

BRINGING THE WORLD TO VERMONT THROUGH FILM

OCT. 16 – 27, 2019

DOWNTOWN BURLINGTON

VTIFF

**VERMONT
INTERNATIONAL
FILM
FESTIVAL**

VENUES AND TICKETING

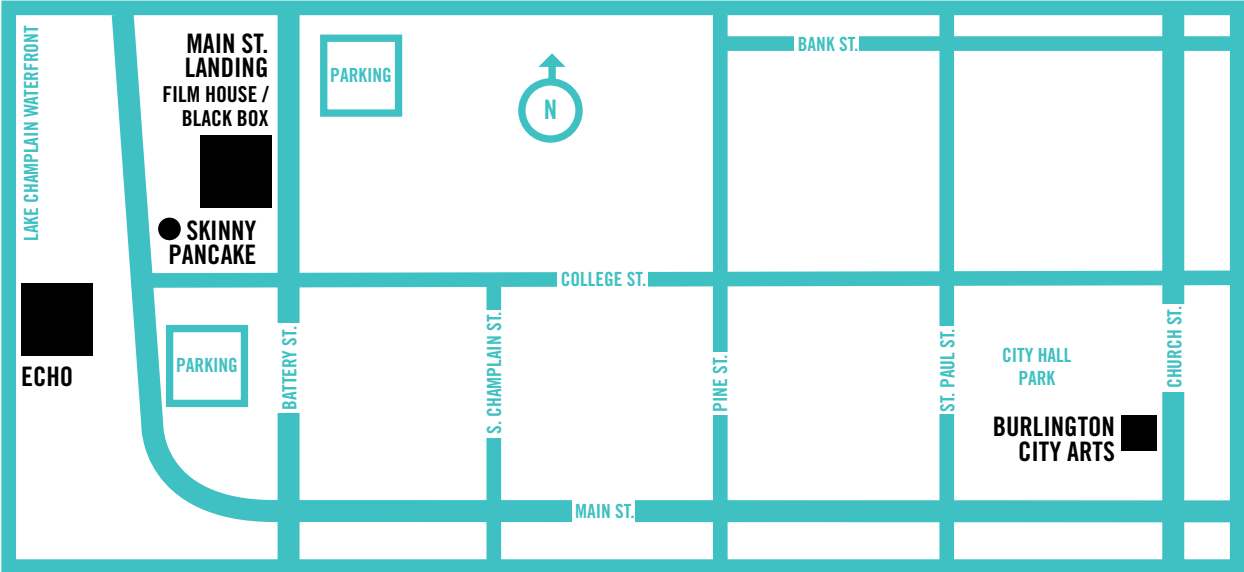
CONTACT: [INFO@VTIFF.ORG](mailto:info@vtiff.org) | 802-660-2600 STAY UP TO DATE: FOR LATEST INFORMATION OR LAST MINUTE CHANGES SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWSLETTER [VTIFF.ORG](http://vtiff.org)

TICKETING

The festival box office will be open daily during the festival from one hour before each day's first screening. It is highly recommended, though, to book your tickets in advance online at [VTIFF.ORG](http://vtiff.org). If you purchased a Gold Pass or 10-pack, or if you are a VTIFF Patron Member, you can book in tickets in advance, or you can go to the Information Desk at the festival to redeem tickets for specific films of your choice. All Access Members do not need to book - your seats are guaranteed. If you choose not to book in advance, you can go *directly* to the screening with your Gold Pass – you do not have to get a ticket at the box office. We hold back a certain number of seats for Gold Pass holders (that includes also our Patron Members) up to 10 minutes before each show on a first-come – first-served basis. After that, we reserve the right to sell the tickets, especially if the screening is in high demand.

