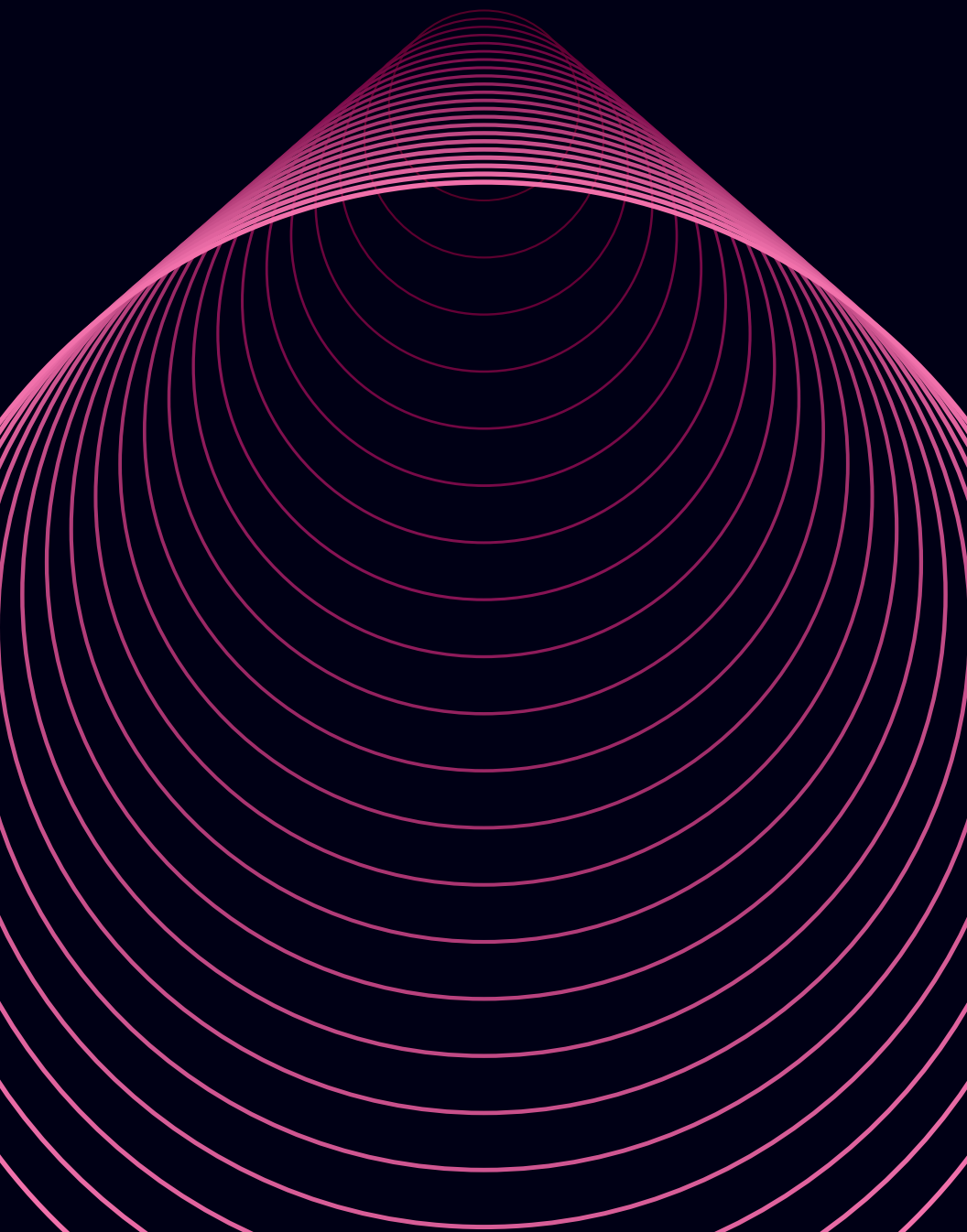


22nd Reelworld Film Festival

Watch Us Transform.

October 12 - 18, 2022



**DON'T JUST
WATCH A MOVIE.
FEEL ONE.**

TELEFILM PARTNER
CANADA OF CHOICE

FEEL AGAIN AT A
THEATRE NEAR YOU.



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@ReelworldFilm

@ReelworldFilm

@Reelworld

@ReelworldFestival

reelworld.ca

accessreelworld.ca

Land Acknowledgement

From time immemorial, the Sovereign Nations have inhabited, protected, and preserved the land that is so called Canada. We acknowledge this fact. The land we serve is the traditional territory of many Nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishinaabe, and the Chippewa. Reelworld offices are in Toronto, which is covered by Treaty 13 with the Mississaugas of the Credit.

Reelworld observes that many people now living in Canada were robbed of their traditional lands. Through European colonialism, their history is obscured and continuously erased. Reelworld represents those who are from the many scattered lands around the world and stand united with Indigenous peoples. Reelworld observes the injustices, the suffering, and the oppression and acknowledges Indigenous peoples right to their lands.

As immigrants or children of immigrants, we and our ancestors adopted settler laws and we continue to occupy and settle stolen Indigenous land. We must learn and foster understanding and trust with Indigenous people to dissolve the White supremacy and settler colonialism that pervades our cultural, social, political, and economic spheres.

Welcome Letter



You can feel the excitement in the air as film festivals slowly move back to a more robust in-person experience. In addition to our in-person programming, we are continuing the online experience. For Canadians who are Black, Indigenous, Asian, South Asian and People of Colour, who hail from regions across Canada the digital option has given them a sense of community in our industry and we will continue to nurture that. Our films are geo-blocked to Ontario to protect our filmmakers, but our free industry panels will ignite the hopes and dreams of future creators, crews and production hopefuls, and are accessible to everyone everywhere.

Now more than ever our authentic voices are being sought after. Thousands of years of our stories being shaped through a colonial lens is over and those who want to tell their truth from their community's lens are finding a place.

I can't thank our stakeholders enough. They are our partners and supporters. They give funds, but more than that they give of themselves - they are committed to the systemic changes that have plagued so many for so long. Reelworld community members have said they felt heard for the first time ever. We can no longer stand idly by and watch negative stereotypes to which we have grown accustomed. Especially depictions around women of colour. Our skin colour, our hair, we wear these with pride and the films we screen at Reelworld are the best of the best from Canadians who want to change the status quo.

Reelworld has made incredible strides over this past year. We have increased our programs 65% and we have joined like minded organizations to make sure we are advocating together for the access that has been denied for so long.

Tonya Williams
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/FOUNDER
REELWORLD SCREEN INSTITUTE

TAKING IDEAS FROM SPARK TO FINISH.



What is Reelworld?

Reelworld was founded in 2000 by award-winning actress and producer Tonya Williams to advance opportunities for Canadians who are Black, Indigenous, Asian, South Asian, and People of Colour in the screen industries by providing professional development and advocating for racial equity in Canadian content and production. Reelworld Screen Institute, a non-profit, provides training programs and presents the acclaimed Reelworld Film Festival, which celebrates stories by racialized Canadians. Providing access to opportunities is core to Reelworld, and Access Reelworld is Canada's leading hiring platform for racialized crews and talent. Reelworld Foundation, a registered charity, is transforming the industry by creating mechanisms that hold systems accountable for greater equity.



CANADA
MEDIA FUND

FONDS DES MÉDIAS
DU CANADA



cmf-fmc.ca

Access Reelworld

Find Crew, Creatives, and Production Staff

HIRE

Black
Indigenous
Asian

And People of Colour



Audra Gray
Black Entrepreneur Program 2022

In over 100
Film and Media
Professions



Andrew Chung
Festival Alum 2020

Search us at accessreelworld.ca



Welcome Letter



THE GOVERNOR GENERAL • LA GOUVERNEURE GÉNÉRALE

Message from the Governor General on the occasion of the Reelworld Film Festival

I am delighted to send greetings to everyone gathered for the 22nd year of this important film festival.

Since its inception, the Reelworld Film Festival has remained committed to creating more access and inclusion for racially diverse Canadian talent, both in front of and behind the screen, through advocacy and alliances. Its year-round roster of professional development opportunities, including industry panels, workshops and mentorships, provides an ever-evolving space for storytelling and creativity.

This edition of Reelworld, in a hybrid virtual-and-in-person format, will ensure all audiences have the chance to experience a broad range of films created by artists who identify as Black, Indigenous, Asian and People of Colour.

I wish to thank the filmmakers, supporters and organizers of Reelworld for once again bringing Canadians together to celebrate our shared humanity through the power of film.

Mary Simon

1 SUSSEX DRIVE • 1, PROMENADE SUSSEX
OTTAWA • CANADA • K1A 0A1 • WWW.GG.CA

Welcome Letter



PRIME MINISTER • PREMIER MINISTRE

October 12–18, 2022

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to everyone attending the 2022 Reelworld Film Festival (RFF).

Now in its 22nd year, the RFF provides a showcase of some of the best cinematic works of Canadian storytellers and media artists who identify as Black, Indigenous, Asian, South Asian, Middle Eastern, North African and Latin American. I am certain that this year's edition will be an engaging and enlightening experience for everyone involved.

It continues to be a challenging time for planning and hosting events. That is why I would like to commend the RFF organizers for their hard work and dedication in making this year's edition of the festival a hybrid experience with both virtual and in-person programming. You can take pride in your commitment to championing diversity and inclusion in the Canadian screen industry.

Please accept my best wishes for a memorable and rewarding experience.

Sincerely,

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



Welcome Messages



**THE HONOURABLE ELIZABETH DOWDESWELL |
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF ONTARIO**

Congratulations to the Reelworld Film Festival for 22 years of championing BIPOC Canadian storytellers and media artists! In this moment of uncertainty, your innovative work delivers vital stories that help us heal and build toward a more just, cohesive, and resilient world.



PREMIER DOUG FORD | PREMIER OF ONTARIO

Welcome to the 22nd Reelworld Film Festival! Many thanks to the people who have supported these talented filmmakers from Canada's diverse communities. Have an amazing festival.



**THE HONOURABLE MARC IEN | MINISTER OF WOMEN
AND GENDER EQUALITY AND YOUTH OF CANADA**

As the Minister of Women and Gender Equality and Youth, I want to extend my heartfelt congratulations and wish you great success at Reelworld's annual film festival!



**THE HONOURABLE AHMED HUSSEN | MINISTER OF
HOUSING AND DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION**

The 22nd annual Reelworld Film Festival showcases the stories of the people that make our country what it is today. Congratulations to the organisers! Enjoy!



JOHN TORY | MAYOR OF TORONTO

Congratulations to Reelworld Film Festival on your 22nd film festival highlighting the stories of BIPOC artists who are making a social impact.



**THE HONOURABLE NEIL LUMSDEN | MINISTER,
TOURISM, CULTURE AND SPORT**

On behalf of the Government of Ontario, I commend the Reelworld Film Festival for being a trailblazer in amplifying diverse voices within Ontario's film industry. Your contribution to enriching our vibrant arts and culture communities is vital.

Welcome Messages



FRANCESCA ACCINELLI | INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND CEO, TELEFILM CANADA

We could not be more excited to come back to the festival circuit to celebrate the artistry of film and showcase Canadian creatives around the world and at home. That is why we are proud to support the Reelworld Film Festival! We want to thank and congratulate Reelworld for its continued support of diverse voices in film and for fostering the return to cinemas so we can all celebrate these talents from around the world in theatres once again. And remember, keep supporting Canadian talent in theatres and online whenever you can!



VALERIE CREIGHTON | PRESIDENT AND CEO, CANADA MEDIA FUND

On behalf of the CMF, thanks to staff and volunteers at the Reelworld Film Festival for championing racialized storytellers and media artists for the past 22 years.



MARGUERITE PIGOTT | FILM COMMISSIONER AND DIRECTOR OF ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRIES FOR THE CITY OF TORONTO

Reelworld is an invaluable catalyst that has been advancing Toronto's diverse creators for over two decades. We salute the festival and the filmmakers, and welcome the audience!



KAREN THORNE-STONE | PRESIDENT AND CEO, ONTARIO CREATES

Ontario Creates is proud to support the Reelworld Film Festival and year-round program – we applaud your incredible 22 years of bringing together diverse storytellers and audiences through the power of film!

Welcome Messages



BARBARA WILLIAMS | EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT, CBC
CBC is proud to be a longstanding supporter of Reelworld, which has been at the forefront of much-needed change within the creative industry in Canada for over two decades. The festival's ongoing commitment to exclusively showcase storytellers who are Black, Indigenous, Asian, South Asian and People of Colour has led to the development of strong new Canadian talent and the amplification of authentic voices from across the country, and we look forward to another year of thought-provoking programming. Congratulations and wishing you all the best for this year's festival!



RITA DAVIES | C.M., CHAIR, ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL
Reelworld has compiled yet another great lineup of work by BIPOC Canadian filmmakers. The festival continues to bring outstanding films to audiences and elevate the voices and talent of racialized media creators. I wish a great festival to all!"



PREM GILL | CEO, CREATIVE BC
Creative BC is pleased to support Reelworld Film Festival, a champion of diverse storytellers and filmmakers. We are delighted to congratulate them on their 22nd year of programming and commitment to representation!



CELIA SMITH | CHAIR, TORONTO ARTS COUNCIL
On screen and behind the scenes, Reelworld encourages and nurtures new talent, supports diverse Canadian storytellers and brings audiences together through the power of film. TAC is proud to support this vital festival.



ALICIA ROSE | SENIOR MANAGER, STRATEGY & SOCIAL IMPACT, TD BANK GROUP
For 22 years, the Reelworld Film Festival has worked to bring under-represented voices to the forefront of the Canadian screen industry. Through the TD Ready Commitment, we're proud to support Reelworld's efforts to break down barriers and help drive change for a more inclusive and equitable tomorrow.

Welcome Messages



**CARLYN KLEBUC | GENERAL MANAGER,
ORIGINAL PROGRAMMING, BELL MEDIA**

Bell Media is thrilled to return as a partner for the 22nd edition of the Reelworld Film Festival. Reelworld's commitment to championing diverse storytelling continues to play a huge role in creating positive social change in the Canadian film and television industry. Congratulations!



