

JANUARY 26-27, 2018



SHORT

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A Message from Premier John Horgan

As Premier of the Province of British Columbia, I am pleased to welcome everyone to the 2018 edition of the Vancouver Short Film Festival (VSFF) screening at Vancity Theatre.

Now in its eighth year, VSFF continues to provide a wonderful platform for students and professionals to showcase their work. The arts play an important role in reflecting back to us the conditions and circumstances of our societies. Film is a powerful medium and has the capacity to provide a mirror to better understand ourselves and our communities. Festivals like VSFF highlight the tremendous talent and creativity of our province's filmmakers, animators, and documentarians.

Events like these take an incredible amount of work and dedication, and I would like to thank the organizers and volunteers for making this festival a continued success. We are fortunate to live in a province that is so appreciative of arts and culture. Please take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to take in all that VSFF has to offer.

HONOURABLE JOHN HORGAN PREMIER OF BRITISH COLUM

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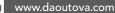
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ni? ct xatamatal, ta tnimat, ta tamaxw ?i? ta kwakkwa 1 * We watch over the land and sea and in turn they watch over us.



January, 2018

A Message from the Mayor

On behalf of Vancouver City Council, I am pleased to extend my best wishes to all those attending and celebrating the 8th annual Vancouver Short Film Festival.

As Mayor, I am proud of our thriving arts community and I am pleased to congratulate the Vancouver Short Film Festival for providing a great platform for our local filmmakers. The Festival celebrates short film, video and animation artists throughout the Canadian West Coast, and promotes awareness of the superb homegrown talent that we have. With a variety of natural locations - seascapes to deserts, high alpine to rain forests, British Columbia proves to be the perfect inspiration for filmmakers everywhere. The Vancouver Short Film Festival also provides educational and inspirational opportunities to aspiring filmmakers through various partnerships with educational institutions and industry organizations.

We want to thank all the filmmakers, organizers and volunteers for providing us a glimpse into the talent that lives amongst us. I hope everyone has a wonderful experience during the Festival!

Sincerely.

Greaor Robertso MAYOR

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CHAIR'S MESSAGE

When I joined the Vancouver Short Film Festival in 2015 as the Festival Director, I called it a labour of love. Now, 3 years later, I am amending that statement slightly: the Vancouver Short Film Festival is a love letter.

It's a love letter to our BC filmmakers, our audience, and our community of supporters. In an age where so much content is available to us instantly from a myriad of devices, it is a special experience to go to the theatre and share in the magic of film together. In BC there is such a wealth of stories to tell, and it is our honour and privilege to be able to provide a space to showcase and celebrate our local storytellers and content creators. It's a love letter from us, the VSFF board, staff and volunteers, who donate countless hours to make the festival happen. We hope you are swept away over the next 2 days as we screen 37 short films, and that you fall in love with the vibrant and diverse talent and community within BC.

Kristyn Stilling Chair of the Board Vancouver Short Film Festival



Toronto - Montreal - Vancouver - Edmonton - Halifax

THE C.C.E. RECOGNIZES THE FINE WORK OF OUR FELLOW EDITORS AT VANCOUVER SHORT FILM FESTIVAL 2018

The Canadian Cinema Editors is a 400-member strong association of picture editors with the common goal of bettering the art and science of picture editing in all media. Our aim is to bring recognition to those who create the last draft of the of the script by weaving a mosaic of picture and sound in the cutting rooms across Canada. Submissions to the C.C.E. 2018 awards is now open. Register online.

Our inaugural Edit Conference is happening in Toronto, Feb. 10th. Full day of panel discussions and networking with notable industry professionals! Discover more on cceditors.ca





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FESTIVAL DIRECTORS' MESSAGE

Welcome to the 2018 Vancouver Short Film Festival! Over the past 8 years, we have screened a wide variety of short films with one thing always remaining consistent - the ongoing support from our community. We are incredibly thankful to you, our audience, for coming back year after year to celebrate local BC filmmaking and storytelling.

