

**VERMONT INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL** 

## TICKETING & VENUE INFORMATION

## TICKETING INFO

Tickets can be purchased online by clicking the GET TICKET button next to each film title at VTIFF.ORG/ FESTIVAL. This will take you to our film links on Brown Paper Tickets where you can purchase your tickets. You can add titles to your order before the final purchase, so best to make your choice of titles and dates in advance by consulting VTIFF.ORG/FESTIVAL.

If you prefer to purchase in person, you may do so at the VTIFF Office, 230 College Street in Burlington, 12 noon to 2 PM from October 14 through October 22. From October 23 to the end of the festival, you can buy tickets at the festival box office at Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center where most films will be shown.

#### **PRICES**

GENERAL ADMISSION	\$10.00
SENIORS (62 & UP)	\$8.00
CHILDREN (11 & UNDER) & COLLEGE STUDENTS (W/ID)	\$5.00
GOLD PASS	\$120.00
	(INCLUDES UNLIMITED ADMISSION TO ALL FILMS AND EVENTS)
VERMONT FILMMAKERS' SHOWCASE FILMS	FREE
	(WITH A SUGGESTED DONATION OF \$5.00 OR MORE)
CHESTER GRIMES/VAMP EVENT	FREE
	(WITH A SUGGESTED DONATION OF \$5.00 OR MORE)
SLEEPLESS IN BURLINGTON	FREE
	(WITH A SUGGESTED DONATION OF \$5.00 OR MORE)
STUDENT MATINEES	
(IF YOU ARE A TEACHER WITH A CLASS PLEASE CONTACT SET	@VTIFF.ORG FOR INFORMATION ABOUT SPECIAL GROUP PRICES)
LUNCHTIME SHORTS AT BCA	GENERAL ADMISSION
	(TICKET INCLUDES LUNCH COURTESY OF KOUNTRY KART DELI)

## STAY UP TO DATE

We strongly urge you to sign up for our e-newsletter to get advance notification of upcoming events. For last minute changes, check our website regularly - VTIFF.ORG/FESTIVAL

## WHERE TO EAT, WHERE TO MEET

Snacks and coffee available daily in the Lake Lobby as well as cash bar and food at early evening receptions.

#### IF YOU WANT TO GET OUT AND SAVOR THE LOCAL RESTAURANT SCENE. WE RECOMMEND:

Skinny Pancake -60 Lake Street, where festival ticket holders get 15% off - bring your ticket with you!

A Single Pebble – 133 Bank Street, Burlington, for gourmet Chinese food

Kountry Kart Deli – 155 Main Street – deli serving delicious fresh food

Maglianero - 47 Maple Street, for the coolest café in town.

Lucky Next Door -163 Cherry Street, open 9-5 daily, where you can get lunch, snacks and coffee - all your needs in one place

## PARKING & TRANSPORTATION

Over 1,000 spaces in the College Street and Lakeview Garages - just one block east up the hill from Main Street Landing, Garages can be accessed either from College Street (entrance is across the street from South Champlain Street) or Cherry Street next to Hotel Vermont.

On-street parking on Lake Street (both directly behind Main Street Landing and behind and to the side of April Cornell) is widely available at this time of year. There is also on-street parking on the southern part of Battery Street, and the western parts of College Street and Cherry Street. All of these meters are free after 6 PM.

Parking lot below Lake Street – metered (credit cards) 8 AM - 8 PM weekdays, 8 AM - 6 PM Sundays.

Main Street Landing parking lot is free after 6 PM weekdays and free weekends.

Merrill Lynch parking lot is free weekends and after 6 PM weekdays.

The venues are located on regular Chittenden County Transit routes. There is a shuttle on College Street that leaves every 15 minutes. For more info visit CCTAride.org

## **ACCESSIBILITY**

All venue entrances are wheelchair accessible. Both theaters can accommodate wheelchairs, but the Black Box does not provide good sight lines for wheelchairs. The Film House is fitted for the hard of hearing. If you need additional information please don't hesitate to ask.

## CONTACT



info@vtiff.org www.vtiff.org 802.660.2600



#### **VENUE INFO** MAIN STREET LANDING PERFORMING ARTS CENTER (MSL) The Festival Information & hospitality desks and the box office from October 23 thru November 1 will be located in the lobby (3rd floor). Enter either from Battery Street or from 60 Lake Street and take the elevator to the 3rd floor. Screenings at MSL will take place in the Film House (FH) and the Black Box Theater (BB). COLLEGE STREET **BURLINGTON CITY ARTS (BCA)** COLLEGE STREET Burlington City Arts at 135 Church Street is the screening venue for the Monday through Friday Lunchtime Shorts series. BCA SKINNY PANCAKE (SP) Skinny Pancake is at 60 Lake Street and is our sponsor for the opening night party and for the daily cash bars. Save your film ticket and get 15% discount on their food Arts Riot at 400 Pine Street is our partner venue for the VTIFF AfterDark Series. Our partner hotel at 41 Cherry Street is where most of the festival guests will be staying.

#### **DIRECTOR'S NOTES**



Welcome to the 30th anniversary of the Vermont International Film Festival!

This is your opportunity to immerse yourself in the cinematic arts and to watch films as they are meant to be seen: on a big screen, with good picture and sound, in a dark room full of strangers.

It's hard to believe that VTIFF's first festival, launched by its founders George and Sonya Cullinen, took place in Marlboro College in 1985. We've come a long way since then. Many passionate and hard-working people have been involved with VTIFF over the years and who we are today is built on their foundations.

Every year our programming committee begins its work with very few clues as to what the final

program will contain. Although curated, the festival focus is not proscribed. We watch with open minds as many films as possible. Trends emerge four to five months later. We detect patterns, shared aesthetics and universal concerns, and we gradually get a grip on the current cinematic zeitgeist.

This year it became very evident that filmmakers around the globe were concerned with, and inspired by, the massive worldwide migrations of displaced peoples. From China to France, from Russia to the U.S., from Iran to Denmark, there is a rising tide of films (both fiction and documentaries) on the subject of displacement and the meaning of "home." We have brought some of the most compelling of these films to VTIFF 2015.

We have also seen a swell of films about the democratic process itself — all fascinating and some even hilarious. It's a great reminder that our rights as human beings are not to be taken for granted.

Themes introduced a few years ago which have not lost their appeal are *Arts in Action* and *Food & Film*. Once again, we will present some great films in this section. And, of course, we take pride in showcasing emerging filmmakers who, we believe, have a promising cinematic voice, as well as Vermont filmmakers.

Parents and children will surely enjoy our special family-friendly events on Sunday mornings. And VTIFF After Dark will provide thrills for the late-night crowd.

There are always titles that do not fit neatly into categories, but which we think are important as reminders of the range of cinematic artistry. This year they include films that are composed entirely of archival footage from the early 20th century. We thought it fitting that in this, our 30th year, we should also look back in order to look forward.

I'm especially excited by our guests this year. Please read about them elsewhere in the festival guide. We hope you'll stay for the post-screening Q-and-A sessions and come to the receptions, where you'll have the opportunity to make our esteemed guests welcome.

Make sure, as well, to browse our sponsors' page - grantors, sponsors, individual donors and VTIFF members - together they make it all possible.

The benefit of total immersion in any festival is a lot more than the sum of its parts. I hope you make time to watch as many films as possible.

I'll be there most of the time. Feel free to come up to me, or to any of our board members, staff and dedicated volunteers, and let us know what you think.

Looking forward to seeing you at the movies!

Orly Yadin, Executive Director, Vermont International Film Foundation

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#### MEET THE VTIFF TEAM

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Orly Yadin

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Lorna-Kay Peal - President Ben Rinehart - Treasurer Luke Baynes - Secretary Anna Blackmer Deb Ellis Eric Ford Patrick McKee Kevin L. Meehan

#### STAFF

Sherrill Musty

Education and Outreach
Coordinator: Seth Jarvis
Volunteer Coordinator and Assistant to the
Director: Joanna Thomas
VT Filmmakers' Showcase & Box Office
Coordinator: Gail Clook
Projection Coordinator: Elizabeth Rossano

#### **PROGRAMMING**

Luke Baynes Eric Ford Seth Jarvis Mira Niagolova Paula Willoquet-Maricondi Orly Yadin

#### **VTIFF ADVISORS**

Cynthia Close Ken Russack Colin Trevorrow

#### **FESTIVAL INTERN**

**Katherine Patronis** 

#### **VTIFF 2015 DESIGNER**

Sadie Moody

#### **FESTIVAL TRAILER**

Steve Woloshen

## WANT TO BECOME A PATRON MEMBER?

Become a patron member of VTIFF today and enjoy the festival for free! There are several member levels, each offering a range of benefits (including free entry to all Burlington Film Society screenings year-round) as well as the satisfaction of knowing that you are supporting film culture in the community.

Detailed information at VTIFF.ORG/MEMBERSHIP.

## **SCREENING GUIDE**

## **❖** DOCUMENTARIES

## **⊗ FICTION FILM**

### **™** FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENTS

For the whole family to enjoy together.

## **STUDENT MATINEES**

Exclusive morning screenings for high schools.

## VTIFF AFTER DARK

A delicious selection of genre films at 10 PM at Arts Riot.

## UNCHTIME SHORTS

A changing daily program of outstanding international shorts, each presented by a special guest curator.

#### **⊗** SPECIAL EVENTS

Special events include panels, talks and parties.

## VERMONT FILMMAKERS' SHOWCASE™

VTIFF is proud to celebrate Vermont filmmaking with our annual Vermont Filmmakers' Showcase™, the oldest and largest juried presentation of Vermont films in the state. The Showcase is supported by Ben and Jerry's Scoop Shops and by the VT Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts.

#### Bohemian Tea Room

Loose Leaf Tea Vegetarian & Vegan



Artisan Tea Ware Gluten-Free

Sun – Wed: 102m – 10pm Thurs - Sat: 10am - 11pm

80 Church Street

951-2424

dobrateavt.com



# MAIN PROGRAM: DOCUMENTARIES The Babushkas of Chernobyl ...... 04 Before the Last Curtain Falls (CLOSING NIGHT FILM) ... Beyond Zero: 1914-1918 ...... 05 MAIN PROGRAM: FICTION FILM

#### Black Panthers: Vanguard of the Revolution ........... 05 Don't Think I've Forgotten ...... 07 Down in Shadowland ...... 07 The Russian Woodpecker ...... 14 War Work: 8 Songs With Film ......16 The Assassin ......04 Crumbs ...... 06 The Dinner (I Nostri Ragazzi) ...... 07 Eisenstein in Guanajuato ...... 08 Experimenter ...... 08 My Skinny Sister (Min Illa Syster) ......10 The Second Mother (Que Hora Ela Volta?) ......14 SI Taxi (OPENING NIGHT FILM) ......15

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Nelson Algren: The End is Nothing, The Road is All
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Immortal Dear
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Headliner

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The Resurrection of Victor Jara20	
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She Sings to the Stars	

## **♦ THE ASSASSIN**

#### TAIWAN/CHINA/HONG KONG/FRANCE | 2015 | FICTION | 107 MIN | MANDARIN W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | WELL GO USA

**DIRECTOR:** Hou Hsiao-hsien

**SHOWTIMES:** Wednesday, October 28 | 6:15 PM (FH) AWARDS: Best Director at Cannes Film Festival 2015



Taiwan's official submission for this year's Oscars is a stunning masterwork by renowned director Hou Hsiao-hsien (A Time to Live, A Time to Die; Café Lumière). Set during the Tang Dynasty of the 9th Century in China, The Assassin transports the viewer to the distant land and time through its meticulously recreated mise-en-scène and ravishing cinematography. Acclaimed Taiwanese actress Shu Qi (Three Times; The Transporter) is mesmerizing in her portrayal of the titular assassin who, after failing to execute a mission, is commanded to kill her betrothed, forcing her to choose between her sworn allegiance to the order and her devotion to the one she loves. This may be the most visually arresting film in this year's festival and needs to be seen on a big screen.

