

SEPTEMBER 14-21, 2023
CINEPLEX CINEMAS PARK LANE
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA



**ATLANTIC
INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL
2023 SCHEDULE**

atlanticfilmfestival.ca



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

| TIME AND LOCATION | EVENT | TYPE |
|----------------------|--|--------------------------|
| 7:00 PM Theatre 8 | THE QUEEN OF MY DREAMS <i>Directed by Fawzia Mirza (Canada, Pakistan) 97 min</i> This wildly ambitious debut tells a story of two generations of women, their overlapping aspirations, and the journey that takes them from the bustling streets of Pakistan to the craggy rocks of small-town Cape Breton. | Opening Night Gala |
| 9:00 PM | OPENING NIGHT GALA CELEBRATION <i>Maritime Museum of the Atlantic (1675 Lower Water Street)</i> Help us kick off the first night of AIFF23! Mingle with filmmakers, industry folk and audience members, just steps away from the Halifax Waterfront. Open to passholders and Opening Night Gala ticket holders. Tickets for Opening Night Gala Celebration also available for purchase online. Presented by Barkeep Cocktails and Villa Maria. | Opening Night Gala Party |

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2023

| TIME AND LOCATION | EVENT | TYPE |
|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| 3:00 PM Theatre 3 FREE | THE MOTHER AND THE WHORE <i>Directed by Jean Eustache (1973, France) 219 mins</i> <i>The Mother and the Whore</i> has been called the film that “shattered the mystique of the French New Wave” – we’re thrilled to present the brand-new 4K restoration of this incomparable and era-defining work. | Classics/ Restored |
| 5:00 PM Theatre 7 | SHORTS PROGRAMME 1 (Various) 95 mins Featuring award-winning debuts, world premieres, and intense psychological dramas, these shorts unpack some of the ways we form our identity, through gestures large and small, alone and with the help of others. | Shorts |
| 5:00 PM | NZFC PRESENTS: INDUSTRY HAPPY HOUR <i>The Lord Nelson Hotel’s Georgian Lounge (1515 South Park Street)</i> Sponsored by the New Zealand Film Commission, and with New Zealand wine and bites on hand, this cocktail reception takes place before the NZ Special Presentation film. Open to passholders and AIFF Partners delegates. | Industry Event |
| 5:15 PM Theatre 5 | ANALOGUE REVOLUTION: HOW FEMINIST MEDIA CHANGED THE WORLD <i>Directed by Marusya Bociurkiw (Canada) 94 mins</i> <i>Analogue Revolution</i> traces the rise and fall of analogue feminist communications that preceded the #MeToo era. | Documentary |
| 6:00 PM Theatre 6 | SEAGRASS <i>Directed by Meredith Hama-Brown (Canada) 115 mins</i> Desperate to find a deeper connection in her marriage after the death of her mother, Japanese-Canadian Judith brings her family to a self-development retreat. | Narrative New Waves |
| 6:30 PM Theatre 4 | MONSTER <i>Directed by Kore-eda Hirokazu (Japan) 126 mins</i> In the latest from admired Japanese director Kore-eda Hirokazu, society and spectacle collide in the wake of a conflict that erupts on the schoolyard. Winner of the Cannes Film Festival Award for Best Screenplay. | World Cinema |
| 7:00 PM Theatre 8 | SWEETLAND <i>Directed by Christian Sparkes (Newfoundland, Canada) 110 mins</i> This visually stunning film from Atlantic Canadian talent Christian Sparkes tells a story of outpost Newfoundland and a man who loves the land of his birth so much he’s willing to remain there after others have left. | Atlantic Gala |
| 7:30 PM Theatre 3 | RED, WHITE, AND BRASS <i>Directed by Damon Fepulea’i (New Zealand) 85 mins</i> In this heartwarming comedy, inspired by a true story, a rugby superfan decides to go to great lengths to secure tickets to the World Cup – even if that means promising to deliver a brass band for the pre-match entertainment. | World Cinema |
| 8:30 PM Theatre 7 | ANATOMY OF A FALL <i>Directed by Justine Triet (France) 150 mins</i> This riveting Cannes Palme d’Or winner makes its Atlantic Canadian debut, featuring an astonishing, Oscar-worthy performance by international star Sandra Hüller. | World Cinema |
| 8:45 PM Theatre 5 | SMOKE SAUNA SISTERHOOD <i>Directed by Anna Hints (Estonia) 89 mins</i> In this layered, intimate documentary, we enter the traditional ritual of smoke sauna in Southern Estonia and meet a powerful sisterhood of women. | Documentary |
| 9:00 PM Theatre 6 | THE SETTLERS <i>Directed by Felipe Gálvez (Chile, Argentina, France, Denmark, United Kingdom, Taiwan, Sweden, Germany) 97 mins</i> <i>The Settlers</i> is the brutal, blood-curdling debut from Felipe Gálvez—a historical thriller that points an unblinking eye at the overlooked and oft-hidden atrocities of Chilean Patagonia. | Narrative New Waves |
| 9:00 PM FREE | ATLANTIC GALA PARTY <i>The Garden Halifax (1446 Queen Street)</i> We invite you to take part in celebrating local filmmaking at this year’s Atlantic Gala Party! The event is taking place after our Atlantic Gala feature film at The Garden on historic Queen Street. Free and open to all. | Atlantic Gala Party |

