



VIFF ANNOUNCES 2026 FESTIVAL LINEUP

45th Vancouver International Film Festival
October 1–11, 2026

VANCOUVER, BC (AUGUST 26, 2026) Vancouver International Film Festival (VIFF) presents its 45th edition this fall. One of North America's largest and most dynamic film festivals, VIFF's 2026 program offers a unique balance of narrative, documentary, and short films; live cinematic performances; and artist development programs, situated in one of the continent's most productive film and television hubs. With an expected audience of 110,000 attendees, VIFF is a celebration of the year's best cinema, with more than 160 features showcased, an expanded VIFF Live program that runs the duration of the festival, new initiatives through the recently established Institute for the Moving Image, and a number of special events.

"This year marks the beginning of a new chapter for the Vancouver International Film Festival," says Kyle Fostner, Executive Director. "With our Institute for the Moving Image launched, our largest program of Live performances ever offered, and an exciting slate of the best contemporary cinema, VIFF is quickly becoming the archetype of the modern film festival. This year's film program holds a balance between the established cinematic greats and a new generation of powerful voices emerging from around the world. With the Institute nurturing filmmakers and Live performances enhancing the cinematic experience, VIFF has taken on an exciting new shape. It's an ecosystem of creativity, curiosity, and humanist art that is gaining VIFF a reputation internationally as a place for talent discovery and innovation."

VIFF will officially open with **Jesse Eisenberg's *The Debut*** (presented by National Bank), which sees meek Mona (Julianne Moore) landing a part in a local musical and falling under the sway of Jerry (Paul Giamatti), the exacting "biggest name in New Jersey community theatre." Eisenberg's utterly outlandish yet emotionally honest comedy sends up the self-importance of the theatre world, while genuinely celebrating the self-actualization that can only occur under the spotlight's glow.

The festival will close with **Martin McDonagh's *Wild Horse Nine***. Shortly before the 1973 Chilean coup, CIA agents Chris (John Malkovich) and Lee (Sam Rockwell) are dispatched from Santiago to Easter Island by their bureau chief, MJ (Steve Buscemi). Amongst the Island's iconic statues, and as the longtime partners wrestle with their dark pasts and present conspiracies, Chris's newfound bond with a pair of rebellious students (Mariana di Girolamo and Ailín Salas) threatens to send everyone's trip to this remote paradise sideways.

VIFF's 45th edition will present 162 features, including 12 world premieres, 6 international premieres, 15 North American premieres, and 49 Canadian premieres. Accompanying these features in the selection are 91 short films and two episodic series. All told, 76 nations are represented in this year's lineup.

Several of the year's most acclaimed and highly anticipated films will receive their Canadian Premiere at VIFF, including **Tony Gilroy's *Behemoth!***, **Alex Huston Fischer and Eleanor Wilson's *Wicker***, **Alain Gomis' *Dao***, **Ali**

Asgari's *A Bit of Light*, **Kelly O'Sullivan and Alex Thompson's *Mouse***, **Lance Hammer's *Queen at Sea*** and **Clio Barnard's *I See Buildings Fall Like Lightning***. They join the previously announced **Markus Schleinzer's *Rose*** (Best Performance at Berlin) and **Hong Sangsoo's *Nowhere to Lay My Eyes*** (Best Direction, Best Performance at Locarno) amongst the celebrated features that will receive their Canadian premiere at VIFF.

Other international highlights include major award winners from Cannes such as **Cristian Mungiu's *Fjord*** and **Ryusuke Hamaguchi's *All of a Sudden***. Fresh off their premieres in Venice, **Kore-eda Hirokazu's *Look Back*** and **Lee Chang-dong's *Possible Love*** are also amongst VIFF's Special Presentations. While Kore-eda adapts Tatsuki Fujimoto's beloved manga of the same name, Lee's first film in eight years is an enthralling examination of Korea's class divides. *Possible Love* will be presented in memory of Tony Rayns, the long-time VIFF programmer and champion of East Asian cinema who passed away earlier this year.

"Every film in this year's lineup embodies the culturally engaged, progressively minded, and emotionally resonant storytelling that we seek to champion at VIFF," says Curtis Woloschuk, Director of Programming. "These films not only speak to where cinema is at, they also reflect the tumultuous times that we're living in. And while many of these films may challenge us, they also extol the virtues of love and care, be it within family or community."

This year's **Focus on New German Cinema: Extreme Tension**, presented in collaboration with German Films, showcases notable premieres of six features from rising talents who bring new perspectives to a national cinema that's psychologically complex, visually striking, and socially engaged. Selections include **Christoph Otto's *The Ballad From Wednesday to Thursday*** (Canadian premiere), **Ella Cieslinski and Nina Wesemann's *Dear Future Self*** (international premiere), **Kilian Armando Friedrich's *I Understand Your Displeasure*** (Canadian premiere), **Faraz Shariat's *Prosecution*** (Canadian premiere), **Daniela Magnani Hüller's *Sometimes, I Imagine Them All at a Party*** (North American premiere), and **Kai Stänicke's *Trial of Hein*** (Canadian premiere).

With more than 50 nonfiction features in its lineup, VIFF is effectively the country's second-largest documentary festival. British Columbian productions are well-represented in this space, including the world premieres of ***First Comes Love: Nakabingwit*** by Vancouver-based **Joella Cabalu** and ***Relax, Open Your Eyes*** by **David Ehrenreich**. Additional documentaries of note highlight Canadian icons: ***Ladies and Gentlemen***, **Brian Mulroney** — the latest fever dream from Matthew Rankin; ***Run Terry Run*** — a look at Terry Fox's legacy through archival footage by **Sean Menard**; and ***Man in Motion: The Rick Hansen Story*** — a portrait of a remarkable athlete and accessibility advocate by **Adrian Buitenhuis**.

