

VTIFF.ORG

DOWNTOWN BURLINGTON



**VTIFF**

**VERMONT  
INTERNATIONAL  
FILM  
FESTIVAL**

**OCT**

**21**

**30**

**20**

**16**

# VENUES AND TICKETING

## TICKETING INFO

Tickets can be purchased online by clicking the GET TICKET button next to each film title at [VTIFF.ORG/FESTIVAL](http://VTIFF.ORG/FESTIVAL). This will take you to our online film links where you can purchase your tickets. You can add titles to your order before the final purchase, but please be aware that you may be signed out of that site if you're on it for more than 20 minutes. So best to select your list of titles and screening dates in advance by consulting [VTIFF.ORG/FESTIVAL](http://VTIFF.ORG/FESTIVAL).

If you prefer to purchase tickets in person, the box office at Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center, 60 Lake Street, 3rd floor will be open daily throughout the festival itself from one hour before the first screening of the day. Be prepared for lines at busy times.

Note to Patron Members and Gold Pass holders: We reserve a certain number of seats at each screening for Patrons & Pass holders but this is on a first come, first served basis. Popular screenings will sell out and so we highly recommend booking them in advance or arriving early to redeem your ticket. You must go to the Box Office to get a ticket for each screening. It is not enough to show your pass at the door as we need to keep a numbers tally.

## PRICES

General Admission - \$10.00

Seniors - \$8.00

Students (w/ID) and youth (11 and under) - \$5.00

Gold Pass - \$120

VTIFF Patron Members and Gold Pass holders: FREE

Vermont Filmmakers' Showcase - Free with suggested donation of \$5 or more.

VAMP event - Free with suggested donation of \$5 or more.

Student Matinees - if you are a teacher with a class please contact [Seth@vtiff.org](mailto:Seth@vtiff.org) for information about special group prices.

## 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](http://VTIFF.ORG/FESTIVAL).

## WHERE TO EAT, WHERE TO MEET

Snacks and coffee will be available daily in the Lake Lobby and there will be a cash bar and food at the early evening receptions from 5:30-6:30pm. We highly recommend you attend the receptions - an opportunity to meet the filmmakers and other patrons.

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 stub with you!

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

**A Single Pebble** - 133 Bank Street, for gourmet Chinese food.

**Dobra Tea** - 80 Church Street, for a tantalizing range of teas.

**Kountry Kart Deli** - 155 Main Street, a deli serving delicious fresh food.

**Feldman's Bagels** - 660 Pine Street, the real thing.

## 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 St.) or Cherry Street next to Hotel Vermont.

On-street parking on Lake St. (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 St., and the western parts of College St. and Cherry St. All of these meters are free after 6pm.

Parking lot below Lake Street - metered (credit cards) 8am - 8pm weekdays, 8am-6pm Sundays,

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

Merrill Lynch parking lot is free weekends and after 6pm 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](http://CCTAride.org)

## ACCESSIBILITY

All venue entrances are wheelchair accessible. Both theaters at Main Street Landing 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](mailto:info@vtiff.org) 🌐 [www.vtiff.org](http://www.vtiff.org) ☎ 802.660.2600

## VENUE INFO

### Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center (MSL)

The Festival Information & Hospitality desk and the Box Office will be located in the lobby (3rd floor) from Oct 21 thru Oct 30. Enter either from Battery Street or from 60 Lake Street and take the elevator to the 3rd floor.

Film House  
Black Box Theater

### Burlington City Arts (BCA)

BCA at 135 Church Street is the screening venue for the Tuesday through Friday Lunchtime Shorts series.

### Flynn Theater

The Flynn Theater at 153 Main Street the screening venue for The Triplets of Belleville.

MAIN STREET  
LANDING  
FILM HOUSE  
BLACK BOX

BURLINGTON  
CITY ARTS

FLYNN THEATER



## DIRECTOR'S NOTES



### Welcome to VTIFF 2016!

We are excited by the range of films we have on offer this year. I have the privilege of chairing our 6-person programming committee and this may be the part of my job that gives me most pleasure. Each year we begin our work around February with hardly a clue as to the final line up of films and curatorial focus of the program. These emerge gradually as we watch hundreds of films, meet, talk, argue, reject and accept an ever-changing list of

titles. Perhaps the most difficult part of our job is to have to let go of so many interesting films for lack of space in the festival.

A film festival 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, in a dark room full of friends and strangers. But it is also an opportunity to discuss the films you have seen — at post screening Q&As with the filmmakers and at our daily receptions where you can eat, drink and talk about them. Seek advice and find recommendations from others. 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.

VTIFF's mission is to bring the world to our community through film. We do this throughout the year with our monthly screenings and with our Global Roots Film Festival in the winter months. But the Vermont International Film Festival is our flagship program with close to 70 films, panels and discussions. This is where you can watch and learn about the preoccupation of filmmakers worldwide (artistically and topically). I hope, and believe, that the films we present help us all become better people and encourage us to ask questions about the world we live in.

This year we noted a surge in films made by women, about women and films relating to gender. Terrorism past and present also appears to preoccupy filmmakers worldwide, as well as films focusing on the meaning of "home". We are also pleased to have teamed up with Americas Media Initiative who bring us a Cuban Cinema Spotlight; don't miss out on programs for the whole family: films and an animation workshop; and — for the late nighters — our After Dark showcase.

I'm especially excited by our guests this year. Please read all about them elsewhere in the festival guide.

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

I'll be at the festival 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, VTIFF

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## MEET THE VTIFF TEAM

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Orly Yadin

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Lalaina Miner

### VTIFF 2016 DESIGNER

Tally Ho Design

### 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](http://VTIFF.ORG/MEMBERSHIP).

DOCUMENTARIES

FICTION FILMS

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 night.

LUNCHTIME 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.

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## ✦ AGENTS OF CHANGE: BLACK STUDENTS AND THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY



USA | DOCUMENTARY | 2014 | 66 MIN

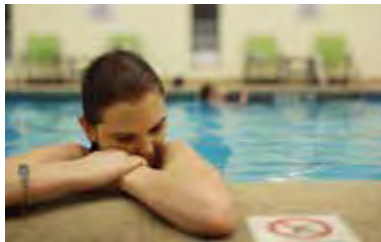
**SHOWTIME:** Thursday, October 27 | 7:30pm | FH

**Director:** Abby Ginzberg & Frank Dawson | **Film Source:** Filmmaker | **Sponsors:** Champlain College / Peace & Justice Center of Vermont

Director Abby Ginzberg will be in attendance.

In recent years, impassioned political demonstrations have appeared on campuses across the country, from Mississippi to New Jersey, California to Washington, D.C. Many of them have been motivated by the racial discord and issues of discrimination that affect both colleges and society at large. Frank Dawson and Abby Ginzberg's documentary about black student activism in the late 1960s offers excellent historical context for this continued civil unrest. Covering the protests at San Francisco State in 1968, as well as the takeover of the student union at Cornell University in 1969, *Agents of Change* features a wealth of archival material and contemporary interviews with many of the major players. Ginzberg, who appeared at VTIFF 2014 with her Peabody Award-winning documentary *Soft Vengeance: Albie Sachs and the New South Africa*, returns to Vermont with this timely, empowering look at a series of past incidents that continues to reverberate in today's young activist circles. ~SJ

## ✦ BEST AND MOST BEAUTIFUL THINGS



USA | DOCUMENTARY | 2016 | 90 MIN

**SHOWTIMES:** Wednesday, October 26 | 7:00pm | FH  
Special screening with captions and audio-description for the visually and hearing impaired on Thursday, October 27 | 11:30am | FH

**Director:** Garrett Zevgetis | **Film Source:** Carriage House Pictures | **Sponsors:** Main Street Landing / Eyes of the World  
Director Garrett Zevgetis and lead character Michelle Smith will be in attendance at both screenings

Michelle Smith lives in rural Maine. She loves cats, the internet, cartoons — typical teenage interests. Except Michelle is anything but typical: she's legally blind and autistic, and is trying to navigate the world, discover herself and become an adult. We follow Michelle as she studies at Perkins School for the Blind in Boston, explores her sexuality and finds love. Garrett Zevgetis' poignant, visually dynamic and touching documentary profiles a young woman who doesn't let fear or difference get in her way. ~EF

## ✦ THE CONFESSIONS



ITALY/France | ITALIAN/FRENCH/ENGLISH W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | FICTION | 2016 | 100 MIN

**SHOWTIMES:** Saturday, October 22 | 3:45pm | FH  
Sunday, October 23 | 8:30pm | BB

**Director:** Roberto Ando | **Film Source:** Breaking Glass Pictures | **Sponsor:** 05401 PLUS

The peerless Toni Servillo has made a career of turning in one exquisitely realized performance after another, impressing audiences in films like *The Great Beauty*, *Il Divo* and *Gomorrah*. In *The Confessions*, Servillo reteams with his *Viva la Libertà* director Roberto Ando to play a monk summoned to a G8 meeting in Germany to hear the confession of the director of the International Monetary Fund. After the IMF director is discovered dead the following morning, a sly mystery begins to unfold, rich with political undertones, philosophical musings and Agatha Christie echoes. The superb cast also includes Daniel Auteuil, Connie Nielsen and a host of familiar character actors from around the globe. ~SJ

## ✦ CONTEMPORARY COLOR



USA | DOCUMENTARY | 2016 | 107 MIN

**SHOWTIME:** Sunday, October 30 | 6:30pm | FH

**Director:** Bill Ross IV & Turner Ross | **Film Source:** Oscilloscope | **Sponsor:** Lyric Theatre | **Awards:** Best Documentary Cinematography & Best Editing – Tribeca Film Festival

\* Closing Night Film \*

When David Byrne was asked by a high school color guard team for permission to use one of his songs for a routine, the restlessly innovative musical icon became intrigued by the unusual combination of dance-and-drill choreography and design work that color guard — the “sport of the arts” — showcases. So the former Talking Heads frontman conceived a spectacle that would marry 10 performances from the top teams in North America with original compositions by 10 adventurous and exciting musical acts, including St. Vincent, Ad-Rock (of The Beastie Boys), Ira Glass, Nelly Furtado and tUnE-yArDs. The cumulative result, captured in *Contemporary Color*, is a wild fusion of music, performance and cinema — an ebullient celebration of collaboration and imaginative audacity. Explaining his reasons for acquiring the distribution rights to the film, Oscilloscope Laboratories' Dan Berger calls it “an otherworldly blend of athleticism, grace, spirit and art captured in an unbelievably electric and creative way. Watching *Contemporary Color* isn't just watching a film. It is experiencing a once-in-a-lifetime performance that is so much more than the sum of its set list.” What better way, then, to commemorate the closing night of this year's festival? ~SJ



## ❖ DEMON



**POLAND/ISRAEL | POLISH/YIDDISH/ENGLISH W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | FICTION | 2015 | 94 MIN**