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2023

| TIME AND LOCATION | EVENT | TYPE |
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| 11:00 AM Theatre 7 FREE | LIFE CLASSES <i>Directed by William D. MacGillivray (1987, Nova Scotia, Canada) 117 mins</i> The classic story of Mary, who leaves home in Cape Breton to give birth in Halifax and decides to stay, discovering her independence through art. | Classics/ Restored |
| 11:30 AM Theatre 6 | ABOUT DRY GRASSES <i>Directed by Nuri Bilge Ceylan (Turkey) 200 mins</i> In the latest from Turkish director Nuri Bilge Ceylan, an art teacher in a remote village becomes the subject of a school-wide investigation, dashing his chances of returning home to Istanbul for good. | World Cinema |
| 11:45 AM Theatre 3 | IT'S RAINING IN THE HOUSE <i>Directed by Paloma Sermon-Dai (Belgium) 88 mins</i> In this slice-of-life debut feature, real-life siblings play teens who, thanks to an absent mother, spend summertime left to their own devices in a ramshackle house by a touristic lake in Belgium. | Narrative New Waves |
| 12:00 PM Theatre 5 | DOUBLES <i>Directed by Ian Harnarine (Canada, Trinidad & Tobago) 91 mins</i> <i>Doubles</i> explores the relationship between Dhani, a disenchanting Trinidadian street-food vendor, and his estranged father who lives in Toronto. | Narrative New Waves |
| 1:00 PM Cineplex Lounge FREE | BUTTERFLY TALE FACE PAINTING Bring the kids out for their first full fun film festival experience! We'll have FREE face painting for youth before the screening of the family-friendly and colourful Canadian animated feature <i>Butterfly Tale</i> at 2:45 PM. Get your movie tickets now and bring the whole family! | Family Event |
| 2:00 PM Theatre 4 | MR. DRESSUP: THE MAGIC OF MAKE-BELIEVE <i>Directed by Robert McCallum (Canada) 90 mins</i> This Canadian Amazon Original documentary celebrates the origins and history of one of Canada's most beloved CBC children's shows, <i>Mr. Dressup</i> , which enriched the lives of five generations. | Documentary |
| 2:30 PM Theatre 7 | THE QUEEN OF MY DREAMS <i>Directed by Fawzia Mirza (Canada, Pakistan) 97 mins</i> This wildly ambitious debut tells a story of two generations of women, their overlapping aspirations, and the journey that takes them from the bustling streets of Pakistan to the craggy rocks of small-town Cape Breton. | Opening Night Gala (Encore Screening) |
| 2:45 PM Theatre 3 | BUTTERFLY TALE <i>Directed by Sophie Roy (Canada) 82 mins</i> An animated feature film for the whole family set along the diverse, picturesque, and ever-changing backdrop of the great Monarch butterfly migration. | World Cinema |
| 3:15 PM Theatre 5 | SHORTS PROGRAMME 2 (Various) 95 mins The bonds of family are tested, bent, and woven back together in these eclectic stories on how we relate to the ones we love. Featuring World Premieres of exciting work from regional directors and an AIFF alum. | Shorts |
| 4:30 PM Theatre 6 | TAUTUKTAVUK (WHAT WE SEE) <i>Directed by Lucy Tulugarjuk, Carol Kunnuk (Canada) 82 mins</i> Blurring the line between narrative and non-fiction, this moving doc follows Uyarak and her eldest sister Saqqinak on a difficult healing journey that will remind them of the importance of community, culture and family. | World Cinema |
| 5:00 PM Theatre 4 | SWAN SONG <i>Directed by Chelsea McMullan (Canada) 105 mins</i> Chelsea McMullan takes us backstage in the National Ballet of Canada as it mounts a monumental production of <i>Swan Lake</i> , directed by ballet icon Karen Kain. | Documentary |
| 5:30 PM Theatre 7 | FITTING IN <i>Directed by Molly McGlynn (Canada) 105 mins</i> When Lindy (Maddie Ziegler) unexpectedly discovers she has a rare reproductive condition, the diagnosis upends her life, relationships, and her plans to have sex, in Molly McGlynn's comedic fresh coming-of-age drama. | World Cinema |
| 6:00 PM Theatre 3 | SUZE <i>Directed by Linsey Stewart, Dane Clark (Canada) 93 mins</i> When her only daughter goes off to university, an empty-nest mother gets stuck taking care of her daughter's heart-broken ex-boyfriend, who she can't stand. | World Cinema |
| 6:30 PM Theatre 5 | IN FLAMES <i>Directed by Zarrar Kahn (Canada, Pakistan) 98 mins</i> Set in Karachi, Zarrar Kahn's eerie genre-blending debut feature follows a medical student and her mother who face malevolent forces upon the death of their family patriarch. | Narrative New Waves |
| 7:30 PM Theatre 6 | ORLANDO, MY POLITICAL BIOGRAPHY <i>Directed by Paul B. Preciado (France) 98 mins</i> Part free-form adaptation of Virginia Woolf's iconic novel <i>Orlando</i> , part personal testimony of trans people living today, this film goes beyond documentary to dialogue with Woolf herself. | Documentary |
| 8:30 PM Theatre 8 | WHO'S YER FATHER? <i>Directed by Jeremy Larter (PEI, Canada) 110 mins</i> Featuring an outstanding comedy ensemble including Chris Locke, Susan Kent, and Jess Salgueiro, a novice PI in PEI is hired by a wealthy seafood buyer to investigate black-market lobster sales but uncovers much more than he was expecting. | World Cinema |
| 9:00 PM FREE | LOVE FILM PARTY <i>Cable Wharf (1751 Lower Water Street)</i> This year, to celebrate our legacy and all those who join us every year with a shared love of film, AIFF is hosting the first ever Love Film Party; free and open to all -- come join us under the spotlight! | Public Event |
| 9:30 PM Theatre 5 | MONSTER <i>Directed by Kore-eda Hirokazu (Japan) 126 mins</i> In the latest from admired Japanese director Kore-eda Hirokazu, society and spectacle collide in the wake of a conflict that erupts on the schoolyard. Winner of the Cannes Film Festival Award for Best Screenplay. | World Cinema (Encore Screening) |
| 10:00 PM Theatre 3 | RED ROOMS <i>Directed by Pascal Plante (Canada) 118 mins</i> This chilling psychological thriller follows the enigmatic Kelly-Anne, who becomes enthralled in the trial of a serial killer. | Late Night Visions |