# THE BABUSHKAS OF CHERNOBYL UKRAINE/USA | 2015 | DOCUMENTARY | 72 MIN | FILMMAKERS

**DIRECTOR:** Holly Morris & Anne Bogart

SHOWTIMES: Thursday, October 29 | 6:15 PM (BB) and Friday, October 30 | 1:30 PM (BB)

AWARDS: Special Jury Award for Directing at the Los Angeles Film Festival

**SPONSORS:** Vermont Council on World Affairs



Twenty-nine years ago, on April, 26 1986, the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant's reactor No. 4 blew up after a routine test. The resulting fire lasted 10 days, spewing 400 times as much radiation as the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima. Despite the severely contaminated ground and government objections, a community of amazingly strong, no-nonsense and self-sufficient "babushkas" (meaning "grandma" in Russian) remains. These proud, charming, witty women defied orders to relocate because their connections to the homeland they grew up in were stronger than the fear of radiation. What better proof of the power of "home" than the fact that they are still alive? In Holly Morris's totally immersive film, we watch in awe at their resilience (where are the men?) and at the same time laugh at their wit and humor. After all, who can resist the babushka who cheerfully toasts, "Goodbye, brains ... see you tomorrow," before downing a shot of vodka.

\*FILMMAKER ATTENDING SCREENING FOR Q&A (THURSDAY SCREENING ONLY).

## BEFORE THE LAST CURTAIN FALLS

GERMANY/CANADA/BELGIUM | 2015 | DOCUMENTARY | 92 MIN | GEBRUEDER BEETZ FILMPRODUKTION

**DIRECTOR:** Thomas Wallner

**SHOWTIMES:** Sunday, November 1 | 7:00 PM (FH) AWARDS: Special Jury Prize, Hot Docs; Grand Prize FIFA

**SPONSORS:** Main Street Landing



Before the Last Curtain Falls is inspired by a spectacular dance show called "Gardenia" which toured for two years in 25 countries and gave over 200 performances. We meet the performers, a group of transgender women and drag-queens in their 60s and 70s, when they take the stage one last time. Thomas Wallner's heartfelt documentary studies each of the six performers with a rare emotional depth. One of the most moving offerings in this year's festival program, the film is an endearingly honest exploration of queer identity in a pre-Reality TV era when publicly voicing one's convictions was a risky and courageous thing to do. Before the Last Curtain Falls is a film about passion, bravery, aging, acting out one's dreams, and, above all, love.

\*CLOSING NIGHT FILM. SPECIAL GUESTS PRESENTING AUDIENCE FAVORITE AWARDS: THE HOUSE OF LEMAY. FOLLOWED BY CLOSING NIGHT PARTY AT SKINNY PANCAKE.

# **CHECK OUT THE SCHEDULE**

**SEE PAGES 11 & 12 FOR SCREENING** TIMES, SPECIAL EVENTS & LOCATIONS

HAPPY THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY

VERMONT INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

> YOU ENLIGHTEN. BRIGHTEN, AND **BRING AWARENESS** TO VERMONT



# BEYOND ZERO: 1914-1918 & WAR WORK: 8 SONGS WITH FILM (DOUBLE BILL)

SHOWTIMES: Sunday, October 25 | 1:30 PM (BB)

**BEYOND ZERO: 1914-1918** 

USA | 2015 | 39 MIN | DOC/EXPERIMENTAL | ICARUS FILMS

**DIRECTOR:** Bill Morrison



A work for quartet with film. Utilizing only original 35 mm nitrate film shot during World War I, director Bill Morrison (Decasia) creates a unique, mesmerizing cinematic experience that is both historical document and experimental meditation. Rare and fascinating footage — most of it unseen by modern audiences, all of it in some stage of deterioration - evokes the fragmentary and elusive nature of memory and illustrates our tenuous and mutable relationship with the past. Serbian composer Aleksandra Vrebalov's score was inspired by "the writings of Wilfred Owen and Siegfried.

Sassoon, the music of Satie and Debussy, and the Dada movement," and is performed by the Kronos Quartet, for whom the film was originally commissioned.

#### WAR WORK: 8 SONGS WITH FILM UK | 2015 | 65 MIN | DOC/EXPERIMENTAL | FILMMAKERS

**DIRECTOR:** Michael Nyman



Internationally renowned composer Michael Nyman (whose scores for films include Jane Campion's The Piano and multiple collaborations with Peter Greenaway) directs this experimental, musically driven meditation on the horrors of WWI. Comprised of archival material and documentary footage from the period, examples of visual arts and films made in response to the war, as well as chanson vieilles and other texts from English and European poets. War Work is an immersive rumination on the devastating impact of armed conflict. With its recurring images of disfigured

and debilitated veterans and its depiction of everyday life affected by war, the film is a powerful and haunting statement that resonates profoundly with current circumstances around the globe.

\*US PREMIERE.

## ♦ BLACK PANTHERS: VANGUARD OF THE

USA | 2015 | DOCUMENTARY | 113 MIN | LONGSHOT

**DIRECTOR:** Stanley Nelson

SHOWTIMES: Saturday, October 24 | 8:00 PM (BB) and Sunday, November 1 | 2:45 PM (BB) AWARDS: Grand Jury Prize, Berlin; Sundance; Audience Choice Award, River Run International

Film Festival

**SPONSORS:** John Douglas & the Peace & Justice Center



The first feature-length documentary about the revolutionary Black Panther Party is an intensely compelling survey of the militantly radical, historically significant, often controversial group. Charting the Party's seismic influence on the counter-cultural landscape of the sixties and seventies, the organizational and political struggles within the movement, and the impact of the Black Panthers' presence on the country's attitudes and discussions of race relations, acclaimed documentarian Stanley Nelson (Freedom Riders; Jonestown: The Life & Death of Peoples Temple) has crafted

an important social and historical document with deeply trenchant relevance to a host of issues still facing us today.

A BORROWED IDENTITY
ISRAEL | 2014 | FICTION | 105 MIN | ARABIC/HEBREW W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | STRAND RELEASING

**DIRECTOR:** Eran Riklis

**SHOWTIMES:** Saturday, October 24 | 6:15 PM (FH)

**SPONSORS:** The Burlington-Bethlehem-Arad Sister City Program



This is arguably the most compelling film that Israeli director Eran Riklis (The Syrian Bride) has made in a long while. Based on two separate fictional autobiographies by acclaimed Palestinian writer Seyad Kashua, the film is "a sharply mounted drama about a young Arab who finds reasons to 'pass' as Jewish" (Godfrey Cheshire, RogerEbert. com). This moving, non-polemical, coming-of-age drama about the hurdles faced by an Arab boy living in a Jewish culture is not only a sharp representation of that particular conflict and region, but it also resonates universally -

identity and assimilation being a major social struggle worldwide. There's marvelous pacing in the film and the acting — especially of veteran actor Yael Abecassis — is impressive.

\*PRECEDED BY A RECEPTION AT 5:00 IN THE LAKE LOBBY.

## BREAKING A MONSTER

USA | 2015 | DOCUMENTARY | 92 MIN | SEETHINK FILMS

**DIRECTOR:** Luke Meyer

SHOWTIMES: Monday, October 26 | 3:45 PM (FH)



A few years ago, videos of three young African-American boys from Brooklyn performing raucous heavy metal music in Times Square went viral, with some clips garnering over a million views, making the young musicians social media sensations. Managers, agents and record companies soon came calling. Luke Meyer's documentary picks up just before Sony Records offers an astonishing \$1.8 million contract. The film follows the fledgling band Unlocking the Truth as they confront the complex and sometimes harsh realities behind the dream of "making it." The boys struggle not only

with the adult demands their new fame brings, but also with the pressures any teenagers face. As frontman Malcolm Brickhouse says at one point, "I'm too young for responsibility."

\*FILMMAKER ATTENDING SCREENING FOR Q&A.

## CHESTER GRIMES

1981/2015 | DOCUMENTARY | 30 MIN | FILMMAKER

DIRECTOR: Herb Di Gioia & David Hancock SHOWTIMES: Sunday, November 1 | 5:00 PM (FH)

SPONSORS: Green Valley Media & VAMP (The Vermont Movie Archive Project)



Chester Grimes, made in 1981 by Herb Di Gioia and his partner, the late David Hancock, has not been available for public viewing in years. It tells the story of a 70-year-old logger who still worked in northern Vermont at that advanced age with his team of horses. Di Gioia, who lives in Sutton, Vt. and is well known in the world of film documentary and ethnography, pioneered "observational cinema" by focusing on exploring the lives of ordinary people.

\*DI GIOIA WILL BE PRESENT TO INTRODUCE HIS FILM. FOLLOWED BY THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THIS YEAR'S RECIPIENT OF THE VAMP AWARD, AND A RECEPTION IN THE LAKE LOBBY AT 6:00 PM.

The Vermont Archive Movie Project (VAMP) is a new program within VTIFF. Its mission is to preserve and protect the legacy of Vermont film and to create the first archive of films made by Vermont filmmakers. The initiative includes the creation of an accessible database of Vermont films —from 1916 to the present—as well as the preservation, digitization, housing and public dissemination of the films. The VAMP steering committee is made up of filmmakers, archivists and librarians. Key collaborators include the Vermont Folklife Center, the Vermont Historical Society, the University of Vermont, and Vermont PBS. Thanks to a grant from Green Valley Media, Chester Grimes is the first film to be digitized as part of VAMP's ongoing work. More information is available at vtiff.org/vamp.

# THE CLUB (EL CLUB) CHILE | 2015 | FICTION | 98 MIN | SPANISH W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | MUSICBOX

**DIRECTOR:** Pablo Larraín

SHOWTIMES: Tuesday, October 27 | 4:00 PM (FH) and Friday, October 30 | 8:15 PM (BB)

**AWARDS:** Grand Jury Prize, Berlinale



The Club finds director Pablo Larraín (Post Mortem; No) at his most masterful, steering the picture through complex tonal shifts without letting it capsize into hysteria, even when the characters do. The "club" in the title refers to a kind of clandestine retirement home for scandal-plagued priests, quietly put out of sight (and mind) of the Vatican. Don't be put off by the subject matter: This is an original and brilliantly acted chamber drama with every scene composed, choreographed and lit in an unforgettable way. Despite the dark setting, humor filters through and the dramatic tension never subsides. The Club

# BURLINGTON BETHLEHEM ARAD SISTER CITY PROGRAM

CRUMBS
SPAIN/FINLAND/ETHIOPIA | 2014 | FICTION | 68 MIN | AFRIKAANS/AMHARIC W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | INDIEPIX

**DIRECTOR:** Miguel Llansó

SHOWTIMES: Sunday, October 25 | 4:00 PM (BB)

**SPONSORS:** Indiepix



A hunchback dwarf. A derelict spacecraft. A frightening Santa Claus. A Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle orbiting a planet. All par for the course in this outlandish and captivating post-apocalyptic sci-fi oddity from Ethiopia. Spanish-born, Addis Ababa-based director Miguel Llansó has fashioned an eccentrically charming, low-budget bizarro love story about two survivors, Birdy and Candy, who brave the new world together from the bunker of an abandoned bowling alley and protect themselves from wasteland marauders. This head-scratching headtrip is a gem of a curio and a true offbeat delight.

