



hotdocs
OUTSPOKEN. OUTSTANDING.

APRIL 23–MAY 3, 2026
CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL
DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL

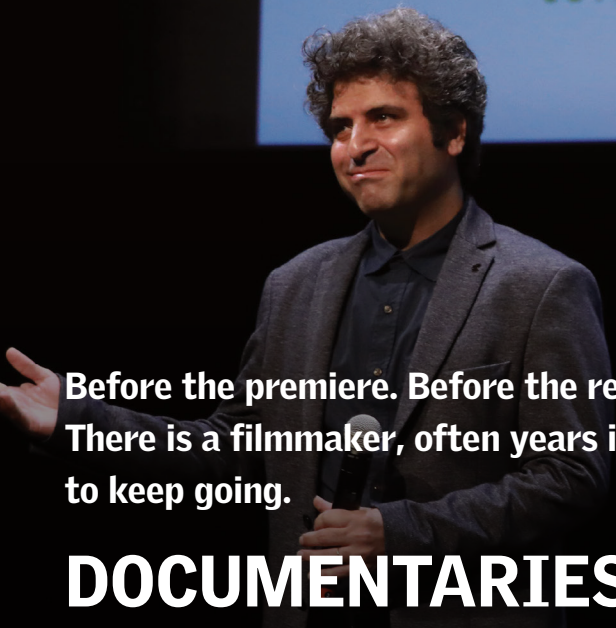
SCREENING SCHEDULE
HOTDOCS.CA

Founding Partner



Major Supporters





Before the premiere. Before the review. Before the award.
There is a filmmaker, often years into a project, wondering whether to keep going.

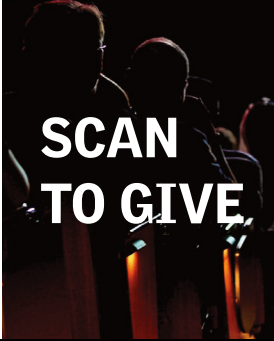
DOCUMENTARIES ARE MADE POSSIBLE BY CHAMPIONS + FRIENDS THE NEXT ONE NEEDS YOU

Through Hot Docs Industry Programs we connect filmmakers with the training, funding and partners they need to get their film made. Over the past decade, these initiatives have generated an estimated \$135M in investment. Hot Docs continues to champion documentary filmmakers at our Oscar-qualifying festival, through premieres at the Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema, and in our Docs For Schools program.

And the journey doesn't end there...

- Many of these films go on to change policy.
- Many of these films launch lifelong careers.
- Many of these films are seen by the one person who needed to see it most.

All of them started with a filmmaker who felt supported and kept going.



**SCAN
TO GIVE**

hotdocs.ca/hd-donate

**Help Hot Docs support filmmakers.
Give to our Friends of Hot Docs campaign today!**

WELCOME TO HOT DOCS 2026

PHOTO: GABRIEL LI

FIND YOUR FILMS

Browse films by program or use the title index to find films. More detailed film descriptions and a subject index are available at hotdocs.ca.

BUY YOUR TICKETS



HOTDOCS.CA



Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema Box Office

506 Bloor Street West

Box Office Hours

PRE-FESTIVAL (March 24–April 22)

On days with screenings and events, the box office opens one hour before the first show of the day. The box office will remain open until 30 minutes after the last show begins, unless otherwise indicated.

FESTIVAL (April 23–May 3)

Daily, 9am–9pm



Need help? Ticketing Support: boxoffice@hotdocs.ca

Read our complete ticket policy here: hotdocs.ca/ticketing-policies

SAME-DAY Tickets

Same-day tickets for all screenings are available online and at the Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema Box Office until one hour before the start time, subject to availability.

Same-day tickets are also available at each venue's box office for screenings scheduled at that venue. Venue box offices open 60 minutes before the first screening of the day (see p. 22).

RUSH Tickets

If advanced tickets for a screening are sold out, a limited number of rush tickets may be available at the screening venue's box office approximately 15 minutes before the start time. Line-ups for rush tickets begin roughly one hour before the film's start time.

FREE Daytime Screenings

Students and patrons 60+ with valid ID can take advantage of free admission to regular Festival screenings that start **before 4pm**.

Free student and 60+ tickets are only available on the day of the screening and must be picked up at the venue where the film is showing. Tickets may only be claimed for non-concurrent screenings. Subject to availability.

Free screenings are generously supported by Diane Blake and Stephen Smith.

Hot Docs was established in 1993 as an initiative of the Documentary Organization of Canada/Documentaristes du Canada and was separately incorporated as an independent charitable organization in 1996.

TICKET PRICES

Single tickets are on sale to the public starting March 31.

Hot Docs Members and ticket package holders may obtain single tickets in an advance window, March 24–30.

Hot Docs Members save on tickets and packages. Join now at hotdocs.ca/members.

Screening Tickets

SCREENINGS:	\$22 (\$20 FOR MEMBERS)
6-TICKET BUNDLE:	\$114 (\$102 FOR MEMBERS) Special Events not included (p. 4)
SPECIAL EVENTS:	FREE-\$27 (\$24 FOR MEMBERS)
BIG IDEAS COCKTAILS:	\$50 (p. 4)

Screening Ticket Packages

Perfect for sharing—enjoy Festival screenings and special events with your friends!

Redeem tickets in advance online or in person at Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema Box Office. Ticketholders are guaranteed seating until 15 minutes prior to the start of the program; no entry 15 minutes after showtime.

12-PACK:	\$228 (\$216 FOR MEMBERS)
20-PACK:	\$340 (\$320 FOR MEMBERS)

ACCESSIBLE IN-CINEMA SCREENINGS

- Caption track made available via personal viewing device.
- Caption track visible on screen.
- Audio description made available via personal device.

The above icons indicate film screenings that offer closed captioning or audio description, subject to equipment availability, and film screenings that will feature open captioning on screen. When possible, ASL interpreters or live captioning will be present for select Q&As of captioned screenings.

Hearing assist devices are available for all screenings at all venues, subject to equipment availability.

Accessible screenings are supported by The Catherine and Maxwell Meighen Foundation.

For more information, please visit hotdocs.ca/access.

Everyone who enters Hot Docs spaces is required to abide by the Hot Docs Code of Conduct. Learn more at: hotdocs.ca/conduct.



Opening Night Screening

ANTIDIVA: THE CAROLE POPE CONFESSIONS

Join us for the World Premiere of *Antidiva: The Carole Pope Confessions* (p. 6), a Hot Docs-Slaight Family Fund grant recipient, including an exclusive Q&A with director Michelle Mama and special guests from the film.

THU, APR 23 7:00 PM HOT DOCS CINEMA TICKETS: \$27



Big Ideas Cocktails

Gather your colleagues, your book club crew or your favourite date and make it a big night out with these exclusive receptions held before each of our four Big Ideas screenings (p. 5). Every event is an opportunity to support Hot Docs while connecting with your friends, fellow doc-lovers and special guests.

Add a Cocktail Reception: \$50

All cocktail attendees must also have a ticket for the Big Ideas screening. Screening tickets sold separately.



Rogers Audience Award for Best Canadian Documentary

Announcement and Encore Screening

On the Festival's final night, join us to celebrate our Canadian filmmakers and to announce the winner of this year's Rogers Audience Award. The top Canadian feature film in the audience poll will receive a \$50,000 cash prize, courtesy of the Rogers Group of Funds.

SUN, MAY 3 7:30 PM HOT DOCS CINEMA FREE

About the Cover Art



This illustration is inspired by the creative cycle behind the documentaries shown at Hot Docs. It begins with conversations between peers: exchanges that spark ideas, shape stories and eventually become films shared with the world. These films then reach new communities, where dialogue begins again. At its heart, this work reflects the cyclical nature of storytelling: knowledge shared as a gift, and the reminder that we are all connected through the stories we tell and receive.

VIVIAN ROSAS
Illustrator
vivian-rosas.com

BIG IDEAS

Join us for extended post-screening discussions with special guests from these outstanding films. For the latest updates on guests and moderators, please visit hotdocs.ca.



LOVE APPTUALLY

Filmmaker and Hot Docs alum **Shalini Kantayya** (*Coded Bias*; *TikTok, Boom*) discusses her latest deep dive into the world of technology, this time focusing on Tinder. *Love Apptually* (p. 18) explores the unknown structures behind big tech and the algorithms that both lift and restrict the users attempting to find love in the digital age.

SAT, APR 25 6:00 PM HOT DOCS CINEMA TICKETS: \$27



A WAR ON WOMEN

Join director **Raha Shirazi** for an exploration of women's rights in Iran, from decades of resistance and activism to the recent rally cry of "Woman, Life, Freedom," and how *A War on Women* (p. 8) spotlights well-known members of the community to reframe the global conversation around how these women are changing history.

SUN, APR 26 6:00 PM HOT DOCS CINEMA TICKETS: \$27



MYSPACE

Join director **Tommy Avallone** for a conversation about Myspace, the pioneering social media site that became a cultural phenomenon for casual users and upcoming artists alike, and how it set the stage for the social media landscape that we know today (p. 7).

MON, APR 27 6:30 PM HOT DOCS CINEMA TICKETS: \$27



STEAL THIS STORY, PLEASE!

Journalist **Amy Goodman** (*Democracy Now!*) joins Oscar-nominated filmmakers **Carl Deal** and **Tia Lessin** for a conversation about the importance of independent journalism in a world where media representatives can often be stifled and how those still fighting shine a spotlight on the stories that need to be told (p. 7).