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

| TIME AND LOCATION | EVENT | TYPE |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| 11:00 AM Theatre 3 | THE OLD OAK <i>Directed by Ken Loach (United Kingdom, France, Belgium) 113 mins</i> In what may be his last film, master filmmaker Ken Loach delivers a touching work that examines racial animus within a rural English town. | World Cinema |
| 11:30 AM Theatre 5 FREE | JOHN AND THE MISSUS <i>Directed by Gordon Pinsent (1987, Newfoundland, Canada) 100 mins</i> A small Canadian town is devastated when a local mine—the town's only source of income—is closed. | In Focus |
| 12:00 PM Theatre 6 | I LOST MY MOM <i>Directed by Denys Desjardins (Canada) 75 mins</i> Winner of the Best Canadian Feature Documentary Award at Hot Docs, <i>I Lost My Mom</i> offers an immersive glimpse into the filmmaker's emotional journey navigating the complexities of placing his mother in a long-term care home, and his agonizing effort to grant her a dignified farewell. | Documentary |
| 12:30 PM Theatre 4 | LA CHIMERA <i>Directed by Alice Rohrwacher (Italy) 133 mins</i> In 1980s Italy, a British archaeologist's uncanny ability to connect with the earth gets him embroiled with tomb-raiders digging up Etruscan artifacts for sale on the black market. | World Cinema |
| 1:00 PM Theatre 7 | WITH LOVE AND A MAJOR ORGAN <i>Directed by Kim Albright (Canada) 92 mins</i> Set in a world where hearts are made of inanimate objects and people suppress emotions to escape into technology, this off-beat comedy follows a vibrant young woman who rips out her heart for the man she loves. | Narrative New Waves |
| 2:00 PM Theatre 3 | UNSYNCABLE <i>Directed by Megan Wennberg (Nova Scotia, Canada) 75 mins</i> Seniors in their sixties celebrate the beauty, strength and joy they've found in artistic (synchronized) swimming. | Documentary |
| 3:00 PM Theatre 6 | TOTEM <i>Directed by Lila Avilés (Mexico, Denmark, France) 95 mins</i> Winner of the Berlinale Jury Prize, <i>Totem</i> portrays the family of young girl Sol (Naïma Senties) as they prepare a surprise birthday for her father, who's struggling with terminal cancer. | World Cinema |
| 3:00 PM Theatre 2 FREE | NFB PRESENTATION: TOP TEN TIPS FOR DISTRIBUTION Your film has finished production! Now what? Getting your film into the world can feel overwhelming. In this presentation, members of the NFB Marketing and Distribution team will share their insights on the best ways to get your film in front of audiences. | Presentation |
| 3:30 PM Theatre 5 FREE | THE GRAND SEDUCTION <i>Directed by Don McKellar (2013, Newfoundland, Canada) 115 mins</i> Featuring a standout performance from Gordon Pinsent that earned him a Canadian Screen Award for Acting in a Supporting Role, <i>The Grand Seduction</i> is a dramatic comedy of the highest caliber that manages to blend rural hijinx with heartbreaking humanity. | In Focus |