**SHOWTIMES:** Saturday, October 22 | 8:45pm | FH  
Monday, October 24 | 4:15pm | BB

**Director:** Marcin Wrona | **Film Source:** The Orchard  
**Sponsor:** Barbara McGrew

**Awards:** Best Picture – Austin Fantastic Fest

Weddings traditionally hold deep significance in Polish culture. The wedding in *Demon* is no exception: lavish preparations and seemingly endless imbibing of vodka fill the screen in gargantuan and comic spectacle. But when the groom becomes possessed by an unquiet spirit, things go terribly wrong. The spirit in this maximalist and disturbing film is a reincarnation of the dybbuk, a traditional Jewish fable of a soul who takes possession of the body of its love object. In *Demon*, though, it is a soul murdered in the Holocaust that is bogged down in the blood-soaked soil of Poland. In recent years Polish cinema has trended toward uncovering secrets from World War II, as those who saw the superb *Ida* may remember. Here too, bones are uncovered and reveal unexpected truths. The extraordinary power of *Demon* lies in its fusion of physicality and spirituality. The festivities and what lies beneath them will keep you glued to the screen. ~OY

## ❖ EVERYBODY KNOWS...ELIZABETH MURRAY



**USA | DOCUMENTARY | 2015 | 81 MIN**

**SHOWTIME:** Sunday, October 30 | 1:15pm | FH

**Director:** Kristi Zea | **Film Source:** Rubyred Productions |  
**Sponsor:** Barbara Zucker

Director Kristi Zea, Producer Caroline Goodman-Thomas and Producer Jacki Ochs will be in attendance

An intimate portrait of the groundbreaking artist Elizabeth Murray, *Everybody Knows...* explores the relationship between Murray's family life and career and reconsiders her place in contemporary art history. Verité footage, home videos and excerpts from her journals, voiced by Meryl Streep, detail Murray's internal struggles and incredible ambition. Exclusive interviews with art world luminaries provide the historical backdrop for the New York art scene. Murray moved to New York City in 1967. In 2005, she was the fifth woman to be celebrated with a retrospective at the Museum of Modern Art. Zea, who was the production designer for film luminaries such as Martin Scorsese, Jonathan Demme and Barry Levinson, brings a unique cinematic eye to the visual art world. ~OY

## ❖ EVOLUTION



**FRANCE/BELGIUM/SPAIN | FRENCH W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | FICTION | 2015 | 81 MIN**

**SHOWTIME:** Thursday, October 27 | 9:30pm | FH

**Director:** Lucile Hadžihalilovic | **Film Source:** IFC Midnight  
**Awards:** Best Cinematography & Special Jury Prize – San Sebastian International Film Festival  
Part of the VTIFF After Dark Spotlight

Director Lucile Hadžihalilovic (*Innocence*, co-writer of *Enter The Void*) delivers a body horror film that slowly and methodically gets under your skin. Ten-year-old Nicolas (Max Brebant) lives on a remote volcanic island, inhabited solely by women and young boys. In a hospital overlooking the ocean, all the boys are subjected to a strange medical treatment. As Nicolas questions what is happening around him, he discovers an inexplicable nightmare. *Evolution* is a stunning visual experience that brings to mind David Cronenberg and H.P. Lovecraft. ~EF

## ❖ FATIMA



**FRANCE | FRENCH/ ARABIC W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | FICTION | 2015 | 79 MIN**

**SHOWTIMES:** Monday, October 24 | 6:45pm | BB  
Friday, October 28 | 4:00pm | BB

**Director:** Philippe Faucon | **Film Source:** Kino Lorber |  
**Sponsor:** Caroline Baird Crichfield Fund for Women in Need  
**Awards:** Best Film, Best Adapted Screenplay & Most Promising Actress – César Awards

"A small miracle of a film." – The Guardian

This timely, beautiful tale of a mother and her two teenage daughters trying to find their identities, while being pulled away from their culture and from each other, is inspired by the life and poetry of North African writer Fatima Elayoubi. Screenwriter/director Philippe Faucon lets the audience into their worlds — the world of French society, the Moroccan subculture, university life and the tumultuous yet all too relatable realm of the mother-daughter relationship. Fatima works two jobs to support her rebellious daughter in high school and her dutiful daughter in medical school — until she is forced to look at her own life as all three women question if their dreams are their own, or if they are just following what their friends, family or culture expect of them. Faucon brings the audience close to his powerful actors, allowing this simple story to transform into a universal, emotional experience. ~JS

## ❖ FIDDLESTICKS



**GERMANY | DUBBED IN ENGLISH | FICTION | 2014 | 82 MIN**

**SHOWTIME:** Sunday, October 23 | 11:30am | FH

**Director:** Veit Helmer | **Film Source:** Filmmaker  
**Awards:** Best Children's Film – Traverse City Film Festival, Zurich Film Festival, & Cinekid

Colorful, fanciful fun from the director of *Tuvalu* and *Absurdistan*. *Fiddlesticks* conjures the rakish fun of *Our Gang* and the whimsical cinematic spirit of Michel Gondry and Jean-Pierre Jeunet. A group of kindergarteners (convincingly played by actual 4 year olds), along with their equally prankish grandparents and their mascot (a croati named Fiddlesticks), wreak havoc on their oppressively average town in this buoyant romp of a comedy. Gotta love a film that features a Rube Goldberg-creating rodent, a cow-fart machine, and a series of *Flight of the Conchords* styled musical numbers! ~SJ

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Alliance Française

All things French

French classes, social events  
Burlington: [www.afler.org](http://www.afler.org)

## ✦ FORGOTTEN FARMS



USA | DOCUMENTARY | 2016 | 63 MIN

**SHOWTIME:** Saturday, October 29 | 1:00pm | FH

**Director:** Dave Simonds | **Film Source:** Filmmakers

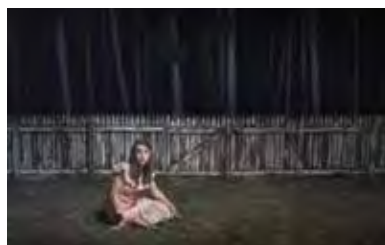
A panel discussion, including director Dave Simonds; producer Sarah Gardner; Heather Darby, associate professor at the UVM College of Agriculture & Life Sciences and local dairy farmers will follow the screening.

A fascinating exploration of New England's dairy farmers, made by a husband-and-wife team from Williamstown, Mass. The film follows several family farms and examines class divisions and cultural divides in farm and food communities. In some circles, farm-to-table restaurants, farmer's markets and community-supported agriculture networks are booming, and the new farmers are celebrated. But there is another farmer who is left out of the local food celebration. New England has lost more than 10,000 conventional dairy farms in the past 50 years, according to the filmmakers. Many of us have forgotten that 75 years ago these farmers were at the center of a thriving local food economy. But the film is no nostalgic hark back to better times, nor does it extol the virtues of the boutique farms that get most of the press. "Dairy farms get very little attention," says producer Gardner, "yet those farms produce a relatively small proportion of the food we consume, while the traditional dairy farms produce almost all the milk we consume in New England." ~OY

\*Preceded by the 27-minute short *Local Motive*, directed by Jaime Williams, part of a series about Vermont's farm-to-table movement.

Screening and panel followed by reception sponsored by Skinny Pancake.

## ⊗ GIRL ASLEEP



AUSTRALIA | FICTION | 2016 | 87 MIN

**SHOWTIMES:** Sunday, October 23 | 6:15pm | BB  
Friday, October 28 | 8:30pm | BB

**Director:** Rosemary Myers | **Film Source:** Oscilloscope | **Sponsor:** Bobbie Lanahan | **Awards:** Best Feature Film – Seattle International Film Festival & Adelaide Film Festival

Following in the groundbreaking tradition of Australian young adult films, *Girl Asleep* is a wild ride through a teenage girl's struggle to hold onto her childhood, while everyone in her life seems bent on pushing her into adulthood. First-time feature director Rosemary Myers uses sound, color and vivid imagery — blending traditional narrative and experimental art house styles — to plunge the viewer into this bubbly, pop-culture world of teen confusion and insecurity. You'll be tapping your toes to the music as you root for Greta to find her own path in this crazy world. ~JS

## THE HANDMAIDEN



SOUTH KOREA | KOREAN & JAPANESE W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | FICTION | 145 MIN | 2016

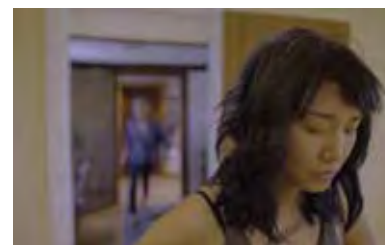
**Director:** Park Chan-wook | **Film Source:** Magnolia

**SHOWTIME:** Friday, October 28 | 6:00pm | FH

A Burlington Film Society screening presented by Main Street Landing & VTIFF

Hideko, a Japanese heiress who lives on a secluded estate with her imperious uncle, hires Sookee, a young Korean woman, to serve as her handmaiden. But Sookee, a pickpocket recruited by a swindler for a manipulative scheme, harbors secret designs to fleece Hideko of her fortune and imprison her in an asylum. These plans however are soon complicated by unexpected romantic and sexual entanglements. Ravishing cinematography and lushly detailed production design mark this adaptation of Sarah Waters' 2002 novel *Fingersmith* by the director of *Oldboy* and *Lady Vengeance*. Transporting this tale of double-crosses and erotic roundelays from Victorian England to 1930s Korea, Park Chan-wook creates a gripping crime drama that is both a sensual thriller and an emotional exploration of the story of two women — one with a dark past and the other trapped in a desperate present. ~SJ

## ⊗ THE HANJI BOX



USA | FICTION | 2016 | 62 MIN

**SHOWTIME:** Friday, October 21 | 7:00pm | FH

**Director:** Nora Jacobson | **Film Source:** Filmmaker

**Sponsors:** Duncan Wisniewski Architecture / A Single Pebble / VTIFF Board President Lorna-Kay Peal

\* Opening Night film, world premiere \*

Director Nora Jacobson and lead actors Suzanne C. Dudley & Natalie Kim will be in attendance.

A tense cross-cultural love story, inspired by Meg Dean Daiss's essay about her own experiences. Hannah, a recently divorced art historian, has decided to downsize. Her adopted daughter Rose helps pack the house, but resists clearing out her own room. The tension between mother and daughter escalates until finally, an item of great importance to both of them gets broken: Rose's Hanji box, which Hannah and her husband bought for Rose years ago in New York City's Koreatown. Or did they? Determined to prove a point, Hannah takes the train to Koreatown to find the store where she purchased the decorative box made from traditional Korean paper. In the process, she meets a Korean artist and compulsively spends time with him and his friends. The encounter leads to a mental journey of cultural discovery and a form of reverse adoption: her desire to be adopted by her daughter's birth culture. On another level, through its narrative of interracial adoption, *The Hanji Box* magnifies familiar and complex mother-daughter relationships. ~OY

Vermont Filmmakers' Showcase Award Winners will be announced at the screening.