TICKET PRICES

GENERAL ADMISSION	\$10.00
SENIOR (65+)	\$8.00
STUDENT (W/ID)	\$5.00
CHILDREN (12 AND UNDER).....	FREE
<i>(with a suggested donation of \$5.00 or more)</i>	
GOLD PASS.....	\$125.00 SINGLE
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<i>(includes admission to all films and events except opening night)</i>	
10-PACK.....	\$75.00
MADE HERE SHOWCASE	FREE
<i>(with a suggested donation of \$5.00 or more)</i>	
LUNCHTIME SHORTS AT BCA.....	GENERAL ADMISSION INCLUDES LUNCH



VENUES

MAIN STREET LANDING PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

The Festival Information desk and box office from Oct 16 through Oct 27 will be located here. Enter either from Battery Street or from 60 Lake St and take the elevator to the 3rd floor. Screenings at MSL will take place in Film House and the Black Box. MSL offers an on-site Mamava for nursing mothers.

BURLINGTON CITY ARTS (BCA)

BCA at 135 Church Street is the venue for the weekday Lunchtime Shorts, 12-1pm, Monday through Thursday.

ECHO LAKESIDE HALL

Echo Lakeside Hall is located at 1 College Street on Burlington's waterfront.

ACCESSIBILITY – All venues are wheelchair accessible. If you require assisted hearing aids at the screenings, please let the Information Desk know at least 15 minutes for the screening.

PARKING & TRANSPORTATION

Parking on Lake Street is free after 6pm daily, free all day Sunday. Parking at the Main Street Landing and Merrill Lynch parking lots is free evenings and weekends, unless signs indicate otherwise.

The venues are located on regular Chittenden County Transit routes. There is a shuttle on College Street that leaves every 15 minutes.

GRAB A BITE AND TALK MOVIES

Daily receptions 6pm-6:45pm in the Festival Lake Lobby, free appetizers (cash bar)

A Single Pebble	133 Bank Street – gourmet Chinese food; their food truck – Fridays only, outside Foam Brewery, a few steps from the festival
The Armory Grille & Bar	101 Main Street – stylishly upscale
Skinny Pancake	Gold Pass holders receive 20% discounts – 1 per person per day
Penny Cluse Café	169 Cherry Street – great place for breakfast or lunch
Zero Gravity Brewery	716 Pine Street – local craft beers in a great atmosphere. Zero Gravity beer is the official beer of VTIFF.
American Flatbread	115 St. Paul Street – good flatbreads and Zero Gravity beer

WHERE TO STAY

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WELCOME TO VTIFF 2019!



What you see in this festival guide is the final result of months of screenings by our programmers, collectively watching hundreds of films. This festival, unlike many others, is by invitation only. We think of the festival as being akin to a curated art show and the opposite of a dealer's gallery: it is not a random collection of films, but a carefully selected program, designed to inspire our audience to discover cinematic connections between the work of filmmakers around the globe.

Film festivals are not only a feast for the eyes but also a great opportunity to discover other cultures and share ideas. Only the Made Here Showcase, covering films from Northern New England and Québec, is open to submissions. We are committed to supporting regional filmmakers and want to make sure that all have an equal chance of being considered. I encourage you to come to these free screenings (with a suggested donation) and support local filmmakers in the Northeast and Québec.

I hope we've succeeded in including a representative selection of the best of international and American cinema, and I only regret that we had to leave out so many good films for lack of space.

There will be many filmmakers attending the festival. They are listed on page 26-28 of this guide. You will see them at post-screening Q&As and at the daily receptions. Don't be shy — talk to them and make them feel welcome. We want them to go home and tell people about VTIFF and Vermont. Filmmakers from far away will be joining us through Skype.

I say this every year, but that doesn't make it less true: A film festival is an opportunity to immerse yourself in the cinematic arts and 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 and daily receptions, where you can eat, drink and seek recommendations from others.

Make sure, as well, to browse our sponsors' page. Grantors, sponsors, individual donors and VTIFF members together make it all possible. If you recognize any of them, please thank them, too. I would like to single out Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center and its wonderful and continuously helpful staff: Sasha, Phoebe and Mariah.