Every year we are blown away by the talent and accomplishments of filmmakers in our province. This year the bar has been raised even higher. With a record number of high calibre submissions, it was difficult to choose our top films. So difficult, in fact, that we are screening 31 films (three more than last year), and have added a brand new curated horror screening. We know how hard it is to make a film and we thank everyone who submitted to us and hope to see you in future years.

From Directors and Producers, to Casting, Sound Design, and Visual Effects, this year's films highlight the breadth of talent in British Columbia. The programming team chose a range of films to include some which have received international recognition and acclaim, as well as some which are being screened for the first time. We hope you enjoy them as much as our programming committee did.

This festival, much like an indie film set, is a labour of love and is built by an incredible group of volunteers. Everyone who works for VSFF - the staff, board members and volunteers - donate countless hours all for the love of film.

This festival wouldn't happen without them and we are forever thankful for their hard work. A special thank you to our Festival Secretary, Camille Crowther, whose support and dedication has been invaluable, and the Chair of our Board, Kristyn Stilling, for her encouragement and leadership.

A final thank you to all of our sponsors and donors. Through their generous donations, VSFF is able to award our filmmakers with over \$15,000 worth of cash and prizes, which is an incredible show of support for our local talent.

To all the film creators and lovers, happy watching!

Marena Dix Vancouver Short Film Festival Co-Director

Zlatina Pacheva Vancouver Short Film Festival Co-Director



2017-2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF

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Allice Grinban

VSFF AT A GLANCE

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 2018

7:00 PM - OPENING RECEPTION

8:00 PM - PROGRAMME 1

Akashi

Violet and June

Soggy Flakes

Hollywood's Greatest Trick

Lions in Waiting

Chocolate Queen

FWD

10:00 PM – AFTER DARK PROGRAMME

The Man In The Rabbit Mask

Home

A Cursed Desire

Down the Hill with Jack and Jill

Echoes in the Ice

Bestia

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 2018

11:30 - 12:30 PM - VSFF 2018 Filmmaker Luncheon in Partnership with TELUS STORYHIVE

1:00 PM – PROGRAMME 2

High Energy

Mental

I M U R - Swirl

Handmade Film

Methodic

The Prince

Bree and Drew (Me&You)

Unintentional Mother

4:00 PM – PROGRAMME 3

Under the Radar

Iridescence

Metta Via

The Fruit Machine

The Butterfly

WoodMan

Send Us Smokes

7:00 PM - PROGRAMME 4

Multiverse Dating for Beginners

After We Have Left Our Homes

Flash Flood

The Lion

The Good Fight

Jessica Jessica

Up & Away

CYPHER

9:00 PM - AWARDS CEREMONY

9:30 PM - CLOSING PARTY

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26th



David C. JonesMaster of Ceremonies — Programme 1,2,3,4

Actor, director, writer, filmmaker, event producer, teacher and coach, David C. Jones makes his living in the performing arts, barely.

A graduate of Studio 58 and a teacher at The Vancouver Film School, he has acted in plays by Mamet, Coward, Shakespeare, and Stoppard. He also works as a corporate comedian and a keynote speaker with the Audience Engagement Academy.

His short film Same Boat won the People's Choice Award in 2015. He was shocked to be a recipient of a Legacy Award in The Arts, and was equally surprised when he was sainted by the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence. He was the Entertainment Manager of the 2010 Winter Olympics.

www.davidcjones.ca

@iamdavidcjones

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26th — PROGRAMME 1 — 8:00 PM

AKASHI

Director: Mayumi Yoshida Run Time: 10 Minutes



AKASHI is told through intertwining stories of love that transcends generations and continents. Kana is a Japanese painter living abroad having relationship problems. When her grandmother passes, Kana is forced to reflect on the truth of her grandparents relationship and her own life. AKASHI is a story about living with choices and the grace of accepting when there isn't one.