## CHECK OUT THE SCHEDULE

See page 14–15 for  
screening times, special events,  
and locations

### ⊗ HAVANA SUITE (SUITE HABANA)



CUBA/SPAIN | SPANISH W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES |  
DOCUMENTARY | 2003 | 85 MIN

**SHOWTIME:** Sunday, October 30 | 1:45pm | BB

**Director:** Fernando Pérez | **Film Source:** Americas Media Initiative | **Sponsor:** Anna Blackmer

Producer Dany Diaz and AMI Director Alex Halkin will be in attendance. Part of the Cuban Cinema Spotlight

Fernando Pérez, who wrote and directed *Suite Habana*, is considered by many to be Cuba's greatest living filmmaker. The film, which explores the boundaries between documentary and fiction, follows 10 people, from dawn until late at night, as they go about their lives in Havana. There is virtually no dialogue, and no voiceover narration — yet *Suite Habana* probes deeply into the lives of ordinary working-class Cubans in ways that create a complex and open-ended portrait of the city. With a beautiful score by Alejandro Edesio, the movie itself structured like a piece of music. Still accurate and relevant 13 years after its release, this film portrays the Havana that you will *not* see on any tour. ~AB

### ⊗ THE INTERROGATION



ISRAEL/GERMANY | GERMAN W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES |  
FICTION | 2016 | 80 MIN

**SHOWTIME:** Sunday, October 23 | 1:45pm | FH

**Director:** Erez Pery | **Film Source:** Corinth Films  
**Sponsor:** UVM Hillel

Based on the memoirs of Rudolf Höss, the longest-serving commandant of Auschwitz, *The Interrogation* is a taut examination of the psychological complexities of the perpetrators of the Holocaust. First-time director Erez Pery, who also co-wrote the screenplay, frames the narrative as a cat-and-mouse interrogation between Höss and a young Polish investigation judge, who's tasked with obtaining an ironclad confession from the man who oversaw the mass killing of millions of Jews. Pery, who wrote a Ph.D. dissertation titled "The Cinematic Logic of the Nazi Death Camp and Its Influence on Modern Post War Cinema," takes a scholar's approach to the contemplation of man's capacity for evil. But his assured direction provides a rare level of tension for a historical drama, including a well-executed narrative twist that upends the moral compass of the film's daunted investigator. ~LB

\* Preceded by *Silence*, an 11-minute animated documentary about the learned and self-imposed postwar silences of a young girl who survived the Holocaust. Co-directed by VTIFF executive director Orly Yadin, *Silence* was short-listed for the 1999 Academy Awards.

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## KIKI



USA/SWEDEN | DOCUMENTARY | 2016 | 94 MIN

**SHOWTIME:** Friday, October 28 | 6:15pm | BB

**Director:** Sara Jorden | **Film Source:** IFC Sundance Selects

**Awards:** Best Documentary – Berlinale & Full Frame Documentary Film Festival

Producer Lori Cheattle will be in attendance.

An heir to Jennie Livingston's seminal 1990 documentary *Paris Is Burning*, Sara Jorden's *Kiki* looks at New York City's still-thriving House & Ballroom scene in the 21st century. Dynamic footage of rehearsals and competitions, along with engaging interviews featuring a vibrant array of dancers, DJs, drag artists and designers, together form a lively portrait of a community that uses performance and fashion to confront adversity and celebrate creativity and individuality. Shedding light on a wide range of issues, including addiction, abuse, police harassment, HIV/AIDS, coming out, transitioning and more, *Kiki* also stands as a testament to the strength and resilience that community can provide — especially when there are fresh beats backing you up. ~SJ

Note: Lori Cheattle will also be participating in the Ask a Producer panel discussion

## THE LAST LAUGH



USA | DOCUMENTARY | 2016 | 88 MIN

**SHOWTIME:** Sunday, October 23 | 3:45pm | FH

**Director:** Ferne Pearlstein | **Film Source:** Film Collaborative |

**Sponsor:** UVM Hillel

Director Ferne Pearlstein & Producer Robert Edwards will be in attendance.

Can comics make jokes about the Holocaust? This documentary by Ferne Pearlstein — featuring Mel Brooks, Sarah Silverman, Carl Reiner, Rob Reiner and Larry Charles — explores the often unspoken rules of humor and bad taste. Who gets to decide what is funny and what is offensive? The comics? The Holocaust survivors? The audience? In her search for answers, Pearlstein casts far and wide, from a Holocaust survivors' meeting to newly discovered footage of the Jerry Lewis comedy film that takes place at a concentration camp, *The Day the Clown Cried*, which Lewis has never allowed to be shown publicly. *The Last Laugh* will make you laugh. How you feel about that laughter is up to you. Pearlstein digs deep into the issues, but lets the audience make up its own mind. ~JS

## LAYLA FOURIE



SOUTH AFRICA/GERMANY | FICTION | 2013 | 108 MIN

**SHOWTIME:** Sunday, October 30 | 11:00 am | FH

**Director:** Pia Marais | **Film Source:** Filmmaker

For her third feature film, Pia Marais - who has lived in Berlin for many years - returned to South Africa where she grew up to make this classy thriller. Layla Fourie (Rayna Campbell), a young single-mother who works as a polygraph examiner, is sent far away to test potential employees for a casino. She has to take her young son Kane with her because she has no one she can turn to for help. When an accident happens along the way, Layla doesn't fully appreciate the effect it has on both her and her son and the consequences it will create. In the constant presence of mistrust, lies and fear, she soon becomes a suspect herself. *Layla Fourie* develops into a political thriller which takes the audience into the paranoia, fear and mistrust of a society that is still profoundly affected by racial conflict. ~OY

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— JANE CAMPION

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Check out the VTIFF  
After Dark Series.

See page 26 for film listings

# FILMS: A TO Z

## ❖ LO AND BEHOLD, REVERIES OF THE CONNECTED WORLD



USA | DOCUMENTARY | 2016 | 98 MIN

**SHOWTIME:** Monday, October 24 | 6:30pm | FH

**Director:** Werner Herzog | **Film Source:** Magnolia | **Sponsor:** Vermont Technical College / BTV Ignite / Vermont Center for Emerging Technologies / Burlington Generator / Champlain Mini Maker Faire / Alternator

The screening is preceded by a reception at 5:30pm and is followed by a panel discussion.

Though it doesn't precisely coincide with the turn of the millennium, the widespread adoption of the internet is the dividing technological line between the 20th and 21st centuries. And what better person to examine the repercussions of the sea change of the internet era than 74-year-old Werner Herzog? The New German Cinema godfather put the movement on the map in the early 1970s with the 16th century saga *Aguirre, the Wrath of God*, and in his seasoned years has plumbed the outer reaches of the human experience with the rugged documentaries *Grizzly Man* and *Encounters at the End of the World*. Herzog's latest doc spans the origins of the first ones and zeroes of the nascent internet to a potentially apocalyptic future, when a giant solar flare could destroy the intricate links of a digitally connected world. In between, *Lo and Behold* takes us on a tour of everything from the possibilities of fully autonomous cars and artificially intelligent robots to the destructive effects of cyberbullying and the pain of people suffering from electromagnetic hypersensitivity. It's all held together by the mellifluous tones of Herzog's thickly accented English narration, which has become as instantly recognizable as his distinctive style of documentary filmmaking. ~LB

## ❖ MADE IN FRANCE



FRANCE | FRENCH W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | FICTION | 2015 | 89 MIN

**SHOWTIMES:** Tuesday, October 25 | 4:15pm | BB  
Thursday, October 27 | 6:30pm | BB

**Director:** Nicolas Boukhrief | **Film Source:** Distrib Films | **Sponsor:** John Douglas

*Made in France* tells the story of an undercover journalist who infiltrates a jihadist cell in a Paris suburb, whose mission is to destabilize the city center of Paris. This gripping account of five French citizens who have embraced the call to jihad reminds us that not all Arabs are jihadists, and not all jihadists are Arabs. At the same time, the film seizes on the even more unsettling idea that anyone could be a terrorist — and not just foreigners. They could be your neighbors or even your children. *Made in France* is one of those rare films that turns a thriller genre into an upfront and personal encounter with five men who could not be more different from each other. This taut thriller was conceived as total fiction and was scheduled to be released in January 2015. Then the Charlie Hebdo shooting occurred. The rescheduled release date, Nov. 18, 2015, turned out to be just days after the mass Paris killings. Once again, the film was pulled by the distributor and not released in France until April of this year. ~OY

## ❖ MICROBE & GASOLINE



FRANCE | FRENCH W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | FICTION | 2015 | 100 MIN

**SHOWTIMES:** Saturday, October 22 | 1:45pm | FH  
Wednesday, October 26 | 8:15pm | BB

**Director:** Michel Gondry | **Film Source:** Screen Media | **Sponsor:** A Single Pebble

The latest film from Michel Gondry (*Mood Indigo; The Science of Sleep; Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*) transforms his cut-and-paste magic realism into reality. Creative and shy artist Microbe can't make friends at school until he meets Gasoline, an outsider cut from the same cloth. They hatch a plan to build a car and travel across France on an epic road trip to escape the realities of teen life. *Microbe & Gasoline* represents a different direction for Gondry; it's much more straightforward, but still with all the charm, earnestness and joy of his best work. Starring Audrey Tautou (*Amelie; The Da Vinci Code*), Ange Dargent and Théophile Baquet. ~EF





## ✦ MISS SHARON JONES!



USA | DOCUMENTARY | 2015 | 93 MIN

**SHOWTIMES:** Saturday, October 22 | 6:30pm | FH  
Sunday, October 23 | 11:15am | BB

**Director:** Barbara Kopple | **Film Source:** Cabin Creek Films | **Sponsor:** Todd Lockwood

**Awards:** Best Documentary – Sarasota Film Festival

Barbara Kopple, who won Oscars for her documentaries *Harlan County U.S.A.* (1976) and *American Dream* (1990), has a long history of documenting people — especially women — of great resilience. In this masterful documentary, you'll be swept away by the sheer positive energy of Sharon Jones, the amazing singer and phenomenal force of nature who headlines the Dap-Kings. But it's more than a joyous music documentary; following Jones' cancer diagnosis, her indomitable battle to continue her work, her high spirits and stage presence will keep you glued to the screen. Jones holds the film together throughout the tumultuous year of being on the verge of releasing a new album and embarking on a tour. "You think you've seen something / Lord, I've just begun," Sharon Jones sings. And you don't doubt her for a second. ~OY

## ✦ MORRIS FROM AMERICA



GERMANY/USA | ENGLISH/GERMAN W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | FICTION | 2016 | 91 MIN

**SHOWTIMES:** Sunday, October 23 | 2:00pm | BB  
Thursday, October 27 | 3:45pm | FH

**Director:** Chad Hartigan | **Film Source:** A24 | **Sponsor:** Bridget Meyer

**Awards:** Waldo Salt Screenwriting Award – Sundance

Thirteen-year-old Morris (Markees Christmas), a fish out of water navigating the rapids of teen life, lives in Heidelberg with his father (Craig Robinson of *The Office* and *This Is the End*). With ambitions of rap stardom and attractions for a popular schoolmate, Morris seeks guidance from his German tutor (Carla Juri of *Wetlands*) and respect from his dad while facing the casual cruelty of high school and negotiating the cultural anxieties of life as a stranger in a strange land. The perceptive script offers a fresh take on young black experience, while winning performances imbue this endearing tale with a convivial spirit and a whole lot of heart. ~SJ

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GINSBURG  
TATTOOS.