Among the most celebrated voices in this year's program is Métis/Dene filmmaker **Marie Clements**, whose presence at the festival is particularly significant — she brings both ***How We Stand*** and the world premiere of the first three episodes of ***Reclaim My Skin***, her forthcoming Knowledge Network three-part limited documentary series. Animation also boasts a strong presence this year, with **Fernanda Salgado's *Ana, En Passant*** making history as the first animated film to compete in VIFF's Vanguard program and **Leah Nelson's** deeply affecting ***Tangles*** demonstrating the potential of Vancouver's powerhouse animation industry.

The Institute for the Moving Image will host dozens of international filmmakers and decision-makers at the annual artist and sector development programs — VIFF Industry and the Amp Music in Media Summit, from October 3-8. Within VIFF Industry's Business Hub, the festival is launching three new programs this year, the Co-Production Forum, Works-in-Progress, and VIFF Slate. Focused on business development through featuring actively developing projects, these new programs were designed to support filmmakers and industry professionals at every stage of their careers, by connecting them with established mentors and global decision-makers

This year, the VIFF Industry program will feature internationally renowned guests, including **Matïss Kaža** (co-writer and producer of *Flow*), **Evelyn Rack** (editor of *Sound of Falling*), and **Pamela Biénzobas** (Programmer, *Locarno Film Festival*). VIFF Amp, one of the world's few film festival programs dedicated to strengthening the connection between music and the moving image, will feature dozens of influential labels, music supervisors, and composers as well as national and international film and music agencies, including SOCAN, SODEC, and Sounds Australia. Feature Amp guests include **Meg Remy** (*U.S. Girls*), **Peter Peter** (composer of *Heated Rivalry*), and **Matthew Rogers** (*The Harpoonist & the Axe Murderer*).

"We see cinema as a living, evolving art form, built from fragments of visions and voices, where creators come together to explore what is possible and to give form to what has yet to be seen," says Ana Belén Asfura, Director

of the Institute for the Moving Image. "With that vision at its core, VIFF's Institute is a hub for connection, collaboration, and career development within the screen sector. We create a global stage where local talent can connect with national and international communities, helping creators turn ideas into opportunities."

A special late addition, **An Evening with Mark Mothersbaugh**, will round out the previously announced, significantly expanded VIFF Live program. The prolific film composer and DEVO frontman takes the stage for an exclusive, one-night-only concert, joined by a 16-piece ensemble to bring his celebrated scores to life. The evening features work from Mark's legendary career as a composer, likely to include music from *The Royal Tenenbaums*, *Rushmore*, *Thor: Ragnarok*, *The LEGO Movie*, *A Minecraft Movie*, and more.

VIFF Board Chair **Am Johal** adds: "The magic of VIFF doesn't just happen on screen, it is built from the ground up through the tireless energy, vision, and heart of hundreds of passionate individuals. VIFF truly is a cinema lovers' festival. It's a testament to what we can accomplish when a community unites around the transformative power of storytelling, particularly in these fraught, disorienting times."

Tickets are on sale now to VIFF+ Members at viff.org, and on sale to the public from Aug. 27 at 12pm (noon) PT. Single tickets are \$22 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 2026 sizzle reel [here](#).

VIFF 2026 FILMS

OPENING FILM: *The Debut* dir. Jesse Eisenberg (USA) | *Presented by National Bank*

CLOSING FILM: *Wild Horse Nine* dir. Martin McDonagh (UK/USA/Chile)

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS: The year's most anticipated films

All of a Sudden dir. Ryûsuke Hamaguchi (France/Japan/Germany/Belgium)

Behemoth! dir. Tony Gilroy (USA) | Canadian Premiere

The Beloved dir. Rodrigo Sorogoyen (Spain)

Bitter Christmas dir. Pedro Almodóvar (Spain)

Club Kid dir. Jordan Firstman (USA)

Coward Lukas Dhont (Belgium/France/Netherlands)

Fatherland dir. Pawel Pawlikowski (Italy/Poland/Germany/France)

Fjord dir. Cristian Mungiu (Romania/France/Norway/Sweden/Denmark)

I Play Rocky dir. Peter Farrelly (USA)

La Bola Negra dirs. Javier Ambrossi, Javier Calvo (Spain/France)

A Long Winter dir. Andrew Haigh (Canada/UK)

Look Back dir. Koreeda Hirokazu (Japan)

Minotaur dir. Andrey Zvyagintsev (France/Germany/Latvia)

The Only Living Pickpocket in New York dir. Noah Segan (USA)

Paper Tiger dir. James Gray (USA)

Possible Love dir. Lee Chang-dong (South Korea)

Rose dir. Markus Schleiner (Austria/Germany) | Canadian Premiere

Tender Loving Care dir. Mike Leigh (UK)

Whatcha Want dir. Mina Shum (Canada) | BC Feature

Your Mother Your Mother Your Mother dir. Bassam Tariq (USA)

SHOWCASE: A selection of exceptional cinema

All the Lovers in the Night dir. Yukiko Sode (Japan) | Canadian Premiere

A Bit of Light dir. Ali Asgari (Iran/Switzerland/Italy/Canada/Turkey) | Canadian Premiere

Ceremony dir. Banchi Hanuse (Canada) | BC Feature

Clarissa dirs. Arie Esiri, Chuko Esiri (Nigeria/USA)

Dao dir. Alain Gomis (France/Senegal/Guinea-Bissau) | Canadian Premiere

The Diary of a Chambermaid dir. Radu Jude (France/Romania)

The Dreamed Adventure dir. Valeska Grisebach (Austria/Germany/France/Bulgaria)