TUE, APR 28 6:30 PM HOT DOCS CINEMA TICKETS: \$27



KENNY LOGGINS: CONVICTION OF THE HEART

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

**OPENING NIGHT FILM
WORLD PREMIERE**

**ANTIDIVA: THE CAROLE POPE
CONFESSIONS**

D: Michelle Mama | Canada | 89 min

Singer-songwriter Carole Pope shattered taboos with raw, unapologetic music and defiant sexuality. *Antidiva* tells the story of a queer rock icon reclaiming her rightful place in music history, with insights from k.d. lang, Peaches, Jann Arden and Rufus Wainwright.

THU, APR 23 7:00 PM HOT DOCS CINEMA
SUN, APR 26 1:30 PM HOT DOCS CINEMA

AMERICAN DOCTOR

D: Poh Si Teng | USA, Palestine, Denmark, Malaysia, Qatar | 93 min

Three American physicians—Palestinian, Jewish and Zoroastrian—risk everything to save lives in besieged Gaza and expose political truths while navigating a collapsing medical infrastructure and global indifference.

TUE, APR 28 5:15 PM TLB 1
WED, APR 29 11:30 AM TLB 1

THE BALLAD OF JUDAS PRIEST

D: Sam Dunn, Tom Morello | Canada, USA | 98 min

From working-class origins in Birmingham to the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, the genre-defining heavy metal band's five-decade journey is chronicled through exclusive interviews with Judas Priest, previously unpublished personal archives and appearances by Ozzy Osbourne, Jack Black, Metallica and more.

SUN, APR 26 9:30 PM HOT DOCS CINEMA
FRI, MAY 1 2:00 PM HOT DOCS CINEMA

BLACK ZOMBIE

D: Maya Annik Bedward | Canada | 90 min

From colonial Haiti's haunted cane fields to the flickering screens of Hollywood horror, the living dead's buried origins are unearthed and reclaimed as a symbol of survival and spiritual resistance.

FRI, APR 24 9:15 PM HOT DOCS CINEMA
SAT, APR 25 11:00 AM TLB 1

A FOX UNDER A PINK MOON

D: Mehrdad Oskouei, Soraya Akhlaghi | Iran, Denmark, France | 77 min

Filed entirely on her phone over five years, 16-year-old Soraya documents her harrowing attempts to flee Iran for Austria. Through surreal animations and sculptures, the young Afghan artist transforms her experiences of domestic violence and displacement into a powerful, self-narrated testament to survival.

THU, APR 30 7:45 PM TLB 2
FRI, MAY 1 3:00 PM TLB 3

IT'S DOROTHY!

D: Jeffrey McHale | USA | 97 min

Dorothy's journey to Oz continues to inspire audiences united by their search for belonging. This vibrant, imaginative portrait celebrates her cultural legacy and the diverse communities who claim her as their own, reminding us that no matter how hard things get, we must never stop looking somewhere over the rainbow.

SAT, APR 25 4:45 PM TLB 1
MON, APR 27 1:30 PM TLB 1



AMERICAN DOCTOR



ANTIDIVA: THE CAROLE POPE CONFESSIONS

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS



SENTIENT



BLACK ZOMBIE



THE OLDEST PERSON IN THE WORLD

WORLD PREMIERE
KENNY LOGGINS: CONVICTION OF THE HEART

D: Dori Berinstein | USA | 96 min

Everybody cut footloose! From chart-topping anthems to movie soundtracks, multi-award-winning singer songwriter Kenny Loggins reflects on a career that defined a generation, tracing his life on and off stage across decades of reinvention.

MON, APR 27 9:45 PM HOT DOCS CINEMA
TUE, APR 28 8:15 PM TLB 1

WORLD PREMIERE
MYSPLACE

D: Tommy Avallone | USA | 96 min

What is the legacy of Myspace? Pulling at the heartstrings of millennials and curious newcomers alike, this nostalgic portrait traces how this pioneering social networking platform shaped the digital world we now inhabit, from online fame to social media overload.

MON, APR 27 6:30 PM HOT DOCS CINEMA*
TUE, APR 28 9:45 PM HOT DOCS CINEMA

*Big Ideas Series screening p. 5

THE OLDEST PERSON IN THE WORLD

D: Sam Green | USA | 87 min

For over a decade, filmmaker Sam Green has chronicled the ever-changing Guinness World Record holder of "Oldest Person in the World." Weaving together his personal experiences of fatherhood, ageing and loss, Green offers a poignant meditation on family, mortality and the meaning of life.

SAT, MAY 2 8:15 PM HOT DOCS CINEMA
SUN, MAY 3 1:00 PM HOT DOCS CINEMA*

SENTIENT

D: Tony Jones | Australia | 105 min

This investigative look at the highly controversial practice of animal testing—centred on the story of primate scientist turned animal rights activist Dr. Lisa Jones-Engel—questions if the harm to animals and the human scientists who care for them is justified by the pursuit of scientific advancement.

FRI, MAY 1 5:15 PM HOT DOCS CINEMA
SAT, MAY 2 2:00 PM HOT DOCS CINEMA

STEAL THIS STORY, PLEASE!

D: Carl Deal, Tia Lessin | USA | 102 min

Fiercely independent journalist Amy Goodman has spent three decades holding the powerful to account, reporting from conflict zones and the *Democracy Now!* newsroom as an essential voice highlighting global issues and pursuing truth in an era of "alternative" facts.

TUE, APR 28 6:30 PM HOT DOCS CINEMA*
WED, APR 29 9:15 PM HOT DOCS CINEMA

*Big Ideas Series screening p. 5

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE
TCB – THE TONI CADE BAMBARA SCHOOL OF ORGANIZING

D: Louis Massiah, Monica Henriquez | USA, UK, Canada, France, Senegal | 105 min

This dynamic portrait of Toni Cade Bambara, the visionary Black feminist writer, filmmaker and activist, celebrates her life with power and urgency. Through rare archives and intimate reflections from those she inspired, we learn lessons in agency, community resilience and the transformative impact of cultural organizing.

MON, APR 27 4:30 PM TLB 1
TUE, APR 28 2:00 PM TLB 1

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

TIME AND WATER

D: Sara Dosa | USA, Iceland | 90 min

Following the loss of his beloved grandparents and facing the death of his country's glaciers, renowned Icelandic writer Andri Snær Magnason constructs a cinematic time capsule in this beautifully crafted meditation on family, memory and epochal change from Academy Award nominee Sara Dosa (*Fire of Love*).

SAT, MAY 2 5:15 PM HOT DOCS CINEMA
 SUN, MAY 3 1:15 PM TLB 1

TO HOLD A MOUNTAIN

D: Biljana Tutorov, Petar Glomazić | Serbia, France, Slovenia, Montenegro, Croatia | 105 min

In the quiet mountain lands of Montenegro, a mother and daughter strive to protect their ancestral home from the threat of becoming a NATO military training facility, awakening memories of the violence that shattered their family.

SAT, MAY 2 5:15 PM TLB 1
 SUN, MAY 3 10:00 AM TLB 1

WORLD PREMIERE

THE TOWER THAT BUILT A CITY

D: Mark Myers | Canada | 92 min

Toronto's skyline-defining CN Tower launched a five-decade transformation of the Big Smoke into the 6ix. Celebrate its 50th anniversary as it continues to symbolize a city that's become a world-class cultural force in sports, music and global identity.

FRI, MAY 1 8:30 PM HOT DOCS CINEMA
 SUN, MAY 3 4:00 PM HOT DOCS CINEMA

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

A WAR ON WOMEN

D: Raha Shirazi | Italy | 102 min

Long before the world chanted "Woman, Life, Freedom," Iranian women have been rising up. Intimate interviews and archival footage trace 40 years of feminist resistance against the Islamic Republic, culminating in a revolution led by the very women the regime tried to silence.

SUN, APR 26 6:00 PM HOT DOCS CINEMA*
 THU, APR 30 5:45 PM HOT DOCS CINEMA

WHEN A WITNESS RECANTS

D: Dawn Porter | USA | 117 min

Author, journalist and activist Ta-Nehisi Coates investigates the case of a young student who was murdered in Baltimore, uncovering layers of false accusations, wrongful convictions and how the justice system can fail those caught in the crossfire.

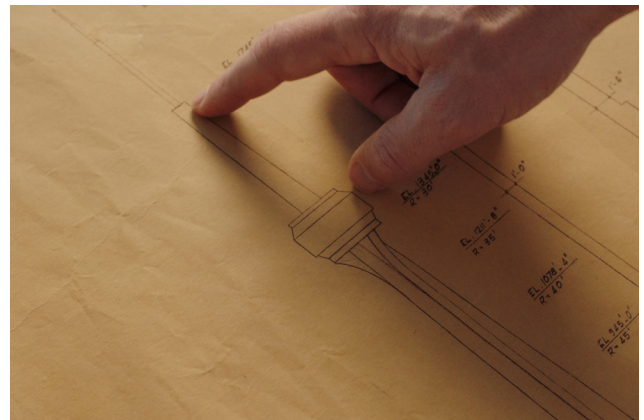
WED, APR 29 5:45 PM HOT DOCS CINEMA
 SUN, MAY 3 4:15 PM TLB 1

**Big Ideas Series screening p. 5*

TCB - THE TONI CADE BAMBARA SCHOOL OF ORGANIZING



THE TOWER THAT BUILT A CITY



TO HOLD A MOUNTAIN



CONSTANT BATTLES

CANADIAN SPECTRUM COMPETITION

FEATURE FILMS IN JURIED COMPETITION
Sponsored by DGC National and DGC Ontario

CEREMONY

D: Banchi Hanuse | Canada | 84 min

At Nuxalk Radio, a ramshackled station on the edge of the world, an inquiry into the vanished ooligan fish uncovers a chilling history rooted in the attempted erasure of the Nuxalk people and their enduring resilience.

