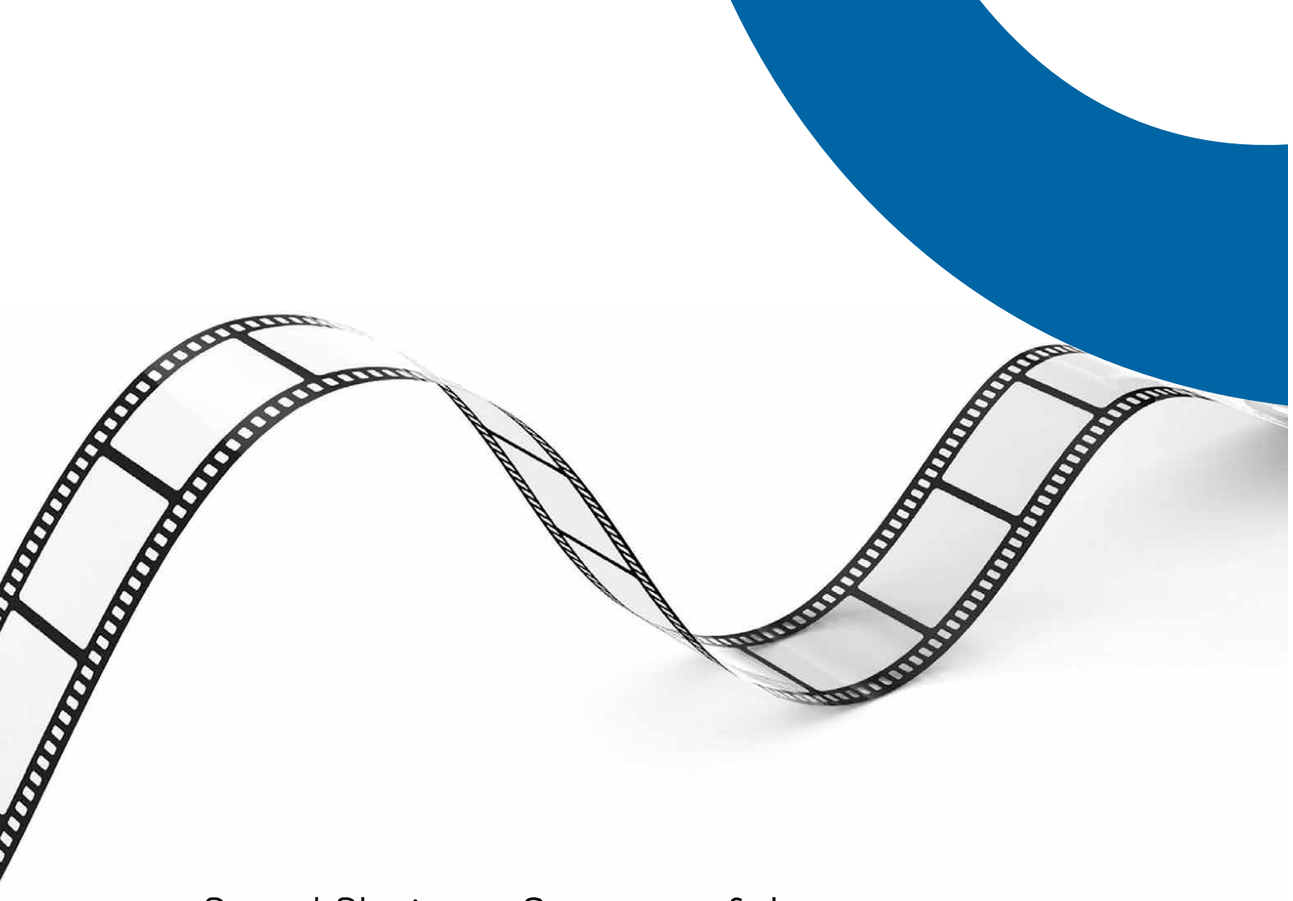


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TORONTO REEL ASIAN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

401 Richmond Street West,
Suite 448
Toronto, ON M5V 3A8
416 703 9333
info@reelasian.com

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WELCOME TO THE 22ND ANNUAL EDITION OF THE TORONTO REEL ASIAN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL, PRESENTED BY NATIONAL BANK!

The conversation has deepened on the necessity to expand the diversity of representation to fulfill the hunger of the audience, and we're extremely excited to be able to introduce Toronto audiences to the wealth of talent that can be found in Asian cinema. We can't wait to hear and experience the conversations, films, events and exhibits from the filmmakers, panelists and media influencers that will be at this year's festival.

We welcome our award-winning and critically-acclaimed Canadian Spotlight Artist Min Sook Lee, who has opened up our minds and forced us to reconsider the practices in our society in her body of work. This year, we'll be revisiting her Hot Docs Best Canadian feature winner *Hogtown: The Politics of Policing* with a deeper conversation on the themes of the film.

We're also thrilled to be able to present a strong showcase by female voices, with over 50% of our film programming by female filmmakers, and have over 80% representation within our Reel Ideas series, including speakers at our Reel Ideas Conference and mentors and jurors for our pitch competition.

We wouldn't be able to put on such a successful event without the deep commitments and contributions of our dedicated staff, exceptional volunteers and engaged Board of Directors. We are grateful to the support and generosity of our members, donors, government funders, sponsors and community partners that have enabled Reel Asian to grow and build our talent in Toronto and internationally. As well, we must also applaud the bold and brilliant filmmakers and industry professionals that have brought us their stories and experience to share with the audiences. Most importantly, we must thank the audiences, whose encouragement is instrumental to continuing this change.

We must also recognize the courageous and talented filmmakers that have often made hard choices to create and share their stories with audiences, which we've had the pleasure to share with Toronto through Reel Asian. Lastly, we must not forget to thank the audiences - you! - for coming out and enjoying the movies with us.

Thanks for coming out and see you at the festival!

Savine Wong
Interim Executive Director

Kristine Estorninos
Head of Programming

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Proud To Offer Our Support & Applause

National Bank is proud to serve once again as the Presenting Sponsor of the Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival now celebrating its twenty second year.

At National Bank, we are committed to promoting social and cultural development and to be a part of the community in which we serve our customers. Our main areas of focus include: entrepreneurship, education, health, sports and culture – National Bank helps to support hundreds of organizations across Canada, and is pleased to include Canada's largest Asian film festival on this list. This year marks National Bank's ninth year of involvement and sixth consecutive year as Presenting Sponsor for the festival.

We look forward to celebrating another amazing year of Asian cinema, culture and ethnic filmmakers. We hope you enjoy the film festival and all the wonderful films that will surely delight and entertain us.

Tarek E. Naguib
Vice President
Personal Banking, Ontario & Western Canada

Linda Smart
Vice President
Commercial Banking, Ontario

CREDITS & ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



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Bottom L-R: Madge Yao, Henry Wong, Jillian Maniquis, Jasmine Gui, Joseph Chung, Kat Baggio **Missing:** Yoko Nakamura, Dilani Rabindran, Sabrina Spence, Aki Takabatake, Tony Lau, Hanako Fuji, Vithiya Murugadas

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FESTIVAL MAPS

SCREENING & INDUSTRY VENUES

01: Isabel Bader Theatre 🦽 (⁝⁝) 2
93 Charles St W • (416) 585-4498

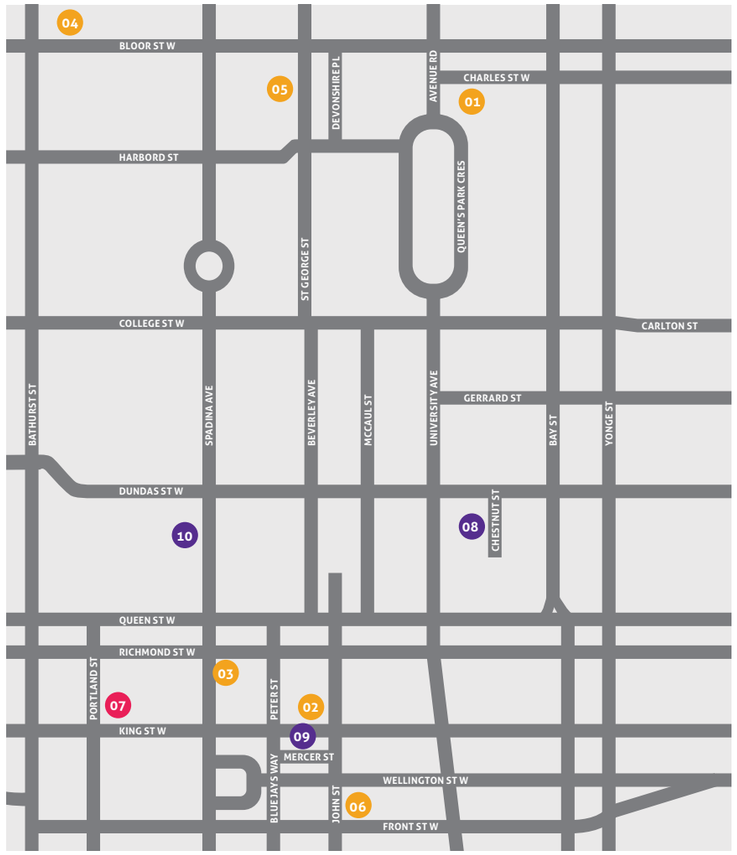
02: TIFF Bell Lightbox 🦽 (⁝⁝) 4
350 King St W • (416) 599-8433

03: Bachir/Yerex Presentation Space / The Commons
401 Richmond St W, Suite 440
(416) 703-9333

04: Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema 🦽 4
506 Bloor St W • (416) 637-3123

05: Innis Town Hall 🦽 4
2 Sussex Ave • (416) 946-7066

06: Kobayashi Hall
(Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre)
6 Garamond Ct • (416) 441-2345



EVENT VENUES

07: The Spoke Club
600 King St W • (416) 368-8448

03: The Commons
401 Richmond St W, 4th Floor
(416) 703-9333

ACCOMMODATIONS

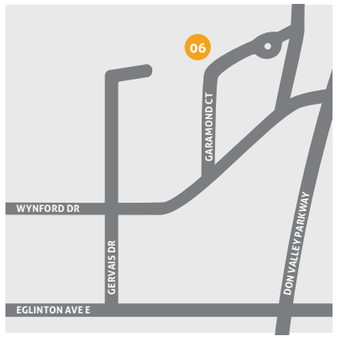
08: DoubleTree by Hilton
108 Chestnut St • (416) 977-5000

09: Hilton Garden Inn ⁝
92 Peter St • (416) 595-1975

10: Super 8
222 Spadina Ave • (647) 426-8118

ACCESSIBILITY

- fully accessible / seats available
- partially accessible / seats available
- ⁝ braille throughout the venue
- (⁝) limited braille at the venue
- seating available for support persons



All our venues welcome service animals and guide dogs. Films not in English are presented with English subtitles.

For more information on accessiblity, please visit our website **reelasian.com**, email **access@reelasian.com** orcall **(416) 703-9333**.

TICKETING

TICKET TYPES	REGULAR*	MEMBERS	
		FRIENDS & SUPPORTERS	PARTNERS, CHAMPIONS & PATRONS
REGULAR & YOUTH SCREENINGS	$15	$11.25	$9
OPENING NIGHT & CLOSING NIGHT GALA	$25	$18.75	$15
OPENING NIGHT & CLOSING NIGHT PARTY (AT THE DOOR)	$10	FREE	FREE
HARI KONDABOLU KEYNOTE	$25	$18.75	$15
JAPANESE CANADIAN CULTURAL CENTRE PARTNER PRESENTATIONS	$15	$12	$12
HOT DOCS PARTNER PRESENTATION (INCLUDES CATERED DINNER)	$49	$44	$44

REEL IDEAS CONFERENCE THURSDAY 15 NOVEMBER	REGULAR*	MEMBERS	
		FRIENDS & SUPPORTERS	PARTNERS, CHAMPIONS & PATRONS
DAY PASS (INCLUDES LUNCHEON)	$20	$20	$20
PER SESSION (DOES NOT INCLUDE LUNCHEON)	$6	$6	$6

* Students (with valid current ID) and seniors over 65 (no ID required) are eligible for a $2 discount off regular prices (does not apply to partner presentations or conference fees) and free admission to films that start before 5:00 PM. All tickets purchased through the Festival Box Office are subject to additional per-item service fees

BUYING TICKETS IN ADVANCE – FESTIVAL BOX OFFICE

Advanced tickets for Toronto shows go on sale at 10:00 AM on October 11, 2018 and are available through the following:

- In person at TIFF Bell Lightbox box office (350 King St W • Mon–Sun, 10:00 AM–10:00 PM)
- By phone at (416) 599-TIFF (Mon–Sun, 10:00 AM–7:00 PM)

The Festival Box Office does not sell tickets to partner presentations or the Reel Ideas Conference.

BUYING TICKETS ONLINE

Online sales begin at 10:00 AM on October 11, 2018 through **reelasian.com** (powered by TIFF Ticketing).

- for shows at **TIFF Bell Lightbox**, online sales continue right up until showtime
- for shows at **Isabel Bader Theatre**, online sales continue until 5:00 PM. Buy in person at the venue starting at 6:00 PM.
- for shows at **Bachir/Yerex Presentation Space**, online sales end at 10:00 PM the night before the show. Buy in person at the venue after that.
- for shows at the **Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre**, tickets are available exclusively through our presentation partner: **www.jccc.on.ca**
- for shows at **Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema**, tickets are available exclusively through our presentation partner: **www.hotdocs.ca**
- for shows at **Innis Town Hall**, admission is free but tickets must be reserved through the Asian Institute's system: **munkschool.utoronto.ca/events**
- tickets & passes to the **Reel Ideas Conference** are available through **reelasian.com** (powered by EventBrite)

Tickets purchased online can be picked up at the Festival Box Office 24 hours after purchase. For shows at the TIFF Bell Lightbox only, you may carry your e-tickets on your mobile device – please be sure to download your tickets (with a bar code) completely to your device. **All tickets expire 15 minutes before scheduled show time, subject to the discretion of the festival.**

Visit **reelasian.com/ticketingFAQs** for more information

BUYING TICKETS IN PERSON

Walk-up sales are available from the venue box offices as follows:

- for shows at **TIFF Bell Lightbox**, walk-up sales are available from the Festival Box Office right up until showtime
- for shows at **Isabel Bader Theatre**, walk-up sales are available on the day of the show starting at 6:00 PM
- for shows at **Bachir/Yerex Presentation Space**, walk-up sales are available on the day of the show starting at 9:30 AM
- for shows at the **Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre** and **Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema**, walk-up sales are available on the day of the show starting an hour before show time
- for shows at **Innis Town Hall**, same-day tickets are subject to availability on a first-come, first-served basis starting an hour before show time
- for sessions of the **Reel Ideas Conference**, same-day admissions are available at the door starting 15 min before session's scheduled start time, subject to capacity. A limited quantity of Day Passes are available on the day of the conference from 9:00 AM to 9:30 AM only.