VIOLET AND JUNE

Director: Linnea Ritland Run Time: 6 Minutes



You know that feeling when you realize that everyone you know is going to die and so nothing you do will ever be of consequence in comparison to the movements of the universe and then you accidentally fall in love with your best friend? Yeah, me neither.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26th — PROGRAMME 1 — 8:00 PM

SOGGY FLAKES

Directors: The Affolter Bros.

Run Time: 6 Minutes



In a low-carb, sugar-free, gluten-intolerant world, a group of washed-up, out-of-work breakfast cereal mascots form a weekly support group. Together they lament the golden ages of yesteryear and attempt to figure out how to swallow the bitter taste of today's reality. But when Captain Kale, an ex-colleague turned sell-out, shows up to the diner where they host their meetings, they're forced to reexamine their definition of what it means to be a success.

HOLLYWOOD'S GREATEST TRICK

Director: Sohail Al-Jamea Run Time: 24 Minutes



Visual effects artists are responsible for some of the most iconic moments in movie history. The top 10 highest grossing films of 2016 all contained computer generated imagery. But while Hollywood's profits grow, visual effects artists struggle for fair pay, representation and recognition beyond the most prestigious award in film — an Oscar.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26th — PROGRAMME 1 — 8:00 PM

LIONS IN WAITING Director: Jason Karman Run Time: 17 Minutes



The newest member of a minor league hockey team, Ray, experiences hazing by his new teammates as he struggles to fit in both on and off the ice. Ray will have to find the courage to accept himself first —and maybe even inspire a fellow teammate.

CHOCOLATE QUEEN Director: Mariusz Brozek

Run Time: 4 Minutes



Danny has a secret - an addiction - and though he pretends to live a normal life, he can't resist the delicious, sultry, seductive curves... of chocolate!

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26th — PROGRAMME 1 — 8:00 PM

FWD

Director: Stephen Sawchuk

Run Time: 7 Minutes



FWD is a short horror comedy that follows two 20-something women who face the consequences of not forwarding on a late '90s chain email.

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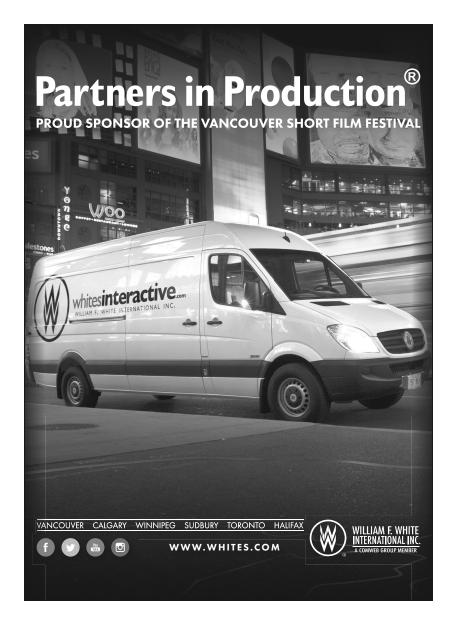


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Women in Film + Television Vancouver is an internationally affiliated not for profit organization committed to advancing and celebrating women in screen based media.





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FRIDAY, JANUARY 26th



Gigi Saul GuerreroMaster of Ceremonies — After Dark

Miss Guerrero is now commonly known for her gritty "Tex-Mex" style with a touch of grind-house and gore in her filmmaking. Born and raise in Mexico City, Gigi moved to Vancouver where she graduated with honors in Motion Picture Production at Capilano University's Bosa Centre for Film and Animation. Gigi has always held a passion for entertaining, whether it be acting or storytelling. Now in her mid-20s, Guerrero is one of the co-founders of the production company Luchagore Productions. Today Guerrero is an associate designer/writer for CAPCOM Game Studios in Vancouver, developing a new game aimed to be announced in 2018. In the summer of 2016, Guerrero co-created/directed La Quinceañera, a thrilling 7 episode miniseries, with Warner Bros. Television and Stage 13 Network, which will be released soon! Her recent successes include the short film Dia De Los Muertos, which has received awards internationally and is s now a part of something much bigger — Mexico Barbaro, a Mexican horror anthology. She also directed M is for Matador, which is officially a part of ABCs of Death 2.5. Right now Guerrero is working with horror novelist Shane McKenzie on a new horror feature El Gigante, which is her company's most successful short yet, winning the attention and awards of festivals worldwide! Since film school, Gigi has directed well over 18 shorts, which include viral sensations Evil Dead in 60 Seconds and A Luchagore Christmas.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26th — AFTER DARK — 10:00 PM

