

CU
FF

20th
CALGARY
UNDERGROUND
FILM
FESTIVAL
April 20-30
2023



GLOBE CINEMA
PROGRAM GUIDE



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TICKET & VENUE INFORMATION

VENUE

Globe Cinema - 617 8 Avenue SW

SINGLE TICKETS

Regular Admission	\$10
CUFF Member, CJSW Friends Card, Student & Senior Admission	\$8
Opening Night Film & After Party	\$15
CUFF Member Entry	\$13
Found Footage Festival: Volume 10 (Live Performance)	\$15
CUFF Member Entry	\$13
Saturday Morning Cartoons	\$12
CUFF member entry	\$10
Kids 6 & Under	\$6

5 FILM MULTI-PACK \$40

5 ticket credits. We recommend signing up for a showpass account first, before purchasing the ticket credits. Credits cannot be redeemed for Opening Night Screening & Party, Found Footage Festival or Saturday Morning Cartoons.

FESTIVAL PASS \$139

Pass includes all festival screenings, and a private passholder screening after the festival. Tickets for passholders are available at all screenings. We recommend arriving 30 minutes prior to start time to ensure entry.

FESTIVAL BAR & CONCESSION

Stop by the CUFF bar upstairs at the Globe Cinema for speciality food items, cocktails and Hot Dogs! We have fun new options from our beer partner Eighty-Eight Brewing and tasty treats from locals Annex Sodas, Lukes Cold Brew Coffee, Pretty Sweet Donuts, Confluence Distilling and Made by Marcus Ice Cream.

FESTIVAL BOX OFFICE

The Box Office opens 45 minutes prior to screenings and closes 30 minutes after final showtime. Tickets can be purchased online at www.calgaryundergroundfilm.org or in person at the Globe Cinema. Need help? Call the Box Office at 403-444-8315 ext.2 or email boxoffice@calgaryundergroundfilm.org.

MEMBERSHIPS

Purchase a \$10 lifetime membership at www.calgaryundergroundfilm.org/memberships. Show your membership tag for discounts at all CUFF screenings and at the CUFF Festival bar.

SPECIAL OFFERS FROM 88' BREWING & FOX ON 6TH

Throughout the festival show your ticket or festival pass at the Eighty-Eight Brewing Taproom (2600 Portland St SE #1070) for a 10% discount or at Fox on 6th (708 8 Ave SW) for 10% off food orders.

Here's to 20 more years
of underground film!

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CUFF 20th ANNIVERSARY: THE BIRTH OF THE UNDERGROUND

There are two stories you can tell about the birth of the Calgary Underground Film Festival. The first is about a group of genre geeks gathering in a martini bar in 2003, dreaming about a showcase for the kinds of films they love and that other festivals ignore. It's a long shot in a city that's not known for its subversive side, made all the riskier given that they're doing it without the infrastructure or grant support that subsidizes other local film festivals.

Funded out-of-pocket on personal credit cards, the inaugural Calgary Underground Film Festival almost falls back into the abyss on its first day. Its planned home – a short-lived bar promisingly called The Venue – hasn't finalized its business license in time for the event. Someone from the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission shows up, flashes a badge, and shuts down the screening minutes after it starts. A setback that could have been the end for a fledgling festival operating without a safety net. Fortunately, that's where the second story comes in.

In this story, CUFF emerges not from a conversation but from a community. The scheming film fans are all embedded in Calgary's film and arts scene: Brian "Bunny" Batista and Kari McQueen work for the media arts co-op Emmedia; Julia Ain Burns organizes events for the Alberta Media Arts Alliance Society; Andy Eyck is co-founder of the Calgary International Film Festival; and Brenda Lieberman runs the Fairy Tales International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival. All of them know the strength that comes from a group of fans working together.

When the AGLC shuts down the screening, the team and the audience leap into action. Batista unlocks the doors to Emmedia; the festival packs up and moves to the screening room down the street. As McQueen recounts a decade later in an interview with *Fast Forward Weekly*, they "were running down the street, cash box in hand. We had that set up in 20 minutes and we had audience members help drive people over." The show – Guy Maddin's deranged *COWARDS BEND THE KNEE* – would go on.

That story will replay itself countless times over the years, if in less dramatic form. The festival team decides to try something new – a screening series on a pub patio, an all-night horror movie marathon, a documentary festival in the off-season, or a pop-up drive-in theater during a global pandemic – and worries whether the fans will follow along. They dive in anyway, determined to make something special. When they look up, they find the audience hasn't just embraced it, they've elevated it.

A personal favorite example: In 2011 CUFF screened *RUBBER*; an appropriately absurd film where a car tire comes to life and terrorizes a small town. During the post-film Q&A, a spare tire was invited on stage as a team member hidden backstage with a microphone answered questions in character. The bad news: the mic doesn't work. The good news: the audience didn't know about it in the first place, and the radial's silence comes across as a better joke anyway. Audience members one-up each other by asking questions buttressed with multi-pronged puns. Everyone is in stitches. What the festival planned was fun even with the technical problems, but it was the audience that turned it into something sublime.

The real secret of CUFF is that it didn't start in that martini bar, or when the films were booked, or even when the doors opened to that first screening at The Venue. It was born in the scramble between screening rooms. That's when the lightning struck, when the event and the audience fused into something altogether more improbable. It was meant to be a film festival. It became a community, a coalition of weirdos and misfits committed to celebrating the wonders of underground film. And 20 years longer, we're stronger—and stranger—than ever.

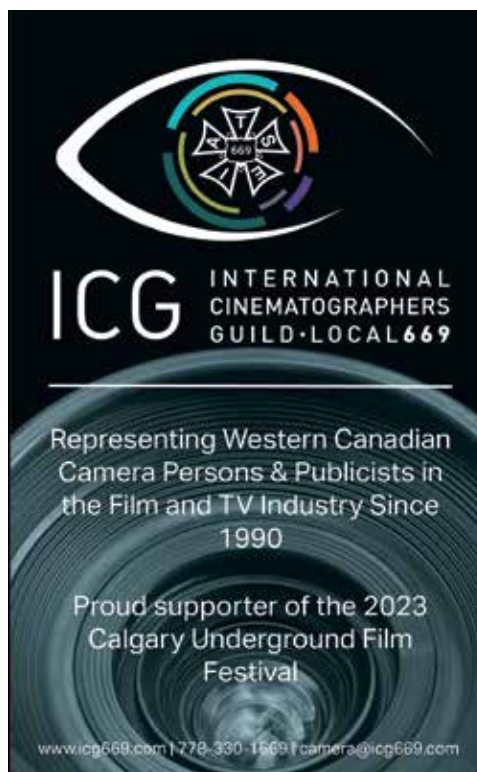
Peter Hemminger
Former CUFF president. Eternal CUFF fan.

CODE OF CONDUCT

The Calgary Underground Film Festival (CUFF) supports safe and inclusive cinema experiences. CUFF does not tolerate abusive, discriminatory or disruptive behaviour. This includes but is not limited to intoxicated patrons, disruptions of screenings, and harassment of others. Consequences may include removal from the venue, loss of festival pass or ticket, or potentially exclusion from all future CUFF events.

SAFER SPACE POLICY:

CUFF is committed to providing a safer environment to all attendees, staff and volunteers. Racist, sexist, homophobic, transphobic, abusive or discriminatory language or behaviour of any kind will not be tolerated. We reserve the right to remove any patron creating an unsafe environment. Please come talk to one of our staff, or email us at conduct@calgaryundergroundfilm.org, if you have any concerns or questions about our policy.



CREDITS & AWARDS

FESTIVAL DIRECTOR

Brenda Lieberman

OPERATIONS MANAGER

Brennan Tilley

MARKETING & PUBLICITY

Laura Carlson

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR & PRINT TRAFFIC

Cole Binder

LEAD PROGRAMMERS

Brenda Lieberman

Cameron Macgowan

Brennan Tilley

ASSOCIATE PROGRAMMER

Adam Hicks

PROGRAMMING SUPPORT & PREVIEWING

Mallory Augustyn

Aaron Beaudoin

Sophie Chardon

Jim Evans

Robert Lalonde

Steven Landry

Phillip Liesemer

Zach McLean

Dara Moats

Matt Prazak

Derek Wilson

ADDITIONAL PREVIEWERS

Murray Boyer

Maggie Hardy

Christian Kelley

Kevin Thorn

Bridget Van Voorden

BOX OFFICE & VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Katie Wackett

VOLUNTEER CO-COORDINATOR

Annie Hansen

GUEST RELATIONS

Gillian McKercher

BAR MANAGERS

Jeff Storey

Josh Wiltshire

PROJECTIONIST

Paul Stickney

Murray Boyer

FESTIVAL PHOTOGRAPHERS

Elyse Bouvier

Caitlind Brown

Sebastian Buzzalino

Mike Tan

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Mark Kowalchuk

FESTIVAL TRAILER ANIMATION

Molly Little

POSTER ILLUSTRATION & ARTWORK

Riley Rossmo

VIDEO EDITOR

Jesse Klein Waller

VIDEOGRAPHER

Rhett Miller

CUFFCADE CURATOR

Mike Lohaus

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Vicky Chau

Amy Darling

Dietra Kalyn

David Kenney

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Derek Moser

Garth Paulson

Brendon Rathbone

Sol Zia

FESTIVAL AWARDS

Each year we offer awards in the following categories:

- Audience Award Best Narrative Feature
- Audience Award Best Documentary Feature
- Audience Award Best Canadian Short
- Audience Award Best International Short
- Jury Award Best Narrative Feature
- Jury Award Best Documentary Feature
- Jury Award Best Canadian Short

The Best Canadian Short Award is Sponsored by William F. White





RBC is proud to bridge the next generation of artists from emerging to established to help build vibrant communities and strong economies.

Together with programs like the 48 Movie Making Challenge at the Calgary Underground Film Festival, we support a diverse range of Canadian talent in communities across the country through RBC Emerging Artists.

rbc.com/emergingartists

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Emerging Artists

SCHEDULE

APRIL 19 - 30, 2023

WEDNESDAY 19

- 7:00 PM | Comic Book Confidential
- National Canadian Film Day

THURSDAY 20

- 7:00 PM | Onyx The Fortuitous & The Talisman of Souls

FRIDAY 21

- 5:00 PM | Indie Game Bash
- 6:30 PM | Birth/Rebirth
- 8:45 PM | Shorts: Audacious, Bold & Cunning
- 9:30 PM | The Angry Black Girl & Her Monster

SATURDAY 22

- 10:00 AM | Saturday Morning All-You-Can-Eat-Cereal Cartoon Party!
- 2:00 PM | Film Strategy: Distribution, Sales & Publicity
- 2:15 PM | Little Richard: I Am Everything
- 4:15 PM | Shorts: Chilling Encounters
- 4:45 PM | Mister Organ
- 7:00 PM | The Elephant 6 Recording Co.
- 7:45 PM | Sisu
- 9:45 PM | Satanic Hispanics
- 10:15 PM | The Wrath of Becky

SUNDAY 23

- 12:15 PM | One Road to Quartzsite
- 2:00 PM | 48 Hour Movie Making Challenge
- 2:30 PM | Cash Cow
- 5:30 PM | Showing Up
- 6:00 PM | Blackberry
- 8:30 PM | The Artifice Girl
- 9:15 PM | The Dirties

MONDAY 24

- 6:30 PM | Shorts: Questionable Couplings
- 7:00 PM | Dad & Step-Dad
- 9:15 PM | Free Time
- 9:30 PM | Sick of Myself

TUESDAY 25

- 4:00 PM | Birth/Rebirth
- 6:30 PM | Relax, I'm From The Future
- 7:00 PM | Kim's Video
- 9:15 PM | Bad City
- 9:30 PM | The Five Devils

WEDNESDAY 26

- 6:30 PM | Found Footage Festival: Vol. 10
- 7:00 PM | Kokomo City
- 8:45 PM | Amanda
- 9:15 PM | Stéphane

THURSDAY 27

- 4:00 PM | Satanic Hispanics
- 6:30 PM | Pinball: The Man Who Saved The Game
- 7:00 PM | Polaris
- 9:00 PM | Nightsiren
- 9:30 PM | The Wrath of Becky

FRIDAY 28

- 6:30 PM | Satan Wants You
- 7:00 PM | Influencer
- 9:00 PM | Hung Up On A Dream: The Zombies Documentary
- 9:30 PM | Cult Hero

SATURDAY 29

- 1:00 PM | Live Script Reading: Now, I Am A Bear
- 1:30 PM | Kokomo City
- 4:00 PM | Squaring The Circle: The Story of Hipgnosis
- 4:30 PM | Thunder: The Life & Death of Arturo Gatti
- 6:30 PM | Biosphere
- 9:00 PM | It Lives Inside
- 9:30 PM | The Elderly

SUNDAY 30

- 1:00 PM | Black Barbie: A Documentary
- 1:30 PM | The Green Butchers
- 3:30 PM | The Angry Black Girl & Her Monster
- 3:45 PM | Adam's Apples
- 6:00 PM | Confessions of a Good Samaritan
- 6:30 PM | Secret Screening

LEGEND

- ▲ Globe Upstairs
- ▼ Globe Downstairs
- ★ Globe Both Theaters
- Guests in Attendance
- Free
- Encore

48 HOUR MOVIE MAKING CHALLENGE



Sunday, April 23 | 2:00 PM

Canada, 2023, 120 min

Presented in partnership with NUTV, join us for the completed shorts showcase! of this years 48-Hour Movie Making Challenge.