SCHEDULE

	9 AM	10 AM	11 AM 30	12 PM 30	1 PM 30	2 PM 30	3 PM 30	4 PM 30	5 PM 30	6 PM 30	7 PM 30	8 PM 30	9 PM 30	10 PM 30	11 PM 30	12 AM 30
THURSDAY NOV 8											OPENING NIGHT GALA P.18 DEAR EX Isabel Bader Q&A			SPECIAL EVENT P.19 OPENING NIGHT GALA PARTY Spoke Club		
FRIDAY NOV 9										SHORTS P.56 UNSUNG VOICES 7 TIFF Lightbox C3 Q&A		FEATURE P.34 DEAD PIGS TIFF Lightbox C3				
SATURDAY NOV 10				FEATURE P.21 RAMEN SHOP TIFF Lightbox C3		FEATURE P.23 MIRAI TIFF Lightbox C3			FEATURE P.25 HOUSE OF THE RISING SONS TIFF Lightbox C3			KEYNOTE P.72 HARI KONDABOLU TIFF Lightbox C3				
	KIDS SHORTS FILMS & ACTIVITIES P.54 WEE ASIAN 2018 TIFF Lightbox Green Room															
SUNDAY NOV 11				FEATURE P.35 FINDING BIG COUNTRY TIFF Lightbox C3 Q&A			FEATURE P.27 TOMORROW IS ANOTHER DAY TIFF Lightbox C3 Q&A		FEATURE P.37 FAMILY IN THE BUBBLE TIFF Lightbox C3				FEATURE P.29 INUYASHIKI TIFF Lightbox C3 Q&A			
		PITCH COMPETITION P.73 SO YOU THINK YOU CAN PITCH Bachir/Yerex														
MONDAY NOV 12			SHORTS P. 58 SPECTRUM Bachir/Yerex Q&A			SHORTS + CANADIAN SPOTLIGHT P. 48/60 COUNTERBALANCE Bachir/Yerex Q&A				FEATURE P.38 ULAM: MAIN DISH Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema Q&A						
									FEATURE P.39 ORIGIN STORY TIFF Lightbox C4 Q&A			FEATURE P.41 HIGH FLASH TIFF Lightbox C4				
TUESDAY NOV 13			SHORTS P. 62 ENTANGLED TALES Bachir/Yerex Q&A			SHORTS P. 64 IN THEIR WORDS Bachir/Yerex Q&A				FEATURE P. 42 NANG BY NANG Bachir/Yerex Q&A						
WEDNESDAY NOV 14			SHORTS P. 66 NOT IN UNIFORM Bachir/Yerex Q&A			SHORTS P.68 UPROOTED Bachir/Yerex Q&A					FEATURE P.43 THIS SHAKING KEEPS ME... Innis Town Hall Q&A					
											FEATURE P.48 HOGTOWN: THE POLITICS OF POL... Bachir/Yerex Q&A					
THURSDAY NOV 15			CONFERENCE P.74 ELEVATE YOUR PITCH! Bachir/Yerex	CONFERENCE P.74 INFLUENCING IMPACT Bachir/Yerex		CONFERENCE P.75 REMAPPINGS Bachir/Yerex		CONFERENCE P.75 VOICING ACROSS MEDIUMS Bachir/Yerex			FEATURE P.44 A TIME TO SWIM Innis Town Hall Q&A					
											FEATURE P.45 ONE CUT OF THE DEAD Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre					
FRIDAY NOV 16											CLOSING NIGHT GALA P.30 WISH YOU WERE HERE Isabel Bader Q&A			SPECIAL EVENT P.31 CLOSING NIGHT GALA PARTY Spoke Club		

MARQUEE EVENT

VISTA EVENT

WEE ASIAN

PULSE EVENT

REEL IDEAS

CDN SPOTLIGHT ARTIST

REEL ASIAN X: NOV 1- 10

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FESTIVAL AWARDS

menkes

Menkes Audience Award
All feature films are eligible for this prize. $5,000 cash prize.

FASKEN MARTINEAU

Fasken Martineau Best Feature Film Award
All feature works are eligible for this prize. $4,000 cash prize.

NATIONAL BANK

National Bank Best First Feature Film Award
All first feature films are eligible for this prize. $4,000 cash prize.

CHANNEL ZERO

Channel Zero Best Canadian Film or Video Award
All Canadian works are eligible for this prize. $1,000 cash prize.

ANIMASIAN

Animasian Award
All animated films and videos are eligible for this prize. $500 cash prize.

AIR CANADA

Air Canada Short Film or Video Award
All Canadian short films and videos are eligible for this prize. Opportunity to broadcast on Air Canada's in-flight entertainment screens on international flights.

DGC DIRECTORS GUILD OF CANADA ONTARIO
WIFT WOMEN IN FILM & TELEVISION TORONTO

DGC Ontario & WIFT-T Film Award
All films made by female Ontario-based artists are eligible for this prize. $1,000 cash prize, $1,200 programming pass and one-year membership from WIFT-T.

GOVERNMENT LETTERS

Congratulations to all those taking part in the 22nd annual Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival, where unique, provocative and passionate stories will be told. These stories are a testament to those who dare to reach for their dreams and whose determination and passion are promoting culture.

For 22 years, the Reel Asian festival has created a space where Asian cinema can thrive and where artists can speak up, share their stories and advocate for Asian representation. The festival gives filmmakers a home for continuing their art, as well as a platform and an audience to showcase their films. In addition, educational initiatives and youth workshops are organized during the festival and throughout the year-giving Asian artists of all ages the chance to learn and refine their craft.

Filmmakers and artists from a number of regions around the world will come to Canada to celebrate their culture. Thank you to all the participants for being a part of the Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival and for championing culturally diverse storytelling.

I wish every one of you a memorable event!



Julie Payette
Governor General of Canada

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to everyone attending the 22nd annual Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival.

This festival offers a wonderful opportunity for participants to experience cinema from talented Asian filmmakers from Canada and around the world. I am sure that everyone in attendance will enjoy this artistic showcase, and I would like to commend all of the filmmakers for sharing their passion with the community.

I would also like to thank the organizers for their hard work and dedication, and for their commitment to promoting multiculturalism in the film industry. Events such as this one remind us that our country is made great not in spite of its diversity, but because of it.

On behalf of the Government of Canada, I offer my best wishes for a memorable and enjoyable festival.

Sincerely,



The Rt. Hon. Justin P. J. Trudeau, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada

Welcome to the 22nd Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival!

Canada's stories, shaped by our immense and vibrant diversity, should be celebrated and shared between Canadians and with the world. Our government is proud to support the Reel Asian Festival because we share its goal of empowering diverse storytelling. This festival offers filmmakers from Asia and the Asian diaspora a prime showcase for their work, while giving Canadians of all backgrounds a chance to enjoy some great movies and see the world from different perspectives.

As Minister of Canadian Heritage and Multiculturalism, I would like to thank all the organizers, filmmakers and volunteers who helped bring this celebration of cinema to life. You have made an outstanding contribution to Toronto's cultural landscape. Enjoy the films!



The Honourable Pablo Rodriguez
Minister of Canadian Heritage and Multiculturalism

It is with great pleasure that I welcome attendees, organizers and volunteers to this year's Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival. Congratulations on another successful year in enhancing our community's artistic landscape.

As Canada's premier presenter of pan-Asian contemporary cinema, with a focus on Asian Canadian works, the Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival has become a significant source of cultural enrichment and a significant public forum to showcase Asian art.

I thank you for your dedication to promoting multiculturalism and diversity in our community and for your continued efforts in making the Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival a reality year after year.

Sincerely,



Adam Vaughan, M.P.
Spadina-Fort York

I'm very pleased to extend greetings to everyone attending the 22nd Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival.

A big round of applause goes out to everyone who helped to make this terrific event a success, including the participating filmmakers and artists, and the festival's staff, sponsors and volunteers.

You can all be proud of your dedication to showcasing contemporary Asian cinema. You can also be proud of the role you play in strengthening Ontario's cultural landscape.

To all those who made the journey to Toronto to take part in this event, I hope you enjoy your stay in our province's capital, and have the chance to take in some of the city's exciting attractions.

I hope you all enjoy this year's festival.



Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario

On behalf of the Government of Ontario, I am delighted to welcome everyone to the 22nd Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival.

This wonderful festival helps us celebrate the rich history of our province and its diverse Asian communities. It also plays an important role in strengthening Ontario's economy by attracting visitors and improving our quality of life.

The Ontario government is proud to be a champion of the Reel Asian International Film Festival and the Ontario film industry. I want to thank the many artists who put their hearts and souls into these films, and to also thank the hardworking Festival staff and volunteers for helping to make this annual event such a success.

I wish everyone a memorable 2018 festival.

Best wishes,



Sylvia Jones
Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport

JURY

FEATURES JURY



Jason Gorber is a film journalist and member of the Toronto Film Critics Association. He is the Managing Editor of ThatShelf.com, a Features Editor at DTK Magazine and a critic for HighDefDigest. His writing has appeared in Esquire, The Toronto Star, The Globe and Mail, The National Post, Screen Anarchy, Birth.Movies. Death, IndieWire and more. He has appeared on CTV NewsChannel, CBC, CP24, RogerEbert.com and many other broadcasters.



Ananya Ohri is most interested in exploring how what we say shapes who we become. She was the Executive Director of the Regent Park Film Festival for 7 years and is currently the Artistic Director of the festival's nation-wide project, *Home Made Visible.*



Jason McGrath is an Associate Professor in Asian Languages and Literatures at the University of Minnesota, with affiliations in Moving Image Studies and Cultural Studies and Comparative Literature. His book *Postsocialist Modernity: Chinese Cinema, Literature, and Criticism in the Market Age* was published by Stanford University Press, and his current book project is entitled *Inscribing the Real: Realism and Convention in Chinese Cinema from the Silent Era to the Digital Age.*

SHORTS JURY



Casey Mecija is an accomplished multi-disciplinary artist, primarily working in the fields of music and film. She played in *Ohbijou*, the Canadian orchestral pop band, and recently released her first solo album, *Psychic Materials.* Casey is also an award-winning filmmaker whose work has screened internationally. She is completing a PhD at the University of Toronto where she researches art, media and cultural studies as they relate to queer diaspora.



Lillian Chan is an illustrator and animation filmmaker from Toronto, and was Reel Asian's Spotlight Artist of 2017. Her children's film, *Jaime Lo, small and shy*, was produced by the National Film Board of Canada, and won public prize at both the Ottawa International Animation Festival and Anima Mundi in Brazil. Her favourite pastime is drawing silly doodles of her two cats, Frankie and Mao. See more of her work at www.lilch.ca



Barbara Goslawski is a freelance writer whose work has been featured in national dailies and magazines, and is a broadcaster turned podcaster, working as co-host and producer of Frameline, a weekly film chat show, which began at CKLN and expanded to international reach at Radio Regent and now iTunes. Goslawski has been an independent programmer for cinemas, special events, and festivals across Canada and around the world, most notably in Belgium and Taiwan. Other career highlights include her work as a distributor of shorts and avant-garde works at the Canadian Filmmakers Distribution Centre.

PITCH JURY



Aisling Chin-Yee is an award-winning producer, writer, and director based in Montreal, Canada. She is currently in post-production on her feature film directorial debut, *The Rest of Us*, starring Heather Graham, Sophie Nélisse, and Jodi Balfour. She began her production career as an associate producer at the National Film Board of Canada in 2006 before joining Prospector Films as producer and director in 2010. Chin-Yee founded Fluent Films in early 2016. She co-created #AfterMeToo aimed to analyze the issue of sexual misconduct in the entertainment industry.



With over twenty years of experience in the film & television industry, **Teresa M. Ho** is currently in production on Season 2 of Frankie Drake Mysteries for CBC/UKTV. Her feature documentary *My Piece of the City* will screen on CBC. Previously, she managed CBC/Netflix's Series *Anne with an E*, multiple units on NBC Universal's reboot TV Series *Heroes Reborn*, and all of Shaftesbury production teams for over eight years including *Murdoch Mysteries*, *The Moblees*, and *The Listener.*



Aliya Pabani is an artist and podcaster. Most recently, she was host/producer of CANADALAND's arts and culture podcast *The Imposter,* a show that covered everything from interviews with groundbreaking artists like Tanya Tagaq, to the story of an early synthesizer pioneer from the Maritimes who scored the Apollo 11 moon landing. *The Imposter* was featured as one of the best podcasts of 2017 by CBC's Podcast Playlist, and Ben Cannon of the AV Club called it "one of the finest, most compulsively listenable shows in the world of podcasts today."

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Discount on Downtown Festival Tickets	25%	25%	40%	40%	40%
Discount on Uptown Festival Tickets	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Year-end Impact Report	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Access to Reel Asian Festival Lounge	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Recognition in Festival Program Guide		✓	✓	✓	✓
Access to Member-Only Advance Box Office		✓	✓	✓	✓
Invitation to Opening Night VIP Cocktail Reception		✓	✓	✓	✓
Secondary Account Holder to the Membership			✓	✓	✓
Festival Bag				✓	✓
Reserved Seats at Festival Screenings				✓	✓
Tickets to Downtown Regular Screenings	2	2	4	8	16
Tickets to Programmers' Pick Screenings	2	2	6	8	10
Tickets at Downtown Gala Presentations	N/A	2	2	6	10
Tickets to Uptown Screenings	N/A	2	2	4	6
YEAR ROUND BENEFITS					
Recognition on Reel Asian Website	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Member E-newsletters with Exclusive Offers	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Invitation to Year Round VIP Events	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tickets to Co-Presentation Screenings	✓	✓	✓	PRIORITY ACCESS	PRIORITY ACCESS
10% Discount to Annual Fundraiser			✓	✓	✓
CHARITABLE TAX RECEIPT	N/A	$40	$100	$170	$510

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MARQUEE
OPENING NIGHT GALA



OPENING
NIGHT GALA

ISABEL BADER
THEATRE

THURSDAY, NOV 8TH
7:30 PM

DEAR EX
誰先愛上他的

TAIWAN 2018
100:00
MANDARIN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
PG • CANADIAN PREMIERE

DIRECTOR
Mag Hsu 徐譽庭
(in attendance)
Chih-Yen Hsu

CAST
Roy Chiu 邱澤 (in attendance)
Ying-Shiuan Hsieh
Joseph Huang
Spark Chen

OFFICIAL SELECTION
2018 Udine Far East Film Festival
2018 Taipei Film Festival
2018 Busan Film Festival

Dear Ex follows three people who are linked by fate because of love and family. Adolescent Song Chengxi loses his father Song Zhengyuan to cancer, but instead of having time to mourn, Chengxi finds himself caught in a feud between his widowed mother Liu Sanlian and his father's gay lover Jay. As Liu fights Jay for Song's insurance money, Chengxi gradually learns that what holds both Liu and Jay back is not the money, but the weight of the loving memories they each have with his father.

As conservative groups continue to voice opposition in advance of same-sex marriage becoming legal in Taiwan in May of 2019, *Dear Ex* is a timely reminder of the social and human impact that results from the lack of acceptance for LGBTQ rights. The film, however, does not sensationalize or victimize queer love. With its heartfelt sincerity, it leaves us with the hope for a more inclusive society.

This is a pivotal film for co-director Mag Hsu and lead actor Roy Chiu, who were previously known for their work in TV. With compelling storytelling, nuanced performances and a beautiful score, *Dear Ex* is one of the finest films to emerge from Taiwan this year. - BX

Mag Hsu is a critically acclaimed screenplay writer and theatre director. She won the 2012 Golden Bell Award for best screenplay. Her most famous screenplays include the TV dramas *Story in Time, Apple in Your Eye* and *In Time with You.*

Chih-Yen Hsu is a Taiwanese filmmaker and music video director who has made music videos for legendary hip-hop label KAO! *Dear Ex* is the debut for both Chih-Yen Hsu and Mag Hsu as feature film directors.

AWARDS
2018 Taipei Film Festival
- Best Narrative Film
- Best Lead Actor
- Best Lead Actress
- Audience's Choice Award

SPECIAL EVENT

OPENING NIGHT GALA PARTY

THURSDAY,
NOV 8TH · 10:00 PM – 12:00 AM
THE SPOKE CLUB (600 KING ST W)

$10 AT THE DOOR / FREE FOR MEMBERS
OR WITH OPENING NIGHT TICKET STUB

Join us at Toronto's exclusive Spoke Club to kick off Reel Asian's 22nd year. We'll be in the heart of the entertainment district to celebrate with co-director Mag Hsu and lead actor Roy Chiu.

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RAMEN SHOP
情牽拉麵茶

Eric Khoo was the first Singaporean to have his films invited to major film festivals such as Berlin, Venice and Cannes. He was awarded the Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Letters, from the French Cultural Minister and his feature, *My Magic,* was nominated for the Cannes Palme d'Or in 2008. In 2017, Khoo sat on the jury for the Cannes Short Film Competition Palm D'or. Reel Asian screened Khoo's feature film, *Tatsumi*, in 2012.

WITH SUPPORT FROM

JAPANFOUNDATION

COMMUNITY PARTNERS
Deloitte
Singapore Malaysia Association

In Takasaki, Japan, Masato works with his father to run their ramen shop. Despite living together, their strained relationship makes communication stifled and sparse. When Masato finds his mother's diary filled with recipes, memories, and entries written in Chinese—a language foreign to him—he decides to visit Singapore to uncover and relive his mother's history. Working his way through Singapore's food landscape, Masato stumbles across something much more personal than discovering family recipes, secrets, and stories. Instead, he comes across connections and meaning to his existence long buried and thought to be best forgotten.