| 4:00 PM Theatre 7 | SHORTS PROGRAMME 3 (Various) 97 mins Witness resilience in its many forms with these spontaneous, candid, and boundary-crossing shorts, which include a portrayal of Indian immigrants and a portrait of a trailblazing Inuk artist. | Shorts |
| 4:30 PM Theatre 3 | THE KING TIDE <i>Directed by Christian Sparkes (Newfoundland, Canada) 100 mins</i> Ten years after a child with miraculous gifts arrives at an isolated East Coast island town, her adoptive parents must decide whether her safety is more important than their community's prosperity. | World Cinema |
| 4:45 PM Theatre 4 | FALLEN LEAVES <i>Directed by Aki Kaurismäki (Finland, Germany) 81 mins</i> The latest idiosyncratic work from Aki Kaurismäki contains the deadpan humour, absurdist charm, and existential angst that audiences have come to expect from the acclaimed Finnish filmmaker. | World Cinema |
| 6:00 PM Theatre 6 | IT'S RAINING IN THE HOUSE <i>Directed by Paloma Sermon-Dai (Belgium) 88 mins</i> In this slice-of-life debut feature, real-life siblings play teens who, thanks to an absent mother, spend summertime left to their own devices in a ramshackle house by a touristic lake in Belgium. | Narrative New Waves (Encore Screening) |
| 6:30 PM Theatre 5 | AGAINST THE TIDE <i>Directed by Sarvnik Kaur (India, France) 97 mins</i> This intimate Indian vérité documentary explores tradition, environmentalism, and class through two Indigenous fishermen who struggle to provide for their families despite contrasting methods and lifestyles. | Documentary |
| 7:00 PM Theatre 8 | REEL EAST COAST SHORTS GALA (Various) 88 mins These seven short films offer a spotlight on talent from the Atlantic region, from AIFF alumni, to award-winning films, to impressive debuts. | Shorts Gala |
| 7:30 PM Theatre 4 | PERFECT DAYS <i>Directed by Wim Wenders (Japan, Germany) 123 mins</i> In this meditation on the beauty of ordinary life by virtuoso filmmaker Wim Wenders, we accompany the main character through a series of banal yet profound days in his life as a cleaner of public toilets in Tokyo. | World Cinema |
| 8:00 PM Theatre 3 | DAYS OF HAPPINESS <i>Directed by Chloé Robichaud (Canada) 118 mins</i> Chloé Robichaud's latest film explores the trials and tribulations of creative labour and the toll of the arts industry on personal relationships. | World Cinema |
| 8:30 PM FREE | AFCOOP'S FILM 5 Party AFCOOP Office (1800 Argyle Street, Suite 303) Join AFCOOP staff and members to celebrate this year's FILM 5 films premiering at AIFF! Open to everyone. | Public Event |
| 8:45 PM Theatre 6 | INVISIBLE BEAUTY <i>Directed by Bethann Hardison, Frederic Tcheng (USA) 114 mins</i> Bethann Hardison is a fashion revolutionary. Through her life journey as a pioneering Black model, modeling agent and activist, the documentary explores race, beauty and representation. | Documentary |
| 9:15 PM Theatre 7 | SEVEN VEILS <i>Directed by Atom Egoyan (Canada) 107 mins</i> In acclaimed Canadian director Atom Egoyan's latest, a theatre director (Oscar-nominee Amanda Seyfried) returns to the opera world after years away to re-stage her former mentor's most celebrated work. | World Cinema |