DEMOCRATS

DENMARK | 2014 | DOCUMENTARY | 99 MIN | SHONA/ENGLISH W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | UPFRONT FILMS

**DIRECTOR:** Camilla Nielssen

SHOWTIMES: Thursday, October 29 | 4:00 PM (BB) and Saturday, October 31 | 8:15 PM (BB)

AWARDS: Best Doc Feature, Tribeca



Camilla Nielssen's astutely observed, darkly humorous, rousingly energetic chronicle of the drafting of the new Zimbabwean constitution has been rightly dubbed "one of the year's most invaluable documentaries" by The Guardian. Given incredible access over a four-year period, the filmmakers offer a firsthand, ground-floor view of nascent democracy in action, following the two men who have been tasked with overseeing the drafting process: Paul Mangwana of President Mugabe's ZANU-PF party and Douglas Mwonzora of Movement for Democratic Change. Although opposed in their affiliations and beliefs, the two share a mutual respect and great odd-couple chemistry as they navigate the organizational challenges, negotiations, compromises, setbacks, arguments, frustrations and small triumphs of the process - all the while operating under the constant specter of authoritarian repression and violence. Nielssen's masterful film captures the intimate dynamics of the struggle toward representational government with

a wonderful balance of humor, outrage, contemplation and candor.





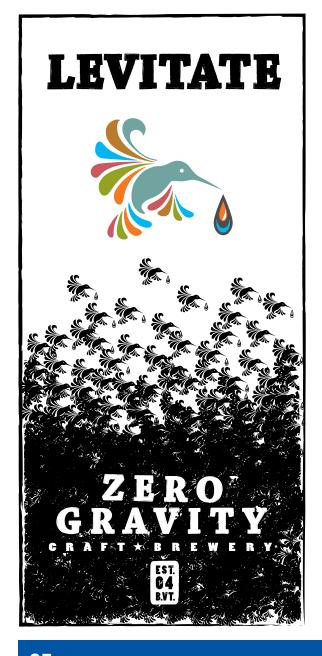


Pasta Dinner and Silent Auction

In support of the Scholarship Fund

Sunday, Nov 8 at 5:00 pm Elks Club, Burlington

Tickets: Adults \$25.00 Children 14 and unders \$10.00 available at vermontitalianclub.org



# THE DINNER (I NOSTRI RAGAZZI) ITALY | 2014 | FICTION | 93 MIN | ITALIAN W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | FILM MOVEMENT

**DIRECTOR:** Ivano De Matteo

SHOWTIMES: Sunday, October 25 | 6:00 PM (FH) and Thursday, October 29 | 3:45 PM (FH)

AWARDS: AKAI International Film Fest Award, Venice; Italian National Syndicate of Film Journalists 2015 Silver Ribbon; FICE -

Federazione Italiana Cinema d'Essai 2014 Award

SPONSORS: Vermont Italian Club



Based on Herman Koch's New York Times bestselling novel, this masterful adaptation and taut morality play chronicles the downward spiral of a bourgeois family coming unhinged at its foundation after a grisly act of violence. The 'dinner' of the title is a regular event in which two wealthy brothers and their wives meet at a fashionable restaurant to exchange banalities. Both couples' teenage children become entwined in a terrible crime. When the police get involved, the two families face heavy moral dilemmas - how can they protect their children and at what price? As the tension rises, their comfortable lives utterly change. The film goes beyond the exploration of family relationships and troubled teenagers, following the characters' surprising transformations. Similarly to Human Capital (shown at VTIFF 2014), The Dinner develops into an intense examination of the insulated and hypocritical Italian bourgeoisie.

\*INTRO AND Q&A LED BY DAVID TOMASI. PRECEDED BY A PASTA RECEPTION AT 5:30 IN THE LAKE LOBBY (SUNDAY ONLY).

# DON'T THINK I'VE FORGOTTEN USA/CAMBODIA | 2015 | DOCUMENTARY | 106 MIN | FRENCH/KHMER W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | ARGOT PICTURES

SHOWTIMES: Friday, October 30 | 6:00 PM (BB)

SPONSORS: Judy Gerber



This moving and informative documentary by John Pirozzi, takes its name from a hit song of the 1960s which, like most of the music on the soundtrack, was part of a flourishing music scene in Cambodia before the Khmer Rouge regime put an end to it all. The music scene under the reign of Prince Sihanouk, himself a lover of pop music, a singer and a patron of the arts, is vibrantly portrayed in Pirozzi's absorbing portrayal of the musicians and their fans. But the film, while focusing on the music, is a fresh reminder of the suffering and loss when all that stopped. And yet, while we aren't spared testimonies of the cruel fate of most of these stars, Pirozzi manages to let us leave the theater inspired by the power of art.

\*FILMMAKER ATTENDING SCREENING FOR Q&A.

# DOWN IN SHADOWLAND USA | 2015 | DOCUMENTARY | 70 MIN | FILMMAKER

**DIRECTOR:** Tom DiCillo

**SHOWTIMES:** Sunday, October 25 | 1:45 PM (FH)

SPONSORS: Todd Lockwood



DiCillo (Living in Oblivion, also showing at this year's festival) descends into the subterranean world of the NYC subway and records humanity passing by in a highly stylized, poetic film. Structured in eight parts, with a mesmerizing soundtrack, we delve deep into the psyches of the people who either inhabit this world or are merely passing through. No hidden cameras were used and mostly the people we see on screen are aware of being filmed and yet they remain unself-conscious. At no time do we feel voyeuristic. The camera constantly shifts and explores and, just as in real life, people come and go and we are left wondering what might happen to them.

\*FILMMAKER ATTENDING SCREENING FOR Q&A.



Congratulations to VTIFF on their 30th anniversary!

## **EISENSTEIN IN GUANAJUATO**

NETHERLANDS/MEXICO/FINLAND/BELGIUM/FRANCE | 2015 | FICTION | 106 MIN | ENGLISH & SPANISH W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | STRAND RELEASING

**DIRECTOR:** Peter Greenaway

SHOWTIMES: Sunday, October 25 | 7:45 PM (BB) and Monday, October 26 | 8:15 PM (FH)



In 1931 the Soviet director Sergei Eisenstein travels to Guanajuato to direct his film Que viva México. There he encounters a new culture and its dealings with death; he also discovers another revolution — and his own body. Greenaway (The Cook, The Thief, His Wife and Her Lover) is more playful and less cerebral here than in some of his previous films. In a hugely enjoyable and entertaining film, he lavishly reimagines Eisenstein's experience, consciously borrowing from that filmmaker's cinematic language (including splitscreens, extreme close-ups, and wondrous montages) to

paint the transformation of a national hero, a highly conceptual filmmaker, into a flesh and blood man who presents himself as a clown.

## **EXPERIMENTER**

USA | 2015 | FICTION | 98 MIN | MAGNOLIA

**DIRECTOR:** Michael Almereyda

SHOWTIMES: Wednesday, October 28 | 8:30 PM (BB) and Thursday, October 29 | 2:00 PM (BB)



Maverick director Michael Almereyda (Nadja; Hamlet with Ethan Hawke) here tackles the famed and infamous Milgram Experiments, wherein ordinary folks found themselves willing to administer potentially lethal electric shocks to others simply because they were told to do so. The initial experiments created by Stanley Milgram, along with the subsequent trials he conducted, have been a cornerstone of discussions and debates concerning human nature and obedience ever since he first released the findings in the 1960s. In Almereyda's wryly innovative and cerebrally

probing drama, Peter Sarsgaard plays the controversial experimenter. He is joined by a fantastic cast of character actors including John Leguizamo, Jim Gaffigan, Winona Ryder, Taryn Manning, and Anton

## SECTION STATES SECTION SE

HUNGARY | 2012 | FICTION/EXPERIMENTAL | 84 MIN | ENGLISH/GERMAN/HUNGARIAN/ FRENCH/CANTONESE W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES I HVD PRODUCTIONS

DIRECTOR: György Pálfi

SHOWTIMES: Thursday, October 29 | 7:00 PM (FH) **AWARDS:** Official selection Cannes Film Festival



This "recycled movie" plays as the supreme montage, the ultimate supercut, and a great piece of renegade filmmaking. Pálfi, the unpredictable director of Hukkle and Taxidermia, has assembled a narrative feature consisting entirely of footage from other films, using clips from more than 450 different movies and television series. But what could have been just a cheeky gimmick turns out to be a brilliant distillation of cinema's tropes, truisms and subtexts. By stitching together our shared cinematic experiences, our darkened theater collective dreams, Pálfi has created a

fascinating illustration of the continuity of storytelling in film. The Burlington Film Society is delighted to present a rare screening of this kaleidoscopic love letter to the movies, Final Cut - Ladies & Gentlemen.

\*A BURLINGTON FILM SOCIETY PRESENTATION. NEW ENGLAND PREMIERE.

## **③** THE FORBIDDEN ROOM

CANADA | 2015 | FICTION | 130 MIN | KINO LORBER

**DIRECTOR:** Guy Maddin & Evan Johnson **SHOWTIMES:** Friday, October 30 | 8:30 PM (FH)

AWARDS: Winner of Bildrausch Ring of Film Award, 2015



Guy Maddin is a singular figure in today's cinematic landscape. For 30 years he has been creating distinctive, wildly inventive films that feel as much discovered as they do made, existing simultaneously outside of and at the heart of cinematic tradition. His latest. The Forbidden Room, is another spirited phantasmagoria - a heady, hearty brew of silent and underground filmmaking tropes, pulp fictions, formal experimentalism, camp sensibility and nitrate-induced psychedelia. Concerning a woodcutter who mysteriously appears on a submarine, Maddin's digressive

tale weaves together multiple storylines and disparate storytellers. Endlessly innovative and often quite beautiful. The Forbidden Room is a dream worth having.

# GOODNIGHT MOMMY (ICH SEH, ICH SEH) AUSTRIA | 2015 | FICTION | 99 MIN | GERMAN W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES

**DIRECTOR:** Veronika Franz & Severin Fiala SHOWTIMES: Saturday, October 31 | 8:30 PM (FH)



Austria's official submission to this year's Oscars is a slow-burning doozie of a psychological thriller. A bracingly assured directorial debut by Severin Fiala and Veronika Franz (produced by Ulrich Seidl for whom Franz has scripted a number of films including Dog Days and Import/Export), this maternal horror show concerns a woman returning home after having plastic surgery, only to be taken for an imposter by her twin sons. As the fear and distrust mount, the situation grows increasingly tense, and the shocking twists and grisly turns keep coming. Much more than just

a creepy under-the-skin flick (though it succeeds as that, too), this stringent chiller conjures inchoate fears and buried primal insecurities. Goodnight Mommy is no lullaby.

## GRINGO TRAILS

USA | 2014 | DOCUMENTARY | 79 MIN | FILMMAKER

**DIRECTOR:** Pegi Vail

**SHOWTIMES:** Friday, October 30 | 6:15 PM (FH)

AWARDS: Special Jury Award, Visions of Nature Environmental Film Festival

SPONSORS: SS Advisors, Inc.



Gringo Trails raises urgent questions about one of the most powerful global industries of our time: tourism. With stunning footage from Bolivia, Thailand, Mali, and Bhutan, anthropologist Pegi Vail asks: How do travelers change the remote places they visit, and how do the places change the travelers? She reveals a complex web of relationships between cultures that collide yet need one another: host countries looking for financial security and the tourists who provide it in their quest for authentic experiences. Through the life-changing stories of travelers and locals, Gringo

Trails explores the dramatic impact of tourism around the world over the past three decades and gives examples of sustainable alternatives.

\*FILMMAKER ATTENDING SCREENING FOR POST-SCREENING DISCUSSION WITH MEGAN EPLER WOOD.