Eric Khoo's latest film, *Ramen Shop,* delves into the myriad of ways food permeates our lives whether it is the taste of a mother's cooking, a reminder of an indigestible history, or the togetherness of sharing food.

Ramen Shop is a story about belonging, reunions, and burdensome knowledge alongside a bowl of bak kut teh noodle soup. - KL

Preceded By *Our Filipino-Canadian Family* by Dianne Pearl Tanada, the Audience Choice winner from Reel Asian's **See Yourself Here** social media contest.

SINGAPORE/JAPAN/FRANCE
2018
90:00
ENGLISH, JAPANESE, MANDARIN, AND CANTONESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
PG • TORONTO PREMIERE

DIRECTOR
Eric Khoo

CAST
Takumi Saitoh
Jeannette Aw
Mark Lee
Beatrice Chen
Tsuyoshi Ihara
Tetsuya Bessho
Seiko Matsuda

OFFICIAL SELECTION
2018 Berlinale

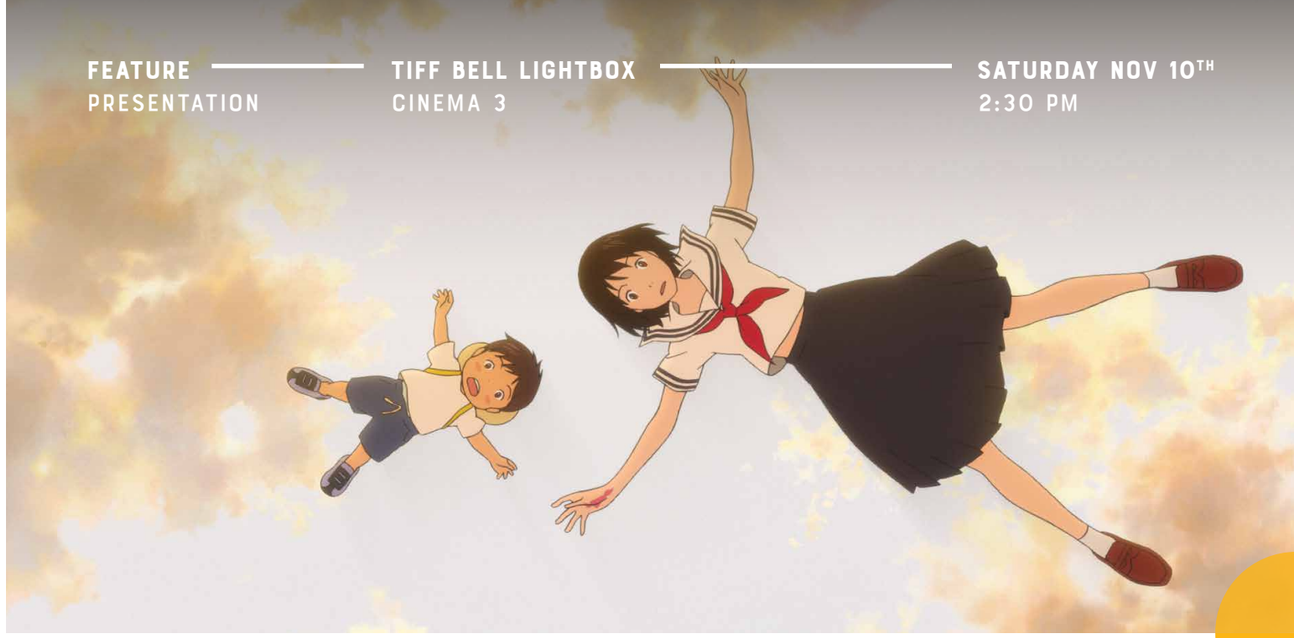
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MIRAI
未来のミライ

Mamoru Hosoda was born in 1967 in Toyama. After graduating from Kanazawa College of Art, he joined Toei Doga studio (now Toei Animation Co, Ltd) and began his career as an animator. In 2011, with Yuichiro Saito (the producer who has accompanied him throughout his career), he created his own animation studio, Studio Chizu, and spearheaded a new movement in theatrical animation. The studio's first production, *Wolf Children* (Reel Asian, 2012), followed by *The Boy and the Beast*, cemented Hosoda's popularity in Japan and abroad.

Mirai is Mamoru Hosoda's heartwarming look at the difficulties of becoming the older sibling, as seen through the eyes of young Kun. When his parents arrive home with his baby sister, Mirai, Kun is less than thrilled. As the new addition becomes the center of his parents' attention, Kun becomes increasingly jealous. He withdraws into himself and takes refuge in the backyard, where a magical family tree grows.

As he spends more time by the tree, Kun finds himself suddenly catapulted into a fantasy world where the past and present mingle. Guided by his relatives at different ages of their own lives, Kun finally manages to carve out his own story as the older sibling. - KE

WITH SUPPORT FROM

JAPANFOUNDATION

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Anime North
Japan Exchange Teaching Alumni Association
Toronto Animated Image Society

JAPAN 2018
98:00
JAPANESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
PG • TORONTO PREMIERE

DIRECTOR
Mamoru Hosoda

CAST
Moka Kamishiraishi
Haru Kuroki
Gen Hoshino
Kumiko Aso

OFFICIAL SELECTION
2018 Cannes Film Festival - Director's Fortnight
2018 Annecy International Animated Film Festival

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HOUSE OF THE RISING SONS
兄弟班

Anthony Chan is a Hong Kong actor, director and producer who, along with Alan Tam, Kenny Bee, Bennett Pang and Danny Yip, formed the band The Wynners, one of the most popular groups in Hong Kong history. Chan formed the company Go Go Film in the early 1980s, producing and directing a series of successful comedies, including *Let's Make Laugh*, *Happy Bigamist*, *To Err is Humane* and *Her Fatal Ways*. He also directed *A Fishy Story*, which earned him a nomination for Best Director at the Hong Kong Film Awards.

"A legend for the ages, a brotherhood with a new sound was born..."

House of the Rising Sons is an adrenaline-fueled musical joyride that chronicles the chart-topping success of 1970s Hong Kong pop sensations, The Wynners.

Despite opposition from their parents, five young men form a neighbourhood band called The Loosers to play music and rebel against the staid conformity of their traditional upbringing. As they began to pursue their dreams, they find that the journey to stardom is never easy. Armed with grit, perseverance and raw talent, the band weathers the strain brought on by creative conflicts, personnel shake-ups and their rapidly growing popularity to become The Wynners and establish themselves as true musical legends.

Co-written and directed by the band's drummer Anthony Chan, the nostalgic *House of the Rising Sons* deftly balances drama and comedy to tell the heartwarming tale of the origins of one of Hong Kong's most popular bands. The film's young actors bring the familiar personalities of the band to life, supported by cameo performances by some of the best-known names in Hong Kong. The result is a vibrant, feel-good story that will win over fans—new and old. - SW

PREMIER SPONSOR

HONG KONG

Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toronto)
We work across Canada

HONG KONG 2018
100:00
CANTONESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
PG • CANADIAN PREMIERE

DIRECTOR
Anthony Chan

CAST
Carlos Chan
Him Ng
Lam Yiu Sing
Yu Tan
Eugene Tang
Jonathan Wong

OFFICIAL SELECTION
2018 New York Asian Film Festival

COMMUNITY PARTNERS
Hong Kong Canada Business Association
Times Physiotherapy and Rehabilitation Centre

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TOMORROW IS ANOTHER DAY
黃金花

Tai-Lee Chan is a Hong Kong based director and screenwriter. He is the screenwriter for the critically acclaimed drama *The Way We Dance* (Reel Asian 2014 Spring Showcase) and the *Ip Man* film series. *Tomorrow is Another Day* is his directorial debut.

PREMIER SPONSOR

HONG KONG
Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toronto)
We work across Canada

COMMUNITY PARTNER

Hong Kong Canada Business Association
NAAAP Toronto
Times Physiotherapy and Rehabilitation Centre

Mrs. Wong knows her husband is having an affair, but for the sake of their marriage and their autistic son, she chooses to silently endure his infidelity for the time being. What follows is a realistic, heartfelt drama of a working-class woman struggling to break through her midlife crisis.

Tomorrow is Another Day provides a compelling snapshot of everyday life for the working class in Hong Kong and additionally, the film serves to raise awareness for families with autistic children. Stylistically, the film embodies the tone of Hong Kong auteur Ann Hui's work. The intense drama is masterfully infused with a sense of matter-of-factness, constantly reminding its viewers that this is just another unremarkable day in the life of a Hong Kong family.

The ensemble cast deliver remarkable performances with veteran actress Teresa Mo earning the Best Actress trophy from the Hong Kong Film Awards. Her onscreen chemistry with Ray Lui will surely evoke nostalgia from fans of Hong Kong films and TV from the 1980s and 1990s. New talent Ling Man Lung is one to watch, with his convincing portrayal of an autistic teenager. - BX

HONG KONG 2017
91:00
CANTONESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
14A • CANADIAN PREMIERE

DIRECTOR
Tai-Lee Chan

CAST
Teresa Mo
Ling Man Lung 凌文龍 (in attendance)
Ray Lui
Bonnie Xian

OFFICIAL SELECTION
2018 Asian Pop Up Cinema Chicago

AWARDS
Best Actress,
2018 Hong Kong Film Awards
Best New Actor,
2018 Hong Kong Film Awards









INUYASHIKI いぬやしき

After finding success as a scriptwriter, **Shinsuke Sato** (b. 1970) made his directorial debut with *Love Song* in 2001. Sato began to carve out a reputation as an action director with *The Princess Blade*. After his first major commercial hit with the 2010 feature *Sand Clock*, he directed *Oblivion Island: Haruka and the Magic Mirror*, the hit sci-fi thriller *Gantz* and *Gantz Perfect Answer*. Sato has continued to turn out action hits, including *I Am a Hero*, a manga adaptation about humans struggling to survive a zombie holocaust.

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JAPAN FOUNDATION

Ostracized by his family and working in a dead-end job, Ichiro Inuyashiki feels that his life has served no purpose. One evening while in a public park, he is caught in a mysterious explosion that replaces his fragile, old body with a high-powered, mechanized shell. Finding a renewed sense of purpose with his newly-bestowed abilities, he sets out to fight crime and help whomever he can, including healing those with incurable diseases.

High school student Hiro Shishigami was also in the explosion, leaving him with the same powers as Inuyashiki. However, unlike Inuyashiki, he becomes a merciless psychopath that murders people for his own amusement. Brought together by a cruel twist of fate, Shishigami and Inuyashiki progress towards their destiny as the stage is set for an epic clash of good versus evil.

Based on a popular manga by Hiroya Oku, Shinsuke Sato spins an electrifying and suspenseful tale that honours its source material, delving into human psychology, age and relationships in between the action and special effects. Kinashi and Satoh are spectacular in their roles, embodying the depth and multi-facetness of the characters. A masterful reinvention of the superhero genre, audiences will be taken for a ride that they won't soon forget. - SW

JAPAN 2018
127:00
JAPANESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
14A • TORONTO PREMIERE

DIRECTOR
Shinsuke Sato 佐藤 信介
(in attendance)

CAST
Noritake Kinashi
Takeru Satoh

OFFICIAL SELECTION
2018 Udine Far East Film Festival
2018 Brussels International Fantastic Film Festival
2018 Fantasia Festival
2018 New York Asian Film Festival
2018 Sitges Film Festival

COMMUNITY PARTNER
Deloitte



MARQUEE
CLOSING NIGHT PRESENTATION



CLOSING
NIGHT PRESENTATION

ISABEL BADER
THEATRE

FRIDAY, NOV 16TH
7:00 PM

WISH YOU WERE HERE
在乎你

CHINA/JAPAN 2018
113:00
MANDARIN, JAPANESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
PG • NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

DIRECTOR
Kenneth Bi 畢國智
(in attendance)

CAST
Faye Yu, Takao Osawa, Ayane Kinoshita, Lu Yangyang, Goki Maeda, Yuriko Hoshi, Shingo Tsurumi, Zhou Tie, Liu Dan, Ma Yinyin

"What's kept hidden has its own power on us."

On the eve of her latest fashion showcase in Beijing, successful entrepreneur Yuan Yuan is approached by Keiko, a mysterious young Japanese woman. An admirer of Yuan Yuan's career, Keiko has learned Mandarin and fashion design for a chance to speak with her idol. As Yuan Yuan takes Keiko under her wing, long suppressed memories begin to surface of her time in Hokkaido and the husband she'd left behind.

Yuan Yuan finally builds up the courage to visit the small town she left behind more than 20 years ago in order to confront her past decisions and face her deepest fears. A journey of forgiveness and reconciliation, *Wish You Were Here* marks Kenneth Bi's return to Reel Asian. His latest feature, a co-production between China and Japan, is an examination of a woman traversing through modernity and tradition; youth and maturity; past and future. - KE

Kenneth Bi's directorial debut, *Rice Rhapsody*, won Outstanding Screenplay from Taiwan's GIO and screened at the Tokyo International Film Festival. *The Drummer* (Reel Asian, 2008) was selected for competition at the Sundance Film Festival. It also won Best Supporting Actor (Tony Leung Ka Fai) at the Golden Horse Awards. In 2010, Bi followed up with the topical social drama, *Girl$*, and in 2013, he directed the neo-noir suspense thriller *Control*, starring Daniel Wu, Simon Yam, Yao Chen and Leon Dai. *Wish You Were Here* is Bi's fifth film.

SPECIAL EVENT

CLOSING NIGHT GALA PARTY

FRIDAY,
NOV 16TH • 9:30 PM – 12:00 AM
THE SPOKE CLUB (600 KING ST W)

$10 AT THE DOOR
OR FREE WITH CLOSING NIGHT TICKET STUB

Join us at Toronto's exclusive Spoke Club to wrap up Reel Asian's 22nd year. Join director Kenneth Bi and other festival guests in raising a glass to celebrate Reel Asian's 22nd edition.

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VISTA



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DEAD PIGS
海上浮城

CHINA 2018
130:00
MANDARIN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
PG • TORONTO PREMIERE

DIRECTOR
Cathy Yan

PRODUCERS
Clarissa Zhang
Jane Zheng

CAST
Yang Haoyu, Vivian Wu, Hu Yangyang, Wang Yige, David Rysdahl, Zhang Qin Tiger Darrow, Mason Lee, Li Meng, Li Jinfei, Sun Mengchun, Zazie Beetz

OFFICIAL SELECTION
2018 Sundance
2018 Seattle International Film Festival

As thousands of dead pigs mysteriously float down the Yangtze River, five people cross paths as they search for their place in a rapidly transforming modern China.

Candy Wang is a feisty salon owner protecting her turquoise-painted home from being sold to land developers. Her brother, a pig farmer whose pigs have befallen the same fate as the others down the river, has debts with the local gangsters that compel him to convince his sister to change her mind. And there's his son, who pretends to be a success in the city when in actuality waits tables in a suckling pig restaurant. Can they beat the march of progress, or — with one final battle cry, while singing Teresa Teng's 1986 hit "I Only Care About You" — will they give in?

Based on true events, Cathy Yan's directorial debut is a dark comedy about the conflicting social norms shaping contemporary China. - KE

Preceded By *Chinatown* by Alan Peng, the Grand Prize winner from Reel Asian's **See Yourself Here** social media contest.

Born in China and raised between Hong Kong and Washington, D.C., **Cathy Yan** is based in New York City. She received her MBA from NYU's Stern School of Business and MFA at the Tisch Graduate Film Program. Her directorial debut, the short film *Last Night*, premiered at the Shanghai International Film Festival. As a reporter for the Wall Street Journal in New York, Hong Kong and Beijing, she was one of the youngest writers in the paper's history to pen multiple front-page stories. Yan will become the first Asian-American to direct a Hollywood superhero movie, the forthcoming DC Comics adaptation *Birds of Prey*.