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2023

| TIME AND LOCATION | EVENT | TYPE |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| 3:00 PM Theatre 2 FREE | PANEL: WRITING FOR FILM IN A TV WORLD Join Stephanie Joline as she hosts panelists discussing the challenges facing writers today in this ecosystem of series, strikes and streaming. | Panel |
| 5:30 PM Theatre 7 | ABOUT DRY GRASSES <i>Directed by Nuri Bilge Ceylan (Turkey) 200 mins</i> In the latest from Turkish director Nuri Bilge Ceylan, an art teacher dreams of returning home to Istanbul after mandatory service in a remote village. When he becomes the subject of a school-wide investigation, his chances of ever leaving the village risk fading away for good. | World Cinema (Encore Screening) |
| 5:45 PM Theatre 5 | SUZE <i>Directed by Linsey Stewart, Dane Clark (Canada) 93 mins</i> When her only daughter goes off to university, an empty-nest mother gets stuck taking care of her daughter's heart-broken ex-boyfriend, who she can't stand. | World Cinema (Encore Screening) |
| 6:00 PM Theatre 4 | CELESTIAL QUEER: THE LIFE, WORK AND WONDER OF JAMES MACSWAIN <i>Directed by Eryn Foster, Sue Johnson (Canada) 72 mins</i> A fittingly eclectic and colourful ode to a Halifax treasure, this film documents James MacSwain's journey growing up gay in the '50s and '60s in small-town Nova Scotia and finding his community and artistic practice. | Documentary |
| 6:15 PM Theatre 3 | SHORTS PROGRAMME 4 (Various) 87 mins Spotlighting this year's Rail d'Or winner at Cannes and a supernatural drama from PEI, these powerful shorts traverse the diversities of the human experience and approach the vastness of oceans. | Shorts |
| 6:30 PM Theatre 6 | BOCA CHICA <i>Directed by Gabriella Athena Moses (Dominican Republic) 97 mins</i> Desi spends her days on Boca Chica beaches dreaming of becoming a famous singer, but her goal is threatened by the insidious future that awaits some of the girls in her town. | Narrative New Waves |
| 8:30 PM Theatre 5 | STOLEN TIME <i>Directed by Helene Klodawsky (Canada) 85 mins</i> In this riveting documentary, charismatic elder-rights lawyer Melissa Miller represents hundreds of aggrieved families as they take on the corporate for-profit nursing-home industry. | Documentary |
| 8:45 PM Theatre 4 | LA CHIMERA <i>Directed by Alice Rohrwacher (Italy) 133 mins</i> In 1980s Italy, a British archaeologist's uncanny ability to connect with the earth gets him embroiled with tomboroli—tomb raiders digging up Etruscan artifacts for sale on the black market. | World Cinema (Encore Screening) |
| 9:00 PM Theatre 3 | SEVEN VEILS <i>Directed by Atom Egoyan (Canada) 107mins</i> In acclaimed Canadian director Atom Egoyan's latest, a theatre director (Oscar-nominee Amanda Seyfried) returns to the opera world after years away to re-stage her former mentor's most celebrated work. | World Cinema (Encore Screening) |
| 9:15 PM Theatre 6 | I USED TO BE FUNNY <i>Directed by Ally Pankiw (Canada) 105 mins</i> Up-and-comer Rachel Sennott flexes impressive dramatic skills in this wry dramedy as Sam, a PTSD-stricken comedian who joins the search for a missing teen girl she once nannied. | Narrative New Waves |
| 9:45 PM Theatre 7 | RED ROOMS <i>Directed by Pascal Plante (Canada) 118 mins</i> This chilling psychological thriller follows the enigmatic Kelly-Anne, who becomes enthralled in the trial of a serial killer. | Late Night Visions (Encore Screening) |