The Flight dir. Soran Mardookhi (Canada) | BC Feature | World Premiere

Gentle Monster dir. Marie Kreutzer (Austria)

The Guest dir. Mads Mangel (Denmark) | Canadian Premiere

The History of Concrete dir. John Wilson (USA)

How We Stand dir. Marie Clements (Canada) | BC Feature

I See Buildings Fall Like Lightning dir. Clio Barnard (UK) | Canadian Premiere

Ladies and Gentlemen, Brian Mulroney dir. Matthew Rankin (Canada)

Man in Motion: The Rick Hansen Story dir. Adrian Buitenhuis (Canada) | BC Feature

Mouse dirs. Kelly O'Sullivan, Alex Thompson (USA) | Canadian Premiere

Nagi Notes dir. Kōji Fukada (Japan/France/Singapore/Philippines)

Nowhere to Lay My Eyes dir. Hong Sangsoo (South Korea) | Canadian Premiere

Queen at Sea dir. Lance Hammer (UK/USA) | Canadian Premiere

Reclaim My Skin (Episode 1-3) dir. Marie Clements (Canada) | BC Feature | World Premiere

Run Terry Run dir. Sean Menard (Canada)

School for Defectors dir. Jeremy Workman (South Korea/USA)

The Story of Documentary Film (The 2000's: Chapter 12-13) dir. Mark Cousins (UK/USA) | Canadian Premiere

The Story of Documentary Film (The 2010's and 2020's: Chapter 14-16) dir. Mark Cousins (UK/USA) | Canadian Premiere

Tangles dir. Leah Nelson (Canada/USA)

Yellow Letters dir. İlker Çatak (Germany/France/Turkey)

Yugo Goes to America dirs. Filip Grujić, Aleksa Borković (Serbia/Croatia) | North American Premiere

PANORAMA: Narratives from every corner of the globe

17 dir. Kosara Mitić (North Macedonia/Slovenia/Serbia) | Canadian Premiere

9 Temples to Heaven dir. Sompot Chidgasornpongse (Thailand/Singapore/France/Norway/China/Hong Kong/Indonesia/Qatar) | Canadian Premiere

Afterpiece dir. Keane T.K. Wong (Hong Kong) | Canadian Premiere

Árru dir. Elle Sofe Sara (Norway/Sweden/Finland) | Canadian Premiere

Congo Boy dir. Rafiki Fariala (Central African Republic/France/Democratic Republic of the Congo/Italy)

The Difficult Bride dir. Rubaiyat Hossain (France/Bangladesh/Germany/Norway/Portugal)

Elephants in the Fog dir. Abinash Bikram Shah (Nepal/Germany/Brazil/France/Norway)

Everytime dir. Sandra Wollner (Germany/Austria)

Fireflies in the Dark dir. Yogesh Lohan (India) | World Premiere

Flesh and Fuel dir. Pierre Le Gall (France/Poland) | Canadian Premiere

Flies dir. Fernando Eimbcke (Mexico/Spain)

Frank & Louis dir. Petra Volpe (Switzerland/UK) | Canadian Premiere

Fruit Gathering dir. Aung Phyoe (Myanmar/Czech Republic/France) | North American Premiere

A Girl Unknown dir. Zou Jing (China/France)

Heysel 85 dir. Teodora Ana Mihai (Belgium/Netherlands/Germany) | Canadian Premiere

Idda dir. Irene Dionisio (Italy)

In Alaska dirs. Jaap van Heusden, Vinnie Karetak (Netherlands/Canada) | BC Feature

Iron Boy dir. Louis Clichy (France/Belgium)

La Gradiva dir. Marine Atlan (France/Italy)

Lali dir. Sarmad Sultan Khoosat (Pakistan)

Light Pillar dir. Xu Zao (China)

Linka Linka dir. Kangdrun (China) | Canadian Premiere

The Loneliest Man in Town dirs. Tizza Covi, Rainer Frimmel (Austria) | Canadian Premiere

Nina Roza dir. Geneviève Dulude-De Celles (Canada/Italy/Bulgaria/Belgium) | Oscar submission: Canada

No Good Men dir. Shahrbano Sadat (Germany/France/Norway/Denmark/Afghanistan)

Nobody's Violence dir. Denis Côté (Canada)

Paris Paris dir. Isabelle Tollenaere (Belgium) | Canadian Premiere

The Quiet Applause dir. Byun Sung-bin (South Korea) | World Premiere

Roid dir. Mejbaur Rahman Sumon (Bangladesh)

Shame and Money dir. Visar Morina (Germany/Kosovo/Slovenia/Albania/North Macedonia/Belgium) | Canadian Premiere

Sweet Milk Lake dir. Harvey Zielinski (Australia) | North American Premiere

Take Me Home dir. Liz Sargent (USA) | Canadian Premiere

We Are All Strangers dir. Anthony Chen (Singapore)

What Remains dir. Yeşim Ustaoglu (Turkey/Luxembourg/France/Bulgaria) | North American Premiere

Where the River Begins dir. Juan Andrés Arango (Canada/Colombia/Norway)

Yasha dir. Naghi Nemati (Iran/Germany) | World Premiere

VANGUARD: Rising international talents

Ana, En Passant dir. Fernanda Salgado (Brazil/Portugal) | International Premiere

Forest High dir. Manon Coubia (Belgium/France) | Canadian Premiere

Hear the Yellow dir. Banu Sivaci (Turkey) | North American Premiere

Hearing dir. Bảo Lê (Vietnam/Singapore/Norway/France/Indonesia/Saudi Arabia/Cambodia/Thailand/Taiwan) | North American Premiere

I Plant My Hand in the Garden dirs. Boris Hadžija, Hoda Taheri (Germany/Serbia/USA) | Canadian Premiere