AWARDS
Special Jury Prize, 2018 Sundance
New Directors Prize, 2018 Seattle International Film Festival

COMMUNITY PARTNERS
CPAC



FINDING BIG COUNTRY

CANADA 2018
44:00
PG • TORONTO PREMIERE

DIRECTOR
Kathleen S. Jayme
(in attendance)

CAST
Kathleen S. Jayme
Bryant "Big Country" Reeves

OFFICIAL SELECTION
2018 Vancouver International Film Festival

Based in Vancouver, B.C., **Kathleen S. Jayme** is an award winning Canadian filmmaker who is passionate about telling meaningful and personal stories. From 2012-2016, Kathleen worked at the National Film Board of Canada where she coordinated and oversaw over thirty documentaries, animations, and digital projects through all stages of production. Jayme is a fellow of the 2016 Inspirit Foundation's Story Money Impact program, the 2017 Hot Docs Documentary Channel Doc Accelerator program, and the 2017 Telus Storyhive Banff World Media Festival program. Reel Asian screened Jayme's last short film, *Paradise Island*, which was about Boracay Island in the Philippines and the local children who make sandcastles for money.

Despite the Vancouver Grizzlies' six-year existence ending in 2001, documentarian Kathleen S. Jayme remains a huge Grizzlies fan — even with the team's poster boy Bryant "Big Country" Reeves, who after criticism and career-ending injuries left the sport and the media spotlight when he was forced into retirement.

Seventeen years later, Jayme sets out to track down her hard-luck hero, fuelled to redeem both herself and him from crushed dreams, and to reconsider one of the city's most maligned sports figures. - KE

AWARDS
People's Choice Award,
2018 Vancouver International Film Festival











FAMILY IN THE BUBBLE

Minji Ma was born in 1989. She graduated from the Korea National University of Arts with a BFA in Film Directing and an MFA in Documentary Filmmaking. Her works explore themes of space and place in cities, especially the ways in which capital influences and changes the environment.

AWARDS
Festival Choice (Grand Prix), 2017 EBS International Documentary Festival

COMMUNITY PARTNERS
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The Ma family lives in Gangnam District, a wealthy borough in Seoul, yet they can't afford the rent and barely keep their bills in check. Once thriving in the real estate business during South Korea's 1980s economic boom, they refuse to accept the reality that they can no longer maintain their upper middle class lifestyle.

In her feature documentary debut, Minji Ma turns the camera on her economically and emotionally dysfunctional family as they hope that the financial crisis of 1997 will somehow reverse itself before it's too late. - KE

SOUTH KOREA/FINLAND
2017
77:00
KOREAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
PG • CANADIAN PREMIERE

DIRECTOR
Minji Ma

CAST
Minji Ma
Haesook Rho
Poonglak Ma

OFFICIAL SELECTION
2017 Jeonju International Film Festival
2017 Seoul International Women's Film Festival
2018 Sitges Film Festival



ULAM: MAIN DISH

USA 2018
80:00
ENGLISH
UNRATED
TORONTO PREMIERE

DIRECTOR
Alexandra Cuerdo
(in attendance)

CAST
Alvin Cailan, Nicole Ponseca, Miguel Trinidad, Romy Dorotan, Amy Besa, Johneric Concordia, Christine Arquel-Concordia, Charles Olalia, Chase Valencia, Chad Valencia, Andre Guerrero

PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:

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eatable.
AN EVENT YOU CAN TASTE

Award-winning chefs and restaurateurs Nicole Ponseca (New York), Charles Olalia (San Francisco), and Alvin Cailan (Los Angeles), amongst others, are introducing Filipino cuisine and culture in restaurants across the continent.

Meet this new generation of passionate food artists and discover the spectacular flavours that make up their cuisine in *ULAM: Main Dish*, a delicious introduction to the exploding Filipino food movement. Including dishes such as *Kamayan*, a feast served on banana leaves, *adobo*, a preparation that features vinegar, *lumpia* egg rolls and *pancit*, a variety of noodles — traditional recipes are gracing the North American food landscape with a fresh twist.

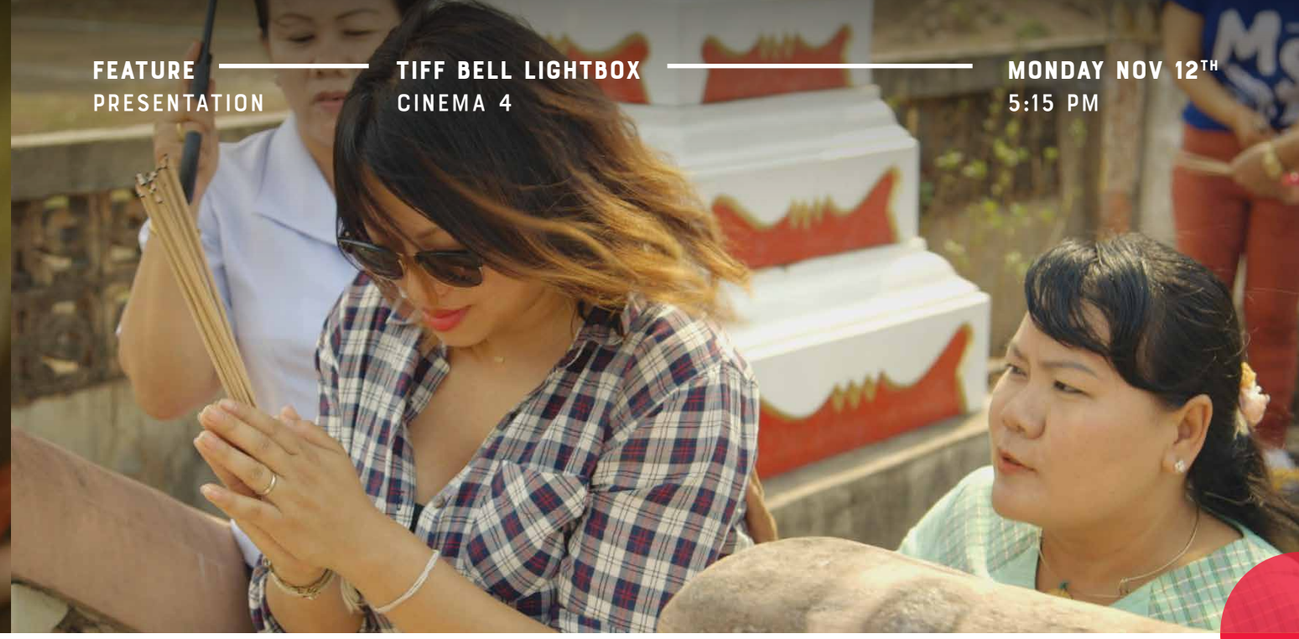
This delicious documentary confronts issues inherent in representing Filipino and American identity, and challenges from both the Filipino community and the world at large. Ultimately, *ULAM* is a celebration — and confirmation — that Filipino food, and Filipinos, are here to stay. - KE

Alexandra Cuerdo is a Filipino-American director, producer and editor. She was recently named one of the 100 Most Influential Filipina Women In the World by the Filipina Women's Network. As a content producer and editor, Cuerdo's videos for BuzzFeed have garnered over 200 million views and over 1.5 million shares on Facebook. Previously, she has worked on films, television and digital content for HBO, ABC, NBC, Netflix, Hulu, Sony/Columbia Pictures, Participant Media, Walt Disney Imagineering and more. *ULAM: Main Dish* is Cuerdo's first feature length documentary.

Taste the food you see on the screen! Admission includes an introduction to Filipino food, with a cocktail, appetizers, main dish and dessert, from Toronto's Lamesa Filipino Kitchen.

Followed by a Q&A with director Alexandra Cuerdo, Toronto chefs Robbie Hojilla, Rudy Boquila, Daniel Cancino and restaurateur Les Sabilana, moderated by Kristine Estorninos, Reel Asian's Head of Programming.

For ticket details, please go to: reelasian.com/festival-events/ulam



ORIGIN STORY

Kulap Vilaysack is the child of Lao refugees. Born in Washington, D.C. and raised in Eagan, Minnesota, she currently resides in Los Angeles with her husband, Scott, and two dogs, Georgia Michaela and Molly Ringwald. Her debut documentary *Origin Story* chronicles a road trip into her complicated past. Vilaysack is also the creator and showrunner of the 4-season semi-scripted comedy series *Bajillion Dollar Propertie$*.

AWARDS
Tiger Uncaged Audience Award, 2018 CAAMFest
Best Documentary Audience Choice Award, 2018 CAAMFest

COMMUNITY PARTNERS
Thai Society of Ontario

When, at age 14, Kulap Vilaysack took her father's side in an argument, her mother replied, "Why are you defending him? He's not your real dad." Twenty years later, she's finally ready to learn what that means.

Origin Story is a deeply personal but universally relevant tale of immigration, identity, conflict, and personal responsibility. In her directorial debut, actor/writer/podcaster Kulap Vilaysack explores her tangled family tree to find out who she is. Through travels to Los Angeles, Minnesota, and Laos, Vilaysack lets the viewer join her in meeting the biological father she never knew. On the road, unforeseen revelations strike, running from the hilarious to the heartbreaking. - KE

USA/LAOS 2018
106:00
ENGLISH, LAOTIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
PG • TORONTO PREMIERE

DIRECTOR
Kulap Vilaysack
(in attendance)

CAST
Kulap Vilaysack
Scott Aukerman
Casey Wilson
June Diane Raphael
Howard Kremer

OFFICIAL SELECTION
2018 CAAMFest



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FEATURE PRESENTATION — **TIFF BELL LIGHTBOX CINEMA 4** — **MONDAY NOV 12TH 8:15 PM**

HIGH FLASH
引爆點

Ching Shen Chuang received his Master's degree in Directing from the Taipei National University of the Arts. He served as the assistant director for *7 Days in Heaven* and as the producer and cinematographer for *Jump Ashin!*. *High Flash*, his first feature work, was awarded the CNC Cash Prize at the 2013 Golden Horse Project Promotion.

Fisherman Ah-Hai is found dead of self-immolation during a village protest against a petrochemical company, an incident which instantly makes media headlines. Medical examiner Chou is assigned to work on the case with Public Prosecutor Jin, who happens to be Chou's former fiancé. They quickly suspect that Ah-Hai did not intend to self-immolate. As they seek to uncover the truth, Chou and Jin become entangled in a web of complicated business and political maneuvers, risking their personal safety and well-being.

High Flash strikes an intricate balance between plot-driven thriller and character-driven social drama. Underpinning the truth-seeking mission of Chou and Jin is a critique against a capitalist-driven society. Yet the film is by no means a one-sided tale, as it also explores the moral ambiguity of the protesters and villagers. Desperate times call for desperate measures, and in the end, who is to decide what actions are justified in the name of pursuing justice? - BX

SPECIAL SPONSORS

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Taipei Cultural Center of TECO in New York

COMMUNITY PARTNERS
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TAIWAN 2018
109:00
MANDARIN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
14A • CANADIAN PREMIERE

DIRECTOR
Ching Shen Chuang

CAST
Kang Jen Wu
Yi Ti Yao
Chia Kuei Chen
Yi Wen Chen
Wei Hua Lan
Shin Yin

OFFICIAL SELECTION
2018 Taipei Film Festival
2018 Hong Kong Asian Film Festival



TUESDAY, NOV 13TH
6:30 PM

BACHIR/YEREX
PRESENTATION SPACE

FEATURE
PRESENTATION

NANG BY NANG

CANADA/TRINIDAD 2018
40:19
ENGLISH, WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
G

DIRECTOR
Richard Fung (in attendance)

CAST
Nang

This screening will be followed by a discussion moderated by Lisa Steele, co-founder of VTape.

Nang has always lived outside the box.

Born in a Trinidadian village in 1934, she grew up poor, illegitimate, mixed-race and female, yet she survived and thrived by defying convention. She left her first of five husbands after he cheated on her. With no formal training, she danced with choreographer Geoffrey Holder, who later won Tony Awards for *The Wiz*. In her twenties, she went to work in the Orinoco delta in Venezuela, and saved enough to buy a house. She attended university in New York in her 40s. Through her stubbornness, resourcefulness and resilience, Nang has surmounted life's traumas and tragedies. In this vivid portrait, filmmaker Richard Fung gets to know Nang, his previously unknown first cousin, at her current home in New Mexico and on the road in Trinidad. - KE

Richard Fung is an artist and writer born in Trinidad and based in Toronto. He is a Professor in the Faculty of Art at OCAD University, teaching in Integrated Media and Art and Social Change. His work comprises challenging videos on a wide range of subjects including the role of the Asian male in gay pornography, colonialism, immigration, racism, homophobia, AIDS, justice in Israel and Palestine, and his own family history.



FEATURE
PRESENTATION

INNIS
TOWN HALL

WEDSDAY NOV 14TH
7:00 PM

THIS SHAKING KEEPS ME STEADY

PAKISTAN 2018
61:00
URDU WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
14A • TORONTO PREMIERE

DIRECTOR
Shehrezad Maher
(in attendance)

OFFICIAL SELECTION
2018 Montreal International Documentary Film Festival
2018 Visions du Reel

Shehrezad Maher was born and grew up in Karachi, Pakistan (1988) and is currently based in Brooklyn, New York. She studied visual arts at Bennington College and received a Master of Fine Arts degree from Yale University (2014). Her work has screened at institutions and festivals such as Visions du Réel (Nyon, Switzerland), RIDM (Montréal, Canada), the LA Film Forum (Los Angeles, CA), Anthology Film Archives (New York, NY), and Experiments in Cinema (Albuquerque, NM).

SPECIAL SPONSOR

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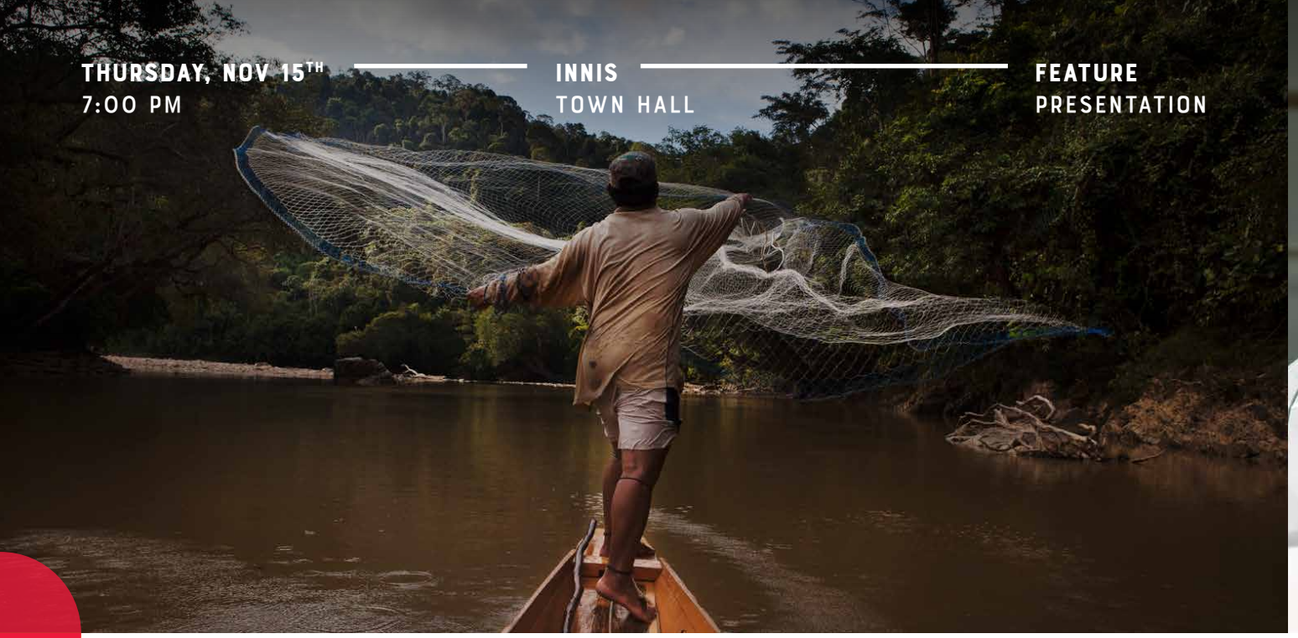
This visually reflective documentary by Shehrezad Maher attempts to reconstruct trauma — both of first responders in Karachi, confronted with death every day, and of the victims and survivors whose experiences are shown via televised re-enactments replayed for mass entertainment.