# WONDERING WHAT TO DO ON **YOUR LUNCH BREAK?**

THE LUNCHTIME SHORTS **SERIES IS HAPPENING AT BURLINGTON CITY ARTS SEE PAGE 18 FOR MORE INFO** 

#### CHAMPLAIN COLLEGE

Division of Communication & Creative Media

"I think cinema. movies, and magic have always been closely associated. The very earliest people who made film were magicians. " - FRANCIS FORD COPPOLA

We're happy to be a part of the magic.

Proud supporters of the Vermont



# GTFO: GET THE F&#% OUT USA | 2015 | DOCUMENTARY | 76 MIN | FILMMAKER

**DIRECTOR:** Shannon Sun-Higginson **SHOWTIMES:** Friday, October 30 | 3:30 PM (FH)

**SPONSORS:** Champlain College



The gaming world is a 20 billion dollar industry that caters to millions of players across multiple demographics. It is also a world rife with misogyny and harassment. While female gamers constitute a full 50% of players (with one study reporting that up to 96% of teen girls engage in gaming), they are routinely subjected to mistreatment, ranging from insults and bullying to threats of violence, rape, and death. Shannon Sun-Higginson's Kickstarter-backed documentary explores the landscape and culture of the industry with a personable, persuasive temperament, exposing the troubling dynamics at work while also highlighting the efforts being made to counteract them.

\*FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE FOR POST-SCREENING PANEL.

#### THE HALLOW \*SEE VTIFF AFTER DARK SECTION, PAGE 21.

HE NEVER DIED \*SEE VTIFF AFTER DARK SECTION, PAGE 21.

# THE INCREDIBLE ADVENTURE OF JOJO (AND HIS ANNOYING

\*SEE FAMILY-FRIENDLY SECTION, PAGE 21.

## LIVING IN OBLIVION

USA | 1995 | FICTION | 92 MIN | SHOUT FACTORY

**DIRECTOR:** Tom DiCillo

SHOWTIMES: Saturday, October 24 | 8:30 PM (FH) **SPONSORS:** Todd Lockwood & Shout Factory



Whatever can go wrong does go wrong in Tom DiCillo's hilarious send-up of the maddeningly chaotic vicissitudes of ultra-low-budget filmmaking. Indie film stalwart Steve Buscemi stars as Nick Reve, DiCillo's directorial alter ego, who is in the midst of a disastrous film shoot with an absurdly unreliable cast and crew. DiCillo, who served as cinematographer on Jim Jarmusch's 1984 masterpiece Stranger Than Paradise, channels the frustrations he experienced shooting the early Brad Pitt vehicle Johnny Suede into a screenplay that ambiguously mixes dream sequences and reality and blurs the line between cinematic artifice and real life. Also featuring Dermot Mulroney and Catherine Keener (in one of her earliest roles), Living in Oblivion is a true cult classic and an enduring tribute to the determination of cash-strapped independent filmmakers everywhere.

\*FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE FOR POST-SCREENING Q&A AND SIGNING OF THE NEWLY MASTERED BLU-RAYS OF THE FILM FOR ITS 20TH ANNIVERSARY.



# THE LOOK OF SILENCE DENMARK/INDONESIA/UK/NORWAY/FINLAND | 2014 | DOCUMENTARY | 99 MIN | INDONESIAN W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | DRAFTHOUSE FILMS

**DIRECTOR:** Joshua Oppenheimer

**SHOWTIMES:** Saturday, October 31 | 1:00 PM (FH)

AWARDS: Special Mention, Venice Film Festival, UNESCO Award for Best Documentary, Sofia International Film Festival; Berlinale;



This film is a must see. In his previous film, The Act of Killing (shown at VTIFF 2013), Oppenheimer focused on the perpetrators of the 1965 Indonesian genocide. His follow-up, *The Look of Silence*, focuses on a family of survivors who discover how their son was murdered, as well as the identities of the killers. The film avoids the usual clichés of presenting survivors as saintly victims; rather, it explores the meaning of silence borne of terror and, in Oppenheimer's own words, "it is a poem about the necessity of breaking that silence, but also about the trauma that comes when silence is broken." This riveting, disturbing and eye-opening film will stay with you long after you've left the theater.

\*FILMMAKER APPEARANCE VIA SKYPE FOR A POST-SCREENING Q&A.

# **WANT TO** GO TO A PARTY?

**CHECK OUT PAGE 22 FOR EVENT INFO** 



# MOST LIKELY TO SUCCED USA | 2015 | DOCUMENTARY | 90 MIN | ONE POTATO PRODUCTIONS

**DIRECTOR:** Greg Whiteley

**SHOWTIMES:** Saturday, October 31 | 12:45 PM (BB)

**SPONSORS:** Lorna-Kay Peal



Over 120 years ago, the American educational system was designed based on industrial models of organizational structure rather than educational principles. Most Likely to Succeed makes a passionate case for the urgent need of reform. Providing a clear and concise look at the history of education in the country, the documentary primarily focuses on possible solutions, featuring an array of insightful interviews with teachers, specialists, and policy-makers as well as an insider's look at the efforts of one particular Californian high school that has completely revised its structure and curriculum to incorporate more modern educational models and philosophies. Greg Whiteley's engaging, impassioned yet personal documentary is sure to inspire much needed reflection and discussion about the way forward for today's educators and schools.

\* POST-SCREENING PANEL DISCUSSION WITH EXECUTIVE PRODUCER TED DINTERSMITH.

SWEDEN/GERMANY | 2015 | FICTION | 92 MIN | SWEDISH W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | WIDE MANAGEMENT

**DIRECTOR:** Sanna Lenken

SHOWTIMES: Sunday, October 25 | 5:45 PM (BB)

AWARDS: Best Screenplay Award, Special Fipresci Award, Special Audience Award (Festival del Cinema Europeo); Crystal Bear Award for Best Film & Special Mention from the international jury (Berlinale Generation Section); Dragon Award for Best Nordic Film (Goteborg Film Festival).

**SPONSORS:** Paula Routly



Young Stella stands on the verge of adolescence - navigating friendships, nurturing crushes, dreaming of what's to come. But when she begins to realize that her older sister, a popular high-schooler and star skater, is harboring a dark secret, Stella is torn between seeking help and keeping her sister's trust. The remarkable performances and undeniable chemistry between the two young leads, Rebecka Josephson and Amy Deasismont – aka Swedish teen pop sensation Amy Diamond – provide the heart of this emotionally engaging Swedish drama.

# **ARE YOU A NIGHT OWL? CHECK OUT THE VTIFF AFTER DARK SERIES**

**SEE PAGE 21 FOR FILM LISTINGS** 



Congratulates

### **VTIFF**

on its 30th Anniversary

Film is life with the boring parts taken out. - Alfred Hitchcock

Thank you for being part of our community and our lives.

We look forward to another 30 years!

College of Arts and Sciences **Humanities Center** Film and Television Studies Program

# **SCHEDULE**

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23	SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24	SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25	MONDAY, OCTOBER 26	TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27
1:00 PM (BB) VT SHOWCASE 1 (87 MIN, P. 19)	1:30 PM (BB) (57 MIN, P. 20)	11:00 AM (FH) THE INCREDIBLE ADVENTURE OF JOJO (AND HIS ANNOYING SISTER AVILA) (79 MIN, P. 21)	10:15 AM (FH)	10:15 AM (FH) (CES HÉRITIERS) (105 MIN, P. 13)
3:15 PM (BB) (21 MIN, P. 19)	1:45 PM (FH) ON THE EDGE (AU BORD DU MONDE) (98 MIN, P. 13)	1:30 PM (BB)  (BEYOND ZERO: 1914-1918 & WAR WORK: 8 SONGS WITH FILM (39 MIN/65 MIN, P. 05)	12:00 PM (BCA) LUNCHTIME SHORTS: SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL SHORT FILM TOUR (60 MIN, P. 18)	12:00 PM (BCA)  LUNCHTIME SHORTS: BREAD AND PUPPET VIDEO PRESENTATION (60 MIN, P. 18)
4:15 PM (BB) VT SHOWCASE 3 (P. 19)	3:15 PM (BB) (89 MIN, P. 20)	1:45 PM	3:45 PM (FH)  MONSTER (92 MIN, P. 05)	3:45 PM (BB)  ON THE EDGE (AU BORD DU MONDE) (98 MIN, P. 13)
6:15 PM (BB) (42 MIN, P. 19)	3:45 PM (FH)  SONG OF THE STREET (CANCIÓN DE BARRIO) (80 MIN, P. 15)	3:45 PM (FH) ONCE IN A LIFETIME (LES HÉRITIERS) (105 MIN, P. 13)	4:00 PM (BB)  THE SECOND MOTHER (QUE HORA ELA VOLTA?) (105 MIN, P. 14)	4:00 PM (FH) (98 MIN, P. 06)
7:00 PM (FH) (82 MIN, P. 15)	5:30 PM (BB) VT SHOWCASE 8 (108 MIN, P. 20)	4:00 PM (BB) CRUMBS (68 MIN, P. 06)	6:15 PM (BB)  (BB)  (80 MIN, P. 16)	6:15 PM (BB) ▼ VERY SEMI-SERIOUS (93 MIN, P. 16)
8:00 PM (BB) (31 MIN, P. 19)	6:15 PM (FH)  (FH)  (105 MIN, P. 05)	5:45 PM (BB) MY SKINNY SISTER (MIN ILLA SYSTER) (92 MIN, P. 10)	6:30 PM (FH)  THE SEARCH FOR GENERAL TSO (72 MIN, P. 14)	10:00 PM (AR) (97 MIN, P. 21)
LOCATION GUIDE	8:00 PM (BB)  BLACK PANTHERS: VANGUARD OF THE REVOLUTION (113 MIN, P. 05)	6:00 PM (FH) THE DINNER (I NOSTRI RAGAZZI) (92 MIN, P. 07)	8:15 PM (FH) (FH) (106 MIN, P. 08)	
FILM HOUSE (FH) 60 LAKE STREET, THIRD FLOOR AT MAIN STREET LANDING PERFORMING ARTS CENTER (MSL)	8:30 PM (FH) LIVING IN OBLIVION (92 MIN, P. 09)	7:45 PM EISENSTEIN IN (BB) GUANAJUATO		
BLACK BOX THEATER (BB) 60 LAKE STREET, THIRD FLOOR AT MAIN STREET LANDING	<b>⊗</b>   (32 mm, 1 · 33)	<b>⊗</b> (106 MIN, P. 08)		
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER (MSL)  LAKE LOBBY (LL)  60 LAKE STREET, THIRD FLOOR AT MAIN STREET LANDING		8:30 PM (FH) TU DORS NICOLE (YOU'RE SLEEPING NICOLE) (92 MIN, P. 16)		
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER (MSL)  BURLINGTON CITY ARTS (BCA)  135 CHURCH STREET		10:00 PM (AR) TURBO KID (93 MIN, P. 21)		
SKINNY PANCAKE (SP) 60 LAKE STREET ARTS PLOT (AR)		(30 mint, 1.21)		
ARTS RIOT (AR) 400 PINE STREET				

# SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28	THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29	FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30	SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31	SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 01
10:15 AM (FH) (FH) (92 MIN, P. 10)	12:00 PM (BCA) LUNCHTIME SHORTS: NO GENDER (60 MIN, P. 18)	12:00 PM (BCA) LUNCHTIME SHORTS: MASKS (MASACARAS) (60 MIN, P. 18)	12:45 PM (BB) SUCCEED (90 MIN, P. 10)	SCRATCHATOPIA WORKSHOP: WITH STEVE WOLOSHEN  (P. 21)
12:00 PM (BCA) LUNCHTIME SHORTS: THE LAND (60 MIN, P. 18)	2:00 PM (BB) (BB) EXPERIMENTER (98 MIN, P. 08)	1:30 PM (BB)  THE BABUSHKAS OF CHERNOBYL (72 MIN, P. 04)	1:00 PM (FH) THE LOOK OF SILENCE (99 MIN, P. 10)	1:15 PM (BB) REBELS OF THE NEON GOD (106 MIN, P. 13)
2:30 PM (BB) WARRIORS FROM THE NORTH (58 MIN, P. 16)	3:45 PM (FH) THE DINNER (I NOSTRI RAGAZZI) (92 MIN, P. 07)	1:45 PM (FH) (76 MIN, P. 16)	3:30 PM (BB) THEEB (96 MIN, P. 16) €	2:00 PM (FH) SLEEPLESS IN BURLINGTON (P. 22)
4:00 PM (FH) SWEET MICKY FOR PRESIDENT (89 MIN, P. 15)	4:00 PM (BB)  DEMOCRATS (99 MIN, P. 06)	3:15 PM (BB)  THE NEW GIRLFRIEND (109 MIN, P. 13)	4:00 PM (FH)  THE SECOND MOTHER (QUE HORA ELA VOLTA?) (105 MIN, P. 14)	2:45 PM (BB)  BLACK PANTHERS: VANGUARD OF THE REVOLUTION (113 MIN, P. 05)
4:15 PM (BB) RADICAL GRACE (77 MIN, P. 13)	6:15 PM (BB) THE BABUSHKAS OF CHERNOBYL (72 MIN, P. 04)	3:30 PM (FH) (FH) GTF0: GET THE F&#% OUT (76 MIN, P. 09)</th><th>6:15 PM (FH) SWEET MICKY FOR PRESIDENT (89 MIN, P. 15)</th><th>5:00 PM (FH) (FH) (30 MIN, P. 05)</th></tr><tr><th>6:00 PM (BB) THE RUSSIAN WOODPECKER (80 MIN, P. 14)</th><th>7:00 PM (FH)  (FH)  (84 MIN, P. 08)</th><th>6:00 PM (BB)</th><th>6:30 PM (BB)  (BB)  TRANSFORMATIONS (9 MIN, P. 13)</th><th>5:00 PM (BB)  TU DORS NICOLE (YOU'RE SLEEPING NICOLE) (92 MIN, P. 16)</th></tr><tr><th>6:15 PM (FH) THE ASSASSIN (107 MIN, P. 04)</th><th>8:30 PM (BB) THE RUSSIAN WOODPECKER (80 MIN, P. 14)</th><th>6:15 PM (FH) (FH) (79 MIN, P. 08)</th><th>8:15 PM (BB) (BB) (99 MIN, P. 06)</th><th>7:00 PM (FH)  GURTAIN FALLS (92 MIN, P. 04)</th></tr><tr><th>8:15 PM (FH)  ** THE NEW GIRLFRIEND (109 MIN, P. 13)</th><th>10:00 PM (AR) (99 MIN, P. 21)</th><th>8:15 PM (BB) THE CLUB (EL CLUB) (98 MIN, P. 06)</th><th>8:30 PM (FH) (ICH SEH, ICH SEH) (99 MIN, P. 08)</th><th>SCREENING GUIDE</th></tr><tr><th>8:30 PM (BB)  SEXPERIMENTER (98 MIN, P. 08)</th><th></th><th>8:30 PM (FH) THE FORBIDDEN ROOM (130 MIN, P. 08)</th><th></th><th>DOCUMENTARIES  FICTION FILM  FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENTS  STUDENT MATINEES  VTIFF AFTER DARK  LUNCHTIME SHORTS  SPECIAL EVENTS  VERMONT FILMMAKERS' SHOWCASETM</th></tr></tbody></table>		

# THE NEW GIRLFRIEND FRANCE | 2015 | FICTION | 109 MIN | FRENCH W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | COHEN MEDIA

**DIRECTOR:** François Ozon

SHOWTIMES: Wednesday, October 28 | 8:15 PM (FH) and Friday, October 30 | 3:15 PM (BB)



While Ozon's work has gone in countless directions since the enfant terrible days of Sea the Sea and Sitcom, the filmmaker has always retained his provocateur's spirit. Here, adapting mystery writer Ruth Rendell's short story, the director constructs a wryly bemused thriller about the vagaries of gender, identity, and fidelity. Anaïs Demoustier is wonderfully beguiling as a young woman grief-stricken by the illness and death of her childhood friend. When she checks in on her friend's widowed husband and infant child, she discovers the husband has been dealing with the loss in

a rather unconventional manner. In a César-nominated performance, Romain Duris (Mood Indigo; The Beat That My Heart Skipped) is bewitchingly poignant as the bereaved lover. The two begin spending time together and as many secrets are created as revealed while a complex web of shifting perspectives, performative transformations, and mounting tensions develops.

# ON THE EDGE (AU BORD DU MONDE) FRANCE | 2014 | DOCUMENTARY | 98 MIN | FRENCH W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | DAISY DAY FILMS

**DIRECTOR:** Claus Drexel

SHOWTIMES: Saturday, October 24 | 1:45 PM (FH) and Tuesday, October 27 | 3:45 PM (BB) **SPONSORS:** Duncan Wisniewski Architecture and Allan Nicholls, Nancy Bercaw, David Nicholls



The best way to describe this most exquisite, haunting and unforgettable film, which prompted one of our programmers to comment: "I'll never think of Paris in the same way again," is to quote from the words of the filmmaker himself: "For many years I was hounded by the desire to meet Paris' homeless population, those phantoms who haunt the city's sidewalks and metro stations, omnipresent yet invisible to those who walk right by them without ever stopping. Rather than a question of media-type curiosity as to how they ended up on the street, I simply wanted to give them a voice.... Placing

the viewer face to face with the subject was inspired by the work of two photographers, Walker Evans and August Sander. It gives dignity and strength to the people being filmed, and acts like a mirror for the viewer." Not to be missed.

\*25% OF TICKET SALES WILL BE DONATED TO COTS.

# ONCE IN A LIFETIME (LES HÉRITIERS) FRANCE I 2014 I FICTION I 105 MIN I FRENCH W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES I MENEMSHA FILMS

**DIRECTOR:** Marie-Castille Mention-Schaar SHOWTIMES: Sunday, October 25 | 3:45 PM (FH) SPONSORS: Frank and Ducky Donath



Based on a true story and co-written by one of its teenage stars, Once in a Lifetime tells the story of an unruly and antagonistic group of students who are entered into a scholastic competition. Assigned a project involving the Holocaust, the multicultural class is forced to confront an array of questions, prejudices and misconceptions as they figure out how to collaborate with one another. Featuring authentic performances across the board, the film explores how seemingly irreconcilable differences can actually become assets when used to collectively confront a challenge.

# RADICAL GRACE USA | 2015 | DOCUMENTARY | 77 MIN | PRODUCERS

**DIRECTOR:** Rebecca Parrish

SHOWTIMES: Wednesday, October 28 | 4:15 PM (BB) and Saturday, October 31 | 6:30 PM (BB)

AWARDS: Best of Fest. AFI Docs

SPONSORS: The Caroline Baird Crichfield Fund



At a time when the Pope is the focus of the world's attention and portrayed as speaking up for the poor and for the environment, we get to see and hear nuns who are speaking up for women's equality. "This film comes at a major crossroads in the Catholic Church, and the nuns are everything that's right with the institution. They stand with the marginalized, and won't be bullied by the hierarchy," writes Susan Sarandon, executive producer of Radical Grace. The film follows three radical, feminist nuns who may well be the most inspiring women you have ever seen

on screen, regardless of your beliefs. We laugh and cry with them, but mainly we're in awe of their fierce independence of spirit working within a patriarchal institution. The film follows the nuns on their crosscountry campaigns, giving voice to their frustrations and inner struggles, and showing us how these sisters are transforming American politics.

#### TRANSFORMATIONS USA | 1972 | 9 MIN

**DIRECTOR:** Vermont collective of women led by Barbara Hirschfeld & Julia Haines

**SHOWTIMES:** Saturday, October 31 | 6:30 PM (BB)

\*SHORT FILM BEFORE THE SCREENING OF *Radical grace* (Saturday Screening Only).

## REBELS OF THE NEON GOD

TAIWAN | 1992/2015 | FICTION | 106 MIN | MANDARIN/MIN NAN W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | BIG **WORLD PICTURES** 

**DIRECTOR:** Tsai Ming-liang

SHOWTIMES: Sunday, November 1 | 1:15 PM (BB)



Tsai Ming-liang is perhaps the most stylistically audacious director to come of age during the Taiwanese cinema's "Second New Wave" of the 1990s. Rebels of the Neon God - which made its U.S. theatrical premiere earlier this year, 23 years after its release in Taiwan – marked Tsai's feature debut, and his first collaboration with actor Lee Kang-sheng, who has starred in all of Tsai's films to date. Rebels is set on the neon-lit and rain-soaked streets of Taipei, where the disillusioned youth of the city's underbelly turn to petty crime and cheap thrills to escape the harsh realities of lower-class

living. Containing shades of Martin Scorsese's Mean Streets and Wong Kar-wai's As Tears Go By, Rebels of the Neon God naturalistically touches on the themes of urban alienation and romantic longing that Tsai would explore in increasingly experimental form throughout his career. Rebels remains Tsai's most accessible and entertaining films.



168 Battery Street, Burlington, Vermont, 802.651.0880

THE RUSSIAN WOODPECKER

UKRAINE/UK/USA | 2015 | DOCUMENTARY | 80 MIN | ENGLISH & RUSSIAN W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | ROAST BEEF PRODUCTIONS

**DIRECTOR:** Chad Gracia

SHOWTIMES: Wednesday, October 28 | 6:00 PM (BB) and Thursday, October 29 | 8:30 PM (BB)

**AWARDS:** Grand Jury Prize World Documentary, Sundance

SPONSORS: Duncan Wisniewski Architecture



"It's not the Russia we used to know. It's the Soviet Union again," Fedor Alexandrovich states in Chad Gracia's The Russian Woodpecker, an enlightening and boldly realized documentary which is part conspiracy theory, part sobering history lesson, part microcosm of the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict. The film's primary subject is the 1986 Chernobyl disaster in the former Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, which remains the worst nuclear power plant accident in history. Alexandrovich, a Chernobyl native who grew up in the wake of the disaster, serves as the film's wild-eyed, bushy-haired investigative reporter who believes that the nuclear catastrophe was a cover-up job linked to the Soviets' monstrous Duga radar system, which allegedly attempted to infiltrate American intelligence communications during the waning days of the Cold War. Gracia's film - in thrilling fashion - uncovers a possible culprit in the Chernobyl tragedy, but perhaps its bolder suggestion is that the scars of Chernobyl and the Soviet-

era police state continue to resonate in last year's Russian military intervention in the Ukraine.

# THE SEARCH FOR GENERAL TSO USA | 2014 | DOCUMENTARY | 72 MIN | IFC FILMS

**DIRECTOR:** Ian Chenev

SHOWTIMES: Monday, October 26 | 6:30 PM (FH)

**SPONSORS:** A Single Pebble



Scan the menu of any Chinese restaurant in America and you'll likely find some variation of General Tso's chicken. The spelling might vary (General Tsao, Tao, Chau, etc.), but the sweet and spicy chicken dish, deep-fried with a side of broccoli, will invariably be near the top of the list. But who exactly was General Tso, and how did his namesake dish become a staple in the American takeout diet? Those are the questions asked and answered in Ian Cheney's lighthearted but surprisingly enlightening documentary, which uses the most widely ordered Chinese food as a springboard to examine the history of Chinese emigration — and the racism, discrimination and cultural stereotypes faced by Chinese-Americans during the 20th century.

