Pedro Almodóvar Retrospective Law of Desire Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown Tie Me Up! Tie Me Down! Live Flesh The Flower of My Secret All About My Mother Talk to Her Bad Education Volver The Sleeping Negro Lingui, The Sacred Bonds Who We Are Compartment No.6 Flee AND MORE
### Tickets & Memberships

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**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.
The most influential gay filmmaker of our times, Almodóvar has given us many of the most vivid, sympathetic and complex women in modern movies through collaborations with Penélope Cruz, Cecilia Roth, Marisa Paredes, and Carmen Maura, to name just a few. Over the years, Almodóvar's initially shocking punk aesthetic has distilled to an essence that's sweetly sensual and surprisingly sympathetic to its trapped, all too fallible antagonists. An Almodóvar movie may entail a leap of faith, but we all know we see in good hands because above all this is a Cinema of the Heart.

This retrospective showcases the unprecedented, breathtaking achievements of the last 25 years, supplemented by such key early films as Law of Desire and The Flower of My Secret (showing on 35mm film print), and runs to both 35mm and 4k digital presentations. The Flower of My Secret is Almodóvar's 1988 farce was his commercial breakthrough in North America, and his first film to be nominated for an Academy Award. His first movies, Carmen Maura stars in a role written specifically for her, and Penélope Cruz's put-upon cleaner, Raimunda, has enough aggravation in her life before she is visited by the Penélope Cruz's put-upon cleaner, Raimunda, has enough aggravation in her life before she is visited by the Penélope Cruz's put-upon cleaner, Raimunda, has enough aggravation in her life before she is visited by the

Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown + The Human Voice

Volver

The Flower of My Secret

All About My Mother

Talk to Her

The Sleeping Negro

Lingui, The Sacred Bonds

Who We Are: A Chronicle of Racism in America

Law of Desire

CAST

In Spanish with English subtitles.

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The most important film about race since Aamir Khan's 1994 film, Who We Are is an elegant, passionate and revelatory reclamation of the history America awakes up, the history we've been living, and our own story.

In English

In Spanish with English subtitles.

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**Compartment No.6**

JUHO KUOSMANEN, FINLAND/GERMANY/ESTONIA/RUSSIA, 2021, 107 MIN.

FRI FEB 11  8:40PM  VCT
SAT FEB 12  3:50PM  VCT
SUN FEB 13  4:10PM  VCT
MON FEB 14  3:55PM  VCT
TUE FEB 15  8:55PM  VCT
WED FEB 16  8:10PM  STU
THU FEB 17  8:10PM  STU

A Finnish intellectual finds herself sharing a sleeper compartment with a boorish Russian skinhead on the long train ride from Moscow to the Arctic Circle in this subtly shaded character study from Juho Kuosmanen (*The Happiest Day in the Life of Olli Maki*). Superb, sharply contrasting performances from Seidi Haarla and Yuriy Borisov are just the ticket in a movie that unearths humour as well as pathos in its tale of two lonely people, about as far apart as you can get, forced to share close quarters.

*In Russian and Finnish with English subtitles.*

**CAST** Seidi Haarla, Yuriy Borisov, Dinara Drukaraova, Julia Aug, Lidia Kostina

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**Flee**

JONAS POHER RASMUSSEN, DENMARK/SWEDEN/NORWAY/FRANCE, 2021, 90 MIN.

FRI FEB 11  4:00PM  VCT
SAT FEB 12  2:00PM  VCT
SUN FEB 13  3:45PM  STU
MON FEB 14  4:30PM, 6:30PM  STU
TUE FEB 15  4:20PM  VCT
WED FEB 16  4:20PM  VCT
THU FEB 17  3:50PM  VCT

*Flee* is a powerful animated documentary that tells the story of Amin Nawabi as he grapples with a secret he’s kept for 20 years; one that threatens to derail the life he’s built for himself and his soon-to-be husband. As he shares the story of his extraordinary journey as a child refugee from Afghanistan in the early ’90s, Jonas Poher Rasmussen (a longtime friend of Amin’s) restages his trials through evocative animation that results in a film that’s deeply personal, candid, and unexpectedly beautiful.

*In English, Danish, Russian, Dari and Swedish with English subtitles.*

**FEATURING** Daniel Karimyar, Fardin Mijdzadeh, Milad Eskandari, Belal Faiz, Elaha Faiz, Zahra Mehrwarz, Sadia Faiz

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**Breaking Bread**

BETH ELISE HAWK, USA/ISRAEL, 2021, 86 MIN.

FRI FEB 18  6:30PM  STU
SUN FEB 20  4:30PM  STU
TUE FEB 22  5:30PM  STU
WED FEB 23  6:20PM  STU
THU FEB 24  7:30PM  STU

Dr Nof Atamna-Ismael—the first Muslim Arab to win Israel’s *MasterChef*—is on a quest to make social change through food. And so, she founded the A-Sham Arabic Food Festival, where pairs of Arab and Jewish chefs collaborate on dishes like kishek (a Syrian yogurt soup), and qatayef (a dessert typically eaten during Ramadan).

“This is a joyous film—with some mouth-watering looking food as a bonus. Highly recommended.” **GRAEME TUCKETT, STUFF**

*In English, Hebrew with English subtitles.*

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**The Automat**

LISA HURWITZ, USA, 2021, 79 MIN.

SUN FEB 20  6:40PM  STU
TUE FEB 22  7:15PM  STU
WED FEB 23  4:20PM  STU

Want to know where Howard Schultz drew inspiration for his coffee chain? Even though it only operated in two cities, New York and Philadelphia, for a spell in the middle of Twentieth Century, the Automat was the most successful food franchise in the US. For a nickel, you could get a cup of coffee. For a couple more you could unlock a slice of pie. For many Americans, there was nothing more exciting, more modern, more American than this... Mel Brooks, Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Colin Powell concur.

*In English*

**FEATURING** Mel Brooks, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Carl Reiner, Elliott Gould, Howard Schultz, Colin Powell