**WARREN P. SONODA | PRESIDENT, DIRECTORS
GUILD OF CANADA**

Congratulations to Reelworld for their 22nd film festival, this event holds space to acknowledge and celebrate art at a time of growing desire for storytelling that reflects the cultures, languages and diverse peoples of the world."



ELEANOR NOBLE | PRESIDENT, ACTRA NATIONAL

ACTRA is proud to support the Reelworld Film Festival. Congratulations on 22 years of championing exciting, funny, moving and dramatic stories created by and featuring diverse Canadian talent from across this country.



DAVID GALE | PRESIDENT, ACTRA TORONTO

ACTRA Toronto is proud to support Reelworld. Congratulations on 22 years of celebrating Indigenous and racially diverse Canadian talent telling stories that represent all of us on screen.



**KAREN HORNE | SVP, WARNER BROS. DISCOVERY,
DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION**

Warner Bros. Discovery is proud to support Reelworld in showcasing authentic, meaningful and fearless storytelling from all across Canada. We congratulate the festival on their 22nd edition!"

Welcome Messages



**JEFFREY L. ORRIDGE, | CEO, TVO
MEDIA EDUCATION GROUP**

I'm honoured to salute the Reelworld Film Festival. Your support for diverse Canadian filmmakers plays a crucial role in building a truly inclusive industry and I am proud of TVO's growing relationship with the festival.



MARGARET MCGUFFIN | MUSIC PUBLISHERS CANADA

I want to congratulate Reelworld on 22 spectacular years of supporting diverse storytellers. We are proud to partner with you to explore the connections between music and screen based productions. There is a perfect song for every scene and the right song can elevate any production.



**SHARON HINDS | MANAGER OF ALL IN,
ROGERS SPORTS & MEDIA**

We're incredibly proud to partner with Reelworld and congratulate them on the 22nd Reelworld Film Festival. It's initiatives like this, driven by Reelworld, that help to ensure that we can all experience even more rich and authentic storytelling from diverse Canadian creatives, offering new voices and perspectives.



**LOUIS CALABRO | INTERIM CEO, ACADEMY OF
CANADIAN CINEMA & TELEVISION**

Reelworld's mission to establish Canada's screen-based industry as an accessible, equitable space for our country's talent is more important than ever. The Canadian Academy is proud to support this incredibly important cause, and offers a sincere congratulations on 22 groundbreaking years!



**NEAL MCDUGALL | ACTING CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
& DIRECTOR OF POLICY, WGC**

The Writers Guild of Canada is proud to support the 22nd annual Reelworld Film Festival. Reelworld's commitment to showcasing the strong and authentic voices of diverse Canadian storytellers remains crucial. Congratulations to the talented filmmakers who are participating!

Welcome Letter Reelworld Screen Institute



Welcome everyone to the 22nd edition of the Reelworld Film Festival and what I believe to be one of our best years yet! While the pandemic is not over it is with great joy we welcome folks back into theatres to watch our curated programs that reflect the perspectives of Canadian filmmakers who are Black, Indigenous, Asian, South Asian and People of Colour. The team at Reelworld has been hard at work making this year's return to cinemas one to remember for our filmmakers and audiences at home and in-person, with our entire schedule available at select legendary Toronto venues like The Royal Theatre, Paradise Theatre and The ROM, there is ample opportunity to see great films made by some of Canada's finest talent to date. As you explore and experience the festival again, I encourage everyone to try to connect with filmmakers and fellow festival goers alike and take a moment to take it all in. So much of what this year's festival will be able to offer felt like an unlikely reality just over a year ago, but here we are.

For many years, Reelworld has been about a coming together of communities to celebrate one another and our groundbreaking work and to find new diverse concepts in storytelling and this year is no different. Add that to our growing slate of development programming and it's safe to say that Reelworld isn't just back, it's better than ever. As a film lover and filmmaker myself, I always love the palpable buzz and energy of movie making magic in the air at festivals like Reelworld and can't wait to see this year's lineup!. Thank you for joining us for our 22nd edition of the Reelworld film festival.

SASHA LEIGH HENRY
REELWORLD SCREEN INSTITUTE CHAIR

Reelworld Screen Institute Board



BLAKE TOHANA,
TREASURER
CFO, 9 Story
Media Group



TERRY E. MARKUS,
SECRETARY
Entertainment Lawyer,
Professor, Producer



ANDRIA CASE
Reporter,
CTV Toronto



CHERYL HUDSON
Founder and CEO,
Dove Philanthropy
Advisors



TY HYLAND
Production
Planning Executive
and Comedy & Digital,
CBC Scripted Content



SRINIVAS KRISHNA
President,
DivaniFilms Inc.



FLOYD KANE
Creator, Writer,
Producer, Search it
Up Productions Inc.



PETER-JOHN KERR
Creative Director,
Director Producer,
Shift



NAM KIWANUKA
Journalist, TVO



**PATRICIA BEBIA
MAWA**
Executive Vice
President, Silvertrust
Media & Afroglobal TV



APRIL MULLINGS
Director, Finance,
and Business Affairs,
HLP + Partners



SHELLEY NIRO
Artist, Director



ROMEN PODZYHUN
CEO/ Chairman,
Channel Zero



ERICA SHAW
Media Production
Manager, Shaw
Communications &
Professor, Sheridan



R.T. THORNE
Artist, Director



In the era of the proliferation of screening platforms and viral sensations, Reelworld continues to play a pivotal role in the media sphere by enabling and spotlighting Canadians identifying as Black, Indigenous, Asian, South Asian, and People of Colour in the screen-based industries.

This is a proud moment, as Reelworld has made tremendous strides in the past year with the launch of the Protocol Guideline research project focused on the depiction of Black, Indigenous, Asian, South Asian and Women of Colour on Canadian screen which is supported by Women and Gender Equality Canada.

After the two years hiatus of live events, we are excited that the festival this year will bring film enthusiasts and communities together again to watch amazing films, network and share ideas. Not only is this year's festival special, but it is a toast to the resilience that many talents in the entertainment industry have exhibited. When Covid-19 caused a worldwide shutdown, people turned on their phones and television sets to stay entertained and motivated. This shows how important the industry truly is to the world.

Every culture, nationality, and group experiences and appreciates the world in a different way. With the diversity of awareness, knowledge, perspectives, and viewpoints, it is critical to ensure that there is representation in an industry that is so essential in shaping the social consciousness of society. This ensures that all facets of society feel important and seen. This is the work that Reelworld is has continued to do and is so passionate about.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Reelworld Foundation, I would like to congratulate Tonya Williams, Founder & Executive/Artistic Director of Reelworld for being named Changemaker of the year by Playback. We are very proud of her visionary leadership and are inspired by her dedication to fostering and empowering Black, Indigenous and People of Colour in the entertainment industry.

I also commend the outstanding team that has worked diligently to put together this year's festival and events. I welcome everyone participating in the 2022 Reelworld Film Festival and wish you a rewarding and exciting experience.

PATRICIA BEBIA MAWA
CHAIR, REELWORD FOUNDATION BOARD



**CHERYL HUDSON,
VICE-CHAIR**
Founder and CEO,
Dove Philanthropy
Advisors



**APRIL MULLINGS,
TREASURER**
Director, Finance, and
Business Affairs, HLP +
Partners



ERICA SHAW
Media Production
Manager, Shaw
Communications &
Professor, Sheridan



ANDRIA CASE
Reporter,
CTV Toronto



ANYA MCKENZIE
Producer/Programmer/
Business and Rights, CBC



VICTORIA SHEN
Lawyer



TY HYLAND
Production
Planning Executive and
Comedy & Digital, CBC
Scripted Content



Reelworld Screen Institute Staff



TONYA WILLIAMS
Founder, Executive
Director



**EMILY-JANE
WILLIAMS**
Development
Director



ALISON COSGROVE
Communications
Director



SAFIA ABDIGIR
Industry
Programming
Manager



ZAARIN BUSHRA
Industry Program
Coordinator



TIARA JOHNNY
Project
Coordinator



ANDREW CHUNG
Marketing, Advocacy,
and Programming



PAHULL BAINS
Outreach and
Marketing Manager



AFFRICA SPENCE
Alumni and Outreach
Coordinator



LUCY REDDY
Marketing and
Communications



AISHA EVELYNA
Programmer



MARINA HANNA
Programmer



REZA SAMENI
Programmer



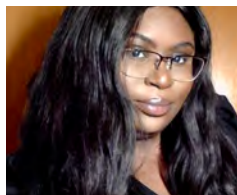
KELVIN OMORI
Admin and
Operations
Coordinator



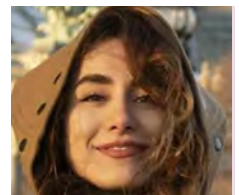
**JORDAN
SMITH-ST. KITTS**
Digital Operations
Coordinator



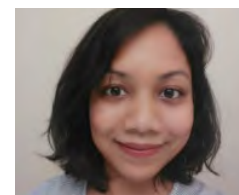
**ANDREW
WHITE-MARTIN**
Events Coordinator
Trainee



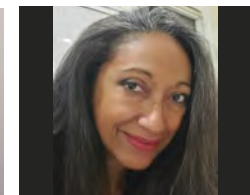
SAMANTHA ATAKPAH
Social Media and
Marketing Analytics
Intern



RONAK KARAMI
Research
Manager



TAZEEN AHMED
Special
Program Manager



**YVETTE
SUTHERLAND**
Finance Coordinator



2022 Reelworld Film Festival Partners & Funders

PLATINUM PARTNERS



PREMIUM PARTNERS



GOVERNMENT FUNDERS



INDUSTRY PARTNERS



ASSOCIATE PARTNERS



MEDIA PARTNERS



COMMUNITY PARTNERS





2022 Screen Institute Partners & Funders

REELWORLD SCREEN INSTITUTE SUPPORTING FUNDERS



REELWORLD PRODUCER PROGRAM



REELWORLD PRODUCER ACCELERATOR



REELWORLD EMERGING 20 PROGRAM



REELWORLD BLACK ENTREPRENEURS PROGRAM

Funded by:
Federal Economic Development
Agency for Southern Ontario



REELWORLD PROTOCOL GUIDELINE



INDUSTRY PANELS & WORKSHOPS



How To Festival Oct. 12-18, 2022

Visit www.reelworld.ca/festival to purchase a pass or ticket.

*Digital screenings are geo-blocked to Ontario only

Once a Pass or Ticket has been purchased, you will be sent a confirmation email. If you purchased a Pass, please follow the instructions at [reelworld.ca/faq](#) for next steps on **how to access the films** on the Cinesend/Reelworld platform (available at your convenience for the duration of the festival), and/or register for the in-person film screenings on **Elevent**. A super pass or in-person pass alone does not guarantee access to in-person screenings, you must follow the instructions on the email sent to you after purchasing your pass to secure your tickets to In-Person Screenings. A Film Ticket with a QR code is required to access the screening venue, seats are available on a first come, first served basis. If you purchased the Opening Night Film Ticket or a single In-Person Ticket, your Ticket will be provided with the confirmation email.

Opening Night Film Ticket: \$15 (+ HST)

Admission to the In-Person Screening of Reelworld's Opening Night Film, "Golden Delicious".

In-Person: October 12 at 7PM at The Royal Theatre (608 College St., Toronto)

On Demand: 10:00PM, October 12 until 11:59PM, October 18, 2022 on the Cinesend/Reelworld online portal

Super Pass: \$39.90 (+ HST)

A Super Pass includes Tickets to all In-Person Screenings (excluding the Opening Night Film) and provides On Demand online access to all films for the duration of the festival, starting 10:00PM, October 12 until 11:59PM, October 18, 2022 on the Cinesend/Reelworld online portal. An In-Person Ticket admits one person to the purchased film.

In-Person Pass: \$24.90 (+ HST) / In-Person Ticket, \$10 (+ HST)

An In-Person Pass includes one Ticket to all In-Person Film Screenings (excluding the Opening Night Film). An In-Person Ticket admits one person to the purchased film. Films will be screening In-Person at the Paradise Theatre on October 13th and the Royal Ontario Museum on October 15th and 16th. See the schedule below.

In-Person Screening Schedule at Paradise Theatre

Thursday, October 13, 2022

1006 Bloor St W, Toronto, ON M6H 1M2

In-Person Screening Schedule at the Royal Ontario Museum

Saturday, October 15 & Sunday, October 16, 2022

100 Queens Park, Toronto, ON M5S 2C6

Live and Virtual Panel Discussions, Q&As & Industry Webinars

Friday, October 14, Monday October 17, & Tuesday October 18, 2022

These programs are FREE and virtual events are available worldwide. You must register online to attend. For more details, please go to the Industry Panels section of the program guide and our website.

Reelworld Film Festival 2022 Awards Presentation

Join in the celebration with this year's festival award recipients! Tune in **Tuesday, October 18 at 3:00 PM EST** to watch our awards presentation on YouTube.

COVID-19
PROTOCOL



Symptom - Free Policy

Reelworld is committed to keeping our guests safe with a Symptom-Free Policy. Employees are required to stay home if they are not feeling well. Guests who experience symptoms of COVID-19, the flu or a cold should stay home and can contact tickets@reelworld.ca for a full refund of their Passes. We look forward to welcoming you back once you're feeling better.

Mask-Friendly Environment

Following Canada's public health guidelines, masks are not required in Ontario at indoor public spaces. We do encourage the use of masks and ask that guests respect the choices of others who continue to wear a mask.



Proud to support the 22nd edition of the Reelworld Film Festival.

We're working together with the Reelworld Screen Institute. It's just one of the ways we're helping to open doors for a more inclusive and sustainable tomorrow.

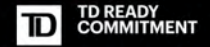
td.com/tdreadycommitment

**TD READY
COMMITMENT**

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Presented by



Wed. Oct. 12
7:00 PM @ The Royal

Golden Delicious

JASON KARMAN

When basketball-obsessed Aleks moves in across the street, Asian-Canadian teen Jake finds himself trying out for the basketball team to get his attention in this classic coming-of-age drama set in the digital age.