THE MAN IN THE RABBIT MASK

Director: Ariel Hansen Run Time: 5 Minutes



An innocent sleepover becomes a nightmarish evening when two girls summon a cryptic masked man known as Mr. Rabbity.

HOME

Director: Ryan Tebbutt Run Time: 8 Minutes



A plainclothes detective investigates a noise complaint at a local abandoned orphanage and gets a lot more than he expected.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26th — AFTER DARK — 10:00 PM

A CURSED DESIRE Director: Michael Silva Run Time: 3 Minutes



A woman with nothing left to lose searches for a way to find her lost love, who passed away in a car accident. She holds in her possession an ancient spell book filled with dark supernatural wonders, as her last hope to be reconnected and to continue their love together. After reading out the Latin scripture inside, she opens a world of evil and is submerged in a nightmare with a demon.

DOWN THE HILL WITH JACK AND JILL

Director: Jason William Lee Run Time: 10 Minutes



In a desperate attempt to revive their failing marriage, Jack writes Jill a poem that he recites to her one night. This causes a chain reaction that spirals out of control, transporting them to another dimension where they stand pitted against each other in a showdown culminating in unspeakable tragedy.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26th — AFTER DARK — 10:00 PM

ECHOES IN THE ICE
Director: BJ Verot
Run Time: 10 Minutes



Four men explore an abandoned research facility. Unsettling signs of disorder are revealed within the station, and in the lowest level, and in the lowest level of the facility, a chilling discovery is made.

BESTIA

Director: Gigi Saul Guerrero Run Time: 8 Minutes



BESTIA follows the lone survivor (played by Mathias Retamal) of a disaster as he awakens on a deserted beach. It becomes clear that there are more dangers besides a hungry beast lurking in the woods.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27th—PROGRAMME 2—1:00 PM

HIGH ENERGY Director: Peter Faint

Run Time: 19 Minutes



A boy oppressed by his social standing at school dangerously finds community in the racist and misogynist forums of the altright and pick-up artists as he is ultimately goaded to execute reallife change.

MENTAL

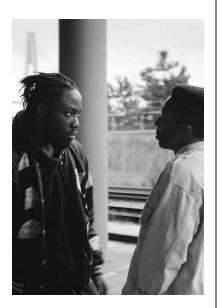
Director: Jax Smith Run Time: 11 Minutes



Alicia sees reality through a dreamlike lens of externalized psychotic episodes. Caught in a loop of depression and anxiety, she uses prescription drugs to numb herself. Unable to discern what is real and what is imaginary, she finally gives into her inner voice's advice and embraces her biggest fear. Sometimes the only way out is through.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27th—PROGRAMME 2—1:00 PM

I M U R - SWIRL
Director: Nancy Lee
Run Time: 4 Minutes



SWIRL is a deeply vulnerable story which explores love in its fluid and infinite nature. The narrative focuses on Kevin, a black male dancer who discovers his bisexuality through his interactions with Jason, a fellow dancer. SWIRL artfully contrasts the everyday expression of our internal and external worlds, and how cultural norms cause them to fracture and diverge.