Originating from a prompt to two ambulance drivers in Karachi to retell their recurring dreams, this film explores the permeable boundaries between memory and fiction, and between lived trauma, its recollection, and its re-enactment. First responders reflect on the aftermath of violent events, while television re-enactment actors audition for, and perform the gendered roles of victim, perpetrator, and witness in scenarios ranging from the banal to the tragic. Unfolding through rituals, preparations, dreams, and performance, we never see the tragic events themselves, but instead catch traces of the extent to which they have been internalized by a society. - KE

Free admission for screening, but guests must register for the event through Asian Institute at:

munkschool.utoronto.ca/ai/event/26390/

This screening will be followed by a discussion moderated by Michelle Buckley, an urban and economic geographer whose research lies at the intersections of urbanization, work and employment, and labour migration.



A TIME TO SWIM

CANADA/MALAYSIA 2017
82:00
ENGLISH, MALAY WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
PG • TORONTO PREMIERE

DIRECTOR
Ashley Duong
(in attendance)

CAST
Mutang Urud
Noeli Urud
Agan Urud
Natasha Blanchet-Cohen

OFFICIAL SELECTION
2018 CAAMFest
2017 LA Asian Pacific Film Fest

SPECIAL SPONSOR
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UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
DR. DAVID CHU PROGRAM IN ASIA-PACIFIC STUDIES

Much has changed in Sarawak, Malaysia since Mutang Urud was exiled to Montreal, Canada, more than 20 years ago. A renowned activist for Indigenous rights, Mutang now lives as a family man. Filmmaker Ashley Duong follows Mutang as he travels with his family back to Borneo to reunite with his village relations, their travel visa contingent on Mutang staying away from the local politics.

The remote village in Sarawak, however, is not like he remembers it. His cousins who once fought for the forest alongside him have joined forces with the logging companies that are destroying it. Despite the threat of a lingering arrest warrant, Mutang can't deny his activism. *A Time To Swim* traces Mutang's search for belonging in a village where everyone is related, yet the very idea of home and heritage seems to be slipping away. - KE

Ashley Duong is a Montreal-based filmmaker and multimedia storyteller working to amplify marginalized voices. *A Time to Swim* is her feature length directorial debut. She has also recently produced *Land and Legends*, an interactive podcast about the connection between the landscapes and myths of the Kelabit.

COMMUNITY PARTNER
Singapore Malaysia Association

Free admission for screening, but guests must register for the event through Asian Institute at:

munkschool.utoronto.ca/ai/event/26394/

This screening will be followed by a discussion moderated by Takashi Fujitani, Professor of History at the University of Toronto where he holds the Dr. David Chu Chair and is Director of the Dr. David Chu Program in Asia-Pacific Studies.



ONE CUT OF THE DEAD
カメラを止めるな!

JAPAN 2018
95MIN.
JAPANESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
14A • TORONTO PREMIERE

DIRECTOR
Shinichiro Ueda

CAST
Harumi Shuhama
Kazuaki Nagaya
Mao
Takayuki Hamatsu

Shinichiro Ueda formed the film company PANPOKOPINA in 2010, and his films have received numerous grand prize awards at various film festivals. His filmography includes short titles *Okome to Oppai*, *Koisuru Shosetsuka*, *Kanoja no Kokuhaku Ranking*, and *Take 8*. His personal slogan is to "make films which will still be fun after 100 years," of which *One Cut of the Dead* is a perfect example.

PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:

JAPANESE CANADIAN CULTURAL CENTRE 日系文化会館
TORONTO JAPANESE FILM FESTIVAL

"I've never seen anything quite like One Cut of The Dead. A sublime, almost religious, experience that reminds me why I love movies." – ScreenAnarchy

A Japanese indie phenomenon comes to Toronto! *One Cut of the Dead* went from two cinemas to sold-out screenings across the country and the #1 spot at the box office.

By turns a "making of" mockumentary, a zombie movie, a film industry satire and a hilarious warm-hearted comedy, *One Cut of the Dead* is something entirely unique and very special. Opening with a 37-minute, one-take shot in a run-down, abandoned warehouse, a film crew is making a very mediocre zombie film — then learn that this is no ordinary warehouse, but the site of shadowy military experiments. Suddenly, real zombies arrive and terrorize the crew! What may sound like the plot of a clichéd zombie film, *One Cut of the Dead* is anything but! This hilarious satire of indie filmmaking and charming, audience-friendly comedy is not to be missed. - JH

Tickets for this screening are sold through the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre. Visit jccc.on.ca, torontojff.com or call 416-441-2345

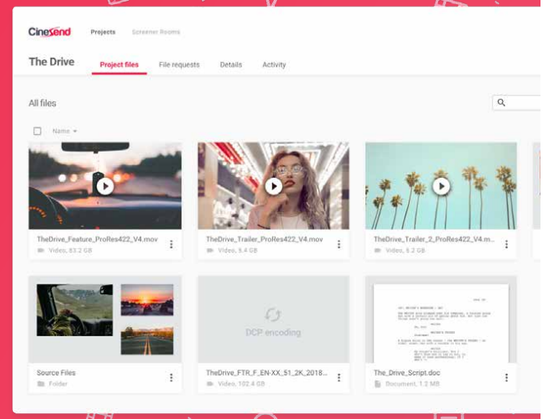
Sushi bentos courtesy of Yamato Restaurant may be purchased and enjoyed prior to this screening.

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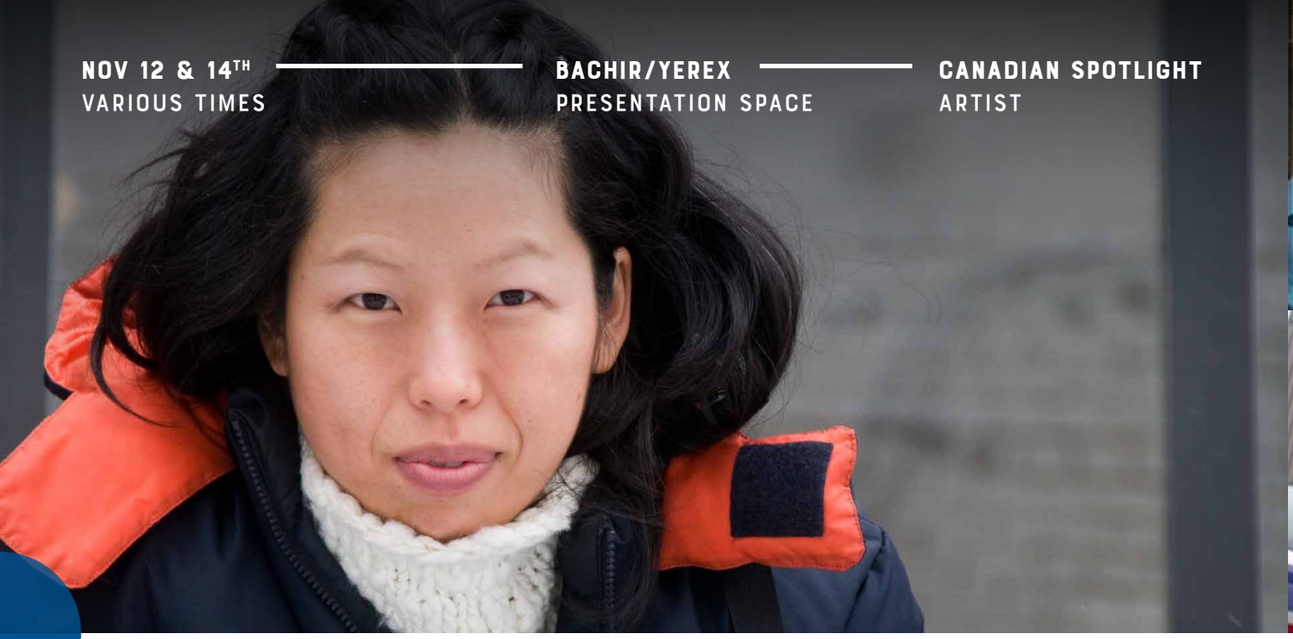
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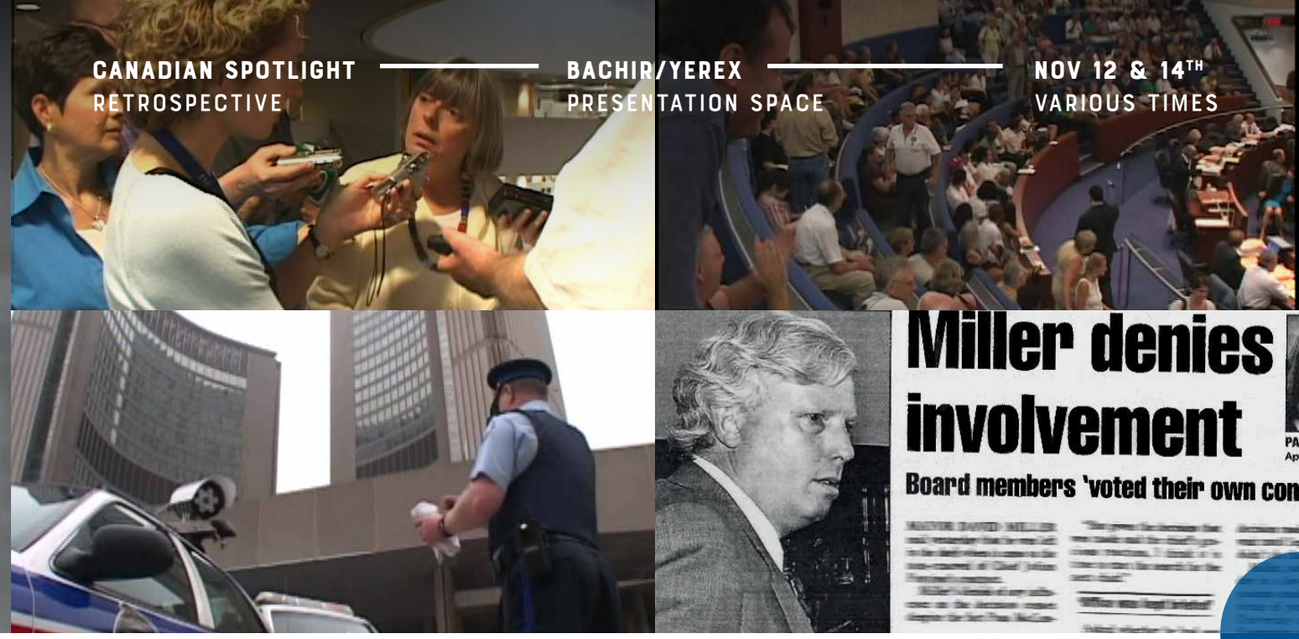
Join us for the Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival, November 9-18, 2018. Call directly to the hotel and ask for the Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival Rate of **$114.00 single/double***.

*Valid only for the Toronto City Center, ON (15417). © 2018 Super 8 Worldwide, Inc. All rights reserved. All Super 8 hotels are independently owned and operated.



CANADIAN SPOTLIGHT —





MIN SOOK LEE

NOVEMBER 12TH @ 1:30 PM:
Youth Shorts Program: Counterbalance

This series of short films, focused on issues from migrant experiences to settler colonialism and racism to culture clash, will have a special Q&A moderated by Spotlight Artist Min Sook Lee.

NOVEMBER 14TH @ 7:00 PM:
Retrospective Screening of
HOGTOWN: THE POLITICS OF POLICING

Hogtown: The Politics of Policing is an unblinking look at the Toronto Police Services Board (TPSB), a civilian body that exercises civilian governance of policing. Historically, appointees to the board have been supporters of traditional policing methods. Suddenly, with the newly elected progressive Mayor, left-wing councillors were appointed to the TPSB. *Hogtown* follows the politically divided board stickhandling charges of internal corruption in the force, community concerns of racial profiling and an enormous police budget request during a summer of unprecedented gun deaths in the city. More than a decade after its Hot Docs premiere, we return the film to the big screen to re-examine policing in city politics. Colin Ellis of On Docs, TVO's brand new podcast on documentaries, will be hosting a live Q&A with Min Sook Lee on the intersection of advocacy and documentary filmmaking.

Reel Asian has followed Min Sook Lee's active involvement in the community, as her work focuses on identifying important and social and economic issues in Canada.

In 2017, Min Sook Lee directed *Migrant Dreams*, a documentary that sheds light on the untold story of migrant workers struggling against Canada's Temporary Foreign Worker Program (TFWP) that treats foreign workers as modern-day indentured labourers.

Min Sook Lee has directed numerous critically-acclaimed feature documentaries, including: Donald Brittain Gemini winner *Tiger Spirit*, Hot Docs Best Canadian Feature winner *Hogtown*, Gemini nominated *El Contrato* and Canadian Screen Award winner, *The Real Inglorious Bastards*.

Lee is a recipient of numerous awards, including the Cesar E. Chavez Black Eagle Award, and the Alanis Obomsawin Award for Commitment to Community and Resistance. Canada's oldest labour arts festival, *Mayworks*, has named the Min Sook Lee Labour Arts Award in her honour.

Currently, Lee is an Assistant Professor at OCAD University, her area of research and practice focuses on the critical intersections of art+social change in labour, border politics, migration and social justice movements.

A Statement from the Artist:

I believe in the social function of art. The alienation of the artist from communities is a power blackout that goes both ways. I suggest that to forfeit the power of art to the mystification of 'individual genius' in pursuit of art for art's sake is a strategy of political neutralization. My recent documentary work has been built around the experiences and stories of migrant workers in Canada. These projects have been produced in conversation with migrant justice activists and political allies in the broader social movement that counters border imperialism. Activating the screen is a focus of my documentary work and creating spaces for my documentary projects to be discussed, expanded upon or used as an organizing tool is paramount to me. I have worked with unions, schools, community organizers, arts groups and faith groups to activate my documentary work. I believe more strongly than ever that genuine social and political change must be accompanied by media re-construction. As Audre Lorde succinctly observed: "The master's tools will never dismantle the master's house."

LEAD SPONSOR

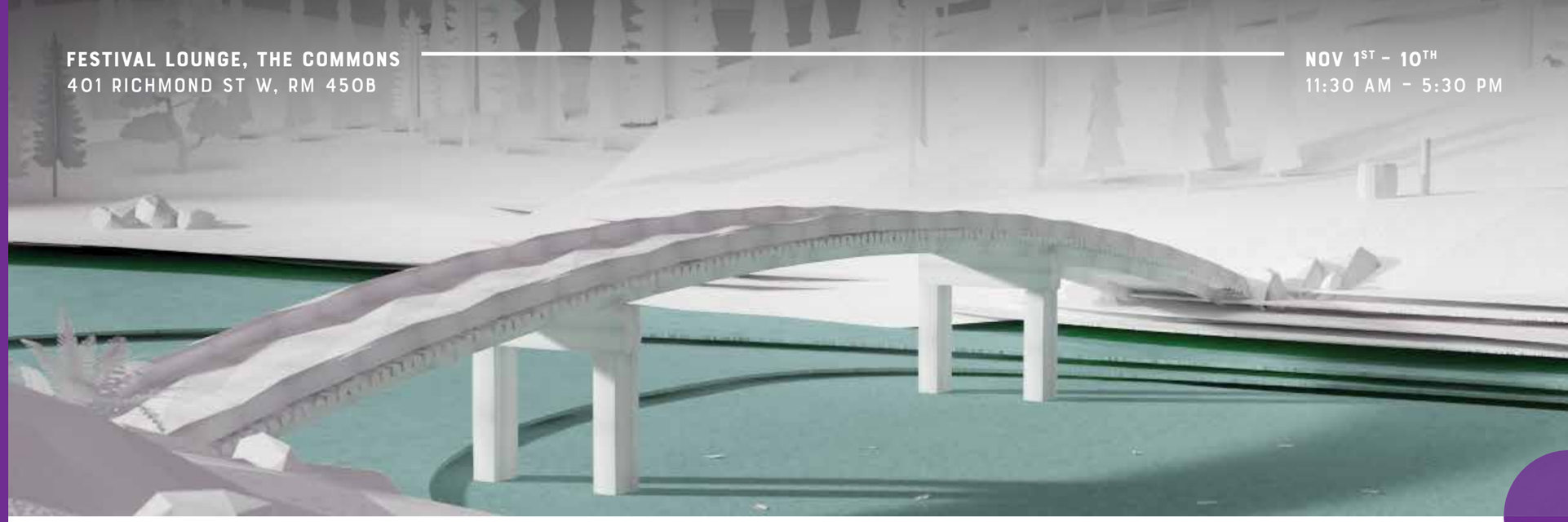
Bell Media

COMMUNITY PARTNERS
ATK Magazine



REEL ASIAN: X

Reel Asian X is the variable. The unknown quantity that escapes the constants of screen, time, and space. Everything that is not everything else, is X.



