

# Seattle

INTERNATIONAL

F I L M

F E S T I V A L

2025  
MAY 15-25

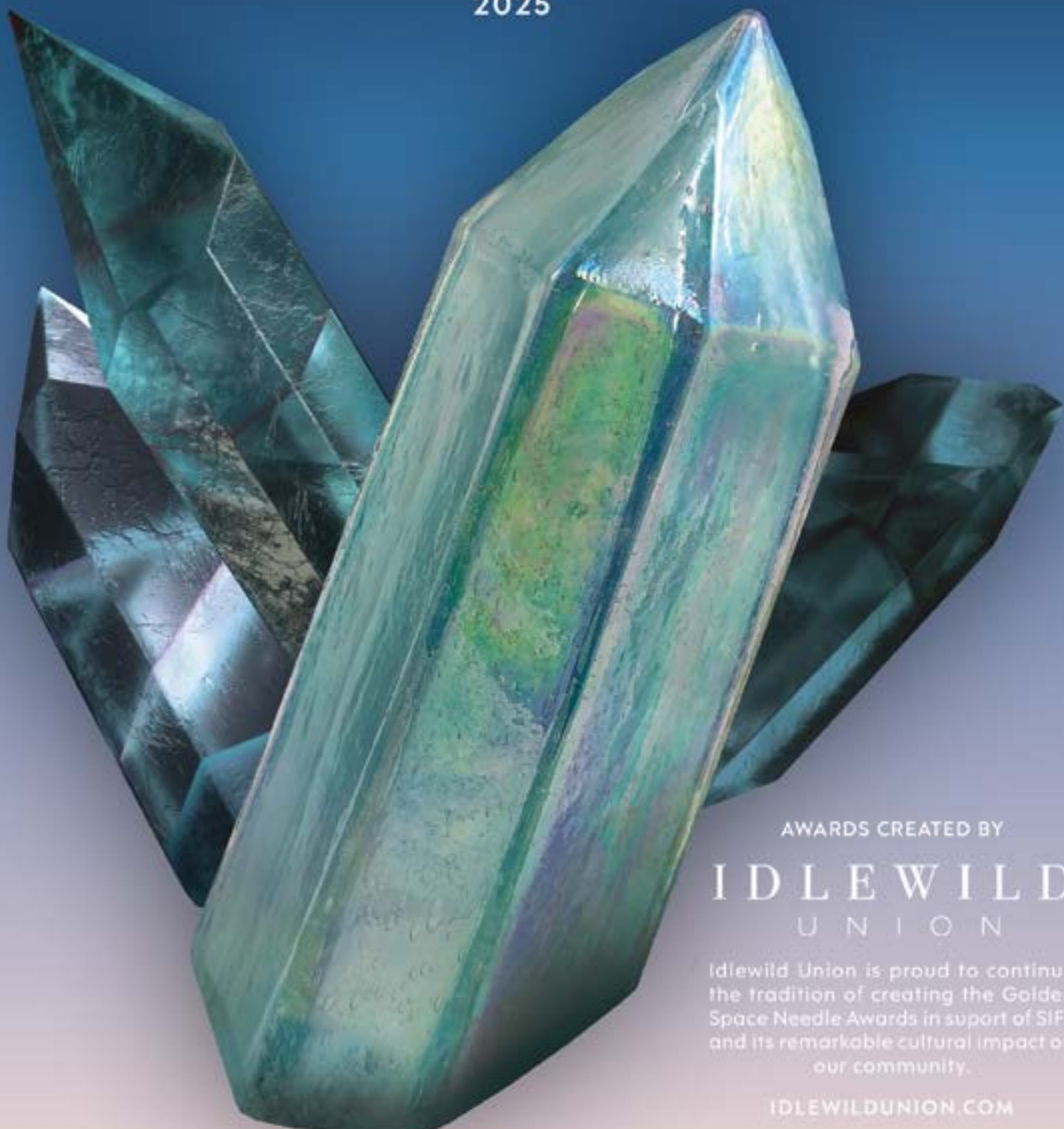


siff

Seattle INTERNATIONAL  
FILM FESTIVAL

Golden Space Needle  
AWARDS

2025



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IDLEWILD  
UNION

Idlewild Union is proud to continue the tradition of creating the Golden Space Needle Awards in support of SIFF and its remarkable cultural impact on our community.

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PACK YOUR BAGS AND  
*Escape to the Reel World,*  
a curated journey transporting you to independent  
and international films that need to be seen.

More than ever, the power of thoughtfully crafted stories is necessary as we face a quickening influx of distressing and bewildering news that distracts us from pausing, discerning, and perhaps gaining greater understanding of our world and each other.

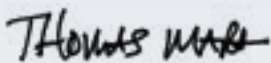
Films inspire us, invigorate us, and buoy us while we struggle with the heightened emotions and uncertainty of our time. At SIFF, you don't have to face these challenges alone. The Festival is designed to not only connect us with films but also with one another. Each year during the Festival, the two of us find ourselves taking a step back to appreciate how each screening spurs new connections among the film lovers in the audience. These connections and the stories told on screen help us to understand each other's adversities and joys, which is crucial with the world so divided.

SIFF is proud to present a grand total of 245 films from 74 countries/regions around the globe, communicating in 63 different languages: 83 features, 122 short films in 14 different programs, 35 documentaries, 3 archival features, and 2 secret films. 19 of these films are world premieres, 27 are North American premieres, and 13 are US premieres. 51% of our filmmakers are female or nonbinary identifying, 37% identify as a BIPOC director, and 20% identify as part of the LGBTQIA+ community. 60% of the feature films are from first- or second-time filmmakers, and 73% of films don't currently have US distribution.

The 51st Seattle International Film Festival will again be a hybrid experience, with in-person screenings of all films at venues around the Seattle area May 15–25 and select streaming encore screenings May 26–June 1.

A society without an arts landscape rich in beauty, diversity, and critical thought is a society that leaves little room for personal and collective flourishing. SIFF is dedicated to the creation of vibrant experiences and spaces that champion film discovery and arts education so that we can all continue to grow as individuals, neighbors, and global citizens. Thank you for being here, and we thoroughly hope that you'll enjoy your trip.

With much appreciation,



**TOM MARA**  
Executive Director



**BETH BARRETT**  
Artistic Director



## ITINERARY

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# Seattle INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL



## FIND FILMS

Films in this program are listed alphabetically and sorted by topics in the index.

### [siff.net/filmfinder](https://siff.net/filmfinder)

Search for films or filter by genre, mood, streaming availability, and more.

### [siff.net/programerspicks](https://siff.net/programerspicks)

Explore our programmers' favorite films of the Festival.

## GET TICKETS

**siff.net:** Click the *Showtime* button to purchase in-person tickets or the *Buy Streaming Ticket* button for streaming tickets.

**In person:** Get tickets prior to Festival at any SIFF Cinema venue (April 24–May 15) or during Festival at any screening venue during box office hours.

## PASS PICK-UP

### at SIFF Film Center

**April 24–May 15** - 10:00 am–6:00 pm weekdays only

**May 16–25** - 10:00 am–6:00 pm daily

Pickup is not available at Preview Screenings.

## BOX OFFICE

Call 206.464.5830 or email [boxoffice@siff.net](mailto:boxoffice@siff.net).

\***SIFF Members:** sign in to your account to get your discounts for tickets, packs, and passes.

## BECOME A SIFF MEMBER

**Get \$3 off regulary priced Festival tickets\***

Join at [siff.net/membership](https://siff.net/membership) to support SIFF, save on tickets and passes, score free popcorn, and more!

## STAY UP TO DATE

For schedule changes, daily updates, announcements, and more, sign up for SIFF's email list at [siff.net/enews](https://siff.net/enews) and be sure to follow us on social.



## MERCH

Shop early at [siffshop.net](https://siffshop.net) or pick up your souvenirs at SIFF Cinema Downtown.



## 6 CINEMATIC GETAWAYS

**\$68 Members\* | \$80 Non-Members**

A 6-Pack gives you six tickets for any regularly priced Festival screenings, saving you 30% per ticket!

Book your escape at [siff.net/6packs](https://siff.net/6packs).

# VENUES

Get details on each venue, including accessibility and parking tips at [siff.net/festvenues](http://siff.net/festvenues).

**1 SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN**  
511 Queen Anne Ave N  
206.464.5830

**3 SIFF CINEMA DOWNTOWN**  
2100 4th Ave  
206.464.5830

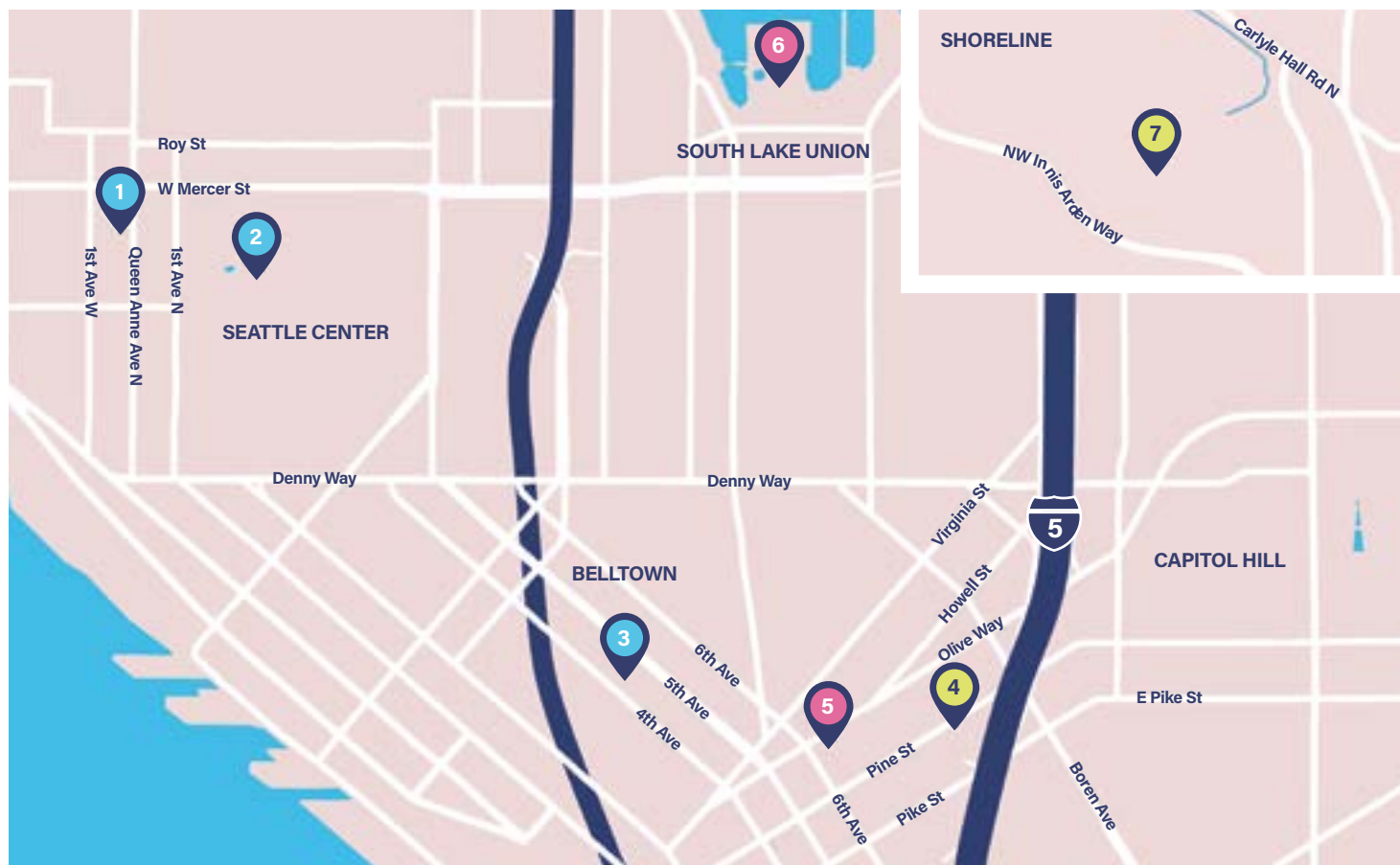
**5 PARAMOUNT THEATRE**  
OPENING NIGHT  
911 Pine St  
206.682.1414

**7 SHORELINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE THEATER**  
16101 Greenwood Ave N  
206.546.4101

**2 SIFF FILM CENTER**  
167 Republican Street  
206.464.5830

**4 AMC PACIFIC PLACE 11**  
600 Pine St, 4th Floor  
206.652.8908

**6 MUSEUM OF HISTORY & INDUSTRY**  
(MOHAI) CLOSING NIGHT PARTY  
860 Terry Ave N  
206.324.1126



## KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

More info at [siff.net/howtofest](http://siff.net/howtofest).

**Arrive Early:** Lines start forming up to an hour early, and you must arrive at least 10 minutes before showtime to ensure a seat. Ticket holders or passholders arriving after 10 minutes prior to showtime are considered late and may not be seated. Refer to your ticket or pass for entry guidelines.

**Find Your Line:** Follow the signs and be sure to stand in the correct line (Passholders, Ticket Holders, or Standby).

**Standby:** In the event that all advance tickets have been sold, Standby tickets may become available for purchase. A Standby line will form, usually one hour before showtime. Approximately 10 minutes to a program's scheduled start time, available seats are sold on a first-come, first-served basis to those in the Standby line at the time of sale. Vouchers are valid as payment. Please note that not all screenings on Standby will have tickets released.

**Code of conduct:** Inclusivity is a core value at SIFF. Learn more at [siff.net/termsandconditions](http://siff.net/termsandconditions).

**Accessibility:** We seek to ensure all events are accessible for everyone and welcome feedback to improve our services. Learn more at [siff.net/equity](http://siff.net/equity) or contact us with questions or accommodation requests at [info@siff.net](mailto:info@siff.net) or 206.464.5830.

For open caption screenings, visit [siff.net/opencaptions](http://siff.net/opencaptions).

# Opening NIGHT

THURSDAY, MAY 15 @ 7:00 PM

## FILM & PARTY AT THE PARAMOUNT

Welcome aboard SIFF Flight 51, bound for the Reel World! Please fasten your seatbelts and turn your attention to the silver screen as we take off with *Four Mothers*, the ideal film with which to kick off your vacation.

Upon arrival, we'll taxi straight to our legendary Opening Night Party on Ninth Avenue, where music, dancing, and complimentary drinks and bites from Seattle's best await. Guests are encouraged to dress in their celebratory best!

We know you have many entertainment options, so thank you for choosing SIFF. Enjoy the journey!

Join us for an unforgettable departure.  
Grab your tickets at [siff.net/openingnight](https://siff.net/openingnight)

## FOUR MOTHERS

Edward, a struggling Irish author, is on the verge of literary success when his queer romance YA novel gains massive buzz ahead of its US release. His agent and publisher keep pushing him to take advantage of the moment and commit to a major book tour paired with extensive media appearances, all but guaranteeing a bestseller. However, as the sole caregiver to Alma—his endearingly feisty mother whose recent stroke has left her disabled and unable to speak except through an iPad—he feels conflicted about leaving her, even if only for two weeks. A prospective plan to get one of his best mates to care for her backfires when all three, taking inspiration from his idea, abruptly take off for the pride festival on sun-drenched Gran Canaria, leaving their own mothers behind in his charge. Over the chaotic weekend that follows, people-pleaser Edward must juggle his burgeoning career plans with the care of four eccentric, combative, and wildly different ladies—none of whom really get along with any of the others. In his follow-up to *A Date for Mad Mary* (SIFF 2017), director Darren Thornton formulates a note-perfect comedy about the tender bonds between mothers and their sons, drawing upon delightfully deep reserves of wisdom, poignancy, and heartfelt humor.

**d:** Darren Thornton **c:** James McArdle, Fionnula Flanagan, Dearbhla Molloy, Paddy Glynn, Stella McCusker, Ireland/United Kingdom 2024, 89 min





SAFELY SCREENBATHE ON  
YOUR 10-DAY SIFF-AWAY  
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SLACK JAW. BROUGHT TO YOU  
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# Closing NIGHT

SATURDAY, MAY 24

FILM: 6:00 PM SIFF CINEMA DOWNTOWN

PARTY: 8:00 PM MOHAI MUSEUM OF HISTORY & INDUSTRY

As your Reel World escape comes to a close, celebrate one last night in cinematic paradise! After the film, head to MOHAI to enjoy complimentary drinks and hors d'oeuvres, dance to DJ Paco's beats, and capture the moment at our themed photo booth.

Don't forget to save room in your suitcase! We'll have raffle tickets for sale, giving you the chance to win fabulous prizes while supporting SIFF's fundraising efforts.

Let SIFF bid you adieu the right way.  
Secure your tickets today at [siff.net/closingnight](https://siff.net/closingnight)

## SORRY, BABY

Spanning several nonlinear chapters in the life of a people-pleasing English professor, Eva Victor's wondrously delicate and wry debut feature is an incisive exploration of the ways that trauma ripples through a life and the slow ways it heals (and sometimes doesn't). Set in a small coastal New England college town, we first meet Agnes (Victor, "Billions") as her best friend Lydie (Naomi Ackie, *Mickey 17*) arrives for a long-overdue visit to the house they shared as graduate students. The weekend unfolds with revelations of exciting life developments and awkward dinners with former classmates. Always at the periphery of the tightly bonded friends' familiar shorthand, though, are hints of a painful violation that shattered Agnes' personal and academic life. Subsequent chapters reveal the whole story, with each candid vignette unfolding with a soft touch and gentle humor. Rather than depict the core incident in detail, Victor keeps the camera at a distance, focusing instead on the immediate effects of a betrayal and rocky road to recovery. Through each hop through time, we follow Agnes as she experiences the unexpectedly transformational powers of the cuddly creatures found along the way, be it dear friends, surprisingly sensitive sandwich vendors, an abandoned kitten, or a sweet neighbor played by Lucas Hedges.

**d:** Eva Victor **c:** Eva Victor, Naomi Ackie, Lucas Hedges, John Carroll Lynch, Louis Cancelmi, Kelly McCormack, USA 2025, 104 min





2024 | SEATTLE  
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JULY 22

# KOYAANISQATSI

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206.215.4747 | SEATTLESYMPHONY.ORG

# Festival <sup>★★</sup> SPOTLIGHTS



## SIFF & CFC PRESENT THE DARK CRYSTAL

Join SIFF and Cross-Faded Cinema for a one-time-only update to this fantasy cult classic, featuring a new soundtrack mixed live on two turntables by DJ Nicfit.

Following the success of his first two Muppet movies, Jim Henson sought to push his storytelling and puppeteering craft even further with his next film, a dark, weird fantasy tale that would be unlike anything before it. And while *The Dark Crystal* met with mixed critical reviews and modest box office success, it quickly became a cult classic for Gen X kids and those who followed in their wake. On a distant, blighted world, a powerful magic crystal cracked a thousand years ago, a single shard lost. Two new races appeared: the cruel Skeksis and the wise Mystics. The Mystics went into exile as the Skeksis seized control of the Crystal and its castle, corrupting the surrounding lands and cruelly eradicating the Gelfling peoples for fear of a prophecy: "When single shines the triple sun / What was sundered and undone / Shall be whole, the two made one / By Gelfling hand, or else by none." Now, as the great conjunction approaches, Jen, a young Gelfling rescued and hidden by the Mystics' leader, departs upon a quest to find the missing shard and heal the crystal. Featuring iconic creature designs by Henson and Brian Froud and such memorably strange characters as the Skeksis Chamberlain and one-eyed Aughra, *The Dark Crystal* remains a bold, singular vision and one of cinema's great fantasy films.

