




Jan 30–Feb 12




2026



Islands  
Islands Spring After Spring If I Had Legs I'd Kick You All That's Left of You  
L'Étranger A Poet Holding Liat The Painted Life of E.J. Hughes The Sound of  
Falling Seeds Black Is Beautiful True North Mr Nobody Against Putin VIFF  
Live: Krystle Dos Santos sings Jackie Shane • Cousin Harley • Andy Milne AND MORE

<b>SUN</b> The Chronology of Water JAN 30, 31 & FEB 9 	<b>MON</b> The Mother and the Bear JAN 31 & FEB 2 	<b>TUE</b> Song Sung Blue FEB 12 	<b>WED</b> Sirat COMING SOON 	<b>THU</b>	<b>FRI</b> 30 JAN 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	<b>SAT</b> 31 All That's Left of You • VC 1:00pm L'Étranger • LOC 1:30pm Sentimental Value • VC 4:00pm Holding Liat • LOC 4:15pm The Mother and the Bear • LOC 6:30pm Islands • VC 7:00pm The Chronology of ... • LOC 8:40pm All That's Left of You • VC 9:30pm
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<b>1</b> FEB All That's Left of You • LOC 4:30pm Laura Crema sings Lorenz Hart + Blue Moon film screening • VC 7:30pm Islands • LOC 7:45pm	<b>2</b> One Battle After Another • VC 1:00pm The Mother and the Bear • LOC 2:20pm All That's Left of You • VC 4:30pm L'Étranger • LOC 4:45pm Holding Liat • LOC 7:15pm Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love The Bomb • VC 7:30pm	<b>3</b> Sinners • VC 3:00pm If I Had Legs I'd Kick You • LOC 3:00pm Islands • VC 5:50pm Holding Liat • LOC 6:15pm All That's Left of You • VC 8:20pm L'Étranger • LOC 8:30pm	<b>4</b> All That's Left of You • LOC 2:45pm If I Had Legs I'd Kick You • VC 3:30pm The Secret Agent • VC 5:30pm L'Étranger • LOC 5:50pm Holding Liat • LOC 8:20pm Islands • VC 8:40pm	<b>5</b> Sinners • VC 2:40pm If I Had Legs I'd Kick You • LOC 3:30pm Sentimental Value • VC 5:30pm Holding Liat • LOC 6:00pm Islands • LOC 8:00pm All That's Left of You • VC 8:15pm	<b>6</b> A Poet • VC 2:00pm Spring After Spring • VC 6:30pm	<b>7</b> A Poet • VC 2:30pm Krystle Dos Santos sings Jackie Shane + Any Other Way: The Jackie Shane Story • VC 7:00pm The Painted Life of E.J. Hughes • LOC 7:30pm
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<b>8</b> A Poet • VC 12:00pm The Painted Life of E.J. Hughes • LOC 12:30pm The Painted Life of E.J. Hughes • LOC 2:15pm Spring After Spring • VC 2:30pm Seeds • LOC 4:15pm Sound of Falling • VC 4:45pm A Poet • VC 7:45pm	<b>9</b> Cutting Through Rocks • LOC 2:40pm Train Dreams • LOC 3:00pm Chronology of Water • LOC 6:30pm Spring After Spring • VC 5:40pm Seeds • LOC 6:00pm Sound of Falling • VC 7:30pm Mr Nobody Against Putin • LOC 9:00pm	<b>10</b> Sentimental Value • VC 1:30pm The Painted Life of E.J. Hughes • LOC 2:00pm Cutting Through Rocks • LOC 4:00pm A Poet • VC 4:20pm Cousin Harley + Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story • VC 8:00pm Seeds • LOC 8:15pm	<b>11</b> The Secret Agent • VC 2:30pm Seeds • LOC 3:00pm Mr Nobody Against Putin • LOC 5:40pm Black Is Beautiful: The Kwame Brathwaite Story • VC 6:20pm A Poet • VC 8:30pm	<b>12</b> Song Sung Blue • VC 3:30pm Mr Nobody Against Putin • LOC 3:50pm Cutting Through Rocks • LOC 5:50pm The Painted Life of E.J. Hughes • VC 6:10pm Sound of Falling • VC 8:00pm Seeds • LOC 8:15pm	<p style="text-align: center;">↓ OSCAR NOMINATED ↓</p>  <b>Sentimental Value</b> JAN 31 & FEB 5   <b>One Battle After Another</b> FEB 2   <b>Sinners</b> FEB 3 & 5	
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## Tickets and Memberships

Tickets can be purchased in advance online at [viff.org](http://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](mailto: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.