Lady dir. Olive Nwosu (UK/Nigeria) | Canadian Premiere

Lust dir. Ralitz Petrova (Bulgaria/Denmark/Sweden) | North American Premiere

That Shadow Fading dir. Samuel Urbina (Peru) | North American Premiere

NORTHERN LIGHTS: The next wave of Canadian and Indigenous storytellers

Presented by Telefilm Canada

Ba's Book dir. Ashley Duong (Canada)

The Bryce Lee Story dir. Arnold Lim (Canada) | BC Feature | World Premiere

Clubfoot dir. Nathan Donovan (Canada) | World Premiere

First Comes Love: Nakabingwit dir. Joella Cabalu (Canada) | BC Feature | World Premiere

The Gymnasts of Fisherman Colony dir. Habiba Nosheen (Canada/Pakistan/USA)

In the Heart of the South dir. Nyla Innuksuk (Canada)

Lifeline dir. Ilhan Abdullahi (Canada) | BC Feature

Pocket Mirror dir. Adrian Murray (Canada) | World Premiere

Relax, Open Your Eyes dir. David Ehrenreich (Canada) | BC Feature

A Safe Distance dir. Gloria Mercer (Canada) | BC Feature

Send the Rain dirs. Hayley Gray, Kaayla Whachell (Canada) | BC Feature | World Premiere

Seventeen dir. Justin Ducharme (Canada) | BC Feature

Smudge the Blades dir. Cody Lightning (Canada)

Still Night, Burning House dir. Carol Nguyen (Canada)

Strong Son dir. Ian Bawa (Canada)

Turtle Island Rap dir. Alexandra Lazarowich (Canada)

FOCUS ON NEW GERMAN CINEMA: EXTREME TENSION

Presented in cooperation with German Films

The Ballad From Wednesday to Thursday dir. Christoph Otto (Germany) | North American Premiere

Dear Future Self dirs. Ella Cieslinski, Nina Wesemann (Germany) | International Premiere

I Understand Your Displeasure dir. Kilian Armando Friedrich (Germany) | Canadian Premiere

Prosecution dir. Faraz Shariat (Germany) | Canadian Premiere

Sometimes, I Imagine Them All at a Party dir. Daniela Magnani Hüller (Germany) | North American Premiere

Trial of Hein dir. Kai Stänicke (Germany) | Canadian Premiere

LEADING LIGHTS: Celebrated Canadian filmmaker Sophy Romvari curates a selection of international films that influenced her artistic journey

Close-Up dir. Abbas Kiarostami (Iran)

The Tree of Life dir. Terrence Malick (USA)

Vengeance Is Mine dir. Michael Roemer (USA)

INSIGHTS: Documentaries that change the way we see the world

Birds of War dirs. Janay Boulos, Abd Alkader Habak (UK/Syria/Lebanon)

Closure dir. Michał Marczak (Poland/France) | Canadian Premiere

Concrete Land dir. Asmahan Bkerta (Jordan/Palestine) | North American Premiere

A Distant Call dir. Andrea Suwito (France/Indonesia/UK)

A Fire There dir. Marlene Edoyan (Canada)

Gabin dir. Maxence Voiseux (France/Germany/Switzerland)

Heat dir. Jacqueline Zünd (Switzerland) | North American Premiere

Kikuyu Land dirs. Andrew H. Brown, Bea Wangondou (Kenya/USA)

Nitassinan dirs. Joséphine Bacon, Kim O'Bomsawin (Canada)

Nuisance Bear dirs. Gabriela Osio Vanden, Jack Weisman (USA/Canada)

Once Upon a Time in Harlem dirs. William Greaves, David Greaves (USA)

A Place of Absence dir. Marialuisa Ernst (USA/Bolivia/Mexico) | International Premiere

Revolutionaries Never Die dir. Mohanad Yaqubi (Palestine/Belgium/Qatar) | Canadian Premiere

Whispers in May dir. Dongnan Chen (Hong Kong/Netherlands/South Korea/Sweden)

Who Moves America dir. Yael Bridge (USA) | International Premiere

The Wind's Thirst dir. Alejandro Valbuena (Canada/Colombia) | North American Premiere

SPECTRUM: Innovative nonfiction filmmaking

Aanikoobijigan [Ancestor/Great-Grandparent/Great-Grandchild] dirs. Adam Khalil, Zack Khalil (USA/Denmark)

Afterlives dir. Kevin B. Lee (Germany/France/Belgium) | Canadian Premiere

Crocodile dirs. The Critics, Pietra Brettkelly (Nigeria/New Zealand) | Canadian Premiere

Daughters of the Forest dir. Otilia Portillo Padua (Mexico) | Canadian Premiere

An Incomplete Calendar dir. Sanaz Sohrabi (Canada/Iran/Turkey/Venezuela) | Canadian Premiere

Into the Jaws of the Ogre dir. Mahsa Karampour (France) | Canadian Premiere

Jaripeo dirs. Efraín Mojica, Rebecca Zweig (Mexico/USA/France)

Last Movies dir. Stanley Schtinter (UK)

Let Them Be Seen dir. Nolitha Refilwe Mkulisi (South Africa/Germany) | Canadian Premiere

Yo (Love Is a Rebellious Bird) dirs. Anna Fitch, Banker White (USA) | Canadian Premiere

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

Presented by the Audain Foundation

Agridulce (Bittersweet) dir. Frank Pavich (USA/Dominican Republic) | Canadian Premiere

Farruquito: A Flamenco Dynasty dirs. Santi Aguado, Reuben Atlas (Spain/USA)