THU, APR 30 5:30 PM TLB 1
FRI, MAY 1 11:30 AM TLB 2

WORLD PREMIERE

CODE OF MISCONDUCT

D: Sébastien Trahan | Canada | 88 min

An investigative journalist's duty to follow the facts leads to the trial of five Canadian professional hockey players charged with sexual assault, unravelling our national pastime and questioning the institutions that hold the sport accountable.

SUN, APR 26 8:00 PM TLB 1
MON, APR 27 2:30 PM TLB 2

WORLD PREMIERE

CONCRETE TURNED TO SAND

D: Ryan Ermacora, Jessica Johnson | Canada | 73 min

"To see a World in a Grain of Sand / And a Heaven in a Wild Flower." William Blake's poetry comes to life in Cortes Island, B.C., as local oyster farmers ply their trade amidst a rapidly changing environment in this spellbinding photo essay.

Screening with

TUKTUIT : CARIBOU

D: Lindsay McIntyre | Canada | 15 min

TUE, APR 28 4:45 PM TLB 2
WED, APR 29 1:45 PM TLB 2

WORLD PREMIERE

CONSTANT BATTLES

D: Mackenzie Stannard | Canada | 38 min

Determined to become the first Iranian-born female Olympic boxer, a young Canadian woman must confront her own anxiety and her mother's past trauma. Together they learn that true strength isn't about winning but letting go of the need to be perfect.

Screening with

THAT NIGHT

D: Hoda Sobhani | USA | 11 min
and

MÚSICAS

D: Lila Áviles | Mexico | 33 min
and

AEROBIC CORRIDOR

D: Jennifer Law-Smith | Canada | 20 min

SAT, APR 25 5:15 PM TLB 3
SUN, APR 26 10:45 AM TLB 4

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

A FIRE THERE

D: Marlene Edoyan | Canada | 95 min

In a remote Georgian village bordering Armenia, three friends struggle with the tension between inherited destiny and the desire to forge one's own path, torn between obligation and desire, tradition and change, the world they know and the one they dream of.

MON, APR 27 8:30 PM TLB 2
TUE, APR 28 1:45 PM TLB 2



CEREMONY



CODE OF MISCONDUCT

CANADIAN SPECTRUM COMPETITION



THE LAST DAYS OF APRIL



KINDERGARTEN



SAIGON STORY: TWO SHOOTINGS IN THE FOREST KINGDOM

KINDERGARTEN

D: Jean-François Caissy | Canada | 84 min

Enter a world of adorable toddlers, where the wee ones are forming their first social relationships outside their homes, with this charming and honest slice-of-life look at daycare through the eyes of children.

TUE, APR 28 4:30 PM TLB 3
WED, APR 29 2:15 PM TLB 4

WORLD PREMIERE

THE LAST DAYS OF APRIL

D: Ree Wright, Meaghan Wright | Canada | 75 min

The courageous journey of a determined disabled advocate living with a tethered spinal cord and chronic pain, balancing love, legacy and the fight for bodily autonomy as she chooses how she wants to leave the world: on her own terms.

FRI, APR 24 8:30 PM TLB 2
SAT, APR 25 10:45 AM TLB 2

WORLD PREMIERE

NEKAI WALKS

D: Rico King | Canada | 90 min

At 16, Nekai Foster was shot while walking home in Toronto's Jane and Finch neighbourhood. His journey of survival and recovery—defying all medical odds as he relearns to walk—exposes how gun violence shapes bodies, families and communities.

FRI, APR 24 6:00 PM HOT DOCS CINEMA
SAT, APR 25 10:45 AM HOT DOCS CINEMA

WORLD PREMIERE

SAIGON STORY: TWO SHOOTINGS IN THE FOREST KINGDOM

D: Kim Nguyen | Canada | 91 min

Oscar-nominated director Kim Nguyen reveals the elusive connection between two families and photojournalist Eddie Adams's iconic photo, *Saigon Execution*, confronting family secrets left in the wake of the Vietnam War, exposing the resilience of survivors and the blurred legacy of wartime memory.

WED, APR 29 8:30 PM TLB 1
THU, APR 30 11:15 AM TLB 1

WORLD PREMIERE

təm k^waθ nan NAMESAKE

D: Evan Adams, Eileen Francis | Canada | 76 min

When the Tla'amin Nation requests a name change for the city of Powell River, B.C.—named for Israel Wood Powell, a key figure in the creation of the Indian residential school system—it ignites a heated debate about whose history is told and respected.

Screening with

REPLIKKA

D: Piratá Waurá, Heloisa Passos | Brazil, USA, UK | 16 min

WED, APR 29 5:00 PM TLB 3
THU, APR 30 2:00 PM TLB 3



INTERNATIONAL SPECTRUM COMPETITION

FEATURE FILMS IN JURIED COMPETITION
Supported by Donner Canadian Foundation

PAIKAR

WORLD PREMIERE

THE 49TH YEAR

D: Heidrun Holzfeind | Austria, Germany, Japan | 88 min

Through thoughtful letters from prison, an anarchist incarcerated since 1980 reflects on his radical past. This meditative portrait pairs humane narration with contemporary Japanese landscapes, exploring the quiet tensions between aging, political militancy and time itself.

TUE, APR 28 5:30 PM TLB 4
WED, APR 29 5:15 PM TLB 4

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

BABY JACKFRUIT BABY GUAVA

D: Nhật Quang Nông | Vietnam, South Korea, Switzerland | 105 min

A queer filmmaker creates an intimate time capsule for his unborn nephew as his sister, who lives with schizophrenia, unexpectedly becomes pregnant. Spanning five years of home archives, the film documents a Vietnamese family's journey to overcome traditional expectations and heal old wounds.

SUN, APR 26 8:30 PM TLB 2
MON, APR 27 1:45 PM TLB 4

WORLD PREMIERE

A DISTANT CALL

D: Andrea Suwito | Indonesia, UK, France | 99 min

In a remote Indonesian community with ancient traditions, a former spiritual leader faces a difficult choice between their unique gender identity and the expectations of an Islamic pilgrimage to Mecca. This vivid film captures a rare, meditative struggle between local tradition and modern faith.

FRI, APR 24 5:30 PM TLB 2
SUN, MAY 3 7:45 PM TLB 1

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

HOUSE OF HOPE

D: Marjolein Busstra | Netherlands, Palestine | 91 min

In the West Bank lies an elementary school organized and run by a couple set on teaching their young Palestinian students non-violent resistance, offering a refuge from the escalating uncertainty that surrounds them.

THU, APR 30 8:30 PM TLB 1
FRI, MAY 1 10:30 AM TLB 1

WORLD PREMIERE

LANDSTONE

D: Faraz Fadaian | Iran, Switzerland | 64 min

In the Iranian desert, an elderly man and his wife face mortality and fading bonds. Seeking solace in a handmade cave, the man struggles to reconnect with his past in this lyrical and visually striking study of a vanishing way of life.

Screening with

SOME KIND OF REFUGE

D: Alexandra Kern | USA | 16 min

SAT, APR 25 5:00 PM TLB 4
SUN, APR 26 10:00 AM TLB 3

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

PAIKAR

D: Dawood Hilmandi | Netherlands | 97 min

From exile in Amsterdam, filmmaker Dawood Hilmandi reflects on his family nickname, Paikar, the Persian word for warrior. Returning to Iran to reconcile with his authoritarian father, their journey to Afghanistan during a pandemic transforms a lifetime of displacement into a story of survival.

SUN, APR 26 4:00 PM TLB 3
MON, APR 27 8:15 PM TLB 3



A DISTANT CALL



BABY JACKFRUIT BABY GUAVA

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

LANDSTONE



HOUSE OF HOPE



VEGAPOLIS

WORLD PREMIERE

PARASISI

D: Zaïde Bil, Sébastien Segers | Belgium | 61 min

Along the Lawa River, Wayana families live with the quiet aftershocks of intrusion. In luminous black-and-white, this lyrical film traces how mining, missionaries and medicine ripple through daily life, revealing colonial histories etched into lands and bodies.

Screening with

L'MINA

D: Randa Maroufi | Morocco, France, Italy, Qatar | 26 min

FRI, APR 24 9:00 PM TLB 4
SAT, APR 25 11:30 AM TLB 3

WORLD PREMIERE

STORIES FOR SANDRO

D: Giacomo Boeri | Italy | 81 min

After being diagnosed with Alzheimer's, Sandro begins writing down his memories—incredible tales previously unknown to his family. His son, the filmmaker, delves deeper, bringing to life colourful and carefully crafted episodes filled with irony, drama and comedy.

WED, APR 29 7:45 PM TLB 2
THU, APR 30 1:45 PM TLB 2

WORLD PREMIERE

VANISHING TRACKS

D: Hamed Zolfaghari | Iran, France, Norway, South Korea, Qatar | 93 min

In Iran's remote nomadic landscape, a family navigates their traditional existence in a modern world. When their sheep vanish overnight, tensions rise between the three sons and their parents. Surreal and dreamlike, this richly textured portrait captures a disappearing way of life.