FILM NOTES

In *Golden Delicious*, we follow the coming of age story of a teen named Jake. From the outside, Jake is atypical highschool senior– but bubbling under the surface is a closeted boy shapeshifting to be what everyone else wants him to be. In this incredibly relatable story, Karman shows us that doing the “right” thing is not always the right thing, and that true happiness is found by being brave enough to be our authentic selves. — **AISHA EVELYNA**



Jason Karman is a MFA graduate of UBC in Film Production and Creative Writing; his short, *Lions in Waiting*, was selected by Telefilm Canada's Not Short on Talent in 2018. Jason's debut feature, *Golden Delicious*, is supported by Telefilm Canada Talent to Watch program, which has launched Canada's brightest talents.

PREMIERE STATUS: ONTARIO

GENRE: Drama

LANGUAGE: English

COUNTRY: Canada

RUN TIME: 120 mins

CINEMATOGRAPHERS: Alfonso Chin

PRODUCERS: Kristyn Stilling

EDITOR: Mike Jackson

PRINCIPAL CAST: Cardi Wong, Chris Carson, Parmiss Sehat, Ryan Mah, Leeah Wong, Claudia Kai



SAT. OCT 15
11:00 AM
@THE ROM

Pattern

DIRECTED BY IVAN MADEIRA

It's 5 months after the death of Curtis' partner Mia due to post-birth complications. As the initial fog of grief starts to lift, he is at a crossroads of how he wants to raise their daughter Salome.

Sleep-deprived and isolated from the world, it's just him and Salome in their downtown city condo. He works remotely, becomes more obsessed with the car modification forum he moderates, further buying expensive things for his car that he cannot afford.

Things soon start to fall apart around him. All he wants is Mia back in his life so that they can raise their daughter together, as they both dreamt of it. But as reality starts to creep in, will he even be able to take care of himself?

FILM NOTES

PATTERN is a heartfelt story about a father at a crossroads after the death of his wife, who passes giving birth to their daughter. This is a story about how grief can obscure our understanding of reality, and bring us to the darkest parts of ourselves—even when we have the support of our loved ones. Although bittersweet, Madeira teaches us that sometimes the only way to find true redemption is to let go.

- AISHA EVELYNA



Ivan's first dramatic short film *Grow Up* (2011) became his gateway to filmmaking. Mental Healthy organisation CALM officially supported the film, which led it being featured at the British Urban Film Festival (BUFF), Cannes Short Film Corner and UK television. He went on to direct several other shorts, documentaries, music videos and campaigns.

PREMIERE STATUS: ONTARIO

GENRE: Drama

LANGUAGE: English

COUNTRY: Canada

RUN TIME: 75 mins

CINEMATOGRAPHER: Daniel Everitt-Lock

PRODUCERS: Ivan Madeira, Lisa Michelle Cornelius, Al St Louis, Daniel Everitt-Lock

EDITOR: Ann Foo

PRINCIPAL CAST: Al St Louis, Jenni Burke, Diane L Johnston, Mpho Koaho, Lisa Michelle Cornelius, Nicole Power



SAT. OCT 15
1:25 PM
@THE ROM

Tzouhalem

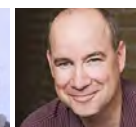
DIRECTED BY HAROLD C. JOE, LESLIE D. BLAND

This documentary examines the near-mythic figure of Cowichan Chief Tzouhalem, the account of his life from both historians and First Nations Elders, the folkloric tales concerning him, his impact on the modern relationship between the Crown and First Nations, and how his legend remains alive to this day, examining critically how his story has been told and passed down to us.

FILM NOTES

Once upon a time in the far West — now called B.C., Canada — Tzouhalem, a young adult deprived of motherly love, rose in the form of a fierce warrior to avenge his mother and brother's blood. The reputation of his power soon spread all over the territory and loomed so large it swerved into the mythological.

Harmoniously blending interviews with dramatic reenactment scenes, the filmmakers examine colonialism, the encounter between settlers and Indigenous People, and the Indigenous juridical system against the backdrop of Tzouhalem's story while preserving the rise and fall of a prominent figure in Cowichan's oral history for the next generations. — REZA SAMENI



Harold has two feature documentaries, *Tzouhalem*, investigating the story of legendary Cowichan Chief Tzouhalem, currently in post-production; and *A Cedar Is Life* beginning production in the spring of 2021. Harold is passionate about passing on oral traditions and cultural teachings to our younger generations, while equally educating broader society about who First Nations are as a People.

Leslie has produced, written, directed, and performed in over 150 professional projects in film, television, radio, and live theatre. He has produced and directed the award-winning feature length documentary *Gone South: How Canada Invented Hollywood* which featured Howie Mandel. He has a number of projects in development with a variety of Canadian broadcasters, including the TV series *Orca Cove* with the CBC, as well as a number of films in development including the Telefilm and CMF supported action dark comedy feature *Tattie Bogles*, and the comedy heist feature *The Reclamation of Steve Joe*.

PREMIERE STATUS: ONTARIO

GENRE: Documentary

LANGUAGE: English

COUNTRY: Canada

RUN TIME: 90 mins

CINEMATOGRAPHERS: C. Gavin Andrews

PRODUCERS: Leslie D. Bland, Harold C. Joe

EDITOR: C. Gavin Andrews

CAST NAMES: Tristan Crocker, Kevin Sylvester, Keisha Scow, Sofia Sylvester, Valeria France's, Alain Mickelson



SAT. OCT 15
3:45 PM
@THE ROM

The Myth of the Black Woman

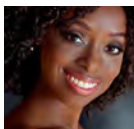
DIRECTED BY AYANA O'SHUN

"The Myth of the Black Woman" is a feature-length documentary that investigates the images of Black women in Western societies, from the hypersexual Jezebel to the lovable Nurse to the sassy « Bitch ». The film works to break down The Myth by featuring a diverse group of women and a wealth of realities rarely seen on screen and supported by engrossing archival footage from the 1800s to the present day.

FILM NOTES

In this documentary, Ayana O'Shun tackles the decades-long misrepresentation of Black women in Hollywood-led video productions, where they have been dominantly stereotyped as either a hypersexual Jezebel, a lovable caregiver, or an angry Black woman. Weaving the past and present and featuring a diverse group of Black activists, O'Shun meticulously examines the impacts of these stereotypes on Black women and the biases they often face in their lives.

Her documentary also re-emphasizes the need for changes in mainstream media and the importance of creating a more inclusive environment in the film industry for all ethnicities and groups who have been the target of stereotyping. — REZA SAMENI



Director **Ayana O'Shun** has had her films selected in more than 60 national and international festivals, and have won many awards. Today, Ayana is preparing for the release of her feature-length documentary « The Myth of the Black Woman ». She is also in different stages of production on several financed projects.

PREMIERE STATUS: WORLD
GENRE: Documentary
LANGUAGE: French, English
COUNTRY: Canada
RUN TIME: 90 mins

CINEMATOGRAPHER: Bruno Philip, Isabelle Stachtcheko
PRODUCERS: Bianca Bellange, Ayana O'Shun
EDITORS: Natalie Lamoureux, Aline-Sitoé N'Diaye
CAST NAMES:



SAT. OCT 15
6:15 PM
@THE ROM

Bite Of A Mango

DIRECTED BY RON DIAS

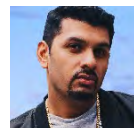
After a casual hook up between Jayne and Tray in the early stages of lockdown, Jayne, a strikingly independent half-Nigerian half-Jamaican woman, is left feeling alone in dealing with an unplanned pregnancy. In Jayne's absence, Tray, seeks the friendship of an old flame only to realize how he truly feels about Jayne.

In addition to now having to divide their time between their friendships with Jayne and Tray, with the Black Lives Matter movement rising to new heights, Rowe and Chris find themselves on different ends of the spectrum of activism. As Chris becomes more of a leader in the space, Rowe starts dating someone white, and is left feeling like an outsider in his own community.

With new life, comes second chances, and the foursome may have one more shot at keeping their group together.

FILM NOTES

Diaz's feature film debut mixes humour in with all the angst and sets his coming-of-age story against the backdrop of the pandemic and the murder of George Floyd. Beyond a consideration of young adulthood this story reflects on what it means to be Black in Toronto. Diaz experiments with filming colour with black & white and



Ron Dias is a Toronto based Filmmaker who began his career making YouTube Skits and Short Films. Using YouTube as a platform to hone his skills, while amassing a vast and diverse fan base that continues to grow, he soon developed into a dedicated Director. Alongside his companion creator Joanne Jansen, they created a successful web series "Friends with Benefits", with over 7 million views and four nominations at the LA Web Fest. He also wrote, directed, and produced a short film "Mariposa", that received praise for the quality of work on a shoestring budget, and made it into the Cannes Film Festival in 2018.

PREMIERE STATUS: CANADA
GENRE: Drama
LANGUAGE: English
COUNTRY: Canada
LENGTH: 86 mins
CINEMATOGRAPHERS: Ayodele Adeoye, Ron Dias

PRODUCERS: Ron Dias, Joanne Jansen, Alicia Insanally, Drew Moss
EDITORS: Joanne Jansen, Ron Dias
PRINCIPAL CAST: Jayne Kamara, Ryan Rosery Orville Cummings, Nathan Taylor



Kite Zo A

DIRECTED BY KAVEH NABATIAN

"Kite Zo A" (Leave the Bones) is a sensorial film about rituals in Haiti, from ancient to modern, made in collaboration with poets, dancers, musicians, fishermen, daredevil rollerbladers, and Vodou priests, set to poetry by Haitian author Wood-Jerry Gabriel.

FILM NOTES

In Kite Zo A, Kaveh Nabatian invites the viewer to enjoy a poetic portrait of Haitian people in all their beauty and glory. This film demands us to watch a country that refuses to be defined through the colonial lens that often sensationalizes and weaponizes the western understanding of "poverty".

Set to poetry by Wood-Jerry Gabriel, Kite Zo A offers stunning choreographed visuals that reclaim well worn visceral spaces, in tandem with triumphant interviews, and heartfelt documentation of everyday life. This film works against common trauma porn narratives, highlighting the often overlooked fortitude of the Haitian people who once fought colonial powers to create the first black republic. Nabatian makes his point gently but firmly; the Haitian people will continue to rise in the face of geopolitics and by maintaining allegiance to their spirituality and Vodou rituals, they will weather any storm, rising above adversity, gracefully. — AISHA EVELYNA



Kaveh is an Iranian-Canadian artist whose evocative filmmaking has brought to life stories from the margins of society and across the world: Cuba, Haiti, Nunavut, India, and beyond. His film work ranges from "A Crack in Everything", a feature doc about Leonard Cohen, to masterminding the Rotterdam-premiering, experimental, seven-director anthology feature "The Seven Last Words", to his award-winning feature narrative debut, the Cuba-set and shot "Sin La Habana".

PREMIERE STATUS: ONTARIO

GENRE: Documentary

LANGUAGE: Haitian Creole

COUNTRY: Canada, Haiti

RUN TIME: 68 Minutes

CINEMATOGRAPHER: Kaveh Nabatian

PRODUCERS: Kaveh Nabatian, Zach Niles,

Joseph Ray

EDITORS: Kaveh Nabatian

PRINCIPAL CAST: Sanba Zao

CO-PRESENTED BY 



Dear Jackie

DIRECTED BY HENRI PARDO

Dear Jackie is a cinematic letter to Jackie Robinson, the first Black man to play in Major League Baseball, after a stint with the minor-league Montreal Royals, and a key contributor to the civil rights movement in the United States. When, 1946, Jackie broke the colour barrier in Major League Baseball, the impossible seemed possible in a segregated North America. But did Montréalers use this historic moment to perpetuate a myth of a post-racial society? The film addresses Robinson directly and recounts the current situation of the Black community in Little Burgundy, once known as the "Harlem of the North," drawing interesting parallels between the two eras. Through eloquent interviews, testimonies, and powerful vérité moments in black and white, Dear Jackie paints a portrait of racism and racial inequality in Montreal and Quebec as a whole. The film unfolds as an intimate correspondence, presenting a unique historical and social perspective that deconstructs the myth of a post-racial society.

FILM NOTES

It was 1946, preceding the civil rights movement, when an American named Jackie Robinson signed with the Montréal Royals, making him the first Black man to play Major League Baseball. Did this mark a turning point for race relations in North America? Or did it merely feed the myth of a post-racial paradise? This is the central point of contemplation in Henri Pardo's Dear Jackie. Part social documentary and part essay film, Pardo narrates an open letter to the hall-of-famer to describe what life was like in Montréal for the Black community at that time. — MARINA HANNA



Born in New Brunswick to Haitian parents, **Henri Pardo** is a Quebecois director, screenwriter, actor, editor, and creator-producer. His twelve years of experience following his graduation from the "Institut National de l'Image et du Son" have enabled him to tackle ambitious projects, including feature fiction films, shorts, and documentary series.

PREMIERE STATUS: TORONTO

GENRE: Documentary

LANGUAGE: English

COUNTRY: Canada

RUN TIME: 90 mins

CINEMATOGRAPHERS: Ben Wong

PRODUCER: Katarina Soukup

EDITOR: Dominique Sicotte

PRINCIPAL CAST: Ivan Livingstone, Jaz'marie

Whyne, Ethel Bruneau, Suzanne Bruneau



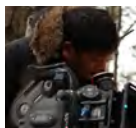
Reset

DIRECTED BY MIN BAE

South Korea's worst maritime disaster traumatized a nation while simultaneously sinking the country's emotional spirit, resulting in the death of 304 passengers.