Fugs Film! dir. Chuck Smith (USA) | Canadian Premiere

James McNeill Whistler dir. David Bickerstaff (UK) | World Premiere

Nous, L'orchestre De Paris dir. Philippe Béziat (France) | Canadian Premiere

Our Mr. Matsura dir. Beth Harrington (USA) | Canadian Premiere

RADIOHEART: The Drive and Times of DJ Kevin Cole dirs. Peter Hilgendorf, Andrew Franks (USA) | Canadian Premiere

Rebecca Horn - the Secret Life of Things dir. Claudia Müller (Germany) | International Premiere

Tenor: My Name Is Pati dir. Rebecca Tansley (New Zealand) | Canadian Premiere

WOLF dir. Christian Cargill (UK) | International Premiere

ALTERED STATES: Where the wild ones come out to play

Death Has No Master dir. Jorge Thielen Armand (Venezuela/Canada/Italy/Luxembourg) | Canadian Premiere

Family Fears Another Night of Terror dir. Cristian Ponce (Argentina) | North American Premiere

Freaks Part II dirs. Zach Lipovsky, Adam Stein (Canada) | BC Feature

Gasmask dir. Harry Cepka (Canada/USA) | World Premiere

Haboolm Ksinaalgat (Soul Catcher) dirs. Amanda Strong, Pamela Post (Canada)

Jim Queen dirs. Marco Nguyen, Nicolas Athané (France)

Midnight Momo dir. Tenzin Yeshe (USA) | North American Premiere

The Peril at Pincer Point dirs. Noah Stratton-Twine, Jake Kuhn (UK)

Species dir. Marion Le Corroller (France/Belgium) | Canadian Premiere

Twin Snakes dirs. Lev Kalman, Whitney Horn (USA)

Ugly Cry dir. Emily Robinson (USA) | Canadian Premiere

Wicker dirs. Alex Huston Fischer, Eleanor Wilson (USA) | Canadian Premiere

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

Acid City dirs. Jack Wedge, Will Freudenheim (USA) | Canadian Premiere

Already Happened dir. Hao Zhou (China/USA)

The Ambassador's Daughter dir. Armon Mahdavi (USA) | International Premiere

The Animal Remains dir. Ivana Vogrinc Hovorka Vidali (Slovenia/Czech Republic) | International Premiere

Bagman dirs. Connor Gaston, Vaughn Gaston (Canada) | BC Feature

A Breath of Fresh Air dir. Alexandre Pelletier (Canada)

Buddies dir. Fraser Wolfe (Canada) | BC Feature

Chuuraa dir. Evgenia Arbugaeva (UK) | North American Premiere

Collectors dir. Andrew Cividino (Canada)

The Comet dir. Julie Charette (Canada)

Concrete Kids dir. Saulius Baradinskas (Lithuania) | Canadian Premiere

Cul-De-Sac ! dirs. Clyde Gates, Gabriel Sanson (Belgium/France)

Dance of the Sun On the Water dir. Ming Wong (UK)

Daughters of the Late Colonel dir. Elizabeth Hobbs (UK/Germany)

The Days With Her dir. Lina Nonato Montanari (Brazil) | International Premiere

The Dream Is a Snail dir. Ân Thiên Nguyễn (Vietnam)

The End dir. Niki Lindroth von Bahr (Sweden/France/Denmark)

Endless Sunlight dir. Tyson Houseman (Canada) | BC/QC Feature

The Fading of Morning Light dir. Jessamine Yú Fok (Canada/Hong Kong) | World Premiere

Faux Bijoux dir. Jessy Moussallem (France/Lebanon)

First Breath On Mars dir. Malic Amalya (USA)

Free Fish dir. Bisan Owda (Palestine/Portugal)

Going Home dir. Kamal Aljafari (Germany/Palestine/France) | North American Premiere

Going Nowhere Fast dir. Dylan Paffe (Canada/USA) | International Premiere

The Great Disgust dir. Alejandro Samandjian (Argentina)

Half a Decade of Projecting dir. Jana Rankov (Canada) | BC Features | North American Premiere

Husband's Legs dir. Kimi Yawata (Japan) | International Premiere

I Think You Should Be Here dirs. Anna-Marija Adomaitytė, Élie Grappe (France/Switzerland) | Canadian Premiere

Invisible Harvests dir. Stephanie Dudley (Canada) | North American Premiere

Jabber dir. Aubert Sénéchal (Canada)

The Kalgan Horse dir. Zichen Zhao (China/USA) | International Premiere

L'inconvénient dir. Julien G. Marcotte (Canada) | World Premiere

Letters From Tibet dir. Kunsang Kyirong (Canada) | BC Feature | World Premiere

The Lion Does Not Concern Himself dir. Zarrar Kahn (Canada)

Lippenstift dir. Elsa Diringer (France) | North American Premiere

A Lonely Night dir. Camille Beaubi (Canada) | World Premiere

Lovely Butterfly dir. Fairouz Hasan (Palestine)

Man Eating Pussy dir. Emily Lawson (Canada/USA)

The Man in the Showers dir. Hakim Atoui (France) | Canadian Premiere

Materia dir. Alisi Telengut (Canada)

Memories of a Window dirs. Mehraneh Salimian, Amin Pakparvar (Iran/USA) | Canadian Premiere

My Aunt dirs. Eung-kyoung Wi, Gwang-Min Son (South Korea) | International Premiere

O dir. Francisca Alarcão (Portugal)

Object of Riddle dir. Chiara Caterina (Belgium/Italy) | Canadian Premiere

Pacific Spirit dir. Antoine Bourges (Canada) | BC Feature

Pankaja dir. Anooya Swamy (India/USA) | Canadian Premiere

Piluk dirs. Elisapie Isaac, Marc Séguin (Canada)

Pique-Nique dir. Jérémy Gagnon (Canada)