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2023

| TIME AND LOCATION | EVENT | TYPE |
|-------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| 3:00 PM Theatre 2 FREE | PANEL: GOOD VIBES ONLY Directors discuss managing egos on set (including your own) and creating safe environments for industry folks to work, including the addition of the new role of anintimacy coordinator. | Panel |
| 4:00 PM | NFB OPEN HOUSE <i>NFB Office (5475 Spring Garden Road, Suite 201)</i> Come check out the NFB studio in downtown Halifax! If you work or are interested in the film industry, we'd love to meet you. All are welcome. | Open House |
| 5:00 PM Theatre 5 | SOMEONE LIVES HERE <i>Directed by Zack Russell (Canada) 76 mins</i> When carpenter Khaleel Seivwright builds small, life-saving shelters for unhoused people during the pandemic, his actions attract international attention, but also staunch opposition from city officials. | Documentary |
| 5:15 PM Theatre 4 | ANATOMY OF A FALL <i>Directed by Justine Triet (France) 150 mins</i> This riveting Cannes Palme d'Or winner makes its Atlantic Canadian debut, featuring an astonishing, Oscar-worthy performance by international star Sandra Hüller. | World Cinema (Encore Screening) |
| 5:30 PM Theatre 6 | BANEL & ADAMA <i>Directed by Ramata-Toulaye Sy (France, Senegal, Mali) 87 mins</i> Swirling with myth, tragedy, and romance, this magic-realist story follows two star-crossed lovers in a remote village of northern Senegal. | Narrative New Waves |
| 5:45 PM Theatre 7 | FITTING IN <i>Directed by Molly McGlynn (Canada) 105 mins</i> When Lindy (Maddie Ziegler) unexpectedly discovers she has a rare reproductive condition, the diagnosis upends her life, relationships, and her plans to have sex, in Molly McGlynn's comedic fresh coming-of-age drama. | World Cinema (Encore Screening) |
| 6:30 PM Theatre 8 | THE PROMISED LAND <i>Directed by Nikolaj Arcel (Denmark, Germany, Sweden) 120 mins</i> Academy Award-nominated director Nikolaj Arcel (<i>A Royal Affair</i>) reunites with Mads Mikkelsen in this highly anticipated and gripping drama about a famed Danish explorer's pursuit of wealth and honour. | World Cinema |
| 7:00 PM Theatre 3 | A QUIET GIRL <i>Directed by Adrian Wills (Canada) 86 mins</i> Filmmaker Adrian Wills sets out to discover the story behind his adoption, a voyage that reveals startling truths he could never have imagined. | Documentary |
| 7:45 PM Theatre 5 | THE BOY IN THE WOODS <i>Directed by Rebecca Snow (Canada) 96 mins</i> Adapted from the best-selling memoir by Maxwell Smart, <i>The Boy in the Woods</i> follows the true story of a young Jewish boy escaping Nazi persecution in Eastern Europe. | Narrative New Waves |
| 8:15 PM Theatre 6 | RICHELIEU <i>Directed by Pier-Philippe Chevigny (Canada, France) 89 mins</i> In this arresting and powerful drama, Ariane attempts to distance herself from a checkered past with her ex-boyfriend by taking a job as a linguistic interpreter in a Québec factory. | Narrative New Waves |
| 8:30 PM Theatre 7 | SHORTS PROGRAMME 5 (various) 91 mins Featuring a Cannes Cinefondation animation standout, a Sundance Special Jury Award winner, as well as the World Premiere of a Nova Scotian thriller, these shorts promise to shock, bewilder, and freak you out (in the best way possible). | Shorts |
| 9:00 PM Theatre 4 | CLOSE TO YOU <i>Directed by Dominic Savage (Canada, United Kingdom) 100 mins</i> This indie drama starring the magnificent Elliot Page captures the nerves, awkwardness, tensions, and joys of returning home for a family event after coming out. | World Cinema |
| 10:00 PM Theatre 3 | DELIVER US <i>Directed by Cru Ennis, Lee Roy Kunz (USA) 103 mins</i> Offering a compelling twist on the possession subgenre, <i>Deliver Us</i> is a gruesome work that follows a team of Catholic priests who are enlisted to investigate a nun who claims to have immaculately conceived twins. | Late Night Visions |