FILM NOTES

On route to Jeju island in South Korea, The MV Sewol began sinking on April 16, 2014. 304 people died, most of which were students from Danwon High School on their way for a class trip. Following the sinking it became clear that conflicting instructions were given to passengers on the ship as lead crew members began evacuating. Director Min Bae captures this tragedy which gripped the country as citizens emboldened by communal grief began to demand an investigation of the crew members which leads all the way up to administration in place of President Park Geun-hye. Bae examines the father's quest for truth against the backdrop of citizens questioning their role in modern day South Korea. - **SAFIA ABDIGIR**



Min Bae, Cactus Film Cinematics® Founder, has been avidly devoted to cinematography and filmmaking since 1990. He has expertise and training in film production, cinematography, and fine arts: a reflection of his education received in Montreal, France, and Korea. He has been a collaborator on several award-winning independent films such as "Off Sync" (2000), "Where are We" (2004), and the recent experimental film "Qausiittuq" (2020), which has been showcased and recognized in festivals worldwide. The accomplished filmmaker continues his career as the writer, director, and cinematographer in developing the feature-length documentary film, Reset (2022), set in Seoul, Korea.

PREMIERE STATUS: WORLD

GENRE: Documentary

LANGUAGE: Korean

COUNTRY: Canada, South Korea

RUN TIME: 90 minutes

CINEMATOGRAPHER: Min Bae

PRODUCERS: Min Bae, Hyoin Yi, Gemma Eva

EDITOR: Min Bae

PRINCIPAL CAST:



Exegesis Lovecraft

DIRECTED BY QAIS PASHA

A cathartic journey that Qais Pasha, a Pakistani-Canadian filmmaker embarks on as he traces the life of cult author H.P. Lovecraft, from woodland cemeteries in Rhode Island, to the docks of New York and on to the cobbled stone streets of Quebec City. A head first dive into the division at the heart of weird fiction, wherein Qais encounters everything from Lovecraft's ghost to the various writers, artists and researchers battling over the soul of Lovecraft's legacy. Was he a misunderstood genius whose work holds the key to understanding the modern world and it's ills? Or was he a hateful nihilist whose writing encourages division? A documentary that proves that the truth is weirder than fiction.

FILM NOTES

How does one reckon with the bigoted views of a person in whose work you find solace? For his debut feature, Pakistani-Canadian filmmaker Qais Pasha traces the life and career of 20th century sci-fi writer HP Lovecraft, while at the same time trying to make sense of the author's divisive legacy. A known racist and white supremacist, Lovecraft has a legion of fans who belong to communities of colour, including Pasha himself. Using archival footage, interviews, animation and cleverly stylized reenactments, Pasha deconstructs Lovecraft (and his superfans) in a way that's not just innovative but simultaneously critical and heartfelt. - **PAHULL BAINS**



Qais Pasha is a documentary filmmaker and editor based in Toronto. He grew up in Pakistan and immigrated to Ontario as a teenager. He is a graduate of Carleton and Ryerson Universities. He has previously directed documentaries for CBC Arts. Exegesis Lovecraft is his first feature length film.

PREMIERE STATUS: CANADIAN

GENRE: Documentary

LANGUAGE: English

COUNTRY: Canada

RUN TIME: 120 mins

CINEMATOGRAPHERS: Ben Wong

PRODUCERS: Qais Pasha

EDITOR: Qais Pasha

PRINCIPAL CAST:



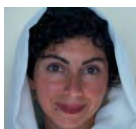
Summer With Hope

DIRECTED BY SADAF FOROUGHI

Young swimmer, Omid (whose name means “Hope” in Persian), along with his mother, Leili, and uncle, Saadi, have each placed their individual fates on one vital upcoming swimming competition. In the days and hours before the meet, however, the consequences of failure become clear for each – all of which falls heavily on Omid’s shoulders as a responsibility he refuses to bear. As their community jealously and steadily erode the family’s façade, layer by layer, to find whatever weakness they can, the family itself also begins to crumble like sand under the weight of the encroaching tide.

FILM NOTES

All that teenage swimmer Omid dreams of is competing in a prestigious swimming competition. But the malicious community around him has different plans. Coming to Reelworld from this year’s Karlovy Vary International Film Festival, where it was awarded the Grand Prix, award-winning filmmaker Sadaf Foroughi’s Summer with Hope masterfully paints a spiteful conservative society on a widescreen canvas. Here, friendship comes with a heavy price, and youth freedom is taken hostage by the personal desires of those who consider themselves above the law. — REZA SAMENI



Sadaf Foroughi shot the first part of her planned trilogy Ava in 2017, which was awarded an honorable mention as the best Canadian first feature film and the Discovery section FIPRESCI prize at TIFF. It was also awarded the Best First Feature Film in the 2018 Canadian Screen Award. She made the second part of the trilogy SUMMER WITH HOPE in 2022 which won the Karlovy Vary International Film Festival Grand Prix.

PREMIERE STATUS: CANADIAN

GENRE: Drama

LANGUAGE: Persian

COUNTRY: Canada, Iran

RUN TIME: 100 minutes

CINEMATOGRAPHERS: Amin Jafari

PRODUCERS: Christina Piovesan, Kiarash Anvari, Sadaf Foroughi and Justine Whyte

EDITOR: Kiarash Anvari

PRINCIPAL CAST: Leili Rashidi, Mehdi Ghorbani, Alireza Kamali, Benyamin Peyrovani

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that reflect Canada.**



Shorts Programs

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**THURS. OCT 13
11:50 AM**

Identity

Identity formation is always in struggle when the validity of that formation is denied by those around you. From queer exploration in youth to defying the odds of being an older athlete, the filmmakers in this program focus on the internal rumination of understanding rejection in relation to environments, families and careers and what that means for an individual navigating even the mundanity of life.

- **SAFIA ABDIGIR**



**THURS. OCT 13
2:00 PM**

Choices and Consequences

As in life, a choice made in a story can seal a character's fate—whether they realize it or not. Minds may change and choices do face challenges (cue the tension and drama!), but choices set wheels in motion. For writers and directors plotting the course of a story, choices are also used to reveal character. The films in this category maximize tension by placing their protagonists in high-stake scenarios. Their choices are informed not only by their character but by their culture. And, the decisions they will make will not only place their lives on a new course but have an impact on the lives around them. - **MARINA HANNA**



**THURS. OCT 13
5:40 PM**

Home

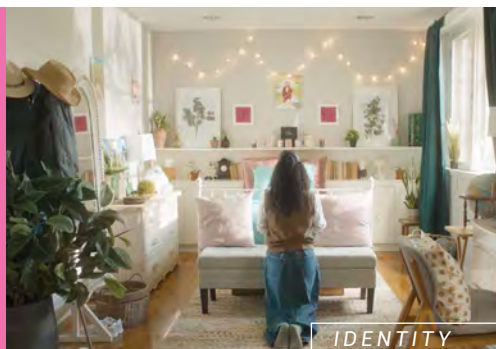
Each year filmmakers from across Canada bring fresh perspectives to our long-running "Home" Program and add a new layer of nuance to the definition of "home." Pushing it beyond the familiar portrayal of a four-wall construction to a thought-provoking artwork stemming from each filmmaker's unique life experience in search of a comfort zone. - **REZA SAMENI**



**THURS. OCT 13
7:45 PM**

Alternate Worlds

With a pandemic still not entirely in the rearview, weird new diseases being named after zoo animals, and scary world leaders waging war at each other – It's sometimes easy to wonder if we ourselves are living in an alternate world– and though we are indeed living in reality– Thankfully, these filmmakers dare to take us to new places on screen. This program of films are grounded in the present but are also fiercely optimistic, innovative, and imaginative. Whether making a comment on technology, immigration, settlerhood, or simply making us "oooo" with wonder - these films ask us to question our perceived reality, while offering us respite from the lives we lead. - **AISHA EVELYNA**



IDENTITY

Better at Texting

DIRECTED BY MARY GALLOWAY

Trinity: a radical, Indigenous, feminist, and Addison: a devout, Black, Mormon are forced to work together on a school project. They soon discover they have more in common than either cares to admit.



Mary Galloway is an award-winning, mixed Cowichan and settler descent, filmmaker, actor, and fierce trailblazer; paving the way for Indigi-queer content creation. Galloway bravely tells stories that represent marginalized communities in a heartfelt, entertaining, and enlightening manner. Her achievements include being a TIFF Rising Star, a WFF Talent to Watch, a recipient of WIFTV's Newcomer Award, and being named to The Hollywood Reporter's list of Breakouts Making An Impact on Hollywood. Recently, she released her web series Querencia on APTN LUMI in Canada and on Revry TV globally and is a recent graduate of the CFC's Director's Lab 2021

PREMIERE STATUS: WORLD

LANGUAGE: English

COUNTRY: Canada

RUNTIME: 11:19

PRODUCER(S): Kent Donguines, Christina Saliba

PRINCIPAL CAST: Micah Greyeyes, Kat Khan



IDENTITY

Blue Garden

DIRECTED BY NATALIE MURAO

Blue Garden is a hybrid-doc-animation that retells the history of a Japanese Canadian fisherman during the WW2 internment. The film explores how trauma can fester and family stories can remain unspoken for generations. However, through the participatory nature of filmmaking, the younger generation is able to reconcile their grief and feel empowered to tell their family history.



Natalie is a yonsei (fourth generation Japanese Canadian) filmmaker from "Vancouver". She aims to expand the notion of Asian diasporic cinema by creating an in-betweenness of styles that embody the diaspora itself. Her films have played at Sundance, TIFF Next Wave, and Palm Springs ShortFest. She is a 2021 Sundance Ignite x Adobe fellow.

PREMIERE STATUS: WORLD

LANGUAGE: English, Japanese

COUNTRY: Canada

RUNTIME: 5:25

PRODUCER(S): Thea Loo, Natalie Murao

PRINCIPAL CAST: Hiro Kanagawa



IDENTITY

Blue Honey

DIRECTED BY VALERIYA KHAN

Bon gets ready for the promo photoshoot for her first dance performance when she finds out her mom won't be able to attend the event due to their unexpected move overseas. She wanders in the halls of the building when her first period suddenly starts and finds fleeting solace in her teacher's presence.



Valeriya Khan is a Kazakhstani Koryo-Saram filmmaker currently based in Vancouver, BC. Blue Honey is her director's debut film she completed in the last year of her film program at SFU. Valeriya is interested in the themes of family and immigration in her works. She wants to explore the connections and tensions informed by the cultural differences and the fleeting moments of unspoken truths that emerge between strangers in her future works.

PREMIERE STATUS: ONTARIO

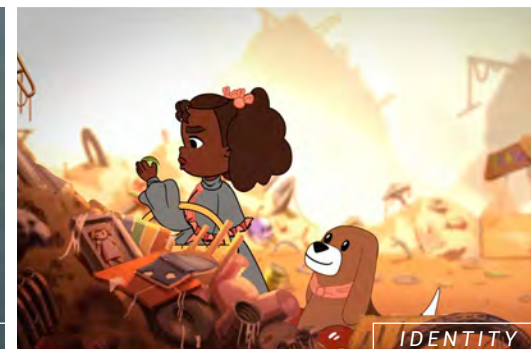
LANGUAGE: English, Japanese

COUNTRY: Canada

LENGTH: 11:25

PRODUCER(S): Anastasia Itkina

PRINCIPAL CAST: Keiko Jogo-Skeith, Sana Matsuda, Halia Hirniak



IDENTITY

Glass Doll

DIRECTED BY OMOROSE OSAGIE

The Glass Doll is a post-apocalyptic film about a broken porcelain doll who repairs other broken toys, but must decide between giving up her closest friend and fixing herself.



Born in Toronto, Ontario, **Omorose Osagie** began her filmmaking career with an interest in writing. She studied Film Production at the University of British Columbia and her animated short film (Glass Doll) has received the FAP grant from the National Film Board of Canada. She also participated in the 2020 cohort of the Vancouver International Film Festival's mentorship program. Her film, The Right Swipe, has shown at the Reelworld Film Festival and Whistler Film Festival.

PREMIERE STATUS: TORONTO

LANGUAGE: No dialogue

COUNTRY: Canada

RUNTIME: 4:59

PRODUCER(S): Clara Salameh

PRINCIPAL CAST:



Imran & Alykhan

DIRECTED BY SHAKIL JESSA

Summer camps can feel like Narnia, where you're disconnected from the outside world, and can become a completely new version of yourself. However, once the camp is over, that bubble pops and you're forced to face the realities of the real world. Imran and Alykhan tackles the awkwardness of first loves, and managing fantastical expectations against the more harsh realities.



Shakil Jessa (he/they) is a queer Muslim writer, actor, and director from Vancouver, Canada specializing in writing coming-of-age Young Adult dramedy and teen ensemble shows. He enjoys telling stories from diverse perspectives that have been traditionally written out of media in the past. From joining the inaugural WarnerMedia Access Canada Writers' Program, and recently completing his short-film directorial debut with the prestigious Crazy8s Film Society, and his new series E20-Supported series Bad Influence entering development, Shakil is a rising star in the Canadian entertainment industry.

PREMIERE STATUS: WORLD

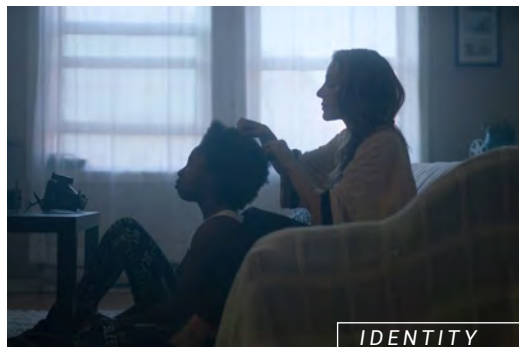
LANGUAGE: English

COUNTRY: Canada

RUNTIME: 14:27

PRODUCER(S): Kora Vanderlip, Sinéad Grewcock

PRINCIPAL CAST:



More Than Hair

DIRECTED BY FITCH JEAN

Sitting for the first time in a barbershop, a young black boy will discover for the first time the symbolic power of black hair



Fitch Jean is a Haitian-Canadian storyteller and an all-around filmmaker. His passion for creating a story made him get into photography but with the feeling that still images were never enough, he moved to the next medium and started his filmmaking career.

PREMIERE STATUS: TORONTO

GENRE: Experimental

RUNTIME: 12

PRODUCERS: Amir Zargara

PRINCIPAL CAST: Ceyon Crossfield, Lisa Deganutt



Call Me Awol

DIRECTED BY GEORDIE TRIFA

After a failed prison escape, Seventeen-year-old Lance receives a visit from his social worker at the correctional facility. Her terms are simple, keep his head down, stay out of trouble, finish his time or face finishing his sentence at the adult penitentiary. For an indigenous youth who has spent his entire life institutionalized, the prospect of more time in prison has become routine, but when an opportunity for freedom arises, what's another six months in jail?