Praying Mantis dir. Joe Hsieh (Taiwan/Hong Kong)

Pre-Parenting dir. Yu Yu (Taiwan) | Canadian Premiere

Rotation dir. Maryna Er Gorbach (Ukraine/Sweden/Turkey) | Canadian Premiere

Saint & the Sea dir. Abdullah Khan (Canada/Kuwait/Pakistan) | World Premiere

Self-Preserving Nudity dir. Nelly Shylova (Ireland/Ukraine) | Canadian Premiere

Shards dir. Luciana Decker (Bolivia) | Canadian Premiere

Shoot the Messenger dir. Pranay Noel (Canada) | World Premiere

Sitting Bird dir. Athena Han (Canada) | BC Feature

Skinny Bottines dir. Romain F. Dubois (Canada)

Spag dir. Louis Brousseau (Canada) | World Premiere

Stallion and a Crystal Ball dir. Christian Avilés (Spain) | North American Premiere

Sweet Captive dirs. Paul Chotel, Ariane Falardeau St-Amour (Canada)

Take Care dirs. Faith Sparrow-Crawford, Scarlett Sparrow-Felix (Canada) | BC Feature | World Premiere

Taxi Moto dir. Gaël Kamilindi (France/Switzerland) | Canadian Premiere

These Voices Are Real dir. Baran Nikrah (Iran) | North American Premiere

Tristesse dir. Yuri Muraoka (Japan) | North American Premiere

Two Hander dir. Norah Sadava (Canada) | World Premiere

Udders! dir. Michael Spencer (USA) | Canadian Premiere

"Vaterland" or a Bule Named Yanto dir. Berthold Wahjudi (Germany, Indonesia)

Vulnus dir. Diandra Arriaga (Mexico) | World Premiere

White dir. Navroz Shaban (Iraq) | World Premiere

Who Killed Narin G** ?** dir. Ayçe Kartal (France) | Canadian Premiere

With You dir. Samantha Chater (Canada) | World Premiere

MODES: Form-bending international short work

Between Us and the World dir. Wallace Minchong Li (UK) | World Premiere

The Blessing dirs. Caroline Poggi, Jonathan Vinel (France/Switzerland) | Canadian Premiere

Cartografía dir. Marintia Gutiérrez Velazco (Mexico) | North American Premiere

Display Nature dir. Nicolas Gebbe (Germany) | North American Premiere

A Dream Pointing to Aadchit dir. Ghinwa Yassine (Canada/Lebanon) | Canadian Premiere

Ghazal-E Sorkh dir. Maryam Tafakory (Iran/UK/France)

Golden Island dir. Arief Budiman (Indonesia/Singapore) | North American Premiere

Kontrewers dir. Zuza Banasińska (Poland/Netherlands) | Canadian Premiere

Like Moths to Light dir. Gala Hernández López (Spain/Italy/France) | North American Premiere

Occupation of the Inner Life dir. Rosalind Nashashibi (Ireland/Palestine) | North American Premiere

Oh Be a Fine Girl Kiss Me dir. Alice dos Reis (Portugal) | North American Premiere

Opera Kitsch dirs. C. Ricardo, Lobo Mauro (Brazil) | World Premiere

The Recce dir. Daniel Mann (UK/Germany) | North American Premiere

Soft Transmission dir. Sara Wylie (Canada) | BC Feature | World Premiere

This Is an Autopsy dir. Lucia Selva (Spain) | World Premiere

Together dir. NEOZOON (Germany) | North American Premiere

Typhoon Mambo dir. Domenico Singha Pedroli (Thailand/Switzerland/France) | North American Premiere

The Wind, One Brilliant Day dir. Ben Rivers (China/UK) | North American Premiere

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.

The Last Angel of History: 30th Anniversary Screening with Speaker Music (Live) + The Otolith Group in conversation

Friday, Oct. 2, 5 pm

Venue: VIFF Centre

Tickets: \$35

Co-presented with the Vancouver Art Gallery

A special 30th anniversary screening of the Black Audio Collective's *The Last Angel of History*, which traces the musical legacy of Afrofuturism from its rhythmic origins during the Transatlantic Slave Trade through imaginary digital 'future' worlds conjured in techno and jungle music. Preceded by a live performance from Speaker Music and followed by a conversation between DeForrest Brown Jr. and Otolith Group founders Kodwo Eshun & Anjalika Sagar.

MUTEK x VIFF Live

with Dopplereffekt / Honeydrip / MIIA + Guests

Friday, Oct. 2, 9:30 pm

Venue: SFU Fei & Milton Wong Theatre

Tickets: \$60

Co-presented with VIFF, MUTEK, CALQ, Chapel Sound

Montreal's renowned digital arts festival MUTEK joins forces with VIFF for an unforgettable evening of live audiovisual performance and electronic music featuring legendary Detroit electro duo Dopplereffekt; Montreal-based DJ, producer, and soundsystem-builder Honeydrip; and Vancouver's future mythologist MIIA, in collaboration with visual artist MELT.

The KLF: 23 Seconds to Eternity

with CHXMERAS (Live AV)

Saturday, Oct. 3, 5 pm

Venue: VIFF Centre

Tickets: \$35

Trip into the psychedelic world of one of the most enigmatic and iconoclastic electronic bands of the 90s. The KLF became the world's top-selling singles act with a series of subversive international acid house anthems, and VIFF is honoured to present the North American premiere of *23 Seconds to Eternity*, the first time all of The KLF's films and music videos have been compiled and presented together, preceded by a live AV performance from Vancouver electronic duo CHXMERAS.