All registered teams were provided randomly selected elements (genre, prop and line of dialogue) to include in their film. The teams were then given 48 hours to complete a two to five-minute short film, which will be screened for the first time, with an audience on the big screen! The in competition shorts (which meet all the rules of the challenge) will be juried live at the screening, followed by an awards ceremony.

The films will be given jury and audience awards based on how well teams integrated the given elements, and the overall quality of film produced, including story, structure, entertainment factor.

JURY

Hugues Barbier - Co-Founder, Yellow Veil Pictures
Rachel Ho - Film Editor, Exclaim!
Helen Young - Director, CJSW Music & Performance

PRESENTING PARTNER



ADAM'S APPLES



Sunday, April 30 | 3:45 PM

Denmark, 2005, Danish with English Subtitles, 97 min

From CUFF alumnus Anders Thomas Jensen (MEN & CHICKEN, RIDERS OF JUSTICE) and starring his frequent collaborator Mads Mikkelsen, this 2005 comedy is a modern religious fable about belief and the struggle between good and evil. Adam, a neo-Nazi, is sent on community service to a vicarage. Here, the minister Ivan gives Adam the task of baking an apple pie with the apples from the tree growing in front of the church. Meanwhile birds, worms and lightning attack the apples. Ivan believes it is the Devil testing them. Adam believes it is God, because perhaps evil doesn't exist at all.

DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER PRODUCER

Anders Thomas Jensen Tivi Magnusson
Mie Andreassen

CAST

Paprika Steen
Ulrich Thomsen
Mads Mikkelsen
Nikolaj Lie Kaas
Nicolas Bro
Ole Thøstrup

CINEMATOPHOTOGRAPHER

Sebastian Blenkov

Double Feature with THE GREEN BUTCHERS includes live-zoom Q&A with Director Anders Thomas Jensen after the first film (THE GREEN BUTCHERS).

Winner of 14 different awards, it comes from the gifted Anders Thomas Jensen, who excels in black comedy.
— URBAN CINEFILE

This Danish comedy, like most of that country's dramas, is dark, dark, dark. The film's humor offers an odd blend of subversively sly narrative mixed with bursts of sudden, sharp violence and goofy slapstick.— AUSTIN CHRONICLE

AMANDA



Wednesday, April 26 | 8:45 PM

Italy / France, 2022, Italian with English Subtitles, 95 min

Alberta Premiere

A coming of age story about a quirky 20-something who moves from Paris to Italy, and makes it her mission to form a true human connection, no matter how cringeworthy it may be.

Born into an upper-class family with a doting mother who foots the bill for her indolent lifestyle, 24-year-old combative Amanda (emerging talent Benedetta Porcaroli) searches for boyfriends but only finds misfits who are repelled by her intensity. She longs for connection but has never had a friend of her own... until she discovers a long-lost childhood bond, spurring a mission to convince another recluse that they are still best friends. A playful, provocative feature debut from writer-director Carolina Cavalli.

DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER PRODUCER

Carolina Cavalli Annamaria Morelli

CAST

Benedetta Porcaroli
Galatea Bellugi
Giovanna Mezzogiorno
Michele Bravi
Antonio Celsi
Mario Gianani
Lorenzo Gangarossa
Moreno Zani
Malcom Pagani

CINEMATOPHOTOGRAPHER

Lorenzo Levrini

Will likely appeal to fans of the absurd-adjacent oddness of the Greek Weird Wave. — SCREEN INTERNATIONAL

At its best, it recalls the work of Miranda July or Noah Baumbach — FRANCES HA being an obvious comparison. — DEADLINE

THE ANGRY BLACK GIRL AND HER MONSTER



Friday, April 21 | 9:30 PM
Sunday, April 30 | 3:30 PM

United States, 2023, 92 min
International Premiere

Inspired by Mary Shelley's FRANKENSTEIN, THE ANGRY BLACK GIRL AND HER MONSTER tells the story of Vicaria, a brilliant teenager who believes death is a disease that can be cured.

Death is ever present in Vicaria's world: violence, police brutality, and substance abuse. After watching her mother succumb, and witnessing the brutal and sudden murder of her brother, she's had enough. Vicaria decides to put an end to all this death... by bringing the dead back to life. Bomani J. Story, the film's writer and director, crafts a thrilling tale about a family that, despite the terrors of systemic pressure, will survive and be reborn again, and challenges our ideas of life and death.

DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER PRODUCER

Bomani J. Story Jack Davis
Darren Brandl
Bomani J. Story

CAST

Laya DeLeon Hayes
Denzel Whitaker
Chad L. Coleman
Reilly Brooke Stith
Keith Holliday
CINEMATOPHOTOGRAPHER
Daphne Qin Wu

Writer/director Bomani J. Story's debut outing makes for a strong calling card, utilizing the flexibility of the origin story to fit the present moment without sacrificing atmosphere. — SCREEN ANARCHY

PRECEDED BY THE SHORT FILM: United States, 2022, 14 min
BOWLING 4 EVA DIRECTOR: Aelfie Oudghiri



A troubled teen girl spends her time trolling men online and bowling with her grandfather while becoming increasingly medicated by her psychiatrist.

THE ARTIFICE GIRL



Sunday, April 23 | 8:30 PM

United States, 2022, 93 min
Alberta Premiere

When an internet vigilante develops a revolutionary new computer program to combat online predators, its rapid advancement leads to serious questions of autonomy, oppression, and what it really means to be human.

Gareth has created a hyper-realistic digital computer model of a twelve-year-old girl named Cherry, which uses a basic form of artificial intelligence to combat online predators. Twenty years later, Gareth, now a special operative, finds himself questioning Cherry's evolving sentience, as his colleagues argue that her A.I. has advanced to the point where she can self-navigate her continuing evolution. Decades later, Gareth and Cherry grapple with the morality and consequences of A.I.'s future.

DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER PRODUCER

Franklin Ritch

Aaron B. Koontz

Ashleigh Snead

CAST

Tatum Matthews

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Peter Kuplowsky

Lance Henriksen

CINEMATOGRAPHER

Britt McTammany

It's a complex and captivating sci fi fable... but told with touching intimacy. — AUSTIN CHRONICLE

A stroke of science-fiction genius, Franklin Ritch's THE ARTIFICE GIRL is a commanding analysis of the murky waters that AI development presents. — THE HOLLYWOOD NEWS

PRECEDED BY THE SHORT FILM: Canada, 2022, 10 min
FRANKIE AND THE DOLL DIRECTOR: Amira Jacobs



Face to face with a deranged bloodthirsty doll, store manager Frankie must conquer her fear of demons once and for all, but how?

BAD CITY



Tuesday, April 25 | 9:15 PM

Japan, 2022, Japanese with English Subtitles, 118 min
Alberta Premiere

A deadly struggle for survival unfolds between the Korean mafia and the yakuza in this high-action Japanese gangster film.

Kaiko City is plagued with poverty and crime. When a corrupt businessman decides to run for mayor and starts eliminating opponents from the rival mafia, Torada, a former police captain serving time for murder, is secretly released and put in charge of a special task force to arrest him. As Torada and his team, all selected from the violent crime investigation division, investigate the mafia, yakuza, financial conglomerates, prosecutors and other powerful organizations, they gradually uncover the true evil and the traitor behind the crimes, and a deadly struggle for survival unfolds.

DIRECTOR

Kensuke Sonomura

PRODUCER

Hitoshi Ozawa

Taizo Fukumaki

SCREENWRITER

Ozawa

Ryoji Kobayashi

Riku Sumida

CAST

Hitoshi Ozawa

CINEMATOGRAPHER

Moriada Iju

Akane Sakanoue

Lily Franky

A reminder that when it comes to extreme and exquisite violence, Asian cinema is still the standard bearer. — FLICKERING MYTH

All the nuance is in the grace of the fight scenes, as lovingly choreographed as a production of Swan Lake. — GUARDIAN

BIOSPHERE



Saturday, April 29 | 6:30 PM

United States, 2022, 106 min
Alberta Premiere

In the not-too-distant future, the last two men on earth must adapt and evolve to save humanity, in veteran producer Mel Eslyn (THE ONE I LOVE)'s feature debut as director/co-writer (with Mark Duplass).

Billy (Mark Duplass) and Ray (Sterling K. Brown) are lifelong best friends, brothers from another mother — and the last two men on earth. Their survival is largely due to Ray, a brilliant scientist who designed a domed structure with all the systems necessary to sustain life on a planet that could no longer support it. Their custom biosphere is outfitted with basic necessities and creature comforts that make it possible to retain a sense of what life used to be like. A hydroponic garden provides fresh vegetables and a carefully managed fishpond supplies essential protein. Recently, however, fish have begun dying at an alarming rate. With a mere three fish remaining, Billy and Ray face an ominous future. But life may yet find a way.

DIRECTOR

Mel Eslyn

PRODUCER

Zackary Drucker

Mel Eslyn

Maddie Buis

Shuli Harel

SCREENWRITER

Mel Eslyn

Mark Duplass

CINEMATOGRAPHER

Nathan M. Miller

CAST

Sterling K. Brown

Mark Duplass

Post-apocalyptic survival meets the anxious buddy humor of HUMPDAY in Biosphere, a mysterious and hilarious pic that really can't be discussed much without saying things a prospective viewer would be better off not hearing. — HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

Like HUMPDAY, it's an act of daring — we're waiting for the movie to cop out because most movies do. This one doesn't, and bravo for that. — THE PLAYLIST

BIRTH/REBIRTH



Friday, April 21 | 6:30 PM
Tuesday, April 25 | 4:00 PM

United States, 2023, 98 min
Canadian Premiere

A single mother and a childless morgue technician are bound together by their relationship to a little girl they have reanimated from the dead. A standout directorial debut that reimagines Mary Shelley's classic horror myth FRANKENSTEIN with such a contemporary understanding that it becomes something exciting, terrifying, and singularly new.

Rose (Marin Ireland) is a pathologist who prefers working with corpses over social interaction. She also has an obsession — the reanimation of the dead. Celie (Judy Reyes) is a maternity nurse who has built her life around her bouncy, chatterbox six-year-old daughter, Lila (A.J. Lister). When one tragic night, Lila suddenly falls ill and dies, the two women's worlds crash into each other. They embark on a dark path of no return where they will be forced to confront how far they are willing to go to protect what they hold most dear.

DIRECTOR

Laura Moss

CAST

Marin Ireland

Breeda Wool

SCREENWRITER

Laura Moss

Judy Reyes

A.J. Lister

Brendan J. O'Brien

CINEMATOGRAPHER

Chananun Chotrungroj

PRODUCER

Mali Elfman

David Grove Churchill Viste

A uniquely thrilling vision of horror, and Moss is a director to watch. Keep an eye out for both. — MASHABLE

PRECEDED BY THE SHORT FILM: United States, 2022, 5 min
LITTLE THINGS ARE SCARY DIRECTOR: Sean Pierce



A mother, voiced by Carrie Coon, sits in a rocking chair with her infant child late at night. As she rocks away she attempts to soothe her baby with a lullaby of whatever words come to mind.