Geordie Trifa is an award-winning Canadian BIPOC director, writer, and cinematographer. Geordie is currently directing the blue chip natural history series 'Shared Planet' set to be released on CBC in 2024. His most recent directing credits include the CBC films 'Pandemic Elementary' and 'Black Rock,' both currently available on CBC Gem, and the feature documentary 'A Life Unbound' globally distributed by Off The Fence and currently broadcasted in six countries. 'A Life Unbound' was released in 2019 following the work of internationally renowned Neuroscientist Anat Baniel; the film was theatrically released in over 30 cities globally and became a finalist at the 2020 Raw Science Film Festival.

PREMIERE STATUS: WORLD

LANGUAGE: English

COUNTRY: Canada

RUNTIME: 13:36

PRODUCER(S): Rob Labas, Pieter Romer

PRINCIPAL CAST: Nick Dangeli, Alana Pancyr



Everything Will Be Alright

DIRECTED BY FARHAD PAKDEL

Amid the outbreak of the pandemic in Montreal, a young drama teacher who has been keeping a secret from her family finds herself in a predicament after her father falls ill and she is called back home in the Middle East.



Farhad Pakdel is a Montreal-based filmmaker whose work explores identity (de)construction, liminality, absence, place, and memory. He holds an MFA in Film from York University in Toronto and an MA in Cinema from the University of Art in Tehran, where he experimented with film form and taught film courses. He has directed, written, and produced several short films that have screened internationally.

PREMIERE STATUS: CANADIAN

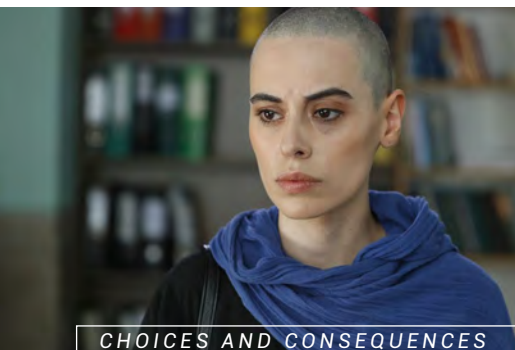
LANGUAGE: Arabic, English, French

COUNTRY: Canada

RUNTIME: 16:16

PRODUCER(S): Farhad Pakdel

PRINCIPAL CAST: Nahéma Ricci



CHOICES AND CONSEQUENCES

Split Ends

DIRECTED BY ALIREZA KAZEMIPOUR

A bald girl and a boy with long hair whose car has been confiscated due to the lack of proper hijab are trying to solve their problem with the Tehran Morality Police without having to pay a fine.



Alireza Kazempour is a multi-awarded Iranian-Canadian screenwriter, director, and producer. He has gained his master's degree in Film directing from the faculty of art at the University of Tehran in 2010 and directed his first short film "Slowness". He made his second film "The Blue Bed" in 2020 and it has been selected and screened for more than 60 Film festivals around the world, and has been received 28 awards and nominations, including three the Best Director Award from the Vancouver Short Film Festival. Recently, he has directed a documentary feature film "Margin vs. Center" (2021), and two short movies "Split Ends" (2021), and "The Gold Teeth" (2022) that will be released soon. Social justice, women's rights, and immigrant issues are his concerns.

PREMIERE STATUS: ONTARIO

LANGUAGE: Persian (Farsi)

COUNTRY: Canada and Iran

LENGTH: 14:15

PRODUCER(S): Solmaz Mortezaavand, Alireza Kazempour

PRINCIPAL CAST: Marjan Alizadeh, Mehran Mirmiri, Hadi Eftekhazadeh

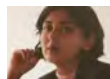


CHOICES AND CONSEQUENCES

There are No Children Here

DIRECTED BY SHEHREZADE MIAN

Sixteen year old Saima is excited to attend her cousins multi-day South Asian wedding with her family. While attending the dholki at her cousins house, Saima experiences a sudden, traumatic event, and she turns to the women in her life for guidance before the wedding the next day. What follows is the realization of what it means to be a woman in her world.



Shehrezade Mian is a director and producer from Pakistan who seeks to tell bold, unconventional stories that explore the human condition. As a director, Shehrezade is drawn to South Asian Muslim stories that tackle taboo subject matters in her community. She seeks to challenge audiences with her films, and believes that cinema can teach us something about ourselves, and about life.

As a creative producer, Mian was selected for the competitive Toronto International Film Festival x Netflix Talent Accelerator Fellowship and the European Audio Visual Entrepreneurs (EAVE) On Demand Access Program. In 2019, her feature film Concrete Valley was selected for Telefilm Canada's Talent to Watch program and is slated to premiere at the 2022 Toronto International Film Festival.

PREMIERE STATUS: TORONTO

LANGUAGE: English and Urdu

COUNTRY: Canada

RUNTIME: 15

PRODUCER(S): Shehrezade Mian

PRINCIPAL CAST: Pooja Bhandari, Harleen Uppal, Ishtiaq Seestani



CHOICES AND CONSEQUENCES

Unspoken Agreements

DIRECTED BY MARIANNA PHUNG

When Erin decides to post a provocative photo online, she and her partner, Asher, are forced to confront their own internalized ideas of what this means for their relationship. Unspoken Agreements is an inspection of how outdated gender norms and relationship expectations conflict with the emergence of social media.



Marianna Phung is a Toronto-based director, writer and actress of Vietnamese descent. She graduated from York University's Theatre Program, which is where she started honing her craft as a storyteller.

In 2018, she competed in Toronto's 48hour Film Challenge and out of 90+ teams, Marianna won "Best Director" for her film "May Flowers". The short was broadcasted on CBC's Canadian Reflections and is now streaming on CBC Gem.

More recently, Marianna directed national commercial spots for Bud Light, RBC and WestJet. She directed two episodes of "Ezra" (OUTtv) and is developing, "Intensive" her first feature.

PREMIERE STATUS: ONTARIO

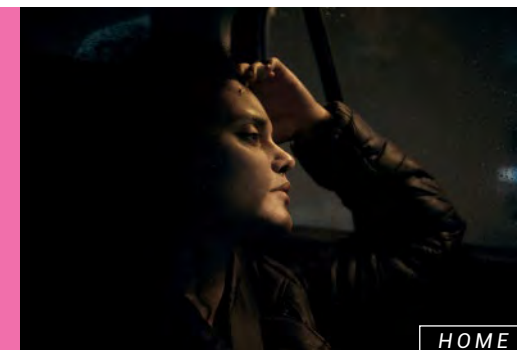
LANGUAGE: English

COUNTRY: Canada

LENGTH: 12:57

PRODUCER(S): David D'Lancy Wilson, Zenna Davis-Jones

PRINCIPAL CAST: Zenna Davis-Jones, David D'Lancy Wilson



HOME

Ahu

DIRECTED BY MAHSA RAZAVI

A studious international university student and a part-time bartender in Toronto must get the tenants' agreement to spray the bedbug-infested building while aching to help her neighbour trapped in an abusive relationship.



Mahsa Razavi is a Toronto-based filmmaker from Iran. Mahsa has written and directed films that have been supported by Canada, Ontario and Toronto Art Councils and showcased in numerous countries across the world. Mahsa is a TIFF 22 Talent Accelerator Fellow and is currently working on her first feature film, The River Will Carry Us.

PREMIERE STATUS: ONTARIO

LANGUAGE: English

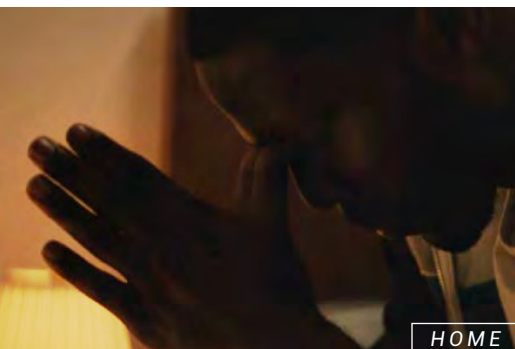
COUNTRY: Canada

RUNTIME: 13:36

CINEMATOGRAPHER:

PRODUCER(S): Mahsa Razavi

PRINCIPAL CAST: Nahema Ricci, Maria-Crystal Melo, Nick Hendrick, Natasha Fiorino and Ingunn Ombolt



I Live Here

DIRECTED BY TYLER MCKENZIE EVANS

A black university student named James attends a white-dominated school, he is one exam away from passing or failing his last class before graduation. James deals with romance, prejudice and racism and must come to terms with it all in this day in the life tale.



Tyler is a film director and screenwriter based in Mississauga, Ontario. During his childhood, he would go to the theatres weekly, which is where he discovered his love for storytelling and filmmaking.

PREMIERE STATUS: CANADIAN

GENRE:

LANGUAGE: English

COUNTRY: Canada

LENGTH: 10:40

CINEMATOGRAPHER:

PRODUCER(S): Malachi Ellis

PRINCIPAL CAST: Emidio Lopes, Bruce Novakowski, Rashaana Cumberbatch



I Remember the Footprint in the Snow

DIRECTED BY CAZHMERE DOWNEY

A mother and daughter re-address events in their past that have caused a disconnect in their present relationship through an honest, transparent conversation that reveals overlooked needs and vulnerabilities in them both.



Described by many as one of Canada's accomplished female music video directors having directed over 200 music videos for broadcast TV over the past 14 years. In 2010 she was the first female in over 7 years to be nominated for MuchMusic's coveted Director of the year award. The award-winning director has worked with artist Howie D and The Backstreet Boys, Snoop Dogg, Juicy J (Academy Award winner, Taylor Gang), Kardinal Offishall, Melanie Fiona (Universal republic), and many others. With her debut documentary film, "Deeply Rooted" under her belt, she is currently in post-production on two short films, developing an original series for TV, and is slated to complete her first feature-length film by 2021.

PREMIERE STATUS: ONTARIO

GENRE: Drama

LANGUAGE: English

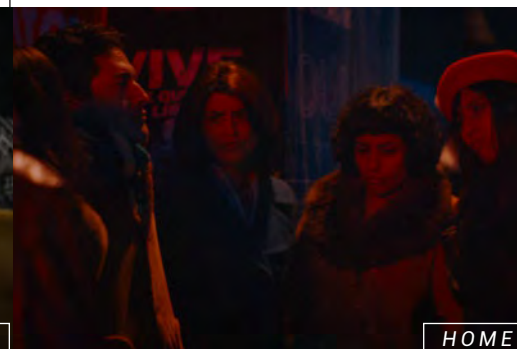
COUNTRY: Canada

LENGTH: 14.8

CINEMATOGRAPHER:

PRODUCERS: Temilola Adebayo, Kent Donguines

PRINCIPAL CAST: Nicole Nwokolo, Lisa Michelle Cornelius



Saturday Fuego Diablo

DIRECTED BY ANITA ABBASI

In 1981 Montreal, four Salvadoran siblings, new to Canada, seek distance from the uprisings occurring in their home country by hitting a night club, but it does not go as planned.



Anita Abbasi is a writer-director based in Montreal. Hailing from Pakistani & Salvadoran immigrant backgrounds, Anita's work explores diasporic identity, our desire to be loved and Western popular culture. Her short films include The Talent Scout, French Poutine, Mariah ¡qué baile!, Sinvergüenzilla in 'First Kiss' and Saturday Fuego Diablo.

PREMIERE STATUS: WORLD

LANGUAGE: Spanish, English, French, Tagalog

COUNTRY: Canada

LENGTH: 12:30

PRODUCER(S): Anita Abbasi, Murphy Diggon

PRINCIPAL CAST: Maria José Maldonado, Jessica Zepeda, Irma Villafuerte, César Lara



The Interview

DIRECTED BY MAGDI OMAR

What does it take to make it through an immigration interview? To answer all the questions correctly, to pass the test and be allowed through the golden gate and into the promised land.



An Egyptian Canadian filmmaker with a passion for telling stories about refugees, immigrants and those marginalized in society. Immigrated to Canada in 2013, works in production and VFX, made a few short films that were screened at various festivals and won the Rising Star Award at the Canada International Film Festival.

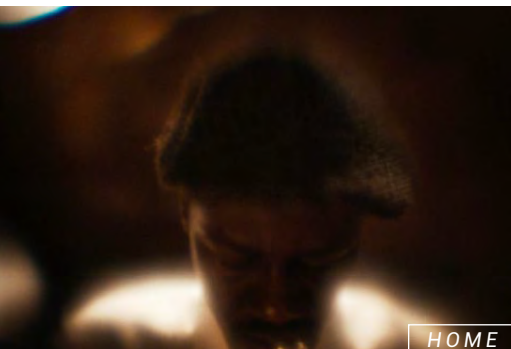
PREMIERE STATUS: CANADA

COUNTRY: Canada

RUNTIME: 3:15

PRODUCER(S): Josh Clavir, Magdi Omar

PRINCIPAL CAST: Kunta Muange, Shane Kelly, Faduma Mohamed, Mahmoud Khalifa

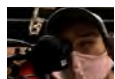


HOME

Viper

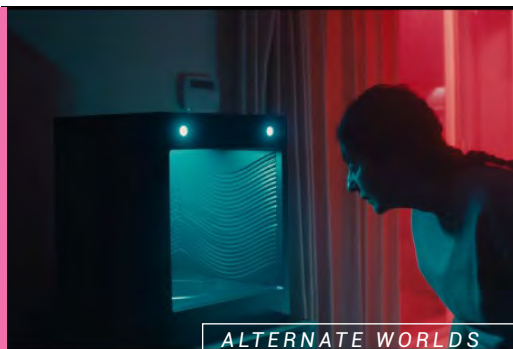
DIRECTED BY RAINE STEPHEN LEMAY

Viper is the story of Joe, a young jazz musician living in Vancouver's Hogan's Alley in the 1950's. Joe practically lives out of the neighbourhood's local jazz club with his band mates Ray, Danny, and Arnold. When they learn that the club is being torn down for a new overpass, the group must decide if they will abandon the joint or stand up for the place that they call home.