MON, APR 27 5:30 PM TLB 2
TUE, APR 28 1:30 PM TLB 3

WORLD PREMIERE

VEGAPOLIS

D: Micha Barban Dangerfield | France | 71 min

Laser lights, thumping bass and blades on ice. Inside a Montpellier rink, teens gather each week, forging friendships, dissecting crushes and dreaming. With big life changes on the horizon, this kaleidoscopic coming-of-age portrait captures the joy, intensity and fragile magic of youth.

Screening with

THE BIRDS ARE SILENT

D: Leo Dzhyshyashvili | Germany, Ukraine | 8 min
and

AT THE STAGE WHEN

D: Hao Zhou | USA, China | 16 min

THU, APR 30 5:00 PM TLB 3
FRI, MAY 1 1:45 PM TLB 4



BETTER GO MAD IN THE WILD

WORLD SHOWCASE

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

32 METERS

D: Morteza Atabaki | Turkey, Iran, Qatar | 83 min

Growing up in rural Turkey, Halime is a woman who has always defied tradition. Now, she rallies friends to stage a women's shooting competition, igniting lively debates and unexpected alliances in this funny and quietly subversive film about claiming space on your own terms.

FRI, MAY 1 8:45 PM TLB 3
SUN, MAY 3 10:30 AM TLB 2

BETTER GO MAD IN THE WILD

D: Miro Remo | Czech Republic, Slovakia | 83 min

A talking cow narrates the lives of twin brothers living alone on a remote Czech farm. Surreal, cinematic and darkly funny, this wildly original film presents a portrait of unconventional familial love inside a world that feels half real, half dream.

SAT, APR 25 2:30 PM TLB 3
SUN, APR 26 1:00 PM TLB 3

BIRDS OF WAR

D: Janay Boulos, Abd Alkader Habak | UK, Syria, Lebanon | 85 min

A love story blossoms between a London-based Lebanese journalist and her on-the-ground contact, a Syrian-based cameraman, through 13 years of war, revolutions and exile. But can two people from such disparate worlds make a life together?

WED, APR 29 5:30 PM TLB 1
THU, APR 30 2:30 PM TLB 1

WORLD PREMIERE

GIMME TRUTH

D: Simon Ennis, Brad Abrahams | Canada | 89 min

Evil aliens. False flags. Fake pandemics. Chemtrails. For a number of truth seekers, the pull of conspiracies has given them purpose and validated their skepticism of the systems that have let them down. But what is the cost when the search for truth becomes your identity?

SAT, APR 25 7:30 PM TLB 2
SUN, APR 26 2:30 PM TLB 2

WORLD PREMIERE

IN TYEE COUNTRY

D: Jevan Crittenden, Nate Slaco | Canada | 71 min

A century-old fishing club on Canada's west coast faces an existential crisis as salmon populations dwindle and members wrestle with their legacy, realizing that their biggest catches might be a thing of the past.

Screening with

SANYI THE ROOSTER

D: Lotte Salomons | Netherlands | 20 min

SUN, APR 26 4:45 PM TLB 4
MON, APR 27 5:15 PM TLB 3

JARIPEO

D: Efraín Mojica, Rebecca Zweig | Mexico, USA, France | 71 min

Against the immersive backdrop of the annual Christmas *jaripeo*—a Mexican rodeo-style festival—the notion of cowboys and hypermasculinity is put under a lens, revealing intimate memories and desires in a celebration of queer self-expression and belonging.

SAT, APR 25 2:00 PM TLB 1
THU, APR 30 8:45 PM TLB 4



JARIPEO



GIMME TRUTH

WORLD SHOWCASE



TRACES



ON MY OWN TERMS



MY BENJAMIN

LES HABITANTS

D: Maureen Fazendeiro | Portugal, France | 42 min

On the outskirts of Paris, a collective of women assists a travelling group of Roma against the wishes of their neighbours. A beautifully contemplative film that considers the day-to-day lives of migrants without a safe place to live.

Screening with

AIMÉE & SAMIR

D: Catherine van Campen | Netherlands | 30 min
and

4937 KILOWATTS A YEAR

D: Ellie Delvaux, Madeleine Faburel-Dumail | Belgium, Morocco | 23 min

SAT, MAY 2 8:00 PM TLB 4
SUN, MAY 3 11:00 AM TLB 4

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

LET OUR MOUNTAINS LIVE

D: Håvard Bustnes | Norway, Finland | 100 min

Should renewable energy come at the cost of Indigenous rights? In Norway's mountainous Fosen region, Sámi reindeer herders and youth activists win a Supreme Court victory against a large wind farm but face a bigger battle when economic interests stall political action.

FRI, APR 24 3:00 PM TLB 4
SAT, APR 25 8:15 PM TLB 4

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

MY BENJAMIN

D: Victoria Clay Mendoza | Mexico, France | 75 min

As a danseur étoile at the Paris Opera Ballet, Benjamin Pech has built his life around dance. But a hip injury and mandatory retirement age of 42 mean coming to terms with the end of an illustrious career.

SAT, APR 25 2:15 PM TLB 4
SUN, APR 26 2:00 PM TLB 4

MY FATHER AND QADDAFI

D: Jihan K | Libya, USA | 88 min

A daughter traces the disappearance of her beloved father—Libyan Foreign Minister and peaceful opposition leader to dictator Muammar Qaddafi—intimately exploring how authoritarian power has reverberated through her family and country amidst a two-decade-long search.

FRI, MAY 1 8:15 PM TLB 1
SAT, MAY 2 11:45 AM TLB 2

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

ON MY OWN TERMS

D: Tadeusz Chudy | Poland | 67 min

In an orphanage, two half-siblings dream of living on their own after one achieves success as a boxer and the other inherits her own apartment. But the road to adulthood grows thorny as the teenagers quickly learn the price of independence.

Screening with

A QUIET STORM

D: Benjamin Nicolas | Japan, Canada | 29 min

SUN, APR 26 7:45 PM TLB 4
MON, APR 27 2:15 PM TLB 3

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

PUBLIC ACCESS

D: David Shadrack Smith | USA | 108 min

The revolutionary rise of a New York City public-access station, featuring provocative shows and early performances from musicians like Debbie Harry and Bob Marley, reveals how boundary-pushing programming reshaped free expression long before the internet.

SAT, APR 25 4:15 PM TLB 2
SUN, APR 26 10:30 AM TLB 1

SCARLET GIRLS

D: Paula Cury | Dominican Republic, Germany, Mexico | 70 min

What does it mean to exist as a woman in a country where abortion is illegal without exception? Through intimate narration and evocative cinematography, women across the Dominican Republic reflect on their experiences with forced motherhood and clandestine abortion.

SAT, MAY 2 5:30 PM TLB 4
SUN, MAY 3 2:00 PM TLB 4

WORLD PREMIERE**SEARCHING FOR DRUG PEACE**

D: Alisher Balfanbayev | Canada | 89 min

Amidst a deadly overdose crisis in Vancouver, a daring activist funds a non-profit drug testing centre by operating the illicit Coca Leaf Café and Medicinal Mushroom Dispensary, risking everything to provide life-saving harm reduction and advocate for drug reform.

TUE, APR 28 7:30 PM TLB 3
WED, APR 29 4:45 PM TLB 2

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE**THE SEOUL GUARDIANS**

D: Chul Young Cho, Shin Wan Kim, Jong Woo Kim | South Korea | 71 min

When martial law was shockingly declared in 2024, the people of Seoul took to the streets to protect their democracy. Driven by memories of past dictatorships, this urgent reportage-style film captures a night of chaos and powerful, collective citizen resistance.

SAT, MAY 2 8:45 PM TLB 2
SUN, MAY 3 8:30 PM TLB 3

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE**SILENT FLOOD**

D: Dmytro Sukholytkyy-Sobchuk | Ukraine, Germany | 90 min

Along the Dniester River, a pacifist farming community maintains a centuries-old way of life. As the Russian invasion nears, these traditional isolationists must find their own way to support the front, bridging the gap between their peaceful faith and a nation at war.

WED, APR 29 8:00 PM TLB 3
THU, APR 30 11:00 AM TLB 2

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE**TRACES**

D: Alisa Kovalenko, Marysia Nikitiuk | Ukraine, Poland | 82 min

Activist Iryna Dovhan documents the testimonies of Ukrainian women who survived conflict-related violence following the Russian invasion. By gathering survivors into a "circle of courage," the film portrays a defiant collective, transforming their shared trauma into a powerful force for truth and justice.

FRI, MAY 1 8:30 PM TLB 2
SAT, MAY 2 1:30 PM TLB 3

WHAT COMES FROM SITTING IN SILENCE?

D: Sophie Schrago | France, South Korea | 76 min

From a cramped Mumbai storefront, Khatoon leads the city's first women-led Islamic court. Amidst heated arguments and raw testimony, these female judges settle cases of domestic conflict, reclaiming religious law from male dominance to offer a new path toward grassroots justice.

SAT, MAY 2 6:00 PM TLB 2
SUN, MAY 3 5:45 PM TLB 3

WHISPERS IN MAY

D: Dongnan Chen | Hong Kong, Netherlands, Sweden, South Korea | 95 min

In the rural Liangshan Mountains, 14-year-old Qihuo and her friends embark on a road trip to find a skirt for her traditional menarche rite of passage. This poetic film blends documentary and fiction to capture a fleeting, final moment of childhood innocence.