-Charlotte A. Lyndonville

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event information



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### ⊗ MOTHER (EMA)



ESTONIA | ESTONIAN W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | FICTION | 2016 | 89 MIN

**SHOWTIMES:** Thursday, October 27 | 8:30pm | BB  
 Saturday, October 29 | 11:30am | BB

**Director:** Kadri Kousaar | **Film Source:** Film Sales Co.

**Awards:** Estonia's official submission to the 2016 Academy Awards

What is it with the films of Scandinavia and neighboring countries, such as Estonia, and their penchant for dark comedy? Sharing an offbeat sense of humor, this *Fargo*-esque tale of idiosyncratic characters will keep you guessing until the end. Meanwhile, you will enjoy meeting many of this small town's characters — first and foremost Elsa, the eponymous mother in the film, who has to give up her job to care for her comatose schoolteacher son, who was shot at by an unknown. To find relief from a tedious marriage and a house with neutral tones of beige and grey (echoed in the cinematography), Elsa conducts a secretive romance. Many people enter and leave the house, and for a small town where everybody knows all there is to know about everybody else, the policeman investigating the case cannot fathom why no one seems to know of her indiscretions. This wonderfully pitch-black comedy hides some dark secrets. ~OY

### ⊗ MY REVOLUTION (MA RÉVOLUTION)



FRANCE | FRENCH/ARABIC W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | FICTION | 2015 | 80 MIN

**SHOWTIMES:** Wednesday, October 26 | 4:15pm | BB  
 Saturday, October 29 | 6:15pm | BB

**Director:** Ramzi Ben Sliman | **Film Source:** Visit Films

There's nothing like a first crush — the first stirrings of attraction, the exhilaration and tension of being newly smitten. Couple that with attending one's first political rally — the rush of passion and fervor all around, that sense of collective and personal turbulence — and you've got the makings of a fraught and combustible coming-of-age tale. Fourteen-year-old Marwann, a charmingly rakish French-Tunisian Parisian, is more concerned with goofing around than with the social upheavals taking place both near and far. But then, while trying to impress the girl he likes, he winds up at a demonstration where a journalist snaps a picture of him that appears in the following day's newspapers. Before long, Marwann has become an unwitting face of the Arab Spring and the center of attention at school. He soon finds himself questioning how fully he should embrace this newfound identity and what it reveals about his family roots and origins — and whether he can reconcile his mixed intentions. *My Revolution* is a smart, endearing and timely story. It reflects the director's belief that "where you belong is where you're loved, and the languages we speak make us who we are." ~SJ

## LUNCH BREAK?

Check out our Lunchtime Shorts on page 22



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✿ NAKOM



GHANA | KUSAAL W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | FICTION | 2016 | 90 MIN

**SHOWTIMES:** Wednesday, October 26 | 6:15pm | BB  
Thursday, October 27 | 4:00pm | BB

**Director:** T.W. Pittman & Kelly Daniela Norris | **Film Source:** Corinth Films

**Awards:** Best Film – Durban International Film Festival

A city versus village tale of classical beauty, *Nakom* is the story of a medical student who returns to his remote village in Ghana following the death of his father. Jacob Ayanaba, in a striking debut, plays a young man of talent and promise who's torn between the lure of the urban dream and the pressing duties of assuming the patriarchal role in a rural family on the brink of ruin. Beautifully shot in widescreen compositions that capture the fickle weather of the Ghanaian countryside in both its fertile splendor and the barren cruelty of the dry season, *Nakom* is both timeless and modern — and at once culturally specific and universal. ~LB

✿ P.S. JERUSALEM



CANADA/ISRAEL | HEBREW/ARABIC/ENGLISH W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | DOCUMENTARY | 2015 | 87 MIN

**SHOWTIMES:** Saturday, October 29 | 6:45pm | FH

**Director:** Danae Elon | **Film Source:** Filmoption International  
**Sponsor:** Burlington-Bethlehem-Arad Sister City Program

**Awards:** Special Jury Prize – Haifa International Film Festival  
Director Danae Elon will be in attendance.

Filmmaker Danae Elon, the daughter of writer Amos Elon, grew up in Jerusalem before relocating to New York City. In this film, she chronicles what happens when she and her husband, Philip, a French-Algerian Jew who never lived in Israel, move their family to Jerusalem. Shot over the course of three years, the film captures how the city's tensions become internalized within the family, exposing divisions between past and present, hope and reality. Elon turns the camera on her three young boys as they ask endless questions and confront the reality around them. We learn to see the Palestinian-Israeli reality from their point of view and that of their friends. She sends them to the only school in the city that teaches Arab and Jewish children together, a respite from the conflict enveloping her surroundings. But can she keep her family together — and keep a cool head — in the political and cultural heat of Jerusalem? ~OY

✿ PHANTASM (REMASTERED)



USA | FICTION | 1979 | 88 MIN

**SHOWTIME:** Tuesday, October 25 | 7:00pm | FH

**Director:** Don Coscarelli | **Film Source:** Silver Sphere Corporation | **Sponsor:** Main Street Landing  
Exclusive Vermont Theatrical Screening.

Part of the VTIFF After Dark Spotlight

\* Free screening \*

In Don Coscarelli's hallmark of horror franchises, townspeople have been dying under mysterious circumstances. Thirteen-year-old Mike investigates, discovering that the town's mortician, "The Tall Man" (played by the late Angus Scrimm), is murdering folks and then reanimating the dead. Along with his older brother, Jody, and ice cream man Reggie, they must confront The Tall Man, his minions and the deadly silver sphere. This presentation is a high-def digital restoration of the 1979 film, supervised by Coscarelli and J.J. Abrams' (*Star Wars: The Force Awakens*) Bad Robot company. ~EF



# FULL SCHEDULE

FRIDAY 10/21	SATURDAY, 10/22	SUNDAY 10/23	MONDAY 10/24	TUESDAY 10/25
1:30pm <b>VT Showcase 1</b> (47 Min, Pg 23) Black Box	1pm <b>VT Showcase 4</b> (42 Min, Pg 24) Black Box	11:15am <b>Miss Sharon Jones!</b> (93 Min, Pg 11) Black Box	4pm <b>Sonita</b> (90 Min, Pg 18) Film House	12:00pm <b>Lunchtime Shorts: Sundance 1</b> (60 Min, Pg 22) BCA
3pm <b>VT Showcase 2</b> (31 Min, Pg 23) Black Box	1:45pm <b>Microbe &amp; Gasoline</b> (100 Min, Pg 10) Film House	11:30am <b>Fiddlesticks</b> (82 Min, Pg 6) Film House	4:15pm <b>Demon</b> (94 Min, Pg 6) Black Box	4pm <b>Sand Storm</b> (87 Min, Pg 17) Film House
4:15pm <b>VT Showcase 3</b> (43 Min, Pg 23) Black Box	2:15pm <b>VT Showcase 5</b> (60 Min, Pg 24) Black Box	1:45pm <b>Silence</b> (11 min) <b>The Interrogation</b> (80 min, Pg 8) Film House	6:30pm <b>Lo &amp; Behold</b> (98 Min, Pg 10) Film House	4:15pm <b>Made in France</b> (89 Min, Pg 10) Black Box
7pm <b>OPENING NIGHT Hanji Box &amp; Awards</b> (61 Min, Pg 7) Film House	3:45pm <b>The Confessions</b> (100 Min, Pg 5) Film House	2pm <b>Morris From America</b> (91 Min, Pg 11) Black Box	6:45pm <b>Fatima</b> (79 Min, Pg 6) Black Box	6:30pm <b>Political Animals</b> (76 Min, Pg 16) Black Box
	3:45pm <b>VT Showcase 6</b> (60 Min, Pg 24) Black Box	3:45pm <b>The Last Laugh</b> (88 Min, Pg 9) Film House		7pm <b>Phantasm (Remastered)</b> (86 Min, Pg 13) Film House
	6:30pm <b>VT Showcase 7</b> (30 Min, Pg 25) Black Box	4pm <b>Sand Storm</b> (87 Min, Pg 17) Black Box		9pm <b>Phantasm: Ravager</b> (88 Min, Pg 16) Film House
	6:30pm <b>Miss Sharon Jones!</b> (93 Min, Pg 11) Film House	6:15pm <b>Girl Asleep</b> (87 Min, Pg 7) Black Box		
	8pm <b>VT Showcase 8</b> (60 Min, Pg 25) Black Box	6:30pm <b>A Syrian Love Story</b> (104 Min, Pg 18) Film House		
	8:45pm <b>Demon</b> (94 Min, Pg 6) Film House	8:30pm <b>The Confessions</b> (100 Min, Pg 5) Black Box		

## LOCATION GUIDE

### FILM HOUSE

60 Lake Street, 3rd Floor  
at Main Street Landing  
Performing Arts Center (MSL)





### BLACK BOX THEATER

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at Main Street Landing  
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### BURLINGTON CITY ARTS (BCA)

135 Church Street



WEDNESDAY 10/26	THURSDAY 10/27	FRIDAY 10/28	SATURDAY 10/29	SUNDAY 10/30
<b>11:30am</b>   <b>Student Matinee</b> <b>Racing Extinction</b> (94 Min, Pg 16) Film House	<b>11:00am</b>  <b>Best &amp; Most Beautiful Things</b> w/Audio description & Captions (90 Min, Pg 5) Film House	<b>12pm</b>  <b>Lunchtime Shorts:</b> <b>Cuban films</b> (60 Min, Pg 22) BCA	<b>11:30pm</b>  <b>Mother</b> (89 Min, Pg 12) Black Box	<b>11am</b>  <b>Layla Fourie</b> (108 Min, Pg 9) Film House
<b>12pm</b>  <b>Lunchtime Shorts:</b> <b>Sundance 2</b> (60 Min, Pg 22) BCA	<b>12pm</b>  <b>Lunchtime Shorts: Shorts</b> <b>by John Killacky</b> 60 Min, Pg 22) BCA	<b>1pm</b>  <b>Ask a Film Producer Panel</b> (60 Min, Pg 26) Great Room	<b>1:00pm</b>  <b>Local Motive</b> (27 Min) <b>Forgotten Farms</b> (63 Min, Pg 7) Film House	<b>11am</b>  <b>Scratchatopia workshop</b> (Pg 26) Atrium
<b>3:45pm</b>  <b>The Salesman</b> (125 Min, Pg 16) Film House	<b>3:45pm</b>  <b>Morris From America</b> (91 Min, Pg 11) Film House	<b>3pm</b>  <b>Racing Extinction</b> (94 Min, Pg 16) Film House	<b>1:30pm</b>  <b>Sonita</b> (90 Min, Pg 18) Black Box	<b>1:15pm</b>  <b>Everybody Knows ... Elizabeth Murray</b> (59 Min, Pg 6) Film House
<b>4:15pm</b>  <b>My Revolution</b> (80 Min, Pg 12) Black Box	<b>4:00pm</b>  <b>Nakom</b> (90 Min, Pg 13) Black Box	<b>4pm</b>  <b>Fatima</b> (79 Min, Pg 6) Black Box	<b>3:30pm</b>  <b>Seven Songs For a Long Life</b> (90 Min, Pg 17) Film House	<b>1:45pm</b>  <b>Havana Suite</b> (85 Min, Pg 8) Black Box
<b>6:15pm</b>  <b>Nakom</b> (90 Min, Pg 13) Black Box	<b>6pm</b>  <b>VAMP presentation</b> (60 Min, Pg 26) Film House	<b>6pm</b>  <b>The Handmaiden</b> (145 mins, Pg 7) Film House	<b>3:45pm</b>  <b>Tanna</b> (104 Min, Pg 19) Black Box	<b>3:15pm</b>  <b>Sixty Six</b> (90 Min, Pg 17) Film House
<b>7pm</b>  <b>Best &amp; Most Beautiful Things</b> (90 Min, Pg 5) Film House	<b>6:30pm</b>  <b>Made in France</b> (89 Min, Pg 10) Black Box	<b>6:15pm</b>  <b>Kiki</b> (94 Min, Pg 9) Black Box	<b>6:15pm</b>  <b>My Revolution</b> (80 Min, Pg 12) Black Box	<b>4pm</b>  <b>Wall of Words</b> (97 Min, Pg 20) Black Box
<b>8:15pm</b>  <b>Microbe &amp; Gasoline</b> (100 Min, Pg 10) Black Box	<b>7:30pm</b>  <b>Agents of Change</b> (66 Min, Pg 5) Film House	<b>8:45pm</b>  <b>Girl Asleep</b> (87 Min, Pg 7) Black Box	<b>6:45pm</b>  <b>P. S. Jerusalem</b> (87 Min, Pg 13) Film House	<b>6:30pm</b>  <b>CLOSING NIGHT</b> <b>Contemporary Color</b> (107 Min, Pg 5) Film House
	<b>7:30pm</b>   <b>The Triplets of Belleville</b> (78 Min, Pg 19) Flynn	<b>9pm</b>  <b>Viva</b> (100 min, Pg 20) Film House	<b>8:15pm</b>  <b>The Salesman</b> (125 Min, Pg 16) Black Box	<b>SCREENING GUIDE</b>  Documentaries  Fiction Films  Family-friendly Events  Student Matinees  VTIFF After Dark  Lunchtime Shorts  Special Events  Vermont Showcase
	<b>8:30</b>  <b>Mother</b> (89 Min, Pg 12) Black Box		<b>9:00pm</b>  <b>Under The Shadow</b> (86 Min, Pg 20) Film House	
	<b>9:30pm</b>  <b>Evolution</b> (81 Min, Pg 6) Film House			