Raine LeMay is an emerging independent filmmaker from Vancouver BC, with a background in illustration, sculpting, and animation. Taking a particularly visual approach to filmmaking, he draws upon experimental and lyrical narrative techniques.

A recent graduate of Capilano University's Motion Picture Arts program with a Bachelor in Fine Arts, Raine continues to engage with the study and practice of film language and theory.

PREMIERE STATUS: WORLD**LANGUAGE:** English**COUNTRY:** Canada**RUNTIME:** 11:20**PRODUCERS:** Spencer Zimmerman, Raine Stephen LeMay**PRINCIPAL CAST:** Moses Wamukoya, Vern Winn, James R Baylis, Steeven K

ALTERNATE WORLDS

Mom vs Machine

DIRECTED BY TESH GUTTIKONDA

When Kamal's adult son introduces a 3D food-printing appliance into their home, it shatters her maternal identity and forces her to go on a journey to heal old wounds, rediscover herself, and literally battle the machine.



Tesh Guttikonda is a filmmaker born in India, raised in Canada. His formative years of exploring different cultures and landscapes around the world shape his diverse filmmaking style. Since discovering his passion for filmmaking Tesh has worn many hats, writing, producing, directing, and editing several short films, and music videos which have gained traction around the world. Tesh established his production company Kalpana Films with the mandate to branch out and create empowering, diverse stories that bring people together.

PREMIERE STATUS: ONTARIO**LANGUAGE:** English**COUNTRY:** Canada**RUNTIME:** 14:15**PRODUCERS:** Praneet Akilla, Kashif Pasta, Shyam Valera**PRINCIPAL CAST:** Nimet Kanji, Praneet Akilla, Balinder Johal, Rhona Rees

ALTERNATE WORLDS

OMI

DIRECTED BY

A father-son fishing trip is unexpectedly flipped.



Kelly Fyffe-Marshall is making impactful films about the expansiveness of Blackness. The award-winning director's distinct visual style has afforded her name to be woven into the tapestry of Canada's film landscape garnering recognition from TIFF, Sundance and the Canadian Academy of Film and Television. Using the medium to challenge negative depictions of Black people across the diaspora, her work has been praised for its innovation and how it translates into social change. For Fyffe-Marshall that change is made possible through her award-winning films Haven, Marathon, Black Bodies and OMI. She is currently in development for her sophomore feature OMI with 20th Century Digital and Hulu.

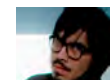
PREMIERE STATUS: CANADA**GENRE:** Horror/Thriller**LANGUAGE:** English**COUNTRY:** Canada**RUNTIME:** 2:40**CINEMATOGRAPHER:** Bryn McCashin**PRODUCER(S):** Tamar Bird**EDITOR:** Michael Ofori-Attah**PRINCIPAL CAST:** Kheon Clarke, Denzel Onaba, Nasaphone Jansen, Donisha Prendergast

ALTERNATE WORLDS

Out of This World

DIRECTED BY JERRY WOLF

When Jake, a young astronaut, crash lands on a strange new planet, he will need the help of an alien friend in order to survive.



Jerry Wolf is a Screenwriter and Film Director of biracial Waywayseecappo First Nations and Vietnamese descent. He's a graduate of the Toronto Film School. Wolf discovered a passion for working with young performers in 2017 when he was hired to work as videomaker for a children's performance arts studio in London, Ontario.

He formed CINETHETICA as a boutique production company collaborating with 20+ actors, dancers, and musicians to undertake this project and along the way has written and directed 15+ short narrative films. His recent film "Spookwood" has been screened at Skoden Indigenous Festival, Caribbean Tales International Film Festival, and the Aniskabi Film Festival (to name a few).

He resides in Woodstock, Ontario where he continues to develop WE ARE NOT THE MONSTERS and other film/tv projects.

PREMIERE STATUS:**LANGUAGE:** English**COUNTRY:** Canada**RUNTIME:** 11:46**PRODUCER(S):** Jerry Wolf, Shyam Valera**PRINCIPAL CAST:** Ashton Ayres, Isla Finkenzeller, Aren Ayres



PB&J

DIRECTED BY RICHARD LEE

Ben Tong is a virtual savant. In the virtual world he is unmatched, but in life he is can barely manage to exist. One day he meets Daisy an insistent and vibrant woman who wants nothing more than for Ben to live in the real world.



A first time film maker, **Richard** is an award winning Actor, Fight Director, Sound Designer and Theatre Maker. His incredible work has garnered him numerous theatre awards and nominations. Richard is an advocate of diversity in the arts, and works to share his vision of an inclusive and generous Community.

PREMIERE STATUS: ONTARIO

LANGUAGE: English

COUNTRY: Canada

RUNTIME: 11:48

PRODUCER(S): Richard Lee, Sarah Miller

PRINCIPAL CAST: Jeff Yung, Rosie Simon



Peace Pipeline

DIRECTED BY GITZ CRAZYBOY
AND TITO YBARRA

Comedians and activists Gitz Crazyboy and Tito Ybarra pose as a indigenous energy company sharing plans to reroute Enbridge's Line 3 pipeline through the wealthy white suburbs of Duluth, MN, to more fairly share the risks oil pipelines bring to indigenous lands—with shocking and hilarious results.



Gitz Crazyboy is a Denesuthine and Siksikaitsitapi (Blackfoot) activist and youth worker who de-colonizes indigenous studies and teaches the history of Canada's indigenous population. Working on reservations in rural areas and in cities, he educates on the destructive nature of the development of the Tar Sands. He is an author ("The Secret of the Stars"), an actor (credits include the Darren Aronofsky film "Mother!") and an impresario (he hosted an episode of VICE's "Rise," and played both himself and a comic fictional character in "The Yes Men Are Revolting").

Tito Ybarra is an Anishinaabe and Mexican comedian, pow-wow singer, actor and activist. He is well known in Indian Country for his stand-up, and he has appeared in the TV series "United Shades of America," the film "Injunuity," and he played both himself and a comic fictional character in "The Yes Men Are Revolting." He has also been featured on Funny or Die, and has worked with legendary Native sketch comedy troupe the 1491s. <https://www.youtube.com/user/TitoComedy>

PREMIERE STATUS: CANADA

GENRE: Comedy

LANGUAGE: English

COUNTRY: Canada

RUNTIME: 24:23

PRODUCER(S): Igor Vamos, Keil Orion Troisi, Winona LaDuke and The Yes Men

PRINCIPAL CAST: Gitz Crazyboy, Tito Ybarra, Andy Bichlbaum



Vitamin

DIRECTED BY NATALIA ARANGUREN,
YEIMY DAZA

It was supposed to be another fun girl night out but Hannah and Sarah take an altered ecstasy drug that transformed reality into a nightmare. Friendship, envy and insecurities shroud Hannah's mind making her experience a roller coaster of emotions that she doesn't want to be a part of.



Yeimy and Natalia are a combo of Latinamerican content creators. Yeimy is a Director and Natalia is an actor. These Colombians met at the Toronto Film School, where they worked for the first time in Yeimy's short film 'POLY.' They built a strong friendship and work team, which took them to get recognized as, Yeimy - Best Director and Natalia - Best Female Performance at the TFS award in 2019. VITAMIN was their second project together and will premier at the ReelWorld Film Festival 2022. Since then, Yeimy and Natalia have continued collaborating and producing multiple projects.

PREMIERE STATUS: WORLD

GENRE: Drama

LANGUAGE: English, Spanish

COUNTRY: Canada

RUNTIME: 8:57

PRODUCERS: Amir Nouri, Artem Mykhailetskyi

PRINCIPAL CAST: Natalia Aranguren, Carolina Lopez



Blazing a Trail in Canada

We are honored to support Reelworld in their mission to build a more diverse community of creatives in the film industry. Congratulations to all those selected for this year's edition.



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ACTORS | AUTHORS | SCREENWRITERS | DIRECTORS | KEY CREATIVES

2022 Reelworld Jurors

Reelworld is proud to continually support and recognize the achievements of its films and filmmakers. Each year Reelworld presents festival awards selected by a jury of industry leaders. We thank our 2022 jurors for their time in selecting this year's recipients.



HOWARD ADLER
Co-Founder/Director/
Programmer,
Asinabka Festival



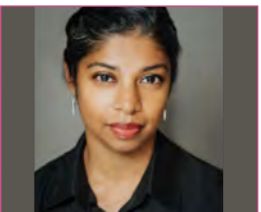
TJ CUTHAND
Experimental/
Narrative Filmmaker



DAVID CORMICAN
President, David
Cormican Television
& Head of Production
Oversight Film - Mogul
Productions



PHIL PLANTA
Filmmaker,
Film Instructor,
VFX Artist



NICOLE MENDES
VP, Scripted
Development,
Lark Productions



PEDRO DIAZ
Director,
Translator

Reelworld Festival Awards

This year Reelworld Film Festival is proud to present two of the largest cash awards in our 22-year history: \$25,000 for Outstanding Feature Film and \$10,000 for Outstanding Short Film.

We would like to thank DGC National, WIFT-Toronto, Entertainment Partners Canada, Chargefield, AstroLab Studios, Asian Television Network and Lenz Rental for their generous contributions towards these awards. Last but not least, we appreciate all the audience members who rate the films they watch and contribute to the selection of the Reelworld Audience Choice Award. To see the full list of all the award categories, click [here](#). To see the full list of all the award categories, click [here](#).



**AUDIENCE CHOICE AWARD
FOR FEATURE FILM**

FEATURES

Outstanding Actress
Outstanding Actor
Outstanding Director
Outstanding Writer
Outstanding Cinematographer
Outstanding Producer - Feature
Outstanding Feature Film



SHORT

Outstanding Actress
Outstanding Actor
Outstanding Director
Outstanding Writer
Outstanding Cinematographer
Outstanding Producer - Short Film
Outstanding Short Film

2022 Reelworld Trailblazers

Each year the Trailblazer Awards recognize outstanding achievements by racially diverse professionals in the Canadian media and entertainment industry. These 6 remarkable individuals inspire others and blaze a trail of excellence through their constant efforts to improve and diversify our vibrant film and television industry.



JORGE CAMAROTTI | PHOTOGRAPHER AND DIRECTOR

Born in a working-class family in Sao Paulo, Brazil. In 2003, Jorge moved to Montreal, where he pursued a career as a professional photographer and then as filmmaker.

His most recent project *Ousmane* had its world premiere at TIFF 2021 followed by an international premiere at the prestigious Clermont-Ferrand festival in 2022. *Ousmane* has also been nominated for Best Live Action Film at the 2022 Canadian Screen Awards. Recently *Ousmane* won the "Best Drama" award at the prestigious Aspen Shortsfest, qualifying it for a pre-selection for the Oscars®.

Besides working as a mentor for aspiring BIPOC filmmakers, Jorge is now working on his first feature film, *Edith*.



SONYA CAREY | ANIMATOR

Sonya has a name for herself in technical animation over 25 years which included running her own animation studio, Portfolio Entertainment.

Carey is the founder and lead trainer of The Animation Lounge which is helping aspiring animators refine their skills, and preparing them to work in a professional studio setting.

Majoring in Drama she began to shape her career as a technical artist focusing on lighting and sound. After graduating she moved to Los Angeles and took an interest in animation. She taught herself and then landed her first job, as a compositor on the "Ren and Stimpy" show which launched her career. Her list of credits include Disney's "The Princess and the Frog", "The Proud Family Movie", and "Winnie the Pooh".



KELLY FYFFE-MARSHALL | DIRECTOR AND SCREENWRITER

Kelly Fyffe-Marshall is making impactful films about the expansiveness of Blackness. The award-winning director's distinct visual style has afforded her name to be woven into the tapestry of Canada's film landscape garnering recognition from TIFF, Sundance and the Canadian Academy of Film and Television.

Using the medium to challenge negative depictions of Black people across the diaspora, her work has been praised for its innovation and how it translates into social change. Her most notable work includes: *Haven* (18), *Black Bodies* (20), *OMI* (22) and her debut feature *When Morning Comes* premiering at TIFF 22.

Inspired by the textured lives Black people across the diaspora lead, Fyffe-Marshall is making space for a myriad of Blackness on screens.



SHANT JOSHI | PRODUCER

Shant Joshi is a queer Indo-Canadian producer based in Los Angeles and Toronto. His credits include the films *Framing Agnes* (Sundance, NEXT Audience Award, NEXT Innovator Award), *International Dawn Chorus Day* (Berlin, TEDDY Award Winner), *Porcupine Lake* (Toronto), and *Noor & Layla* (BlackStar); the hit web series *Teenagers* (CSAs); and the Dekkoo original series, *I'm Fine* (Outfest). Shant co-founded the Future of Film Showcase as a launchpad for emerging Canadian filmmakers, and he previously worked at the United Talent Agency, Buchwald, and Lit Entertainment Group (fka Madhouse Entertainment). He is an alum of the Producers Lab at the Canadian Film Centre, holds a Certificate in Entertainment Law from Osgoode Hall Law School, and was named York University's inaugural Top 30 Changemakers under 30.

Shant is currently Vice-Chair on the Board of Directors at BIPOC TV & Film, a sitting member of the Restructuring, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (REDI) Action Committee at the Canadian Media Producers Association, and sits on the Advisory Board at the Future of Film Showcase.



BARBARA KA YEE LEE | FOUNDER & PRESIDENT - VANCOUVER ASIAN FILM FESTIVAL

Barbara Lee has spent over twenty-five years as a community advocate for Canadian Asian artists in mainstream music, film, tv and media. She is the Founder of the Vancouver Asian Film Festival (VAFF). Canada's oldest Asian film festival, Racial Equity Screen Office (RESO) and EliminateHate.org. Barbara is also a writer and independent filmmaker and has worked as a broadcast journalist receiving the national Radio and Television News Directors' Association (RTNDA) Award for Best Editorial in 1998. Her film "Between the Laughter" was one of the National Film Board's REELDIVERSITY 2004 winners. She is currently finishing her personal music documentary *SING MY SONG* and her horror script.