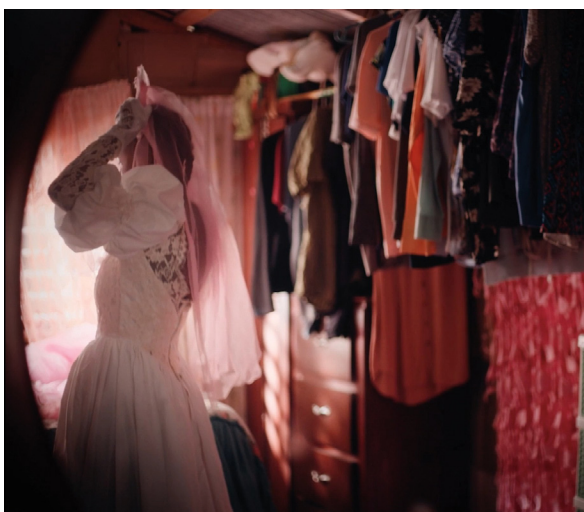
SUN, APR 26 5:30 PM TLB 2
SUN, MAY 3 11:45 AM TLB 3

WHO IS STILL ALIVE

D: Nicolas Wadimoff | Switzerland, France, Palestine | 115 min

Nine Palestinians revisit the events that forced them to flee Gaza in 2024. With white chalk on a black stage, they map towns, camps and neighbourhoods, while recounting the painful losses of war and powerful memories of their lives before.

SAT, MAY 2 4:30 PM TLB 3
SUN, MAY 3 1:30 PM TLB 2



SCARLET GIRLS



WHO IS STILL ALIVE



DONA ONETE - THIS TINY PIECE OF MY HEART

APOLO

D: Tainá Müller, Isis Broken | Brazil | 77 min

In Brazil, a trans couple go on an emotional pregnancy journey after conceiving naturally. Intimate moments and dreamlike sequences reveal a relationship sustained by tenderness, care and trust, despite institutions around them challenging their right to respectful medical care.

MON, APR 27 5:00 PM TLB 4
TUE, APR 28 2:45 PM TLB 4

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

DONA ONETE – THIS TINY PIECE OF MY HEART

D: Mini Kerti | Brazil | 90 min

Emerging as Brazil's "Queen of Carimbó" in her seventies, singer and composer Dona Onete brings humour, sensuality and contagious joy to every performance. A colour-filled and spirit-lifting portrait of an artist whose music carries a lifetime of lived culture, inspiring a new generation.

MON, APR 27 7:30 PM TLB 4
THU, APR 30 10:45 AM TLB 3

MY FOREIGN LAND

D: Lakapoy Collective, Louise Botkay, João Moreira Salles | Brazil | 99 min

In the lead up to Brazil's pivotal 2022 election, an Indigenous tribal leader runs for office while his activist daughter fights from beyond their rainforest territory. This collaborative, multi-perspective film reveals the hope and heartbreak of a family navigating politics, legacy and the future of their homeland.

WED, APR 29 8:15 PM TLB 4
THU, APR 30 2:45 PM TLB 4

WORLD PREMIERE

SOLAR SHADOW

D: Hugo Haddad, Isadora Canela | Brazil | 75 min

How do we read the sky—and who taught us? This beautiful exploration of ancestral Indigenous astronomy in Brazil weaves lectures, conversations and community memory into a poetic meditation on knowledge, loss and the many ways humans understand the cosmos.

TUE, APR 28 8:30 PM TLB 4
WED, APR 29 2:00 PM TLB 3



SOLAR SHADOW



APOLO

PERSISTER

WOMEN SPEAKING UP AND BEING HEARD

WHERE THE WAVES TOOK HER

WORLD PREMIERE

THE DELIVERY LINE

D: Nance Ackerman | Canada | 87 min

In all corners of the world, on the front lines of war, amidst climate catastrophes and on perilous migratory journeys, women are still giving birth. As fearless midwives risk everything to help mothers in dangerous circumstances, the gravity of their extraordinary and lifesaving work comes into sharp focus.

THU, APR 30 5:45 PM TLB 4
FRI, MAY 1 11:45 AM TLB 3

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

FATNA, A WOMAN NAMED RACHID

D: Héléne Harder | Morocco, France, Belgium | 93 min

Forcibly disappeared as a student in 1970s Morocco, activist Fatna El Bouih examines her life thus far, the work still left to do and her dream of change.

FRI, MAY 1 2:30 PM TLB 2
SAT, MAY 2 11:00 AM TLB 1

WORLD PREMIERE

INDIVISUM: LEGACIES ADRIFT

D: Katia Café-Fébrissy | Canada | 75 min

In a brave effort to reconnect with her family, a Canadian filmmaker returns to her ancestral home of Guadeloupe to discover families torn apart over land inheritance—a relic of French colonial legacy that continues to fracture Guadeloupean families today.

Screening with

IN THE MORNING SUN

D: Serville Poblete | Canada | 21 min

THU, APR 30 4:45 PM TLB 2
FRI, MAY 1 5:30 PM TLB 2

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

THE SECRET READING CLUB OF KABUL

D: Shakiba Adil, Elina Hirvonen | Finland, Norway | 90 min

When the Taliban bars girls from secondary school, a group of friends form a secret book club. Inspired by the story of Anne Frank, they film their hidden lives, tracing a path of resistance that leads from Kabul to exile in Tehran and Germany.

SAT, APR 25 1:30 PM TLB 2
SUN, APR 26 7:15 PM TLB 3

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

TRUCK MAMA

D: Zippy Nyaruri | Kenya, South Africa, Saudi Arabia, Netherlands | 85 min

Wildly charismatic and determined to seize her own economic independence, Kenyan truck driver Eva drives long-haul routes across East Africa—even through pregnancy and early single motherhood. This moving road story follows a life lived between border crossings and phone calls home, mile after mile.

FRI, MAY 1 5:45 PM TLB 3
SAT, MAY 2 11:15 AM TLB 4

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

WHERE THE WAVES TOOK HER

D: Jana Stallein | Germany | 83 min

Interspersed with recollections of multiple migrant women, this chronicle of a humanitarian crisis is told through the journey of a remarkable German midwife, who joins a rescue ship to provide care to women and children fleeing to Europe across the Mediterranean.

THU, APR 30 8:00 PM TLB 3
FRI, MAY 1 11:00 AM TLB 4

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

THE WOMAN WHO POKED THE LEOPARD

D: Patience Nitumwesiga | Uganda, South Africa, Germany, USA | 108 min

Outspoken and unapologetic, Ugandan dissident Stella Nyanzi confronts authority using insults, nudity and fearless protest. Beyond her activism, this intimate portrait explores the emotional toll of resistance, revealing a complex woman negotiating public struggles alongside the expectations of family life.

SAT, APR 25 8:30 PM TLB 3
SUN, APR 26 11:15 AM TLB 2



INDIVISUM: LEGACIES ADRIFT



THE SANDBOX

#WHILEBLACK

D: Sidney Fussell, Jennifer Holness | USA, Canada | 80 min

How are acts of witnessing transformed in the digital age when memory, justice and spectacle collide? Centred on Darnella Frazier, who filmed George Floyd's murder, and many others, this urgent examination exposes the cost of going viral while Black.

SAT, APR 25 1:45 PM HOT DOCS CINEMA
SUN, APR 26 5:15 PM TLB 1

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

GHOST IN THE MACHINE

D: Valerie Veatch | USA | 110 min

This is not a film about machines. It is a film about power. An interrogation of who builds AI, who benefits from it and who bears the cost of a technology that continues to surround us, shaping the way we see the world.

THU, APR 30 9:00 PM HOT DOCS CINEMA
FRI, MAY 1 1:30 PM TLB 1

WORLD PREMIERE

LOVE APPTUALLY

D: Shalini Kantayya | USA, Australia | 81 min

Tired of swiping without results? Follow one journalist's quest to unpack the dating app algorithms shaping modern romance as she reveals how, in an already lonely world, technology, bias and profit are increasingly influencing who we meet and why.

SAT, APR 25 6:00 PM HOT DOCS CINEMA*
SUN, APR 26 10:45 AM HOT DOCS CINEMA

**Big Ideas Series screening p. 5*

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

REPLICA

D: Chouwa Liang | Australia, France | 92 min

Love in the modern world can be tricky. For three Chinese women, AI companions bring the comfort and love they need, but are these artificial relationships preventing them from connecting in the real world?

FRI, MAY 1 4:45 PM TLB 4
SUN, MAY 3 2:45 PM TLB 3

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

THE SANDBOX

D: Kenya-Jade Pinto | Canada | 90 min

A rare and cinematic investigation into the global black box of migration surveillance, control and the caretakers fighting to keep these worlds in check.

SAT, APR 25 8:00 PM TLB 1
SAT, MAY 2 11:00 AM HOT DOCS CINEMA

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

VIRTUAL GIRLFRIENDS

D: Barbora Chalupová | Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Slovakia | 90 min

As three women navigate careers as sexual-content creators on OnlyFans, they reveal the tantalizing, transactional and ultimately fragile dynamics of digital intimacy. Raw and unflinching, this fly-on-the-wall film investigates self-worth, validation and the human cost of the gig economy.

SAT, MAY 2 8:30 PM TLB 1
SUN, MAY 3 8:15 PM TLB 2



#WHILEBLACK



LOVE APPTUALLY



MAINTENANCE ARTIST

ARTSCAPES

CREATIVE MINDS, ARTISTIC PURSUITS
& INVENTIVE FILMMAKING
Supported by the Kololian Family

AANIKOBIJIGAN [ANCESTOR/ GREAT-GRANDPARENT/GREAT- GRANDCHILD]

D: Adam Khalil, Zachary Khalil | USA, Denmark
| 81 min

Ancestors trapped in museum archives demand a reckoning, and it's time we listen. Guided by defiant Indigenous voices—past, present and future—and shaped with a bold artistic vision, this urgent film confronts entrenched practices and calls for the rightful return of Indigenous human remains to their community.