\*INTRODUCED BY CHIUHO DUVAL. SINGLE PEBBLE. SCREENING PRECEDED BY A GENERAL TSO TASTING RECEPTION BY A SINGLE PEBBLE.

# THE SECOND MOTHER (QUE HORA ELA VOLTA?) BRAZIL I 2015 I FICTION I 105 MIN I PORTUGUESE W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES I OSCILLOSCOPE

**DIRECTOR:** Anna Muylaert

SHOWTIMES: Monday, October 26 | 4:00 PM (BB) and Saturday, October 31 | 4:00 PM (FH)

SPONSORS: Barbara McGrew



Brazil's official submission to this year's Oscars is an acutely well-observed and engaging comedydrama about the unspoken class barriers that exist within a household, especially once they come crashing down after the live-in housekeeper's daughter suddenly appears. The cast is uniformly terrific, particularly Regina Case, a celebrated Brazilian actor and television personality. Muylaert has an understated assurance that quietly pulls you in, producing what feels like a story-driven narrative while exploring many complex ideas just beneath the surface.





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# **VTIFF IS PROUD** TO CELEBRATE **VERMONT** FILMMAKING

CHECK OUT OUR ANNUAL **VERMONT FILMMAKERS'** SHOWCASETM ON **PAGES 19 & 20** 



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# SONG OF THE STREET (CANCIÓN DE BARRIO) CUBA | 2014 | DOCUMENTARY | 80 MIN | SPANISH W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | AMERICAS MEDIA INITIATIVE

**DIRECTOR:** Alexandro Ramirez

**SHOWTIMES:** Saturday, October 24 | 3:45 PM (FH)



In 2010, famed Cuban musician Silvio Rodriguez started an ongoing tour through the poorest neighborhoods of Havana. Following Silvio for two years, Song of the Street explores a largely invisible and silenced Cuba, the complexity of which is revealed through the voices of the film's participants. Song of the Street is a documentary that unveils, layer by layer, neighborhood by neighborhood, the pain, deterioration, imagination, violence, resignation, humor, outrage, despair and precarious hope of

\*POST SCREENING Q&A VIA SKYPE, MODERATED BY ALEXANDRA HALKIN, WITH MÓNICA RIVERO CABRERA, CUBAN JOURNALIST.

## SWEET MICKY FOR PRESIDENT

USA | 2015 | DOCUMENTARY | 89 MIN | FILMMAKERS

**DIRECTOR:** Ben Patterson

SHOWTIMES: Wednesday, October 28 | 4:00 PM (FH) and Saturday, October 31 | 6:15 PM (FH)



Many years of civil unrest, bloody conflict, and turbulent politics laid the groundwork for one of the more unpredictable and astonishing presidential campaigns in recent history. In the wake of destruction left by the 2010 earthquake, Pras Michel of Fugees fame, returns to Haiti to find a country wracked with turmoil, corruption, failing infrastructure and despair. In an effort to help find someone who could offer some unifying leadership, Pras chose to endorse musician and outlandish entertainer Michel Martelly - aka "Sweet Micky." The politically inexperienced but sincerely intentioned duo embark on a spirited run for office, only to be confronted with the harsh realities of electioneering in an incipient democracy. Things only become more complicated when Pras's former bandmate Wyclef Jean decides to also throw his hat into the ring. With ground floor, front row access, Ben Patterson delivers a riveting, incisive look at politics in the raw. And with a beat.

\*INTRODUCED BY DOREEN KRAFT (SATURDAY SCREENING ONLY).

## 🐯 TAXI

IRAN | 2015 | FICTION/DOCUMENTARY | 82 MIN | PERSIAN W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | KINO LORBER

**DIRECTOR:** Jafar Panahi

SHOWTIMES: Friday. October 23 | 7:00 PM (FH)

SPONSORS: 05401, Champlain College, & Green Cab VT



Call it guerilla cinema, Iranian neorealism or an act of political dissent. But whatever the label, Jafar Panahi's Taxi's simply great filmmaking in the face of considerable adversity. Since 2010, Panahi has been banned by the Iranian government from making movies. But that hasn't stopped him from surreptitiously turning out the autobiographical This Is Not a Film (which was smuggled from Iran to the 2011 Cannes Film Festival in a flash drive hidden in a birthday cake and was also screened at VTIFF 2013) and the similarly self-reflexive Closed Curtain. Like fellow Iranian Abbas Kiarostami's 2002 film Ten, Taxi is set entirely within the confines of an automobile. Panahi himself is at the wheel, with a dashboard camera capturing his interactions with a variety of passengers – including a bootlegger of American videos and Panahi's precocious niece, who longs to make a "distributable" film. Like the earlier Kiarostami film, Panahi's movie deals with the subjugation of women in Iranian society, but it also overtly addresses

issues of state censorship and Iran's disturbing propensity for meting out capital punishment for minor offenses. Taxi is bold, uncompromising cinema, which should on no account be missed.

\*OPENING NIGHT FILM. FOLLOWED BY OPENING NIGHT PARTY IN THE LAKE LOBBY AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF VT FILMMAKERS AWARDS.



## **⊗** THEEB

JORDAN/UK/UNITED ARAB EMIRATES/QATAR | 2015 | FICTION | 96 MIN | ARABIC W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | FILM MOVEMENT

**DIRECTOR:** Naji Abu Nowar

SHOWTIMES: Saturday, October 31 | 3:30 PM (BB) AWARDS: New Directors/ New Films; Best Director, Venice



Fans of David Lean's Lawrence of Arabia might recognize the World War I-era clash of the British and Ottoman empires amidst the windswept desert landscapes of the Arabian Peninsula, but the taut narrative and unadorned action of Theeb more closely resemble the barebones Westerns of Budd Boetticher and Anthony Mann than the epic leanings of Lean. Set in the Hijaz region of present-day Saudi Arabia, Theeb (meaning "wolf" in Arabic) focuses on a Bedouin boy who tags along with his brother on an ill-fated journey to guide a British solider to a strategically situated water well.

But unlike George Stevens' archetypal Western Shane — told through the merely observant eyes of a hero-worshipping boy during the late 19th century Wyoming range wars — an ironic twist of fate turns the young Bedouin protagonist of *Theeb* into a reluctant hero in director Naji Abu Nowar's beautifully shot and morally ambivalent feature debut. *Theeb* is Jordan's official submission to the Oscars this year.

# TIRED MOONLIGHT USA I FICTION I 76 MIN I FILMMAKER

**DIRECTOR:** Britni West

**SHOWTIMES:** Friday. October 30 | 1:45 PM (FH)

AWARDS: Jury Award for Narrative Feature: New Directors/New Films



Every town has a post office, lovers, guns, switchblades and beer. You just have to know where to look and when to look the other way. West's directorial debut discovers homespun poetry among the good folk of her native Kalispell, Montana. Rarely has Big Sky Country cast such a sweetly comic and tender spell. Photographed in Super 16mm and featuring a mostly non-professional cast (with the exception of indie favorite Alex Karpovsky), this is a wonderful slice of contemporary naturalism.

# **⊗** TU DORS NICOLE (YOU'RE SLEEPING

CANADA/QUÉBEC | FICTION | 92 MIN | FRENCH W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES

**DIRECTOR:** Stéphane Lafleur

**SHOWTIMES:** Sunday, October 25 | 8:30 PM (FH) and Sunday, November 1 | 5:00 PM (BB)

SPONSORS: Allan Nicholls & Nancy Bercaw



Listed as "Canada's Top Ten" feature films of 2014, Tu Dors *Nicole* is the third film from the Quebec filmmaker, Stéphane Lafleur, who is probably best known as the editor of the Oscar -nominated Monsieur Lazar. Tu dors Nicole is a film about a 22 year-old woman spending a hot, uneventful summer in the suburban house of her parents while they are away on vacation. Fresh out of college, without a real road map in front of her, Nicole makes her steps into early adulthood with a languor suggesting that the lazy summer will last forever. Shot in gorgeous black-and-white 35 mm, the film captures

the unspoken uncertainties of early adult life with a sustained absurdist tone. Unlike so many comingof-age films, Lafleur offers no easy answers about transitions and crises.

\*FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE FOR Q&A (OCTOBER 25 SCREENING ONLY).



\*SEE VTIFF AFTER DARK SECTION. PAGE 21.

# VERY SEMI-SERIOUS USA | 2015 | DOCUMENTARY | 93 MIN | PRODUCERS

**DIRECTOR:** Leah Wolchok

**SHOWTIMES:** Tuesday, October 27 | 6:15 PM (BB)

**SPONSORS:** Bobbie Lanahan



Go behind the drawing board with this affable portrait of cartooning at The New Yorker magazine. Featuring interviews and art by an impressive number of cartoonists - both established icons and aspiring hopefuls - Leah Wolchok's warm-hearted documentary follows longtime editor Bob Mankoff as he goes about the business of making careers and breaking hearts with a genial nature and a professional demeanor. Along the way, we catch glimpses of what makes these humorists tick and the subtle ins and outs of creating an effective single panel.

\*FOLLOWED BY A DISCUSSION WITH EXECUTIVE PRODUCER DEBORAH SCHAFFER & CARTOONISTS ED **KOREN & HARRY BLISS.** 

# \*SEE DOUBLE BILL WITH BEYOND ZERO, PAGE 05.

## WARRIORS FROM THE NORTH

DENMARK | 2015 | DOCUMENTARY | 58 MIN | DANISH W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | MADE IN **COPENHAGEN I US PREMIERE** 

**DIRECTOR:** Nasib Farah & Søren Steen Jespersen SHOWTIMES: Wednesday, October 28 | 2:30 PM (BB)



Winner of the Best Mid-Length Award at the prestigious Hot Docs Festival in Toronto, Warriors from the North offers an idntimate look at Danish jihadists joining the ranks of al -Shabaad. The topic is highly relevant, but what makes this film exceptional is the unprecedented access to a number of young Muslims who leave Europe to fight with Islamic terrorists and kill in the name of God. Over a four-year period the filmmakers (Danish-Somali journalist Nashib Farah and documentarian Soren Steen Jespersen) were able to infiltrate a terrorist cell in Copenhagen and get close up and personal

with several radicalized young Danes from Somali origin. The film sheds light on rootless young people whose lives went so wrong. "It's so easy to write off militant fundamentalists as psychopaths who should be locked up for life," said Jespersen in a recent interview. "You're either with us or with them has been the rhetoric. But in this film I get to discuss the processes that lead up to a young man pushing the trigger and taking 24 people with him in death. I get to discuss the human aspect of violence and the human consequences of his action."

# THE WONDERS (LE MÉRAVIGLIE) ITALY/SWITZERLAND | 2015 | FICTION | 110 MIN | ITALIAN/FRENCH/GERMAN W/ ENGLISH

SUBTITLES | OSCILLOSCOPE

**DIRECTOR:** Alice Rohrwacher

**SHOWTIMES:** Monday, October 26 | 6:15 PM (BB) AWARDS: Winner Grand Prix Cannes Film Festival



The mysteries of adolescence have seldom been as lyrically rendered as in Alice Rohrwacher's gentle coming-of-age tale The Wonders. The central character is a 12-year-old girl named Gelsomina (a nod to the Federico Fellini classic La Strada), who enters her eccentric family of working-class beekeepers in a reality TV talent competition without the permission of her stern father. The carnival spirit of Fellini is present in Rohrwacher's poetic and occasionally surreal compositions, but it's also a highly personal film, with autobiographical aspects drawn from her childhood in central Italy. With warm,

sun-drenched cinematography and a documentary-like accuracy in its meticulous depiction of the intricacies of beekeeping, *The Wonders* is a strikingly nuanced work from a young director with a mature cinematic eye.