BLACK BARBIE: A DOCUMENTARY



Sunday, April 30 | 1:00 PM

United States, 2023, 100 min
Alberta Premiere

This film is a personal exploration that tells a richly archival, thought-provoking story that gives voice to the insights and experiences of Beulah Mae Mitchell, the aunt of the Los Angeles-based filmmaker, who spent 45 years working at Mattel.

Upon Mattel's 1980 release of Black Barbie, the film turns to the intergenerational impact the doll had. Discussing how the absence of black images in the "social mirror" left Black girls with little other than White subjects for self-reflection and self-projection. Beulah Mae Mitchell and other Black women in the film talk about their own, complex, varied experience of not seeing themselves represented, and how Black Barbie's transformative arrival affected them personally.

DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER PRODUCER

Lagueria Davis

Lagueria Davis

Aaliyah Williams

CAST

Beulah Mae Mitchell

CINEMATOGRAPHER

Sara Garth

Kitty Black Perkins

Stacey McBride-Irby

Ashley Blaine-Featherson

Jenkins

Gabourey Sidibe

Julissa Calderon

Energetic and informative. – HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

BLACKBERRY



Sunday, April 23 | 6:00 PM

Canada, 2023, 122 min
Alberta Premiere

BLACKBERRY tells the story of Mike Lazaridis (Jay Baruchel, CUFF 2020 selection RANDOM ACTS OF VIOLENCE) and Jim Balsillie (Glenn Howerton, IT'S ALWAYS SUNNY IN PHILADELPHIA), the two men that charted the course of the spectacular rise and catastrophic demise of the world's first smartphone.

Every era has its visionaries, and BLACKBERRY, co-written by Director Matt Johnson and Producer Matthew Miller (both with OPERATION AVALANCHE, THE DIRTIES), investigates the brilliance of the individuals that invented the smartphone. Recounting the Canadian company's humble yet chaotic rise to market dominance, BLACKBERRY, is a darkly comedic telling of the tragic tale of a Canadian company that revolutionized the way we communicate, before swiftly plummeting into obsolescence.

DIRECTOR

Matt Johnson

PRODUCER

Niv Fichman

Matthew Miller

SCREENWRITER

Matt Johnson

Matthew Miller

Fraser Ash

Kevin Krikst

CINEMATOGRAPHER

Jared Raab

Matt Johnson's riotous new film is an instant Canadian classic. – THE GLOBE AND MAIL

Johnson has a keen affection for his subjects, imbuing the material with humour and snappy pacing which keeps the audience on their toes. – LITTLE WHITE LIES

CASH COW



Sunday, April 23 | 2:30 PM

United States, 2023, 99 min
International Premiere

In the Fall of 2020, a financially struggling actor camps and explores early Mormon historical sites as he anxiously awaits national broadcast for his Domino's Pizza commercial.

Matt Barats occupies himself with historical research, following the timeline and locations of Joseph Smith's life. But as financial troubles seem to weigh heavily on him (and his Domino's Pizza commercial has still not aired yet), a dramatic detour is taken in order to get his life (and the film) back on track.

Self-funded and shot alone over 30 days during the COVID pandemic, the Slamdance 2023 low budget comedy blends documentary and narrative, resulting in a deadpan comedy through one man's lens.

DIRECTOR

Matt Barats

CAST

Ana Fabrega

Bardia Salimi

Brad Howe

SCREENWRITER

Matt Barats

PRODUCER

Matt Barats

Whit Conway

There's something in the listless journey between paychecks, something as distinctly American now, as Mormonism is American. – THE TWIN GEEKS

This film is a joy. – UNSEEN FILMS

COMIC BOOK CONFIDENTIAL NATIONAL CANADIAN FILM DAY



Wednesday, April 19 | 7:00 PM

Canada, 1988, 90 min

Hey Kids! We're hosting the 35th anniversary screening of Ron Mann's award-winning essential classic film COMIC BOOK CONFIDENTIAL, a definitive history of the graphic arts medium, profiling 24 legendary artists writers and artists featuring Lynda Barry, Charles Burns, Sue Coe, Robert Crumb, Will Eisner, Al Feldstein, Shary Flenniken, William M. Gaines, Bill Griffith, Jaime Hernandez, Jack Kirby, Harvey Kurtzman, Stan Lee, Paul Mavrides, Frank Miller, Victor Moscoso, Francaise Mouly, Dan O'Neill, Harvey Pekar, Gilbert Shelton, Spain, and Art Spiegelman.

Wait, theres more! Maverick filmmaker Ron Mann Live! To celebrate National Canadian Film Day, we've invited Ron to nerd out on comix and share stories from the front line of indie filmmaking.

TICKETS ARE FREE!!! But ya gotta claim one in advance to attend!

DIRECTOR

Ron Mann

PRODUCER

Don Haig

Martin Harbury

Charles Lippincott

CAST

Robert Crumb

Lynda Barry

CINEMATOGRAPHER

Joan Churchill

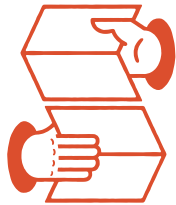
Robert Fresco

Just as much for those not familiar with comics as it is for hardcore fan boys. – APOLLO GUIDE

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CONFESSIONS OF A GOOD SAMARITAN



Sunday, April 30 | 6:00 PM

United States, 2023, 105 min
Alberta Premiere

Director Penny Lane (CUFF 2016 selection NUTS! and CUFF 2019 Best Documentary Feature HAIL SATAN?) decides to become a "Good Samaritan" by giving one of her kidneys to a stranger.

Taking unexpectedly turns, Lane uses humour to interrogate why everyone seems to think she's crazy, in her personal quest to understand the nature of altruism. CONFESSIONS OF A GOOD SAMARITAN is a provocative inquiry into the science, history and ethics of organ transplantation, asking an ancient question in a whole new way: who is your neighbour, and what do you owe them?

DIRECTOR	EXECUTIVE PRODUCER
Penny Lane	Greg Boustead
	Jessica Harrop
PRODUCER	Tim Lee
Gabriel Sedgwick	Michael Cho
	Mimi Rode
FEATURING	CINEMATOGRAPHER
Penny Lane	Naiti Gámez

The stakes are high, and so are the rewards. It's a remarkable film. – HAMMER TO NAIL

A fascinating dissection of altruism, empathy, and personal exploration. – ROGEREBERT.COM

CULT HERO



Friday, April 28 | 9:30 PM

Canada, 2022, 94 min
Alberta Premiere

Manager-summoning control freak Kallie Jones teams up with washed-up cult buster Dale Domazar to rescue her husband from the clutches of a cannibalistic death cult masquerading as a new age wellness centre.

Dynamic actress Liv Collins unleashes a high-powered performance as Kallie Jones, who teams up with Canadian horror veteran Ry Barrett to make up the combative and unlikely duo who take on batshit actor/screenwriter Tony Burgess' cannibalistic death cult. The Canadian horror comedy had its world premiere at the 2022 Fantasia International Film Festival, and lands perfectly with midnight audiences.

DIRECTOR	PRODUCER
Jesse Thomas Cook	Craig Shouldice
SCREENWRITER	CINEMATOGRAPHER
Kevin Revie	Kenny MacLaughlin
CAST	
Ry Barrett	
Liv Collins	
Tony Burgess	

A rock em sock em good time filled with gut-busting gags. It's got creepy cult assassins, .357 magnums, and silly send-ups of every action movie trope in the Hollywood handbook. – NIGHTMARE ON FILM STREET

Pleasantly ridiculous. – AUSTIN CHRONICLE

DAD & STEP-DAD



Monday, April 24 | 7:00 PM

United States, 2023, 79 min
International Premiere

Jim and Dave, a dad and a step-dad, have trouble bonding during a 3-day trip upstate with their son, Branson.

DAD & STEP-DAD is a slow-burn, character-driven family comedy that follows Jim (Dad), Dave (Step-Dad) and Suzie (Mom), three lost souls who spend the weekend together at a cabin upstate in an effort to bond for the sake of their 13-year-old son, Branson. Tensions mount however as differing parenting techniques come to the fore. A symphony of passive aggressive quibbles delivered in hushed tones, furtive glances, and tense silence, the film plays like Frederick Wiseman directing an episode of CURB YOUR ENTHUSIASM.

DIRECTOR	PRODUCER
Tynan DeLong	Graham Mason
	Sarah Wilson
SCREENWRITER	CINEMATOGRAPHER
Colin Burgess	Johnny Frohman
Tynan DeLong	
Anthony Oberbeck	
CAST	
Colin Burgess	
Anthony Oberbeck	
Clare O'Kane	
Brian Fiddymont	

An endlessly quotable and unexpectedly poignant film that marries tranquil momentum with argumentative drollery. – SCREEN SLATE

THE DIRTIES 10TH ANNIVERSARY



Sunday, April 23 | 9:15 PM

Canada, 2013, 83 min

Two best friends are filming a comedy about getting revenge on the bullies at their high school, in the breakout feature film debut from Canadian director Matt Johnson, whose latest film BLACKBERRY is also showing at CUFF 2023.

Matt and Owen, a pair of misfit high-school students who love making and talking about movies, are the victims of systematic bullying at the hands of The DIRTIES, a group of classmates who constantly humiliate them. But soon, the two boys start fantasizing about revenge. When it was released in 2013, the coming of age comedy won the Slamdance Spirit Award for Best Feature Narrative, and received incredible acclaim on the festival circuit, including from Kevin Smith who praised THE DIRTIES as "the most important film you will see all year."

DIRECTOR	PRODUCER
Matt Johnson	Matt Johnson
	Matthew Miller
SCREENWRITER	CINEMATOGRAPHER
Matt Johnson	Evan Morgan
Evan Morgan	Jared Raab

CAST
Matt Johnson
Owen Williams
Krista Madison
Brandon Wickens
David Matheson

Matt Johnson's feisty and flip debut feature inverts the dark iconography of school shootings. – LITTLE WHITE LIES

Hands down, one of the most insightful and disturbing teen films to come along in ages. – MITCH DAVIS, FANTASIA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

THE ELDERLY



Saturday, April 29 | 9:30 PM

Spain, 2022, Spanish with English
Subtitles, 95 min
Alberta Premiere

Manuel's world falls apart when Rosa, his wife of decades, suddenly commits suicide, in this shocking Spanish horror film.

The suicide becomes the catalyst for Manuel's progressive physical and mental deterioration, as his dementia gets worse each day. No longer able to care for himself, Manuel goes to live with his adult son Mario and his young family, despite the fierce opposition of his new wife, who's expecting a baby. The family's new living situation rapidly goes downhill, until it literally becomes a matter of life and death, leading to a dramatic denouement, which will take place on the hottest night of the century. An unspeakable series of paranormal happenings begin to unfold.

DIRECTORS

Fernando González Gómez
Raúl Cerezo

PRODUCER

Carlota Amor Moreno
Mamen Espinosa
José Luis Rancano

SCREENWRITER

Rubén Sánchez Trigos
Javier Trigales

CAST

Paula Gallego
Irene Anula
Zorion Eguileor
Gustavo Salmerón
Ángela López Gamonal
Juan Acedo

It's slow-burn at first, as we get to know the characters. However, I can assure you that the final minutes are all kinds of craziness, [...] the ending of THE ELDERLY is just very intense. – HEAVEN OF HORROR

The second feature film from Raúl Cerezo and Fernando González Gómez, the duo of Spanish directors who brought us the goopy sci-fi horror flick THE PASSENGER ... is a mysteriously wicked horror. – SCREEN ANARCHY

THE ELEPHANT 6 RECORDING CO.



Saturday, April 22 | 7:00 PM

United States, 2022, 93 min
Canadian Premiere

The inside story of the 1990s psychedelic rock bands Olivia Tremor Control, Neutral Milk Hotel, and The Apples in Stereo: the founding groups behind the Elephant 6 collective.

