April 8-21
2022

Revolution of Our Times  Sundown  Young French Cinema  Kathy Evans' Memorial Screenings  The Conversation  Cow  Islands + Kalinga  Au revoir le bonheur  National Canadian Film Day (Free Screenings)  Buster!  Still Max Spring & Arnaud  Turning Red: In Conversation with Domee Shi
AND MORE
Tickets can be purchased in advance online at viff.org (up to 60 minutes before showtime) and also in person at our box office. Call 604.683.3456 for the latest info and listings. Double bill tickets are available in-person on the day of the screenings only.

Refunds and exchanges for in-cinema tickets may be offered at the discretion of our box office. If you have made an error with your booking, please email info@viff.org.

To attend films at the VIFF Centre, you must be 19 years of age or older. Exceptions may apply for films that have been rated by Consumer Protection BC.

When you become a VIFF+ member, you help us share the power of great cinema, save on tickets and get special members-only perks. Whether you see a few films or dozens of films each year, there is a membership level just for you.

Tickets & Memberships

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April 8-21, 2022

Revolution of Our Times
ERICA CHOW, HONG KONG, 2021, 152 MIN.
FRIDAY 15 2:10PM VCT
SUNDAY 17 2:10PM VCT
MONDAY 18 2:10PM VCT
TUESDAY 19 2:10PM VCT
WEDNESDAY 20 2:10PM VCT
THURSDAY 21 2:10PM VCT

This clandestine account of the massive Hong Kong democracy protests which brought a million citizens onto the streets in 2019 is riveting viewing. Director Kai Cheong was there in the midst of the epicentrum, and with the help of a wide array of interviewees (many of them masked or digitally camouflaged) presents a fascinating chronicle of how the movement sprang into being, evolved and organized itself in the face of brutal authoritarian repression.

In Cantonese with English subtitles.

Sundance
MICHEL FRANCO, MEXICO/FRANCE/SWEDEN, 2021, 83 MIN.
SATURDAY 16 10:00PM VCT
SUNDAY 17 8:00PM VCT
MONDAY 18 8:00PM VCT
TUESDAY 19 8:00PM VCT
WEDNESDAY 20 8:00PM VCT
THURSDAY 21 8:00PM VCT

What does “Canada” mean to the Indigenous peoples familiar to many of us here in Canada.

In this program, young people (and a new crop of extraordinarily talented young actors) are the centre of attention. Deborah Lukumsena (Olivia) is impeccable in both Robert, playing opposite General Depardieu, and in The Brava. Lyn Khoudri shines in Galerie along with Alain Boly and Jerém McCrae. That film was nominated for the César for Best First Feature Film, but missed out to another film in the program, Magnetic South, featuring another impressive newcomer, Thibaut Robert. Luana Bampi (Portrayed of a Lady on Fire) shows that beyond her acting talent she is one of the most promising writers/directors in France with The WHV Where Licensee Roar. Other than most of the characters depicted in the main event of the program, the protagonist of The Heroic is maybe the most childish of all.

In French, English and Spanish with English subtitles.

The Conversation
FRANCIS FORD COPPOLA, USA, 1974, 160 MIN.
FRIDAY 15 4:10PM VCT
SATURDAY 16 4:10PM VCT
SUNDAY 17 4:10PM VCT
MONDAY 18 4:10PM VCT
TUESDAY 19 4:10PM VCT
WEDNESDAY 20 4:10PM VCT
THURSDAY 21 4:10PM VCT

The first documentary from Andros Arnold (American Honey, Fish Tank) allows us to get to know a farm animal with an intimacy that is almost unheard of for anyone who doesn’t live on a farm. Four years in production, the film compels the audience to experience the brutal repetitive rhythm of Luma’s life in surroundings that are a long way from romantic. Luma doesn’t get many breaks but her eyes are mesmerizing, and the film is deeply moving.