TAKKUUK

with Tarrak + Silla (Live)

Saturday, Oct. 3, 8:30 pm

Venue: SFU Fei & Milton Wong Theatre
Tickets: Regular \$50
Supported by Canada Media Fund

TAKKUUK, meaning 'look closely' in Inuktitut, was co-created with seven Indigenous collaborators across Greenland and Sápmi as part of the EarthSonic initiative. Breathtaking infrared cinematography and a hypnotic BICEP score pull audiences into the Arctic, where Indigenous artists reckon with culture, colonialism and a rapidly changing world. Preceded by live performances from Inuit throat-singing duo Silla and Greenlandic rapper Tarrak. Note: This film contains strobing sequences

Kelly Moran with Bahar Khazei

Sunday, Oct. 4, 8 pm
Venue: SFU Fei & Milton Wong Theatre
Tickets: Regular \$50

Experience a rare live AV performance by acclaimed pianist, producer, and composer Kelly Moran. Known for conjuring hypnotic textures and charting unconventional sonic pathways through classical, avant-garde, and electronic sound, Moran will perform material from her celebrated 2025 album *Don't Trust Mirrors*. Vancouver-based electronic musician and composer Bahar Khazei opens the show, joined by visual artist XEL.

An Evening with Cristóbal Tapia de Veer

Monday, Oct. 5, 5:30 pm
Venue: VIFF Centre
Tickets: \$35
Supported by SOCAN

Join multiple Emmy and BAFTA-winning composer Cristóbal Tapia de Veer (*Black Mirror*, *The White Lotus*, *Smile*) for a rare masterclass and Q&A. During this intimate presentation, the multi-instrumentalist offers a behind-the-scenes look into his creative process and the genre-defying scores that have earned him iconic status among a new generation of composers.

Los Thuthanaka

Monday, Oct. 5, 8:30 pm
Venue: The Pearl
Tickets: \$48 available at thepearlvancouver.com

Experience the Canadian debut of Los Thuthanaka — the acclaimed American-Bolivian experimental music duo formed by siblings Chuquimamani Condori and Joshu Chuquimia Crampton. Known for bridging the past, present, and future of their Aymara and Pakajaqi heritage, the duo's spiraling rhythms, ceremonial textures, and psychedelic sounds combine into a transcendent live AV experience.

ERASERHEAD XIU XIU

Tuesday, Oct. 6, 8:30 pm
Venue: The Rio
Tickets: \$48

VIFF presents the Canadian premiere of *ERASERHEAD XIU XIU* — American experimental rock band Xiu Xiu's live exploration of the sonic and visual universe of David Lynch's iconic cult film. Combining field recordings, homemade instruments, organ, modular synths, vocals, pocket torches, electrical static, and musique concrète, the group offers a personal, hallucinatory take on Lynch's most singular of midnight masterpieces.

Derrick Gee's Radio Hour

Wednesday, Oct. 7, 8 pm
Venue: Granville Island Stage
Tickets: \$54

Fresh from sold-out tours across Europe and Australia, Derrick Gee brings his eclectic *Radio Hour* show to North America for the first time. *Radio Hour* is a one-of-a-kind show that invites audiences into Gee's on-stage living room for a program filled with special guests, community conversations, and audience interactions. A nod to classic radio hours of the past, Gee's newest stage show reimagines music entertainment for a new generation.

An Evening with Mark Mothersbaugh

Thursday, Oct. 8, 6pm

Venue: Vancouver Playhouse

Tickets: \$60

Presented by Broadcast Media, Inc. (BMI)

Experience a one-night-only live performance with legendary composer and DEVO founder Mark Mothersbaugh, joined by an 11-piece ensemble and special guest artists. Celebrating a career that spans more than 150 films, television series, and video games, the evening features music from *The Royal Tenenbaums*, *Rushmore*, *The Life Aquatic*, *Thor: Ragnarok*, *Hoppers*, *The LEGO Movie*, *A Minecraft Movie*, and more, brought to life in an intimate concert experience.

Jóhann Jóhannsson's Suites: The Denis Villeneuve Scores

Friday, Oct. 9, 7:30 pm

Venue: Chan Centre

Tickets: \$30–129 available at chancentre.com

Co-presented with VIFF Live, Chan Centre for the Performing Arts

Experience the transformative power of music in film at the North American premiere of Jóhann Jóhannsson's *Cinematic Suites*, a remarkable tribute to the enduring legacy of the late composer Jóhann Jóhannsson. Realized with a full orchestra, the concert brings to life the evocative musical landscapes of three Denis Villeneuve films — *Prisoners*, *Sicario*, and *Arrival* — as well as selections from James Marsh's films *The Theory of Everything* and *The Mercy*.

VIFF Institute for the Moving Image

Funded by Bennett Family Foundation and Canada Media Fund

Supported by APM Music and National Bank

Community Broadcast Partner: Telus

Learn more at viff.org/institute

VIFF Industry

Oct. 3–8 | Venues: Performance Works, Revue Stage, Zameen Art House

Curated by: Ana Belén Asfura

Supported by: ACFC West, CMPA, Canada Media Fund, Knowledge Network, National Bank, Indigenous Screen Office, UBCP/ACTRA

Community Partners: Filmable, Collective Bunch Society, RESO

This year, VIFF Industry embraces the theme "Uncertainty as a Creative Force." VIFF Industry is the hub for connection, collaboration, and career development within the screen sector. Designed for filmmakers and storytellers at every stage, the program offers access to industry experts, curated networking opportunities, market insights, and professional advancement initiatives. By connecting local talent with national and international communities, VIFF Industry helps creators turn ideas into opportunities and strengthen their careers on a global stage. Learn more at viff.org/institute/industry

VIFF Amp Music in Media Summit

Oct. 3–8 | Venues: Performance Works, Revue Stage, Zameen Art House

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: APM Music, Believe, Broadcast Music, Inc (BMI), CIMA, SODEC, and SOCAN

VIFF Amp's Music in Media Summit continues to nurture, educate and champion emerging and established music professionals, including composers, songwriters and music entrepreneurs, with a strong emphasis on supporting those from marginalized or underrepresented communities. The summit offers creative insights, mentorship and unique career development opportunities in the form of feature panels, workshops, 1:1 dialogues, interactive sessions and more from international experts in the Music Media space. Learn more at viff.org/institute/amp.