FESTIVAL LOUNGE, THE COMMONS
401 RICHMOND ST W, RM 450B

NOV 1ST – 10TH
11:30 AM – 5:30 PM

HOMESTAY

Every year, Canada welcomes hundreds of thousands of students from around the world. To make the most of their Canadian experience, many opt to live with a host family. Homestay is one family's story of life with international students—a look at how complete immersion in another culture can create a clash of expectations and change our understanding of family, hospitality, nationality and love.

Homestay is a multi-layered experiment that incorporates the latest in VR technology to create a beautiful folded paper-craft representation of the Nitobe Memorial Garden at the University of British Columbia that narrator Paisley Smith visited while grieving the loss of a friend and "family member."

The paper garden signifies the failure of cultural symbols to fully represent people in all their complexity. As users move through the botanical world and interact with key elements, the heavily symbolic visuals fold into existence enabling you to literally construct the environment, from a single leaf to a beautiful, immense garden.

Smith's narration powerfully conveys both the youthful observations of someone who is discovering much of the world for the first time and the mature insights of a person with a more seasoned understanding of universal themes such as family, culture, empathy and tragedy.

Paisley Smith (Co-Creator) is a Canadian filmmaker and virtual reality director based in Los Angeles and Vancouver. She is fascinated by technology's ability to draw audiences in and open them up to difficult conversations. *Homestay* is her personal story—a reflection on suicide, grief, and cultural understanding.

Smith was named one of the 10 filmmakers to watch in 2016 by *The Independent* and she was selected as a youth leader at the 2017 Walrus Talks series, presented in partnership with the Order of Canada and Canada 150. She holds an MFA from the University of Southern California's School of Cinematic Arts.

Jam3 (Designer and Developer) is one of the world's top digital production and design agencies. They specialize in creating highly advanced, experiential works in both the advertising and entertainment industries. At Jam3, everything is informed by its three core principles: story, craft and technology. If it is possible, Jam3 can do it.

Jam3 is one of the most awarded interactive design studios in North America, globally recognized by major interactive and design bodies, including Cannes Lions, the Webbys, Awwwards, the Favourite Website Awards (FWAs), the Advertising and Design Club of Canada, and the One Show. Jam3 is the only Canadian company in the FWA Hall of Fame.

Rob McLaughlin (Producer) is a Canadian producer and journalist best known for his work in interactive media. He is currently the Executive Producer of the National Film Board of Canada's Digital Studio in Vancouver. From 2008 to 2011, he was the Director of Digital Content and Strategy at the NFB, where he led the development of the institution's digital programming strategy and pioneering interactive documentary work, including *Welcome to Pine Point* and *Bear 71*.

Prior to working at the NFB, Mclaughlin was a producer at the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. There he focused on developing new forms of audiovisual content designed to attract new audiences, including the interactive radio service, CBC Radio 3. He also served as the CBC's Director of Digital Programming.

PAISLEY SMITH, JAM3, & THE NFB DIGITAL STUDIO CANADA 2018

15:00

"CSV congratulates the participants in the Reel Asian International Film Festival."

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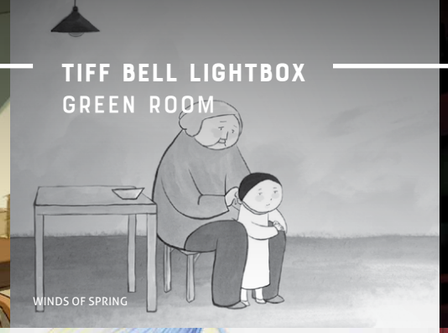


WEE ASIAN

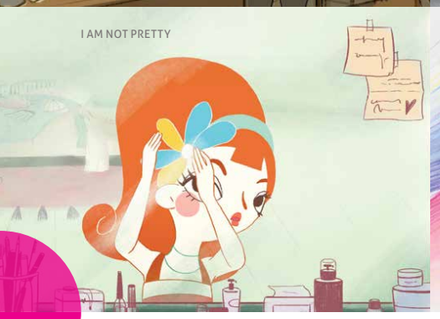
Wee Asian is back!

Bring your kids, the next generation of media makers, for a fun day of activities, as they enjoy the moving image through crafts, videos, and dance!













WEE ASIAN 2018

Let your little ones explore the art of movie-making and fuel their creativity through films, crafts, and dance!

COLOUR: DRAWINGS BY CUP DOODLE
9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Pick up a crayon, marker, pencil, and colour in drawings sketched by the Cup Doodle Collective!

CRAFT: NAIL ART
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Nail art for the wee ones! Local nail artist Rhymes With Pizza will transform your little one's hands by adding some fun glitter, glitz, and glam using kid-friendly nail polish.

PLAY: BABY LION KUNG FU
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
Spend the afternoon with the Chung Martial Arts Academy learning kung fu steps and watching martial arts demonstrations. Your little ones can also pose with the baby lion head mask!

FREE SCREENINGS (PLAYING ON LOOP)
9:30 AM – 3:00 PM
Hop in and out of the screening room, where you can enjoy short films made for little ones to enjoy!

Colors (Yuki Chen, 6:00) Figuring out who you are is not always easy. Neither is holding yourself to the diverging standards of your family and peers. Kevin, a high school boy, navigates being open about his sexuality at school and home.

I Am Not Pretty (Keung Yin-ni & Sin Man-Ting, 6:00) Della often relies on makeup to feel beautiful. When her boyfriend takes her on a date to the amusement park, Della goes to absolute lengths to keep her makeup intact.

Winds of Spring (Keyu Chen, 6:00) A seedling ready to sprout, a young girl realizes her desire to leave home and explore what her purpose is becoming increasingly insuppressible.

Water in the Cup (Ikuo Kato, 6:00) In a circular manner, this whimsical animation explores the similarities between humans and the flow of water.

Lights for Gita (Michel Vo, 7:00) Eight-year-old Gita can't wait to celebrate Divali, the Hindu festival of lights, in her new home. When a terrible ice storm cuts the power, the festival comes alive in a sparkling new way.

Roses Sing on New Snow (Yuan Zhang, 7:00) Maylin cooks mouth-watering meals at her father's Chinatown restaurant, but her father and brothers take all the credit. When a dignitary from China arrives for a sumptuous banquet, Maylin finally receives the credit she deserves for her inspired fusion of Old and New World cuisine.

Admission is FREE. All ages are welcome.



PULSE

Great things come in small packages. Our eclectic shot film programmes, like your favourite mixtapes, are sure to have something for everyone. Laugh, cry, sing, and shout with these powerful bursts of cinema.





SHORTS
PRESENTATION





TIFF BELL LIGHTBOX
CINEMA 3



FRIDAY, NOV 9TH
6:00 PM

UNSUNG VOICES 7

ENGLISH, AND VARIOUS LANGUAGES WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
PG · WORLD PREMIERE

Fearless first-time filmmakers embarked on an intensive summer-long video production workshop and now show off their chops in the world premiere of Unsung Voices 7.

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LOVEKILL | Jessica Lee • Canada • 2018 • 11:00 • English
Rose, a socially out-of-touch individual, problem solves in a way that is incomprehensible to the average person. An innocent promise, made between her and her best friend, ends up costing a life to fulfill.

Jessica Lee (이예지) was born in Korea and immigrated to Ontario where she has lived for a majority of her life. Having just graduated high school, she will be taking part in the Cinema and Media Studies program at York University. She is also a musician and a photographer but is currently focusing on her love for film. **[in attendance]**

DARD-E-BEDARMAN | Mariam Habib • Canada • 2018 • 7:45 • English, Farsi with English subtitles
Safa is terrified of being consumed by her own resentment and her father who has to swallow his pride to bring her back home.

Mariam Habib is a University of Toronto graduate, with a degree in Political Science. Habib was born in Peshawar, where her family had taken refuge during the Afghan Civil War, and raised in Toronto, where she irrevocably fell in love with filmmaking. **[in attendance]**

JEZEBEL | Karla Villanueva Danan • Canada • 2018 • 8:15 English, Tagalog with English subtitles
Mal is living her best life this summer swiping right on all the cute boys across The Six. But will her mother's incessant Catholic messages distract her from the next cutie sliding into her DMs?

Karla Villanueva Danan - *anak* of the diaspora - is a second-generation Pinay born and raised on Treaty 7 land. Across academic and artistic disciplines, Danan is most passionate about creating and holding space for Pinay/Filipinx diasporic stories. She is an avid practitioner of shine theory and cares deeply for community/collective healing and growth. **[in attendance]**

TIME SPACE AND LEE | Joshua Lang • Canada • 2018 • 11:00 English
A darker romance explores the heated act of running away with one's love and the stark reality of actual execution. Is passion alone enough?

Joshua Lang (蓝信义) was born in Vancouver, and hails from a background in advertising, having worked as a strategist and project coordinator before switching his focus to film. Lang hopes to contribute his deeply intersectional and unique perspective as a person of colour and member of the LGBTQ community towards telling raw, personal, and connective stories through the immersive medium of film. **[in attendance]**

BURNT OUT | Lina Li • Canada • 2018 • 15:00 • English, Mandarin with English subtitles
An introspective teenage daughter craves her mother's love in any way other than materialistic. However, like a candle, she slowly burns out after countless attempts.

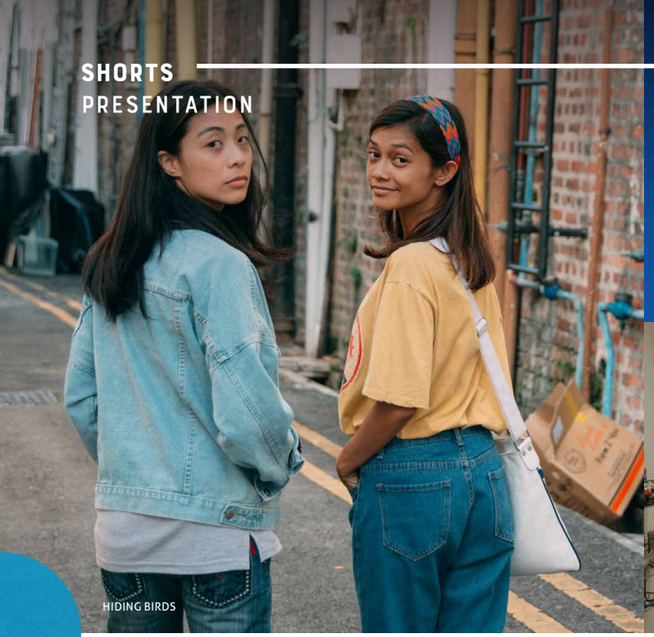
Lina Li (李德慧) has been fostering her passion as a film arts student in the Claude Watson Arts Program in Toronto and media manager of CAISA Fashion Show, the largest student-run fashion show in Canada. Li hopes to leverage the power of human emotions to create socially impactful films that will make her audience feel more connected, or simply less alienated. **[in attendance]**

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SPECTRUM

ENGLISH, AND VARIOUS LANGUAGES WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
PG

Stories abundant with resilience, desire, and agency. This collection of shorts shares the intricate and intersectional experiences of the queer Asian community.

HIDING BIRDS | Danica Pablo • Singapore • 2018 • 19 min English, Malay with English Subtitles
It's 1993 in Singapore when homosexuality is criminalized and gay bars are constantly raided. Leila is in love with Carmina, a Filipino worker who stays in her home. Stifled by her parents' increasingly invasive interventions, Leila decides what she needs to do for the sake of love and ultimately herself.

Danica Pablo is a 22-year old Filipino who currently resides in Singapore. She aspires to be a filmmaker that explores stories of the human condition and moral relativity.

UNDRESSED | Alexandra Tse • Canada • 2018 • 7 min • English
This Toronto-based documentary centres on three drag queens and their experiences around consent, body, and identity.

Alexandra Tse is a creative and hardworking filmmaker, photographer and cinematographer living and working in Toronto, Ontario. She is currently working towards her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Film Studies at Ryerson University. **[in attendance]**

SUNSET SUNRISE | Bruce Chiu • USA • 2018 • 12 min • Mandarin with English Subtitles
Lily and her son, Bao have a great relationship until Lily finds out that Bao is gay. With all the intentions to be a good mother, Lily tries to "change" her son however things don't exactly go as planned.

Bruce Chiu is currently studying film production at USC School of Cinematic Arts, Los Angeles. He is interested in making films about social issues and believes that the power of storytelling can change the world.

COLORS | Yuki Chen • Canada • 2018 • 6 min • English, Cantonese with English Subtitles
Figuring out who you are is not always easy. Neither is holding yourself to the diverging standards of your family and peers. Kevin, a high school boy, navigates being open about his sexuality at school and home.

Yuki Chen is a Vancouver-based 2D animator and illustrator who graduated from Emily Carr University of Art + Design. Chen loves to explore stories from different cultures based on people's everyday lives.

PRIYA | Daniela Pinto • Canada • 2018 • 11 min • English
Priya is stuck in the middle between meeting the expectations of her mother and maintaining her secret relationship with Ashley. To ~~be t~~rue to herself, Priya has to face certain decisions.

Daniela Pinto works in the film industry as a sound editor and composer, but also enjoys telling her own stories every now and then. Her work primarily focuses on the intersection of South Asian and LGBTQ identity. She is a recent graduate of Sheridan College's Bachelor of Film and Television program. **[in attendance]**

A WOMAN'S WIFE | Ahlam Jang • South Korea • 2018 • 20 min • Korean with English Subtitles
Eungyeong and Sunghoon, a newly married couple, arrive at a crossroads when Sunghoon comes out to be transgender. Not knowing what else to do, Eungyeong decides to sell their apartment.

Ahlam Jang is currently in the Film Production program at Dongguk University Graduate School of Film Studies in Seoul, Korea.

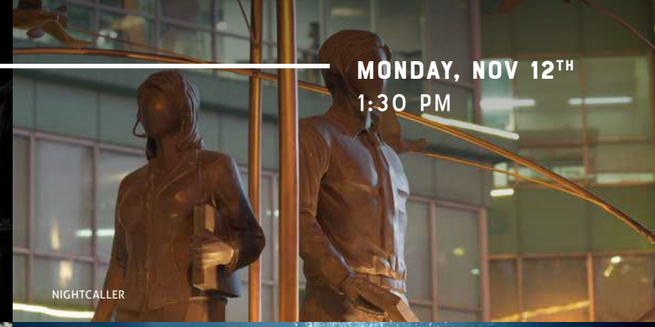
LIMBOLAND | Melanie Ramos • USA • 2017 • 18 min • English
Estranged from her family for years, Grace returns home for her mother's funeral. As if that wasn't enough drama, the family soon discovers her mother's body is missing.

Melanie Ramos was born and raised in Sacramento, California. She graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Television, Film and New Media at San Diego State University and a Master in Fine Arts at New York University Tisch School of the Arts Asia in Singapore. Her work focuses on issues surrounding the LGBTQ Filipino American experience.

















COUNTERBALANCE

ENGLISH, AND VARIOUS LANGUAGES WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
14A

How does race, gender, and class establish one's identity? This question fuels the ongoing conversations these films raise on issues from migrant experiences to settler colonialism and racism to culture clash.

FRENCHIES | Kuan-Fu Lin • USA • 2017 • 13 min • English
When "nice-guy" Arthur gets new neighbours who aren't exactly who he imagined them to be, things get a little out of hand. This satirical fantasy shares insight on current political tensions around migrant issues.

Kuan Fu-Lin is the son of two soldiers from Taiwan. Growing up, Lin found solace in comic books as he struggled with school, hoping to one day become a hero like those in his stories. Lin has gone on to develop comic fantasies with his brand of social commentary.