JOEL OULETTE | TITLE

Joel Oulette is Red River Métis and Swampy Cree, born and raised from Medicine Hat, Alberta.

He is an actor, stuntman, and Indigenous wellness advocate. Having grown up acting, dancing and modeling, Joel, has always been an active storyteller. He landed his first lead at 7 years old for a short film called "Perseverance".

In 2021, he was nominated for a Canadian Screen Award for "Best Actor in a Lead Role" for CBC's popular, "Trickster". Joel was only 17 years old at the time of filming. He went on to act in 'Cascade', Family Channel's, "Ruby and the Well", "Unpopular Girl" and most recently, Netflix's "Avatar the Last Airbender".

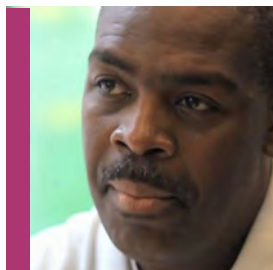
Joel wants to continue to use his multiple talents to further Indigenous representation and inclusion within the film and television industry.

2022 Reelworld Visionary Award Recipients

Each year Reelworld honours individuals whose work, passion and determination has made a significant contribution to Canadian film, television and media. Their dedication has opened doors for diverse artists and forever changed the Canadian entertainment landscape.

REELSPEAK
WITH THE VISIONARY

WATCH ON YOUTUBE
TUES. OCT. 18 | 5:30PM
<https://www.reelworld.ca/2022-visionary>



NICK DAVIS

Executive Director, Equity & Inclusion, CBC, English Services at CBC

Nicholas Davis is an accomplished journalist and writer. He's currently the Executive Director of Equity and Inclusion at CBC. Previous to that he was Manager of Program Development for CBC, where he was responsible for the ongoing development of local programming in radio, television and online.

Nick has worked in radio, television and print for the past 33 years covering everything from current affairs to the arts. He has won many awards for his journalism, including a 2006 Gabriel for a story he did on Holly Jones. He's worked at CBC for the past 23 years as a reporter and producer — most notably as Senior Producer for Metro Morning, where Nick was part of the team that made the program the number one morning show in Toronto.

Nick has published and edited magazines, been a crime reporter, hosted TV and radio programs. He has covered two Olympic Games (Nagano and Sydney) and has taught radio skills to new journalists across the country for CBC. He's also lectured on journalism at Ryerson University, Seneca College, Sheridan College and Centennial College.

2022 Reelworld Award of Excellence

The Award of Excellence honours Canadian industry leaders whose creative excellence over decades has impacted the representation of Canada's diversity positively nationally and internationally.

REELSPEAK WITH THE
AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

WATCH ON YOUTUBE
TUES. OCT. 18 | 4:30PM
<https://www.reelworld.ca/2022-excellence>



**JENNIFER
PODEMSKI**

Director and Producer


Jennifer Podemski is an award winning Film and Television Producer and Actor born and raised in Toronto, Canada. By 25, and a solid career under her belt, Jennifer opened her first production company, Big Soul Productions with fellow, burgeoning, producer Laura Milliken.

BSP became the first Aboriginal owned and operated, full service production company in Canada, producing hundreds of hours of television including three seasons of the award winning Dramatic Series Moccasin Flats for Showcase and APTN.

In 2005, Jennifer branched out on her own and founded Redcloud Studios Inc.

She is most proud of her starring role in her own film Empire of Dirt for which she was nominated for two Canadian Screen Awards for Best Actress in a Supporting Role as well as Best Feature Film for her work as producer.

A storyteller behind and in front of the camera, Jennifer still makes time for training aboriginal youth in film and tv, mentoring and holding self esteem workshops across the US and Canada.



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The Directors Guild of Canada is dedicated to advancing the creative, economic and workplaces rights of all Canadian directors.

- Fair compensation & workplace protection
- Health insurance & retirement benefits
- Dozens of screenings & networking events
- Preferred rates on production insurance
- Advocating for funding & support
- Annual awards gala

Live Industry Panels

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2022

LOCATION: ROGERS COMMUNICATIONS INC, (333 BLOOR ST E)



ROGERS Group of Funds

"Your Perfect Pitch Package!"

Presented by Rogers Group of Funds / 11am - 12pm ET

What should be in a great package? Do you understand your project to format it for the correct funder? Hear from these top executives on how to capture their attention for those coveted funds.

OPENING REMARKS: Sharon Hinds (2 mins) **PANEL STARTS AT 11:02** Panel Discussion (38 mins) **AUDIENCE QUESTIONS** (17mins) **WRAP UP** (3mins)

MODERATOR:



Fenella Bruce
Media Consultant & Producer, FKB Media

PANELISTS:



L-R | Robin Mirsky, Executive Director, Rogers Group of Fund; **Jon Taylor**, CEO of Independent Production Fund; **Suzanne Lacey**, Deputy Director, English Canada, Bell Fund



EVENT BRITE LINK | <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/2022-reelworld-industry-panel-your-perfect-pitch-package-tickets-429739712047>

"Producing Live Unscripted/Variety Shows"

Presented by Canada Media Fund (CMF) / 12:30 - 1:30pm ET



More in demand than ever before the Unscripted/Variety genre is on the rise. Blending performance art, live music and comedy, these shows give producers a unique opportunity to bring artists from different disciplines together. Learn how the CMF can support producers and creators interested in working in this field.

PANEL INTRODUCTION (5 MIN) Discussion (40 mins) **CLIPS FOR PANEL** (5 mins) **AUDIENCE QUESTIONS** (10 mins)

MODERATOR:

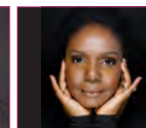


Sholeh Alemi Fabbri
Founder & Producer, Good Measure Productions

PANELISTS:



L-R | Marcia Douglas, Director, English Content, International and Export, CMF; **Jessica Lea Fleming**, Director Growth & Inclusion, CMF; **Ngozi Paul**, Creator & Producer of FreeUP!; **Maya Annik Bedward**, Director on LIDO TV



EVENT BRITE LINK | <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/2022-reelworld-industry-panel-producing-live-unscripted-shows-tickets-429744947707>

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2022

"Responsible Storytelling"

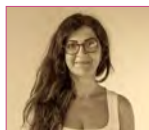
Presented by Directors Guild of Canada National / 2pm - 3pm ET



In our current climate, there's important stories being created that deal with traumatic experiences or disasters. How do you navigate with the sensitivity required to do the story justice when it's a culture you might be one step removed from? How do filmmakers handle these projects with the required care even when they are from the same ethnic group. This discussion will touch upon the responsibilities of Diasporic Canadians directors telling authentic stories.

MODERATOR:**PANELISTS:**

Elizabeth Mudeno
Poet, Community-based Artist & Arts Manager



L-R | Noura Kevorkian, Director of *Batata*; Min Bae, Director of *Reset*; Brishkay Ahmed, Director of *In the Rumbling Belly of Motherland*



EVENT BRITE LINK | <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/2022-reelworld-industry-panel-responsible-storytelling-tickets-429747425117>

**Launch of Racial Equity Media Collective
Community Mapping report**

Presented by Telefilm / Co-presented by REMC, BIPOC Film & TV and Reelworld Screen Institute / Panel at 3:30pm



How are Black, Indigenous, People of Colour who run production companies and media non-profits managing in these stressful times? The last two years have been break or make it years and companies and organizations from racially diverse communities have suffered the most. This enlightening report shines a spotlight on how under-resourced these companies and organizations are and we will discuss what our industry needs to strengthen this sector.

MODERATOR:**PANELISTS:**

Lisa Valencia-Svensson
Executive Director, REMC



L-R | Amar Wala, Filmmaker, Founding Board Member REMC; Kadon Douglas, Executive Director, BIPOC TV & Film; Tonya Williams, Executive Director, Reelworld Screen Institute



EVENT BRITE LINK | <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/launch-of-racial-equity-media-collective-community-mapping-report-tickets-429752058977>

MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2022 (VIRTUAL)

ONLINE
PANELS
**"Being Seen: How to Create More Authentic Content
that Resonates with Viewers"**

Presented by Black Screen Office (BSO) / 12pm - 1pm ET



The industry is abuzz about BSO's ground-breaking report *Being Seen: Directives for Creating Inclusive and Authentic Content*. In this session, participants learn what is missing for audiences in screen content now, why this matters, and what the industry can do--whether behind the camera, in the writers' room or from within a C-suite--to create content that resonates with more Canadians.

PRESENTATION BY:

L-R | Kelly Lynne Ashton, Lead Researcher 'Being Seen'; Kai Little-White, Writer, Producer

EVENT BRITE LINK | <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/being-seenhow-to-create-more-authentic-content-that-resonates-with-viewers-tickets-429771838137>

"Talent to Watch: New Changes, New Opportunities for YOU!"

Presented by Telefilm Canada / 1:30pm



Telefilm's Talent to Watch program has undergone new changes to their guidelines to reflect the needs of emerging diverse directors. Join Telefilm Representatives to find out how these changes can affect you and how Reelworld's opening night director, Jason Karman leveraged his TTW fund to create a winning film.

MODERATOR:**PANELISTS:**

Fabrice Ravier
Inclusion Initiatives Advisor and Investment Analyst, Business Affairs, Telefilm Canada



L-R | Peggy Lainis, Regional Feature Film Executive - Quebec, English Market, Telefilm Canada; Jason Karman, Director of Golden Delicious; Gorman Lee, Writer of Golden Delicious



EVENT BRITE LINK | <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/2022-reelworld-telefilm-talent-to-watch-new-changes-virtual-panel-tickets-431220852177>

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2022 (VIRTUAL)

“There's a Song for Every Scene”: Tips for finding the right music for every production”

Sponsored by Music Publishers Canada / 12pm-1pm ET



Finding the right music is a craft in itself and sometimes even seasoned filmmakers can underestimate the value of incorporating music supervisors and composers earlier in the development stage. Join us as Music Publishers Canada breaks down the steps to developing collaborations and finding music regardless of your budget.

MODERATOR:

Kim Temple
Senior Manager of Industry & Member Relations, Music Publishers Canada

PANELISTS:

L-R | **Denise De'ion**, Producer, Artist, Songwriter & Composer; **Kaya Pino**, Music Supervisor; **Rich Brisson**, Creative Sync & Licensing, Manager, Cadence Music Group; **Darren Fung**, Composer, Stinky Rice Studios

EVENT BRITE LINK | <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/2022-reelworld-virtual-panel-music-publishers-canada-tickets-431241002447>

“Creating a Successful Team”

Sponsored by Independent Production Fund / 1:30-2:30pm ET

IPF

Join the creators of *Streams Flow from a River* and *The Drop* as they discuss their process of finding collaborators, securing funding and executing their visions. Moderated by Mark Shapland, learn how the Independent Production Fund supports emerging directors from funding to production.

MODERATOR:

Mark Shapland
Associate Manager & Climate Lens Facilitator, IPF

PANELISTS:

L-R | **Christopher Yip**, Director of *Streams Flow From a River*; **Shant Joshi**, Producer of *Streams Flow From a River*; **Aisha Evelyn**, Director of *The Drop*; **Dani Pagliarello**, Producer of *The Drop*

EVENT BRITE LINK | <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/2022-reelworld-virtual-panel-creating-a-successful-team-tickets-431245044537>



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Éditeurs de Musique au Canada

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2022 Reelworld Mixers

Tuesday, October 11, 2022 - Online

12:30PM ET - Distributors Mixer

This mixer is by invite only where filmmakers will have the opportunity to connect directly with buyers, distributors and acquisitions people to talk about your films.

Wednesday, October 12, 2022 In-person

11:00AM - Filmmakers Brunch

Thursday, October 13, 2022 - In-person

9:00AM - Industry & Filmmakers Sit-down Breakfast

This sit-down breakfast is for all filmmakers to meet the Industry stakeholders and senior leaders from many of the sponsoring organizations at the Reelworld Film Festival.

4:00PM - A Shorts Filmmakers Mixer at The Paradise Cinema (1006 Bloor St. W, Toronto, ON)

A great opportunity for filmmakers to mingle with your fellow short filmmakers at the festival. Also your opportunity to meet with web-series and shorts buyers and funders.

Friday, October 14, 2022 - Free in-person Industry Panels

9:00AM - Reelworld Peer to Peer Networking Breakfast
at Rogers Communications (333 Bloor St E., Toronto, ON)
(invite-only)

This in-person breakfast is for all filmmakers to meet the participants of the 2022 Reelworld programs, including: screenwriters from the E20 Program, television producers from the Reelworld Producer Program and Reelworld Producer Accelerator, and agents, casting directors, managers and film producers from the Reelworld Black Entrepreneurs Program.