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, VTIFF Executive Director

Do you wonder why some films are showing only in the Film House and others only in the Black Box? We try as far as possible, when a film has two screenings, to show one in each of the theaters, but this is not always possible: the highest standard of projection today is a format called DCP. In an ideal world all our screenings would be projected in that format. But the Black Box has no DCP capability. Because increasingly distributors insist on providing us only DCP formats (they are better protected against piracy) we have to schedule both screenings of these titles in Film House. And so, because the number of slots we have at the festival are finite, some of the other films only show in the Black Box (do not worry - it has a very good projector). Upgrading a theater to project DCP is extremely expensive and we are grateful to Main Street Landing for having invested in a DCP projector in Film House a couple of years ago.

WHAT'S INSIDE

Films A-Z	Page 6-20
Full Schedule	Page 16-17
Lunchtime Shorts	Page 21
Made Here Showcase	Page 22-25
Family Friendly films and events	Page 26
Visiting filmmakers and speakers	Page 26-28
Sponsors and supporters	Page 29-32

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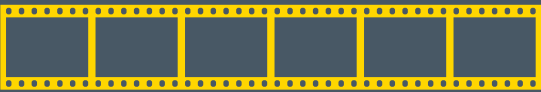
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Please join us for the screening of "The River and the Wall" at 3:45 on 10/19 followed by a reception and panel discussion at 6pm.



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ADVOCATE

Directed by Rachel Leah Jones
Israel/Canada/Switzerland | 2019 | Documentary | 108 min
Hebrew, Arabic, English w/ English subtitles

Film Source: Film Movement
Awards/premier festivals: DocAviv Film Festival: Best Israeli Film; Hong Kong Int'l Film Festival: Jury Prize; and many more
Sponsors: Peace & Justice Center of Vermont

SHOWTIME
SUN, OCT 27 | 1:15PM | FH

Lea Tsemel defends Palestinians: from feminists to fundamentalists, from non-violent demonstrators to armed militants. As a bitterly divisive Jewish Israeli lawyer who has represented political prisoners for nearly 50 years, Tsemel pushes the praxis of a human-rights defender to its limits. *Advocate* is an up close and personal portrait of this tireless advocate and a riveting film. Through the depiction of specific cases and Tsemel's inner conflicts, the film succeeds in highlighting universal questions, such as: What do human-rights lawyers really try to achieve – representation of the best interests of their clients, or fighting for the “bigger cause»? Or, how do you engage with a justice system that represents the state's interests? ~OY

Followed by Q&A with Lea Tsemel (via Skype) and Burlington lawyer Evan Barquist



ÁGA

Directed by Milko Lazarov
Bulgaria | 2019 | Fiction | 96 min
Bulgarian w/ English subtitles

Film Source: Big World Pictures
Sponsors: Muffie Milens

SHOWTIMES
MON. OCT 21 | 1:30PM | FH
FRI, OCT 25 | 4:15PM | FH

In a yurt on the snow-covered fields of the North, Nanook and Sedna live following the traditions of their ancestors. Alone in the wilderness, they look like the last people on Earth. Their traditional way of life starts changing – slowly, but inevitably. Hunting becomes more and more difficult, the animals around them die from inexplicable causes, and the ice has been melting earlier every year. Their daughter Ága left the icy tundra long ago after a family feud. When Sedna's health deteriorates, Nanook embarks on a long journey to find Ága. Exquisite cinematography does more than justice to the majestic landscapes and the interiors, which are lit like 17th century Dutch paintings. This explicit riff on Robert Flaherty's *Nanook of the North* will draw you into its world, and the breathtaking last shot will stay in your memory for days to come. It's a film that has to be seen on the big screen. ~OY



ALAN MAGEE: art is not a solace

Directed by Alan Wright and David Berez
USA | 2019 | Documentary | 58 min

Film Source: Filmmakers

SHOWTIME
SUN. OCT 27 | 1:45PM | BB

Alan Magee: Art Is Not A Solace takes the viewer on a breathtaking visual journey—an exploration of the artist's recurring subjects, locales, and the historical sources which have sustained his passion for five decades. Through his paintings, sculpture, monotypes, music, and short films, Magee invites viewers to travel with him through the unsettling recesses of human experience and back into the affirming light of day.