NEWBORN | Ray Savaya • Canada • 2017 • 6 min • English
Tensions arise when a couple discusses how to name their newborn child and realize the impact of their decision.

Ray Savaya is a filmmaker from Toronto, Canada. He arrived in Canada as an infant when his parents escaped the Gulf War in 1991 as refugees. As a film editor, Savaya's work has been accepted into countless festivals including Cannes, TIFF, VIFF, and LA Shorts Fest. **[in attendance]**

EAST: A RELATIONSHIP | Noor Khan • Canada • 2018 • 2 min • English with English Subtitles
Noor Khan dedicates *EAST: A Relationship* to her connection with the land. East, is where Khan comes from, the Middle East & South Asia, as well as her location in relation to Toronto, i.e. Scarborough. Full of powerful imagery that touch upon her lived experiences, Khan's short yet resonating film underlies a critical understanding of oneself, community, and accountability to land.

Noor Khan is a Scarborough-based community-engaged researcher, screenwriter, and overall digital artist. Khan looks to writing and art as forms of reflection and resolution of personal and communal challenges. **[in attendance]**

PAGG | Nardeep Khurmi • USA • 2018 • 17 min • English
Mandeep has a great job, a loving wife, and a cute son. After hearing about a hate-crime, the July 4th BBQ he is at with his friends and coworkers begins to feel less celebratory as he questions his Sikh identity and becomes aware of the microaggressions he experiences on a daily basis.

Nardeep Khurmi is a Los Angeles based writer, director, and actor. Born in Switzerland and raised in the suburbs of Philadelphia, Khurmi's eclectic childhood helped cultivate his unique vision.

CYPHER | Lawrence Le Lam • Canada • 2017 • 20 min
English, Korean with English Subtitles
Set after the L.A. Riots, tensions still exist within the Korean and Black communities. A Korean American high school student, Jay feels connected to hip-hop music and its underground community. When Jay's father refuses to serve a classmate who is black at their restaurant, conflicts start to rise at school and beyond.

Lawrence Le Lam is an award winning filmmaker who loves exploring underground worlds and subcultures.

FORBIDDEN TIKKA MASALA | Rahul Chaturvedi • Canada • 2018
15 min • English
When Gayatri, a devout religious vegetarian, accidentally eats meat at her retirement party, her world gets tilted, setting her off on an unexpected adventure. Along the way, Gayatri meets new friends and discovers a different take on life.

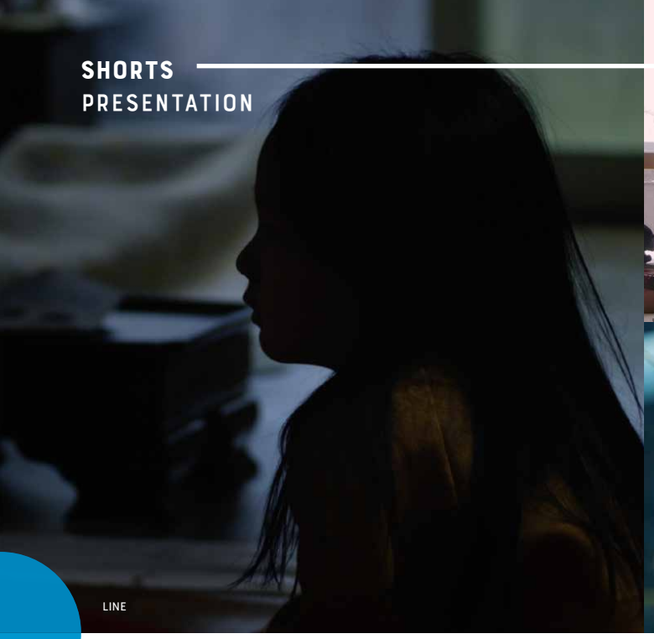
Rahul Chaturvedi is an Indo-Canadian filmmaker who won the Reel Asian Pitch Competition in 2016 with *Forbidden Tikka Masala*. He was also selected as one of ReelWorld Film Festival's Emerging 20 Filmmakers in 2017. **[in attendance]**

NIGHTCALLER | Alexander Humilde • Canada • 2018 • 6 min
English with English Subtitles
Manila is considered the number one call centre of the world. However, what are the deeper implications behind this statistic in relation to globalization, labour, and capitalism?

Alexander Humilde was born and raised in Canada. He is a Hot Docs alumni and focuses his work on transnational, contemporary Philippines issues. **[in attendance]**

HARU'S NEW YEAR | Alice Shin • Canada • 2018 • 19 min
English, Japanese with English Subtitles
New year, new country, new school. Haru has a lot to adjust to in Canada let alone figuring out how to make new friends while still missing the ones she left behind in Japan. When Haru learns about her weird classmate Frances who doesn't often appear at school, she wonders more about this mysterious person.

Alice Shin is a Korean filmmaker who has worked in Japan, Korea, USA, and Canada as a director, producer, and editor. Shin is a winner of the Reel Asian's 2017 Pitch Competition with *Haru's New Year*, which is also supported by the Toronto Arts Council, Ontario Arts Council, and the Canada Council for the Arts. **[in attendance]**













SHORTS
PRESENTATION

BACHIR/YEREX
PRESENTATION SPACE

TUESDAY, NOV 13TH
10:30 AM

ENTANGLED TALES

ENGLISH, AND VARIOUS LANGUAGES WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
14A

In a world of growing connections, these stories of coincidental encounters and fragile relationships reveal a broader discussion on what it means to be connected.

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LINE | Jihoon Shin • South Korea • 2017 • 17 min • Korean with English Subtitles
A man who passes flyers out to each apartment comes across a door ajar. Unexpectedly, his goodwill to try and close the door leads him to be involved in the lives of the apartment's inhabitants.

Jihoon Shin is a filmmaker based out of Seoul. He is currently enrolled in the Master of Fine Arts program at Hanyang University.

TUNDRA | Carol Nguyen • Canada • 2018 • 10 min • English, Vietnamese with English Subtitles
Not knowing what else to do, Thuy continues to search for her missing daughter while living with the traumas of mourning and grief.

Carol Nguyen is a 20-year-old filmmaker based in Toronto. Nguyen's films often explore the subjects of cultural identity and family, topics which heavily define her understanding of the world.

MA | Andrew Chung • Canada • 2018 • 11 min • English, Cantonese with English Subtitles
On a snowy winter day, a lonely mother connects with her daughter in the only way she knows.

Andrew Chung is a Toronto-based film and television director. Chung's other short films have toured international film festivals in San Francisco, Vancouver, France, Montreal, Regina,Winnipeg, and Rhode Island.

HYPERLIGHT | Nguyen-Anh Nguyen • Canada • 2018 • 18 min English
When two elite astronauts wake up from their sleep and struggle to return to their spaceship, they try to piece together what happened in the first place.

Nguyen-Anh Nguyen is a graduate from the Film Production program at Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema and co-founded GreenGround Productions and CineGround Media. He recently founded Second Tomorrow Studios, where he is developing his first science-fiction feature film, *Temple*.
[in attendance]

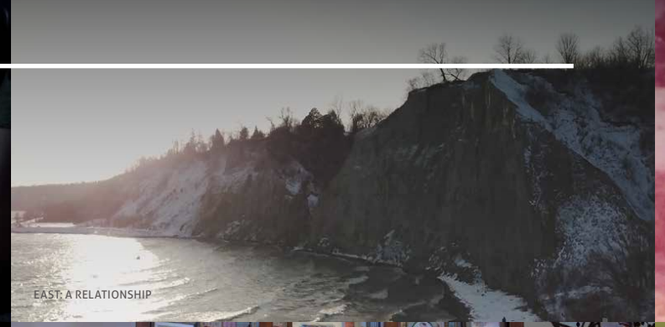
WEEKENDS | Trevor Jimenez • Canada • 2017 • 15 min
Set in 1980's Toronto, a young boy moves around between living with each of his separated parents.

Trevor Jimenez is a Canadian filmmaker who has worked as a story artist for over ten years, most notably at Pixar, Disney Feature Animation, and Blue Sky Studios.

SHIBA SAN AND MEOW CHAN | Chung-Chieh Chiang • Taiwan 2018 • 30 min • Taiwanese with English Subtitles
Shiba San and Meow Chan is a hit children's show in Taiwan. However, behind-the-scenes, there is more than meets the eye. Shiba san is in love with a married man. Meanwhile, Meow chan is trying to process his loneliness at home. Together, they confront their own emptiness as companions on set and in real life.

Chung-Chieh Chiang was born in Taiwan and graduated from the Department of Radio, Television and Film at Shih Hsin University.

















IN THEIR WORDS

ENGLISH, AND VARIOUS LANGUAGES WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
PG

Touching on labour, activism, migration, and self-perseverance, these films are not just untold narratives; they are lived experiences.

DANCING MANILENYOS | Patrick Alcedo • Canada • 2018 • 20 min • English
In Manila, a group of young Filipinos dream of making it big in the ballet world. Amidst the city's disparate social class, ballet teacher Luther hopes to lift his students out of poverty through artistic and life skills one learns from dancing.

Patrick Alcedo is an Associate Professor in the Department of Dance at York University and holder of the "Early Researcher Award" from the Government of Ontario. *Dancing Manilenyos* is Alcedo's 6th documentary film that he has directed, written, and produced. **[in attendance]**

UNDRESSED | Alexandra Tse • Canada • 2018 • 7 min • English
This Toronto-based documentary centres on three drag queens and their experiences around consent, body, and identity.

Alexandra Tse is a creative filmmaker, photographer, and cinematographer living and working in Toronto, Ontario. She is currently working towards her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Film Studies at Ryerson University. **[in attendance]**

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Noor Khan is a Scarborough-based community-engaged researcher, screenwriter, and overall digital artist. Khan looks to writing and art as forms of reflection and resolution of personal and communal challenges. **[in attendance]**

KEEPSAKE | Megan Lau • Germany, Netherlands, USA • 2018 • 10 min • English, Mandarin and German with English Subtitles
Full of food and hopes, this documentary follows three Asian-Europeans from different generations who recount their ongoing experiences as immigrants in their country.

Megan Lau is an aspiring filmmaker from the small town of Martinez, California. Lau is working towards a career supporting the Asian American community in Los Angeles and to eventually start her own production company with Ukkei Entertainment. **[in attendance]**

JOURNEYS, DEAR DAD | Syafiq Jaafar • Canada, Singapore • 2017 • 3 min • English, Malay with English Subtitles
Syafiq Jaafar's poetic documentary combines his memories with those of his late father's. The two sets of footage connect as a single recollection, flowing in and out of sync to represent the rhythms and flows of a parent-child relationship.

Syafiq Jaafar has produced numerous media works that explore his Singaporean identity and South East Asian heritage through experimentation with analog film, traditional animation, projections, and virtual reality.

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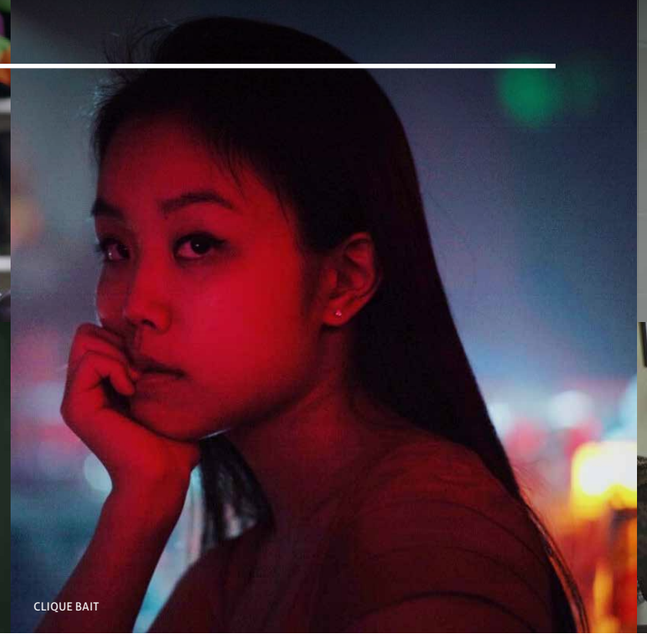
PINKY GURUNG | Gopal Shivakoti • Nepal • 2018 • 13 min • Nepali with English Subtitles
In the second phase of elections to the House of Representatives and State Assemblies, Pinky Gurung, a transwoman and activist, is running her campaign to represent the transgender community in hopes to create more spaces for the voices of the LGBTIQ+ community to be heard.

Gopal Shivakoti is a documentary filmmaker from Nepal. He has been working in films and digital media since 2004.

$30 TO ANTARCTICA | Joey Chu • Hong Kong • 2017 • 19 min • Cantonese with English Subtitles
Raised in 1960s Hong Kong, Ka Foon Chau faced the bias of her elders who attempted to discourage her interest in the academics. Through a small gesture of support she received from a teacher, Chau built a life and career that moved beyond the restrictive boundaries set by her parents' generation. She is now ready to fulfill a childhood dream – to see Antarctica.

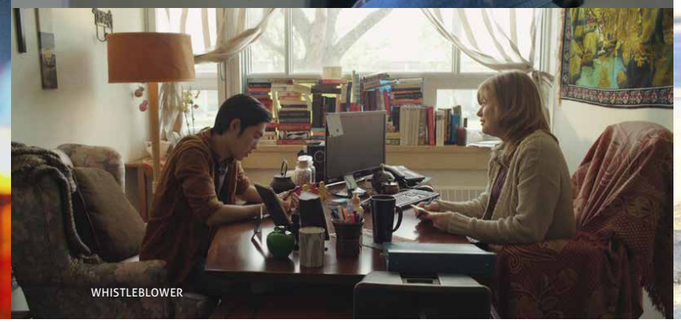
Joey Chu was born and raised in Hong Kong. Currently based in Los Angeles, Chu continues to refine her artistry of merging quality filmmaking with authentic stories around the world.

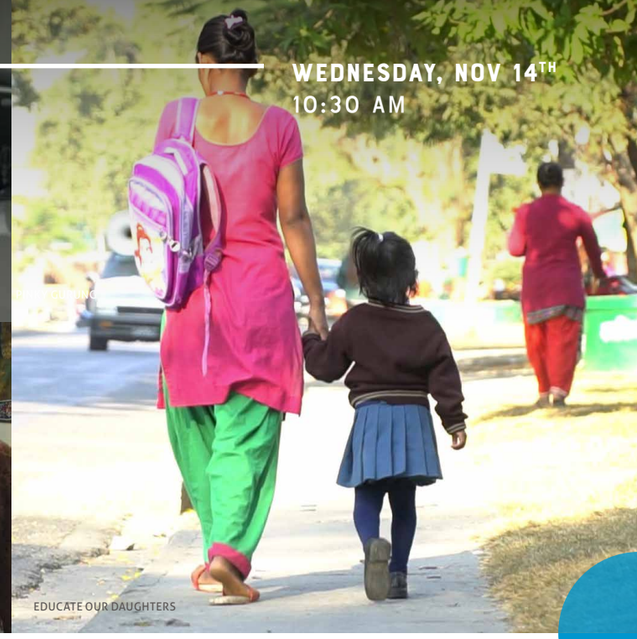












NOT IN UNIFORM

ENGLISH, AND VARIOUS LANGUAGES WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
14A

Brrring goes the school bell. These films are bursting with potential and overspilling anxieties found on school grounds.

HARU'S NEW YEAR | Alice Shin • Canada • 2018 • 19 min • English, Japanese with English Subtitles
New year, new country, new school. Haru has a lot to adjust to in Canada let alone figuring out how to make new friends while still missing the ones she left behind in Japan. When Haru learns about her weird classmate Frances who doesn't often appear at school, she wonders more about this mysterious person.

Alice Shin is a Korean filmmaker who has worked in Japan, Korea, USA, and Canada as a director, producer, and editor. Shin is a winner of the Reel Asian's 2017 Pitch Competition with *Haru's New Year*, which is also supported by the Toronto Arts Council, Ontario Arts Council, and the Canada Council for the Arts. **[in attendance]**

THE TEST | Caroline Guo • China • 2017 • 14 min • Mandarin with English Subtitles
Professor Xu is placed in a tricky position when she has suspicions that her entire class cheated on their final exam. She soon realizes she alone must decide what to do when her faculty's dean refuses to take action.