	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

  
**The Secret Agent**  
FEB 4 & 11

  
**Cutting Through Rocks**  
FEB 9, 10, 12

# First Look Fridays

Friday matinee screenings





FRI 30 JAN, 1:00PM



FRI 06 FEB, 2:00PM

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See more films, save on tickets, enjoy amazing membership perks.

  
  
[viff.org/plus](http://viff.org/plus)

# 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
THU FEB 5	8:00PM	LOC

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 sun-swept 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.

"A sun-baked dream noir... Hypnotic from start to finish"

DAVID EHRLICH, *INDIEWIRE*



In English and Spanish with English subtitles.

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

# Spring After Spring

JON CHIANG, CANADA, 2025, 78 MIN.

FRI FEB 6	6:30PM	VC
SUN FEB 8	2:30PM	VC
MON FEB 9	5:40PM	VC
SUN FEB 15	12:00PM	LOC
TUE FEB 17	1:30PM	LOC

For decades, Maria Mimie Ho put Vancouver Chinatown's dancers through their paces, at the Strathcona Chinese Dance Company, which she founded, and at the annual Spring Festival Parade, which she helped establish. When Maria passed, it fell on her three daughters, Anabel, Val "Ms Vee" and Lisa, to keep the show on the road... Jon Chiang's lovely doc is both a glowing tribute to a community legend and a sympathetic, sad and funny look at how hard it is to live up to a perfectionist's expectations. Featuring dazzling choreography and fascinating local archival material, this is the perfect movie with which to bring in the lunar new year.

February 6: Special Event with Filmmaker Guests and pre-show noodles and bites from Chinatown

FEAT Anabel Ho, Val Ho, Lisa Ho

**VIFF | Live**

## Krystle Dos Santos sings Jackie Shane

+ Any Other Way: The Jackie Shane Story

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

**SAT FEB 7 7:00PM VC**

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.

**VIFF | Live**

## Cousin Harley

+ Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story

JAKE KASDAN, USA, 2007, 180 MIN.

**TUE FEB 10 8:00PM VC**

If you've recovered from that Springsteen movie and still feel guilty for how much you enjoyed *A Complete Unknown*, time to refresh your synapses with the golden shower that is *Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story*, a hilarious piss-take on the cliches of the rock n roll biopic from the House of Apatow. In the part he was born to play, John C Reilly is the musical chameleon Cox, whose vertiginous career swings from blues to country, folk and rock and back again. Join Local Hillbilly heroes Cousin Harley, for a night of traditional Rockabilly, Western Swing and early Rock n Roll before the viewing! (Music from 8pm, film at 9:15pm (92min))

CAST John C Reilly, Jenna Fischer, Tim Meadows, Kristen Wiig

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

MICHAEL TALBOT-HAYNES, *FILM THREAT*

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

**VIFF | Live**

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CAST John C Reilly, Jenna Fischer, Tim Meadows, Kristen Wiig



### Seeds

BRITTANY SHYNE, USA, 2025, 123 MIN.

SUN FEB 8	4:15PM	LOC
TUE FEB 10	8:15PM	LOC
WED FEB 11	3:00PM	LOC
THU FEB 12	8:15PM	LOC

Filmed over nine years, *Seeds* is a patient, poetic portrait of three generations of Black farmers in the American South. Director Brittany Shyne's documentary captures daily rituals and deep-rooted struggles, from harvesting and caretaking to systemic barriers and land loss. Winner of the U.S. Grand Jury Prize at Sundance, this remarkable debut reflects on legacy, labour, and the quiet strength it takes to stay rooted.

"It's a work of political activism through sheer lyricism."

FEAT Belle Williams, Carlie Williams, Ben F. Burkett, Walter Williams, Margaret Williams, Lois Williams

Winner: Best Documentary, Sundance



### Black Is Beautiful: The Kwame Brathwaite Story

YEMI BAMIRO, UK, 2025, 98 MIN.

**WED FEB 11 6:20PM VC**

Everyone knows the phrase "Black is Beautiful," but few know of the man who helped popularize it. Harlem based photographer, freedom fighter and activist Kwame Brathwaite took 500,000 photos across his 70-year career, always devoted to celebrating the joy and beauty of African American life. Kwame also pioneered grassroots fashion shows that celebrated natural black beauty, heralding a new dawn across the globe.

This screening is part of our Celebrating Black Futures series copresented with Vancouver Art Gallery and curated by Kika Memeh.