**d:** Jim Henson, Frank Oz **c:** Jim Henson, Kathryn Mullen, Frank Oz, USA 1982, 93 min

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**TUESDAY, MAY 20 @ 6:30 PM**

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**SIFF CINEMA DOWNTOWN**

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## THE GLASS WEB IN 3-D

Murder, deceit, and betrayal burst forth from the screen in *The Glass Web*, one of only a few noirs filmed using the 3-D process. Kathleen Hughes, dubbed "Miss 3-D" by Universal, plays femme fatale Paula Ranier, described in the film's trailer as "Bad, Beautiful... and Bold as Sin!" Paula and her former lover, TV writer Don Newell (John Forsythe of "Dynasty" fame), both work on the popular true-crime show "Crime of the Week." Soured by his rejection, she blackmails him, threatening to reveal their affair to his wife unless he pays \$2,500. However, before he can make good with the cash, she turns up murdered. His imprudent attempts to conceal their liaison makes him a prime suspect for homicide detective Mike Stevens. Meanwhile, the show's producer Dave Markson and its chief researcher Henry Hayes (Edward G. Robinson) reveals the next episode will recreate Paula's unsolved murder in an effort to expose the real killer. Having previously filmed *It Came From Outer Space* in 3-D, director Jack Arnold ingeniously uses the process to glorious effect, creating intricate layers of spatial integrity and depth within scenes instead of going for "at-the-camera" gags, though there are a few of those, too. Restored by the 3-D Film Archive from the original 35mm camera negative, *The Glass Web* is presented in 3-D on DCP courtesy of Universal Pictures.

**d:** Jack Arnold **c:** Edward G. Robinson, John Forsythe, Kathleen Hughes, Marcia Henderson, Richard Denning, USA 1953, 81 min

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**SUNDAY, MAY 18 @ 4:15 PM**

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**SIFF CINEMA DOWNTOWN**

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## SCARECROW IN A GARDEN OF CUCUMBERS

If you've ever sung along with Lou Reed's "Walk on the Wild Side," you've evoked the name of Holly Woodlawn. "Holly came from Miami, F-L-A / Hitch-hiked her way across the USA / Plucked her eyebrows along the way / Shaved her legs and then he was a she...." Woodlawn was one of, if not the first, trans women to appear on film, and a fixture of Andy Warhol's Factory, appearing in Paul Morrissey's *Trash* and *Women in Revolt*. In her third film, *Scarecrow in a Garden of Cucumbers*, Woodlawn takes the lead role of Eve Harrington—the first of the film's many name-drops to the larger-than-life heroines from Hollywood's Golden Age—who leaves her small Kansas hometown in hopes of achieving stardom as an actress in New York City. What follows is a collection of fantastical, bawdy, campy, and ludicrously delirious musical set pieces, including the song "In The Very Last Row" performed by Bette Midler. Never released on home video, this landmark film was feared lost until its 35mm negative was rediscovered when DuArt Film & Video closed their storage facility. Restored by the Academy Film Archive and presented in collaboration with the American Genre Film Archive, *Scarecrow in a Garden of Cucumbers* preserves a rare and key part of Woodlawn's legacy.

**d:** Robert J. Kaplan **c:** Holly Woodlawn, Bette Midler, Lily Tomlin, Meg Wittner, Tally Brown, USA 1972, 82 min

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**SATURDAY, MAY 24 @ MIDNIGHT**

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**SIFF CINEMA DOWNTOWN**

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# Thank You

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SIFF thanks all our donors and members for your invaluable support this past year!

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Jessica Prince  
Leela Sasaki  
Rosie Saunders  
Tom Skerritt & Julie Tokashiki Skerritt  
Steven Smith  
Jane Suzick  
Sylvester Thomas III  
Rich Wasserman  
Joe Welinske  
Robin Reynolds Wilt  
Virginia Wright

Here we are, entering our second half-century as an arts nonprofit in Seattle. As we look to SIFF's future, we know there is much to do: In keeping with our new strategic plan, we will be thinking about how to proceed in ways that sustain our efforts AND expand our reach. This is a difficult time for many arts nonprofits, and your support in continuing our mission is vital to our survival.

On behalf of my colleagues on the SIFF Board of Directors, a heartfelt thank you to our sponsors, filmmakers, our amazing staff, our wonderful volunteers, our faithful donors, our thousands of members, and our amazing audience (that's YOU).

Historically, when Americans have been under stress, we go to the movies—movie theaters provided affordable entertainment during the Depression and brought news, solace, and perspective during WWII. This remains true today—our viewing is enhanced by experiencing film on the big screen in a theater with others in our community (and even more so with chocolate popcorn). We hope you join us in going to the movies—whether that is to laugh, to establish connection, to empathize, to commiserate, to be inspired, or to learn.

We all benefit from the movies we see, and here at SIFF we truly cannot do it without you and your support. Please join us by going into the dark to see the light. See you at the movies!



With gratitude,

*Diana E. Knauf*

Diana E. Knauf  
President, SIFF Board of Directors

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# MORE WAYS TO MOVIE

## SIFF ANNUAL PASSES & 6-PACKS

Our new cinema passes let you choose your favorite SIFF venues. Not ready to go unlimited? Grab a 6-Pack and save on tickets!

[SIFF.NET/ANNUALPASS](http://SIFF.NET/ANNUALPASS)



# MEET THE *Programmers* AND THEIR *Picks*

SIFF is more than just an annual celebration of the world's greatest films—it's a community of passionate cinephiles who live and breathe cinema. Meet the programmers who spend the year watching, discussing, and curating the best for the Festival.

Film festival programmers have seen a lot of movies—but it's impossible to see everything! This year, we asked them: *As cinephiles immersed in both contemporary and classic films, what's a classic you recently saw for the first time that completely surprised you? What about the experience reeled you in?*

Here are their answers—plus their hand-picked recommendations for SIFF 2025, chosen for our discerning audiences.



**BETH BARRETT**  
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Alan Rudolph's *Breakfast of Champions*. It is a gonzo film, with a depth of id-releasing chaos matched only by its comic probing into the psyche and flawed humanity of Bruce Willis' Dwayne Hoover. Panned and ignored on its release, it was terrifyingly prescient to our media oversaturated lives today.

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**COME SEE ME IN THE GOOD LIGHT:** Deeply emotional film about poets Andrea Gibson and Megan Falley, and love, mortality, life, and how to fully embrace letting go. Luminous, thoughtful, heartbreaking, and uplifting all at the same time.

**THE LIBRARIANS:** Meet the courageous book lovers standing on the front lines of intellectual freedom and democracy. It has never been more important to keep access to libraries open, and books (and ideas) free to all.

**COLOR BOOK:** Beautifully shot, this simple story of a father taking his son to a baseball game ripples out into a grand statement about life in America.

**FOUR MOTHERS** (SIFF Opening Night) is a rollicking Irish intergenerational queer comedy, and **SORRY, BABY** (SIFF Closing Night) introduces us to a powerful new voice in Eva Victor.

**40 ACRES:** Taut dystopian thriller from Canadian director R.T. Thorne! Danielle Deadwyler and Michael Greyeyes have to protect their clan and ancestral lands from a roving militia of cannibals in a future that sees the world's crops failing and society broken down.

**HEIGHTENED SCRUTINY:** Incredibly timely and important doc about ACLU Attorney Chase Strangio's Supreme Court battle to overturn Tennessee's bigoted ban on gender-affirming care for trans youth. Sadly, it is more important every day.



**STAN SHIELDS**  
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF  
FESTIVAL PROGRAMMING

It has been years since I have watched a classic film that I hadn't already seen (curse of the job), but when I recently rewatched the ending scenes of *Wings of Desire*, I think that was the first time I noticed the ending dedication to "all the former angels"—directors Yasujiro Ozu, François Truffaut, and Andrei Tarkovsky. I thought that was a very nice touch.

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**DJ AHMET:** Georgi M. Unkovski's debut feature is a charming coming-of-age story told with warmth, an infectious sense of humor, great ensemble acting performances—especially Arif Jakup as Ahmet—and an evocative, upbeat soundtrack.

**CLOUD:** Prolific Japanese director Kiyoshi Kurosawa returns in top form with an engrossing story of an amoral internet profiteer that subtly evolves into a broader satire of our current internet age, culminating in a simultaneously riveting—and slightly absurd—manhunt.

**THE NEW YEAR THAT NEVER CAME:** Bogdan Mureşanu's robust, darkly funny debut feature cleverly expands his award-winning 2018 short *The Christmas Gift*, expertly incorporating it in as one of six intertwining stories that unfold over two wintry days in Bucharest on the eve of the Romanian revolution, culminating in a truly symphonic finale.

**SALSA LIVES:** Weaving together a treasure trove of archival footage with iconic interviews and an irresistible soundtrack, director Juan Carvajal's infectious documentary immerses you so deeply in Salsa music's rich history that you may be transformed into a *salsero* or *salsero* by the end.

**SEEDS:** Shot in exquisite black and white over nine years, Brittany Shyne's lyrical, loving documentary immerses us in the daily lives and rhythms of multiple generations of a Georgia county's Black farming families as they struggle to preserve their way of life.



**JUSTINE BARDA**  
SENIOR PROGRAMMER

In honor of the recent remake of *Nosferatu*, Lincoln Center did a series on vampire films. That is how I came to see *The She-Butterfly*, a Serbian folk horror film from 1973. Of all the vampire films I have seen, I don't think I had ever seen one from Eastern Europe, which is strange, since that is the vampire's native habitat—although apparently Radu Jude has one coming out this year!

**THE NEW YEAR THAT NEVER CAME:** A bravura first feature, an amazing final sequence set to Ravel's "Bolero," and a timely reminder that dictatorships don't last forever.

**SOULEYMANE'S STORY:** What really got me about this film is the genre structure—a thriller that ends as a small-scale, high-stakes drama mirrors the message about what it takes to elicit empathy.

**COEXISTENCE, MY ASS!:** The moral clarity and political urgency of the comedy of progressive Israeli stand-up Noam Shuster-Eliassi makes this a film that really meets the historical moment.

**DJ AHMET:** A charming, upbeat comedy with a great soundtrack from a country we rarely see on film. A delight!



**DAN DOODY**  
SENIOR PROGRAMMER

Do *The Conjuring* films count? No? That's probs for the best. I recently checked out Preston Sturges' *The Lady Eve* from the SPL—one of the great screwball comedies. Barbara Stanwyck plays Jean Harrington, a cynical con artist who falls so in love with her mark, doofus-naïf Charles Pike (Henry Fonda), that, even when seeking revenge for being spurned, she can't help but steer their ship towards a happily-ever-after reconciliation.

**BLUE ROAD: THE EDNA O'BRIEN STORY:** Irish author Edna O'Brien lived a more exciting life than many literary characters. Through archival clips, diary entries, and extensive interviews conducted with the author during her final year, this film is a vibrant and engaging portrait of a trailblazing feminist.

**CAT TOWN, USA:** Meet Terry and Bruce Jenkins, stewards of Cats Cradle Foundation, a living community and hospice for senior cats. Expanded from the short film *Cats Cradle* (SIFF 2018), this heartwarming documentary is the cinematic equivalent of catnip for all animal lovers.

**TIME TRAVEL IS DANGEROUS:** London vintage shop owners Megan and Ruth use a time machine to plunder the past to swell their inventory, who cares if the fabric of time and space unravels...? I mean, I care but also, look at this authentic cowboy hat I found...

**THE GLASS WEB in 3-D:** '50s film noir presented in all the glory of 3-D?! On the SIFF Downtown big, big screen?! Why would you be anywhere else?

**GOOD BOY:** Who's a good boy? Indy, our canine star, is a very good boy and a great actor, too. A creepy haunted house tale comes with a brilliant twist: the entire film is presented from Indy's POV.



**MEGAN LEONARD**  
SENIOR PROGRAMMER

*Seven Samurai*. No surprise this was a masterpiece. But wow, watching the 4K restoration at the Egyptian over the summer knocked my socks off. The production! The drama! The completely unencumbered and inspired performance by Toshiro Mifune and his eyebrows!

**F\*CKTOYS:** The kinky romp of your wet dreams. Pee-pee enthusiasts get drenched. A sex worker's odyssey through Trashtown by way of John Waters.

**COLOR BOOK:** A striking debut about a single father who's just trying to take his kid to the ballgame.

**BLKNWS: TERMS & CONDITIONS:** Seattle legend Kahlil Joseph makes his grand return to the city with his visual feast of a debut feature.

**SPERMAGEDDON:** Am I a teenage boy? Perhaps. But with character names like Simen, Cumilla, and Jizzmo, and an animated adventure that delivers completely on its title and premise...how could I not include this instantly quotable absurdity?

**SHORTSFEST OPENING NIGHT / THE FEMININE URGE / HEAD TRIP SHORTS:** Every shorts program is seriously stacked this year, so find one that matches your vibe and enjoy this year's crop from around the world.



**HEBE TABACHNIK**  
SENIOR PROGRAMMER

Mexican director Guillermo del Toro's *The Devil's Backbone* (2001), a ghost story set toward the end of the Spanish Civil War in an isolated school for orphan boys, got me by surprise with its beautiful imaginary, sinister setting, and effective condemnation of the cruelty by the Franco regime. A haunting thought was planted in my mind: The devil always finds a way to creep back to life.

**DEAF:** Ángela, a Deaf woman, and Héctor, her hearing partner, are expecting their first child. They are a couple in love, full of the excitement and all the questions that first parents have. However, Ángela's pregnancy triggers fears about motherhood and how she will be able to raise her daughter in a world of sounds. Winner of the Audience Award at Berlinale Panorama 2025.

**THE NATURE OF INVISIBLE THINGS:** Gloria and Sofia, two 10-year-old girls, meet during the summer holidays while spending the days in a hospital. Gloria is accompanying her nurse mother and Sofia is visiting her grandmother with Alzheimer's. Their playful and delicate bond will help them navigate the fragility of life and the ever-transforming challenges of growing up.

**FLAMINGOS: LIFE AFTER THE METEORITE:** Finding the right partner, the right place, and the ideal time to create a family is the most decisive task in nature. Instinct, love, risk, and wisdom are intertwined in this unforgettable journey of the Caribbean Flamingo in its most delicate period of existence; a journey at once surprising, enthralling, and deeply inspiring.

**I AM NEVENKA:** Nevenka Fernández, a town's finance councilor, is relentlessly pursued by the mayor, a man used to always getting what he wants politically and personally. Nevenka decides to report him, turning her courageous fight into the first #MeToo case in Spain.





## ANGELO ACERBI

PROGRAMMER

I recently rewatched on the big screen *The Night of the Hunter*, the first and only film as a director for Charles Laughton. The expressionist aesthetics, the intense yet dry acting by Robert Mitchum, and a young and weirdly sexy Shelley Winters are the highlights for me (not to forget Lillian Gish) for a film that never gets old and sets a high standard for the genre films to come.

**SUMMER'S CAMERA:** A delicate and sweet self-discovery tale about a young girl whose dad's photographs give her the way to unlock a family secret, and her own as well.

**HEIGHTENED SCRUTINY:** The unmissable story of the first transgender lawyer facing the US Supreme Court in defense of trans rights. Inspirational and necessary in these harsh times.

**SONS:** Hard-hitting drama about the dilemma between duty and revenge: a prison guard faces a powerful figure from her past. How can (or must) one contain personal hatred?

**DIAMONDS:** A feast for the eyes and the souls in this trip down memory lane into a costume atelier in Rome, run by two very different sisters and populated by many women and their stories. An Italian box office hit.

**FOUR MOTHERS:** A sincere and funnily touching portrait of aging and the gay sons (often the ones on duty) who have to look after their old mothers. Tender, weirdly funny, and very true to the core of the emotions it conveys.



## SUJ'N CHON

PROGRAMMER

Last summer's *Twisters* release gave me the excuse to catch up with 1996's *Twister*. Even though I hadn't seen it before, I was surprised at how much of the film had seeped into pop culture over the years. It's time for a Jami Gertz comeback!

**SLANTED:** This feature debut, which follows a Chinese American teen undergoing a transformative racial surgery to become white and blonde—essentially the "perfect" prom queen candidate—could have easily veered into camp. Instead, it delivers a sharply written, funny satire that consistently hits its marks. The jury for this year's SXSU Narrative Feature competition agrees, awarding it the top honor.

**MEETING WITH POL POT:** This powerful historical drama by renowned filmmaker Rithy Panh follows three French journalists invited to interview Pol Pot during the early months of the Khmer Rouge takeover, when the atrocities in Cambodia were still hidden to the outside world. It unfolds like a horror film, slowly revealing the terrors lurking just beyond their view.

**HAPPYEND:** Like SIFF 2023's *Plan 75*, this film takes place in the near future. Set in a Japanese high school with a high percentage of immigrant students, it explores the rise of a Big Brother surveillance society and the use of technology for social control. It reminds me of how thin the line we tread between realistic science fiction and dystopian reality.

**BETWEEN GOODBYES:** I was deeply moved by this beautifully told story about Mieke, a gay Korean-Danish adoptee, and her birth family—and how hope, acceptance, and over a decade of patience helped them build their post-reunion family bonds. Many tissues were used.

**COLOR BOOK:** This is a simple yet beautifully told story, in black and white, about a grieving father and his son with Down syndrome spending a day trying to get to an Atlanta Braves game. Their mishaps highlight the fragility of their relationship and the depth of their shared loss of the boy's mother.



## JAMES DAVIS

DEVELOPMENT AND PROGRAMMING COORDINATOR

**COME SEE ME IN THE GOOD LIGHT:** An incredible story about living and dying and supporting a loved one as they battle cancer.

**BAR:** A behind-the-scenes look at cocktail school. Tip your bartender!

**SECRET FEST:** I can't talk about Secret Fest.

**GOOD BOY:** Best performance of the year.

**THE CHEF & THE DARUMA:** Sushi chef Tojo and his influence on sushi in North America.

**SHORTSFEST:** The speed-dating of cinema. If you're not into the film you're watching, in 10 minutes you may meet your new love.



## KIMBERLY DINEHART

PROGRAMMER

I watched *Army of Shadows* for the first time last year as a part of American Cinematheque's Bleak Week. It was on my list because Roger Deakins mentioned it as one of his favorite movies in his podcast. The movie was so good that I decided to start learning French.



## SOFIA FELINO

FESTIVAL PROGRAMMING COORDINATOR

**THE BALCONETTES:** Many films attempt and fail to balance comedic stylized wackiness with nuanced social commentary, but Noémie Merlant makes it look easy. She's incredible and I can't wait to see what she does next.

**COLOR BOOK:** Quite possibly the most stunning cinematography I've seen all year; don't miss your chance to watch it on the big screen. I bawled my eyes out!

**BABY DOE:** It's incredibly rare to find media under the true crime umbrella that is both compassionate and discerning. This film really opened my eyes, not only to the epidemic of young religious girls (allegedly) committing infanticide, but to the deep, damaging issues with true crime coverage in America.

**SONS:** Nobody does psychological thrillers like Scandinavians! It's impossible to look away from this masterfully crafted, thoroughly rattling prison drama.

**RAPTURES:** This film takes place nearly 100 years ago, but in its disturbing depiction of fanaticism and ill-advised idolatry, this film feels more timely than ever in 21st century America. If you're at all interested in cults, this is a must-see!



## KASI GAARENSTROOM

CINEMA PROGRAM MANAGER

Last year at one of my favorite events in the city, SIFF's own Noir City, I was able to catch the screening of *Le Trou* (1960). A classic prison escape film, the ragtag team of criminals and the newbie. Do they risk letting him in on the plan or do they keep their secrets to themselves? One aspect about this film that absolutely floored me was the sound design: There is no true score to the film, only the monotonous *ting ting ting* of metal hitting concrete, ambient sounds of the prison outside of their cell, and the boys. This film made such an impact on me that I added it to my Letterboxd Top 4, which is saying a lot!! Long live *Le Trou*!

**THE BALCONETTES:** The dream team behind *Portrait of a Lady on Fire*, Noémie Merlant and Céline Sciamma, are back, baby! However, if you were hoping for something similar, I'm sorry, but you will not find sapphic yearning here. You will find bright colors, the vibrant south of France, three beautiful, nosy neighbors, and a little bit of murder! *The Balconettes* is silly, sweaty, and an all-around fun girly pop grizzly romp from second-time director Merlant. See it with your girlfriends!