Around 1985, a group of Ruston, Louisiana area high schoolers began experimenting with whatever random instruments and gear they could lay their hands on. Moving to other small college towns including Denver, Colorado and Athens, Georgia, their musical coming of age coincided with the new consumer availability of old-school 4 and 8 track recording technology and cassette tapes. Sharing like-minded sensibilities, influenced by past sounds and psychedelia, and with little to distract them, their efforts to create whole new musical worlds became the bands the Olivia Tremor Control, Neutral Milk Hotel, the Apples in Stereo and many more. While the collective grew to a natural breaking point, its founding members overcame obstacles and remained closely bonded, reuniting for tours and still collaborating today. THE ELEPHANT 6 RECORDING CO. provides insight into this revolutionary era of popular independent music in America, the defiant DIY spirit in music making, and champions the integrity of an authentic quest for artistic expressiveness over the more mainstream image of being a "successful" musician in our fameobsessed times.

DIRECTOR

C.B. Stockfleth

PRODUCER

Lance Bangs
Greg King
C.B. Stockfleth

FEATURING

Bill Doss
Will Cullen Hart
Jeff Mangum

CINEMATOGRAPHER

C.B. Stockfleth

An entertaining and lively foray into the minds of these musical mavericks. – BACKSEAT MAFIA

THE FIVE DEVILS



Tuesday, April 25 | 9:30 PM

France, 2022, French with English
Subtitles, 96 min
Alberta Premiere

Léa Mysius follows her celebrated directorial debut LAVA with a sensitive, surreal, spellbinding second feature about motherhood and repressed love.

Vicky, a strange and solitary little girl, has a magical gift: she can reproduce any scent she likes, and collects them in a series of carefully labelled jars. She has secretly captured the scent of Joanne, her mother for whom she nurtures a wild, excessive love. When her father's sister Julia bursts into their life, Vicky reproduces her smell and is transported into dark and archaic memories which lead her to uncover the secrets of her village, her family and her own existence.

DIRECTOR

Léa Mysius

PRODUCER

Jean-Louis Livi
Fanny Yvonnet

SCREENWRITER

Léa Mysius
Paul Guillaume

CINEMATOGRAPHER

Paul Guillaume

CAST

Adèle Exarchopoulos
Sally Dramé
Swala Emati
Moustapha Mbengue

THE FIVE DEVILS seeks to expose the truth while covering topics that manage to make sincere, magical realist cinema with a message that the things we want will come to us, but only when we're ready. – DEADLINE

A thorny exploration of how individuals' personal ordeals can quickly merge into an impenetrable thicket of irreparable relationships. – SLANT MAGAZINE

FOUND FOOTAGE FESTIVAL: VOLUME 10



Wednesday, April 26 | 6:30 PM

United States, 2023, 85 min
Live Performance

Joe Pickett (The Onion) and Nick Prueher (Late Show) take you on a guided tour through their latest and greatest VHS finds, including a trove of Pizza Hut training videos from the 90s, a striptease tape from 1985 called "Males In Motion," and a mysterious New Age video called "Elimination: The First Step."

THE FOUND FOOTAGE FESTIVAL is a one-of-a-kind event that showcases footage from videos that were found at garage sales and thrift stores and in warehouses and dumpsters. Curators Nick and Joe show their greatest VHS finds, providing live commentary and where-are-they-now updates on the people in these videotaped obscurities. From the curiously-produced industrial training video to the forsaken home movie donated to Goodwill, the Found Footage Festival resurrects these forgotten treasures and serves them up in a lively celebration of all things found.

HOSTS

Joe Pickett
Nick Prueher

PRESENTING PARTNER:





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*"Fantasia remains to this day one of my very favorite film festivals in the world." — **JAMES GUNN***

*"Fantasia is the most important and prestigious genre film festival on this continent." — **QUENTIN TARANTINO***



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FREE TIME



Monday, April 24 | 9:15 PM

United States, 2023, 78 min

Approaching the end of his twenties, a man impulsively decides to quit his cushy desk job and “embrace life”, only to realize he doesn’t have one.

After his sudden decision to throw himself into the world of unemployment, it’s only a matter of time before Drew (Colin Burgess, also featured in DAD & STEP-DAD) is turning his attention back to his recently vacated post. This throwback New York comedy is directed by Ryan Martin Brown (CUFF 2021 Selection TIRED EYES) and features a wide ensemble of Brooklyn’s funniest up-and-comers in an uproarious tale about searching for meaning in the modern world.

DIRECTOR

Ryan Martin Brown

PRODUCER

Paula Andrea
González-Nasser
Mackenzie Jamieson
Justin Zuckerman
Nolan Kelly

CINEMATOGRAPHER

Victor Inglés

CAST

Colin Burgess
Rajat Suresh
James Webb
Jessie Pinnick
Holmes

THE GREEN BUTCHERS 20TH ANNIVERSARY



Sunday, April 30 | 1:30 PM

Denmark, 2003, Danish with English
Subtitles, 99 min

In this dark absurdist comedy from CUFF alumnus Anders Thomas Jensen (MEN & CHICKEN, RIDERS OF JUSTICE), business really starts to pick up for two Danish friends after they accidentally sell a dead electrician as marinated “chicken” at their new butcher shop.

Bjarne and Svend are pals. Svend has great ambition driven by an equally great inferiority complex, while Bjarne hardly cares about anything at all apart from his girlfriend. Starting their own butcher’s shop enables them to escape from their vicious boss, but the shop doesn’t do well until a bizarre coincidence leads Svend to concoct a new dish for the organic butcher shop. Business takes off, but will they still be able to obtain the ingredients for this special dish? A comedy that combines the trite, the morbid and the amusing.

DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER

Anders Thomas Jensen

CAST

Nikolaj Lie Kaas
Mads Mikkelsen
Line Kruse
Ole Thstrup

PRODUCER

Kim Magnusson
Tivi Magnusson

CINEMATOGRAPHER

Sebastian Blankov

Double Feature with ADAM’S APPLES includes live-zoom Q&A with Director Anders Thomas Jensen after the first film (THE GREEN BUTCHERS).

Well worth digging into -- if you've got the stomach for it.
– JAM! MOVIES

Gruesome as it may sound, BUTCHERS is a likeable, well-made film and a genuine comedy. – CHICAGO TRIBUNE

HUNG UP ON A DREAM: THE ZOMBIES DOCUMENTARY



Friday, April 28 | 9:00 PM

United States, 2023, 109 min
Canadian Premiere

British Invasion icons The Zombies reflect on their musical path from teenage friends to legends in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. In their first ever feature documentary nearly sixty years after they met as teenagers before the British Invasion music scene, The Zombies tell their story of navigating the tumultuous music industry over the decades and making one of the most influential albums of all time, Odessey and Oracle. “She’s Not There” made them the first British band after The Beatles to reach #1 in the US. After years of touring and many missteps in the 60s, sadly the band missed out on their biggest moment yet, when “Time of the Season” hit #1 and became a global success, inspiring new generations each year. The band looks back on their journey, where true friendship led them to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

DIRECTOR

Robert Schwartzman

FEATURING

Rod Argent
Colin Blunstone
Chris White
Hugh Grundy

PRODUCER

Russell Wayne Groves
Robert Schwartzman

CINEMATOGRAPHER

Michael Rizzi

It's the time and season of the resurgence of The Zombies. I thought this was a wonderfully illuminating look at the talented 60s rock band, that any fan or lover of music should visit. – FILM INQUIRY

[L]eave[s] viewers with a newfound admiration for The Zombies' legacy and tenacity and a hunger to seek out still more of their songs. – THE SPOOL

INFLUENCER



Friday, April 28 | 7:00 PM

Canada, 2022, 92 min
Alberta Premiere

Popular social media influencer Madison (Emily Tennant), is having a lonely and uneventful trip in Thailand despite what she tells her followers on Instagram. While reflecting on her boyfriend canceling the trip, she meets CW (Cassandra Naud), a fearless and enigmatic traveler who offers to take her to some of the most Instagram-worthy locations. Together, they share authentic meals and drinks with locals, discussing the differences between Madison’s online presence and CW’s lack of one. After showing Madison all the amazing sights, things take a different turn when CW brings her to a surprise location – a deserted island that is completely off the grid. Directed by Alberta CUFF alumnus Kurtis David Harder, the horror-thriller was shot on location in Thailand and Canada.

DIRECTOR

Kurtis David Harder

SCREENWRITER

Kurtis David Harder
Tesh Guttikonda

CAST

Cassandra Naud
Emily Tennant
Rory J Saper
Sara Canning

PRODUCER

Kurtis David Harder
Tesh Guttikonda
Brandon Christensen
Jack Campbell
Micah Henry

CINEMATOGRAPHER

David Schuurman

An entertaining cautionary tale.
– NIGHTMARISH CONJURINGS

A zippy sun-soaked thriller that rewards the viewer with its spellbinding blend of glitz, glamour, and mystery.
– THN

IT LIVES INSIDE



Saturday, April 29 | 9:00 PM

United States, 2023, Hindi with English Subtitles, 99 min

Sam, an Indian-American teen lives in an idyllic suburb with her conservative parents. During a fight with her troubled estranged friend, Tamira, she smashes her mysterious jar and unknowingly unleashes a bloodthirsty ancient Indian demon. What starts off as terrifying visions soon turn into a real life hell as Sam's loved ones begin to be picked off one by one with gruesome results. In order to end this curse once and for all, Sam must reconnect with her culture and band together with her parents before it's too late.

DIRECTOR

Bishal Dutta

CAST

Megan Suri

Neeru Bajwa

Mohana Krishnan

Betty Gabriel

Vik Sahay

SCREENWRITER

Bishal Dutta

Ashish Mehta

PRODUCERS

Raymond Mansfield

Sean McKittrick

CINEMATOGRAPHER

Matthew Lynn

IT LIVES INSIDE introduces a bold new voice with an evident passion for the genre, creating a captivating new spin on demonic horror. - **BLOODY DISGUSTING**

IT LIVES INSIDE asserts its importance as an Indian-American ode to the outsiders stuck trying to live two separate lives and succeeds as a crossroads between international flavors and domestic horror mindsets. - **SLASHFILM**

PRECEDED BY THE SHORT FILM:
NASH

United States, 2022, 12 min
DIRECTOR: Tim Warren



9 year old Nash is determined to find the monster that killed his mother; his father George is equally determined to stop him.

KIM'S VIDEO



Tuesday, April 25 | 7:00 PM

United States / France / United Kingdom, 2023, English, 80 min
Canadian Premiere

KIM'S VIDEO follows modern-day cinephile and filmmaker, David Redmon, on a seemingly quixotic quest to track down the whereabouts of the massive video collection of the nowdefunct Kim's Video, an iconic NYC video rental store with more than 55,000 beloved and rare movies.

Playing with the forms and tropes of cinema, David's bizarre and increasingly obsessive quest takes him to Sicily, where he becomes entangled in a web of local politics, and to South Korea, where he tracks down the enigmatic Mr. Kim in the hope of influencing the collection's future. An ode to the love of cinema, this film will strike a chord with anyone who has ever rented a movie.

DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER

Ashley Sabin

David Redmon

PRODUCER

Ashley Sabin

David Redmon

Dale Smith

Deborah Smith

Rebecca Tabasky

Francesco Galavotti

FEATURING

Isabel Gillies

Robert Greene

Eric Hynes

Yong-Man Kim

CINEMATOGRAPHER

David Redmon

PRESENTING PARTNER:



PRECEDED BY THE SHORT FILM:
BUTCHY'S BIG PITCH

United States, 2023, 4 min
DIRECTOR: Chrissy Fellmeth
Nick Prueher



Using an audio recording of his downstairs neighbour in Queens, New York, filmmaker Nick Prueher and animator Chrissy Fellmeth bring Frank "Butchy" Carrado's TV commercial idea to life.