FEAT Kwame S. Brathwaite, Robynn Brathwaite, Sikolo Brathwaite, Alicia Keys, Swizz Beatz, Gabrielle Union



### VIFF | Live: True North: Andy Milne in Concert + Film Premiere

MICHÈLE STEPHENSON, CANADA/US, 2025, 96 MIN.

**SAT FEB 28 5:00PM, 8:15PM VC**

Michele Stephenson's brilliant essay film is an electrifying history of Black Canada, a story of displacement and discrimination, prejudice and Black pride, from Freedom Road to Africville and the civil rights movement of the 1960s, fused from a mind-bogglingly rich cache of archival material, first person accounts, and a remarkable score by celebrated jazz pianist Andy Milne. In this double-header of a West Coast premiere, Andy Milne will perform a 45-minute set followed by a 15-minute Q&A (5pm show); and then a longer set sans Q&A (8.15pm show), along with a screening of the film.

This VIFF Live event is co-presented with Infidels Jazz and part of our Celebrating Black Futures series with the Vancouver Art Gallery, curated by Kika Memeh. Thanks to Yamaha and Tom Lee Music.

FEAT Norman Cook, Josette Pierre-Louis, Philippe Fils-Aimé, Brenda Dash, Rodney John, Rocky Jones



### Holding Liat

BRANDON KRAMER, USA, 2025, 97 MIN.

FRI JAN 30	1:30PM	LOC
SAT JAN 31	4:15PM	LOC
MON FEB 2	7:15PM	LOC
TUE FEB 3	6:15PM	LOC
WED FEB 4	8:20PM	LOC
THU FEB 5	6:00PM	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.

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



### L'Étranger

FRANÇOIS OZON, FRANCE, 2025, 122 MIN.

FRI JAN 30	3:45PM	VC
FRI JAN 30	6:45PM	LOC
SAT JAN 31	1:30PM	LOC
MON FEB 2	4:45PM	LOC
TUE FEB 3	8:30PM	LOC
WED FEB 4	5:50PM	LOC

One of the seminal literary texts of the 20th Century, Albert Camus's 1942 novella *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.

"Confounding, disturbing and yet icily compelling." JESSICA KIANG, *VARIETY*

In French with English subtitles.

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



### 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, 9:30PM	VC
SUN FEB 1	4:30PM	LOC
MON FEB 2	4:30PM	VC
TUE FEB 3	8:20PM	VC
WED FEB 4	2:45PM	LOC
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.

"Searing, honest and soul crushing." TOMRIS LAFFLY, *VARIETY*

In English and Arabic with English subtitles.

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



### A Poet

SIMÓN MESA SOTO, COLOMBIA/GERMANY/SWEDEN, 2025, 120 MIN.

FRI FEB 6	2:00PM	VC
SAT FEB 7	2:30PM	VC
SUN FEB 8	12:00PM, 7:45PM	VC
TUE FEB 10	4:20PM	VC
WED FEB 11	8:30PM	VC
SAT FEB 14	3:15PM	LOC

Once a promising young poet, Oscar Restrepo is now an aging alcoholic who hasn't written anything worthwhile in decades. When he meets Yurlady, a talented student from a poor background, he agrees to help her cultivate her art, but drawing her into the poetry world soon leads to disastrous consequences. Winner of the Un Certain Regard Jury Prize at Cannes, this grungy tragic-comedy from Colombian director Simón Mesa Soto is at once a wry character study and a biting art-world satire.

"Immensely appealing and caustic social satire." B+, BEN CROLL, *INDIEWIRE*

In Spanish with English subtitles.

CAST Ubeimar Rios, Rebeca Andrade, Guillermo Cardona, Allison Correa, Margarita Soto, Humberto Restrepo

Winner: Jury Prize, Un Certain Regard, Cannes 2025



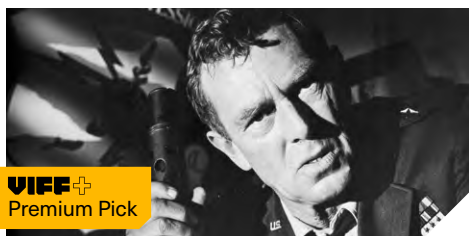
### The Painted Life of E.J. Hughes

JENN STROM, CANADA, 2025, 82 MIN.

SAT FEB 7	7:30PM	LOC
SUN FEB 8	12:30PM, 2:15PM	LOC
THU FEB 12	6:10PM	VC
SAT FEB 14	1:15PM	LOC
SUN FEB 15	2:15PM	LOC
TUE FEB 17	1:45PM	VC

Since his death in 2007, the renown of Canadian painter E.J. Hughes has only continued to grow. For decades his extraordinary works highlighting the landscapes of British Columbia have captivated the public, but his personal life is less well known. Through absorbing explorations into Canadian history and a look at Hughes's legacy not only as an artist but as a person, Jenn Strom crafts a beautiful portrait of a gentle soul who helped to reshape the artistic landscape of British Columbia.