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2023

| TIME AND LOCATION | EVENT | TYPE |
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| 3:00 PM Theatre 2 FREE | PANEL: DOCS THAT MATTER: TELLING THE STORIES OF OUR TIME THROUGH DOCUMENTARY FILM A conversation between documentary filmmakers about the power and purpose of documentary film to elevate the voices of people and the environment. | Panel |
| 5:00 PM Theatre 7 | DAYS OF HAPPINESS <i>Directed by Chloé Robichaud (Canada) 118 mins</i> In Chloé Robichaud's enthralling new drama, a young up-and-coming orchestra conductor fights for a coveted position within the classical music world. | World Cinema (Encore Screening) |
| 5:15 PM Theatre 5 | SHORTS PROGRAMME 6 (Various) 94 mins With a lovingly captured documentary of a renowned ceramist who passed away earlier this year, and the World Premiere of a Nova Scotian romance, these shorts delve deep into the lives of others through fascinating portraits of weird and wonderful characters. | Shorts |
| 5:30 PM Theatre 3 | SONGS OF UNAMA'KI <i>Directed by Dawn Wells, Jeff Miller (Nova Scotia, Canada) 22 mins</i> <i>Songs of Unama'ki</i> ventures into the "land of the fog"—Cape Breton—where traditional music of the Mi'kmaq shines despite the passage of time. IN THE QUIET AND THE DARK <i>Directed by Nance Ackerman (Nova Scotia, Canada) 50 mins</i> A gentle yet urgent documentary follows one woman's mission to save our remaining Eastern Hemlocks from an invasive, tree-killing insect. | Documentary Compilation |
| 6:00 PM Theatre 4 | MR. DRESSUP: THE MAGIC OF MAKE-BELIEVE <i>Directed by Robert McCallum (Canada) 90 mins</i> This Canadian Amazon Original documentary celebrates the origins and history of one of Canada's most beloved CBC children shows, Mr. Dressup, which enriched the lives of five generations. | Documentary (Encore Screening) |
| 6:30 PM Theatre 6 | HUMANIST VAMPIRE SEEKING CONSENTING SUICIDAL PERSON <i>Directed by Ariane Louis-Seize (Canada) 92 mins</i> Sasha is a young vampire with a serious problem: she's too sensitive to kill! Luckily, she meets Paul, a lonely teenager with suicidal tendencies who is willing to give his life to save hers. | Narrative New Waves |
| 7:45 PM Theatre 7 | INVISIBLE BEAUTY <i>Directed by Bethann Hardison, Frederic Tchong (USA) 114 mins</i> Bethann Hardison is a fashion revolutionary. Through her life journey as a pioneering Black model, modeling agent and activist, the documentary explores race, beauty and representation. | Documentary (Encore Screening) |
| 8:15 PM Theatre 5 | SHORTS PROGRAMME 7 (Various) 94 mins From heartbreaking drama to coming of age and comedy, these graceful and raw short films sing of love, anxiety and hope, climbing the peaks and valleys of living with ourselves and each other. | Shorts |
| 8:45 PM Theatre 3 | THE ELEPHANT 6 RECORDING CO. <i>Directed by C.B. Stockfleth (USA) 93 mins</i> Featuring pioneers Robert Schneider and Jeff Mangum, performances, and video clips, this vibrant rock doc charts the story of the 1990s psychedelic bands Olivia Tremor Control, Neutral Milk Hotel, and The Apples in Stereo—the founding groups behind the Elephant 6 collective. | Documentary |
| 9:00 PM Theatre 4 | BACKSPOT <i>Directed by D.W. Waterson (Canada) 93 mins</i> When Riley (Devery Jacobs) is given an opportunity to cheer with the All-Star team Thunderhawks they must navigate balancing crippling anxiety, a romance, and the desperate need for approval from her new coach (Evan Rachel Wood). | Narrative New Waves |
| 9:30 PM Theatre 6 | THE SETTLERS <i>Directed by Felipe Gálvez (Chile, Argentina, France, Denmark, United Kingdom, Taiwan, Sweden, Germany) 97 mins</i> This brutal, blood-curdling debut from Felipe Gálvez is a historical thriller that points an unblinking eye at the overlooked and oft-hidden atrocities of Chilean Patagonia. | Narrative New Waves (Encore Screening) |