FRI, MAY 1 7:45 PM TLB 4
SAT, MAY 2 10:30 AM TLB 3

BARBARA FOREVER

D: Brydie O'Connor | USA | 102 min

With unprecedented access to pioneering feminist experimental filmmaker Barbara Hammer and her extraordinary archive, this powerfully crafted portrait lets Hammer claim authorship of her own legacy, honouring and celebrating her as a trailblazer who transformed lesbian cinema.

SAT, APRIL 25 9:15 PM HOT DOCS CINEMA
SUN, APRIL 26 1:45 PM TLB 1

ELEPHANTS & SQUIRRELS

D: Gregor Brändli | Switzerland | 114 min

When Sri Lankan artist Deneth Piumakshi Veda Arachchige discovers her ancestors' stolen remains tucked away in Swiss museum cabinets, she investigates the dark legacy of colonial explorers. With the aid of Indigenous leaders, she demands the return of these sacred artifacts, challenging the ethics of modern collections.

FRI, MAY 1 5:00 PM TLB 1
SAT, MAY 2 2:00 PM TLB 1

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

GEALTRA

D: Brendan Cauty | Ireland | 70 min

The Kabin Studio on the north side of Cork gives teenagers the mic and the confidence to use it. Writing and performing infectious Irish-language rap, they grow from shy beginners into viral sensations—their lyrics pulsing with pride, heritage and the joy of being heard.

Screening with

FLETCHER STREET

D: Jannat Gargi, David Darg | USA | 35 min

SAT, MAY 2 2:45 PM TLB 2
SUN, MAY 3 5:00 PM TLB 2

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

HEX

D: Maja Holand | Norway | 93 min

In the heart of Norway's black metal music scene, a new force emerges. Three young women enter a pact to start screaming, devoting their entire lives to awakening the world, each other and themselves as witches.

SAT, MAY 2 7:45 PM TLB 3
SUN, MAY 3 7:30 PM TLB 4

MAINTENANCE ARTIST

D: Toby Perl Freilich | USA | 95 min

Meet Mierle Laderman Ukeles—an artist whose name should be better known. Her groundbreaking performance art and manifesto on maintenance art led her to become NYC's Department of Sanitation's first artist-in-residence. Through exclusive access and rare archival materials, celebrate her radical artistic vision that brings attention to the invisible.

TUE, APRIL 28 7:45 PM TLB 2
WED, APRIL 29 2:30 PM TLB 1

WORLD PREMIERE

THIS ABOVE ALL: THE THEATRICAL LIFE OF ANTONI CIMOLINO

D: Barry Avrich | Canada | 78 min

As his final season approaches, the longest serving Artistic Director of the iconic Stratford Festival, Antoni Cimolino, prepares for his exit while reflecting on the 40 years he's devoted to the theatrical repertory company.

MON, APRIL 27 7:45 PM TLB 1
TUE, APRIL 28 11:15 AM TLB 1



ELEPHANTS & SQUIRRELS



SHORTS PROGRAMS

0004NGEL

TRUE NORTH

Meet some individuals who are taking matters into their own hands, creating the change they want to see in their corners of the world. For them, no idea is too grand, no victory insignificant. With a commitment to justice and an uncommon tenacity, they move with an unbreakable faith that tomorrow they will wake up to a brighter, more healed world.

BAEA

D: Terra Long | USA | 18 min

THE GLACIER WEDDING

D: Amin Muhammad, Thomas Sawano | USA | 26 min

A WOLF IN THE SUBURBS

D: Amélie Hardy | Canada | 18 min

SCENES FROM THE DIVIDE

D: Alison Klayman | USA | 32 min

SUN, MAY 3 4:30 PM TLB 4

MYSTERIES & MIRACLES

Journeying through ineffable stories, experiences and emotions, these films gently invite us to push beyond our imaginations when existing modes of expression don't suffice, reminding us of our inherent capacity to invent new ways of communication and new languages of connection.

THIS IS YOUR CAPTAIN SPEAKING

D: Nienke Deutz, Digna Van der Put | Netherlands, Belgium | 15 min

STILL PLAYING

D: Mohamed Mesbah | France | 37 min

PAPER HOUSES AND HORSES

D: An Chu | Taiwan | 19 min

THE THIRD CHILD

D: Serna Amini | Iran | 25 min

THU, APR 30 11:45 AM TLB 4

BIRDS OF A FEATHER

We are hard-wired to build and nurture community in all its forms. Our survival relies on the people and places that reflect our humanity back to us. Despite the myriad ways our sense of community may be continuously challenged and reshaped, as long as we turn to each other, we'll find a way to make it through.

0004NGEL

D: Eli Jean Tahchi | Canada | 12 min

ELEPHANT FAMILIES

D: Elena Escalante | UK, Spain | 15 min

MY BODY GOES TO WORK

D: Fernanda Molina | Canada | 12 min

THE BAKER'S HOTLINE

D: Emily Schuman, David Schuman | USA | 13 min

MANDZARSOA

D: Germain Le Carpentier | France, Mayotte | 15 min

OH WHALE

D: Winslow Crane-Murdoch | USA | 26 min

SAT, APR 25 11:15 AM TLB 4

LESSONS IN LIBERATION

Interrogating and challenging forces of excess, greed, erasure and oppression, this program takes an unflinching look at the profound cost of losing our histories, cultures and knowledge systems, reminding us that our survival and collective freedom remain impossible without everyday acts of solidarity, remembrance and fierce resistance.

TIME OF PLENTY

D: Robin Jensen | Norway | 19 min

THE CONTINUOUS MACHINE

D: Ruben Gagliardini | Italy | 20 min

I SEE MYSELF IN YOU

D: Amreen Kullar | Canada | 9 min

THE PARK (DANCING ON THE RUBBLE OF EMPIRE)

D: Arwa Aburawa, Turab Shah | UK | 34 min

ANOTHER DAY SHALL COME

D: Aida Kaadan | Palestine, Qatar, Lebanon, France | 20 min

SAT, MAY 2 2:15 PM TLB 4



ANOTHER DAY SHALL COME

INVESTING IN STORIES THAT SHAPE CANADA.



ANTIDIVA: THE CAROLE POPE CONFESSIONS

The Canada Media Fund is here to support bold, courageous voices across the audiovisual industry—from television and web series to documentaries, video games, IDM and immersive projects. Wherever there's a vision and a desire to shine a light, we're there to light the spark.



CANADA
MEDIA FUND

FONDS DES MÉDIAS
DU CANADA

cmf-fmc.ca

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE




Venues

1. HOT DOCS CINEMA

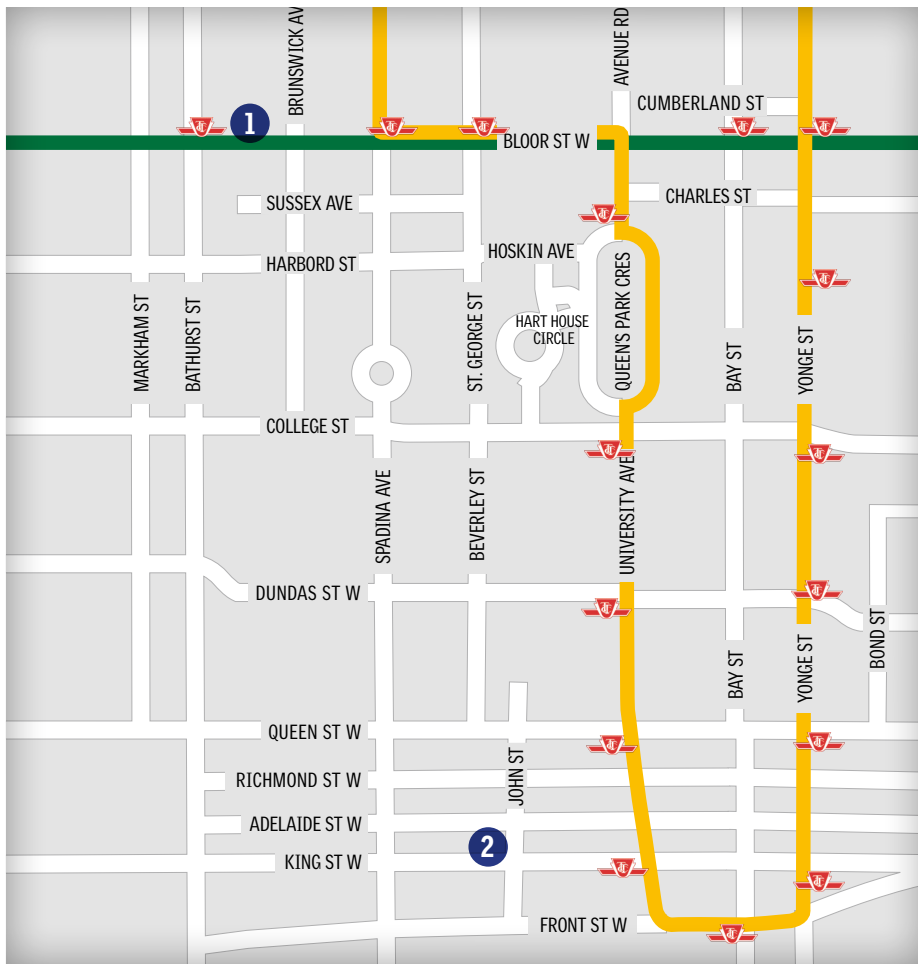
Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema and Festival Box Office
506 Bloor Street West

2. TLB

TIFF Lightbox
Reitman Square
350 King Street West

-  TTC Stations
-  Yonge-University-Spadina
-  Bloor-Danforth

For detailed travel and accessibility information, visit hotdocs.ca/venues.