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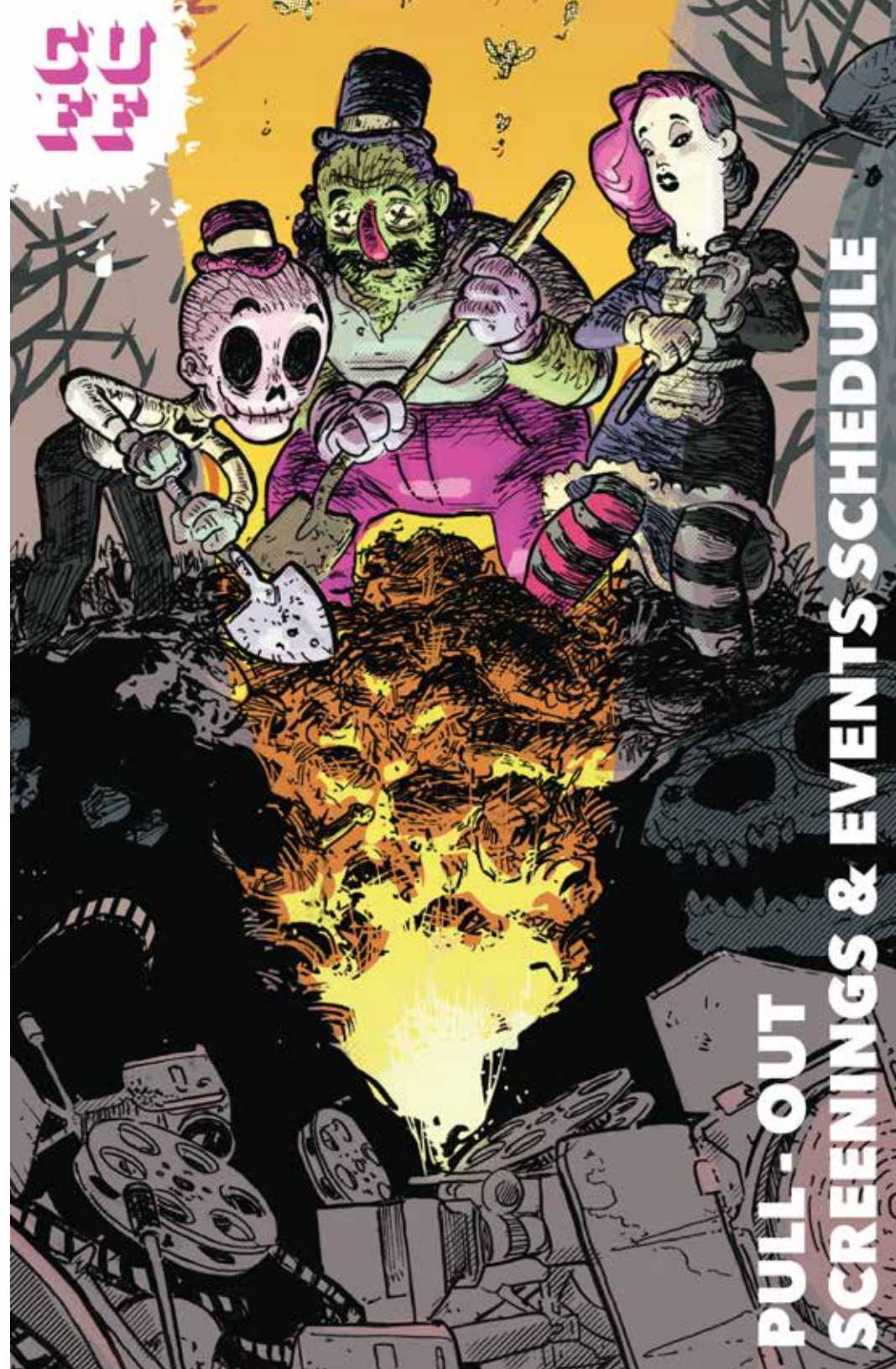
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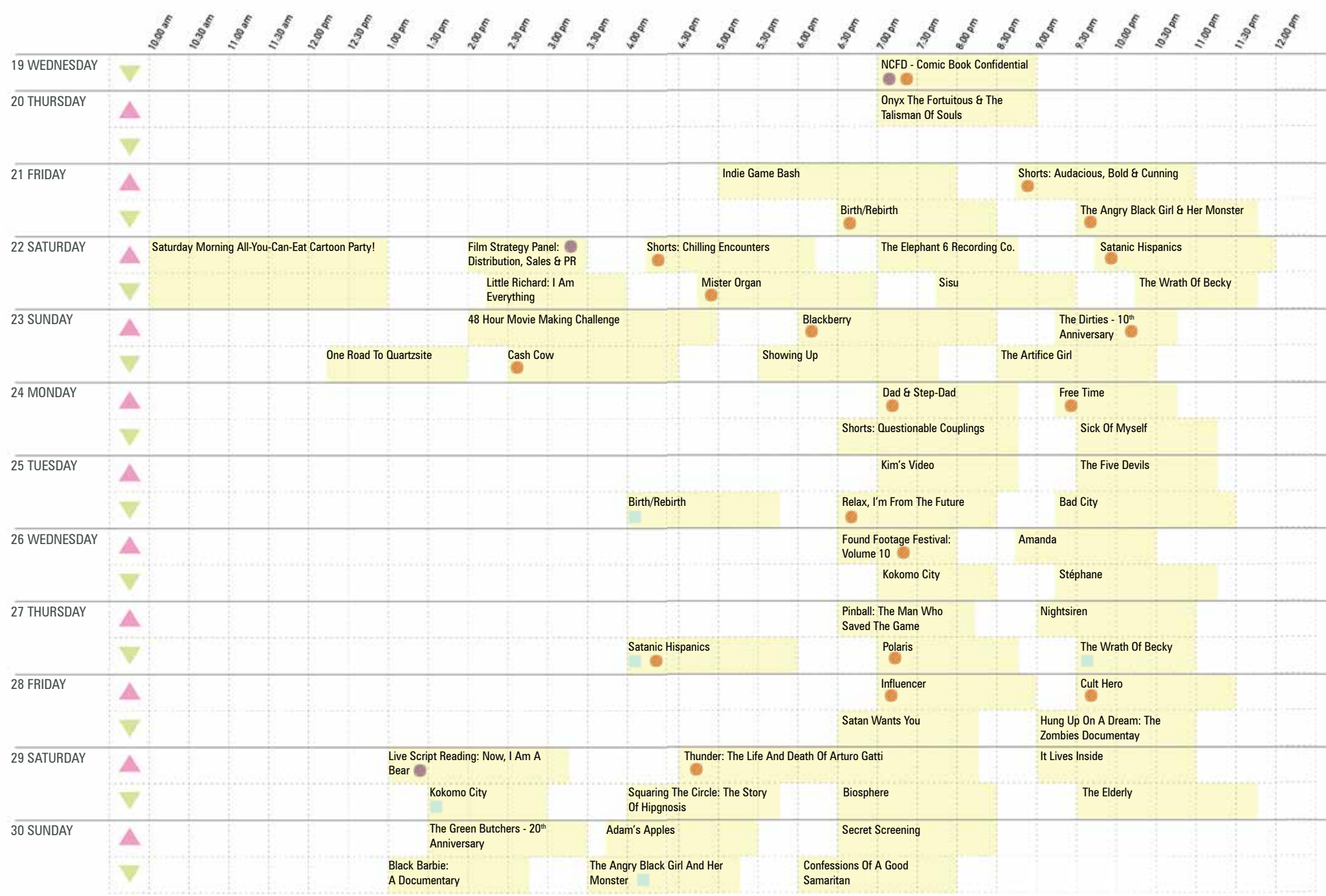


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KOKOMO CITY



Wednesday, April 26 | 7:00 PM
Saturday, April 29 | 1:30 PM

United States, 2023, 73 min
Canadian Premiere

Directed by two-time Grammy nominee D. Smith, **KOKOMO CITY** takes up a seemingly simple mantle — to present the stories of four Black transgender sex workers in New York and Georgia.

Shot in striking black and white, the boldness of the facts of these women's lives and the earthshaking frankness they share complicate this enterprise, colliding the everyday with cutting social commentary and the excavation of long-dormant truths. Accessible for any audience, unfiltered, unabashed, and unapologetic, Smith and her subjects smash the trendy standard for authenticity, offering a refreshing rawness and vulnerability unconcerned with purity and politeness.

DIRECTOR
D. Smith

PRODUCER
D. Smith
Harris Doran
Bill Butler

FEATURING
Daniella Carter
Koko Da Doll
Liyah Mitchell
Dominique Silver

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER
Lena Waithe
Rishi Rajani
Stacy Barthe
William Melillo

The principal participants ... are an electric bunch, and the diversity of their testimonies propels this worthwhile project into refreshing, uninhibited territory.
— **THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER**

PRECEDED BY THE SHORT
FILM: **THRIVING: A
DISSOCIATED REVERIE**



Canada, 2023, 9 min
DIRECTOR: Nicole Bazuin
A surrealist exploration of Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID) based on the lived experience of a Black, nonbinary, disabled artist and former sex worker.

LITTLE RICHARD: I AM EVERYTHING



Saturday, April 22 | 2:15 PM

United States, 2023, English, 101 min
Canadian Premiere

A documentary about the one of a kind rock 'n' roll icon who shaped the world of music.

Directed by Lisa Cortés, the film tells the story of the black queer origins of rock n' roll. It explodes the whitewashed canon of American pop music to reveal the innovator — the originator — Richard Penniman. Through a wealth of archive and performance that brings us into Richard's complicated inner world, the film unspools the icon's life story with all its switchbacks and contradictions. In interviews with family, musicians and cutting edge black and queer scholars, the film reveals how Richard created an art form for ultimate self-expression, yet what he gave to the world he was never able to give to himself.

DIRECTOR
Lisa Cortés

PRODUCER
Robert Friedman
Lisa Cortés
Liz Yale Marsh
Caryn Capotosto

FEATURING
Mick Jagger
Billy Porter
John Waters
Tom Jones

This is one of those instances where a film thoughtfully reexamines previously established truths about a musician's legacy so fervently that it completely upends you.
— **HUFFINGTON POST**

I enjoyed it immensely. And if you didn't enjoy it, I'm pretty sure Little Richard would tell you to "Shut up."
— **CHICAGO READER**

MISTER ORGAN



Saturday, April 22 | 4:45 PM

New Zealand, 2022, 96 min
Alberta Premiere

Journalist and filmmaker David Farrier (TICKLED, DARK TOURIST) unwittingly stumbles into a game of cat and mouse with a mystery man creating havoc in his neighbourhood, wheel clamping cars at a local antique store.

That clammer was Michael Organ, and little did Farrier know that delving deeper into who Organ really is, would be a thrilling and tension filled three year long investigation — unearthing a trail of multiple court cases, inflated claims of royal bloodlines, ruined lives, and at least one stolen boat.

DIRECTOR

David Farrier

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Ant Timpson
Bobby Allen
Efe Cakare

FEATURING

David Farrier

PRODUCER

David Farrier
Alex Reed
Emma Slade

Another disturbing, perplexing, larger-than-life yet unshakeably authentic slice of life, and another piece of proof that humanity's worst impulses will always seep out any way they can. — CONCRETE PLAYGROUND

A study in sociopathy, as the filmmaker and his gaslighting subject play mind games. — PROJECTED FIGURES

PRECEDED BY THE SHORT FILM: United States, 2022, 9 min
THE (OTHER) 700 CLUB DIRECTOR: Araque Blanco



At the intersection of Broadway and Thornton St in Brooklyn, a loose community of delivery workers gathers every day to hang out and share their experiences while waiting for their next job.

NIGHTSIREN



Thursday, April 27 | 9:00 PM

Slovakia / Czech Republic, 2022, Slovak with English Subtitles, 109 min
Alberta Premiere

A young woman returns to her native mountain village, searching for answers about her troubled childhood, but as she tries to uncover the truth, ancient superstitions lead the villagers to accuse her of witchcraft and murder.