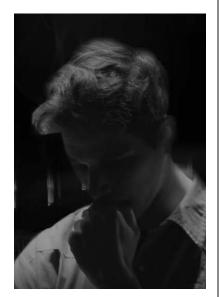
HANDMADE FILM
Director: Christina lenna
Run Time: 5 Minutes



Making film by hand is a rarely practiced craft in today's film industry. Lindsay McIntyre spends three days making the film emulsion she shoots on then develops herself.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27th—PROGRAMME 2—1:00 PM

METHODIC Director: Colin Williams Run Time: 10 Minutes



Engrossed by a slipping mental state, a theatre actor, James, blurs the line between reality and performance. *METHODIC* is a psychological drama delving into tropes of Konstantin Stanislavski's acting techniques. The substitution of James' wife for his fellow stage actress dangerously intertwines in a story of jealousy, love, and the costs of individualistic success.

THE PRINCE

Director: Kyra Zagorsky Run Time: 12 Minutes



Based on true events, Olivia, a young tap dancer, and her uncle, Amir, an actor, struggle with what it means to be Middle-Eastern American and artists in today's racially divided world.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27th—PROGRAMME 2—1:00 PM

BREE AND DREW (ME & YOU)
Director: Nick Wilson

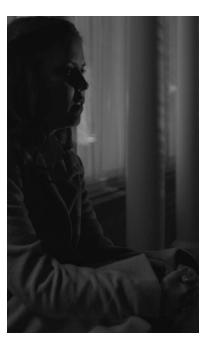
Run Time: 11 Minutes



Bree and Drew just broke up.
Panicking to pack up their stuff
before the movers arrive, they fall
back on witty repartee to mask
their true feels as Drew tries to
force Bree to take back the ring she
never wanted.

UNINTENTIONAL MOTHER

Director: Mary Galloway Run Time: 12 Minutes



In this stirring drama a young nanny, Anna, and the six-year-old she cares for, Lucas, form a deep and loving bond as they experience similar abuse. When the cruelty in their lives escalates, Anna makes a hasty and difficult decision that will change things forever.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27th—PROGRAMME 3—4:00 PM

UNDER THE RADAR

Director: Erin Cumming Run Time: 10 Minutes



In 1978, at the frontier of the digital revolution, a small upstart team of Canadian engineers set out to process the first space borne radar image of Earth with a computer. Trouble is, computers of that time were about as strong as a calculator. And what's worse, a team of brainiacs at NASA were also racing to achieve the same goal. Who will win this space race?

IRIDESCENCE

Director: Max Beauchamp Run Time: 9 Minutes



IRIDESCENCE is an experimental visual short film which exposes how society needs to label a person by their sexuality. In this story, dance and interpretive movement replaces the dialogue, allowing us to use the body to communicate the relationship between the characters and their true human emotions. Through stylized lighting and abstract visual, IRIDESCENCE tells the story of an emotionally repressed abusive father and his son who struggles to accept himself and his sexuality.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27th—PROGRAMME 3—4:00 PM

METTA VIA

Director: Warren Flanagan Run Time: 12 Minutes



'Deliverance is initialized'. Set in the future, it tells the story of a young woman who wakes up in a mysterious 'temple like' room and must figure out what her purpose is there. This in turn leads to her memories being unlocked and the true purpose of the temple, the strange sentient machines that surround her, and ultimately her final destination...

THE FRUIT MACHINE Director: Omer Khan Run Time: 16 Minutes



In the 1960s, Marleau is forced to take a military-commissioned test that threatens his only chance to reunite with his lost love.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27th—PROGRAMME 3—4:00 PM

THE BUTTERFLY Director: Andy Alvarez Run Time: 8 min



Carol is a seven-year-old girl that faces the challenges of being a refugee in a new country with her family. Not knowing the language, customs, and the new culture of this foreign land, she embarks on a hard and difficult journey that will forever change her perspective in life: a swimming test.