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2023

| TIME AND LOCATION | EVENT | TYPE |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| 11:00 AM FREE | AIFF AWARDS <i>NSCAD Art Bar (1873 Granville Street)</i> Presented in partnership with the Atlantic Filmmakers Cooperative's Linda Joy Awards, join us as we give a toast to this year's AIFF award winners! Free and open to all. | Award Ceremony |
| 3:00 PM Theatre 2 FREE | PANEL: CASTING OUTSIDE THE BOX Check out the new trends in casting including: gender neutral roles, Zoom auditions, casting non-professional actors, and using social media for casting calls! | Panel |
| 4:00 PM Theatre 3 | SWAN SONG <i>Directed by Chelsea McMullan (Canada) 105 mins</i> Chelsea McMullan takes us backstage in the National Ballet of Canada as it mounts a monumental production of <i>Swan Lake</i> , directed by ballet icon Karen Kain. | Documentary (Encore Screening) |
| 5:15 PM Theatre 7 | INNOCENCE <i>Directed by Guy Davidi (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Israel) 100 mins</i> A documentary that tackles the issue of militarization and its impact on the lives of young Israeli people who are forced to serve against their own identity and values. | Documentary |
| 5:30 PM Theatre 4 FREE | BEST ATLANTIC FILM AWARD WINNER SCREENING Join AIFF in celebrating the award-winning Atlantic feature with a FREE screening. Screening details to be announced on the morning of Thursday, September 21. | FREE (Encore Screening) |
| 5:45 PM Theatre 6 | HUMANIST VAMPIRE SEEKING CONSENTING SUICIDAL PERSON <i>Directed by Ariane Louis-Seize (Canada) 92 mins</i> Sasha is a young vampire with a serious problem: she's too sensitive to kill! Luckily, she meets Paul, a lonely teenager with suicidal tendencies who is willing to give his life to save hers. | Narrative New Waves (Encore Screening) |
| 6:30 PM Theatre 5 | THE DELINQUENTS <i>Directed by Rodrigo Moreno (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Luxembourg) 180 mins</i> A Buenos Aires bank employee raids a safe with a plan to hand off the cash to a co-worker, turn himself in, and split the earnings after he gets out on good behaviour—but the money has other plans for them. | World Cinema |
| 6:45 PM Theatre 3 | CLOSE TO YOU <i>Directed by Dominic Savage (Canada, United Kingdom) 100 mins</i> This indie drama starring the magnificent Elliot Page captures the nerves, awkwardness, tensions, and joys of returning home for a family event after coming out. | World Cinema (Encore Screening) |
| 7:00 PM Theatre 8 | FLORA AND SON <i>Directed by John Carney (USA, Ireland) 94 mins</i> A single mother (Eve Hewson) living in Dublin has a troubled relationship with her teenage son, a difficult ex-husband, and an unsatisfying job in child care, until she meets an online teacher (Joseph Gordon-Levitt) and begins adding musical expression to her life. | Closing Night Gala |
| 8:15 PM Theatre 7 | I USED TO BE FUNNY <i>Directed by Ally Pankiw (Canada) 105 mins</i> Up-and-comer Rachel Sennott flexes impressive dramatic skills in this wry dramedy as Sam, a PTSD-stricken comedian who joins the search for a missing teen girl she once nannied. | Narrative New Waves (Encore Screening) |
| 8:30 PM Theatre 4 | FALLEN LEAVES <i>Directed by Aki Kaurismäki (Finland, Germany) 81 mins</i> The latest idiosyncratic work from Aki Kaurismäki contains the deadpan humour, absurdist charm, and existential angst that audiences have come to expect from the acclaimed Finnish filmmaker. | World Cinema (Encore Screening) |
| 8:45 PM Theatre 6 | BACKSPOT <i>Directed by D.W. Waterson (Canada) 93 mins</i> When Riley (Devery Jacobs) is given an opportunity to cheer with the All-Star team Thunderhawks they must navigate balancing crippling anxiety, a romance, and the desperate need for approval from her new coach (Evan Rachel Wood). | Narrative New Waves (Encore Screening) |
| 9:00 PM FREE | CLOSING NIGHT PARTY <i>Pacifico Nightclub (5171 George Street)</i> Join us as we revel in AIFF2023 festivities one last time! Free and open to all, our Closing Night celebration will be taking place at the Pacifico Nightclub in the heart of downtown Halifax. | Closing Night Party |
| 9:45 PM Theatre 3 | RAGING GRACE <i>Directed by Paris Zarcilla (United Kingdom) 100 mins</i> Winner of the Grand Jury Award at SXSW, <i>Raging Grace</i> follows undocumented immigrant Joy (Max Eigenmann) who takes a job at a wealthy estate, only to discover that her employers have ulterior motives. | Late Night Visions |

BOX OFFICE CONTACT & HOURS

The online Box Office opens August 16th at 3:00 PM. The physical Box Office will open on September 11th at 10:00 AM in Cineplex Cinemas Park Lane, 5657 Spring Garden Road.

- Telephone: (902) 332-1530
- Email: boxoffice1@finfestival.ca
- Location: Cineplex Cinemas Park Lane, 5657 Spring Garden Road (from Sept 11th onward)
- Dates and Hours: Sept. 11-13, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM, Sept. 14-21 10:00 AM - 10:00 PM

Should you need to contact the Box Office team before September 11th, you can reach us via email or phone during our regular office hours, which are 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

TICKETS

| | REGULAR | STUDENT/SENIOR |
|--------------------------|---------|----------------|
| General Screening Ticket | \$15 | \$12.75 |
| Gala Screening | \$25 | |
| Festival Pass* | \$185 | \$155 |

*Includes access to AIFF Online, all Parties and Celebrations, and all Encore Screenings. Does not include Opening Night Gala Film.