Followed by Q&A with director Alan Wright

VENUES	FH: FILM HOUSE	EC: ECHO	BCA: BURLINGTON
	BB: BLACK BOX THEATER	LAKESIDE HALL	CITY ARTS
	CR: CLASSROOM		
	All in Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center	Echo Leahy Aquatic Center 1 College Street	135 Church Street



BE NATURAL: THE UNTOLD STORY OF ALICE GUY-BLACHÉ

Directed by Pamela B. Green
USA | 2019 | Documentary | 102 min

Film Source: Zeitgeist Films
Awards/premier festivals: Cannes, Telluride, New York, Deauville
Sponsors: VTIFF Board of Directors in honor of Orly Yadin, Executive Director of VTIFF

SHOWTIME
WED, OCT 23 | 4:15PM | FH

One of the most influential and innovative directors of the silent era, Alice Guy-Blaché was the first female filmmaker. In 1896, at age 23, she was inspired to make her own film called *La Fée aux Choux* (*The Cabbage Fairy*), one of the first narrative films ever made. Over the span of her career, she wrote, produced or directed hundreds of films, including 150 with synchronized sound during the silent era. Her work includes comedies, westerns and dramas, as well as films with groundbreaking subject matter such as child abuse, immigration, birth control and female empowerment. She also etched a place in history by making the earliest known surviving narrative film with an all-black cast. After a decade of making films at Gaumont in Paris, she had a second decade-long career in the U.S., where she built and ran her own studio, Solax, in Fort Lee, New Jersey. Green organizes her film like a detective story, tracking down every U.S.-based connection she can find via Ancestry.com and the phone directory. Green's approach distinguishes this film from earlier documentaries made about Guy-Blaché, unearthing materials hidden in family albums and storage cartons. ~OY



THE BIG BAD FOX AND OTHER TALES

Directed by Benjamin Renner and Patrick Imbert
France/Belgium | 2019 | Animation | 80 min
English version

Film Source: GKIDS
Sponsors: Kids VT
FREE SCREENING

SHOWTIME
SUN, OCT 20 | 11:30AM | FH

The countryside isn't always as calm and peaceful as it's made out to be, and the animals on this farm are particularly agitated: a fox who mothers a family of chicks, a rabbit who plays the stork, and a duck who wants to be Santa Claus. From the creators of the Oscar-nominated *Ernest & Celestine*, *The Big Bad Fox* uses its classic animation style to tell a series of utterly beguiling stories the whole family can enjoy. ~OY



BUTTERFLIES

Directed by Tolga Karaçelik
Turkey | 2019 | Fiction | 117 min
Turkish w/ English subtitles

Film Source: Films Boutique
Sponsors: Theresa Highland and Rick Stoner | Kim and Mitch Fleischer

SHOWTIMES
WED, OCT 23 | 7:00PM | FH
FRI, OCT 25 | 1:45PM | FH

This joyous film combines humor and heart with such ease that sometimes the audience has barely caught their breath from laughing before tears begin to flow. Following three estranged adult siblings (an astronaut, an actor and a teacher) on the road to visit their estranged father, we witness these urban characters forced to interact with the very different culture of their youth. As they move further away from their westernized lifestyles to the collectivist, traditional village in Turkey where they were born, the tone and artistic references shift, giving the film many layers of depth and power. However, *Butterflies* can just as easily be enjoyed as a simple family comedy-drama in which the characters face their long-avoided childhood traumas together — and in doing so discover their true identities. ~JS



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THE CABINET OF DR. CALIGARI
CLOSING NIGHT FILM

Directed by Robert Wiene
Germany | 1920 | Fiction | 75 min
German titles w/ English translation

Film Source: Kino Lorber
2014 4K Restoration
Sponsors: Lyric Theatre Company
Accompanied by live piano and percussion with
Randall Pierce and Colin Henkel
100th anniversary – made in 1919, released 1920