**NEW JACK FURY:** The midnighter to end all midnighters. High energy, big violence, and maybe the most green screen I've ever witnessed. This high-octane love letter to the Blaxploitation films of the '80s is sure to keep your interest well into the wee hours of the morning. Don't watch if you hate fun.

**SCARECROW IN A GARDEN OF CUCUMBERS:** A beautiful restoration of the '70s queer cult classic *Scarecrow in a Garden of Cucumbers* has arrived from AGFA. One of the very first feature films to be built around a trans actor, with an all-star cast (including voice acting from Bette Midler and Lily Tomlin), this film is weird and wonderful and freaking rocks. It's incredible to see that things really have not changed; there always was, and always will be, queer folks making weird, punk, and important art. See one of the first on the big screen! Everyone say, "Thank you, AGFA!"

**BY DESIGN:** Praise the film gods! Juliette Lewis is weird again! And she craves to be a chair. Yes, a chair. A beautiful, perfect, perpetually admired chair—isn't that what we all want? To be admired and sought after? Amanda Kramer takes on these big questions with a pitch-perfect cast, big visual numbers, and lots of furniture.



## MEGAN GARBAYO-LÓPEZ

EDUCATION MANAGER

Luis Buñuel's 1950 film *Los Olvidados* (*The Young and the Damned*) is a Mexican teen crime film with a surrealist twist on Italian neorealism. Seeing it on the big screen at the Uptown left me simultaneously raw and dazzled. The young protagonist Pedro is swept away in a perpetual cycle of poverty and violence that climaxes in a final scene that has been burned in my memory forever. *Los Olvidados* was added to UNESCO's "Memory of the World" Register in 2003 and has influenced many films, including another favorite of mine, *City of God*.

**DROWNED LAND:** Choctaw director and 4th World Media Lab Alum Colleen Thurston's directorial debut deftly weaves a narrative about the Kiamichi River to reckon with the past, present, and future of life in Southeastern Oklahoma, from the Trail of Tears to today.

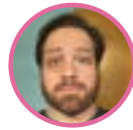
**DANCING QUEEN IN HOLLYWOOD:** If you were a fan of SIFF 2023's Golden Space Needle Best Picture winner *Dancing Queen*, you will love

this sequel that brings our heroine Mina and her dance troupe to the bright lights of Hollywood for more teenage angst and shenanigans.

**INTO THE WONDERWOODS:** More than just kids fare, this love letter to the history of animation has something for viewers of all ages to enjoy. Recommended ages 7+ for scary moments and one swear word.

**THE FAMILY PICTURE SHOW:** This family-friendly shorts block features the latest from the studio that brought you *The Book of Kells*, a stop motion musical featuring a drag queen fox voiced by Sir Ian McKellen, and more fun to be had by kids of all ages.

**FUTUREWAVE: TEENAGE HEARTS:** As I say every year, I believe the children are our future. Let them blow your mind with their cinematic musings on love in all its forms, including romantic, familial, self, and dare I say...delusional?



## MARCUS GORMAN

PROGRAMMER

My favorite first watch from a couple years ago was Tony Richardson's *A Taste of Honey* (1961), which might be one of the most empathetically moving films I've ever seen and one of the few British New Wave movies that isn't all about *men men men*. Just more proof that movies about youth should, you know, involve youth in some creative capacity.

**F\*CKTOYS:** True outsider art, as writer/director/star Annapurna Sriram treks through Trastown, USA in the hopes of lifting a curse. Don't Google this movie's title if you don't want weird results, unless maybe you do...?

**SCARECROW IN A GARDEN OF CUCUMBERS:** Trans actress and Warhol Factory icon Holly Woodlawn slays in this defiantly queer, newly restored 1972 camp cult classic about a small-town girl just trying to make it big in New York City.

**BY DESIGN:** The most confident film yet from absolute weirdo Amanda Kramer (*Please Baby Please, Give Me Pity!*), synthesizing her obsessions with kink, class, performance, and womanhood into this for-acquired-tastes-only deadpan satire about a woman who becomes a chair.

**COLOR BOOK:** A perfect fusion of indie cinema knowhow that will break you apart and put you back together. Winner of the Directors to Watch Award at the 2025 Palm Springs International Film Festival.

**FAMILIAR TOUCH:** Kathleen Chalfant—whose performances in the original stage casts of "Angels in America" and "Wit" are the stuff of legend—stuns in this wise, unshowy, Venice- and Independent Spirit Award-winning drama about aging with grace.



## JESSE KNIGHT

PROGRAMMER

I finally got to see *The Rubber Gun*, the long-unavailable 1977 debut feature from director Allan Moyle—whose spiritual trilogy of *Empire Records*, *Times Square*, and *Pump Up the Volume* was overwhelmingly formative for me as an angsty teen—and it exceeded expectations. Sort of Montreal's answer to Paul Morrissey and Andy Warhol, with a bit of *Trainspotting* and *Christiane F.* injection, I can't recommend the brand new restoration highly enough.

# SIFF is committed to being an anti-racist and anti-oppression organization.

We strive to provide an environment that encourages inclusive experiences for all our audiences, volunteers, artists, staff, and greater community.

To create inclusivity and belonging, SIFF expects everyone participating in our events to uphold and embrace this commitment.





## KATHLEEN MULLEN

PROGRAMMER

I recently watched the 1940 film *Dance, Girl, Dance* by Dorothy Arzner. While I had seen clips before, I had never watched the full feature. One scene that stands out is when Judy, played by Maureen O'Hara, directly confronts the audience, challenging both them and us to reflect on ourselves. The world of women portrayed in the film, including Lucille Ball in a pivotal role, deeply moved me. What prompted me to revisit this film was a powerful documentary in SIFF's lineup, *Know Her Name*, which explores women directors and the phenomenon of historical amnesia.

**SEEDS:** Enter into the realities of Black farmers in the South. Meet their families, elders, and the people they work with to make ends meet when their livelihoods are on the line. I appreciated the observational insider's view by director Brittany Shyne of the fight for their rights and the daily joys they find as a community.

**KNOW HER NAME:** Uncover the stories of these visionary women in cinema and explore the effects of historical amnesia, revealing how sexism and racism have shaped the industry. Despite their groundbreaking work, many of these women directors, both past and present, remain absent from cinema's legacy!

**JEAN COCTEAU:** Jean Cocteau's writing, loves, and vision come to life in this unique exploration of the influential avant-garde French novelist, poet, filmmaker, and artist. Narrated by Josh O'Connor, this stunning work captures the essence of this artistic master's life.

**DROWNED LAND:** Colleen Thurston traces the history of how the Choctaw Nation's land has been gradually stripped away, intertwining it with her own family's fascinating story. As a new bill is signed to divert the Kiamichi River in Oklahoma, her family and the river's community become unexpected activists, fighting to protect their homes.

**COME SEE ME IN THE GOOD LIGHT:** Poet Andrea Gibson inspires me with their words and their courage for life in this timely documentary that chronicles the relationship between them and their poet spouse Megan Falley in the face of Andrea's incurable illness. A must-see.



## COLLEEN O'HOLLERAN

PROGRAMMER

I watched Michelangelo Antonioni's *Blow-Up* (1966) for the first time recently, about a photographer who inadvertently captures a murder on his camera. Watching *Blow-Up* feels like taking a time machine to the swinging sixties of Mod London. At the same time, it's strikingly poignant, exploring how humans reshape nature through devices, where the lines between reality and perception get progressively blurred.

**CHAIN REACTIONS:** The saw is family, y'all.

**SPERMAGEDDON:** You don't want to miss this Norwegian musical comedy, by the director of *Violent Night* and *Dead Snow*, about a sperm and their friends' adventures.

**BY DESIGN:** This movie riveted me—I could not look away... The throughline is fetish, and the actors understood the assignment.

**THE BALCONETTES:** Noémie Merlant's French horror comedy centers on friendship, sex, death, and revenge. It's also beautifully filmed and fun to watch.

**GOOD BOY:** And the Oscar® for best dog actor in a ghost story goes to...



## SHAILAJA RAO

PROGRAMMER

The film *Manthan*, a 2024 official Classic Selection at Cannes, is a film I rewatched after 40 years. A powerful film on deep-rooted social hierarchy based on generations of discrimination, exploitative middlemen, feudal landlords, and the peasants ends on a positive note with a sign of shift as the idea of the cooperative takes footing. While the film maintains its contemporary relevance, reflecting the persistent intersection of political dynamics with financial interests and power structures, it depicts how grassroots momentum can lead to equitable distribution of profits.



## TRACY RECTOR

PROGRAMMER

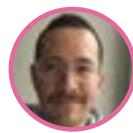
I've been on a late '80s and early '90s kick for the last six months à la *Do the Right Thing* or *Stand By Me* vibes. Maybe it's the nostalgia, sassiness, the really bad jokes, the less complicated times, or just the cheese factor that have been so satisfying and relatable.

**TINĀ:** Who doesn't love an inspiring, lighthearted tearjerker with a strong Samoan auntie leading the way with her excellent performance and some serious side-eye? A classic fish-out-of-water tale!

**REMAINING NATIVE:** First-time director Paige Bethmann heard about this remarkable teenager living in Nevada who chose to run 50 miles, in the footsteps of his grandfather, to honor his resilient spirit. She was so inspired by this young athlete and his family she decided to move from New York City to Reno and make this beautiful documentary.

**MEDICINE CIRCLE: INDIGENOUS STORIES OF RETURN:** In this year's Indigenous shorts package, we explore films born of the snowy landscapes of the northern territories and the Arctic Circle. We see stories of salmon, reindeer, student activism, and gender-shifting warriors come to life through the darkness into the light.

**DROWNED LAND:** 4th World Media Lab alumna Colleen Thurston set out seven years ago to share a story about the rights of water parallel with her connection to her peoples' history and tribal lands. Ultimately, her film became more than a fight for a river; it demonstrates a lifelong reckoning with the cycle of land theft and displacement that began with the Trail of Tears.



## CORY RODRIGUEZ

PROGRAMMER

I recently had the chance to see *To Live and Die in L.A.* for the first time, and on the big screen, too. I had always heard about William Friedkin's quintessentially '80s action thriller, but I wasn't expecting such amazing scenes like the wrong-way freeway chase, the perfect balance of William Petersen and Willem Dafoe, and the punctuation of such a gritty, crooked-looking city with the sounds of Wang Chung.



## MARTIN SCHWARTZ

PROGRAMMER

Not long ago, I saw Michael Curtiz's *Passage to Marseille* (1944) for the first time. It's got performances from Bogart and Claude Rains and the same bizarre wartime colonial French patriotism as *Casablanca*, but set in a much more brutal and violent frame. It was like *Casablanca*'s less charming, less beautiful, less brilliant, more drunken and boisterous younger brother, who is for that reason somehow more relatable.

**THE SAFE HOUSE:** Lionel Baier has the gift of a light touch with serious material, and this film, with its nods to cultural touchstones of 1960s Paris, its jazz score, and its extremely stylish filmmaking, oozes charm while making a serious argument about history, memory, and movies.

**RIEFENSTAHL:** Didn't Mick Jagger say once that *Triumph of the Will*, by Hitler and Goebbels' house director, was his favorite movie? Here are all the reasons that's problematic, and also all the reasons it's plausible.

**JOHN CRANKO:** Have you wept at any ballet recently? It's your time. *John Cranko* is a sorely needed reminder that humans do occasionally make beautiful things.

**HANAMI:** The dry, rocky, sunny, breezy Atlantic nation of Cape Verde meets the mind of a child and a cinematic vision with a sense for magic. Gorgeous colors and textures: an ancient woman's face, the light from a flickering lantern. I can't wait to see this on the big screen.

**MOON:** Starts out with a punch to the face, literally, inside a women's MMA bout, then shifts to Jordan, where the fighter goes to train three wealthy, cloistered young women. As in *Sonne* (SIFF 2023), Ayub, a protégée of Austrian auteur Ulrich Seidl, gives an uppercut to Western ignorance of the reality of girls' lives in the Arab world.



## EMALIE SODERBACK

PROGRAMMER

I just recently found out that the writer of maybe my all-time favorite movie *La Dolce Vita*, Brunello Rondi, wrote and directed a woman obsessed/possessed film called *Il Demonio* (1963). Not only does the movie look absolutely gorgeous, but Dahlia Lavi's performance as a scorned woman who may or may not have the devil inside of her is horrifying and hypnotizing; it just has to be part of the blueprint for Adjani in *Possession*.



## ANDY SPLETZER

PROGRAMMER

Normally I watch new movies and don't revisit oldies, but last year I came down with a nasty case of COVID, so I fired up the library app Kanopy and watched Elaine May's *Mikey and Nicky* (1976), a gritty tale of low-rent gangsters (Peter Falk and John Cassavetes) on the run through the gritty streets of Philadelphia after Nicky stole some mob money. But it's also about complex male friendships, especially men at an older age, and that's great to see.

**THE GLORIA OF YOUR IMAGINATION:** Perhaps my favorite doc in the entire Festival, director Jennifer Reeves takes found footage of a single mom in 1963, filmed in three different therapy sessions, and creates a movie about gender inequality, consent, self-doubt, and honesty.

**JEAN COCTEAU:** This portrait of the influential poet/filmmaker/playwright/creative spirit is as informative as it is inspiring and will make you want to create art after you leave the theater.

**SUBURBAN FURY:** I love me an unreliable narrator, and this one is a mother of four who tried to assassinate President Ford. Sara Jane Moore tells her own story in this subjective documentary.

**SANATORIUM UNDER THE SIGN OF THE HOURGLASS:** After a 20-year drought, the Brothers Quay have made another feature film, and this mix of creepy puppet animation and surreal storytelling is worth the wait.

**ALT SHORTS: DEAD RECKONING:** This year, so many of the shorts have water and ocean themes, and the nautical term "dead reckoning" is in the opening of the movie *My Dad Asked Me What Acid Felt Like*, one of many fun experimental shorts in this year's program.



## MAYUMI TSUTAKAWA

PROGRAMMER

Although I saw them long ago, I recently rewatched two classics by Yasujiro Ozu: *Late Spring* and *Tokyo Story*. Although old-fashioned, the family relations are timeless and gently presented. The women actors are fabulous!



## DARCY WYTKO

PROGRAMMER

Kurosawa's *High and Low*! It feels so fresh and alive, even 60 years later. Unorthodox and innovative, it's just impossibly cool, plus its themes on class warfare are more relevant than ever. Can't wait to see Spike Lee's upcoming adaptation *Highest 2 Lowest*.



## NICHOLE YOUNG

PROGRAMMER

I'm only slightly embarrassed to admit I'm not one to watch the typical "classics" they taught in film school, although I will say I recently watched *Before Sunrise* (1995) for the first time and would easily categorize it as one. Before anyone says anything, I know I'm 30 years late to the hype! The yearning, the once-in-a-lifetime romance, the escapism, the tension, the tenderness, the heartbreak—what's not to adore?

See more Programmers' Picks at

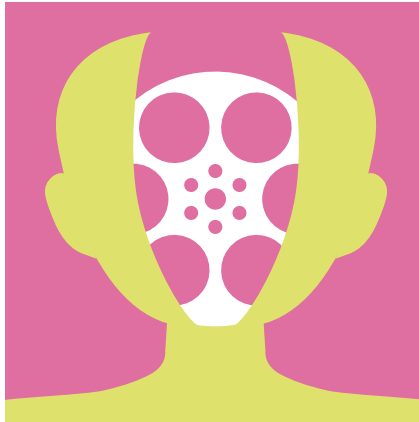
[siff.net/programmerspicks](https://siff.net/programmerspicks)



## African Pictures

Bringing the best filmmaking happening in and about Africa today to American audiences. Don't miss this opportunity to delight in these innovative and inspiring works spanning diverse regions and cultures.

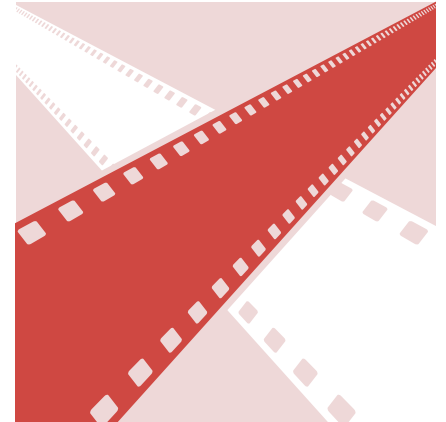
*BLKNWS: Terms & Conditions*  
*Don't Let's Go to the Dogs Tonight*  
*Everybody Loves Touda*  
*Hanami*  
*How to Build a Library*  
*Khartoum*  
*The Village Next to Paradise*



## Alternate Cinema

Forward-thinking, pattern-disrupting independent films for viewers with a passion for experimentation. Our Alternate Cinema program promises to open your mind with unconventional cinematography and fresh narratives.

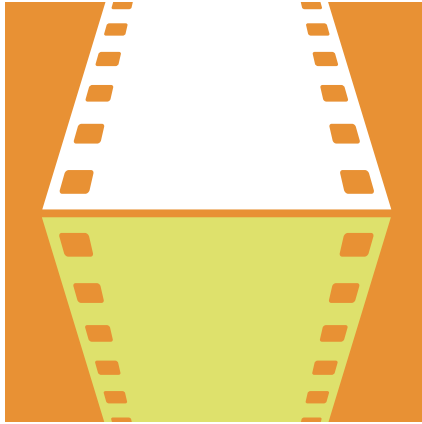
*ALT Shorts: Dead Reckoning*  
*(short film package)*  
*BLKNWS: Terms & Conditions*  
*The Gloria of your Imagination*  
*Sanatorium Under the Sign of the*  
*Hourglass*



## Asian Crossroads

Discover the most exciting films to come from Earth's largest continent with our Asian Crossroads program. Selected films represent a diverse collection of genres from across the regions and cultures of Central, East, and South Asia.

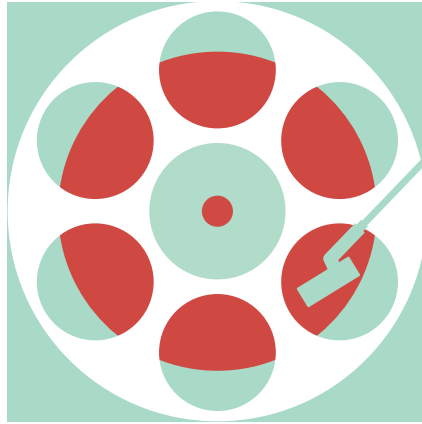
*Between Goodbyes*  
*Blue Sun Palace*  
*Boong*  
*The Botanist*  
*By the Stream*  
*Cloud*  
*Fly Me to the Moon*  
*Happyend*  
*Little Red Sweet*  
*Luz*  
*Meeting with Pol Pot*  
*Summer's Camera*  
*To Kill a Mongolian Horse*



## **cINeDIGENOUS**

SIFF acknowledges that we are on Indigenous land, the traditional territories of the Coast Salish people. This program amplifies Indigenous filmmakers worldwide, sharing vital voices for our planet and its people.

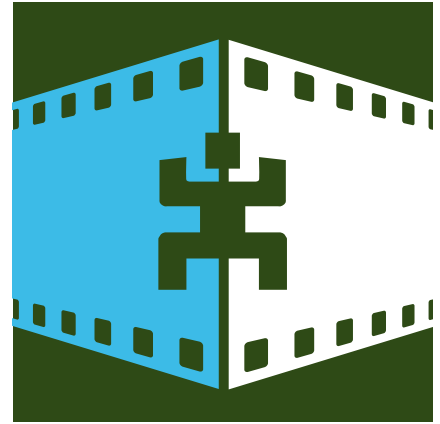
*Drowned Land*  
*Free Leonard Peltier*  
*Ka Whawhai Tonu: Struggle Without End*  
*Medicine Circle: Indigenous Stories of*  
*Return (short film package)*  
*Remaining Native*  
*Tinā*



## **Face the Music**

Regular exposure to music and film is essential to maintaining your personal equilibrium. That's why we created Face the Music, a scientifically proven regimen of music-driven movies for your peak audio-visual health.