In a remote mountain village, two sisters grow up at the mercy of their abusive mother. A terrible accident happens when the eldest, Šarlota, escapes into the woods, and is followed by her sister Tamara. Otyla, a Roma woman living on the outskirts of town, is blamed for the girls' disappearance and accused of witchcraft. Twenty years later, Šarlota unexpectedly shows up in the village. As she digs into her past, the locals grow suspicious. Only a young and eccentric herbalist, Mira, is willing to befriend her. When the animals in the village start to fall ill, the locals accuse Šarlota of conjuring Otyla's spirit. This Slovak folk horror has won multiple awards on the festival circuit, including Best Feature Length European Film and Best Actress at Sitges Film Festival 2022 and the Golden Leopard at Locarno International Film Festival 2022.

DIRECTOR

Tereza Nvotová

CAST

Natalia Germani
Eva Mores
Juliána Brutovská
Iva Bittová

SCREENWRITER

Barbora Námerová
Tereza Nvotová

CINEMATOGRAPHER

Federico Cesca

PRODUCER

Miloš Lochman

Nvotová and co-writer Barbora Namerova smartly deploy the witchy elements in this slow-burn chiller to explore themes of violence and misogyny. — THE UPCOMING

NIGHTSIREN is a bewitching film that will hopefully work its magic on countless horror audiences to come. — AUSTIN CHRONICLE

OPENING NIGHT FILM: ONYX THE FORTUITOUS AND THE TALISMAN OF SOULS



United States, 2023, 110 min

Thursday, April 20 | 7:00 PM

Canadian Premiere

Featuring terrifying monsters and dark and silly laughs, this year's Opening Night Film is a creative and joyful celebration of weirdos of all kinds.

Amateur occultist Marcus J. Trillbury, aka Onyx the Fortuitous, is struggling. He's misunderstood at home and work, but his dreams for a new life seem to be answered when he lands a coveted invitation to the mansion of his idol Bartok the Great for a ritual to raise the spirit of an ancient demon. He excitedly joins Bartok and his fellow eclectic group of devotees as they prepare for the ceremony, but pretty quickly it becomes apparent everything is not as it seems. As Onyx and his new friends fight to keep their souls, he must decide what he's willing to truly sacrifice in order to meet his destiny. Based on his viral internet character of the same name, writer, director, and star Andrew Bowser takes us on a wild ride of magic and fun with just the right mix of Satanic worship and friendship.

DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER

Andrew Bowser

CAST

Andrew Bowser
Olivia Taylor Dudley
Jeffrey Combs
Ralph Ineson
Rivkah Reyes
T.C. Carson

PRODUCER

Andrew Bowser
Clark Baker
Michael Mobley
Olivia Taylor Dudl

Bowser infuses Onyx's feature film debut with endearing quirkiness, endless '80s/'90s influences, and horror whimsy. — BLOODY DISGUSTING

A handmade horror gem. — ROGEREBERT.COM

OPENING NIGHT AFTERPARTY

Join us after the screening for drinks, food and music at The Derrick (620 8 Ave SW). Musical offerings courtesy of DJ Adam Kamis. Tickets are \$15 and include entry to the screening and afterparty.

Multi-pack tickets are not accepted for this screening.

ONE ROAD TO QUARTZSITE



Sunday, April 23 | 12:15 PM

United States, 2022, 89 min
Canadian Premiere

A menagerie of snowbirds, crustpunks and libertarians make their annual winter pilgrimage to an unassuming freeway exit. They become unlikely neighbours on the same piece of dirt — all trying to live free and not die.

It's late fall in a sleepy desert town in Arizona. Over the course of a few weeks, hundreds of thousands of snowbirds, trumpeheads, rockhounds, retirees, crustpunks, homeschoolers, widows, loners and fugitives all descend upon Quartzsite, Arizona. They set up camps, intermingle, and an unlikely community is formed somewhere between the death and pinnacle of the American Dream. The cinema vérité documentary feels like a single winter season, from the influx of campers in November to everyone scattering by March: just another season in All-American purgatory.

DIRECTOR
Ryan Maxey

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER
Watch This Ready
Noah Lang

SCREENWRITER
Sophie Hardeman
Ryan Maxey
Josh Polon

Suffused with a kind and gentle spirit. — SCREENANARCHY

Theres something pleasantly intimate about the documentaries fuss-free approach to filmmaking. — OUTTAKE MAG

PINBALL: THE MAN WHO SAVED THE GAME



Thursday, April 27 | 6:30 PM

United States, 2022, 91 min
Canadian Premiere

Based on the true story of Roger Sharpe, a young midwesterner who overturned New York City's 35 year-old ban on pinball machines.

An unsettled writer with a fantastic mustache, Roger Sharpe, finds solace and confidence in one thing he has mastered: pinball. When a police raid destroys the only machines he can find in 1970s New York City, he learns the game is illegal. Roger reluctantly joins forces with the Music and Amusement Association to overturn the ban while falling in love with Ellen, an artist and single mother. Roger's path to save pinball ultimately rescues him. He and Ellen overcome their pasts and take a shot at love. Roger learns what it means to take a chance—and that commitment is the most rewarding gamble of all.

DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER
Austin Bragg
Meredith Bragg

CAST
Mike Faist
Crystal Reed
Dennis Boutsikaris
Christopher Convery
Connor Ratiiff
Mike Doyle

PRODUCER
Tony Glazer
Lana Link
Summer Crockett Moore
Stacey Parks
Rob Pfaltzgraff

CINEMATOGRAPHER
Jon Keng

PRECEDED BY THE SHORT FILM: Canada, 2022, 8 min
PRO POOL
DIRECTOR: Alec Pronovost
A recent graduate with a bachelor's degree in History and Civilization, struggles to find a job in his field and accepts a position as a clerk in a pool shop. Feeling down, he navigates his new profession as best he can.



POLARIS



Thursday, April 27 | 7:00 PM

Canada, 2022, 89 min
Alberta Premiere

A young girl raised by a polar bear pursues her destiny after escaping capture by brutal warriors' intent on killing her mother.

Set in 2144 against the harsh backdrop of a frozen wasteland, Sumi, a human child raised by Mama Polar Bear, narrowly escapes capture from a brutal Morad hunting party and sets out across the vast winter landscape. When Sumi stumbles across Frozen Girl, an unlikely friendship is forged and together they race ahead of the vindictive hunters towards the only guiding light Sumi knows, the Polaris star.

DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER
KC Carthew

CINEMATOGRAPHER
David Schuurman

CAST
Viva Lee
Muriel Dutil
Charlene Abraham
Dinah Gaston

PRODUCER
Max Fraser
Paul Cadieux
Alyson Richards
KC Carthew

FREE FOR YOUTH 17 AND UNDER.

Kirsten Carthew's post-apocalyptic ice-age adventure mystery sees a young girl raised by a polar bear and elevated to the stars. — PROJECTED FIGURES

When taken for its visuals, incredible performances and world-building, Polaris is a worthy entry in post-apocalyptic cinema's hallowed halls. — RUE MORGUE MAGAZINE

RELAX, I'M FROM THE FUTURE



Tuesday, April 25 | 6:30 PM

Canada, 2023, 90 min
Alberta Premiere

RELAX, I'M FROM THE FUTURE follows Casper (Rhys Darby, FLIGHT OF THE CONCHORDS), a charming, but embarrassingly underprepared Time Traveller, now trapped in the past.

When Casper befriends Holly (Gabrielle Graham), a jaded drifter, she helps him exploit his trivial knowledge of the future for a series of quick payouts, oblivious to the consequences they have set in motion. When Doris (Janine Theriault), a more competent Time Traveller, tracks them down, Casper and Holly are forced to figure out what they mean to each other and whether the future they've threatened is even worth saving. Will they embrace their fate, or do they have the courage to change it? RELAX, I'M FROM THE FUTURE is the feature directorial debut from Writer/Director/Editor Luke Higginson, based on his short film of the same name that premiered at TIFF in 2013.

DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER
Luke Higginson

PRODUCER
Tim Doiron
James van der Woerd

CAST
Rhys Darby
Gabrielle Graham
Julian Richings
Janine Theriault

CINEMATOGRAPHER
Russ De Jong

A delightful comedic romp with genuine heart. — THAT SHELF

As an excellent mix of comedy and science fiction, neither overwhelms the other genre. — FILMHOOUNDS MAGAZINE

PRECEDED BY THE SHORT FILM: Canada, 2023, 8 min
CAPTCHA
DIRECTOR: David Feehan
A young man struggles to prove his own humanity after he finds himself unable to tick the definitive "I'm not a robot" box in an online CAPTCHA test.



SATAN WANTS YOU



Friday, April 28 | 6:30 PM

Canada, 2023, 89 min
Alberta Premiere

The shocking story of how a young woman and her psychiatrist ignited the global Satanic Panic with their bestselling memoir.

During the 1980s and '90s the world was gripped by the cultural hysteria known as the Satanic Panic. Ignited by Michelle Remembers, a lurid memoir by psychiatrist Larry Pazder and his patient Michelle Smith, rumours of "Satanic Ritual Abuse" spread through panic-stricken communities worldwide. SATAN WANTS YOU is a compelling investigation into the roots of moral panics, cult conspiracies, and the making of contemporary legends, revealing how these events still impact and distort our reality to this day.

DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER PRODUCER

Sean Horlor Michael Tanko Grand
Steve J. Adams Melissa James

FEATURING CINEMATOGRAPHER

Sarah Marshall
Jeffrey S. Victor
Debbie Nathan
Charles Ennis
Ken Lanning
Blanche Barton

Blake Davey

PRECEDED BY THE SHORT FILM:
THE 200 PHENOMENA
OF CALGARY, ALBERTA,
CANADA



Canada, 2023, 8 min
DIRECTOR: Nicola Waugh
In 2009 an anonymous notebook containing 200 stories of occult and magical phenomena was found at the University of Calgary. Since appearing online, the stories have formed new mythologies around the seemingly mundane city of Calgary.

SATANIC HISPANICS



Saturday, April 22 | 9:45 PM
Thursday, April 27 | 4:00 PM

United States, 2022, 113 min
Alberta Premiere

An anthology of 5 short films from some of the leading Latin filmmakers in the horror genre, spotlighting Hispanic talent both in front and behind the camera.

When police raid a house in El Paso, they find it full of dead Latinos, and only one survivor. He's known as The Traveler, and when they take him to the station for questioning, he tells them those lands are full of magic and talks about the horrors he's encountered in his long time on this earth, about portals to other worlds, mythical creatures, demons and the undead.

DIRECTOR

Mike Mendez
Demian Rugna
Eduardo Sanchez
Gigi Saul Guerrero
Alejandro Bragues

CAST

Efren Ramirez
Greg Grunberg
Jonah Ray Rodrigues
Jacob Vargas
Hemky Madera
Patricia Velasquez
Demian Salomon
Luis Machin
Ari Gallego

SCREENWRITER

Alejandro Mendez
Demian Rugna
Pete Barnstrom
Shadan Saul
Raynor Shima
Lino K. Villa

CINEMATOGRAPHER

Luke Bramley
Matthias Schubert

PRODUCER

Patrick Ewald
Mike Mendez
Alejandro Bragues

A horror anthology that celebrates Hispanic heritage and produces an eclectic mix of tales that take bold, diverse swings. That variation provides a strange yet captivating journey. — BLOODY DISGUSTING

SATURDAY MORNING ALL-YOU- CAN-EAT-CEREAL CARTOON PARTY!



Saturday, April 22 | 10:00 AM

Various 1930s-1990's, English, 175 min

In this all-new program, you'll see both faves and obscurities spanning the '30s through the '90s, all punctuated with vintage commercials, PSAs and station IDs! Jammies Encouraged! ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT CEREAL!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

It's the return of the SATURDAY MORNING ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT CEREAL CARTOON PARTY! It's that special time when kids and kids-at-heart get to relive the exciting Saturday Morning ritual of non-stop retro cartoons, and binge on the multi-coloured sugary cereals that used to be a part of every "balanced" breakfast! As always, this 3-hour trip into the weird and wonderful world of yesteryear's animated antics will be accompanied by an all-you-can eat buffet of cereal that is open throughout the show (and yes, there will be non-dairy options too!). The cartoon lineup is always a mystery, but in this all-new program you'll see both faves and obscurities spanning the '30s through the '90s, all punctuated with vintage commercials, PSAs and station IDs! So get ready for a sugar rush and an explosion of nostalgia all wrapped up in one candy-coated package.