FEAT E.J. Hughes, Robert Amos, Ian Thom, Charlie Hill



**VIFF+**  
Premium Pick

## Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love The Bomb

STANLEY KUBRICK, USA, UK, 1964, 95 MIN.

**MON FEB 2 7:30PM VC**

Our Premium Pick series invites our Premium members to turn their hands to programming. This month's film was suggested by Steven Savitt, who says *Dr Strangelove* is "as funny as ever, but even more terrifying." Based (rather loosely) on a serious novel about nuclear brinkmanship, Stanley Kubrick's masterpiece went in another direction. The more seriously Kubrick thought about it, the more the subject tipped into satire and black comedy. After all, Mutually Assured Destruction really is MAD.

**CAST** Peter Sellers, George C Scott, Slim Pickens, Peter Bull, Keenan Wynn



**Oscar Nominated**

## If I Had Legs I'd Kick You

MARY BRONSTEIN, USA, 2025, 113 MIN.

<b>TUE FEB 3</b>	<b>3:30PM</b>	<b>LOC</b>
<b>WED FEB 4</b>	<b>3:00PM</b>	<b>VC</b>
<b>THU FEB 5</b>	<b>3:30PM</b>	<b>LOC</b>

For Linda (Academy Award nominee Rose Byrne), life is a series of surreal catastrophes pointing to her failure as a working mother, and even her therapist (Conan O'Brien) is getting sick of her. In the absence of her husband (Christian Slater), Linda turns to weed, wine, and holo-tropic breathing to cope with the bottomless void of need that is her daughter's mysterious illness. Shot on 35mm, Mary Bronstein's darkly humorous psychological drama immerses us in Linda's unraveling mental state as her heightened world implodes.

**CAST** Rose Byrne, Conan O'Brien, A\$AP Rocky, Danielle Macdonald



## Sound of Falling

MASCHA SCHILINSKI, GERMANY, 2025, 149 MIN.

<b>SUN FEB 8</b>	<b>4:45PM</b>	<b>VC</b>
<b>MON FEB 9</b>	<b>7:30PM</b>	<b>VC</b>
<b>THU FEB 12</b>	<b>8:00PM</b>	<b>VC</b>

Unfolding in a remote German farmhouse, *Sound of Falling* traces the mundane and magical experiences of four girls who call the foreboding place home at various intervals over the course of a century. As we flit back and forth in time, cycles and patterns emerge, and just as the girls' experiences start to mirror one another's, so too does their resilience. In turns delicate and devastating, Mascha Schilinski's ambitious sophomore feature is cinema at its most experiential.

"Disorienting and enveloping ... knocks you off your feet and then sweeps you up again." JUSTIN CHANG, *THE NEW YORKER*

*In German with English subtitles.*

**CAST** Lena Urzendowsky, Luise Heyer, Lea Drinda, Laeni Geiseler, Hanna Heckt, Susanne Wuest

**Winner:** Jury Prize, Cannes 2025



**Oscar Nominated**

## Mr Nobody Against Putin

DAVID BORENSTEIN, PAVEL TALANKIN, DENMARK, CZECH REPUBLIC, 2025, 90 MIN.

<b>SUN FEB 8</b>	<b>7:00PM</b>	<b>LOC</b>
<b>MON FEB 9</b>	<b>4:30PM, W 9:00PM</b>	<b>LOC</b>
<b>TUE FEB 10</b>	<b>6:15PM</b>	<b>LOC</b>
<b>WED FEB 11</b>	<b>5:40PM</b>	<b>LOC</b>
<b>THU FEB 12</b>	<b>3:50PM</b>	<b>LOC</b>
<b>FRI FEB 13</b>	<b>6:00PM</b>	<b>LOC</b>

Russian primary school teacher Pasha Talankin is dismayed when his job is coopted to indoctrinate his students in pro-Putin propaganda after the assault on Ukraine. As the school's videographer, he documents intimate and revealing footage of Putin's regime, capturing the rise of militarized children's groups, repressive laws, fervent nationalism, and the recruitment of graduating students to fight in the war. When he learns his own life may be at risk, Pasha is forced to plan a dangerous escape from Russia...

*In Russian, English*

**Winner:** Special Jury Award, Sundance Film Festival; Oscar nominee – Best Documentary