WOODMAN

Director: Mike Jackson Run Time: 16 Minutes



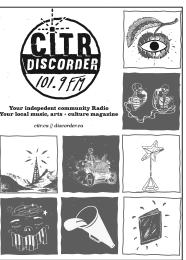
After more than a century, the toymaker's wooden boy is still alive, languishing in a ramshackle basement apartment. The Woodman's patchwork computer takes him online, but for every lie he tells, his bramble of a nose grows. Trapped in this cage, the Woodman searches for a true connection and a chance to finally be real.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27th—PROGRAMME 3—4:00 PM

SEND US SMOKES
Director: Michelle Kee
Run Time: 10 Minutes



When 7-year-old Adelaide finds the care package of cigarettes she prepared for her father won't be delivered to him as he serves on the front lines of World War 1, she decides to embark on a fantastical adventure to take it to him herself. Starring Sara Canning (War of the Planet of the Apes, Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events), Matthew MacCaull (Tomorrowland, Legends of Tomorrow), and introducing Ada Jones-Kuranko, the film follows the journey of a young girl as she realizes the true nature of war and the sacrifices her father has made.





SATURDAY, JANUARY 27th—PROGRAMME 4—7:00 PM

MULTIVERSE DATING FOR BEGINNERS Director: Kelly Tatham

Run Time: 13 Minutes



Ivy and Dave are totally hitting it off... until she says the wrong thing and totally freaks him out. TYPICAL. But tonight's no ordinary night. There's a glitch in the Matrix, déjà vu in the air... and Ivy gets the chance to see how things will turn out if she plays the dating game differently.

AFTER WE HAVE LEFT OUR HOMES

Director: Marc Adamson Run Time: 8 Minutes

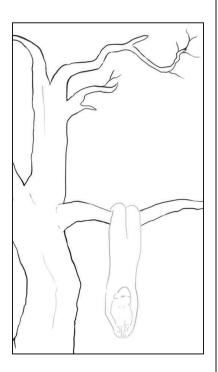


Under a dictatorship that has banned music, a man hides a record until he is caught and imprisoned. Whilst paying for his crimes he stumbles across a repository of confiscated items, leading to a series of events that will change the course of history.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27th—PROGRAMME 4—7:00 PM

FLASH FLOOD

Director: Alli MacKay Run Time: 6 Minutes



Deep within a dream, a cataclysmic flood washes over the planet and reveals three unique perspectives on gender and identity. The film is animated by volunteer transgender artists and animators from across the globe.

THE LION

Director: Jon Chiang Run Time: 8 Minutes



After being diagnosed with bipolar disorder, Vancouver hip-hop artist Francis Arevalo harnessed the healing power of music. This is his story.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27th—PROGRAMME 4—7:00 PM

THE GOOD FIGHT Director: Mintie Pardoe Run Time: 11 Minutes



A young nun yearns to explore her sexuality before taking her final vows and committing to a lifetime of celibacy.

JESSICA JESSICA Director: Jasper Savage Run Time: 13 Minutes



Two friends in their mid to late 30s who aren't married, who aren't mothers, who aren't failures, and are both named Jessica. If you're in your 30s and want kids, your biological clock can become a bear trap, making every guy seem like "the one". JESSICA JESSICA is the the funny/sexy/sad truth of how hard it is to be a woman who wants to settle down, but won't settle.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27th—PROGRAMME 4—7:00 PM

ASLEEP

Director: Oleg Jiliba Run Time: 8 Minutes



In the future, the things we own take on a more human nature. partially by design to make us feel more comfortable. Meanwhile. owners become more mechanical to one another. This came naturally from a collective thought; that everything could be replaced, there are no more ephemeral moments, everything is recorded, logged and could be called back with a snap of a finger. The idea of romance faded. This is where we find Nicole, on a phone in her apartment trying figure out her current relationship and why it's not working.