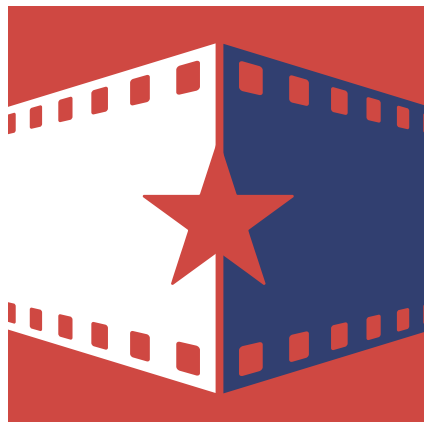
*1-800-ON-HER-OWN*  
*Monk in Pieces*  
*Paul Anka: His Way*  
*Salsa Lives*



## **Ibero-American Cinema**

Ibero-American cinema is nurtured by diversity, unique histories, and a rich tradition of storytelling. Allow the powerful documentaries and works of fiction in this program to ignite your emotions and expand your imagination.

*Beef*  
*Bitter Gold*  
*Deaf*  
*Flamingos: Life After the Meteorite*  
*Freeing Juanita*  
*Hanami*  
*I Am Nevenka*  
*Manas*  
*The Nature of Invisible Things*  
*Salsa Lives*  
*Transfers*  
*Undercover*  
*The Wailing*



## New American Cinema

Going to the movies has long been a favorite American pastime, and these filmmakers are determined to keep it that way. Each of these films represents a unique voice, and together they reflect the diversity of the American experience.

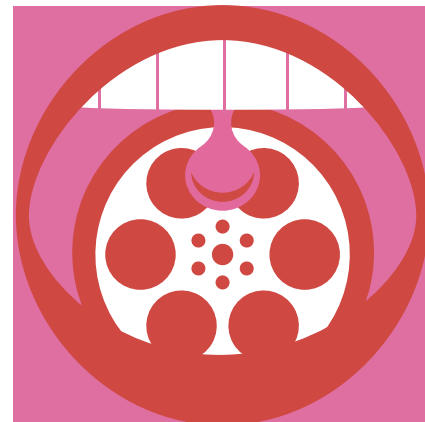
- BLKNWS: Terms & Conditions*
- Blue Sun Palace*
- By Design*
- Color Book*
- Evergreens*
- Familiar Touch*
- F\*cktoys*
- Good Boy*
- Invention*
- Monarch City*
- New Jack Fury*
- Rebuilding*
- She's The He*
- Slanted*
- Sorry, Baby*
- Twinless*



## Northwest Connections

Washingtonians have a distinct culture, and the films in this program highlight all that makes us unique. Grab your raincoat—skip the umbrella—and head on over to SIFF for these movies filmed or set in the PNW.

- BLKNWS: Terms & Conditions*
- Evergreens*
- Monarch City*
- Sound Visions (short film package)*
- Suburban Fury*
- Wolf Land*

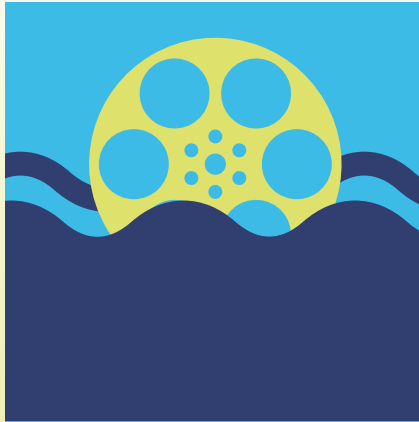
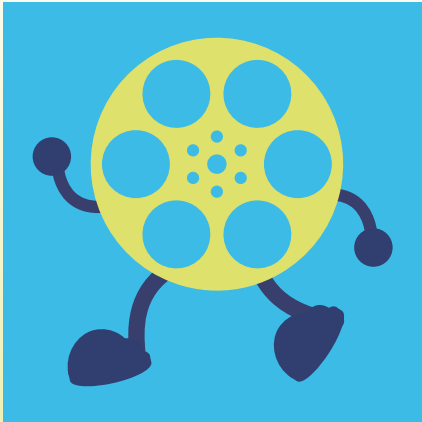


## WTF: Wild, Terrifying, Fantastic!

All aboard this ultimate WTF cruise to the strangest, most disconcerting, and silliest parts of this spooky, slimy planet we call Earth—and maybe even beyond.

- The Balconettes*
- Chain Reactions*
- Dead Lover*
- F\*cktoys*
- Good Boy*
- Head Trip Shorts (short film package)*
- New Jack Fury*
- SIFF & CFC Present The Dark Crystal with DJ NicFit*
- Spermageddon*
- The Spirit Cabinet (short film package)*
- Time Travel is Dangerous*
- The Wailing*





## Films4Families

Family-friendly films for kids, their chaperones, and anyone with a sense of childlike wonder. Enjoy the bright colors, quirky sound effects, and sweet narratives of these fabulous children's features and shorts from around the world.

*The Family Picture Show*  
(short film package)  
*Into the Wonderwoods*  
*Tales From the Magic Garden*

## FutureWave

Ride the wave of the future with these films curated for viewers aged 13 through 21. Each flick in this program speaks to the experiences unique to coming-of-age viewers as they explore the exciting novelty and grit of the world around them.

*Dancing Queen in Hollywood*  
*FutureWave: Teenage Hearts*  
(short film package)  
*Happyend*  
*Slanted*  
*Summer's Camera*  
*Unclickable*

# FILM MAKING CAMPS

July-August 2025  
Learn more at  
[siff.net/camps](http://siff.net/camps)



siff



SEATTLE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

# COMPETITIONS

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2025

## Juried Competitions

The juried competitions are made up of films selected by our Festival programmers and represent the best in their categories from all over the world. A carefully selected jury of industry professionals then determines the winners.

## OFFICIAL COMPETITION

These films represent some of the overall best work across all programs.

*Home Sweet Home*  
*The New Year That Never Came*  
*Raptures*  
*Rebuilding*  
*Remaining Native*  
*The Safe House*  
*Seeds*  
*Summer's Camera*

## NEW AMERICAN CINEMA COMPETITION

Remarkable independent films from US filmmakers to watch.

*BLKNWS: Terms & Conditions*  
*Color Book*  
*F\*cktoys*  
*Invention*  
*She's The He*  
*Slanted*

## NEW DIRECTORS COMPETITION

Phenomenal international films without US distribution at the time of selection.

*Beginnings*  
*The Crowd*  
*DJ Ahmet*  
*Mongrels*  
*Ready or Not*  
*To Kill a Mongolian Horse*  
*The Village Next to Paradise*

## IBERO-AMERICAN COMPETITION

Latin American and Spanish films that dazzled SIFF programmers.

*Beef*  
*Bitter Gold*  
*Deaf*  
*Hanami*  
*Manas*  
*The Nature of Invisible Things*  
*Transfers*  
*Undercover*

## DOCUMENTARY COMPETITION

Films that educate, stand up, and stand out.

*Between Goodbyes*  
*Billy*  
*Drowned Land*  
*Freeing Juanita*  
*The Librarians*  
*Suburban Fury*  
*Unclickable*  
*Viktor*

## Golden Space Needle Awards

This year, SIFF audiences will rate films after each screening using our new online platform. Categories include Best Film, Best Documentary, Best Director, Best Performance, and Best Short Film. Be on the lookout for the QR code post-film both onscreen and posted in the theater.

The jury and audience winners will be announced on May 25 at the Golden Space Needle Awards Reception.



# Seattle We talk Design

Discover sustainable design surfaces in a meeting space for designers and architects



Specialized advice



Customized visits



New digital services



Events and Talks



Experience Zones



**1-800-ON-HER-OWN**

Strum a tune with indie folk singer-songwriter and activist Ani DiFranco through the making of her 2021 album "Revolutionary Love," recorded in lockdown, and the path she paved for other female artists via her Righteous Babe Recordings record label. (d: Dana Flor f: Ani DiFranco, USA 2024, 78 min)

MON 5/19 6:00 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN  
TUE 5/20 3:45 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**40 Acres**

Music video veteran R.T. Thorne directs SAG nominee Danielle Deadwyler (*The Piano Lesson*) in this TIFF sensation, a speculative fiction thriller about a Black family in a starved, post-civil war near future who must defend their farm from invading cannibals. (d: R.T. Thorne c: Danielle Deadwyler, Kataem O'Connor, Michael Greyeyes, Milcania Diaz-Rojas, Canada 2024, 113 min)

FRI 5/16 9:00 PM SIFF DOWNTOWN  
WED 5/21 3:00 PM SIFF DOWNTOWN



**Adolescent Overdrive**

From surrealist swimming lessons to '90s motocross, teenage coma musings to rip-roarin' rodeos, this is growing up. (short film package, 86 min)

FRI 5/23 4:00 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**ALT Shorts: Dead Reckoning**

Chart a course through experimental fables and water imagery and oceans of cut-out and crazy animations...with nary a Tom Cruise nor impossible mission in sight. (short film package, 86 min)

FRI 5/16 8:30 PM SIFF FILM CENTER



**Animation4Adults**

From wide open spaces to the crowded confines of a commuter train, this year's animation package takes you on incredible journeys whether it be startling transformations, post-career life choices, or underground mysteries. (short film package, 84 min)

SAT 5/17 9:30 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**April**

An obstetrician who secretly provides abortions and other family planning services to a remote village in Eastern Georgia finds herself thrust into the harsh, investigative spotlight when she loses a newborn while on duty in the unflinching second film from Dea Kulumbegashvili (*Beginning*). (d: Dea Kulumbegashvili c: Ia Sukhitashvili, Kakha Kintsurashvili, Georgia/France/Italy 2024, 134 min)

FRI 5/16 12:30 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN  
SAT 5/17 8:00 PM SIFF FILM CENTER



**Auction**

When a long-lost painting, stolen by the Nazis in 1939, turns up in a cottage in Eastern France, it sets in motion a story of intrigue, deceit, and surprise. Based on a remarkable true story. (d: Pascal Bonitzer c: Alex Lutz, Léa Drucker, Nora Hamzawi, Louise Chevillotte, France 2024, 91 min)

FRI 5/16 1:30 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN  
SUN 5/18 5:15 PM SHORELINE CC



**Baby Doe**

Nearly 30 years after Gail abandoned her newborn son in the woods and returned to her conservative Christian life, the police came and arrested her for infanticide. From Tribeca-winning documentarian Jessica Earnshaw (Hulu's "Jacinta"). (d: Jessica Earnshaw, USA 2025, 100 min)

TUE 5/20 6:00 PM PACIFIC PLACE  
WED 5/21 3:45 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**The Balconettes**

Noémie Merlant (*Portrait of a Lady on Fire*) co-writes, directs, and stars in this genre-bending feminist comic thriller, as a trio of Marseille roommates—a camgirl, a writer, and an actress—rage against toxic masculinity in the middle of a terrible heat wave. (d: Noémie Merlant c: Souheila Yacoub, Sanda Codreanu, Noémie Merlant, Lucas Bravo, France 2024, 104 min)

SUN 5/18 9:00 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN  
MON 5/19 3:15 PM SIFF DOWNTOWN



## Quality health care for all that is you.

Kaiser Permanente is a proud supporter of the Seattle International Film Festival.

Kaiser Permanente provides inclusive and affirming health care and services, from employees and physicians who reflect the diverse communities we serve. We are proud to be with you on your health journey, in ways that reflect all of who you are today, and all that you'll be tomorrow. Learn more at [kp.org](https://kp.org)

**For all that is Washington. For all that is you.**



**BAR**

Don Hardy (*Pick of the Litter*, SIFF 2018) returns to Seattle with this perfect cocktail of a documentary, focusing on students participating in the Culinary Institute of America's BAR (Beverage Alcohol Resource) 5-Day Program, hoping to be some of the world's greatest mixologists. (d: Don Hardy, USA 2025, 89 min)

SAT 5/17 7:00 PM PACIFIC PLACE  
 SUN 5/18 11:00 AM PACIFIC PLACE



N. American Premiere

**Beef**

Lati, a first-generation Malian migrant, turns to rap to overcome the death of her father. Determined to overcome her fears of performing and to confront her mom's opposition, a new world opens up when she learns how to tap into her frustration and anger to create empowering, liberating rhymes. (d: Ingrid Santos c: Latifa Drame, Judith Álvarez Vargas, Asaari Bibang, Spain/Mexico 2025, 85 min)

FRI 5/16 1:15 PM SIFF DOWNTOWN  
 THU 5/22 9:30 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



N. American Premiere

**Beginnings**

Life is full of unexpected twists. Ane and Thomas (Trine Dyrholm and David Dencik at the top of their craft) must redefine the parameters of their relationship when, just as they are about to finalize their divorce and tell their two daughters, she suffers a stroke. (d: Jeanette Nordahl c: Trine Dyrholm, David Dencik, Denmark/Sweden/Belgium 2025, 96 min)

THU 5/22 8:30 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN  
 FRI 5/23 3:00 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**Between Goodbyes**

A Danish adoptee and her Korean birth parents try to build familial bonds across languages and cultural differences from halfway around the world in this tear-jerking, decades-spanning documentary from debut filmmaker Jota Mun. (d: Jota Mun f: Mieke Murkes, Okgyun Kang, USA 2024, 96 min)

SAT 5/24 6:45 PM PACIFIC PLACE  
 SUN 5/25 1:30 PM PACIFIC PLACE



**Billy**

In this compassionate yet disturbing documentary, director Lawrence Côté-Collins inspects the life of former filmmaking friend Billy Poulin, now in prison for murder, through his own stockpile of video footage and deconstructs the effects of untreated schizophrenia. (d: Lawrence Côté-Collins, Canada (Québec)/Finland 2024, 107 min)

FRI 5/16 5:30 PM SIFF FILM CENTER  
 SAT 5/17 2:30 PM SIFF FILM CENTER



**Bitter Gold**

In this pulse-pounding neo-western thriller set in the cutthroat artisanal mining industry in the deserts of northern Chile, 16-year-old Carola must take control of the family business and stave off greedy, gold-seeking rivals after her father gets seriously injured. (d: Juan Olea c: Katalina Sánchez, Francisco Melo, Michael Silva, Daniel Antivilo, Moisés Angulo, Chile/Mexico/Uruguay/Germany 2024, 83 min)

FRI 5/16 1:00 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN  
 THU 5/22 6:00 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**BLKNWS: Terms & Conditions**

Seattle native Kahlil Joseph makes his mesmerizing feature directorial debut *BLKNWS: Terms & Conditions*, deftly intertwining a fictional Afrofuturist narrative, personal family legacy, and archival footage into an uncompromising visual and cerebral feast. (d: Kahlil Joseph c: Shaunette Renée Wilson, Kaneza Schaal, Hope Giselle, USA 2025, 113 min)

SUN 5/18 6:30 PM SIFF DOWNTOWN  
 MON 5/19 4:00 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**Blue Road: The Edna O'Brien Story**

The controversial and boldly feminist Irish author Edna O'Brien ("The Country Girls") shares her journal entries and provocative insight into her trailblazing career in a series of late-in-life interviews in this Palm Springs International Film Festival award winner. (d: Sinéad O'Shea f: Edna O'Brien, Jessie Buckley, Gabriel Byrne, Carlo Gebler, Sasha Gebler, Walter Mosley, Ireland/United Kingdom 2024, 100 min)

FRI 5/16 4:00 PM PACIFIC PLACE  
 TUE 5/20 6:00 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**Blue Sun Palace**

In Constance Tsang's strikingly original, Cannes-winning social realist debut, two Queens-based Chinese immigrants find solace in their shared grief over a massage parlor worker they each loved in their own way before tragedy struck. (d: Constance Tsang c: Ke-Xi Wu, Lee Kang Sheng, Haixpeng Xu, Min Han Hsieh, Lisha Zheng, USA 2024, 116 min)

MON 5/19 5:45 PM SHORELINE CC  
 SAT 5/24 11:00 AM PACIFIC PLACE



# INTRODUCING THE 4TH WORLD MEDIA LAB 2025 FELLOWS - COHORT 10

This year, we celebrate 10 years of the 4th World Media Lab, which provides Indigenous media creatives a progressive immersion into film learning and media exploration ranging from storytelling fundamentals and pitching to presentation and marketing to distribution and industry networking rooted in narrative sovereignty, collective care, and radical joy.

The year-long fellowship, founded by Pacific Northwest filmmaker Tracy Rector, includes residencies at Big Sky Documentary Film Festival, Camden International Film Festival, and Seattle International Film Festival. The Seattle experience, in partnership with global Indigenous organizations and industry experts, offers master classes, hands-on trainings, community gatherings, and global film presentations as part of the SIFF urban festival atmosphere.



**Kekama Amona**  
Kanaka 'Ōiwi



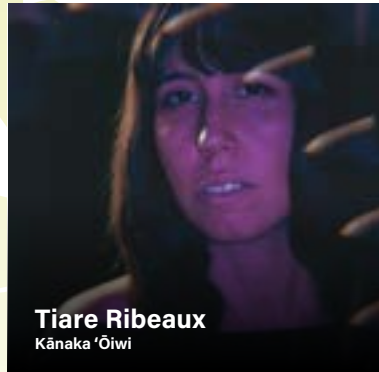
**Katsitsionni Fox**  
Haudenosaunee/Mohawk



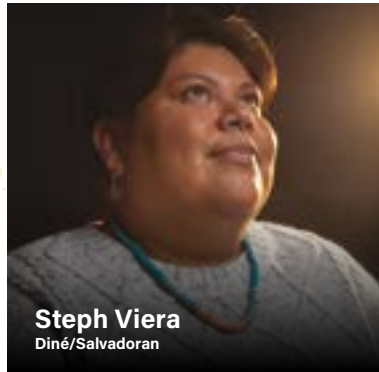
**James Johnson III**  
Koyukon Athabaskan



**Jules Arita Koostachin**  
Attawapiskat



**Tiare Ribeaux**  
Kānaka 'Ōiwi



**Steph Viera**  
Diné/Salvadoran

**POINTS  
NORTH**

**BIGSKY**  
DOCUMENTARY  
FILM FESTIVAL



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CONGRESS**

**ILLUMINATIVE**

**ITVS**

**PERSPECTIVE  
FUND**

THU 5/15

**PARAMOUNT THEATRE**

7:00 PM Opening Night Film & Party  
Four Mothers\* 89



Visit [siff.net](http://siff.net) for up-to-date schedule information, guest announcements, extended film descriptions, trailers, and more.

**Open Caption Screenings:**

Some second screenings will be presented with open captions when available. For a film list visit [siff.net/opencaptions](http://siff.net/opencaptions).

**Festival Passport:**

Track your Reel World adventures! See films, visit venues, and collect stamps for a chance to win sweet SIFF souvenirs. Get yours at [siff.net/passport](http://siff.net/passport).

**SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN**

	Minutes	Minutes	Minutes
<b>FRI 5/16</b>	1:30 PM Auction 91 4:00 PM Drowned Land 97 7:00 PM ShortsFest Opening Night 89 9:30 PM F*cktoys 107	1:00 PM Bitter Gold 83 3:00 PM Monk In Pieces 95 6:30 PM The Librarians 88 9:00 PM Chain Reactions 101	12:30 PM April 134 3:30 PM Hanami 96 6:00 PM Starman 85 8:30 PM Mongrels 110
<b>SAT 5/17</b>	12:00 PM Diciannove 109 2:30 PM Remaining Native 100 5:30 PM Seeds 122 8:30 PM Free Leonard Peltier 129	11:30 AM Medicine Circle: Indigenous ... 71 2:00 PM The Librarians 88 5:00 PM Deaf 99 9:30 PM Animation4Adults 84	12:30 PM Invention 72 3:00 PM The Nature of Invisible Things 90 6:00 PM Paying For It 85 9:00 PM Monk In Pieces 95
<b>SUN 5/18</b>	11:15 AM Free Leonard Peltier 129 2:30 PM Tinã 139 6:00 PM Familiar Touch 91 9:00 PM The Balconettes 104	12:00 PM Tales from the Magic Garden 71 2:00 PM Seeds 122 5:00 PM Remaining Native 100 8:00 PM Sudden Outbursts of Emotions 97	12:30 PM Paying For It 85 3:00 PM Deaf 99 5:30 PM Heightened Scrutiny 85 8:30 PM Meeting with Pol Pot 113
<b>MON 5/19</b>	4:00 PM BLKNWS: Terms & Conditions 113 7:00 PM Dancing Queen In Hollywood 87 9:30 PM Spermageddon 80	3:30 PM Sudden Outbursts of Emotions 97 6:00 PM 1-800-ON-HER-OWN 78 8:30 PM Cloud 124	3:15 PM Heightened Scrutiny 85 5:30 PM Evergreens 120 9:00 PM She's The He 81
<b>TUE 5/20</b>	1:00 PM Luz 102 3:45 PM 1-800-ON-HER-OWN 78 6:00 PM Blue Road: The Edna O'Brien... 100 8:30 PM Don't Let's Go to the Dogs... 98	12:30 PM Meeting with Pol Pot 113 3:30 PM Evergreens 120 6:30 PM Monarch City 89 9:00 PM By Design 90	12:45 PM Joqtau 71 3:00 PM Jean Cocteau 94 5:30 PM Freeing Juanita 89 8:00 PM By the Stream 111
<b>WED 5/21</b>	1:00 PM I Am Nevenka 112 3:45 PM Baby Doe 100 6:30 PM The Safe House 90 9:00 PM Hanami 96	1:30 PM Fly Me to the Moon 112 4:30 PM By Design 90 7:00 PM The Kingdom 108 9:30 PM Ready Or Not 84	12:30 PM By the Stream 111 3:30 PM Monarch City 89 6:00 PM Summer's Camera 82 8:30 PM How to Build a Library 100
<b>THU 5/22</b>	12:30 PM Riefenstahl 116 3:15 PM Everybody Loves Touda 101 6:30 PM Sound Visions 96 9:30 PM Beef 85	1:00 PM Boong 93 4:00 PM Ready Or Not 84 7:00 PM Cat Town, USA 73 9:30 PM Head Trip Shorts 89	1:30 PM Unclickable 74 3:30 PM Summer's Camera 82 6:00 PM Bitter Gold 83 8:30 PM Beginnings 96
<b>FRI 5/23</b>	1:00 PM The Kingdom 108 3:30 PM Suburban Fury 118 6:30 PM Time Travel Is Dangerous 99 9:30 PM The Spirit Cabinet 96	12:30 PM Shepherds 113 3:00 PM Beginnings 96 5:45 PM Salsa Lives 101 8:30 PM Everybody Loves Touda 101	1:30 PM The Feminine Urge 94 4:00 PM Adolescent Overdrive 86 7:00 PM The Crowd 82 9:00 PM Raptures 108
<b>SAT 5/24</b>	12:30 PM Twinless 100 3:30 PM Cat Town, USA 73 6:00 PM DJ Ahmet 97 8:30 PM Rebuilding 95	12:00 PM Time Travel Is Dangerous 99 4:00 PM Queering The Way 95 6:30 PM The Chef & The Daruma 90 9:00 PM Slanted 104	11:30 AM The Family Picture Show 88 2:30 PM Raptures 108 5:30 PM Color Book 98 8:00 PM Coexistence, My Ass! 95
<b>SUN 5/25</b>	11:00 AM Tales from the Magic Garden 71 1:00 PM Paul Anka: His Way 99 3:30 PM Slanted 104 6:30 PM Rebuilding 95	11:30 AM Coexistence, My Ass! 95 2:00 PM The Chef & The Daruma 90 4:30 PM Cloud 124 7:30 PM Good Boy 73	12:00 PM The Crowd 82 2:30 PM Color Book 98 5:00 PM Know Her Name 80 7:15 PM Twinless 100

\*Denotes special event pricing.



SIFF CINEMA DOWNTOWN			SIFF FILM CENTER			AMC PACIFIC PLACE 11			SHORELINE			
		Minutes			Minutes			Minutes			Minutes	
1:15 PM	Beef	85				1:30 PM	How to Build a Library	100				FRI 5/16
3:30 PM	Under the Volcano	102	3:00 PM	Manas	101	4:00 PM	Blue Road: The Edna O'Brien...	100	6:30 PM	Dancing Queen in Hollywood	87	
6:00 PM	Ka Whawhai Tonu: Struggle...	115	5:30 PM	Billy	107	6:30 PM	Invention	72				
9:00 PM	40 Acres	113	8:30 PM	ALT Shorts: Dead Reckoning	86	9:00 PM	The Nature of Invisible Things	90				
Midnight	Spermageddon	80										
12:00 PM	Into the Wonderwoods	84	12:00 PM	Drowning Dry	88	10:45 AM	Mongrels	110	12:30 PM	Don't Let's Go to the Dogs...	98	SAT 5/17
2:30 PM	Viktor	89	2:30 PM	Billy	107	1:30 PM	Chain Reactions	101	3:00 PM	Starman	85	
5:30 PM	Come See Me In the Good Light	104	5:30 PM	Through the Looking Glass	91	4:15 PM	F*cktoys	107	5:30 PM	Wolf Land	71	
8:30 PM	Undercover	118	8:00 PM	April	134	7:00 PM	BAR	89	8:00 PM	The Wailing	107	
Midnight	New Jack Fury	89				9:30 PM	Idyllic	99				
11:00 AM	Secret #1*	~90	12:00 PM	Transfers	90	11:00 AM	BAR	89	12:00 PM	Into the Wonderwoods	84	SUN 5/18
1:15 PM	Come See Me in the Good Light	104	2:15 PM	FutureWave: Teenage Hearts	98	1:30 PM	Wolf Land	71	2:30 PM	Ka Whawhai Tonu: Struggle...	115	
4:15 PM	The Glass Web in 3-D	81	5:00 PM	WWYD (What Would You Do?)	94	3:45 PM	Idyllic	99	5:15 PM	Auction	91	
6:30 PM	BLKNWS: Terms & Conditions	113	7:30 PM	Manas	101	6:15 PM	The New Year That Never Came	138	7:30 PM	New Jack Fury	89	
9:30 PM	Sanatorium Under the Sign...	76				9:30 PM	To Kill a Mongolian Horse	97				
3:15 PM	The Balconettes	104	3:00 PM	The Village Next to Paradise	133	3:30 PM	The New Year That Never Came	138	5:45 PM	Blue Sun Palace	116	MON 5/19
6:00 PM	Tinā	139	6:00 PM	The Gloria of your Imagination	98	7:00 PM	Jean Cocteau	94	8:30 PM	Fly Me to the Moon	112	
9:30 PM	Viktor	89	8:30 PM	Unclickable	74	9:30 PM	Khartoum	80				
3:30 PM	Undercover	118	3:30 PM	The Gloria of your Imagination	98	1:00 PM	To Kill a Mongolian Horse	97	6:00 PM	Drowned Land	97	
6:30 PM	SIFF & CFC Present The Dark Crystal with DJ NicFit	93	6:00 PM	Come Closer	107	3:30 PM	She's The He	81	8:30 PM	Under the Volcano	102	
9:00 PM	Riefenstahl	116	8:30 PM	Transfers	90	6:00 PM	Baby Doe	100				
						8:45 PM	Home Sweet Home	112				
3:00 PM	40 Acres	113	3:00 PM	Freeing Juanita	89	1:30 PM	Khartoum	80	6:00 PM	Sally	103	WED 5/21
6:00 PM	Suburban Fury	118	5:30 PM	The Village Next to Paradise	133	3:30 PM	Home Sweet Home	112	8:30 PM	Waves	131	
9:15 PM	Diciannove	109	8:30 PM	Happy Holidays	123	6:30 PM	Odd Fish	104				
						9:15 PM	Little Red Sweet	92				
12:30 PM	U Are the Universe	101	3:30 PM	Come Closer	107	1:00 PM	Happy Holidays	123	6:00 PM	The Safe House	90	THU 5/22
3:00 PM	John Cranko	135	6:00 PM	Jogtau	71	3:45 PM	Odd Fish	104	8:30 PM	Drowning Dry	88	
6:00 PM	Sally	103	8:00 PM	Moon	92	6:30 PM	Luz	102				
8:45 PM	Souleymane's Story	92				9:00 PM	Happyend	113				
1:00 PM	Sanatorium Under the Sign...	76				11:00 AM	Moon	92	3:30 PM	Paul Anka: His Way	99	FRI 5/23
3:30 PM	The Botanist	96				1:15 PM	To a Land Unknown	106	6:00 PM	Know Her Name	80	
6:00 PM	John Cranko	135				3:45 PM	Happyend	113	8:30 PM	I Am Nevenka	112	
9:15 PM	Sons	99				6:30 PM	Flamingos: Life After the...	83				
Midnight	Dead Lover	82				9:00 PM	The Things You Kill	113				
12:00 PM	Souleymane's Story	92				11:00 AM	Blue Sun Palace	116	12:30 PM	Salsa Lives	101	SAT 5/24
2:30 PM	Diamonds	120				1:45 PM	Dead Lover	82	3:30 PM	Flamingos: Life After the...	83	
6:00 PM	Sorry, Baby*	104				4:00 PM	The Things You Kill	113	6:00 PM	The Botanist	96	
9:00 PM	Waves	131				6:45 PM	Between Goodbyes	96	8:30 PM	To a Land Unknown	106	
Midnight	Scarecrow in a Garden of ...	82				9:30 PM	Good Boy	73				
11:00 AM	Secret #2*	~95				11:00 AM	DJ Ahmet	97	1:00 PM	Familiar Touch	91	SUN 5/25
1:45 PM	Sons	99				1:30 PM	Between Goodbyes	96	3:30 PM	Little Red Sweet	92	
4:15 PM	U Are the Universe	101				4:00 PM	Boong	93	6:00 PM	Shepherds	113	
7:00 PM	Diamonds	120				6:30 PM	The Wailing	107				



**Boong**

When nine-year-old schoolboy Boong hears a rumor that his father has passed, he and his best friend Raju make the journey to Moreh to investigate in this class-conscious, charming coming-of-age border drama from debut filmmaker Lakshmi Priya Devi. **(d:** Lakshmi Priya Devi **c:** Gugun Kippen, Bala Hijam, Angom Sanamatam, Vikram Kochhar, India/France 2024, 93 min)

THU	5/22	1:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
SUN	5/25	4:00 PM	PACIFIC PLACE



**The Botanist**

In Jing Yi's fantastical, lushly framed drama set in rural northwestern China, a lonely 13-year-old Kazakh boy in touch with the wonders of nature befriends a local Han girl, only for the call of the modern outside world to come calling. **(d:** Jing Yi **c:** Jahseh Yesl, Ren Zihan, Nurdaulet Jalen, Eramazan Sarhet, Jomajan Songhat, China 2025, 96 min)

FRI	5/23	3:30 PM	SIFF DOWNTOWN
SAT	5/24	6:00 PM	SHORELINE CC



**By Design**

Playful provocateur Amanda Kramer (*Please Baby Please*, SIFF 2024's *So Unreal*) has crafted another audacious, performance art-based piece of absurdist satire about fetish and desire, as a lonely woman (Juliette Lewis) swaps bodies with a chair, only to finally find comfort in life. **(d:** Amanda Kramer **c:** Juliette Lewis, Mamoudou Athie, Samantha Mathis, Robin Tunney, Alisa Torres, USA 2025, 90 min)

TUE	5/20	9:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
WED	5/21	4:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**By the Stream**

Hong Sang-soo (*Our Sunhi*) is back at SIFF with another meditative, lo-fi rumination on the creation of art, as a university lecturer calls upon her retired uncle to write and direct a play for her students after their previous hire left under a cloud of scandal. **(d:** Hong Sang-soo **c:** Kim Minhee, Kwon Haehyo, Cho Yunhee, South Korea/United States 2024, 111 min)

TUE	5/20	8:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
WED	5/21	12:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



World Premiere

**Cat Town, USA**

In this feel-good doc expanded from a SIFF 2019 short, filmmaker Jonathan Napolitano snuggles up with Bruce and Terry Jenkins, an aging Floridian couple who've decided to spend their last days running a retirement home for senior and aging cats. **(d:** Jonathan Napolitano, USA 2025, 73 min)

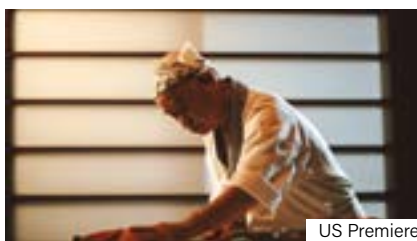
THU	5/22	7:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
SAT	5/24	3:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**Chain Reactions**

Film essayist and SIFF alum Alexandre O. Philippe (*78/52*, *Lynch/Oz*) calls upon five horror luminaries—Stephen King and Takashi Miike among them—to discuss the impact 1974's seminal *The Texas Chain Saw Massacre* had upon their lives and careers. **(d:** Alexandre O. Philippe **f:** Patton Oswalt, Takashi Miike, Alexandra Heller-Nicholas, Stephen King, Karyn Kusama, USA 2024, 101 min)

FRI	5/16	9:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
SAT	5/17	1:30 PM	PACIFIC PLACE



US Premiere

**The Chef & The Daruma**

Seattle loves its sushi, but did you know the cuisine's North American popularity is thanks to a man named Hidekazu Tojo? Learn the story of the chef who changed the world after moving from Japan to Vancouver in the 1970s, staying true to his traditions despite all odds. **(d:** Mads K. Baekkevold **f:** Hidekazu Tojo, Canada 2024, 90 min)

SAT	5/24	6:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
SUN	5/25	2:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**Cloud**

Legendary filmmaker Kiyoshi Kurosawa (*Pulse*, *Cure*, *Tokyo Sonata*) ramps up the thrills in this genre-bending potboiler about a craven opportunist who finds success as an internet reseller, only for revenge-seeking vigilantes to come calling. **(d:** Kiyoshi Kurosawa **c:** Masaki Suda, Kotone Furukawa, Daiken Okudaira, Amane Okayama, Japan 2024, 124 min)

MON	5/19	8:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
SUN	5/25	4:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**Coexistence, My Ass!**

Comedy about Israel and Palestine is a high-wire act and perhaps never more so than now, which is part of what makes this documentary about Israeli comedian Noam Shuster-Eliassi so riveting. **(d:** Amber Fares **f:** Noam Shuster-Eliassi, USA/France 2025, 95 min)

SAT	5/24	8:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
SUN	5/25	11:30 AM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**Color Book**

Filmmaker David Fortune won the Directors to Watch Award at the 2025 Palm Springs International Film Festival for this black and white debut sensation, about a recently widowed Black father who just wants to take his young disabled son to his first professional baseball game. (d: David Fortune c: Will Catlett, Jeremiah Daniels, Brandee Evans, Terri J. Vaughn, Njema Williams, USA 2024, 98 min)

SAT	5/24	5:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
SUN	5/25	2:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**Come Closer**

After Eden's brother dies suddenly, she discovers that he had a secret girlfriend. As the two women get to know one another, they embark on an intense and intimate relationship of their own. (d: Tom Neshor c: Lia Elalouf, Darya Rosenn, Netta Garti, Yaakov Zada-Daniel, Ido Tako, Israel/Italy 2024, 107 min)

TUE	5/20	6:00 PM	SIFF FILM CENTER
THU	5/22	3:30 PM	SIFF FILM CENTER



**Come See Me in the Good Light**

Spoken word performer/Colorado poet laureate Andrea Gibson and their dedicated partner Megan Falley aren't going to let something like ovarian cancer keep them from living life to the fullest in this intimate, surprisingly funny Sundance 2025 award-winning doc produced by Tig Notaro. (d: Ryan White f: Megan Falley, Andrea Gibson, USA 2025, 104 min)

SAT	5/17	5:30 PM	SIFF DOWNTOWN
SUN	5/18	1:15 PM	SIFF DOWNTOWN

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N. American Premiere

**The Crowd**

A story of a group of friends coming together to plan a farewell party, *The Crowd* is also a vibrant portrait of a younger generation in Iran, determined to live life on their own terms. (d: Sahand Kabiri, c: Keyvan Mohammadi, Razieh Mansouri, Shoja Giahi, Iran 2025, 70 min)

FRI	5/23	7:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
SUN	5/25	12:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



N. American Premiere

**Deaf**

A Deaf woman and her hearing partner are expecting their first child. They are a couple in love, full of excitement and all the questions that first parents have. However, Angela's pregnancy triggers fears about motherhood and how she will be able to raise her daughter in a world of sounds. (d: Eva Libertad c: Miriam Garlo, Álvaro Cervantes, Elena Irureta, Joaquín Notario, Spain 2025, 99 min)

SAT	5/17	5:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
SUN	5/18	3:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**DJ Ahmet**

Fifteen-year-old shepherd Ahmet rebels against his conservative North Macedonian farming village when he gets a taste of electronic dance music in this heartwarming dramedy, winner of the World Cinema's Audience Award Prize at Sundance 2025. (d: Georgi M. Unkovski c: Arif Jakup, Agushhev, Aksel Mehmet, North Macedonia/Czech Republic/Serbia/Croatia 2025, 97 min)

SAT	5/24	6:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
SUN	5/25	11:00 AM	PACIFIC PLACE



N. American Premiere

**Dancing Queen in Hollywood**

In the sequel to SIFF 2023 Golden Space Needle Best Film winner *Dancing Queen*, young hip-hop-dancing Mina and her dance partner Markus head to Los Angeles in hopes of starring in a music video, only for her to get the chance to be in a major motion picture! (d: Aurora Gossé c: Liv Elvira Kippersund Larsson, Sturla Puran Harbitz, Viljar Knutsen Bjaadal, Norway 2025, 87 min)

FRI	5/16	6:30 PM	SHORELINE CC
MON	5/19	7:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**Diamonds**

In this lush, metatheatrical crowdpleaser that was a box office smash in its native Italy, SIFF favorite Ferzan Özpetek gathers 18 of his country's greatest actresses to tell the story of a Rome-based tailoring shop that makes costumes for the big screen. (d: Ferzan Özpetek c: Luisa Ranieri, Jasmine Trinca, Stefano Accorsi, Kasia Smutniak, Italy 2024, 135 min)

SAT	5/24	2:30 PM	SIFF DOWNTOWN
SUN	5/25	7:00 PM	SIFF DOWNTOWN



**Don't Let's Go to the Dogs Tonight**

Actress Embeth Davidtz (*Schindler's List*) makes her feature directorial debut, adapting Alexandra Fuller's bestselling memoir about a precocious eight-year-old farmgirl who witnesses Rhodesia's tumultuous political shift in the early 1980s. (d: Embeth Davidtz c: Lexi Venter, Embeth Davidtz, Zikhona Bali, Fumani Shilubana, Rob Van Vuuren, Anina Reed, South Africa 2024, 98 min)

SAT	5/17	12:30 PM	SHORELINE CC
TUE	5/20	8:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**Dead Lover**

Grace Glowicki (*Tito*, SIFF 2021's *Strawberry Mansion*) writes, directs, and gives a barking-daring lead performance in this bizarre, performance art-coded, gender-bending lo-fi Frankenstein comedy about a lonely gravedigger who will do anything to build the perfect man. SXSW NEON Auteur Award winner. (d: Grace Glowicki c: Grace Glowicki, Ben Petrie, Leah Doz, Lowen Morrow, Canada 2025, 82 min)