## ⌘ 🌀 PHANTASM: RAVAGER



USA | FICTION | 2016 | 87 MIN

**SHOWTIME:** Tuesday, October 25 | 9:00pm | FH

**Director:** David Hartman | **Film Source:** Well Go USA  
Exclusive Vermont Theatrical Screening. Part of the VTIFF After Dark Spotlight

This highly anticipated fifth and final film in the *Phantasm* series was eight years in the making, featuring Angus Scrimm's final on-screen performance. Mike and Reggie (original *Phantasm* cast members Reggie Bannister and A. Michael Baldwin) face The Tall Man for one final showdown to save humanity. ~EF

## ⌘ 🐘 POLITICAL ANIMALS



USA | DOCUMENTARY | 2016 | 86 MIN

**SHOWTIMES:** Tuesday, October 25 | 6:30pm | BB

**Director:** Jonah Markowitz & Tracy Wares | **Film Source:** Idiot Savant Pictures | **Sponsor:** Madeleine Kunin

**Awards:** Best Documentary — Los Angeles Film Festival & Provincetown International Film Festival  
California Senator Carole Migden will be in attendance.

This documentary portrait of the first four openly gay elected California state politicians reflects its subjects: vivacious, focused and passionate. Carole Migden, Sheila Kuehl, Jackie Goldberg and Christine Kehoe broke ground and glass ceilings with equal aplomb, each of them shepherding landmark legislation into law with significant social and legal ramifications far beyond their home state. *Political Animals* recounts the legislative battles — the strategic compromises and momentous victories — fought for by these four determined, trailblazing lesbians over the course of their careers. And while celebrating these politicians' historic achievements, the film also reminds us that the fight is far from over. At a time when many hard-won protections are under attack across the country, and the progress made in recent decades is threatened by a foul and virulent backlash, this reminder is both welcome and invigorating. The struggle for civil rights carries on. *Political Animals* pays tribute to four incredible women who helped shape the movement. ~SJ

## ⌘ 🦋 RACING EXTINCTION



USA/UK/JAPAN/MEXICO/HONG KONG/CHINA/INDONESIA | DOCUMENTARY | 2015 | 90 MIN

**SHOWTIMES:** Friday October 28, 3:00pm | FH  
Student Matinee Screening on  
Wednesday, October 26, 11:30am | FH

**Director:** Louie Psihoyos | **Film Source:** Film Collaborative  
**Sponsors:** Jane Kramer / Seventh Generation Foundation / Anne Slade Frey Charitable Trust

**Awards:** Oscar nomination for Best Original Song  
Director Louie Psihoyos will participate in a Q&A via Skype.

*Racing Extinction*, from the Oceanic Preservation Society and the Oscar-winning filmmakers of 2009's *The Cove*, is a gripping eco-thriller documentary that examines biodiversity loss, its effect on humanity, and the solutions that inspire hope for a more sustainable future. Through a series of eye-opening investigative sequences — often using clandestine and guerilla-style approaches — the filmmakers expose a range of industrial and commercial practices that are having devastating effects on the environment and ecosystems across the planet. Documenting both the deadly consequences of the international wildlife trade and the alarming connections between carbon emissions, ocean acidification and species extinction, the film employs a collective of activists and artists who use cutting-edge technologies to bring these urgent matters to light. ~SJ

## ⌘ 🧑 THE SALESMAN (FORUSHANDE)



IRAN/France | FARSI W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | FICTION | 2016 | 125 MIN

**SHOWTIMES:** Wednesday, October 26 | 3:45pm | FH  
Saturday, October 29 | 8:15pm | BB

**Director:** Ashgar Farhadi | **Film Source:** Cohen Media  
**Awards:** Iran's official submission to the 2016 Academy Awards

Ashgar Farhadi's unnerving pre-credit and opening scenes set the tone for this masterful narrative of a middle-class couple. Emad and Rana, during the course of rehearsals for Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman*, undergo traumatic events that cause cracks in their relationship — just like the cracks in the Tehran apartment building they live in. Farhadi, the lauded writer-director of the Oscar-winning 2011 film *A Separation*, keeps us on our toes in this drama that's part revenge thriller and part psychoanalysis of trauma. After Rana is attacked in the shower one night, Emad pours his anger on the unknown attacker. But Rana refuses to go to the police. Does Emad's desire for revenge help Rana overcome the effects of this traumatic event, or does his lack of understanding for what she has to endure make things worse? The tension mounts incrementally as he seeks clues to the identity of the attacker and we are left with questions about the role of mercy and vengeance. ~OY



## ❖ SAND STORM (SUFAT CHOL)



ISRAEL/FRANCE | ARABIC W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | FICTION | 2016 | 87 MIN

**SHOWTIMES:** Sunday, October 23 | 4:00pm | BB  
Tuesday, October 25 | 4:00pm | FH

**Director:** Elite Zexer | **Film Source:** Kino Lorber

**Awards:** Grand Jury Prize for World Cinema – Sundance Film Festival / Roger Ebert Prize for Best Foreign Film for a First-Time Filmmaker – Traverse City Film Festival / Israel's official submission to the 2016 Academy Awards

Debut writer/director Elite Zexer's tale of familial relationships across three generations, set in a Bedouin village in Southern Israel, is at once a condemnation of its misogynistic culture and a nuanced portrait of its women. In this polygamous society, we witness Jalila preparing the wedding celebrations for her husband's new second wife. To add to her woes, Jalila discovers that her daughter Layla has a secret boyfriend in school. Drama after quiet drama follows. What makes this film stand out is Zexer's ability to flesh out complex characters (including the father) and her understanding that the oppression of these women manifests itself not only through the action of the men, but also by the way the women themselves have internalized it. *Sand Storm* is an intelligent and mesmerizing film about a culture that few outsiders get to see. ~OY

## ❖ SEVEN SONGS FOR A LONG LIFE



UK | DOCUMENTARY | 2016 | 83 MIN

**SHOWTIME:** Saturday, October 29 | 3:30pm | FH

**Director:** Amy Hardie | **Film Source:** Cargo

POV Exec. Producer Justine Nagan and film producer Lori Cheadle will be in attendance.

This screening is a special preview of an upcoming broadcast of the long-running POV program on Vermont PBS. Documenting six hospice patients at Strathcarron in Scotland, Amy Hardie's film poses the question: How does one cope with the uncertainty of life after a terminal diagnosis? *Seven Songs for a Long Life* is a heartwarming and poignant look at end of life — a subject that is not discussed often enough. ~EF

Note: Justine Nagan and Lori Cheadle will also be participating in the Ask a Producer panel discussion

## ❖ SIXTY SIX



USA | ANIMATION/EXPERIMENTAL | 2002-2015 | 90 MIN

**SHOWTIME:** Sunday, October 30 | 3:15pm | FH

**Director:** Lewis Klahr | **Film Source:** Filmmaker | **Sponsor:** Judy Gerber

Director Lewis Klahr will participate in a Q&A via Skype.

Combining ambitious artistry and formal inventiveness with a pulp sensibility, an ingenious approach and a bit of kitsch, master collagist and animator Lewis Klahr has created a captivating stop-motion mosaic that employs a potent stew of media and techniques. Consisting of 12 chapters made over the course of 13 years, and playing like a loose picaresque across a shady, fedora-and-high-heel strewn past, *Sixty Six* is an avant-garde work that trucks in the language of mass culture. It's a kind of reimagined Route 66 littered with Pop Art ephemera, mythical allusions, noirish postures and stray American idioms. Leonard Cohen and Euripedes sharing smokes with Roy Lichtenstein and Mickey Spillane. Debuting last December at MoMA, the anthology film has primarily been presented in museums and galleries. This VTIFF screening is a rare chance to see this singular masterwork in a theatrical setting; a bound-to-be-fascinating post-film discussion with Klahr over Skype only sweetens the deal. A unique cinematic experience that blurs boundaries between art forms, *Sixty Six* is why film festivals exist. ~SJ



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## ✧ SONITA



IRAN/GERMANY/SWITZERLAND | FARSI/DARI/ENGLISH W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | DOCUMENTARY | 90 MIN

**SHOWTIME:** Monday, October 24 | 4:00pm | FH  
Saturday, October 29 | 1:30pm | BB

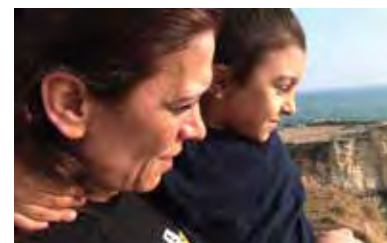
**Director:** Rokhsareh Ghaem Maghemi | **Film Source:** Women Make Movies

**Awards:** Grand Jury Prize & Audience Award for World Cinema Documentary – Sundance Film Festival

Director Rokhsareh Ghaem Maghemi will participate in a Q&A via Skype after the 1:30pm screening on Saturday, October 29.

Sonita is a teenage girl, a rapper, an Afghan refugee living in Iran, and, in her mind, a star. The young girls she meets find their voices through her music and are wowed by the power and confidence she exudes. Eventually even the film's director, Rokhsareh Ghaem Maghemi, finds herself drawn in as part of her subject's story, blurring the boundaries and making the audience question who is in control. Although the subject is timely, serious and heart wrenching — especially as Sonita's family threatens to sell her into marriage — the film always manages to be upbeat and inspirational, due to the magnetism of its subject. This movie won't likely be the last we see of Sonita. ~JS

## ✧ A SYRIAN LOVE STORY



UK/SYRIA/LEBANON/FRANCE | ENGLISH/FRENCH/ARABIC W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | DOCUMENTARY | 2015 | 76 MIN

**SHOWTIME:** Sunday, October 23 | 6:30pm | FH

**Director:** Sean McAllister | **Film Source:** Cat & Docs | **Sponsor:** Vermont Council on World Affairs | **Awards:** Grand Jury Award – Sheffield International Documentary Festival

The screening will be preceded by a special reception and followed by a Q&A with former U.S. Ambassador to Syria, Robert Ford.