SHOWTIME
SUN, OCT 27 | 7:00PM | FH

In 1920, one brilliant film catapulted the movement known as German Expressionism into film history. *The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari* reflects the mistrust of authority developed in the immediate post-World War I era and depicts a power that is brutal and insane, manipulating those under its observation to their own whim. Director Robert Wiene and a visionary team of designers crafted a nightmare realm in which light, shadow and substance are abstracted. It's a world in which a demented doctor and a carnival sleepwalker perpetrate a series of ghastly murders in a small community. Distortions and mangled perspectives are constant; bold brush strokes paint shadows equally with sharp edges and round curves, as lines and structures twist and strike to form nightmarish shapes. While Expressionism was by no means the only cinematic style flourishing in Germany at that time (think of the romantic comedies of Ernst Lubitsch's silent films), it was certainly the most sensational. We will be screening a 4K restoration scanned from the (mostly) preserved camera negative at the German Federal Film Archive. ~OY



CHAINED FOR LIFE

Written and Directed by Aaron Schimberg
USA | 2019 | Fiction | 91 min

Film Source: Kino Lorber

SHOWTIME
FRI, OCT 25 | 9:30PM | FH

A beautiful actress struggles to connect with her disfigured co-star on the set of a European auteur's English-language debut. Through pitch-black satire, *Chained for Life* examines the treatment of disability on screen and on set. The film undermines conventional ideas about what constitutes beauty and sincerity onscreen. It even hints at a loose parallel between plastic surgery, which can be seen as helping people look the way they feel inside, and filmmaking; both are mechanisms for creating illusions, but also have the potential for revealing hidden truths. Schimberg's film is odd, darkly funny and — when it means to be — a little frightening.



THE CHAMBERMAID (LA CAMARISTA)

Directed by Lila Avilés
Mexico | 2018 | Fiction | 102 min
Spanish w/ English subtitles

Film Source: Kino Lorber
Mexico's official submission to the Academy Awards 2020
Sponsors: A Single Pebble

SHOWTIMES
TUES, OCT 22 | 6:45PM | BB
SAT, OCT 26 | 1:30PM | BB

The first feature film from theater director and actress Lila Avilés, *The Chambermaid* concerns a hotel housekeeper named Eve (played by the marvelously understated Gabriela Cartol) who dreams of a better life while grinding through her daily routine. Inspired by Sophie Calle's 1984 photo collection *L'Hotel*, Avilés shot the film in just 17 days, using her own savings to fund the production. With a keen eye for detail and precise shot compositions that recall the minimalist cinema of Belgian master Chantal Akerman, Avilés frames the blue-collar tasks of the titular maid against the opulence of a luxury hotel in Mexico City and its wealthy patrons. And though the camera never leaves the hotel, considerable tension is generated through our fear that Eve will be caught deviating from the rigid demands of her job. Like Alfonso Cuarón's *Roma*, *The Chambermaid* is a humanistic film about class differences and the dehumanization of manual labor that celebrates the dignity of doing a job well. ~LB

VENUES	FH: FILM HOUSE	EC: ECHO	BCA: BURLINGTON
	BB: BLACK BOX THEATER CR: CLASSROOM	LAKESIDE HALL	CITY ARTS
	All in Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center	Echo Leahy Aquatic Center 1 College Street	135 Church Street



CLEMENCY

Directed by Chinonye Chukwu
With: Alfre Woodard, Aldis Hodge, Wendell Pierce
USA | 2019 | Fiction | 113 min

Film Source: Neon

Awards/premier festivals: Sundance - U.S. Grand Jury Prize for Drama

Sponsors: Jake Perkinson and Cate MacLachlan
This film is one of three films selected by the Film and Media Culture Department at Middlebury College in partnership with VTIFF to screen in the Hirschfield International Film Series.