Schedule at a Glance

LEGEND

-  SPECIAL EVENTS
-  WORLD SHOWCASE
-  PERSISTER
-  SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS
-  MADE IN BRAZIL
-  DIGITAL WITNESSES
-  CANADIAN SPECTRUM COMPETITION
-  ARTSCAPES
-  SHORTS
-  INTERNATIONAL SPECTRUM COMPETITION

HOT DOCS CINEMA Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema
TLB TIFF Lightbox

THURSDAY, APRIL 23

FRIDAY, APRIL 24

	5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	9 PM	10 PM	11 PM							
HOT DOCS CINEMA			7:00 PM OPENING NIGHT FILM ANTIDIVA: THE CAROLE POPE CONFESSIONS p. 4											
HOT DOCS CINEMA	10 AM	11 AM	12 PM	1 PM	2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	9 PM	10 PM	11 PM
HOT DOCS CINEMA									6:00 PM NEKAI WALKS p. 10				9:15 PM BLACK ZOMBIE p. 6	
TLB 2									5:30 PM A DISTANT CALL p. 11				8:30 PM THE LAST DAYS OF APRIL p. 10	
TLB 4							3:00 PM LET OUR MOUNTAINS LIVE p. 14						9:00 PM PARASISI p. 12	

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

10 AM	11 AM	12 PM	1 PM	2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	9 PM	10 PM	11 PM	
	10:45 AM NEKAI WALKS p. 10			1:45 PM #WHILEBLACK p. 18				6:00 PM LOVE APPTUALLY p. 5			9:15 PM BARBARA FOREVER p. 19			HOT DOCS CINEMA
	11:00 AM BLACK ZOMBIE p. 6			2:00 PM JARIPEO p. 13			4:45 PM IT'S DOROTHY! p. 6			8:00 PM THE SANDBOX p. 18				TLB 1
	10:45 AM THE LAST DAYS OF APRIL p. 10			1:30 PM THE SECRET READING CLUB OF KABUL p. 17			4:15 PM PUBLIC ACCESS p. 14			7:30 PM GIMME TRUTH p. 13				TLB 2
		11:30 AM PARASISI p. 12			2:30 PM BETTER GO MAD IN THE WILD p. 13			5:15 PM CONSTANT BATTLES p. 9			8:30 PM THE WOMAN WHO POKED THE LEOPARD p. 17			TLB 3
		11:15 AM BIRDS OF A FEATHER SHORTS p. 20			2:15 PM MY BENJAMIN p. 14			5:00 PM LANDSTONE p. 11			8:15 PM LET OUR MOUNTAINS LIVE p. 14			TLB 4
	10:45 AM LOVE APPTUALLY p. 18			1:30 PM ANTIDIVA: THE CAROLE POPE CONFESSIONS p. 6				6:00 PM A WAR ON WOMEN p. 5			9:30 PM THE BALLAD OF JUDAS PRIEST p. 6			HOT DOCS CINEMA
	10:30 AM PUBLIC ACCESS p. 14			1:45 PM BARBARA FOREVER p. 19				5:15 PM #WHILEBLACK p. 18			8:00 PM CODE OF MISCONDUCT p. 9			TLB 1
		11:15 AM THE WOMAN WHO POKED THE LEOPARD p. 17			2:30 PM GIMME TRUTH p. 13			5:30 PM WHISPERS IN MAY p. 15			8:30 PM BABY JACKFRUIT BABY GUAVA p. 11			TLB 2
10:00 AM LANDSTONE p. 11				1:00 PM BETTER GO MAD IN THE WILD p. 13			4:00 PM PAIKAR p. 11			7:15 PM THE SECRET READING CLUB OF KABUL p. 17				TLB 3
	10:45 AM CONSTANT BATTLES p. 9			2:00 PM MY BENJAMIN p. 14			4:45 PM IN TYEE COUNTRY p. 13			7:45 PM ON MY OWN TERMS p. 14				TLB 4
								6:30 PM MYSPLACE p. 5			9:45 PM KENNY LOGGINS: CONVICTION OF THE HEART p. 7			HOT DOCS CINEMA
				1:30 PM IT'S DOROTHY! p. 6			4:30 PM TCB - THE TONI CADE BAMBARA SCHOOL OF ORGANIZING p. 7			7:45 PM THIS ABOVE ALL... p. 19				TLB 1
					2:30 PM CODE OF MISCONDUCT p. 9			5:30 PM VANISHING TRACKS p. 12			8:30 PM A FIRE THERE p. 9			TLB 2
					2:15 PM ON MY OWN TERMS p. 14			5:15 PM IN TYEE COUNTRY p. 13			8:15 PM PAIKAR p. 11			TLB 3
				1:45 PM BABY JACKFRUIT BABY GUAVA p. 11			5:00 PM APOLO p. 17			7:30 PM DONA ONETE - THIS TINY PIECE OF MY HEART p. 16				TLB 4

SATURDAY, APRIL 25

SUNDAY, APRIL 26

MONDAY, APRIL 27

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

TUESDAY, APRIL 28

	10 AM	11 AM	12 PM	1 PM	2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	9 PM	10 PM	11 PM
HOT DOCS CINEMA										6:30 PM STEAL THIS STORY, PLEASE! p. 5			9:45 PM MYSPACE p. 7	
TLB 1		11:15 AM THIS ABOVE ALL... p. 19			2:00 PM TCB - THE TONI CADE BAMBARA SCHOOL OF ORGANIZING p. 7			5:15 PM AMERICAN DOCTOR p. 6			8:15 PM KENNY LOGGINS: CONVICTION OF THE HEART p. 7			
TLB 2					1:45 PM A FIRE THERE p. 9			4:45 PM CONCRETE TURNED TO SAND p. 9			7:45 PM MAINTENANCE ARTIST p. 19			
TLB 3				1:30 PM VANISHING TRACKS p. 12			4:30 PM KINDERGARTEN p. 10			7:30 PM SEARCHING FOR DRUG PEACE p. 15				
TLB 4					2:45 PM APOLO p. 17			5:30 PM THE 49TH YEAR p. 11			8:30 PM SOLAR SHADOW p. 17			

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29

	10 AM	11 AM	12 PM	1 PM	2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	9 PM	10 PM	11 PM
HOT DOCS CINEMA									5:45 PM WHEN A WITNESS RECANTS p. 8			9:15 PM STEAL THIS STORY, PLEASE! p. 7		
TLB 1		11:30 AM AMERICAN DOCTOR p. 6			2:30 PM MAINTENANCE ARTIST p. 19			5:30 PM BIRDS OF WAR p. 13			8:30 PM SAIGON STORY: TWO SHOOTINGS... p. 10			
TLB 2					1:45 PM CONCRETE TURNED TO SAND p. 9			4:45 PM SEARCHING FOR DRUG PEACE p. 15			7:45 PM STORIES FOR SANDRO p. 12			
TLB 3					2:00 PM SOLAR SHADOW p. 17			5:00 PM təm k*əθ nan NAMESAKE p. 10			8:00 PM SILENT FLOOD p. 15			
TLB 4					2:15 PM KINDERGARTEN p. 10			5:15 PM THE 49TH YEAR p. 11			8:15 PM MY FOREIGN LAND p. 17			

THURSDAY, APRIL 30

	10 AM	11 AM	12 PM	1 PM	2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	9 PM	10 PM	11 PM
HOT DOCS CINEMA									5:45 PM A WAR ON WOMEN p. 8			9:00 PM GHOST IN THE MACHINE p. 18		
TLB 1		11:15 AM SAIGON STORY: TWO SHOOTINGS... p. 10			2:30 PM BIRDS OF WAR p. 13			5:30 PM CEREMONY p. 9			8:30 PM HOUSE OF HOPE p. 11			
TLB 2		11:00 AM SILENT FLOOD p. 15			1:45 PM STORIES FOR SANDRO p. 12			4:45 PM INDIVISUM: LEGACIES ADRIFT p. 17			7:45 PM A FOX UNDER A PINK MOON p. 6			
TLB 3		10:45 AM DONA ONETE - THIS TINY PIECE OF MY HEART p. 16			2:00 PM təm k*əθ nan NAMESAKE p. 10			5:00 PM VEGAPOLIS p. 12			8:00 PM WHERE THE WAVES TOOK HER p. 17			
TLB 4		11:45 AM MYSTERIES & MIRACLES SHORTS p. 20			2:45 PM MY FOREIGN LAND p. 17			5:45 PM THE DELIVERY LINE p. 17			8:45 PM JARIPEO p. 13			