Amer Daoud, a Palestinian, met Raghda Hassan, a Syrian, through a hole in the wall of their adjoining cells while both were political prisoners in Syria in the 1990s. After Hassan was imprisoned for publishing a book about their romance, Daoud sought the help of British filmmaker Sean McAllister and the U.S. State Department to highlight her plight. McAllister is the kind of documentarian who is prepared to take risks to alert audiences to important issues. He spent time behind bars to chronicle this struggle of a married couple torn between raising their four sons and exposing the iniquities of Syrian president Bashar al-Assad's dictatorship. Perhaps more than any other film about refugees and political activists — thanks to MacAllister's dogged following of the family over five years — we not only gain insights into the complexities of living away from home, but also of the effect that freedom fighting can have on family life. *A Syrian Love Story* is a fascinating, compassionate, provocative film that is both timely and essential viewing. ~OY

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⊗ TANNA



AUSTRALIA/VANUATO | NAUVHAL W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | FICTION | 2016 | 104 MIN

**SHOWTIME:** Saturday, October 29 | 3:45pm | BB

**Director:** Martin Butler & Bentley Dean | **Film Source:** Lightyear Entertainment | **Awards** Best Direction in a Feature Film – Australian Directors Guild Awards / Best Cinematography – Venice Film Festival / Australia's official submission to the 2016 Academy Awards

Vanuatu native Marco Johnson will be in attendance. Q&A moderated by Megan Epler Wood.

After a young woman runs away with the man she loves to avoid an arranged marriage, villagers wrestle with preserving their traditional culture, or adapting it to the increasing outside demands for individual freedom. *Tanna* is the first-ever feature shot entirely in the South Pacific nation of Vanuatu. Based on dramatic events that took place on the volcanic island of Tanna in 1987, *Tanna* is breathtakingly beautiful and compellingly told. The filmmakers spent seven months living with the Yakel, a tribe whose customs and lifestyle have changed little for centuries. During this time the filmmakers were told of a great love story from the recent past. The result was a screenplay written in close collaboration with the Yakel and performed predominantly by its members, who had never seen a film before. An eye-opening scene sees arranged marriage defended via the example of Prince Philip and Queen Elizabeth II. This Romeo and Juliet story offers not only a glimpse into a remote and unfamiliar place and culture, but also raises questions about the traditional and the modern. The story is about opposed tribes, their attempts to make peace, and two lovers who rebel after one is steered into an arranged marriage. ~OY

⊗ THE TRIPLETS OF BELLEVILLE (BELLEVILLE RENDEZVOUS)



FRANCE/BELGIUM/CANADA/UK/LATVIA | FRENCH W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | FICTION/ANIMATION | 2003 | 78 MIN

**SHOWTIME:** Thursday, October 27 | 7:30pm | Flynn Center  
\*Tickets available through FlynnTix.org

**Director:** Sylvain Chomet | **Awards:** Oscar nominated for Best Animated Feature & Best Original Song / 'Palm Dog' – Cannes Film Festival / Best Music – César Awards / Best Picture - Genie Award & Lumiere Award & New York Film Critics Circle Award & the Étoile d'Or

Presented in association with the Flynn Center for the Performing Arts.

Composer Benoît Charest leads Le Terrible Orchestre de Belleville in the live performance of his original score.

Kidnapped by mysterious henchmen, a Tour de France cyclist named Champion is spirited across the ocean to the teeming metropolis of Belleville. His near-sighted grandmother and faithful dog follow his trail and are taken in by a trio of eccentric jazz-era divas, while the motley sleuths follow the clues in hot pursuit. This beloved animated film will be accompanied by a live performance by composer Benoît Charest's Le Terrible Orchestre de Belleville of his original score, including his Academy Award-nominated song, *Belleville Rendez-vous*. In the spirit of the film, Le Terrible Orchestre de Belleville transports audiences to the exciting streets of 1920s Paris and Le Jazz Hot. ~Flynn Center catalog

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## FILMS: A TO Z

### ⊗ UNDER THE SHADOW



JORDAN/UK | FARSI W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | FICTION | 2016 | 86 MIN

**SHOWTIME:** Saturday, October 29 | 9:00pm | FH

**Director:** Babak Anvari | **Film Source:** Vertical Entertainment  
Part of the VTIFF After Dark Spotlight

**Awards:** United Kingdom's official submission to the 2016 Academy Awards

Director Babak Anvari's first feature film will surely draw comparisons to *The Babadook*, but there's much more lurking under the surface. It's 1988 in Tehran. The Iran-Iraq war continues on, with daily bombings. The country's bloody revolution slowly tears a mother and daughter apart. As they struggle to stay together in the midst of these modern terrors, a mysterious evil stalks through their apartment, threatening their grip on reality. This claustrophobic combination of the evils of man and the supernatural create a gripping, visceral horror experience. ~EF

### ⊗ VIVA



CUBA/IRELAND | SPANISH W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | FICTION | 2015 | 100 MIN

**SHOWTIME:** Friday, October 28 | 9:00pm | FH

**Director:** Paddy Breathnach | **Film Source:** Magnolia

**Awards:** Ireland's official submission to the 2015 Academy Awards

This finely wrought, compelling drama of a young, aspiring drag performer in Havana contending with his newly released convict father, while struggling both to make ends meet and make it onstage at a local club, features fantastic performances, sensuous, striking cinematography and an all-encompassing sense of place. A classic story of buried resentments, bruised identities and time lost, *Viva* captures the roiling tensions and aspirations of transforming cultures in the microcosm of a father and son's relationship. Aesthetically rich and emotionally urgent, Irish director Paddy Breathnach's film explores the painstaking but illuminative process of discovering truth through artifice. In the act of performance, in the guise of a lie, honesty can be found, and genuine sentiment can be revealed. How that truth is received is the question that remains. ~SJ

### ⊗ THE WALL OF WORDS (LA PARED DE LAS PALABRAS)



CUBA | SPANISH W/ ENGLISH SUBTITLES | FICTION | 2014 | 97 MIN

**SHOWTIME:** Sunday, October 30 | 4:00pm | BB

**Director:** Fernando Pérez | **Film Source:** Americas Media Initiative | **Sponsor:** Anonymous

Producer Dany Diaz and AMI Director Alex Halkin will be in attendance.

Part of the Cuban Cinema Spotlight

We are pleased to present two of Fernando Pérez's films as part of the Cuban Cinema Spotlight: *Havana Suite* and *The Wall of Words*. In *The Wall of Words*, Luis, since childhood, has suffered from dystonia and cannot communicate through body language or words. Between the medical institution and family, his inner life is an impenetrable wall. By crafting a fictional story of a family that falls apart when one of the siblings becomes disabled, Pérez provides a parable of the difficult topics of human communication, pain and the limits of sacrifice. ~AH

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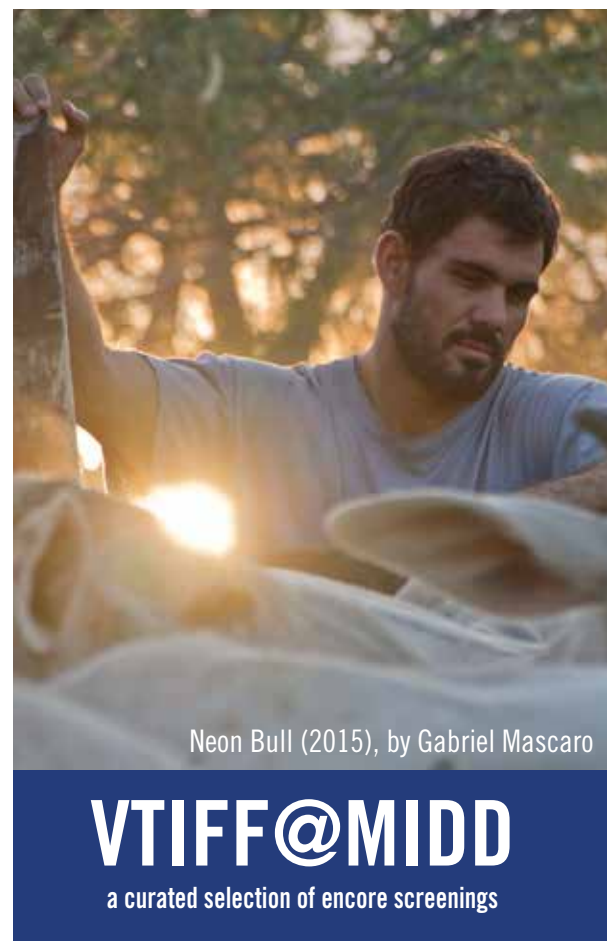
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Neon Bull (2015), by Gabriel Mascaro

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PAGES 23-25

## LUNCHTIME SHORTS

Daily, Tues-Fri, 12:00pm – 1:00pm @ Burlington City Arts, 2nd floor. Lunch included in ticket price.

Sponsors: UVM, with additional support by BCA and Kountry Kart Deli

### 🕒 TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25 SUNDANCE SHORTS FILM TOUR: PART 1

**Source:** Sundance Film Festival

#### AFFECTIONS

Written & directed by Bridey Elliott | USA | Fiction | 2016 | 16 min

This comedy about isolation and loneliness follows a young woman who is adrift and seeking intimacy in the most unlikely places.

#### BACON & GOD'S WRATH

Written & directed by Sol Friedman | Canada | Documentary | 2016 | Short Film Jury Award | 9min

A 90-year-old Jewish woman reflects on her life experiences as she prepares to try bacon for the first time.

#### EDMOND

Written & directed by Nina Gantz | UK | Animation | 2016 | 9min | Short Film Jury Award

Edmond's impulse to love and be close to others is strong—maybe too strong. As he stands by a lake contemplating his options, he reflects on his defining moments in search of the origin of his desires.

#### HER FRIEND ADAM

Written & directed by Ben Petrie | Canada | Fiction | 2016 | 17 min | Short Film Special Jury Award for Outstanding Performance (Grace Glowicki)

A boyfriend's jealous impulse spirals out of control in 16 minutes of romantic doom.

### 🕒 WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26 SUNDANCE SHORTS FILM TOUR: PART 2 + SPECIAL SHORT

**Source:** Sundance Film Festival

#### JUNGLE

Written & directed by Asantewaa Prempeh | USA | Fiction | 2016 | 13 min

The lines between trust, betrayal, and forgiveness are intertwined for two Senegalese vendors as they try to make a living on the streets of New York City;

#### THE GRANDFATHER DRUM

Written & directed by Michelle Derosier | Canada | Fiction | 13 min

As the balance of the world turns upside down for the Anishinabek people, the elder Naamowin builds a healing drum to save his grandson and his people.

#### THE PROCEDURE

Written & directed by Calvin Lee Reeder | USA | Fiction | 4 min | Short Film Jury Award: U.S. Fiction

A man is captured and forced to endure a strange experiment.

#### THUNDER ROAD

Written & directed by Jim Cummings | USA | 13 min | Short Film Grand Jury Prize

Officer Arnaud loved his mom.

#### PICKLE

Written & Directed by Amy Nicholson | USA | Doc | 2016 | 15 min | Source: Oscilloscope

An ode to man's capacity to care for all creatures throughout their sometimes greatly protracted existence until their occasionally sudden and unfortunate demise.