Exploring the Art and Strategy of International Co-Productions

Saturday, Oct. 3, 4:30pm

Venue: Performance Works

Supported by National Bank, CMPA

Acclaimed producer Giancarlo Nasi shares his expansive approach to international co-productions, drawing on his experience working across more than 17 countries and a slate of award-winning films that have premiered at Cannes, Venice, and Berlin.

Featured Speaker: Giancarlo Nasi, *Producer, The Mysterious Gaze of the Flamingo*

The Journey of Flow: From Script to Screen

Sunday, Oct. 4, 12:45pm

Venue: Performance Works

Supported by Canada Media Fund (CMF)

Academy Award-winning co-writer and producer Matiss Kaža unpacks the creative and collaborative journey behind *Flow* (2024), the first independent animated feature to win both a Golden Globe and an Oscar.

Featured Speaker: Matiss Kaža, *Co-Writer & Producer, Flow*

Editing as Discovery: Narrative, Instinct, and the Unpredictable

Monday, Oct. 5, 1pm

Venue: Performance Works

Supported by ACFC West

Berlin-based film editor Evelyn Rack invites artists and industry professionals into her editorial practice across fiction and documentary, where editing becomes a space for discovery rather than resolution.

Featured Speaker: Evelyn Rack, *Editor, Sound of Falling*

Curating Cinema in a Shifting Landscape

Monday, Oct. 5, 1pm

Venue: Revue Stage

As the boundaries of storytelling, distribution, and audience engagement continue to evolve, curators play a pivotal role in expanding whose voices are elevated and how films connect across contexts. This panel explores film curation as a creative and critical act that shapes how cinema is seen, valued, and understood. Featured

Featured Speaker: Pamela Biénzobas, *Programmer, Locarno Film Festival*

Stages to Screen

Tuesday, Oct. 6, 11am

Venue: Performance Works

Presented by SOCAN

In this edition of Stages-to-Screens, hear from Meg Remy, Peter Peter, and Matthew Rogers as they share their journeys from acclaimed music artists to film and TV composers, exploring creative challenges, breakthrough opportunities, and what it takes to make the leap from stage to screen.

Featured Speakers: Peter Peter (Composer, *Heated Rivalry*), Meg Remy (of U.S. Girls, Composer, *Dead Lover*), Matthew Rogers (Harpoonist & The Axe Murderer, Composer, *Blood*)

Music BC's Soundoff

Tuesday, Oct. 6, 11am

Venue: Performance Works

Presented by Music BC

SOUNDOFF, presented by Music BC, brings live performance together with real-world sync opportunities. Watch selected artists perform for leading Canadian and international music supervisors, gaining insight into what makes a song stand out for film and television.

Featured Music Supervisors: Danny Exum (Music Supervisor, Create Advertising), Michelle Johnson (Music Supervisor, Sound Around Media), Héctor Vásquez (Music Supervisor, DOMO), Natasha Duprey (Music Supervisor, Must Be Nice Productions), Cody Partridge (Music Supervisor, Pear Tree Music Supervision)

Art of Composition – The Soundtrack Edition

Wednesday, Oct. 7, 3pm

Venue: Performance Works

Go behind the music of North of North with composers Caleb and Brian Chan, co-showrunner Alethea Arnaquq-Baril, and music supervisor Michael Perlmutter as they explore how pop, Inuit music, Inuktitut recordings, and score shape the series' humour, heart, and sense of place.

Featured Speakers: Brian Chan (Composer), Caleb Chan (Composer), Alethea Arnaquq-Baril (Creator), Michael Perlmutter (Music Supervisor)

Creative Intelligence: Technology, AI & the Future of Storytelling

Thursday, Oct. 8, 11am

Venue: Performance Works

Explore how AI is reshaping storytelling across music, publishing, filmmaking, and studios. This panel examines authorship, ethics, rights, collaboration, and creative value—while asking where technology can enhance the process and where human artistry remains irreplaceable.

Featured Speakers: Michael Tippet (Filmmaker), Valerie Biggin (Music Supervisor, The Song Rep Music Supervision Inc.), Tony Scudellari (Studio Exec, Sony Pictures Entertainment), Wilson Tang (CEO and Chief Creative, Yumebau Inc.)

Tickets and Information

Adult Ticket	\$22
Senior Ticket	\$20
Student/Youth	\$19
Accessible	\$17
VIFF+ Members	\$19
VIFF+ Premium/Patron/U25	\$17
Ticket Pack of 6	\$126 / \$113 VIFF+ / \$101 Premium/Patron/U25
Ticket Pack of 10	\$200 / \$180 VIFF+ / \$160 Premium/Patron/U25
Student 6 Pack	\$110
Student 10 Pack	\$185
Senior 6 Pack	\$116
Senior 10 Pack	\$185
Festival Pass	\$495
Platinum Pass	\$1,300
Artist & Industry Student Pass	\$125

Artist & Industry Regular Pass	\$255
Artist & Industry Premium Pass	\$525
VIFF Talks	Various
VIFF Live Tickets	Various

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

To explore VIFF's complete 2026 programming, visit viff.org.

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Press Kit

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About VIFF | viff.org

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 xʷməθkʷəyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

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