FRI	5/23	MIDNIGHT	SIFF DOWNTOWN
SAT	5/24	1:45 PM	PACIFIC PLACE



**Diciannove**

In this freewheeling Gen Z bildungsroman co-produced by Luca Guadagnino, aimless 19-year-old Leonardo leaves his privileged world and economic studies behind to bustle around Siena in desperate search of identity and connection. (d: Giovanni Tortorici c: Manfredi Marini, Vittoria Planeta, Dana Giuliano, Zackari Delmas, Italy/United Kingdom 2024, 109 min)

SAT	5/17	12:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
WED	5/21	9:15 PM	SIFF DOWNTOWN



**Drowned Land**

The Choctaw Nation of southeastern Oklahoma fights against cultural displacement and the developers who wish to dam and divert the Kiamichi River, one of the most ecologically diverse bodies of water in the state, in this call to action from SIFF 4th World Media Lab alum Colleen Thurston. (d: Colleen Thurston (Choctaw Nation), USA 2025, 86 min)

FRI	5/16	4:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
TUE	5/20	6:00 PM	SHORELINE CC



**Drowning Dry**

In this elliptically told melodrama that was Lithuania's submission for the 2025 Academy Awards®, two families must confront lingering resentments when tragedy strikes during a lakeside weekend summer vacation. Winner of Best Director at the 2024 Locarno Film Festival. (d: Laurynas Bareiša c: Gelminė Glemžaitė, Agnė Kaktaitė, Paulius Markevičius, Giedrius Kiela, Giedrius Kiela, Lithuania/Latvia 2024, 88 min)

SAT	5/17	12:00 PM	SIFF FILM CENTER
THU	5/22	8:30 PM	SHORELINE CC



**Evergreens**

In Spokane-based Jared Briley's directorial debut featuring a treasure trove of local talent, young Eve (Darby Lee-Stack) and James (Edouard Philippinat) come of age as they road trip across the Evergreen State in this Washington-set love story. (d: Jared Briley c: Darby Lee-Stack, Edouard Philippinat, Hannah Barefoot, Brandon O'Neill, Pepe Serna, USA 2025, 120 min)

MON	5/19	5:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
TUE	5/20	3:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**Everybody Loves Touda**

Touda dreams of being a *sheikha*, or traditional Moroccan folk singer. But in a culture where female performers are as often eroticized and stigmatized as venerated, what does it really mean to be loved? (d: Nabil Ayouch c: Nisrin Erradi, Joud Chamihy, Jalila Tlemsi, El Moustafa Boutankite, Lahcen Razzougui, France/Morocco/Belgium/Denmark/Netherlands 2024, 101 min)

THU	5/22	3:15 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
FRI	5/23	8:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**Familiar Touch**

Ruth Goldman (Broadway legend Kathleen Chalfant) has been living with dementia for some time, and the time has come to place her in an assisted living facility. But while this may seem like the end, for her it represents something like a new beginning in this poignant, Venice Film Festival-winning drama. (d: Sarah Friedland c: Kathleen Chalfant, Carolyn Michelle, Andy McQueen, H. Jon Benjamin, USA 2024, 91 min)

SUN	5/18	6:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
SUN	5/25	1:00 PM	SHORELINE CC



**The Family Picture Show**

Make your way through a magnificent mix of movies curated for kiddos and their families at *The Family Picture Show!* Joining you on your cinematic quest are a girl with magic mittens, a tenacious snowy owl, and a fabulous drag queen fox played by Sir Ian McKellen. (short film package, 88 min)

SAT	5/24	11:30 AM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
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**The Feminine Urge**

To spit, to protest, to indulge, to break up with a boyfriend...to be a cat. (short film package, 94 min)

FRI	5/23	1:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
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**Flamingos: Life After the Meteorite**

Finding the right partner, the right place, and the ideal time to create a family is the most decisive task in nature. Instinct, love, and risk are intertwined in this unforgettable journey of the Caribbean flamingo in its most delicate period of existence; a journey at once surprising, enthralling, and deeply inspiring. (d: Lorenzo Hagerman v: Julieta Venegas, Mexico 2024, 83 min)

FRI 5/23 6:30 PM PACIFIC PLACE  
SAT 5/24 3:30 PM SHORELINE CC



**Fly Me to the Moon**

In Sasha Chuk's autobiographical coming-of-age drama, young Yuen struggles to adapt to her new surroundings and social class when she and her mother emigrate from Mainland China to 1990s Hong Kong to reunite with the family patriarch. (d: Sasha Chuk c: Kang-ren Wu, Sasha Chuk, Angela Yuen, Yoyo Tse, Natalie Hsu, Hong Kong 2023, 112 min)

MON 5/19 8:30 PM SHORELINE CC  
WED 5/21 1:30 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**Four Mothers**

Darren Thornton (SIFF 2017's *A Date with Mad Mary*) writes and directs this humorous and tender Irish charmer about a gay YA novelist (James McArdle, "Mare of Easttown") who must look after four aging women left in his care. (d: Darren Thornton c: James McArdle, Fionnula Flanagan, Dearbhla Molloy, Paddy Glynn, Stella McCusker, Ireland/United Kingdom 2024, 89 min)

THU 5/15 7:00 PM PARAMOUNT



US Premiere

**Freeing Juanita**

An Indigenous Maya Chuj couple make a treacherous thousand-mile journey across Guatemala and into Mexico to demand the emancipation of their niece, who was wrongfully imprisoned during her intended migration to the United States. (d: Sebastián Lasasa Rogers, Guatemala/Mexico/USA 2024, 74 min)

TUE 5/20 5:30 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN  
WED 5/21 3:00 PM SIFF FILM CENTER



**Free Leonard Peltier**

In 1975, Indigenous American Leonard Peltier was accused of shooting two FBI agents while defending South Dakota's Pine Ridge Indian Reservation and then sentenced to two consecutive life sentences. As he faces his final years, learn the real facts from those who fought for his clemency. (d: Jesse Short Bull (Oglala Sioux), David France, USA 2025, 110 min)

SAT 5/17 8:30 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN  
SUN 5/18 11:15 AM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**F\*cktoys**

Annapurna Sriram writes, directs, and stars in this campy, vividly pastel-colored romp about a woman who embarks upon a sex worker odyssey through Trastown with her nonbinary friend to break a terrible curse that has befallen her. SXSW Special Jury Prize winner. (d: Annapurna Sriram c: Annapurna Sriram, Sadie Scott, François Arnaud, Damian Young, Big Freedia, USA 2025, 107 min)

FRI 5/16 9:30 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN  
SAT 5/17 4:15 PM PACIFIC PLACE



**FutureWave: Teenage Hearts**

This shorts package explores the messy, hilarious, and sometimes tragic journeys of the teenage heart. These films made by filmmakers aged 18 and under explore love in all its permutations, including romantic love, self-love, and familial love. (short film package, 98 min)

SUN 5/18 2:15 PM SIFF FILM CENTER



**The Glass Web in 3-D**

It's blackmail in the third dimension, as a television crime show researcher (Edward G. Robinson) frames his colleague (John Forsythe) for murder. This 1953 noir is newly restored by the 3-D Film Archive from the original 35mm camera negatives. (d: Jack Arnold c: Edward G. Robinson, John Forsythe, Kathleen Hughes, Marcia Henderson, Richard Denning, USA 1953, 81 min)

SUN 5/18 4:15 PM SIFF DOWNTOWN



**The Gloria of your Imagination**

In 1963, a 30-year-old divorced woman named Gloria agreed to be filmed working with three different therapists. Filmmaker Jennifer Reeves uses this footage to explore single parenthood, gendered power relationships, and the biography of Gloria herself. (d: Jennifer Reeves f: Frederick Perls, Carl Rogers, Albert Ellis, Everett Shostrom, "Gloria," USA 2024, 98 min)

MON 5/19 6:00 PM SIFF FILM CENTER  
TUE 5/20 3:30 PM SIFF FILM CENTER



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**Good Boy**

You know when you think your dog is staring at nothing? Turns out they're really looking for ghosts! In this supernatural chiller, Indy (the goodest boy of all!) is all that stands between his human best friend and the dark forces that haunt their rural family home. (d: Ben Leonberg c: Indy the dog, Shane Jensen, Larry Fessenden, Arielle Friedman, Stuart Rudin, USA 2025, 73 min)

SAT	5/24	9:30 PM	PACIFIC PLACE
SUN	5/25	7:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**Hanami**

Weaving between the natural and magical, Nana lives on a remote volcanic island from where everybody leaves. Left by her mother soon after birth, she will spend her life trying to find the right answer to the lingering question in her mind and soul: Should she stay or should she go? (d: Denise Fernandes c: Sanaya Andrade, Dailma Mendes, Alice Da Luz, Switzerland/Portugal/Cape Verde 2024, 96 min)

FRI	5/16	3:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
WED	5/21	9:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**Happyend**

In an earthquake-rattled near-future Tokyo, a multiethnic band of politically aware teens protest their high school's draconian and demerit-based new surveillance system in the latest from SIFF alum Neo Sora (2023's *Ryuichi Sakamoto: Opus*). (d: Neo Sora c: Hayato Kurihara, Yukito Hidaka, Yuta Hayashi, Shina Peng, Arazi, Japan/USA 2024, 113 min)

THU	5/22	9:00 PM	PACIFIC PLACE
FRI	5/23	3:45 PM	PACIFIC PLACE



**Happy Holidays**

Oscar® winner Scandar Copti (*Ajami*) is back with a new film about a middle-class Arab family in Israel and the impact of the country's divisions on every aspect of their lives, mundane and momentous alike. (d: Scandar Copti c: Manar Shehab, Wafaa Aoun, Meirav Memoresky, Toufic Danial, Palestine/Germany/France/Italy/Qatar 2024, 123 min)

WED	5/21	8:30 PM	SIFF FILM CENTER
THU	5/22	1:00 PM	PACIFIC PLACE



**Head Trip Shorts**

Follow the white rabbit to a wonderland of bizarre, belly-bursting, gasoline-fueled fun. (short film package, 89 min)

THU	5/22	9:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
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**Heightened Scrutiny**

Director Sam Feder (2020's *Disclosure*) follows ACLU lawyer Chase Strangio all the way to the United States Supreme Court as he argues to overturn Tennessee's bigoted attempt to ban gender-affirming care for trans youth. (d: Sam Feder f: Chase Strangio, USA 2025, 85 min)

SUN	5/18	5:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
MON	5/19	3:15 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



N. American Premiere

**Home Sweet Home**

Single mother Sofie starts a new career as a caretaker for the elderly, only to be humbled by the toll it takes on her physical and mental state, in this authentic and rewarding glimpse at the uncelebrated world of healthcare workers from SIFF alum Frelle Petersen. (d: Frelle Petersen c: Jette Søndergaard, Karen Tygesen, Mimi Bræmer Dueholm, Hanne Knudsen, Finn Nissen, Denmark 2025, 112 min)

TUE	5/20	8:45 PM	PACIFIC PLACE
WED	5/21	3:30 PM	PACIFIC PLACE



**How to Build a Library**

When two local women set out to decolonize Nairobi's formerly whites-only McMillan Memorial Library and turn it into a multicultural hub, they must contend with their country's history and a complicated web of bureaucracy over eight very long but rewarding years. (d: Maia Lekow, Christopher King f: Shiro, Wachuka, Kenya 2025, 100 min)

FRI	5/16	1:30 PM	PACIFIC PLACE
WED	5/21	8:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**I Am Nevenka**

Nevenka Fernández, the town's finance councilor, is relentlessly pursued by the mayor, a man used to always getting what he wants politically and personally. Nevenka decides to report him, turning her courageous fight into Spain's first #MeToo case. (d: Iciar Bollaín c: Mireia Oriol, Urko Olazabal, Spain/Italy 2024, 112 min)

WED	5/21	1:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
FRI	5/23	8:30 PM	SHORELINE CC



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**The Seattle Times**



N. American Premiere

**Idyllic**

This vibrant and witty meditation on death and discontent tracks three generations of one Dutch family as they contend with all the various curveballs life throws at them. But in their own respective way, each extended family member just wants the same thing: a happy life. **(d:** Aaron Rookus **c:** Hadewych Minis, Eelco Smits, Nabil Mallat, Isacco Limper, Beppie Melissen, Netherlands/Belgium/Estonia 2025, 99 min)

SAT	5/17	9:30 PM	PACIFIC PLACE
SUN	5/18	3:45 PM	PACIFIC PLACE



**Into the Wonderwoods**

When Angelo is accidentally separated from his family, he turns his imagination up to 11 as he journeys through the dark woods to grandmother's house, encountering a wondrous fairy tale fantasy world along the way in this eco-conscious marvel of a family film. Ages 8+ **(d:** Alexis Ducord, Vincent Paronnaud **v:** Yolande Moreau, José Garcia, Philippe Katerine, France/Luxembourg 2024, 84 min)

SAT	5/17	12:00 PM	SIFF DOWNTOWN
SUN	5/18	12:00 PM	SHORELINE CC



**Invention**

Callie Hernandez (*The Endless*) co-writes and stars in this inventive, autofictional indie that evokes the tone of a Haruki Murakami detective story, as a daughter investigates her estranged late father's experimental health marketing schemes. **(d:** Courtney Stephens **c:** Callie Hernandez, Sahn McGlynn, Lucy Kaminsky, Tony Torn, James N. Kienitz Wilkins, USA 2024, 72 min)

FRI	5/16	6:30 PM	PACIFIC PLACE
SAT	5/17	12:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**Jean Cocteau**

Lisa Immordino Vreeland (SIFF 2021's *Truman & Tennessee: An Intimate Conversation*) constructs an astonishing portrait of polymath Jean Cocteau—filmmaker, playwright, poet—told in his own words using his journals, letters, and artistic works. **(d:** Lisa Immordino Vreeland **v:** Josh O'Connor, USA 2024, 94 min)

MON	5/19	7:00 PM	PACIFIC PLACE
TUE	5/20	3:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**John Cranko**

Sam Riley (*Control*) stuns in this biopic about South African dancer and choreographer John Cranko, who overcame self-destructive habits and homophobic persecution as he whipped the 1960s Stuttgart Ballet into an internationally renowned dance company. **(d:** Joachim Lang **c:** Sam Riley, Elisa Badenes, Max Schimmelfennig, Hanns Zischler, Germany 2024, 135 min)

THU	5/22	3:00 PM	SIFF DOWNTOWN
FRI	5/23	6:00 PM	SIFF DOWNTOWN



N. American Premiere

**Joqtau**

Young Darkhan returns to his village after a seven-year absence to accompany his late grandfather on an imagined journey to his ancestral home to learn the ways of his elders and the gradual loss of their traditional customs and language. **(d:** Aruan Anartay **c:** Yermek Shynbolatov, Isbek Abilmazhinov, Irina Balkova, Kazakhstan 2024, 71 min)

TUE	5/20	12:45 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
THU	5/22	6:00 PM	SIFF FILM CENTER



**Ka Whawhai Tonu: Struggle Without End**

Cliff Curtis and Temuera Morrison (both of 1994's *Once Were Warriors*) star in this sweeping Māori-language epic about the 1864 Battle of Ōrākau, as an Indigenous tribe defends their land from invading British forces. **(d:** Michael Jonathan **c:** Temuera Morrison, Cliff Curtis, Jason Flemyng, Paku Fernandez, Hinerangi Harawira-Nicholas, Aotearoa New Zealand/Great Britain 2024, 115 min)

FRI	5/16	6:00 PM	SIFF DOWNTOWN
SUN	5/18	2:30 PM	SHORELINE CC



**Khartoum**

The Sudanese Civil War has displaced over 10 million of its citizens. Now, five survivors contend with their own memories, and hope for a peaceful future, using green screen technology to reenact their lives leading up to the military coup that forced their evacuation. **(d:** Anas Saeed, Rawia Alhag, Brahim Snoopy, Timeea Mohamed Ahmed, Phil Cox, Sudan/UK/Germany/Qatar 2025, 80 min)

MON	5/19	9:30 PM	PACIFIC PLACE
WED	5/21	1:30 PM	PACIFIC PLACE



**The Kingdom**

When an underground war breaks out between nationalist groups and crime families, a Corsican mobster and his daughter must go on the run, bringing them closer together and drawing her into his world. **(d:** Julien Colonna **c:** Ghjuvanna Benedetti, Saveriu Santucci, France 2024, 108 min)

WED	5/21	7:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
FRI	5/23	1:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



US Premiere

### Know Her Name

In this amazing slice of film herstory, learn the legacy of women directors who have fought to be seen and heard and have their films preserved... and how to not let the next generation get lost in the same inequitable and homogenized system. (d: Zainab Muse f: Mary Harron, Dawn Wilkinson, Jennifer Podemski, Deepa Mehta, Barbara Lee, Canada 2024, 90 min)

FRI	5/23	6:00 PM	SHORELINE CC
SUN	5/25	5:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



### The Librarians

Warriors come in all shapes and sizes, as America's librarians fight tooth and nail to protect us from the pervasive conservative censorship that threatens to eliminate free thought in the latest from Oscar®-nominated director Kim A. Snyder (*Death By Numbers*). (d: Kim A. Snyder, USA 2025, 88 min)

FRI	5/16	6:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
SAT	5/17	2:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



### Little Red Sweet

In a rapidly changing Kowloon City, one Hong Kong family struggles to keep their traditional dessert shop open in the face of illness, generational desires, and gentrification in Vincent Chow Wing's wistful, nostalgic family drama. (d: Vincent Chow c: Simon Yam, Stephy Tang, Jeffrey Ngai, Kevin Chu, Mimi Kung, Fong Ping, Amy Lo, Hong Kong 2024, 92 min)

WED	5/21	9:15 PM	PACIFIC PLACE
SUN	5/25	3:30 PM	SHORELINE CC

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**Jamie Wyeth: Unsettled**  
July 12–October 5, 2025

*Jamie Wyeth: Unsettled* is organized by Brandywine River Museum of Art and curated by Amanda Burdan, Senior Curator. The Frye Art Museum's presentation is under the direction of Faith Brower, Director and Curator of Collections.

Generous support for the Frye's installation provided by Frye Members. Media sponsorship provided by Cascade PBS.

FRYE / Art Museum

Logos for Brandywine River Museum of Art, Cascade PBS, and Frye Art Museum.