UP & AWAY

Director: Tito Ferradans Run Time: 9 Minutes



UP & AWAY is a pre-apocalyptic scifi about a couple in a society at the brink of collapse. Our protagonists, Marcus and Freya, have a chance to start over aboard the Escambia, a colony spaceship. This film is about the challenges they face in their last days on planet.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27th—PROGRAMME 4—7:00 PM

CYPHER

Director: Lawrence Le Lam Run Time: 20 Minutes

Tensions still linger in 1997 L.A. between the Korean-American and the Black communities after the '92 Riots. After an incident in his father's restaurant, Jay, a Korean-American high school student, finds himself pulled into L.A.'s underground hip-hop scene, where he discovers a platform to confront his painful past.









camerarentalsvancouver.com

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27th



Kristyn StillingMaster of Ceremonies — STORYHIVE Panel

Born and raised in the Lower Mainland, Kristyn Stilling has immersed herself into the Canadian film community. She works full time as a Production Coordinator at the National Film Board Vancouver office, and is also the Shorts Programmer at the Whistler Film Festival, Programming Director for the webisode festival VanChan, and the Chair of the Board for VSFF. For the past 2 years, she has also been a co-producer with Crazy8s Film Society, producing 12 short films all made within 8 days.



FILMMAKER LUNCHEON PANEL

Kathleen Hepburn



Kathleen Hepburn is a Vancouver born writer and director, and a graduate of the Canadian Film Centre's 2014 Writer's Lab. Her. debut feature Never Steady, Never Still was awarded the WIDC Feature Film Award in 2014, and was produced by Steady Films with UK actor Shirley Henderson of Harry Potter and Meeks Cutoff fame as its lead. The film premiered at TIFF 2017 and will have a theatrical release with Thunderbird Films in spring of 2018. Hepburn's short film works have screened at festivals across North America including TIFF and Canada's Top Ten. She holds an MFA in Creative Writing and a BFA in Film Production from the Universities of Guelph and Simon Fraser, respectively. She currently lives with her partner and two dogs on the rainy West Coast.

Jem Garrard



Jem Garrard is a British-Canadian writer and director. She has made music videos for Ringo Starr and Linkin Park, directed TV shows, TV movies, short films, and documentaries around the world. She has won four Leo awards for her work and was recently chosen as one of five Canadian directors to watch as part of Women in View's Five in Focus initiative.

She recently directed four episodes of Disney's sci-fi action TV series *Mech X4*, and in keeping with the robot theme, just released her own series, *Android Employed*. Jem created, wrote and directed the four-part comedy sci-fi and is currently writing season two. Principle photography is scheduled for March 2018. Jem just finished post-production on two Hallmark TV movies she directed in 2017, and is scheduled to direct her next TV movie in spring 2018, a horror comedy for the SyFy network.

She is currently in development on her debut feature, *Project Ivan*, with the support of the Harold Greenberg Fund. Jem plans to shoot the sci-fi thriller in her home city, London, England.

JUDGES' BIOS

Jem Garrard



Jem Garrard is a British-Canadian writer and director. She has made music videos for Ringo Starr and Linkin Park, directed TV shows, TV movies, short films, and documentaries around the world. She has won four Leo awards for her work and was recently chosen as one of five Canadian directors to watch as part of Women in View's Five in Focus initiative.

She recently directed four episodes of Disney's sci-fi action TV series *Mech X4*, and in keeping with the robot theme, just released her own series, *Android Employed*. Jem created, wrote and directed the four-part comedy sci-fi and is currently writing season two. Principle photography is scheduled for March 2018. Jem just finished post-production on two Hallmark TV movies she directed in 2017, and is scheduled to direct her next TV movie in spring 2018, a horror comedy for the SyFy network.

She is currently in development on her debut feature, *Project Ivan*, with the support of the Harold Greenberg Fund. Jem plans to shoot the sci-fi thriller in her home city, London, England.

Nicole G. Leier



Nicole G. Leier is an international actress residing in Malibu, California and Vancouver, BC. This exceptionally talented actress has a large amount of film and television credits to her name. She was recently nominated for a Leo Award in 2017 for "Best Lead Performance by a Female in a Short Drama" for her work on Black Chicks, which Nicole produced with renowned writer and director, Neil LaBute. Nicole's primary focus has been acting, and she has many passions when it comes to motion pictures. Apart from acting, she produces

JUDGES' BIOS

films with her production company Black Tree Pictures. Nicole loves to be involved in every aspect of film creation, as it gives her a deeper understanding of her art. She also has a passion for theatre and has worked on hundreds of local productions in Vancouver and L.A.