Caroline Guo is a graduate of Radio/Television/Film at Northwestern University and Film Studies at King's College London. Guo is now based in Florida and looks to continue telling personal stories, especially those of women, that help shed light on larger societal issues.

CLIQUE BAIT | Anna Mikami • Hong Kong • 2017 • 15 min • English
When Chloe comes across a former childhood friend engaging in intimate affairs, she decides to take a video and share it online.

Anna Mikami (三上杏奈) is a Chinese Japanese actor, writer, and director based in New York City. She holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Drama from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts and a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism. **[in attendance]**

ELASTIC BAND | Alice Liu • Canada • 2017 • 5 min • English
A high school student navigates her racial identity in relationship with her mom and her school friends.

Alice Liu is a Chinese Canadian photographer and filmmaker interested in topics of diaspora, female identity and East Asian culture. Liu is currently attending Pratt Institute and is an alumna of TIFF Next Wave and Telluride Film Festival's Student Symposium.

WHISTLEBLOWER | Steven Song • Canada • 2018 • 23 min English
Dealing with a traumatic bullying incident, Tim works through processing the event with his high-school guidance counselor who pushes him to reveal the names of those involved.

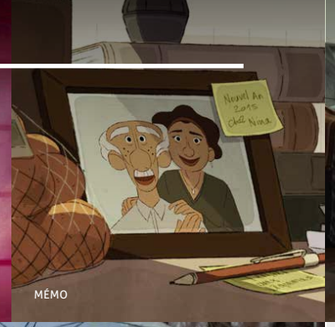
Steven Song started off in 2010, uploading hip hop dance videos with his best friend, Kevin Lien, to YouTube. As Song transitioned from dance to filmmaking, his connection to movement, music and storytelling are not left behind. The short film, *Whistleblower* is a first step in this new and exciting direction. **[in attendance]**

EDUCATE OUR DAUGHTERS | Belmaya Nepali • Nepal • 2017 7 min • Nepali with English Subtitles
In this heartwarming documentary, Belmaya Nepali recounts her story growing up in a place where education isn't encouraged for girls. Now as a filmmaker and mother, she goes and interviews various girls in Nepal to share their experiences and thoughts about gender and education.

Belmaya Nepali is a first-time 25 year-old director from Nepal. *Educate Our Daughters* is her graduation project and first short film. **[in attendance]**

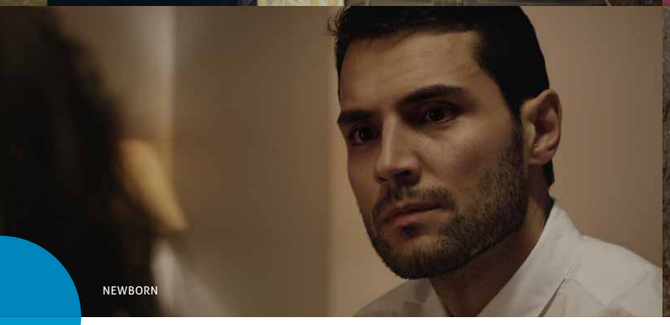




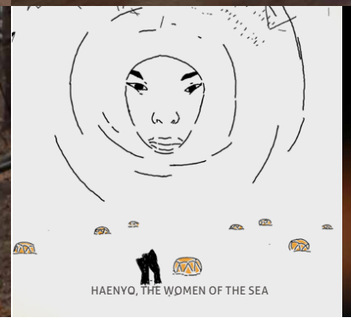


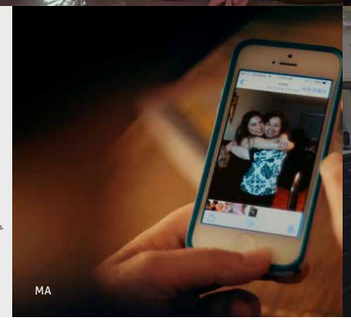














UPROOTED

ENGLISH, AND VARIOUS LANGUAGES WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
PG

Family matters are never simple. Ambivalent, affective, and atypical. These ten snapshots cover a range of family intimacies.

FORBIDDEN TIKKA MASALA | Rahul Chaturvedi • Canada • 2018 • 15 min • English
When Gayatri, a devout religious vegetarian, accidentally eats meat at her retirement party, her world gets tilted, setting her off on an unexpected adventure. Along the way, Gayatri meets new friends and discovers a different take on life.

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NEWBORN | Ray Savaya • Canada • 2017 • 6 min • English
Tensions arise when a couple discusses how to name their newborn child and realize the impact of their decision.

Ray Savaya is a filmmaker from Toronto, Canada. He arrived in Canada as an infant when his parents escaped the Gulf War in 1991 as refugees. As a film editor, Ray's work has been accepted into countless festivals including Cannes, TIFF, VIFF, and LA Shorts Fest. **[in attendance]**

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Daniela Pinto works in the film industry as a sound editor and composer, but also enjoys telling her own stories every now and then. Her work primarily focuses on the intersection of South Asian and LGBTQ identity. **[in attendance]**

MÉMO | Julien Becquer, Elana Dupressoir, Jules Durand, Viviane Guimaraes, Ines Scheiber • France • 2018 • 6 min • French with English Subtitles
Louis tests out his independence when he decides to visit a grocery store across the street.

Julien Becquer, Elana Dupressoir, Jules Durand, Viviane Guimaraes and Ines Scheiber completed *Mémo* together as their graduation short film during their studies at the School of Images Gobelin.

GIMJANG | Lee Da-Na • South Korea • 2017 • 19 min • Korean with English Subtitles
It's that time again for all the families to gather and prepare kimchi, a Korean tradition also known as *gimjang*. When an unwanted uncle joins in on this family gathering, Yeong Ju begins to feel anxious as she is reminded of her traumatic past.

Lee Da-Na is a student in the Department of Film at Dongguk University.

HAENYO, THE WOMEN OF THE SEA | Eloïc Gimenez • France • 2018 • 5 min • Korean and English
This animated short pairs seven idioms of the Haenyo, the women divers of Jeju island, with animations highlighting the musicality of the language alongside illustrations depicting their traditions, culture, and history.

Eloïc Gimenez is an animator who has worked on many films and TV productions.

MA | Andrew Chung • Canada • 2018 • 11 min • English, Cantonese with English Subtitles
On a snowy winter day, a lonely mother connects with her daughter in the only way she knows.

Andrew Chung is a Toronto-based film and television director. Chung's other short films have toured international film festivals in San Francisco, Vancouver, France, Montreal, Regina,Winnipeg, and Rhode Island. **[in attendance]**

TUNDRA | Carol Nguyen • Canada • 2018 • 10 min • English, Vietnamese with English Subtitles
Not knowing what else to do, Thuy continues to search for her missing daughter while living with the traumas of mourning and grief.

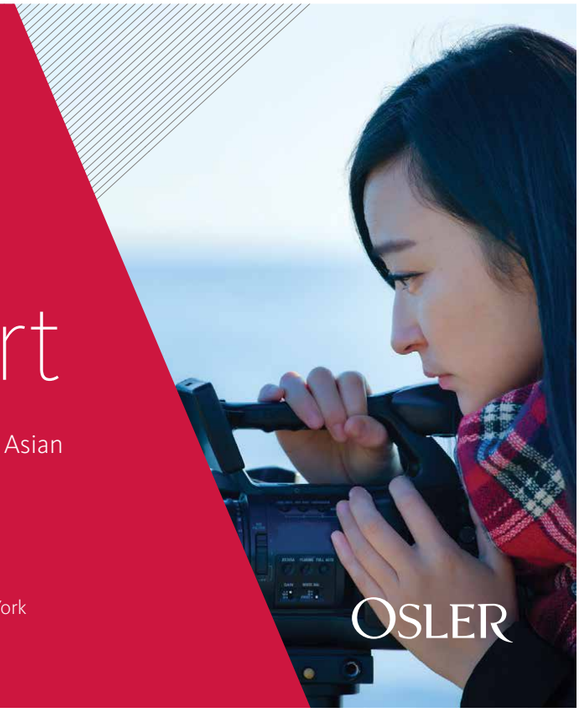
Carol Nguyen is a 20-year-old filmmaker based in Toronto. Nguyen's films often explore the subjects of cultural identity and family, topics which heavily define her understanding of the world.

RICE BALL | Yusuke Oishi • Japan • 2017 • 15 min • Japanese with English Subtitles
Following a funeral, a father and son share a meal of rice balls together while recalling their memories of a loved one.

Yusuke Oishi started his career as an actor in 2002. *Rice Ball* is Oishi's directorial debut film.

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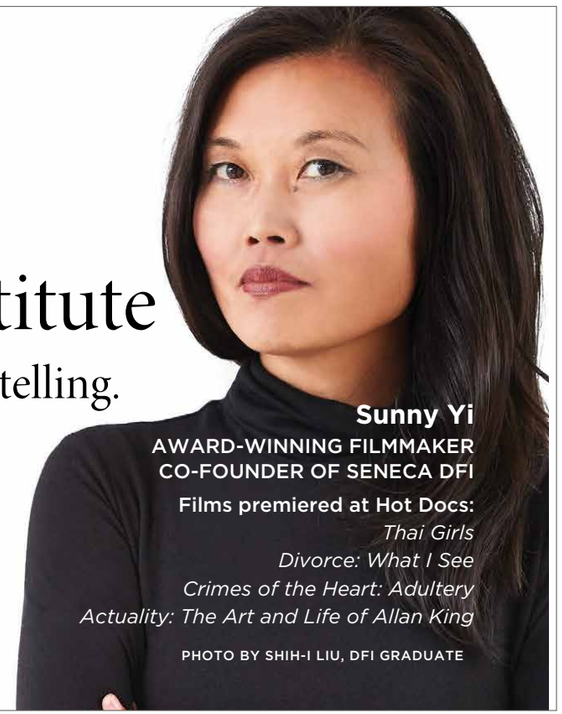
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PHOTO BY SHIH-I LIU, DFI GRADUATE

REEL IDEAS



Content creation is both an art and a business. Immerse yourself in the community where creative and industry minds come together through panels and artists talks, as we look to what's ahead for Asian cinema in Canada and around the world.



SATURDAY, NOV 10TH
8:00 PM

TIFF BELL LIGHTBOX
CINEMA 3

REEL
IDEAS

KEYNOTE: HARI KONDABOLU

This year, the Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival is launching our first festival keynote speaker, American comedian, writer and podcaster, Hari Kondabolu. In 2017, Kondabolu released his critically acclaimed documentary *The Problem with Apu* on truTV, where he confronts his long standing "nemesis" Apu Nahasapeemapetilon – better known as the Indian convenience store owner on *The Simpsons* – through a comedic cultural exposé that questions how it continues to exist in our hearts and minds of Americans - intact - twenty-eight years later.

The evening is a celebration of Asians in the film industry. Kondabolu will reflect on his personal experiences and speak to the ongoing need for diverse Asian representations in the media. Following the phenomenal success of #AsianAugust with *Crazy Rich Asians* and *Searching*, and Sandra Oh's history-making Emmy nomination, we continue to celebrate the collective achievements of Asian creatives working in the media industry. We hope to entertain, inspire and encourage our audience to continue the vital work they are doing and uphold our mandate of introducing and nurturing diverse representation on screen in Canada and the rest of the world.

Hari Kondabolu is a comedian, writer, and podcaster based in Brooklyn, NY. He has been described by The NY Times as "one of the most exciting political comics in stand-up today." In 2018, his Netflix special *Warn Your Relatives* was released, and he was named one of Variety's Top 10 Comics To Watch.

Kondabolu has released two chart-topping comedy albums, *Waiting for 2042* and *Mainstream American Comic*, on legendary punk rock label Kill Rock Stars. He has performed on *The Late Show with David Letterman, Conan, Jimmy Kimmel Live*, John Oliver's NY Stand-Up Show, *@Midnight* and has his own half-hour special on Comedy Central. He is a former writer and correspondent on the Chris Rock-produced FX TV show *Totally Biased with W. Kamau Bell*.

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REEL
IDEAS

BACHIR/YEREX
PRESENTATION SPACE

SUNDAY NOV 11TH
10:00 AM

SO YOU THINK YOU CAN PITCH?

The 13th annual Pitch Competition is back! Catch the showdown between finalists as they pitch their film projects to a jury for a chance to snag amazing prize packages. Cheer on the hard work of emerging Asian Canadian talent and support your favourite team!

PITCH FINALISTS:

Rahul Chaturvedi, *Namaste, Santa*
Shian Grace, *The Diversity Awards*
Tigris Li, *OrHoDa*
Andy Wong, *Lost in Itaewon*
Kristina Wong, *Song Hee*

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GOLD PRIZE AWARD ($8,250 VALUE):

- $4,000 Cash
- Business affairs & legal consultation with Behind The Scenes Services
- Acting support (if applicable) from ACTRA Toronto including consultation, coaching, and more
- Opportunity to premiere work at the 2019 Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival (subject to review), with full festival accreditation
- Digital film and festival strategy consultation with CineSend
- A production workflow consultation with Charles Street Video, which includes:
  > $2,700 in edit suite access and/or production equipment rentals
  > $400 artist fee
  > 2 sessions with Charles Street Video's in-house editor
  > One-year membership with Charles Street Video

SILVER PRIZE AWARD ($2,800 VALUE):

- Business affairs & legal consultation with Behind The Scenes Services
- Acting support (if applicable) from ACTRA Toronto including consultation, coaching, and more
- Opportunity to premiere work at the 2019 Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival (subject to review), with full festival accreditation
- Digital film and festival strategy consultation with CineSend
- A production workflow consultation with Charles Street Video, which includes:
  > $1,400 in edit suite access and/or production equipment rentals
  > $250 artist fee
  > 2 sessions with Charles Street Video's in-house editor
  > One-year membership with Charles Street Video

Admission: FREE and open to the public.



REEL
IDEAS



BACHIR/YEREX
PRESENTATION SPACE



THURSDAY, NOV 15TH
9:30 AM

REEL IDEAS CONFERENCE

The Reel Ideas program enriches the Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival's vision by fusing industry and education. Our programming aims to provide networking and skills sharing opportunities between emerging talent, visiting artists and established filmmakers. Our mandate is to nurture the growth of Asian creatives within film and the arts at large and to explore multiple aspects of Toronto's entertainment industry in nuanced ways.

Admission: $6 per talk
Day Pass: $20

ELEVATE YOUR PITCH!
9:30 AM

This interactive panel gives emerging filmmakers an opportunity to pitch a project to a panel of development executives and funders and receive constructive feedback on how to make their pitches more efficient and effective! Panelists will also offer tips and insight on how to generate interest and attention for filmmaker projects to become a reality.

INFLUENCING IMPACT
11:30 AM

Social platforms such as Twitter and Instagram are now powerful enough to shape career pathways and allow emerging creatives to forge new ways for themselves in all kinds of industries. In this session, creators and film professionals will learn how to mobilize these platforms to build opportunity, navigate the nuances of new media, and will receive practical tips to harness the power of digital influence for their career.

Moderator: Farah Merani, *Actor and Filmmaker*
Panelist: Alexa Fernando, *Creative Producer*

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REMAPPINGS
2:00 PM

Explore the documentary form as a means of remapping stories of traversals and settlement, and as direct interventions into media representation. The panel will discuss how the documentary form lends itself to self-reflexive storytelling, explorations of identity, and centering marginalized narratives; what stakes are involved in telling these stories; and how to navigate truth-telling in these personal events as an outsider to the narrative.

Moderator: April Aliermo, *Filmmaker*
Panelists: Sun-Kyung Yi, *Filmmaker* & Ashley Duong, *Filmmaker*

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VOICING ACROSS MEDIUMS, IN CONVERSATION WITH SOOK-YIN LEE
4:00 PM

Join Sook-Yin Lee and Sherren Lee in this cross-generational artist talk on the ways the creative process is transformed and impacted across multiple genres. How does an interdisciplinary approach including radio, music and the visual arts enrich the filmmaking process? What are some insights on making the leap from short film format to feature film production? How is the creative process consistent or different from medium to medium and what is the draw of multidisciplinary work?

Moderator: Sherren Lee, *Filmmaker*
Feature Artist: Sook-Yin Lee, *Filmmaker*

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