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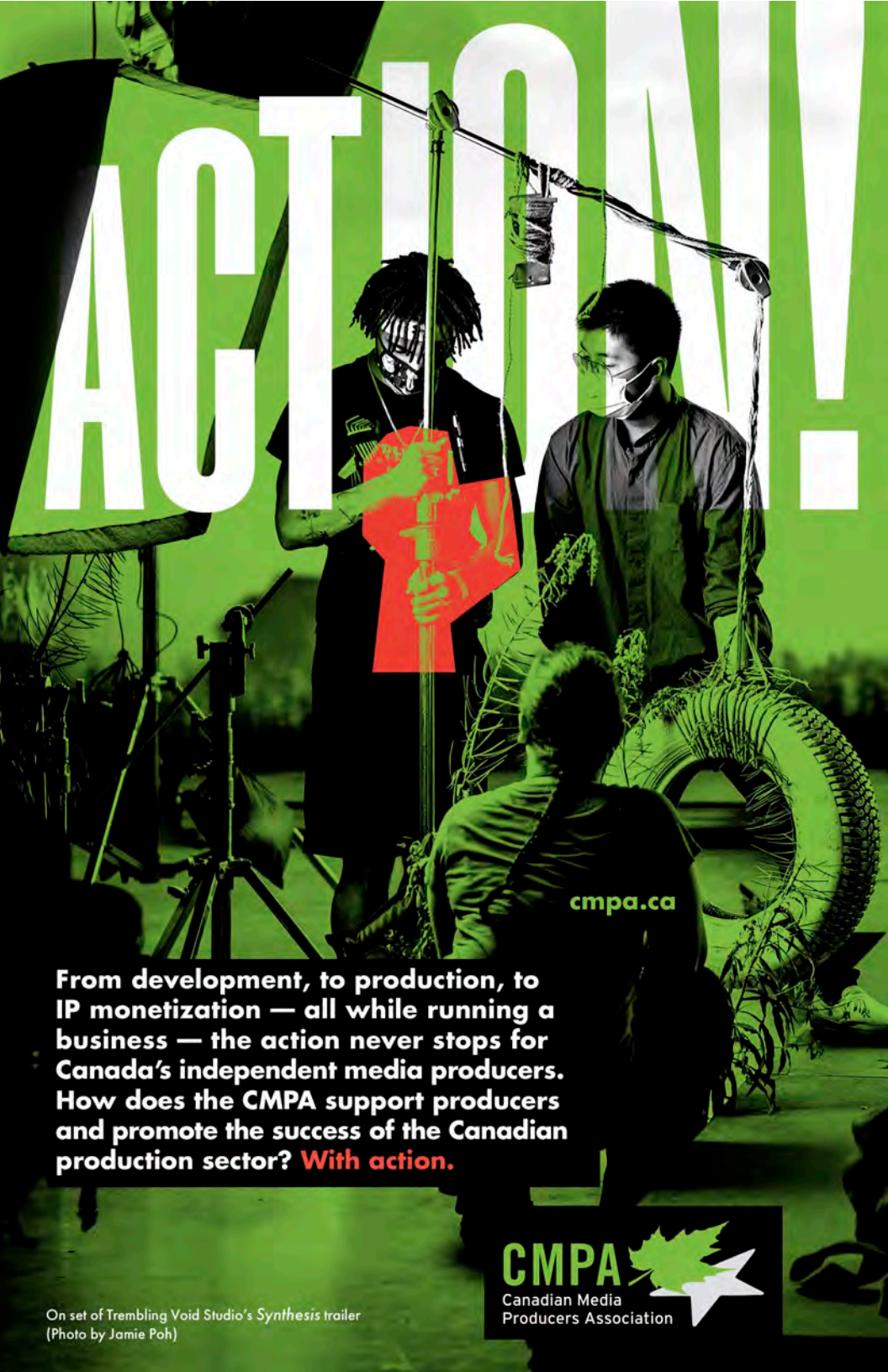
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Toronto

Montreal



From development, to production, to IP monetization — all while running a business — the action never stops for Canada's independent media producers. How does the CMPA support producers and promote the success of the Canadian production sector? **With action.**



On set of Trembling Void Studio's *Synthesis* trailer
(Photo by Jamie Poh)

**Bell
FUND**

Shreya Patel

Founder, Window Dreams Productions

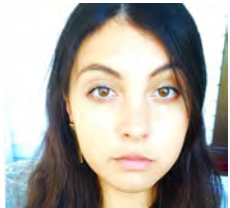
- ▶ Reelworld Emerging 20 Program Participant (2021)
- ▶ Bell Fund Slate Development Recipient (2022)

Bell Fund is a proud supporter of the Reelworld Film Festival and its commitment to emerging creators.



2022 Reelworld Emerging 20 Program

The Reelworld Emerging 20 Program is dedicated to helping screenwriters from racialized backgrounds propel their careers forward. The program is split into two streams - features and series. Participants have the opportunity to undergo a comprehensive screenwriting program, where they can develop their screenwriting skills and learn about the industry and entertainment business from seasoned professionals, in addition to working together with a paired story editor to develop their projects.



EVA GRANT
Project: Entity



ABDUL MALIK
Project: Infidels



IVAN OSSA
Project: Untitled Feature Film



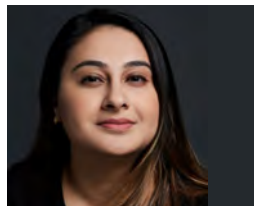
SHIRLEY YIP
Project: Orchid Dream



JOUV DARL
Project: Holy Vamps



ARSHAD KHAN
Project: Sana's Basement Beauty Solutions



RABIYA MANSOOR
Project: Queer Guide To Matchmaking



MAHLENA RAE-JOHNSON
Project: Welcome To Elle

FILM



KOSA AKARIWE
Project: No Medals



EMMA CHEUK
Project: Late Bloomer



QASEEM FAZAL
Project: The Family Value



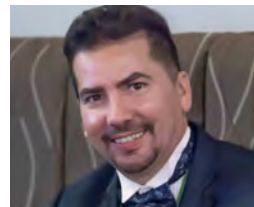
SINA SULTANI
Project: Trace



LEANNE-WANG
Project: A Family of Three



JERRY WOLF
Project: We Are Not The Monsters



DANIEL FOREMAN
Project: Daughters of the Wolf



SHAKIL JESSA
Project: Bad Influence



DIANE JOHNSTONE
Project: Desperate Church Wives



MOSTAFA SHAKER
Project: Finding Farida



MEGHAN SWABY
Project: Higher Marks



PREETI TORUL
Project: Demons



Reelworld Producer Program

The Reelworld Producer Program is a year-long curriculum that provides mentoring and learning opportunities, and creates pathways to build a career as a producer in the television industry. The program candidates will be immersed in the business side of the Canadian entertainment field. After choosing a project, under a mentor, they will learn valuable skills such as creating a corporation, retaining intellectual property rights, choosing and optioning scripts, creating deal memos, choosing key creatives and casting directors, plus much more.

2022 Reelworld Producers



DAVID
ANDERSON



LANRE
AJAYI



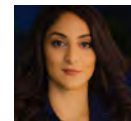
KENT
DONGUINES



SEN
KATPAGANATHAN



VANESSA
MITCHELL



PANTA
MOSLEH



NIJITH
RAJU



ALICIA
RAMDEO



LADAN
SIAD



JOHN TAN



RUA WANI

If you identify as Black, Indigenous, Asian, South Asian or any Person of Colour don't miss the opportunity to become a Producer through the Reelworld Producer's Program, presented by Bell Media. Those selected for the program will learn the business side of the Canadian entertainment industry in an immersive one year program. Producer trainees will choose a project and mentor under key professionals to learn valuable skills such as creating a corporation, retaining intellectual property rights, choosing and optioning scripts, creating deal memos, choosing key creatives, casting directors, and more.

Applications will open at the end of October.

Jump start your producing career.

Apply to the

Reelworld Producers Program

presented by Bell Media.

www.Reelworld.ca

BellMedia



Reelworld Producer Accelerator

The Reelworld Producer Accelerator Program is a year-long curriculum that provides support to the 2021 producers to continue to develop their projects optioned last year.

The 2021 Reelworld Producers went through an intensive 12-month program - meeting with over 40 mentors, attending Banff for pitches and networking, and TIFF so they could broaden their circle of contacts. With many receiving Letters of interest to access development funds and producing other projects on their slate, Reelworld will continue to support their process.

2022 Accelerator Producers



THEA LOO



JOSE
HOLDER



YUSUF ALVI



OMATTA
UDALOR



VANESSA
CACERES



DILANI
RABINDRAN



LEENA
MINIFIE



MARGARET
LEWIS



UMANG
ANTARIKSH
SAGAR



SONYA LEE



MANSA
CHINTOH



RIGNAM
WANGKHANG

NBCUniversal

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REELWORLD



Reelworld Black Entrepreneurs Program

The Reelworld Black Entrepreneurs Program for Black casting directors, agents, managers, and producers in Canada. Currently underway, the selected participants are completing 8 months of training, apprenticeship, and consultation with business advisors. The program focuses on Black Canadians who are looking to build their own businesses as casting directors, agents, managers and producers and takes the participants through structuring a company for success while training them in the key areas of strategic planning, finance, human resources, marketing and sales.

We acknowledge the support of the Government of Canada through the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario for making this program possible and look forward to welcoming the second cohort in 2023.

Agents



JENNIFER
IRONS



TSENU
ZELLEKE



GLEND
A CLARKE



CARA
DOUGLAS



TSHOLO
KHELEMA



RACHEL
OSBOURNE

Casting Directors

Film Producers



AUDRA GRAY



LOUIS
MERCIER



CHIBIE
OKOYE

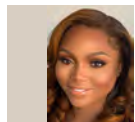


KEDA EDWARDS
PIERRE



SHELDON
SHAW

Managers



ABBY
AYOOLA



JESSICA
CARTER



KATRINA
LOPES

 **ROGERS**
Documentary Fund

 **ROGERS**
Cable Network Fund

 **ROGERS**
Telefund

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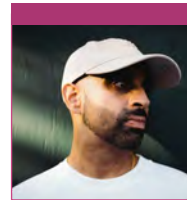
shaftesbury.ca



Level UP Program

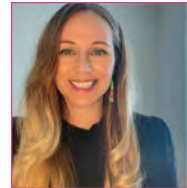
Level UP 2 is a paid on-the-ground experience developed in partnership with Rogers Sports & Media, Shaftesbury and Pope Productions for Canadian writers and directors. We are now in year 2 of this program as well. Selected writers spend four weeks working remotely in the virtual writers' room of City TV's hit show Hudson & Rex, and one week on set. The chosen directors shadow a director on the Hudson & Rex set for four weeks and participate in production meetings with the various departments.

Directors



REZA DAHYA

Known for co-hosting / co-producing OTA Live on FLOW 93.5 FM, Reza is also an alumnus of the CFC Director's Lab. He recently secured Canadian distribution for his debut feature film, BOXCUTTER, through Game Theory Films with hopes of shooting in the summer of 2023 in Toronto.



LATONIA HARTERY

Latonia is a filmmaker from Bay D'Espoir on Newfoundland's south coast. Her documentary work includes directing segments of CBC series such as Paper Cuts, Keeping Canada Alive, and Art Hurts. She also co-produced and co-directed the feature film Hopeless Romantic. A key part of her arts practice is mentoring Indigenous artists in the NL film industry for the St. John's International Women's Film Festival's Framed documentary program.

Writers



SALEEM NAWAZ

Saleema Nawaz's most recent novel is Songs for the End of the World, which was an instant national bestseller and named a Book of the Year by the Globe and Mail, Quill & Quire, and 49th Shelf. She is also the author of the novel Bone and Bread and the short-story collection Mother Superior.



RYAN ATIMOYOO

Ryan is an Indigenous screenwriter filmmaker from Little Pine Reserve, Sk and currently resides in Vancouver. He holds an MFA in Screenwriting from UBC and is a recent grad of the Pacific Screenwriting Program. He has also recently finished a role as a script coordinator for Netflix's "Grendel" S1.



Check Out The Amazing Opportunities At Reelworld!

The **Reelworld Emerging 20**, the longest running program at Reelworld now in its 21st year (fondly referred to as the E20 Program) is a writers program tailored to support emerging writers into two specific areas: Series and Film. Designed to hone pitching skills and develop a network, the program offers an excellent opportunity for participants to work with story editors and industry professionals.

The **Reelworld Producer Program**, is a year-long curriculum dedicated to developing producers. Mentoring and learning opportunities help racially diverse participants towards optioning a project, creating a pitch package, and getting it into development and onto a broadcast or streaming platform.

The **Reelworld Producer Accelerator Program** continues with the participants of the Reelworld Producer Program working to further their slate of content and advance their careers in Canadian television .

The **Meridian Artists Apprenticeship** offers a 4-week paid mentorship-training, where the apprentice sees first hand how a service agency functions. Developed in partnership with Meridian Artists.

Level UP is a paid on-the-ground experience developed in partnership with Rogers Sports & Media, Shaftesbury and Pope Productions for Canadian writers and directors. Selected writers spend four weeks working remotely in the virtual writers' room of City TV's hit show Hudson & Rex, and one week on set. The chosen directors shadow a director on the Hudson & Rex set for four weeks and participate in production meetings with the various departments.

The **Reelworld Hollywood Connector Program** is an ongoing initiative between the Consulate General of Canada to the United States, in Los Angeles and Reelworld Screen Institute. Held over two days, the program facilitates long-lasting relationships between Canadian-based talent and LA-based producers and executives.

Reelworld **Where TO Start** Workshops are for Canadian Black, Indigenous, Asian, South Asian, and People of Colour who want to explore entering into film and television through one of the many roles needed in a production. Past Reelworld workshops include Art Department in Partnership with the DGC Ontario, Location Management with the City of Toronto, and Costume Department with Nabet 700-M UNIFOR.

Reelworld Screen Institute's **Reelspeak series** offers viewers insight into the thought and approach of successful Black, Indigenous, Asian, South Asian and Women of Colour in the Canadian screen industry. These oratory learning sessions are based on the experiences of those who have done the work. Check them out on the Reelworld Screen Institute Youtube channel and look for the Exclusive RealSpeak session with Tonya Williams and award-winning Canadian Producer and Director of *Lost* and *Watchmen*, Steven Williams, and *The Walking Dead*.

The **Reelworld Black Entrepreneurs Program** for Black casting directors, agents, managers, and producers in Canada is entering into its second year. Selected participants complete 9 months of training, apprenticeship, and consultation with business advisors. The program gives focus to Black Canadians who are looking to build their own businesses as casting directors, agents, managers and producers and takes the participants through structuring a company for success while training them in the key areas of strategic planning, finance, human resources, marketing and sales.

We acknowledge the support of the Government of Canada through the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario for making this program possible.

#HerFrameMatters: Protocol Guideline - Recovery for Women of Colour in the Screen-Based Industry Through this project, supported by the Government of Canada's Feminist Response and Recovery Fund, Reelworld will create a protocol to eliminate racialized sexual harassment in the Canadian screen-based sector and to diversify the representation of women of colour in the media.

To receive emails about these Reelworld opportunities and more, [click here](#).



Helping artists bridge the gap from emerging to established.

Together with organizations like Reelworld Screen Institute, we support a diverse range of Canadian talent in local communities and across the country through RBC Emerging Artists.

rbc.com/emergingartists



**Emerging
Artists**