# WANT TO BRING THE KIDS?

CHECK OUT THE FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENTS ON PAGE 21



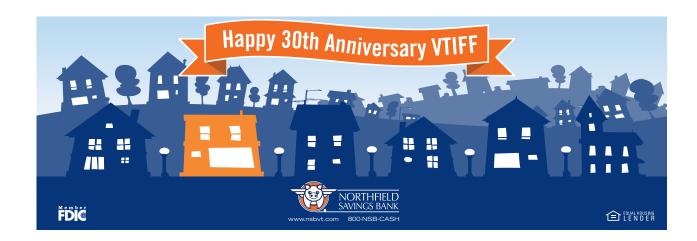




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# **LUNCHTIME SHORTS**

LUNCHTIME SHORTS ARE SPONSORED BY MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE.

LUNCHTIME SHORTS ARE PRESENTED DAILY, MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY AT THE BCA CENTER,  $12\ PM-1$  PM. TICKET INCLUDES LUNCH COURTESY OF KOUNTRY KART DELI.

## **O SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL SHORT FILM TOUR**



SHOWTIMES: Monday, October 26

Showcasing a wide variety of story and style, the 2015 *Sundance Short Film Tour* is a theatrical program of six award-winning short films from the 2015 edition of the January Festival, including fiction, documentary and animation from around the world, the 2015 program traverses vibrant styles from wild comedy to quiet poetry.

## BREAD AND PUPPET VIDEO PRESENTATION



**SHOWTIMES:** Tuesday, October 27

Longtime artists and lovers of Bread and Puppet will discuss their favorite moments and images from the 50 year history of artistic production of the renowned puppet theater. With Deedee Halleck, Robin Lloyd and Mark Estrin.

## **O THE LAND**



SHOWTIMES: Wednesday, October 28

A documentary film about the nature of play, risk and hazard set in *The Land*, a Welsh "adventure" playground. At *The Land* children climb trees, light fires and use hammers and nails in a play-space rooted in the belief that kids are empowered when they learn to manage risks on their own. Filmmaker Erin Davis will be at the screening to present the film.

## **ONO GENDER**



**SHOWTIMES:** Thursday, October 29

No Gender is a beautiful multi media project by internationally renowned artist Sylvain Tremblay and his team about children born with indeterminate gender, comprised of a video and paintings that complement and speak to each other. The program will include a screening of the video and display of two of Tremblay's paintings. Tremblay will be present at the screening

to talk about his work.

## • MASKS (MASACARAS)



**SHOWTIMES:** Friday, October 30

In the macho world of Cuban culture, Margot and Roxana stand out — they are two of the country's best-known drag queens. Both share insights into the art of drag and its connections to the broader struggle for equality. Cuban filmmaker Lázaro J. González González will be at the screening to present his film.

# CHECK OUT OUR SCREENING GUIDE ON PAGE 03 & 12 TO EASILY IDENTIFY FILMS











7



# **VERMONT FILMMAKERS' SHOWCASE™**

ALL VERMONT FILMMAKERS' SHOWCASE FILMS ARE FREE WITH A RECOMMENDED DONATION OF \$5-\$10. THE FILMMAKERS WILL BE PRESENT FOR A POST-SCREENING Q&A.

SPECIAL THANKS TO BEN & JERRY'S FOR SPONSORING THE SHOWCASE.

**7** SHOWCASE 1

**SHOWTIMES:** Friday, October 23 | 1:00 PM (BB)

# NELSON ALGREN: THE END IS NOTHING, THE ROAD IS ALL

DOCUMENTARY | 2015 | 87 MIN



**DIRECTOR & PRODUCER:** Denis Mueller, Mark Blottner, and Ilko Davidov

This feature-length documentary tells the compelling life story of one of America's greatest and least understood authors, Nelson Algren, whose unique literary voice is revealed through historic archival footage, rare interviews with Studs Terkel and Kurt Vonnegut, and the voice of Algren himself.

**7** SHOWCASE 2

SHOWTIMES: Friday, October 23 | 3:15 PM (BB)

## **IMMORTAL DEAR**

FICTION | 2015 | 21 MIN



**DIRECTOR:** Dan Holodak **PRODUCER:** Tyler Killer

Five friends, who were members of a band called Immortal Dear in college, have spent the four years following their graduation apart. When they are forced to return to their college town — after their friend, the drummer in the band, commits suicide — they each must confront their guilt about his

death, while remembering a time when they were all together.

## **7** SHOWCASE 3

**SHOWTIMES:** Friday, October 23 | 4:15 PM (BB)



Youth Competition: Blue Light: Living in a Technology Addicted World: Ben Shumlin; Herman & Rob: Sam Caswell; The F 35: A Noisy Problem: Audrey Lee; VTrees: Jacob Covell & others; Angela's documentary: Angela Murphy; Can't Get There From Here: Amelia Hutchins Moore; Home: Danielle Hazelton; How Vermonters Deal With the Cold Weather: Becky Kelecy; Race to Vermont: Anna Steeley; What Vermont Means To Me: Rhiannon Mattison; What Does Vermont Mean To Me: Matt Bingenot.

Curated by Nora Jacobson. Freedom and Unity TV is a Vermont-based youth filmmaking contest that was initiated in 2014 by filmmakers from the collaborative film series, Freedom & Unity: The Vermont Movie. We asked young Vermonters, ages 14-25, to make short films about Vermont from their points of view and experience. Questions that were posed included: What contributions do young people make to their communities? What are their stories and dreams for the future? What are the challenges of growing up in Vermont? What aspects of Vermont history fascinate them? (For more information, visit: www. freedomandunitytv.net).

**7** SHOWCASE 4

SHOWTIMES: Friday, October 23 | 6:15 PM (BB)

# WHADDYA GONNA DO WITH ALL THOSE ZUCCHINIS?

FICTION | 2014 | 4 MIN



WRITER/DIRECTOR/PRODUCER: Kenric Kite

A dastardly evildoer with an overabundance of giant zucchinis looks for unlocked cars.

## HURT

FICTION | 2015 | 16 MIN



#### WRITER/DIRECTOR/PRODUCER: Ethan Murphy

A group of college friends set out for a relaxing weekend at the lake, but when they encounter an abandoned car on the back roads of Vermont, a mystery ensues. What they discover that night will change their lives forever.

# PILLOW TALK



**DIRECTOR:** Neil Fennell

PRODUCER/EDITOR: Lincoln Hayes

WRITER: Lincoln Hayes and Rachel Riendeau Hayes

Two friends, Jenny and Sophie, meet up for coffee in the park. Jenny complains about a guy she's been seeing, and Sophie illustrates how much worse it could be.

# HEADLINER FICTION | 2015 | 10 MIN



**DIRECTOR/PRODUCER:** Michael Fisher

A seasoned stand-up comic loses his edge, forcing him to choose between his two passions.

## THE STORY OF EBOLA



**DIRECTOR:** Yoni Goodman

PRODUCER/WRITER: Deborah Van Dyke

This educational film makes visible the invisible Ebola germs to help people see and understand how Ebola spreads and how to protect themselves. Critical messages are woven through the story so that people

better understand Ebola, see themselves within the context of an outbreak, and see how to act in ways that can keep themselves safe from the disease and protect their communities.

## **7** SHOWCASE 5

**SHOWTIMES:** Friday, October 23 | 8:00 PM (BB)

# EINSTEIN'S MIRACLE YEAR DOCUMENTARY ANIMATION | 2015 | 5 MIN

**DIRECTOR:** Jon Portman

As the year 1905 began, Albert Einstein faced life as a "failed" academic. Yet within the next 12 months, he would publish four extraordinary papers, each on a different topic, that were destined to radically transform our understanding of the universe.

# THE FAIRIES' CHILD



DIRECTOR: Victoria Vaughn

PRODUCER/WRITER: Annelise Sanders

Years after the death of her father, Emilia Evans is drawn back to her childhood home, where she discovers the fairies she thought were once just a dream are deathly real.

# **VERMONT FILMMAKERS' SHOWCASE™& AWARDS**

## MENS REA

EXPERIMENTAL | 2015 | 7 MIN

WRITER/DIRECTOR: Celina Brogan

An experimental short film about a young woman who attempts to wash away the guilty conscience she has begun to lose herself to. In its essence, "mens rea" embodies the message: "To see ourselves, to own our truths, to continue moving on."

## **7** SHOWCASE 6

SHOWTIMES: Saturday, October 24 | 1:30 PM (BB)

## SABRA

DOCUMENTARY | 2015 | 57 MIN



DIRECTOR: Bill Phillips

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:** Bill Stetson

Former Vermont governors Howard Dean and Madeleine Kunin have called Sabra Field the state's best-known artist. Sabra explores her popular work, but also less well-known prints — some springing from a joyous sense of play, others from intense personal tragedy.

\*SABRA FIELD WILL BE PRESENT AT THE SCREENING. RECEPTION WILL FOLLOW.

## **7** SHOWCASE 7

**SHOWTIMES:** Saturday, October 24 | 3:15 PM (BB)

## THE RESURRECTION OF VICTOR JARA

DOCUMENTARY | 2015 | 89 MIN



**DIRECTOR:** John Travers

WRITER/PRODUCER: John Summa

This feature-length documentary chronicles the professional life and legacy of iconic Chilean singer-songwriter Victor Jara, who was executed while detained in prison following a right-wing military coup in 1973. The film captures events surrounding the rebirth of Victor's music and story — including his 2009 reburial homage — after decades of clandestine cultural existence.

## SHOWCASE 8

SHOWTIMES: Saturday, October 24 | 5:30 PM (BB)

## SHE SINGS TO THE STARS

FICTION | 2014 | 108 MIN



**DIRECTOR:** Jennifer Corcoran **PRODUCER:** Jonnie Corcoran

A Native American grandmother who lives alone and very simply in the desert inhabits a world that her half-Hispanic grandson and a white, aging magician are surprised to rediscover.

## VERMONT FILMMAKERS' SHOWCASE™ AWARDS

Vermont Filmmakers' Showcase Awards are given to select filmmakers from the Vermont Filmmakers' Showcase during our Opening Night Party on Friday, October 23 at 9:00 PM at Skinny Pancake.

#### JAMES GOLDSTONE AWARD

A \$500 cash award given to an emerging Vermont filmmaker and sponsored by Bill Stetson through the Vermont Community Foundation.

#### **BEN & JERRY'S AWARD**

A \$300 cash prize given to recognize and support a Vermont filmmaker who, through the lens, documented and raised awareness of an important social or environmental issue with verve and ingenuity.

#### **FOOTAGE FARM USA AWARD**

A credit for stock footage worth \$600 from the Footage Farm collection given to the most creative use of archival footage in a documentary film.

#### VCAM AUDIENCE FAVORITE AWARD

Proudly presenting a \$200 cash prize to the winner of the Vermont Filmmakers' Showcase Audience Award. VCAM empowers local citizens by fostering a culture of media-makers, where free speech and community spirit are forwarded through film and video storytelling.

#### **VTIFF AWARDS**

For Best Film, Best Screenwriting, Best Acting, Best Film About a Vermonter.

#### HOTEL VERMONT AWARD

A \$250 cash prize for a film with the best sense of place.



# **SPECIAL EVENTS + PROGRAMS**

#### FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENTS

# THE INCREDIBLE ADVENTURE OF JOJO (AND HIS ANNOYING SISTER AVILA) USA | FICTION | 2014 | 79 MIN | FILMMAKERS

**DIRECTOR:** Brian Schmidt & Ann-Marie Plastino **SHOWTIMES:** Sunday, October 25 | 11:00 AM (FH)



In this humorous, slapstick adventure tale, Jojo and his younger sister Avila are left alone after a car accident injures their mother on the way to grandma's house. The two travelers must survive the treacherous journey alone in the woods with only Skittles and a pocketknife for supplies - encountering wolves, bear traps, cliffs, raging rivers and menacing hobos along the way (and they're out of clean diapers). Husband and wife directing team Brian Schmidt and Ann-Marie Plastino deliver a memorable movie that will make the overprotective parents in the audience squirm in

their seats, much to the delight of their children.