CURATOR

David Bertrand

SECRET SCREENING



Sunday, April 30 | 6:30 PM

United States, 2023, 92 min

One of the annual traditions of the Calgary Underground Film Festival is a special screening of a highly anticipated film, with past selections including OBVIOUS CHILD and SWISS ARMY MAN. This year, for the closing night of the festival, we've partnered with a diabolical harlequin to bring you a special presentation of the film *Indiewire* calls "fiercely original and deeply personal, it's too damn good not to be seen." Punk af, wildly nerdy, dementedly hilarious, and surprisingly sweet, you would have to be batsh*t crazy to miss this rare chance to be among the few people in the world to see this movie! The title will not be revealed until showtime, so settle in and enjoy the surprise :)

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BIG NEON TOWER VS TINY SQUARE

BY EVIL OBJECTIVE - CALGARY, CANADA

Ride the vaporwaves as you outrun nefarious neon nuisances in this 90s inspired precision platformer.



BLEAK SWORD DX

BY MOREBBIT - SPAIN

Discover and destroy increasingly horrifying creatures across an oppressive lofi world.



LUFTRAUSERS

BY VLAMBEER - UTRECHT, NETHERLANDS

The skies will be set aflame and the seas will overflow with wreckage in this stylish arcade shooter.



STICK IT TO THE STICKMAN

BY FREE LIVES - CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

A groin-kicking, staple-gunning, chainsaw-wielding roguelike brawler.



TURBO KID

BY OUTERMINDS INC. - MONTREAL, CANADA

A BMX-powered pixel-art Metroidvania gore-fest based on the film of the same name.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT CUFFCADE AND THE GAMES VISIT:
calgaryundergroundfilm.com/cuffcade



- presents -



INDIE GAME BASH

The exhilarating indie game fighting tournament, is coming to the iconic Globe Cinema in Calgary for one night only during CUFF. Get ready for an evening of non-stop action featuring two of the best indie fighting games: TowerFall Ascension and Samurai Gunn 2.

For more information and to sign up for the tournament visit: indiegamebash.com



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SHOWING UP



Sunday, April 23 | 5:30 PM

United States, 2022, 108 min
Alberta Premiere

A sculptor (Michelle Williams) preparing to open a new show must balance her creative life with the daily dramas of family and friends, in Kelly Reichardt's vibrant and captivatingly funny portrait of art & craft.

From the rising tensions of a make-or-break week of a Portland artist getting ready for a big show, filmmaker Kelly Reichardt carves a profound, gorgeously layered portrait of a woman that is as much about what makes up a life as it is about making art. Michelle Williams shimmers with complexity as Lizzy, who is trying to hold things together when they keep trying to fall apart. Her hot water heater is busted, her brother might be going off the rails, her divorced parents are exasperating in their own separate ways, she's surrounded by free spirits at the arts college where she works... and all this lies just below the raw surface of the work that feeds her soul. It is through Lizzy's deeply relatable, often comical, everyday tribulations on her way to a longed-desired achievement that *SHOWING UP* becomes a quiet tour de force, and Reichardt's most sweetly comedic.

DIRECTOR

Kelly Reichardt

SCREENWRITER

Jon Raymond

Kelly Reichardt

PRODUCER

Anish Savjani

Vincent Savino

Neil Kopp

CINEMATOGRAPHER

Christopher Blauvelt

CAST

Michelle Williams

Hong Chau

André Benjamin

Maryann Plunkett

Kelly Reichardt's eighth feature is beautifully crafted, a modest gem that grows in impact the more one examines it. – SCREEN INTERNATIONAL

SICK OF MYSELF



Monday, April 24 | 9:30 PM

Norway / Sweden, 2022, Norwegian / Swedish with English Subtitles, 95 min
Alberta Premiere

A self-declared "unromantic comedy", the Cannes 2022 Selection *SICK OF MYSELF* stars NINJABABY's Kristine Kujath Thorp, as Signe, a young barista who fakes a mysterious flesh-eating skin disease to gain sympathy.

Signe and Thomas are in an unhealthy, competitive relationship that takes a vicious turn when Thomas suddenly breaks through as a contemporary artist. In response, Signe makes a desperate attempt to regain her status by creating a new persona hell-bent on attracting attention. Shameless narcissism is front and centre of this Norwegian dark comedy.

DIRECTOR/ SCREENWRITER PRODUCER

Kristoffer Borgli

Dyveke Bjørkly Graver

Andrea Berentsen Ottmar

CAST

Kristine Kujath Thorp

Eirik Sæther

Fanny Vaager

Sarah Francesca Brønne

CINEMATOGRAPHER

Benjamin Loeb

Horribly, shamefully, hilariously relatable. A vicious little treat to enjoy. – THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

Another great, gutsy central performance from NINJABABY star Kristine Kujath Thorp. – DEADLINE

SISU



Saturday, April 22 | 7:45 PM

Finland, 2022, Finnish / English with English Subtitles, 91 min
Alberta Premiere

When an ex-soldier who discovers gold in the Lapland wilderness tries to take the loot into the city, Nazi soldiers led by a brutal SS officer battle him in this highly-anticipated B-movie.

Set in the last desperate days of WWII, a solitary prospector (Jorma Tommila) crosses paths with Nazis on a scorched-earth retreat in northern Finland. When the Nazis steal his gold, they quickly discover that they have just tangled with no ordinary miner. While there is no direct translation for the Finnish word "sisu", this legendary ex-commando will embody what sisu means: a white-knuckled form of courage and unimaginable determination in the face of overwhelming odds. And no matter what the Nazis throw at him, the one-man death squad will go to outrageous lengths to get his gold back – even if it means killing every last Nazi in his path.

DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER PRODUCER

Jalmari Helander Petri Jokiranta

CAST

Jorma Tommila
Aksel Hennie
Jack Doolan
Mimosa Willamo

CINEMATOGRAPHER

Kjell Lagerroos

PRESENTED BY:



PRECEDED BY THE SHORT FILM:
THEY CALL IT... RED CEMETERY!



Portugal, 2022, 9min
DIRECTOR: Francisco Lacerda

Among the crosses of an old cemetery, two outlaws have a dispute over honour, companionship and greed.

SQUARING THE CIRCLE: THE STORY OF HIPGNOSIS



Saturday, April 29 | 4:00 PM

United Kingdom, 2023, 101 min
Canadian Premiere

The story of the creative geniuses behind the iconic album art design studio, Hipgnosis, responsible for some of the most recognizable album covers of all time.

Celebrated photographer, creative director and filmmaker Anton Corbijn's (CONTROL and A MOST WANTED MAN) first feature documentary SQUARING THE CIRCLE (THE STORY OF HIPGNOSIS) examines the life and work of Storm Thorgerson and Aubrey "Po" Powell, who formed Hipgnosis in Cambridge during the ferment of the '60s and became rock royalty during the boom time of the '70s. They conjured into existence sights that no one had previously thought possible, produced visuals which popularized music that had previously been considered fringe, and were at the white-hot center of the maddest, funniest and most creative era in the history of popular music. The film features brand new interviews with Roger Waters, David Gilmour & Nick Mason of Pink Floyd, Jimmy Page & Robert Plant of Led Zeppelin, Paul McCartney, Peter Dinklage, Graham Gouldman of 10cc, Noel Gallagher, and many more.

DIRECTOR

Anton Corbijn

SCREENWRITER

Trish D Chetty

PRODUCER

Trish D Chetty
Ged Doherty
Colin Firth

FEATURING

Aubrey "Po" Powell
Graham Gouldman
Nick Mason
Noel Gallagher
Jimmy Page
Robert Plant
Roger Waters
David Gilmour
Paul McCartney

PRESENTED BY:



CINEMATOGRAPHER

Stuart Luck
Martijn Van Broekhuizen

STÉPHANE



Wednesday, April 26 | 9:15 PM

France, 2022, French with English Subtitles, 79 min
Canadian Premiere

The comedy thriller from the acclaimed filmmakers Lucas Pastor and Timothée Hochet follows Tim, a young director desperate for success, who accepts help from Stéphane, a former film stuntman, so that he can finish his film on time.

Blinded by his thirst for recognition, Tim fails to see that he is playing a risky game with a man who, under the guise of great sympathy, is showing himself more and more strange and dangerous. As time goes on, their jovial and eccentric talks become something far more sinister: the masks will fall.

DIRECTOR

Lucas Pastor
Timothée Hochet

PRODUCER

Vanessa Brias
Monsieur Poulpe

CAST

Lucas Pastor
Bastien Garcia
Eléna Bultot
Louis Rossignol

STÉPHANE is a satisfying mix of CREEP and MAN BITES DOG with a dash of BEHIND THE MASK: THE RISE OF LESLIE VERNON that when combined delivers a fresh new mockumentary thriller that provides laughs and plenty of things to cringe at but still serves up a final reveal that will have you yelling, "c'est incroyable"! – THE SCARIEST THINGS

Great performances and writing keep this unique take on found footage engaging. – IPT

PRECEDED BY THE SHORT FILM:
IN THE DARK



Canada, 2022, 12 min
DIRECTOR: Bronson Allen

A charming date takes a nightmarish turn when the lights go out.

THUNDER: THE LIFE & DEATH OF ARTURO GATTI



Saturday, April 29 | 4:30 PM

Canada, 2023, 190 min
World Premiere

Montreal boxer, and world champion Arturo Gatti, was a legend in his time, but his mysterious death has remained suspiciously unresolved for years. This documentary series from Calgary director Guillaume Carlier explores forensic evidence that has been overlooked, and uncovers a new narrative about Arturo that will change everything.

Arturo Gatti's name still echoes in the streets of Montréal. For many, his name represents the glory of modern boxing. But for others, he is a reminder of a murder gone unpunished. Officially, Arturo's death was ruled as a suicide: he was found allegedly hung by the purse strap of his wife, Amanda Rodrigues. More than 10 years later, the cloud of murder still hangs over the story. This documentary series explores the bizarre circumstances of Arturo's death in Brazil: an adjusted will, allegations of suicidal behavior, and inconsistent autopsy reports. Arturo's story touches on boxing, mental health, the dark side of the established press, and presents new information that the public has not yet seen.

DIRECTOR

Guillaume Carlier

SCREENWRITER

Guillaume Carlier
Alex Orlando
Pollyanna Hardwicke-Brown

PRODUCER

Alex Orlando
Adam Scorgie

CO-PRODUCER

Shane Fennessey

CINEMATOGRAPHER

Grant Cooper

This is a three-episode series, and will be broken up with a 15-minute intermission after the second episode.



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THE WRATH OF BECKY



Saturday, April 22 | 10:15 PM
Thursday, April 27 | 9:30 PM

United States, 2023, English, 84 min
Canadian Premiere

After living off the grid for two years, Becky finds herself going toe to toe against the leader of a fascist organization, on the eve of an organized attack, in the sequel to the 2020 action-thriller BECKY.

Two years after she escaped a violent attack on her family, Becky attempts to rebuild her life in the care of an older woman - a kindred spirit named Elena. But when their home is broken into, and they are attacked by an extremist group known as the "Noble Men," Becky must return to her old ways to protect herself, her loved ones, and her country. Directors Matt Angel and Suzanne Coote take a fresh approach to the action horror-comedy, which recently had its World Premiere at SXSW.

DIRECTOR

Matt Angel
Suzanne Coote

PRODUCER

Jordan Beckerman
Chadd Harbold
J.D. Lifshitz
Raphael Margules
Russ Posternak
Tracy Rosenblum

SCREENWRITER

Matt Angel

CAST

Lulu Wilson
Seann William Scott
Courtney Gains
Gabriella Piazza
Matt Angel
Michael Sirow

CINEMATOGRAPHER

Julia Swain

There's a charming simplicity to a genre film that can be introduced as "Let's just kill some fascists!" and Angel & Coote know how to pace and deliver this kind of gut punch of a movie. — ROGEREBERT.COM

FILM STRATEGY: DISTRIBUTION, SALES & PUBLICITY!