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

10 AM	11 AM	12 PM	1 PM	2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	9 PM	10 PM	11 PM	
				2:00 PM THE BALLAD OF JUDAS PRIEST p. 6			5:15 PM SENTIENT p. 7			8:30 PM THE TOWER THAT BUILT A CITY p. 8				HOT DOCS CINEMA
10:30 AM HOUSE OF HOPE p. 11			1:30 PM GHOST IN THE MACHINE p. 18				5:00 PM ELEPHANTS & SQUIRRELS p. 19			8:15 PM MY FATHER AND QADDAFI p. 14				TLB 1
	11:30 AM CEREMONY p. 9			2:30 PM FATNA, A WOMAN NAMED RACHID p. 17			5:30 PM INDIVISUM: LEGACIES ADRIFT p. 17			8:30 PM TRACES p. 15				TLB 2
	11:45 AM THE DELIVERY LINE p. 17			3:00 PM A FOX UNDER A PINK MOON p. 6			5:45 PM TRUCK MAMA p. 17			8:45 PM 32 METERS p. 13				TLB 3
11:00 AM WHERE THE WAVES TOOK HER p. 17			1:45 PM VEGAPOLIS p. 12				4:45 PM REPLICA p. 18			7:45 PM AANI KOBIJIGAN [ANCESTOR/... p. 19				TLB 4

FRIDAY, MAY 1

10 AM	11 AM	12 PM	1 PM	2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	9 PM	10 PM	11 PM	
	11:00 AM THE SANDBOX p. 18			2:00 PM SENTIENT p. 7			5:15 PM TIME AND WATER p. 7			8:15 PM THE OLDEST PERSON IN THE WORLD p. 7				HOT DOCS CINEMA
	11:00 AM FATNA, A WOMAN NAMED RACHID p. 17			2:00 PM ELEPHANTS & SQUIRRELS p. 19			5:15 PM TO HOLD A MOUNTAIN p. 8			8:30 PM VIRTUAL GIRLFRIENDS p. 18				TLB 1
	11:45 AM MY FATHER AND QADDAFI p. 14			2:45 PM GEALTRA p. 19			6:00 PM WHAT COMES FROM SITTING IN... p. 15			8:45 PM THE SEOUL GUARDIANS p. 15				TLB 2
10:30 AM AANI KOBIJIGAN [ANCESTOR/... p. 19			1:30 PM TRACES p. 15			4:30 PM WHO IS STILL ALIVE p. 15			7:45 PM HEX p. 19					TLB 3
	11:15 AM TRUCK MAMA p. 17			2:15 PM LESSONS IN LIBERATION SHORTS p. 20			5:30 PM SCARLET GIRLS p. 15			8:00 PM LES HABITANTS p. 14				TLB 4

SATURDAY, MAY 2

10 AM	11 AM	12 PM	1 PM	2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	9 PM	10 PM	11 PM	
			1:00 PM THE OLDEST PERSON IN THE WORLD p. 7			4:00 PM THE TOWER THAT BUILT A CITY p. 8				7:30 PM ROGERS AUDIENCE WINNER p. 4				HOT DOCS CINEMA
10:00 AM TO HOLD A MOUNTAIN p. 8			1:15 PM TIME AND WATER p. 8			4:15 PM WHEN A WITNESS RECANTS p. 8				7:45 PM A DISTANT CALL p. 11				TLB 1
10:30 AM 32 METERS p. 13			1:30 PM WHO IS STILL ALIVE p. 15			5:00 PM GEALTRA p. 19				8:15 PM VIRTUAL GIRLFRIENDS p. 18				TLB 2
	11:45 AM WHISPERS IN MAY p. 15			2:45 PM REPLICA p. 18			5:45 PM WHAT COMES FROM SITTING IN... p. 15			8:30 PM THE SEOUL GUARDIANS p. 15				TLB 3
	11:00 AM LES HABITANTS p. 14			2:00 PM SCARLET GIRLS p. 15		4:30 PM TRUE NORTH SHORTS p. 20			7:30 PM HEX p. 19					TLB 4

SUNDAY, MAY 3

SPONSORS AND PARTNERS

FOUNDING PARTNER MAJOR SUPPORTERS



FESTIVAL CHAMPIONS

MICHAEL MACMILLAN & CATHY SPOEL

THE BENNETT FAMILY FOUNDATION



PUBLIC SECTOR PARTNERS



GOLD PARTNERS SILVER PARTNERS



INDIVIDUAL + FOUNDATION PARTNERS

SLAIGHT FAMILY FOUNDATION
DONNER CANADIAN FOUNDATION
THE CATHERINE AND MAXWELL MEIGHEN FOUNDATION

THE HARBINGER FOUNDATION
KOLOLIAN FAMILY
DIANE BLAKE & STEPHEN SMITH

R&M LANG FOUNDATION
THE BILL NEMTIN LEGACY FUND
DON HAIG FOUNDATION

THE EARL A. GLICK FAMILY
THE MICHAEL YOUNG FAMILY FOUNDATION
NICK AND LYNN ROSS FAMILY FOUNDATION

INDUSTRY PARTNERS



HOSPITALITY & SERVICE PARTNERS MEDIA PARTNERS



FOUNDERS CIRCLE

Executive Producer: Maria Martin-Stanley, Diane Blake & Stephen Smith
Director: Linda Chu & John Donald, Peter Goring, Lorraine Greey, Julia & Gilles Ouellette, anonymous

2026 ADVOCATE, BENEFACTOR, PRODUCER FOUNDERS CIRCLE MEMBERS & FRIENDS OF HOT DOCS, THANK YOU!

#WhileBlack	18	Kindergarten	10	To Hold a Mountain	8
0004NGEL	20	LandStone	11	The Tower That Built a City	8
32 Meters	13	The Last Days of April	10	Traces	15
The 49th Year	11	Les Habitants	14	Truck Mama	17
4937 Kilowatts a Year	14	Let Our Mountains Live	14	Tuktuit : Caribou	9
Aanikoobijigan [ancestor/great-grandparent/great-grandchild]	19	L'mina	11	Vanishing Tracks	12
Aerobic Corridor	9	Love Apptually	5, 18	Vegapolis	12
Aimée & Samir	14	Maintenance Artist	19	Virtual Girlfriends	18
American Doctor	6	Mandzarsoa	20	A War on Women	5, 8
Another Day Shall Come	20	MUSICAS	9	What Comes from Sitting in Silence?	15
Antidiva: The Carole Pope Confessions	6	My Benjamin	14	When A Witness Recants	8
Apolo	17	My Body Goes to Work	20	Where the Waves Took Her	17
At the Stage When	12	My Father and Qaddafi	14	Whispers in May	15
Baby Jackfruit Baby Guava	11	My Foreign Land	17	Who Is Still Alive	15
BAEA	20	Myspace	5, 7	A Wolf in the Suburbs	20
The Baker's Hotline	20	Nekai Walks	10	The Woman Who Poked the Leopard	17
The Ballad of Judas Priest	6	Oh Whale	20		
Barbara Forever	19	The Oldest Person in the World	7		
Better Go Mad in the Wild	13	On My Own Terms	14		
The Birds Are Silent	12	Paikar	11		
Birds of War	13	Paper Houses and Horses	20		
Black Zombie	6	Parasisi	12		
Ceremony	9	The Park (Dancing on the Rubble of Empire)	20		
Code of Misconduct	9	Public Access	14		
Concrete Turned to Sand	9	A Quiet Storm	14		
Constant Battles	9	Replica	18		
The Continuous Machine	20	Replikka	10		
The Delivery Line	17	Saigon Story: Two Shootings in the Forest Kingdom	10		
A Distant Call	11	The Sandbox	18		
Dona Onete – This Tiny Piece of My Heart	16	Sanyi the Rooster	13		
Elephant Families	20	Scarlet Girls	15		
Elephants & Squirrels	19	Scenes from the Divide	20		
Fatna, a Woman Named Rachid	17	Searching for Drug Peace	15		
A Fire There	9	The Secret Reading Club of Kabul	17		
Fletcher Street	19	Sentient	7		
A Fox Under a Pink Moon	6	The Seoul Guardians	15		
Gealtra	19	Silent Flood	15		
Ghost in the Machine	18	Solar Shadow	17		
Gimme Truth	13	Some Kind of Refuge	11		
The Glacier Wedding	20	Steal This Story, Please!	5, 7		
Hex	19	Still Playing	20		
House of Hope	11	Stories for Sandro	12		
i see myself in you	20	təm kʷaθ nan Namesake	10		
In the Morning Sun	17	TCB – The Toni Cade Bambara School of Organizing	7		
In Tye Country	13	That Night	9		
INDIVISUM: Legacies Adrift	17	The Third Child	20		
It's Dorothy!	6	This Above All: The Theatrical Life of Antoni Cimolino	19		
Jaripeo	13	This Is Your Captain Speaking	20		
Kenny Loggins: Conviction of the Heart	7	Time and Water	8		
		Time of Plenty	20		



You're in the right place.

You're a documentary filmmaker and you need some new gear. No worries: Vistek has you covered – in more ways than one. No matter what your level of experience, we offer five easy options to find exactly what you're looking for. **One:** When you already know what you want, just go straight to [vistek.ca](https://www.vistek.ca) and place your order in a couple of quick clicks. Knowledgeable salespeople are there to answer your questions via live chat. **Two:** You can always call into one of our five retail stores and speak to a rep for a detailed phone consultation. **Three:** Visit us in person and someone from our team of in-house experts will offer friendly guidance and hands-on demos with the latest gear. **Four:** Vistek's **Commercial Solutions Group** offers professional customers a tailored solution for high-end projects, with competitive pricing, ongoing support and more. **Five:** Whether you're just starting out or well established, **Vistek Rentals** can equip your next gig or supplement your existing kit. Either way, check us out and discover the Vistek difference.



PHOTO | VIDEO | DIGITAL | SALES | RENTALS | SERVICE

TORONTO • MISSISSAUGA • OTTAWA • CALGARY • EDMONTON

VISTEK.CA