



Vancouver International Film Festival Launches the VIFF Collection

New online archive offers free public access to landmark BC short films and celebrates the early work of Western Canada's most exciting filmmakers

VANCOUVER, BC (June 11, 2026) – The Vancouver International Film Festival (VIFF) today announced the launch of the VIFF Collection, a curated online archive of short films by BC filmmakers available free to the public at viff.org/collection. Featuring early works by filmmakers who have since achieved national and international acclaim, the VIFF Collection offers audiences a rare opportunity to discover the origins of some of Western Canada's most compelling cinematic voices.

“The launch of our Institute for the Moving Image this spring underscored our commitment to developing artists and providing resources that aid them in realizing their full potential”, says Curtis Woloschuk, VIFF’s Director of Programming. “Driven by the same desire to champion filmmakers, we’re excited to unveil the VIFF Collection, which showcases early short films by singular directors who embody the inventive, eloquent, and engaged cinema that we seek to platform. As these filmmakers take their place on the international stage and heighten their profiles, the VIFF Collection creates a lasting space for audiences to revisit the shorts that helped launch their careers.”

In addition to expanding barrier-free access to noteworthy BC-produced cinema and preserving a historical record of essential short films, the VIFF Collection affirms the organization's belief in the cultural significance of short-form filmmaking. These shorts are not merely stepping stones to feature careers, but accomplished works of art in their own right, films worthy of continued exhibition, study, and discussion. By preserving and presenting them in a public archive, VIFF ensures they remain part of British Columbia's cinematic legacy.

The initial titles available in the VIFF Collection are:

- ***Broken Bunny***, dir. Meredith Hama-Brown, 2018
 - Meredith’s first feature film, ***Seagrass***, had its world premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival in 2023, where it won the FIPRESCI Prize. She is now represented by Gersh, one of the world's largest talent agencies.
- ***Cabbie***, dirs. Jennifer Chiu and Jean Parsons, 2016
 - Jennifer’s first feature-length documentary, *Clan of the Painted Lady*, world-premiered at VIFF in 2025, continues to play festivals and is available online via the Knowledge Network.
 - Jean’s in-development feature film project, *To The North*, was just selected for the Genre Lab at Frontières International Co-Production Market this July.
- ***Nuxalk Radio***, dir. Slts’lani – Banchi Hanuse, 2020

- *Ceremony*, Banchi’s second feature-length documentary, had its world premiere at SXSW in March and won the audience award in the Documentary Spotlight section. It next played Hot Docs, where it won the DGC Special Jury Prize.
- ***Ocean Falls***, dirs. Ryan Ermacora, Jessica Johnson, 2015
 - *Concrete Turned to Sand*, Ryan and Jessica’s second feature-length documentary, celebrated its world premiere at Hot Docs in April.

“*Cabbie* was a significant milestone in my career. I was beyond thrilled to premiere at VIFF, and then to win the Ignite Award. That was truly a life-changing moment!” says Jean Parsons. “The VIFF Collection is an amazing initiative through which to share and celebrate BC film. So many short films have their festival run and then fall into obscurity; it’s amazing to think that a collection like this will be accessible to audiences year-round. I can’t wait to dive into it myself and discover the work of other talented artists from around our province.”

“*Cabbie* is not just a stepping stone, but a foundation stone for the rest of my work,” says Jennifer Chiu. “Being part of the VIFF Collection is such an honour. I wouldn’t be here today as a working filmmaker if it weren’t for VIFF and its amazing team of programmers. I’m so grateful to be featured in this collection of films that represents our incredible filmmaking community.”

“It is so wonderful to have another opportunity to share this film with a larger audience”, says *Broken Bunny* director Meredith Hama-Brown. “It’s great for the film that I made so long ago to have a new life with the VIFF collection.”

New titles will be added annually, establishing the VIFF Collection as a growing archive for the exhibition, preservation, and discovery of significant BC-produced short films.

ABOUT VIFF

The Vancouver International Film Festival (VIFF) is one of Canada’s leading film organizations and an internationally recognized cultural institution. VIFF presents the annual Vancouver International Film Festival, operates the VIFF Centre, Vancouver’s premier arthouse cinema, and leads artist development initiatives through the Institute for the Moving Image. Together, these initiatives nurture filmmakers, strengthen the screen-based arts sector, and bring the joy of bold, original cinema to audiences year-round. Learn more at viff.org.

Founded in 1982, the Greater Vancouver International Film Festival Society is a not-for-profit cultural society and federally registered charitable organization. VIFF is presented on the traditional and unceded territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓ y̓ əm (Musqueam), Skwx̱ x̱ wú7mesh (Squamish), and səłíłwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.