Saturday, April 22 | 2:00 PM

If you're at the great Calgary Underground Film Festival, you either know how to make a movie or how to watch a movie (or maybe both!). But do you know how to distribute a movie? We do and we want to share our knowledge with you. The world's leading minds have gathered in the great state of Alberta to talk about how to distribute a film in 2023. It's both hard and fun and the panel will be less hard and more fun, we swear!

PANELISTS:

James Emanuel Shapiro - Executive Vice President, US Distribution; XYZ FILMS

Hugues Barbier - Co-Founder, Yellow Veil Pictures

Angie Power - Partner, Route 504 PR

Michael Paszt - Managing Partner, Raven Banner

Mitch Davis - Co-Director & Director of International Programming, Fantasia International Film Festival (Montreal)

Olivia Nasner - Manager, Partnerships & Marketing, Elevation Pictures

LIVE SCRIPT READING: NOW, I AM A BEAR



Saturday, April 29 | 1:00 PM

Set in a near-future where disaffected people are abandoning society to live as cosplay animals in the wild (yes, you read that right), NOW, I AM A BEAR tells the story of one broken man who decides to leave his problems behind and become a bear; struggling for survival, searching for peace, and running from a truth he can't ever escape.

Join a cast of actors for a live script reading of the absurdist comedy NOW, I AM A BEAR. The feature is a bittersweet exploration of nostalgia, regret, and the drive we all feel to get back to nature, whether nature likes it or not.

This is a FREE event, open to the public, and a great opportunity to experience a film in the early stages of development. There will be a Q&A following the reading and the production team are open to script feedback.

SCREENWRITER

Jason Filiatrault

PRODUCER

Amy Darling

ABOUT THE PROJECT

NOW, I AM A BEAR will mark the feature directorial debut of Calgary screenwriter Jason Filiatrault. The script was developed as part of the 2021 TIFF Writers' Studio. Jason's past credits include the award-winning feature ENTANGLEMENT (CIFF 2017), the cult Netflix series THE ORDER and short films THREE IN A BED and THREE IN A CAR (CUFF 2014 & 2015).

Producer Amy Darling is currently in production on a six-part original series for Freeform/Hulu. Her past features have been awarded a FIPRESCI Prize, chosen as the closing night film for Critics' Week at Venice, and been selected for TIFF's Canada's Top Ten list.

INDIE GAME BASH



Friday, April 21 | 5:00 PM

Indie Game Bash, an exhilarating indie game fighting tournament, is coming to the iconic Globe Cinema in Calgary for one night only during the Calgary Underground Film Festival. Get ready for an evening of non-stop action featuring two of the best indie fighting games: TOWERFALL ASCENSION and SAMURAI GUNN 2.

Join fellow gamers, indie game enthusiasts, and talented developers as participants battle it out on a massive theatre screen, showcasing their skills and tactics in these fast-paced, adrenaline-fueled games. Feel the energy and excitement as the crowd cheers on their favorites, with every arrow, sword strike, and epic showdown. Expect some surprises! After the tournament, continue the celebration at The Palomino for an unforgettable afterparty. Mingle with fellow gamers, meet local developers, and enjoy live DJ music inspired by video games.

Don't miss this out, Mark your calendars!

TOWERFALL ASCENSION is the definitive version of the hit archery combat game. Inspired by classics from the golden age of couch multiplayer, it's a 4-player local party game centering around hilarious, intense versus matches. The core mechanics are simple and accessible, but hard to master and combat is fierce.

SAMURAI GUNN 2: 4 player insanity. 2 player duels. 1 player adventure. With just 3 bullets and a sword, fight to survive in this high-flying, one-hit-kill platform fighter.

PRESENTED BY:



SHORTS: AUDACIOUS, BOLD AND CUNNING

Various Countries, 2022-2023, 113 mins

The subjects of these shorts are anything but conventional as they blaze their own paths.



SPINNING

Dir. Sam Spruell, U.K., 2022, 10 min

Robert takes his beloved 3.2 litre saloon for a spin in the neighbourhood. But his world is crumbling, and his car is merely a symptom of male vulnerability and denial.

"JULIA"

Dir. Jack Donnelly, U.K., 2022, 8 min

Touring actors, Jasper and Dario, arrive at 'digs' one evening and walk into a peculiar setup. Unintentionally they inflate tensions with their odd host when one causes a blow-up between him and his unusual 'wife'.

OTHER CATS TO NIP

Dir. Ovidie, France, 2023, 26 min

At a high school carnival, a respected city English teacher finds herself acting as the famous superhero Catwoman. She wears a costume that allows her to exercise her own superpower: domination.

EVERYTHING I LEARNED WHEN MY HOUSE BURNED DOWN

Dir. Joe Pickett, U.S.A., 2023, 9 min

After Jacy Catlin burns down his remote log cabin, including all of his family's belongings, he returns to his former home to shoot one last comedy. Co-directed by Catlin and The Found Footage Festival's Joe Pickett, the short film is shot against a backdrop of the remains of Catlin's actual burned-down home.

Friday, April 21 | 8:45 PM

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

HARBOR ISLAND

Dir. Calvin Lee Reeder, U.S.A., 2023, 17 min

A comedian lives in a van and records non-sequiturs and dad jokes while stalking the industrial zone at night.

SENTIMENTAL VALUE

Dir. Steve E Collins, U.S.A., 2023, 12 min

A trip inside a piano uncovers what's wrong with a depressed musician.

VERTICAL VALOR

Dir. Alex Kavutskiy, U.S.A., 2022, 15 min

After being drafted for World War III, a group of burnout skateboarders are recruited into a casualty notification unit.

MIKEY'S CUBBY

Dir. Fawn Lenna, Canada, 2022, 3 min

Computy teaches Mikey about the internet.

WRITE A SONG ABOUT HEARTACHE

Dir. Jonny Look, U.S.A., 2023, 13 min

A musician finds a painful shortcut to writing new hits.

SHORTS: CHILLING ENCOUNTERS

Various Countries, 2022-2023, 96 mins

Saturday, April 22 | 4:15 PM

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

For people that like their dark and creepy tales in small doses, this package delivers the thrills they seek.



DEAD ENDERS

Dir. Fidel Ruiz-Healy / Tyler Walker, U.S.A., 2023, 12 min

A disaffected, young gas station clerk on the midnight shift must learn to give a damn about something after malevolent mind-controlling bugs are set loose by responsible oil drillers.

DEADLINE

Dir. Idan Gilboa, Israel, 2023, 13 min

A story of a brave friendship and solidarity between two senior ladies sickened by society's disregard and disrespect.

GNOMES

Dir. Ruwan Heggelman, Netherlands, 2022, 6 min

Unknowingly, a girl enters the habitat of a tribe of killer gnomes during her daily run. Lured by mysterious glowing mushrooms, she'll soon wish she'd stayed on her usual tracks.

RINGWORMS

Dir. Will Lee, U.S.A., 2022, 14 min

After discovering her boyfriend's plan to propose on their weekend vacation, a young girl undergoes a crisis of commitment which attracts the attention of a sinister local cult.

SLEEP STUDY

Dir. Natalie Metzger, U.S.A., 2022, 10 min

A restless new mother confronts a dangerous terror whenever she tries to sleep.

WE FORGOT ABOUT THE ZOMBIES

Dir. Chris McInroy, U.S.A., 2023, 4 min

Two dudes think they found the cure for zombie bites.

DIASPORA

Dir. Tyler McKenzie Evans, Canada, 2022, 16 min

In a Black suburb, a couple begins to notice that their neighbours are disappearing and white people are moving in. Soon they discover that something much darker is happening inexplicably catered to.

POOL PARTY

Dir. Ellie Stewart, Canada, 2023, 8 min

Outcast Freya attempts to make it through the night at her childhood best friend's 17th birthday party without revealing her most dangerous secret.

THE DRUID'S HAND

Dir. Mitch Oliver, Canada, 2022, 14 min

An ostracized town priest and his acolyte face the ramifications of their dark past. Guilt turns to paranoia as an evil ignites their once peaceful town.

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CALGARY

SHORTS: QUESTIONABLE COUPLINGS
Various Countries, 2022-2023, 108 mins

Monday, April 24 | 6:30 PM

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

This selection of shorts show that getting to know someone can shape your life in ways both small and shocking.



CLOSE

Dir. Tom Gentle, U.K., 2023, 16 min

30-somethings Sam and Jamie just want to ditch their raggedy old sofa and go for brunch. But when they lock themselves out in the communal stairwell, they're forced to consider that maybe they aren't as close as they thought.

I STILL HAVEN'T FOUND WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR

Dir. Steve Collins, U.S.A., 2023, 9 min

A U2 themed proposal at Joshua Tree goes awry when Paul realizes his wife to be is not a fan.

LEGS

Dir. Celine Cotran, U.K., 2022, 16 min

Joy and Harry are trying to have a baby. After swallowing a spider in her sleep, Joy develops an insatiable appetite for flies, and it dawns on her that there may be more than one way of becoming a mother.

PRETTY PICKLE

Dir. Jim Vendiola, U.S.A., 2022, 13 min

As he spends more time with his new girlfriend, a young man begins to privately dwell upon one of her quirks, leading him to a troubling discovery.

THEY GROW UP SO FAST

Dir. John F. Beach, U.S.A., 2022, 10 min

When Brian meets Amy after a night out on the town, things move a little faster than he anticipated.

WILD CARD

Dir. Tipper Newton, U.S.A., 2022, 13 min

Two strangers are brought together by a video dating service.

DAVID AT THE DOOR

Dir. Colin Bradley, Canada, 2023, 10 min

The short documentary looks at David Milgaard, an advocate for wrongfully convicted prisoners.

A WEDDING DAY

Dir. Brendan Beachman, U.S.A, 2023, 21 min

For newlyweds Brad and Jill, it seems the honeymoon is over before it even began. When an eccentric stranger named Jess White stumbles into the couples first argument as man and wife, the day takes an abrupt turn and changes their lives forever.very few clothes.



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SCREAM (1996)

PETER COWPER
HARRY WARDEN, THE MINER
MY BLOODY VALENTINE (1981)

JAMES JUDE COURTNEY
THE SHAPE
HALLOWEEN (2018)
HALLOWEEN KILLS
HALLOWEEN ENDS

MARK BURNHAM
LEATHERFACE
TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE (2022)

MILLY SHAPIRO
CHARLIE
HEREDITARY

KILLER KLOWNS
FROM OUTER SPACE
35TH ANNIVERSARY REUNION

CHIDO BROS
DIRECTORS, 1984

MIKE MARTINEZ

HARROD BLANK

SUZANNE SNYDER

GRANT CRAMER



An aerial photograph of Calgary, Alberta, showing the city skyline, a river, and mountains in the background. Four red location pins are placed on the image, each with a movie title above it: 'The Revenant' (near the mountains), 'Brokeback Mountain' (further up the mountains), 'The Last of Us' (in the city center), and 'Fargo' (in the city center).

Brokeback Mountain

The Revenant

The Last of Us

Fargo

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The Clayman logo, featuring the word 'CLAYMAN' in a stylized font with a vertical line through the 'A'. Below the logo is the website 'CLAYMAN.BRAVADO.DE' and the Twitter handle '@CLAYMANLIMITED'. The main image shows a man with a beard and a black cap, wearing a black t-shirt with the 'CLAYMAN' logo, performing on stage with a microphone. The background is dark with blue and green stage lights.

CLAYMAN^{LD}

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PH: NEILA LIM SANG



The Globe Cinema logo, featuring the word 'GLOBE' in a stylized font with a sunburst design behind it, and 'CINEMA' below it. Below the logo is the text 'CALGARY'S CLASSIC MOVIEHOUSE'. The main text reads 'LET US HOST YOUR NEXT EVENT' followed by a list of event types: Film Festivals, Parties, Private Screenings, Corporate Meetings, and Seminars. A yellow banner with the text 'FULLY LICENSED' is positioned below the list. At the bottom, it says 'For more, visit GLOBECINEMA.CA' with a sunburst design. The footer contains social media icons for Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter.

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CLASSIC
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