Jamie Wyeth. *Bear Boots* (detail), 1985. Oil on panel. 37 x 50 in. Farnsworth Art Museum, Rockland, Maine, Gift of the Cawley Family, 2001.29.1. © Jamie Wyeth / Artists Rights Society (ARS), NY

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Freddy Monares  
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**Luz**

A Chinese ex-con seeks to rekindle a relationship with his estranged cam girl daughter, while a gallerist connects with her ailing French step-mother (Huppert), in this dual narrative about finding familial intimacy in a virtual reality world. (d: Flora Lau c: Isabelle Huppert, Sandrine Pinna, Guo Xiao Dong, Huang Lu, David Chiang, Hong Kong 2025, 102 min)

TUE	5/20	1:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
THU	5/22	6:30 PM	PACIFIC PLACE



**Manas**

Set in a corner of Brazil that remains mostly untouched by the modern world, this is an earnest and moving tale of Marcielle, a young victim of abuse who yearns to find a way out of a hostile home and a village that has resisted change for generations. (d: Marianna Brennand c: Jamili Correa, Fátima Macedo, Rômulo Braga, Dira Paes, Emily Pantoja, Brazil/Portugal 2024, 101 min)

FRI	5/16	3:00 PM	SIFF FILM CENTER
SUN	5/18	7:30 PM	SIFF FILM CENTER



**Medicine Circle: Indigenous Stories of Return**

This selection of short, Indigenous-made films exemplifies the stunning fortitude and vibrant visions born of communities from around the snowy northern regions of the world. (short film package, 71 min)

SAT	5/17	11:30 AM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
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**Meeting with Pol Pot**

Oscar®-nominated filmmaker Rithy Panh (2013's *The Missing Picture*) directs this historical drama that unfolds like a horror film, as three French journalists in 1978 Cambodia learn the terrible truth about the Khmer Rouge regime. (d: Rithy Panh c: Irène Jacob, Grégoire Colin, Cyril Gueï, Bunhok Lim, Somaline Mao, France/Cambodia/Taiwan/Qatar/Turkey 2024, 113 min)

SUN	5/18	8:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
TUE	5/20	12:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



World Premiere

**Monarch City**

In this soulful family drama shot in and around the Cascades, a young adult in rural America must confront her family's numerous hardships—addiction, incarceration, poverty—and find the grace in life's most fragile moments. (d: Titus Richard c: Paul Eenhoorn, Mahria Zook, Liisa Kaufman, Lavender Hamilton, Cameron Carter, USA 2025, 70 min)

TUE	5/20	6:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
WED	5/21	3:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**Mongrels**

In this triptych of stories, a Korean father and his two children move to the Canadian prairies to help a town deal with its feral dog population, all while making a new life in a strange land and navigating the grief of an absent mother. (d: Jerome Yoo c: Sein Jin, Jae-hyun Kim, Da-nu Nam, Candyce Weir, Jedd Sharp, Morgan Derera, Sangbum Kang, Canada 2024, 110 min)

FRI	5/16	8:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
SAT	5/17	10:45 AM	PACIFIC PLACE



N. American Premiere

**Monk in Pieces**

As avant-garde multihyphenate genius Meredith Monk approaches her final project, the immersive "Indra's Net," she and her greatest protégés and collaborators relive and reinterpret her storied career's most enduring works. (d: Billy Shebar, David Roberts f: Meredith Monk, Björk, David Byrne, Ping Chong, John Schaefer, USA 2025, 95 min)

FRI	5/16	3:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
SAT	5/17	9:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



US Premiere

**Moon**

Austrian-Kurdish filmmaker Kurdwin Ayub (SIFF 2023's *Sonne*) won the Special Jury Prize at the Locarno Film Festival for her tense, provocative sophomore feature, about an MMA fighter who heads to Jordan to teach a trio of wealthy sisters, only to learn they are confined to their home. (d: Kurdwin Ayub c: Florentina Holzinger, Andria Tayeh, Celina Antwan, Nagham Abu Baker, Omar Almajali, Austria 2024, 92 min)

THU	5/22	8:00 PM	SIFF FILM CENTER
FRI	5/23	11:00 AM	PACIFIC PLACE



N. American Premiere

**The Nature of Invisible Things**

Gloria and Sofia, two 10-year-old girls, meet during the summer holidays while spending the days in a hospital. Gloria is accompanying her nurse mother and Sofia is visiting her grandmother with Alzheimer's. Their playful and delicate bond will help them navigate the fragility of life. (d: Rafaela Camelo c: Laura Brandão, Serena, Larissa Mauro, Camila Márdila, Aline Marta Maia, Brazil/Chile 2025, 90 min)

FRI	5/16	9:00 PM	PACIFIC PLACE
SAT	5/17	3:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN

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**New Jack Fury**

In this rock 'em, sock 'em, kick-'em-in-the-face-while-dancing midnigher, ex-police officer Dylan Gamble must join forces with a low-level crook to rescue his kidnapped girlfriend and take down the deadly Styles Syndicate once and for all! (d: Lanfia Wal c: Andre Hall, Page Kennedy, Dean "Michael Trapson" Morrow, Paul Wheeler, Ally Renee, USA 2025, 89 min)

SAT	5/17	MIDNIGHT	SIFF DOWNTOWN
SUN	5/18	7:30 PM	SHORELINE CC



**The New Year That Never Came**

Six lives intertwine in the days leading up to the 1989 Romanian revolution in this darkly funny ensemble film about living under Communist rule. Winner of the 2024 Venice Film Festival's Horizons Award and the Palm Springs New Voices/New Visions Grand Jury Prize. (d: Bogdan Mureşanu c: Adrian Vancica, Iulian Postelnicu, Emilia Dobrin, Romania/Serbia 2024, 138 min)

SUN	5/18	6:15 PM	PACIFIC PLACE
MON	5/19	3:30 PM	PACIFIC PLACE



**Odd Fish**

In this gentle and welcoming dramedy—the first Icelandic film to feature a trans female lead—two childhood besties who co-run a seafood restaurant in the northern Westfjords have their friendship tested when one of them comes out. (d: Snævar Sólvason c: Björn Jörundur Friðbjörnsson, Arna Magnea Danks, Vígðís Hafliðadóttir, Iceland/Finland/Czech Republic 2024, 104 min)

WED	5/21	6:30 PM	PACIFIC PLACE
THU	5/22	3:45 PM	PACIFIC PLACE



**Paul Anka: His Way**

He faced it all, stood tall, and did it his way. Get the inside scoop on the life and career of Paul Anka, the Canadian-born son of immigrants who rocketed to the top of the charts not just as a teen heartthrob, but as the songwriter of some of America's greatest standards. (d: John Maggio f: Paul Anka, USA 2024, 99 min)

FRI	5/23	3:30 PM	SHORELINE CC
SUN	5/25	1:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



N. American Premiere

**Raptures**

In the first-ever film using the Indigenous language Meänkieli, a devout Christian woman in the 1930s living along the Finland-Sweden border must protect her family from the encroaching wrath of her husband's newly formed sectarian cult. (d: Jon Blåhed c: Jessica Grabowsky, Jakob Öhrman, Maria Issakainen, Alma Pöysti, Sweden/Finland 2025, 108 min)

FRI	5/23	9:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
SAT	5/24	2:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



US Premiere

**Paying for It**

Sook-Yin Lee (*Shortbus*) adapts her own ex-boyfriend's welcomingly tender, autofictional graphic novel, centering on a Toronto-based cartoonist who begins hiring sex workers when he and his partner break up but decide to keep living together. (d: Sook-Yin Lee c: Daniel Beirne, Emily Lê, Andrea Werhun, Noah Lamanna, Canada 2024, 85 min)

SAT	5/17	6:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
SUN	5/18	12:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



N. American Premiere

**Ready or Not**

What Katie and her mates think will be a carefree summer chilling out in their Dublin housing estate turns more complicated when they push toward an adulthood they are ill-prepared for in Claire Frances Byrne's debut feature. (d: Claire Frances Byrne c: Ruby Conway Dunne, Alex Grendon, Molly Byrne, Lewis Brophy, Ireland 2025, 84 min)

WED	5/21	9:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
THU	5/22	4:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**Queering the Way**

Pursuing social and personal opportunities, these queer individuals strive to break through obstacles and forge on. (short film package, 95 min)

SAT	5/24	4:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
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**Rebuilding**

In Max Walker-Silverman's tender follow-up to *A Love Song* (SIFF 2022 Golden Space Needle Award for Best Performance), Josh O'Connor (*Challengers*) stars as a Coloradan cowboy who reconnects with his daughter and ex-wife after a wildfire takes his family ranch. (d: Max Walker-Silverman c: Josh O'Connor, Lily LaTorre, Meghann Fahy, Kali Reis, Amy Madigan, USA 2025, 95 min)

SAT	5/24	8:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
SUN	5/25	6:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



### Remaining Native

As Indigenous teenager Ku Stevens aspires to go to the University of Oregon and become an Olympic-level cross-country runner, we learn of his family's history through his great-grandfather's narrow escape from the horrible clutches of an Indian boarding school. (d: Paige Bethmann (Haudenosaunee) f: Ku Stevens, Misty Stevens, Billy Mills, USA 2025, 87 min)

SAT	5/17	2:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
SUN	5/18	5:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



### Riefenstahl

A gripping portrait of controversial filmmaker and propagandist Leni Riefenstahl (*The Triumph of the Will*), who despite all evidence to the contrary still maintained she was not complicit in the atrocities carried out by the Third Reich. (d: Andres Veiel f: Ulrich Noethen, Leni Riefenstahl, Germany 2024, 116 min)

TUE	5/20	9:00 PM	SIFF DOWNTOWN
THU	5/22	12:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



N. American Premiere

### The Safe House

In this sincere and impeccably art-directed Wes Anderson-esque film based on Christophe Boltanski's memoir "La Cache," a nine-year-old boy and his quirky, artistic family experience the turbulence of 1968 Paris from the relative safety of their multigenerational home. (d: Lionel Baier c: Dominique Reymond, Michel Blanc, William Lebghil, Aurélien Gabrielli, Liliane Rovère, Switzerland/Luxembourg/France 2025, 90 min)

WED	5/21	6:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
THU	5/22	6:00 PM	SHORELINE CC

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**Sally**

Award-winning documentarian Cristina Costantini directs this peek into the personal life of Sally Ride, the first woman in space. But as Ride journeyed among the stars, she kept a nearly three-decade romance with author and tennis player Tam O'Shaughnessy a secret. (d: Cristina Costantini, USA 2025, 103 min)

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WED	5/21	6:00 PM	SHORELINE CC
THU	5/22	6:00 PM	SIFF DOWNTOWN

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**Salsa Lives**

The rhythms, passion, and energy of Salsa do not recognize borders. Born in the vibrant streets of New York, it conquered and reigned in Cali. Featuring Salsa legends like Rubén Blades and Henry Fiol, this illuminating journey shows how entire generations have celebrated their common identity through music and dance. (d: Juan Carvajal c: Rubén Blades, Henry Fiol, Willie Rosario, Angel Lebron, Colombia 2025, 101 min)

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FRI	5/23	5:45 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
SAT	5/24	12:30 PM	SHORELINE CC

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N. American Premiere

**Sanatorium Under the Sign of the Hourglass**

The Brothers Quay spin another fantastical stop motion yarn with this surreal story inspired by the work of Polish writer Bruno Schulz, about a young man on a ghostly train ride toward a sanitorium that may exist out of time and space. (d: Stephen Quay, Timothy Quay, United Kingdom/Poland/Germany 2024, 76 min)

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SUN	5/18	9:30 PM	SIFF DOWNTOWN
FRI	5/23	1:00 PM	SIFF DOWNTOWN

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**Scarecrow in a Garden of Cucumbers**

In this camp classic from 1972 bursting with lo-fi queer cinema energy, Warhol Factory muse and trans actress Holly Woodlawn stars as a small-town girl hoping to make it big in New York City. This long-thought-lost treasure is newly restored by the Academy Film Archive. (d: Robert J. Kaplan c: Holly Woodlawn, Bette Midler, Lily Tomlin, Meg Wittner, Tally Brown, USA 1972, 82 min)

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SAT	5/24	MIDNIGHT	SIFF DOWNTOWN
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**Seeds**

Filmmaker/cinematographer Brittany Shyne vividly and patiently captures multiple generations of Black farming families in Thomas County, Georgia, from social challenges to financial straits and their dedication to one another. Winner of the US Grand Jury Prize - Documentary at Sundance 2025. (d: Brittany Shyne, USA 2025, 122 min)

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SAT	5/17	5:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
SUN	5/18	2:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN

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**Shepherds**

In this layered, bucolic drama from Francophone director Sophie Deraspe (*Antigone*) full of moments of beauty and harsh reality, a Québécois marketing executive gives it all up and moves to the French Alps to become a sheep herder. (d: Sophie Deraspe c: Félix-Antoine Duval, Solène Rigot, Canada (Québec)/France 2024, 113 min)

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FRI	5/23	12:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
SUN	5/25	6:00 PM	SHORELINE CC

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**She's The He**

First-time director Siobhan McCarthy put together a cast and crew of almost entirely trans, nonbinary, and queer people to make this *Bottoms*-esque teen satire about two seniors who pretend to be trans during their last week of high school, only for one of them to find it suits them just fine. (d: Siobhan McCarthy c: Misha Osherovich, Nico Carney, Suzanne Cryer, Malia Pyles, Mark Indelicato, USA 2025, 81 min)

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MON	5/19	9:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
TUE	5/20	3:30 PM	PACIFIC PLACE

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**ShortsFest Opening Night**

It is our great pleasure to open our ShortsFest Spotlight with this collection of superb films from around the world: whether narrative or documentary, live action or animation—these films prove short is truly sweet. (short film package, 89 min)

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FRI	5/16	7:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
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**SIFF & CFC Present The Dark Crystal with DJ NicFit**

Join the Gelflings (and Fizzgig!) on their quest to defeat the evil Skeksis in this very special presentation of *The Dark Crystal*. This time, Seattle's own DJ NicFit will create a live soundtrack to accompany Jim Henson and Frank Oz's cult 1982 fantasy adventure. (d: Jim Henson, Frank Oz c: Jim Henson, Kathryn Mullen, Frank Oz, USA 1982, 93 min)

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TUE	5/20	6:30 PM	SIFF DOWNTOWN
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**Slanted**

Chinese American teen Joan Huang just wants to fit in at her high school, but when she hastily undergoes an experimental medical procedure to become Caucasian, the consequences could be devastating in this biting speculative fiction satire. SXSW Grand Jury winner. (d: Amy Wang c: Shirley Chen, McKenna Grace, Vivian Wu, Maitreyi Ramakrishnan, USA 2025, 104 min)

SAT	5/24	9:00 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
SUN	5/25	3:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**Sons**

Writer/director Gustav Möller (SIFF 2018's *The Guilty*) returns to the Fest with another pulse-pounding and morally gray thriller, as a prison guard learns that a young man from her past has just been transferred to her post. (d: Gustav Möller c: Sidse Babett Knudsen, Sebastian Bull, Denmark/Sweden 2024, 99 min)

FRI	5/23	9:15 PM	SIFF DOWNTOWN
SUN	5/25	1:45 PM	SIFF DOWNTOWN



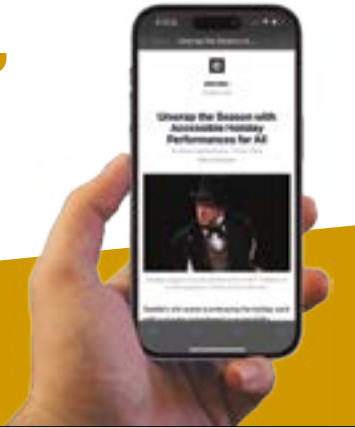
**Sorry, Baby**

Eva Victor ("Billions") writes, directs, and stars in this nonlinear, seriocomic story about a melancholic English professor's complicated path toward healing in the aftermath of an all-too-common tragedy. Winner of the Sundance 2025 Waldo Salt Screenwriting Award. (d: Eva Victor c: Eva Victor, Naomi Ackie, Lucas Hedges, John Carroll Lynch, Louis Cancelmi, Kelly McCormack, USA 2025, 104 min)

SAT	5/24	6:00 PM	SIFF DOWNTOWN
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**Souleymane's Story**

Guinean immigrant Souleymane has applied for asylum in France. Soon he'll have an interview with the government agency that will change his life...if only he can figure out the right story to tell. **(d:** Boris Lojkine **c:** Abou Sangaré, Nina Meurisse, Alpha Oumar Sow, Emmanuel Yovanie, Younoussa Diallo, Ghislain Mahan, Mamadou Barry, France 2024, 92 min)

THU 5/22 8:45 PM SIFF DOWNTOWN  
SAT 5/24 12:00 PM SIFF DOWNTOWN



**Sound Visions**

From tying the knot, to settling a score, to appreciating unrecognized icons in our midst, these shorts explore our region's creative spirit and talented filmmaking community. (short film package, 96 min)

THU 5/22 6:30 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**Spermageddon**

In this raunchy yet sincere animated adult musical about the beginning of life, Simon must lead a squad of fellow semen on a high-stakes mission to achieve fertilization and defeat the nefarious Jizzmo from enacting SPERMAGEDDON! From co-director Tommy Wirkola (*Dead Snow, Violent Night*). **(d:** Tommy Wirkola, Rasmus A. Sivertsen **v:** Aksel Hennie, Mathilde Storm, Christian Mikkelsen, Norway 2024, 80 min)

FRI 5/16 MIDNIGHT SIFF DOWNTOWN  
MON 5/19 9:30 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**The Spirit Cabinet**

Within the spirit cabinet, discover messages from the beyond, supernatural terrors, and an unimaginably creepy cabaret. (short film package, 96 min)

FRI 5/23 9:30 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**Starman**

Jet Propulsion Laboratory scientist, robotics engineer, and bestselling science fiction author Gentry Lee, who was on NASA's Viking and Voyager teams, discusses his experiences and views on the possibility of extraterrestrial life. **(d:** Robert Stone **f:** Gentry Lee, USA 2025, 85 min)

FRI 5/16 6:00 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN  
SAT 5/17 3:00 PM SHORELINE CC



**Suburban Fury**

Local documentarian Robinson Devor (*Zoo, Pow Wow*) returns to SIFF with this outré and probing biography of Sara Jane Moore, the FBI informant and single mother who tried to assassinate President Gerald Ford in 1975, as told in her own words. **(d:** Robinson Devor, USA 2024, 118 min)

WED 5/21 6:00 PM SIFF DOWNTOWN  
FRI 5/23 3:30 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



N. American Premiere

**Sudden Outbursts of Emotions**

When a travel agent's boyfriend suggests they open up their relationship to the wild world of polyamory, she is hesitant but joins him on a sojourn to an island-based party, only to fall for another woman, in this sex-positive dram-edy. **(d:** Paula Korva **c:** Iina Kuustonen, Riku Nieminen, Laura Malmivaara, Minka Kuustonen, Jasir Osman, Marc Gassot, Lauri Majjala, Finland 2024, 97 min)

SUN 5/18 8:00 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN  
MON 5/19 3:30 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



N. American Premiere

**Summer's Camera**

A high school girl, still reeling over the death of her father, develops the last of his film, only to uncover an intimate secret he kept from her in Divine Sung's heartfelt and gorgeously shot coming-of-age feature debut about first loves. **(d:** Divine Sung **c:** Kim Sia, Kwak Minkyu, South Korea 2025, 82 min)

WED 5/21 6:00 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN  
THU 5/22 3:30 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



N. American Premiere

**Tales From the Magic Garden**

In this stop motion marvel from the Czech Republic based on the stories of author Arnošt Goldflam ("The Zookeeper's Wife"), three young children visit their late grandmother's house, where they take turns spinning fantastical tales to better understand loss, compassion, and empathy. **(d:** David Súpup, Patrik Pašš, Leon Vidmar, Jean-Claude Rozec, Czech Republic/Slovakia/Slovenia/France 2025, 71 min)

SUN 5/18 12:00 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN  
SUN 5/25 11:00 AM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



### The Things You Kill

Iranian writer-director Alireza Khatami (*Terrestrial Verses*, SIFF 2024) won the Best Director prize at Sundance for this surreal psychological thriller about the distinct identities that exist within us and the existential struggle between them. (d: Alireza Khatami c: Ekin Koç, Erkan Kolçak Köstendil, Hazar Ergüçlü, Ercan Kesal, Canada/Belgium 2025, 113 min)

FRI 5/23 9:00 PM PACIFIC PLACE  
SAT 5/24 4:00 PM PACIFIC PLACE



### Through the Looking Glass

Journey through surreal worlds, warped realities, and absurd encounters where nothing is as it seems. (short film package, 91 min)

SAT 5/17 5:30 PM SIFF FILM CENTER



### Time Travel Is Dangerous

What would you do if a time-travel bumper car fell into your lap? If you're Ruth and Megan of North London, you use it to find and sell antiques at your vintage shop, of course, regardless of the consequences reverberating across time and space. (d: Chris Reading c: Ruth Syrratt, Megan Stevenson, Johnny Vegas, Stephen Fry, Jane Horrocks, Sophie Thompson, Tom Lenk, United Kingdom 2024, 100 min)

FRI 5/23 6:30 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN  
SAT 5/24 12:00 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



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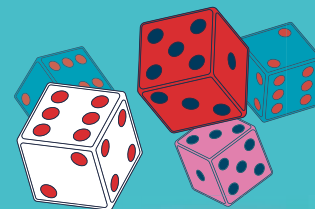
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**Tinā**