SHOWTIME

THUR, OCT 24 | 7:00PM | FH

Writer-director Chinonye Chukwu uses calibrated artistry across the board to tell a sensitive story about a prison warden's very challenging position of power. In a stunning opening scene, we see a lethal injection go wrong while the camera focuses on the immobile face of the warden (Alfre Woodard). The scene sets the tone for the dual concerns of this drama — the impact of the death penalty on the accused, as well as its impact on the civil servants whose job it is to ensure the state execution is carried out according to the rule of law. While the script and direction deserve much of the credit for the film's success, this would not be the same movie without the towering screen presence of Alfre Woodard. ~OY



THE DAYS TO COME (ELS DIES QUE VINDRAN)

Directed by Carlos Marqués-Marcet
Spain | 2019 | Fiction | 97 min
Catalan w/ English subtitles

Film Source: Film Factory

SHOWTIME

SAT, OCT 26 | 1:00PM | FH

The Days to Come is the third in Carlos Marques-Mercet's dissection of intense relationships hampered by external circumstances. *10.000 Km*, shown at VTIFF in 2015, depicted a relationship conducted through the internet. *Hope* focused on couples who didn't always communicate in their mother tongue. *The Days to Come* presents the life of a couple under one roof and under the microscope — from conception to the birth of their child. Over nine months they will have to learn what it will mean to be the three of them, despite not having had the time to learn how to be just the two of them. Although a fiction film, the film takes advantage of the actor's actual pregnancy and is shot in cinema vérité style, as it explores how difficult it can be to share the process of this profoundly transformative experience. As one of our programmers wrote: "Intimate boy-knocks-up-girl story embossed with real pregnancy (no pillows here!) finds the spine and walks all over it." ~OY

Followed by Q&A (via Skype) with Director Marqués-Marcet



DIAMANTINO

Directed by Gabriel Abrantes and Daniel Schmidt
Portugal/France/Brazil | 2019 | Fiction | 92 min
Portuguese w/ English subtitles

Film Source: Kino Lorber

Awards/premier festivals: Cannes Critics' Week - Grand Prize

Sponsors: Bobbie Lanahan | Paula Willoquet-Maricondi

SHOWTIMES

MON, OCT 21 | 1:45PM | BB

WED, OCT 23 | 6:45PM | BB

There isn't another film quite like it at the festival, or perhaps anywhere. Part loopily queer sci-fi thriller, part faux-naïve political rallying cry, all glued together with candy-floss clouds of romantic reverie. *Diamantino* borrows all the traditional nasty-scientist tropes and rom-com clichés but applies a transgressional palette. It touches on the current refugee crises in Europe as well as the rise of extreme nationalism without for a minute abandoning its tongue-in-cheek tone. No words will prepare you for it, but we're willing to bet that you'll never look at fluffy puppies in the same way again. ~OY



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FAMILY SHORTS

A program of short films for the whole family.
Suitable for ages 5 to 100.
Various directors and countries of origin | 76 min

Film Source: North West Film Forum
Sponsors: Kids VT

FREE SCREENING

SHOWTIME
SUN, OCT 27 | 12:00PM | BB

A special selection from the Children’s Film Festival in Seattle of contemporary short films of different styles and a range of topics that VTIFF has specially curated for the festival. The films are either in English or are non-verbal and can be enjoyed by the whole family.



A FAMILY TOUR

Directed by Ying Liang
Taiwan/Hong Kong/Singapore/Malaysia | 2018 | Fiction
| 107 min
Mandarin, Cantonese, Min Nan w/ English subtitles