A few years ago, Nicole set her sights on a journey to fitness. What resulted was a TV series called Kiss My Incoming Abs. The show is co-hosted by a variety of fitness stars, from local gym owners and fitness celebrities, to health experts. The show takes place in different gyms and locations in Vancouver and internationally, and provides "motivational moments" for viewers. Nicole believes the fastest way to inspire someone is to be inspired. The show has gained an impressive following since its inception in 2012, as people all over the world want to workout with Nicole.

Nicole studies with Larry Moss in L.A., and is well known for her tremendous acting ability and for creating authenticity in her roles. She has also produced and directed films on the Youtube Lot. She has many exciting projects coming up, and is a true testament of what hard work can achieve.

Marshall Axani



Marshall Axani is a highly ambitious storyteller with strength in energetic and emotionally engaging narrative films. As the recipient of some of Canada's top film grants, he has created a series of highly praised shorts, including Anxious Oswald Greene, Mina.minerva, The Vessel And The Light Of Family Burnam. These films have screened in some of the most recognized international festivals, and garnered over thirty awards, including setting a record for taking home the most statuettes for any program to ever win at the Leo Awards for Anxious Oswald Greene in 2014. Marshall recently premiered his debut feature The Cannon (Telefilm Microbudget Program) at the 2017 Whistler Film Festival, and is currently putting pen to paper on several pilot and feature film projects. www.marshallaxani.com.

2018 AWARD SPONSORSHIP REPORT

William F. White International Inc. Award for BEST SHORT FILM

\$2500 in rentals at William F. White International Inc.

Fusion Cine Award for BEST STUDENT SHORT FILM

\$500 in rentals at Fusion Cine

Director's Guild of Canada Award for BEST DIRECTOR

\$1000 cash

Women in Film and Television Award for BEST FEMALE DIRECTOR

1 free entry into WIFTV Networking Breakfast

1 WIFTV workshop admission

2018 Women in Film Festival Pass

Langara College Award for BEST SCREENPLAY

\$500 cash

VSFF Award for BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY

\$500 in rentals at Gearhouse Rentals Free 2-day workshop at InFocus Film School

VSFF Award for BEST ACTOR FEMALE

\$250 cash donated by UBCP/ACTRA \$125 cash donated by SFU Contemporary Arts

VSFF Award for BEST ACTOR MALE

\$250 cash donated by UBCP/ACTRA \$125 cash donated by SFU Contemporary Arts

Zoic VFX Award for BEST VISUAL EFFECTS

\$500 cash

VSFF Award for BEST SOUND DESIGN

1 day on the mix stage at Western Post provided by Air Bud Entertainment/Western Post 1 day on the ADR state at Western Post Provided by Air Bud Entertainment/Western Post

Canadian Cinema Editors Award for BEST EDITING

\$500 cash

1 CCE membership

Raindance Vancouver Award for UNDERDOG FILM

1 Raindance membership

1 Raindance workshop admission

Thunderbird Entertainment Award for AUDIENCE CHOICE

Sponsored dinner with a Thunderbird Executive

After Dark Door Prize

2 tickets to the Vancouver Badass Film Festival Fyil In Us DVD

VSFF Door Prizes

2 Tickets to the Crazy8s Gala Screening Growler Package from Granville Island Brewery 3 headset packages from On Set Headsets



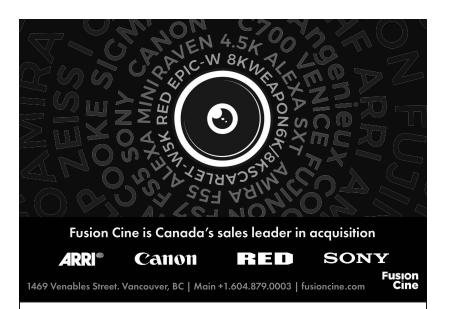


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