### 🕒 THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27 RAGING ELEGIACS FROM THE AIDS WAR

**Source:** Filmmaker

#### EARLY VIDEO WORKS

by John R. Killacky  
Note: mature content

#### UNFORGIVEN FIRE

Experimental | 1990 | 13min 30sec

#### STOLEN SHADOWS

Experimental | 1995 | 10min 25sec

#### WALKING WITH THE DEAD

Experimental | 1996 | 5min 33sec

John Killacky, executive director of the Flynn Center for the Performing Arts in Burlington, will screen three of his AIDS-related short agitprop videos from the 1990s. As losses mounted in the early years of the pandemic, Killacky and his friends utilized their own bodies to mourn and as a call against government inaction. These elegiac works have been screened worldwide and are in several museum and library collections.

### 🕒 FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28 CUBAN SHORTS

All films Spanish w/English subtitles

**Source:** Americas Media Initiative  
Part of the Cuban Cinema Spotlight

#### LA CARGA (THE LOAD)

Directed by Victor Alexis Guerrero | Documentary | 2015 | 23 min 19 sec

This road-stop movie captures the intimate relationship between the workers on a train that in theory should never stop but actually spends the majority of its service time detained.

#### YUNAISSY

Directed by Juan Pablo Darañas | Fiction | 2014 | 13 min

A young Cuban filmmaker faces censorship for the first time. He must choose between taking a great career opportunity or maintaining the integrity of "Yunaisy".

#### ALINA, 6 AÑOS (ALINA, 6 YEARS OLD)

Directed by Milena Almira and Manuel Benito de Valles | Fiction | 2008 | 5 min

A young girl looking through a family photos album remembers moments in her infancy where nothing is what it appears.

#### HUESITOS (LITTLE BONES)

Directed by Gabriela Leal Carrazana | Animation | 2015 | 3min 26 secs

A young solitary girl has a strange routine.



All Vermont Filmmakers' Showcase programs are free with a recommended donation of \$5-\$10. The filmmakers will attend for post-screening discussions.

Special thanks to Ben & Jerry's, Arts Council of Vermont and the Grace Jones Richardson Trust for sponsoring the Showcase and to all the generous awards sponsors.

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21

### SHOWCASE 1, 1:30PM

#### In the Bight



Fiction | 28 min

Directed, written, edited & produced by Ben Finer

Eight-year-old twins explore the woods of Vermont. Gradually, the beauty of the natural setting blends with the mysteries of childhood imaginations.

#### Dad's 50th Surprise Party



Fiction | 9 min 31 sec

Directed, written & edited by Matt Lennon

Two brothers team up to finally one up their prankster dad for his 50th birthday.

#### Joan in Owl Land



Fiction | 8 min 51 sec

Directed, written, edited & produced by Martin Castaneda

An imaginative girl sets to bring back her father, with help of the Owl Thing.

### SHOWCASE 2, 3:00PM

#### Last Night



Fiction | 23 min

Directed & written by Jon Andrews

A young woman struggles with mixed emotions on the last night of an intense and unusual summer romance.

#### Awake



Animation | 7 min 48 sec

Directed, animated & written by Sofy Maia

A young boy tries to make peace with a growing, lurking enemy that follows him throughout life.

### SHOWCASE 3, 4:15PM

#### Becoming a Woman



Fiction | 7 min

Written & produced by Marianne DiMascio & Angie Albeck

Directed by Kevin Christopher

Young Sally anticipates the many changes associated with becoming a woman and seeks advice from the always helpful Nurse Jenkins.

### Sunday 1287



Fiction | 11 min

Directed & written by Brandon del Pozo

While her sister and daughter wait in the car, Vanessa tries to leave her abusive boyfriend for the last time.

#### Black Canaries

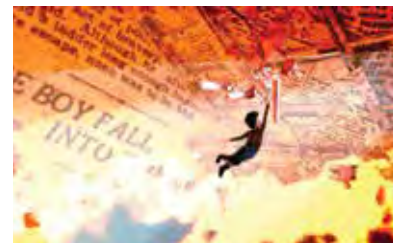


Fiction | 18 min 30 sec

Directed & produced by Jesse Kreitzer

Isolated, desperate, and haunted by his coal-stained birthright, Clarence Lockwood continues his daily descent into the accursed Maple mine—even after it has crippled his father and blinded his youngest son.

#### The Collinwood Fire



Animation | 6 min

Directed by Daniel Houghton

On March 4, 1908, the Collinwood Elementary School burned to the ground, trapping and killing 172 school children inside.

# VERMONT FILMMAKERS' SHOWCASE & AWARDS

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22

### SHOWCASE 4, 1:00PM

#### The Sign



**Documentary | 14 min**

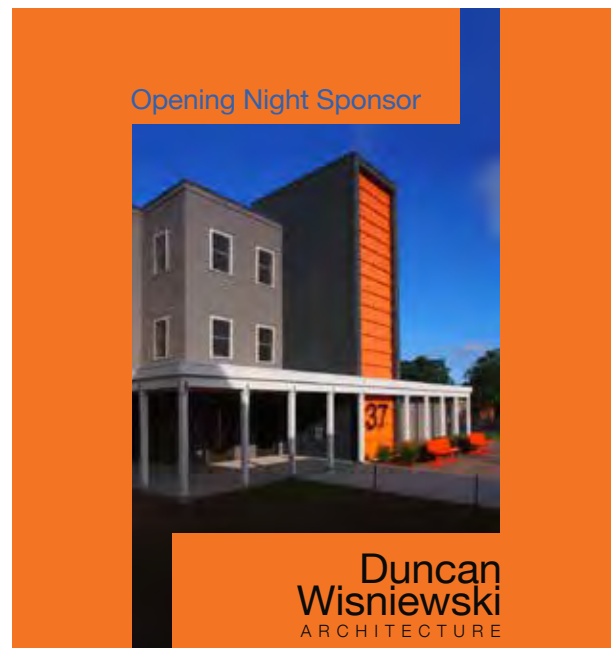
Directed, edited & produced by James Lantz  
When their homemade "Trump 4 President" sign is vandalized twice, a Vermont filmmaker travels back to Virginia to interview his parents about their support for the Republican candidate for President.

#### The Tent Village



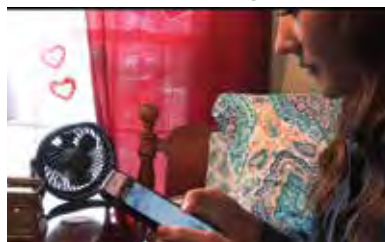
**Documentary | 27 min 34 sec**

Co-Directed, produced & edited by Nilima Abrams  
A nuanced view into the lives of roadside tent dwellers in India, filmed by their teenaged children.



### SHOWCASE 5, 2:15PM

#### Freedom & Unity TV Films



Freedom and Unity TV is an annual film contest for young Vermonters who make short films about their lives, passions and interests in their home state of Vermont. The films are judged by professionals in the film industry and awarded prizes. In 2016, 94 films were submitted. This is a selection of some of the films.

#### Sincerely, Vermont

**3 min 45 sec**

By James Abrams | Rochester Institute of Technology  
An experimental film with a raw interpretation of the things I see in my town.

#### Breaking Binary

**14 min 58 sec**

By Eva Rocheleau, Becca Cottrell, Fiona Nelson | Champlain Valley Union High School and home schooled  
Depicts the complications of a binary gender system in today's education system.

#### Extreme Walking

**3 min 3 sec**

By Reilly Dillon | Saint Michaels College  
Extreme walker Mike Hunt takes walking to the next level. Check out his incredible skills in this action packed three minute video. This was a school project. Filmed in under a hour.

#### Red Roots

**2 min 5 sec**

By Zane Swift | South Burlington High School  
An exploration into the roots of political parties in Vermont.

#### Humans Of Burlington

**5 min 44 sec**

By Danielle Hazelton | Champlain College  
A short experimental documentary portraying the stories of individuals all connected through the city of Burlington, Vermont. The stories highlight ideas of failure, passion, disabilities, love, success, beauty, and advice.

### Lake Champlain: The Untold Story

**9 min**

By Mason Mashtare | Northwest Technical Center  
This film is informative, but at the same time it has heart and perspective from locals. The voiceover is backed up by strong visuals.

### The Saint Alban's Raid

**3 min 44 sec**

By Laurent Gagne | Bellows Free Academy  
It was made to look like an old film. I was greatly inspired by the 1903 film, "The Great Train Robbery".

### Stolen

**13 min 48 sec**

By Rhea Hayes and Alex Schlater | Champlain College  
A documentary about cyber deception and telling both sides of the story.

### Peace or Prozac

**2 min 5 sec**

By Leah Kaliski | Thetford Academy  
This is the story of my depressive episode in 9th grade, told entirely in pictures.

### SHOWCASE 6, 3:45PM

#### Peace Has No Borders



**Documentary | 70 min**

Directed by Deb Ellis & Denis Mueller  
Between 1965-1973, over 50,000 Americans made their way to Canada, refusing to participate in the Vietnam War. Forty years later, Canada has another moral choice – whether to give refuge to U.S. veterans of the Iraq War. Caught between two countries, today's war resisters fight the law, politics, and the court of public opinion for the opportunity to remain in Canada.



## SHOWCASE 7, 6:30PM

### Don't Touch the Camera



**Documentary | 17 min 37 sec**

Directed by Anna Cuevas & Serena Gauthier  
A documentary discussing gender inequality in the film industry and at film school by the female film majors of the 2018 graduating class at Champlain College.

### One Night



**Fiction | 12 min 30 sec**

Directed, written & produced by Cal Hopwood  
After a night of partying, Jake and Katie wake up with different opinions on the consensual nature of their hook-up.

## SHOWCASE 8, 8:00PM

### High Water Mark: The Rise & Fall of The Pants



**Documentary | 60 min**

Directed, written, edited & co-produced by Bill Simmon

In the last days before the internet changed the music industry forever, one small-town-band's will succeed became the stuff of legend. High Water Mark: The Rise & Fall of The Pants explores the lasting footprint that The Pants had on Burlington, Vermont's vibrant music scene in the 1990s and the intense, devoted fandom the band has enjoyed since. It chronicles their struggle to "make it" in the last days before the Internet era would forever change the music industry. But as the '90s came to a close, this buzz band from Burlington seemed to burn out as quickly as it had blown up, leaving many to wonder what had happened. The film also asks hard questions about the personal toll of ambition and what can happen when a big fish tries to swim upstream to

a larger pond. High Water Mark is a story that happened in Vermont, but it's a tale that no doubt rings familiar in countless music scenes around the country. Are The Pants "the best band you've never heard," or one of thousands of talented acts that got caught up in the tumultuous shifting tides of the music biz? The answer might be both. Experience the story and music of The Pants, then, you decide.

## VERMONT FILMMAKERS' SHOWCASE AWARDS

The awards will be announced at the Opening Night film, all except the Audience Favorite which will be announced at the Closing Night film. We encourage everyone to fill out the ballots as you exit the screenings.