## SCRATCHATOPIA WORKSHOP: WITH STEVE WOLOSHEN

SHOWTIMES: Sunday, November 1 | 11:00 AM (LL)



with a special animation workshop. Young and old alike will explore the multiple techniques of camera-less filmmaking and discover new ones along the way. Participants are encouraged to choose materials and tools that work effectively, then scratch, paint and collage directly on to the surface of clear leader, black leader or previously shot material. The goal of this exceptional workshop is to explore, play and take risks with animation. All films will be digitized and viewed publicly on the day. See Woloshen's website:

Internationally renowned animator Woloshen returns to VTIFF

https://scratchatopia.wordpress.com/

## **STUDENT MATINEES**

A series of student matinees exclusively for school groups, featuring selections from the festival program that offer students and teachers excellent opportunities for discussion and exploration. All films in the series will include supplemental resources.

VTIFF FOR SCHOOLS is sponsored by the John M Bissell Foundation and by Jane Kramer

For information about bringing student groups to the festival or to reserve a block of tickets, email seth@vtiff.org

#### **BREAKING A MONSTER**

WHEN: Monday, October 26 | 10:15 AM (FH) (SEE PAGE 05 FOR MORE INFO)

\*POST-SCREENING DISCUSSION LED BY DIRECTOR LUKE MEYER.

#### ONCE IN A LIFETIME (LES HÉRITIERS)

WHEN: Tuesday, October 27 | 10:15 AM (FH) (SEE PAGE 13 FOR MORE INFO)

\*POST-SCREENING DISCUSSION LED BY UVM ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF FRENCH MEAGHAN EMERY.

#### MY SKINNY SISTER (MIN ILLA SYTER)

WHEN: Wednesday, October 28 | 10:15 AM (FH) (SEE PAGE 10 FOR MORE INFO)

\*POST-SCREENING DISCUSSION LED BY PSYCHOTHERAPIST BREE BENJAMIN.

## **O** VTIFF AFTER DARK

In association with the Green Mountain Gore Society. All screenings at 10 PM at ArtsRiot. Tickets available online at www.vtiff.org or at the door. Arrive early for music, drinks, and food.

## TURBO KID

#### CANADA/NEW ZEALAND | 2015 | 93 MIN | UNRATED | EPIC PICTURES



**DIRECTOR:** RKSS (Roadkill Superstar — aka François Simard – Anouk Whissell and Yoann-Karl Whissell) **SHOWTIMES:** Sunday, October 25 | 10:00 PM (AR) STARRING: Munro Chambers, Laurence Leboeuf, Michael Ironside

Turbo Kid creates a decidedly throwback post-apocalyptic future that seems imagined in the early 1980s. It's the year 1997 – the world is destroyed, and unlikely heroes The Kid and Apple must fight to survive the relentless evil overlord

Zeus (played by genre veteran Michael Ironside). Quebec collective RKSS (Roadkill Superstar - aka François Simard - Anouk Whissell and Yoann-Karl Whissell) have created a fun, earnest, raucous splatter fest. It's a film made with love by genre fans, for genre fans, featuring a pounding synth soundtrack and oozing retro style.

#### THE HALLOW IRELAND | 2015 | 97 MIN | UNRATED | IFC FILMS



**DIRECTOR:** Corin Hardy **SHOWTIMES:** Tuesday, October 27 | 10:00 PM (AR) STARRING: Joseph Mawle, Bojana Novakovic, Michael McElhatton

Dripping with dread and steeped in dark folklore, this Irish creature feature from director Corin Hardy delivers a visceral experience in horror. New parents Adam and Claire move into a crumbling millhouse in the middle of nowhere, despite warnings by the locals of legendary creatures that inhabit

the darkest places of the woods. The young family comes face to face with these beings and must fight to protect their home and their baby.

#### HE NEVER DIED USA | 2015 | 99 MIN | UNRATED | VERTICAL ENTERTAINMENT



**DIRECTOR:** Jason Krawczyk

SHOWTIMES: Thursday, October 29 | 10:00 PM (AR) STARRING: Joseph Mawle, Bojana Novakovic, Michael

In He Never Died, actor, activist, poet and punk rock legend Henry Rollins delivers a deadpan, understated performance as Jack, a social outcast and reluctant cannibal. Jack has lived ... for a long time. He carries the weight of his years, and spends his days trying to avoid others and ignore his

past. Pushed by the need to protect his friend and teenage daughter from violent criminals, the beast within Jack is awakened. Smartly written and often quite funny, He Never Died delivers the perfect balance of humor and bloody brutality.

# John M. Bissell Foundation, Inc.

## SPECIAL EVENTS + PARTIES + RECEPTIONS

## **SPECIAL EVENTS**

## **SLEEPLESS IN BURLINGTON**

WHEN: Sunday, November 1 | 2:00 PM (FH)

Sleepless in Burlington is a 40-hour film competition in which four teams of film students from area colleges create short works over the course of a weekend. Returning to the festival as part of VTIFF's 30th Anniversary Celebration, the competition provides an excellent showcase for the talent and passion of tomorrow's filmmakers. The completed films will be screened on the final day of the festival, adjudicated by a jury of professionals headed by acclaimed director Colin Trevorrow (*Safety Not Guaranteed; Jurassic World*). Awards for Best Film, Best Actor, Best Actress, and Audience Choice will be presented and there will be a reception in the Film House Lobby following the event.

## **PANELS**

Check out individual film titles as well, for info about filmmakers or speakers in attendance for Intros and Q&A's at the screenings.

#### Tuesday, October 27 | 6:15 PM

Screening of *Very Semi-Serious* followed by a conversation with Cartoonists Ed Koren and Harry Bliss, and Executive Producer Deborah Shaffer.

#### Friday, October 30 I 3:30 PM

Screening of *GTFO* followed by a panel discussion about women and gaming, led by the filmmaker Shannon Sun-Higginson and Chris Thompson, Curator in Residence at Champlain College. Sponsored by Champlain College.

#### Friday, October 30 | 6:15 PM

Screening of *Gringo Trails* followed by a conversation led by filmmaker Pegi Vail and Eco Tourism specialist Megan Epler Wood.

#### Saturday, October 31 | 12:45 PM

Screening of *Most Likely To Succeed* followed by a panel discussion on educational reform, led by the film's Executive Producer Ted Dintersmith.

## **● RECEPTIONS & PARTIES**

Daily receptions in the Lake Lobby before the early evening screenings. This is the place to meet and talk about the films you've seen or plan to see. Snacks or food tastings, cash bar.

#### Friday, October 23 | 9:00 PM

Opening Night Party, following the screening of *Taxi*, the opening night film. The Vermont Filmmakers' Showcase Awards will be announced at the party. Food and cash bar sponsored by Skinny Pancake.

#### Saturday, October 24 | 12:00 PM (IN THE ATRIUM)

VCAM Creatives Mixer in the Atrium. By invitation. Food and cash bar. Sponsored by VCAM & RETN.

#### Saturday, October 24 | 2:45 PM

Following the VT film *Sabra*, with artist Sabra Field in attendance, including a display of Sabra's prints. Sponsored by Bill Stetson in partnership with BCA. Wine and snacks.

#### Saturday, October 24 | 5:00 PM

Sponsored by Burlington-Bethlehem-Arad Sister City Program and Friends of Miriam Ward. Launch of Ward's new book. Preceding the screening of *A Borrowed Identity*. Cash bar, hummus and baklava.

#### Sunday, October 25 | 5:00 PM

Vermont Italian Club reception preceding the screening of *The Dinner*. Pasta tastings prepared by Little Market Garden and cash bar. Sponsored by VIC, Little Market Garden and Rana Pasta.

#### Monday, October 26 | 5:30 PM

A Single Pebble reception of General Tso dishes, cash bar. Preceding the screening of *In Search of General Tso*. Sponsored by A Single Pebble.

#### Tuesday, October 27 | 5:30 PM

Cash bar and light snacks.

#### Wednesday, October 28 | 5:30 PM

Cash bar and light snacks.

#### Thursday, October 29 I 5:30 PM

Cash bar and light snacks.

#### Friday, October 30 | 5:30 PM

Reception sponsored by Champlain College, following the screening of *GTFO* and panel about women and gaming. Food and cash bar.

#### Saturday, October 31 | 5:30 PM

Cash bar and light snacks.

#### Sunday, November 1 | 4:00 PM

Sleepless in Burlington reception. Refreshments and pizzas. Following the *Sleepless in Burlington* screenings.

#### Sunday, November 1 | 6:00 PM

Vermont Movie Archive Project (VAMP) reception following the screening of *Chester Grimes*. Sponsored by VAMP.

#### Sunday, November 1 | 9:00 PM

Closing Night party, including announcement of Audience Favorite Awards. Cash bar and food.

## **★ FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE**

MARK COVINO (Jury, Sleepless in Burlington – page 22)

**ERIN DAVIS** (Lunchtime Shorts, Director, *The Land* – page 18)

**TOM DICILLO** (Director, *Down in Shadowland* – page 07 and *Living in Oblivion* – page 09)

**TED DINTERSMITH** (Executive Producer, *Most Likely to Succeed* – page 10)

LÁZARO J. GONZÁLEZ GONZÁLEZ (Lunchtime Shorts, Director, Masks – page 18)

**DEEDEE HALLECK** (Lunchtime Shorts, Bread & Puppet Video Presentation – page 18)

STÉPHANE LAFLEUR (Director, Tu Dors Nicole - page 16)

ROBIN LLOYD (Lunchtime Shorts, Bread & Puppet Video Presentation - page 18)

**LUKE MEYER** (Director, *Breaking a Monster* – page 05)

**HOLLY MORRIS** (Director, *The Babushkas of Chernobyl* – page 04)

JOSHUA OPPENHEIMER (Director, *The Look of Silence*, Q&A via skype — page 10)

**EVA SOLLBERGER** (Jury, *Sleepless in Burlington* – page 22)

SHANNON SUN-HIGGINSON (Director, GTFO - page 09)

**SYLVAIN TREMBLAY** (Lunchtime Shorts, Director *No Gender* – page 18)

COLIN TREVORROW (Head of Jury, Sleepless in Burlington - page 22)

**PEGI VAIL** (Director, *Gringo Trails* – page 08)

**STEVE WOLOSHEN** (Animation workshop – page 21)

## > SPEAKERS & PANELISTS

HARRY BLISS (Very Semi-Serious - page 16)

BREE BENJAMIN (Student Matinee: My Skinny Sister - page 10 & 21)

MEAGHAN EMERY (Student Matinee: Once in a Lifetime – page 13 & 21)

MARK ESTRIN (Lunchtime Shorts, Bread & Puppet Video Presentation - page 18)

MEGAN EPLER WOOD (Gringo Trails - page 08)

ALEXANDRA HALKIN (Song of the Street - page 15 & Lunchtime Shorts: Masks - page 18)

**HOUSE OF LEMAY** (Audience Favorite Awards Winners Presentation before Closing Night Film – page 22)

**DOREEN KRAFT** (Sweet Micky for President – page 15)

ED KOREN (Very Semi-Serious - page 16)

MÓNICA RIVERO CABRERA (Song of the Street – page 15)

**DAVID TOMASI** (*The Dinner* – page 07)

**LAURA SCHENCK** (VCAM Creatives Mixer - page 22)

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