From Miki Magasiva (SIFF 2024's Indigenous anthology film *We Are Still Here*) comes this heartfelt and tuneful underdog story about Mareta, a grieving Samoan teacher who finds a new lease on life and connection to community when she forms a student choir at a wealthy school. **(d:** Miki Magasiva (Maori) **c:** Anapela Polataivao, Antonia Robinson, Beulah Koale, Aotearoa New Zealand 2024, 125 min)

SUN	5/18	2:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
MON	5/19	6:00 PM	SIFF DOWNTOWN



**To a Land Unknown**

Chatila and Reda are Palestinian refugees stuck in Athens, trying to figure out how to get to Germany, how to stay alive in the meanwhile, and how to do it all without losing their humanity. **(d:** Mahdi Fleifel **c:** Mahmood Bakri, Aram Sabbah, Angeliki Papoulia, Mondher Rayahneh, Mouataz Alshaltouh, Greece/Denmark/ United Kingdom/ Netherlands 2024, 106 min)

FRI	5/23	1:15 PM	PACIFIC PLACE
SAT	5/24	8:30 PM	SHORELINE CC



**To Kill a Mongolian Horse**

In this lovely and patient docudrama set on the Mongolian steppes, a champion horseback rider and herdsman struggles to maintain his family's ranch and traditional way of life in the modern era. **(d:** Xiaoxuan Jiang **c:** Saina, Undus, Qilemuge, Tonggalag, Qinartu, Malaysia/ Hong Kong/South Korea/Japan/Saudi Arabia/ Thailand/USA 2024, 97 min)

SUN	5/18	9:30 PM	PACIFIC PLACE
TUE	5/20	1:00 PM	PACIFIC PLACE



**Transfers**

A poignant documentary that uses testimonials, archival material, animations, and heartbreaking reenactments to chronicle Argentina's onetime military dictatorship's use of the infamous Death Flights, one of the most brutal and effective ways of killing and disappearing people. **(d:** Nicolás Gil Lavedra, Argentina/Uruguay 2024, 90 min)

SUN	5/18	12:00 PM	SIFF FILM CENTER
TUE	5/20	8:30 PM	SIFF FILM CENTER



**Twinless**

In this Portland-set dark comedy from James Sweeney (2019's crowdpleasing *Straight Up*), two men (Dylan O'Brien and Sweeney) trauma-bond at a support group for people who have lost their twin. Winner of the Sundance 2025 US Dramatic Audience Award. **(d:** James Sweeney **c:** Dylan O'Brien, James Sweeney, Lauren Graham, USA 2025, 100 min)

SAT	5/24	12:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN
SUN	5/25	7:15 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**U Are the Universe**

In this Ukraine-shot tale of finding connection under the most devastating and isolating of circumstances, a space trucker thinks he's the last living person in the universe...until a call from a distant space station sets him on a course across the cosmos. **(d:** Pavlo Ostrikov **c:** Volodymyr Kravchuk, Daria Plahitiy, Alexia Depicker, Leonid Popadko, Ukraine/Belgium 2024, 101 min)

THU	5/22	12:30 PM	SIFF DOWNTOWN
SUN	5/25	4:15 PM	SIFF DOWNTOWN



N. American Premiere

**Unclickable**

In this investigative documentary ripped from the headlines, follow the creation and devastating impact of a digital advertising fraud operation, the likes of which enriches companies like Google and Facebook at the cost of everybody else...and democracy itself. **(d:** Babis Makridis, Greece/Cyprus/USA 2024, 74 min)

MON	5/19	8:30 PM	SIFF FILM CENTER
THU	5/22	1:30 PM	SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



**Undercover**

A young policewoman is recruited to infiltrate the terrorist group ETA and dismantle one of their dangerous commandos. The 2025 Goya Award winner recreates an unknown, shocking, and terrible true story that offers a testimony to dark and violent times that still ripple through today's Spain. **(d:** Arantxa Echevarría **c:** Carolina Yuste, Luis Tosar, Víctor Clavijo, Nausicaa Bonnín, Iñigo Gastesi, Spain 2024, 118 min)

SAT	5/17	8:30 PM	SIFF DOWNTOWN
TUE	5/20	3:30 PM	SIFF DOWNTOWN



**Under the Volcano**

A Ukrainian family on vacation in the Canary Islands suddenly find themselves stranded upon Russia's invasion of their home country, sending them into fits of desperation and introspection as they wander the beaches speculating what comes next. **(d:** Damian Kocur **c:** Sofia Berezovska, Roman Lutskyi, Anastasiia Karpienko, Fedir Pugachov, Poland 2024, 102 min)

FRI	5/16	3:30 PM	SIFF DOWNTOWN
TUE	5/20	8:30 PM	SHORELINE CC



**Viktor**

When Russia invaded Ukraine, Viktor Korotovsky rallied to join the military but was rejected due to his deafness. Instead, he became a war photographer. Join Viktor on the frontlines in this wholly immersive and terrifying documentary from producer Darren Aronofsky. (d: Olivier Sarbil, Ukraine/USA 2024, 89 min)

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SAT	5/17	2:30 PM	SIFF DOWNTOWN
MON	5/19	9:30 PM	SIFF DOWNTOWN

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**The Village Next to Paradise**

In the first Somali film ever selected for the Cannes Film Festival, a villager and his sister are just trying to make ends meet and send his son off to boarding school. But in a world defined by chaos, unease, and civil unrest, sometimes sacrifice is the only answer. (d: Mo Harawe c: Ahmed Ali Farah, Mohamed Mohamud Jama, Somalia/Austria/France/Germany 2024, 133 min)

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MON	5/19	3:00 PM	SIFF FILM CENTER
WED	5/21	5:30 PM	SIFF FILM CENTER

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**The Wailing**

Three women separated in time and space are unknowingly connected by a threat that nobody can explain. Something is stalking them and provoking unthinkable acts of violence with one eerie thing in common: the disturbing sound of a wailing. (d: Pedro Martín-Calero c: Ester Expósito, Mathilde Ollivier, Malena Villa, Spain/France/Argentina 2024, 107 min)

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SAT	5/17	8:00 PM	SHORELINE CC
SUN	5/25	6:30 PM	PACIFIC PLACE

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**Waves**

It's 1967 Czechoslovakia, and technician Tomáš has just started working at the country's most renowned radio station. But as the Soviets crack down on any dissenting opinions, Tomáš must either become an informant or protect his activist younger brother in this nerve-wracking journalism thriller. (d: Jiří Mádln c: Vojtěch Vodochodský, Stanislav Majer, Táňa Pauhofová, Czech Republic/Slovakia 2024, 131 min)

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WED	5/21	8:30 PM	SHORELINE CC
SAT	5/24	9:00 PM	SIFF DOWNTOWN

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World Premiere

**Wolf Land**

Range rider and "wolf-protecting cowboy" Daniel Curry and cattle rancher Jerry Francis try to find common ground between their conflicting interests in the forests of northeastern Washington, just 20 miles from the Canadian border. (d: Sarah Hoffman c: Daniel Curry, Jerry Francis, USA 2025, 71 min)

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SAT	5/17	5:30 PM	SHORELINE CC
SUN	5/18	1:30 PM	PACIFIC PLACE

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**WWYD (What Would You Do?)**

Heart-pounding, sexy, surreal, and sinister. Stories that ask, what would you do? (short film package, 94 min)

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SUN	5/18	5:00 PM	SIFF FILM CENTER
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# Shorts PACKAGES

We've packaged some of this year's best short films. These eclectic, themed collections bring shorts by diverse filmmakers into conversation with one another to foster insightful connections. Don't miss out on these films, or the discussions to be had after watching them all together.



## Adolescent Overdrive

From surrealistic swimming lessons to '90s motocross, teenage coma musings to rip-roarin' rodeos, this is growing up. (86 min)

FRI 5/23 4:00 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



## ALT Shorts: Dead Reckoning

Chart a course through experimental fables and water imagery and oceans of cut-out and crazy animations...with nary a Tom Cruise nor impossible mission in sight. (86 min)

FRI 5/16 8:30 PM SIFF FILM CENTER



## Animation4Adults

From wide open spaces to the crowded confines of a commuter train, this year's animation package takes you on incredible journeys whether it be startling transformations, post-career life choices, or underground mysteries. (84 min)

SAT 5/17 9:30 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



## The Family Picture Show

Make your way through a magnificent mix of movies curated for kiddos and their families at *The Family Picture Show!* Joining you on your cinematic quest are a girl with magic mittens, a tenacious snowy owl, and a fabulous drag queen fox played by Sir Ian McKellen. (88 min)

SAT 5/24 11:30 AM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



## The Feminine Urge

To spit, to protest, to indulge, to break up with a boyfriend...to be a cat. (94 min)

FRI 5/23 1:30 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



## FutureWave: Teenage Hearts

This shorts package explores the messy, hilarious, and sometimes tragic journeys of the teenage heart. These films made by filmmakers aged 18 and under explore love in all its permutations, including romantic love, self-love, and familial love. (98 min)

SUN 5/18 2:15 PM SIFF FILM CENTER



## Head Trip Shorts

Follow the white rabbit to a wonderland of bizarre, belly-bursting, gasoline-fueled fun. (89 min)

THU 5/22 9:30 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



## Medicine Circle: Indigenous Stories of Return

This selection of short, Indigenous-made films exemplifies the stunning fortitude and vibrant visions born of communities from around the snowy northern regions of the world. (71 min)

SAT 5/17 11:30 AM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



### Queering the Way

Pursuing social and personal opportunities, these queer individuals strive to break through obstacles and forge on. (95 min)

SAT 5/24 4:00 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



### ShortsFest Opening Night

It is our great pleasure to open our ShortsFest Spotlight with this collection of superb films from around the world: whether narrative or documentary, live action or animation—these films prove short is truly sweet. (89 min)

FRI 5/16 7:00 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



### Sound Visions

From tying the knot, to settling a score, to appreciating unrecognized icons in our midst, these shorts explore our region's creative spirit and talented filmmaking community. (96 min)

THU 5/22 6:30 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



### The Spirit Cabinet

Within the spirit cabinet, discover messages from the beyond, supernatural terrors, and an unimaginably creepy cabaret. (96 min)

FRI 5/23 9:30 PM SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN



### Through the Looking Glass

Journey through surreal worlds, warped realities, and absurd encounters where nothing is as it seems. (91 min)

SAT 5/17 5:30 PM SIFF FILM CENTER



### WWYD (What Would You Do?)

Heart-pounding, sexy, surreal, and sinister. Stories that ask, what would you do? (94 min)

SUN 5/18 5:00 PM SIFF FILM CENTER



# Streaming Selections

## INDULGE IN A *Reel World* STAYCATION.



### How to watch

Access will begin at 12:00am May 26 and end at 11:59pm PST on June 1.

#### Online at [watch.siff.net](http://watch.siff.net)

**SIFF TV app** (Roku, AppleTV, FireTV, AndroidTV)

**AirPlay** from an Apple device to a smart TV

**Cast** from PC/Android to a Chromecast device

### Ticket holders

**Get tickets at [siff.net](http://siff.net).** After you've purchased your ticket(s), you'll receive a confirmation email, followed by an access email with your voucher code, once films become available to watch. Go to [watch.siff.net](http://watch.siff.net) or the SIFF TV app and enter the voucher code. Once you start a film, you have up to 48 hours to finish it.

### Passholders

Log in at [watch.siff.net](http://watch.siff.net) or on the SIFF TV app using the same email and password you used to purchase your pass. You will be able to access all available films as many times as you'd like during the streaming window.

Most films are geoblocked to viewers within the US. If there are additional restrictions, those will be clearly marked in the film descriptions online. Some streaming films are restricted to audiences in WA State. Use the Availability filter at [siff.net/filmfinder](http://siff.net/filmfinder) to check.

See the most up-to-date list of available streaming films and get more info at

[siff.net/feststream](http://siff.net/feststream)

### Feature Films

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<i>1-800-ON-HER-OWN</i>	<i>The Gloria of your Imagination</i>	<i>Shepherds</i>
<i>BAR</i>	<i>Hanami</i>	<i>She's The He</i>
<i>Between Goodbyes</i>	<i>Heightened Scrutiny</i>	<i>Souleymane's Story</i>
<i>Billy</i>	<i>Jean Cocteau</i>	<i>Summer's Camera</i>
<i>Boong</i>	<i>John Cranko</i>	<i>Time Travel Is Dangerous</i>
<i>By Design</i>	<i>Joqtau</i>	<i>To Kill a Mongolian Horse</i>
<i>Cat Town, USA</i>	<i>Ka Whawhai Tonu: Struggle Without End</i>	<i>Transfers</i>
<i>Color Book</i>	<i>Know Her Name</i>	<i>Unclickable</i>
<i>Come Closer</i>	<i>Monarch City</i>	<i>Under the Volcano</i>
<i>Deaf</i>	<i>The Nature of Invisible Things</i>	<i>Viktor</i>
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<i>Fly Me to the Moon</i>	<i>Salsa Lives</i>	
<i>Freeing Juanita</i>		
<i>Free Leonard Peltier</i>		

### Short Film Packages

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<i>ALT Shorts: Dead Reckoning</i>	<i>Medicine Circle: Indigenous Stories of Return</i>	<i>Through the Looking Glass</i>
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<i>The Family Picture Show</i>	<i>ShortsFest Opening Night</i>	
<i>The Feminine Urge</i>	<i>Sound Visions</i>	
<i>FutureWave: Teenage Hearts</i>		





# siff rentals

Our iconic venues are the perfect setting for a wide range of occasions, from movie premieres to cast & crew screenings, corporate events, Scarecrow Video movie nights, and everything in between.

SIFF Members receive 10% off our commercial rental rates.

Learn more at [siff.net/rentals](http://siff.net/rentals)

## REEL WORLD <sup>+</sup><sup>+</sup> Souvenirs

T-shirts, totes, and other must-have mementos—shop online at [siffshop.net](http://siffshop.net) or swing by SIFF Cinema Downtown.



# SIFF cinema COMING SOON

The film fun continues year-round at SIFF Cinema venues after the Festival.  
Here's a little glimpse at what's coming up:



## Jane Austen Wrecked My Life

OPENS MAY 30 • UPTOWN

An hopelessly clumsy-yet-charming young woman named Agathe (Camille Rutherford) works in the legendary Shakespeare & Co. bookshop in Paris, while dreaming of being a successful writer and experiencing love akin to a Jane Austen novel; however, she's desperately single and plagued by writers' block.



## Pavements

MAY 30-JUN 5 • UPTOWN

Alex Ross Perry surveys the emblematic 1990s US indie rock band in typically idiosyncratic style: part-documentary, part-biopic, part-stage musical—but all Pavement.



## Ran (1985)

MAY 30-JUN 5 • DOWNTOWN

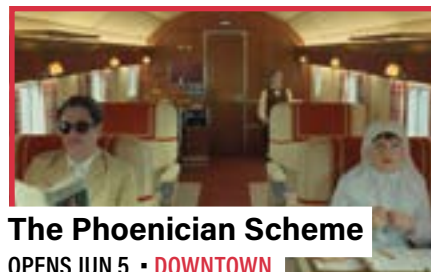
Akira Kurosawa reimagines Shakespeare's "King Lear" in Medieval Japan, an elderly warlord retires, handing over his empire to his three sons. However, he vastly underestimates how the new-found power will corrupt them and cause them to turn on each other...and him. **40th anniversary screening, 4K Restoration.**



## There Is Another Way

MAY 31 • UPTOWN / JUN 1-4 • FILM CENTER

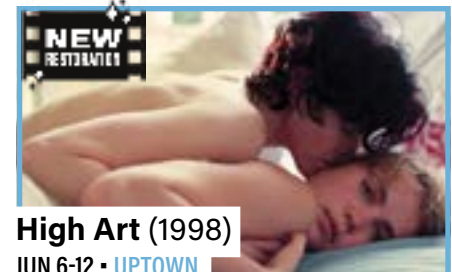
*There is Another Way* tells the story of a group of visionaries who refuse to surrender to violence and injustice, and in doing so show that another path is possible—for them, for us, and for all humanity. **Post-film Q&A with director Stephen Apkon and other guests on May 31.**



## The Phoenician Scheme

OPENS JUN 5 • DOWNTOWN

The latest from Wes Anderson is the story of a family and a family business, starring Benicio del Toro as Zsa-zsa Korda, one of the richest men in Europe; Mia Threapleton as Liesl, his daughter/a nun; Michael Cera as Bjorn, their tutor; and many more.



## High Art (1998)

JUN 6-12 • UPTOWN

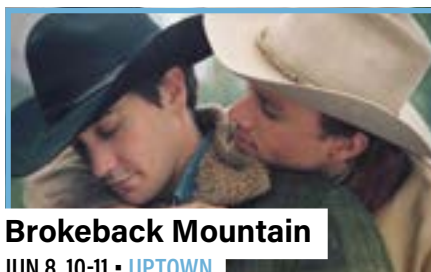
A young female intern at a small magazine company and a drug-addicted lesbian photographer slowly fall in love while exploiting each other to advance their respective careers. **New 4K Restoration.**



## Science Fiction + Fantasy Short Film Festival

JUN 7-8 • UPTOWN

Presented in partnership with the Museum of Pop Culture, the 20th SFFSFF will again put a spotlight on visionary filmmakers and showcase innovative short films that transport audiences to brand-new worlds.



## Brokeback Mountain

JUN 8, 10-11 • UPTOWN

Ang Lee's Academy Award-winning epic explores the lives of two young men, a ranch hand (Heath Ledger) and a rodeo cowboy (Jake Gyllenhaal), who meet in the summer of 1963 and unexpectedly forge a lifelong connection. **Special 20th anniversary re-release event.**



## They Call Her Death

JUN 14-15 • FILM CENTER

On the wild frontier of the American prairie, Molly Pray is on a bloody crusade against the criminal forces that have wronged her. This second feature film from Kansas filmmaker Austin Snell was filmed entirely on 16mm film using cameras from the 1960s and captures the essence of low budget Euro-Westerns and Euro-Horror of the same era.

**SIFF is a Seattle-based 501(c)(3) arts nonprofit organization dedicated to the creation of vibrant experiences and spaces that champion film discovery and arts education.**

SIFF offers thoughtfully curated year-round programming designed to entertain, enlighten, and engage audiences while promoting dialogue and championing independent filmmakers.

## **siiff seattle international film festival**

SIFF hosts the Seattle International Film Festival annually, featuring films from 80+ countries. With many not returning to US cinemas, it's an incredible opportunity to explore new and underrepresented voices and stories.

## **siiff education**



SIFF Education nurtures the next generation of film lovers, creators, and programmers. Through an array of programs—including special screenings, Film Talks, youth filmmaking camps, and immersive opportunities for youth and emerging directors to engage with the Seattle International Film Festival—we build community and promote lifelong learning, cultural awareness, and creative expression.

## **siiff supports**



SIFF supports partners with local filmmakers, artists, nonprofits, and community film festivals. We offer discounted venue spaces, marketing, and technical assistance to nearly 100 individuals and organizations each year. Through these partnerships we strengthen our film community, expanding the space for diverse voices and audiences to advance SIFF's mission.

# **siiff cinema**

SIFF offers year-round screenings of arthouse and mainstream films, the latest international works, one-of-a-kind special events, and festivals. Annual events include the Seattle International Film Festival, Cinema Italian Style, DocFest, Noir City, and the National Film Festival for Talented Youth.



**siiff cinema uptown**



**siiff cinema downtown**



**siiff film center**



**siiff cinema egyptian**



## **Get involved.**

Become a member, bring a friend to a screening or Film Talk, volunteer your time, or donate. You keep the SIFF mission alive and thriving!

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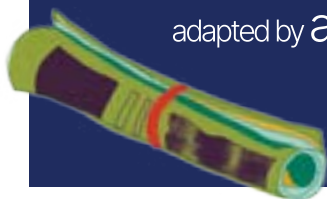
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