**JAMES GOLDSTONE AWARD**, a \$1,000 cash award given to an Emerging Vermont Filmmaker and sponsored by Bill Stetson & VTIFF

**BEN & JERRY 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

**ZERO GRAVITY AWARD**, a \$500 cash prize for the Most Innovative film

**HAWK AWARD**, a \$350 cash prize for Best Screenplay, sponsored by Hawk Ostby

**FOOTAGE FARM USA AWARD**, a credit for stock footage worth \$600 from the Footage Farm collection given for most creative use of archival footage

**HOTEL VERMONT AWARD**, a \$250 cash prize, given to a film that creates the Best Sense of Place

**URBAN RHINO VISUAL AWARD**, a \$250 cash prize given for Best Cinematography

**VCAM AUDIENCE FAVORITE AWARD**, \$200 by popular ballot

**VTIFF BEST ACTING AWARD**, Two Patron Annual Memberships to VTIFF, value \$338





## SPECIAL EVENTS

### CUBAN CINEMA SPOTLIGHT

A special tribute to Fernando Pérez and contemporary Cuban filmmakers. Presented in partnership with Alex Halkin, Director of Americas Media Initiative (AMI).

#### Wall of Words (La Pared de las Palabras)

See page 20.

#### Havana Suite (Suite Habana)

See page 8.

#### Cuban Shorts – see Lunchtime Shorts section

See page 22.

### VTIFF AFTER DARK

VTIFF gets in the Halloween spirit with these After Dark horror offerings. Presented in partnership with the Green Mountain Gore Society

#### Phantasm (Remastered) and Phantasm: Ravager

See page 13 and page 16.

#### Evolution

See page 6.

#### Under the Shadow

See page 20.

### VAMP PRESENTATION

**SHOWTIME:** Thursday, Oct 27 | 6:00-7:00pm | Film House

Clips from a new restoration project of the Vermont Archive Movie Project – footage of the poet Ruth Stone, and a compilation of clips from prominent Vermont filmmakers who appear in the VAMP database.

\*Free event\*

### FAMILY FRIENDLY FILMS & EVENTS

#### Scratchatopia Animation Workshop with Steve Woloshen

**SHOWTIME:** Sunday, October 22 | 11:30am | Atrium

Festival favorite and internationally renowned animator Woloshen returns to VTIFF with a special animation workshop. Young and old alike can explore the joys of camera-less filmmaking and discover new tricks and techniques along the way. Participants are encouraged to choose materials and tools, and then scratch, paint and collage directly onto 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 results will be digitized and viewed publicly on the day! See Woloshen's website: <https://scratchatopia.wordpress.comhttps://scratchatopia.wordpress.com>

#### Fiddlesticks

**SHOWTIME:** Sunday, October 23 | 11:30 am | Film House

See page 7.

### STUDENT MATINEE

#### Racing Extinction

**Documentary | 2015 | 90 min.**

**SHOWTIME:** Wednesday, October 26 | 11:30am | Film House

**Director:** Louie Psihoyos | **Sponsor:** Anne Slade Frey Foundation / Jane Kramer / Seventh Generation Foundation

Director Louie Psihoyos will participate in a post-screening discussion via Skype.

A gripping eco-thriller documentary that examines biodiversity loss, its effect on humanity, and the solutions that inspire hope for a more sustainable future, the Oscar-nominated Racing Extinction is ideal for student groups and classes interested in Environmental Studies, Biodiversity, Sustainability, Activism, or Nonfiction Filmmaking.

To reserve group tickets for students and school groups, email: [Seth@vtiff.org](mailto:Seth@vtiff.org)

For more information about the film, see page 16.

### MORNING SCREENINGS

#### Best and Most Beautiful Things

**SHOWTIME:** Thursday, October 27 | 11:30am | Film House

A special screening with captioning and audio description for the hard of hearing and visually impaired. Director Garrett Zevetis and lead character Michelle Smith will be in attendance

For more information about the film see page 5.

### BURLINGTON FILM SOCIETY

#### The Handmaiden

**SHOWTIME:** Friday, October 28 | 6:00pm | Film House

**Sponsors:** Main Street Landing

All VTIFF Members receive free admittance to this Burlington Film Society screening.

For more information about the film see page 7.

### PANELS

#### Lo & Behold, Reveries of the Connected World Discussion

**SHOWTIME:** Monday, October 24 | 6:30pm | Film House

**Sponsors:** Vermont Technical College / BTV Ignite / Vermont Center for Emerging Technologies/ Burlington Generator / Champlain Mini Maker Faire / Alternator

A panel discussion featuring some of the movers and shakers of Vermont's tech community.

For more information about the film see page 10.

Note: The film screening and panel discussion will be preceded by a reception.

#### Ask A Film Producer

**SHOWTIME:** Friday, October 28 | 1:00pm | Great Room

**Sponsors:** VT PBS

Film producers Justine Nagan (Exec. Producer of PBS's POV program, Life Itself, The Trials of Muhammad Ali) and Lori Cheatle (festival films Kiki and Seven Songs for a Long Life) answer your questions on how to get a film made and produced. This is a perfect opportunity for filmmakers and students to get quality time with two accomplished film producers and for the general public to learn more about the business of broadcast documentaries. Moderated by Champlain College Professor of Film Studies, Julia Swift.

\*Free event\*

#### Forgotten Farms Discussion

**SHOWTIME:** Saturday, October 29 | 1:00pm | Film House

A panel discussion, including director Dave Simonds; producer Sarah Gardner; Heather Darby, associate professor at the UVM College of Agriculture & Life Sciences and local dairy farmers will follow the screening.

For more information about the film see page 7.

Note: The screening and panel discussion will be followed by a reception sponsored by Skinny Pancake.

## RECEPTIONS AND PARTIES

Every evening from 5:30–6:30pm in the Lake Lobby of Main Street Landing

Make this your daily routine as the place to meet and talk about films you've seen or plan to see. The receptions will feature a variety of food tastings as well as a cash bar – perfect for some relaxation and refreshments in between afternoon and evening screenings!

### Opening Night Party

Friday, Oct 21 | 8:45pm 'till late | Lake Lobby

**Sponsor:** Skinny Pancake

Following the screening of *The Hanji Box*, the opening night film. Food and cash bar by Skinny Pancake.

### Slow Food Vermont Reception

Saturday, Oct 22 | 5:00–6:00pm | Lake Lobby

Soul food tasting and cash bar.

### Vermont Council on World Affairs Reception

Sunday, Oct 23 | 5:30–6:30pm | Lake Lobby

**Sponsor:** VCWA

Special Reception before *A Syrian Love Story* in the presence of former US Ambassador to Syria, Robert Ford.

### Lo & Behold Reception

Monday, Oct 24 | 5:30–6:30pm | Lake Lobby

Sponsors: Vermont Technical College with Burlington Generator; BTV Ignite; VCET; Champlain Mini Maker Faire; Alternator

Special reception before the screening of *Lo & Behold* in the presence of the movers and shakers of Vermont's tech community. Catering by Carrot Top Catering and cash bar.

For more information about the film see page 10.

### Physician's Computer Company (PCC) Reception

Wednesday, October 26 | 5:45–7:00pm | Lake Lobby

Special reception sponsored by PCC to support VTIFF.

Catering by Let's Pretend, cash wine bar by Shelburne Vineyard

### Vermont PBS Reception

Saturday, October 29 | 5:30–6:45pm | Lake Lobby

Special reception before *Seven Songs for Seven Lives* in the presence of Justine Nagan, Executive Producer of *POV*.

Catering by Carrot Top Catering, cash wine bar by Shelburne Vineyard.

### Closing Night Party at Skinny Pancake

Sunday, Oct 30 | 8:30pm | Skinny Pancake

Following Closing Night film *Contemporary Color*.

## FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE

Lori Cheatle (*Seven Songs for a Long Life*, *Kiki* and Ask a Producer panel)

Dany Diaz (*Havana Suite* and *The Wall of Words*)

Suzanne C. Dudley (*The Hanji Box*)

Robert Edwards (*The Last Laugh*)

Danae Elon (*P. S. Jerusalem*)

Sarah Gardner (*Forgotten Farms*)

Abby Ginzberg (*Agents for Change*)

Caroline Goodman-Thomases (*Everybody Knows... Elizabeth Murray*)

Nora Jacobson (*The Hanji Box*)

Natalie Kim (*The Hanji Box*)

Lewis Klahr (*Sixty Six*, via Skype)

Rokhsareh Ghaem Maghemi (*Sonita*, via Skype)

Justine Nagan (*Seven Songs for a Long Life* and Ask a Producer panel)

Jacki Ochs (*Everybody Knows...Elizabeth Murray*)

Ferne Pearlstein (*The Last Laugh*)

Louie Psihoyos (*Racing Extinction*, via Skype)

Dave Simonds (*Forgotten Farms*)

Steve Woloshen (Scratchatopia Animation Workshop)

Kristi Zea (*Everybody Knows...Elizabeth Murray*)

Garrett Zevgetis (*Best and Most Beautiful Things*)

## SPEAKERS AND PANELISTS

Former U.S. Ambassador Robert Ford (*A Syrian Love Story*)

Heather Darby (*Forgotten Farms*)

Alex Halkin (*Havana Suite*, *The Wall of Words* and Cuban Shorts)

Marco Johnson (*Tanna*)

Sen. Carole Migden (*Political Animals*)

Michelle Smith (*Best and Most Beautiful Things*)

Megan Epler Wood (*Tanna*)



# VERMONT FILMMAKERS' SHOWCASE & AWARDS

## BUSINESSES & ORGANIZATIONS

### VISIONARIES | \$10,000+

Green Valley Media

### MAJOR | \$5,000 +

Dealer.com  
Grace Jones Richardson Trust  
Hotel Vermont  
Main Street Landing  
PCC  
Skinny Pancake  
Vermont Arts Council

### SUPPORTERS | \$2,500-\$4,999

Champlain College  
Northfield Savings Bank  
VCAM  
Vermont Community Foundation  
UVM College of Arts & Sciences  
Humanities Center and Film & Television  
Studies  
UVM Hillel  
Zero Gravity

### FRIENDS | \$1,000-\$2,499

05401 Plus  
A Single Pebble  
BCA Community Fund  
Ben & Jerry's  
Hilton Garden Inn

## INDIVIDUALS

### SUPPORTERS | \$2,500 - \$4,999

Anonymous  
Robin Lloyd  
Barbara McGrew  
Kevin Meehan  
Kate & Bill Schubart  
Megan & Greg Epler Wood  
Bill Stetson

### MOGULS | \$1,000-\$2,499

Anna Blackmer  
Frank & Ducky Donath  
Jane Kramer  
Bobbie Lanahan  
Patrick McKee  
Bridget & Nicholas Meyer  
Bob Summers & Orly Yadin  
Paula Willoquet-Maricondi

Lucky Next Door  
Lyric Theatre  
Middlebury College  
Urban Rhino Visual  
Todd R. Lockwood Family Fund  
Vermont Council on World Affairs  
Vermont Humanities Council

### COMMUNITY | \$600 - \$999

Alliance française of Vermont  
Burlington-Bethlehem-Arad Sister  
City Program  
The Caroline Baird Crichfield Fund  
Dobra Tea  
Duncan Wisniewski Architecture  
Eyes of the World  
The Men's Room  
Vermont Tech

### OUR CIRCLE | \$275 - \$549

Alternator  
Anne Slade Frey Charitable Trust  
BTV Ignite  
Burlington Generator  
Feldmans Bagels  
Kountry Kart Deli  
Maglianero  
Seventh Generation Foundation  
VCET

### FRIENDS | \$550 - \$999

Anonymous  
John Douglas  
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Arnie Malina  
Lorna-Kay Peal  
Many more generous donors have given  
to VTIFF to support year-round programs.

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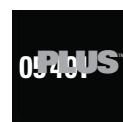


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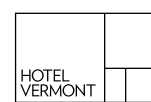
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