANY/SWEDEN, 2025, 135 MIN.

FRI JAN 23	3:40PM	VC
SAT JAN 24	3:00PM	VC
THU JAN 29	3:00PM	VC
SAT JAN 31	4:00PM	VC
THU FEB 5	5:30PM	VC

Gustav (Stellan Skarsgård), a once revered and still egomaniacal director, crashes back into his family's lives, eager to recruit his celebrated stage-actress daughter Nora (Renate Reinsve) for a role in his new film. When she declines, he finds a new muse in an eager but unpolished Hollywood star (Elle Fanning), sending his botched reconciliation spiraling into chaos. Abetted by outstanding performances, Joachim Trier mines both humour and heartbreak from these damaged souls' attempts to mend frayed families ties.

In English and Norwegian with English subtitles.

CAST Renate Reinsve, Stellan Skarsgård, Elle Fanning, Inga lfsdotter Lilleaas



The Secret Agent

KLEBER MENDONÇA FILHO, BRAZIL/FRANCE/NETHERLANDS/GERMANY, 2025, 158 MIN.

TUE JAN 20	2:00PM	VC
SAT JAN 24	11:45AM	VC
TUE JAN 27	4:00PM	VC
WED FEB 4	5:30PM	VC

Having run afoul of an influential bureaucrat in Brazil's military dictatorship circa 1977, Marcelo (Wagner Moura) decamps to Recife to live under an assumed name and reconnect with his young son. Epic in scope, rich in allegory, and ambitious in structure (the narrative nimbly shifts between multiple time periods), Kleber Mendonça Filho's sophisticated and engrossing neo-noir not only recalls classic 70s paranoid political thrillers but gives them a run for their money.

In Portuguese with English subtitles.

CAST Wagner Moura, Gabriel Leone, Maria Fernanda Candido

Winner: Best Director, Best Actor, Cannes 2025



Orwell: 2+2=5

RAOUL PECK, USA/FRANCE, 2025, 119 MIN.

FRI JAN 23	6:40PM	LOC
SAT JAN 24	7:45PM	LOC
SUN JAN 25	7:00PM	LOC

Oscar-nominated director Raoul Peck (*I Am Not Your Negro*) returns with a gripping portrait of George Orwell in his final years. *Orwell: 2+2=5* reconsiders 1984 not as distant fiction, but as prophecy unfolding before our eyes. With narration by Damian Lewis and a bold visual collage, Peck traces Orwell's legacy through empire, surveillance, propaganda, and the rise of AI—revealing how the writer's warnings still reverberate through the world we live in.

"A whirlwind of ideas and images... a work of visceral urgency." MANOHLA DARGIS, *NEW YORK TIMES*

"A sprawling work that offers itself as a frightening historical record. Indeed, it is perhaps the most soberingly didactic of Peck's works." SARAH TAI-BLACK, *GLOBE AND MAIL*

FEAT Damien Lewis