“In an immersive and impassioned documentary” -variety

In English

Free screenings
NATIONAL CANADIAN FILM DAY
APRIL 20

Scarborough
SHARON NADAV, ROCH BOBILLARNAIS, CANADA, 2021, 136 MIN.
WEDNESDAY 20 4:00PM VCT

Adapted by Catherine Hernandez from her own acclaimed novel (inspired by her own experiences working in a neighbourhood youth centre), He is the story of three children: Bleg (Liam Dao), a gifted Filipino boy struggling with his sexuality; Style (Essence Fox), an Indigenous girl whose brother may be developmentally delayed; and Laura (Ariane Crépin), a blonde who is bisexual between her parents and who can’t get paid. The movie is here social realism, but the emotional payoff is something else.

In English

Forgotten Warriors
LORETTA TIDD, CANADA, 1997, 51 MIN.
FRIDAY 15 2:00PM VCT

What does “Canada” mean to the Indigenous peoples of this land? In this mid-length 1997 documentary from Lorettia Todd (Monday Night) we meet Indigenous women and women who volunteered to serve in the fight against Hitler during the second world war. For those who survived, their reward was often racism, exclusion, and even punishment, as Treaty land was parcelled off for settler veterans. Todd’s poignant film features archival footage and the moving testimony of those who were there.

In English

Cinema

VCT = Vancity Theatre / STU = VIFF Studio Theatre / CONN = VIFF Connect

viff.org
Buster!

The 1920s were Keaton’s decade: he started writing, directing and starring in his own two-reelers (approx 20 minute shorts) in 1920, and by the time sound upended the industry in his career was practically shot. Yet what he produced in the space of that decade is breathtaking in its prodigious invention and without parallel in its hilarity. Keaton—who almost never cracked a smile—understood the sublime comic dimensions of the determined go-getter striving to make his way in a capricious modern world better than anyone. Keaton’s heroes are always sprinting to keep up with the times, and demonstrate enough agility and energy to pull it off.

For the purposes of our Easter-weekend Buster bonanza, we’re sharing eight of his best early works (across two programmes), plus two features: The General (1926) and Steamboat Bill Jr (1928).

Turning Red: In Conversation with Domee Shi

THU APR 7 1:30PM  CONN

Starring a 13-year-old Toronto girl who transforms into a giant red panda when upset, Disney and Pixar’s Turning Red is a spirited and charming first feature from Domee Shi. Pixar’s first animated feature solely directed by a woman, it’s also their first Asian lead character and all-female leadership team. We’re excited to chat with Shi, a Chinese Canadian animator, director, and screenwriter about pitching, storyboarding, her anime-and-manga-influenced design, and the film’s singular sensibility.

HOST Warren P. Sonoda, National President, Directors Guild of Canada

Still Max

KATHERINE KNIGHT, CANADA, 2021, 74 MIN.

FRI APR 8 5:30PM  VCT
SAT APR 9 2:00PM  VCT
SUN APR 10 2:30PM  STU
THU APR 14 6:30PM  STU

Winner of the Audience Award at Hot Docs, this is a lovely film about mortality and art, the creative expression of the joy of living and the impermanence of things. Katherine Knight encounters Canadian artist Max Dean in Toronto, defiant in the face of prostate cancer, even as his partner is diagnosed with aggressive ovarian cancer. Taking inspiration from his disease, Dean takes a hard look at his own body, which is also, of course, our own. Filmmaker Q&A April 8 (with Max Dean), 9 and 10th.

In English

FEAT Max Dean

Spring & Arnaud

MARICA CONNOLLY, KATHERINE KNIGHT, CANADA, 2013, 67 MIN.

SAT APR 9 4:30PM  STU
SUN APR 10 4:30PM  STU
THU APR 14 8:10PM  STU

Influential photographer Arnaud Maggs, turning 85, embarks on a series of self-portraits that wryly depict his life's work. Spring Hurlbut, at 60 is creating haunting works that evoke mortality while harboring the certainty that Arnaud's time is limited. Together more than 25 years, each grapples with the nature of an artist's creativity where the drive for invention and discovery resists life’s finite reality.

Filmmaker Katherine Knight will attend screenings April 9 and 10.

In English

FEAT Arnaud Maggs, Spring Hurlbut