Film Source: Golden Scene Company Limited
Sponsors: A Single Pebble

SHOWTIME
SAT, OCT 26 | 7:00PM | FH

The plot of *A Family Tour* is deceptively simple. A Chinese filmmaker living in Hong Kong travels to a festival in Taipei to present a film that has been banned in mainland China. She uses the trip as an opportunity to see her mother, but to avoid attention they can only meet surreptitiously under the guise of a guided sightseeing tour. It’s a story that closely mirrors writer-director Ying Liang’s own situation. In 2012, after his film *When Night Falls* was deemed subversive by the Chinese government, he was forced to flee his home for Hong Kong. On one level, the film deftly examines questions of national identity and the political complexities that separate mainland China, Hong Kong and Taiwan. At the same time, it serves as a poignant family drama about the cost of abandoning one’s homeland and familial roots in the pursuit of truth through art. *A Family Tour* was completed prior to the massive demonstrations that began in March, following a proposed bill that would have allowed Hong Kong residents to be extradited to mainland China. With violent clashes between pro-democracy protestors and police in Hong Kong making headlines across the globe, the quiet urgency of Ying’s film has only grown more relevant. ~LB



GENESIS

Directed by Phillipe Lesage
Canada/Québec | 2018 | Fiction | 129 min
French w/ English subtitles

Film Source: Film Movement
Sponsors: Lorna-Kay Peal

SHOWTIMES
MON, OCT 21 | 3:45PM | FH
SAT, OCT 26 | 6:45PM | BB

Philippe Lesage’s *Genesis* is a rarity: a coming-of-age film that explores the angst of adolescence from both male and female, and gay and straight, perspectives. Charlotte (Noée Abita) is a college-age Montréaler navigating the perplexing landscape of newfound freedom and open relationships. Her 16-year-old half-brother, Guillaume (Théodore Pellerin), is a student at an all-boys boarding school coming to terms with his sexual identity in a severely repressive environment. Lesage makes some courageous narrative choices. Charlotte’s and Guillaume’s stories briefly overlap on just two occasions. A Faulkner-esque coda boldly ventures into uncharted cinematic waters more akin to experimental literature. Refreshingly free of clichés and with fluid camerawork and strong performances from its young leads, *Genesis* asks if the idyllic feelings of first love can be recaptured during the messy confusion of young adulthood. ~LB

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GIVE ME LIBERTY

Directed by Kirill Mikhanovsky
USA | 2019 | Fiction | 119 min

Film Source: Music Box Films
Sponsors: Anne Barbano and Michael George | Tom and Molly Roland

SHOWTIMES

TUES, OCT 22 | 1:30PM | FH

SUN, OCT 27 | 4:00PM | FH

Vic, a transport driver for people with disabilities, is having a rough day. The boss is already busting his chops for running behind schedule when a group of fellow Russian Americans find themselves without a ride to a funeral. Meanwhile, Vic (the charismatic Chris Galust, in his first role) is desperately trying to get his regular riders to their various appointments when a race riot breaks out on his Milwaukee route. *Give Me Liberty* is the second feature for Russia-born director Kirill Mikhanovsky, who himself worked as a medical transport driver in Milwaukee before becoming a filmmaker. Mikhanovsky's experiences lend the film a lived-in authenticity, as does the casting of actors who have disabilities, including Lauren "Lolo" Spencer as an African American woman with ALS who develops a tentative relationship with Vic. *Give Me Liberty* is an absurdly funny film, in a style reminiscent of the Safdie brothers' *Good Time* and Martin Scorsese's *After Hours*, which also examines racial tensions in one of America's most segregated cities. ~LB



THE HUMAN ELEMENT

Directed by Matthew Testa
USA | 2018 | Documentary | 76 min

Film Source: Filmmaker
Sponsors: Frank and Ducky Donath

SHOWTIME

TUES, OCT 22 | 6:45PM | EC

During his four-decade career as a photographer and explorer, James Balog (*Chasing Ice*) has focused his lens on the complex relationship between humans and nature. Human activity has now surpassed all other forces shaping our world, and Balog's work challenges us through breathtaking cinematography to contemplate our place in — and responsibility to — the natural world. *The Human Element* visits Tangier Island, a fishing community facing the imminent reality of sea level rise threatening their future. We meet Yadira Sanchez and her three children in Denver, Colorado, all of whom attend a special school for children struggling with respiratory issues. Balog embeds with a Cal Fire strike team on the frontlines of the most expensive wildfire in California history, and he ventures deep into Kentucky coal country, meeting unemployed miners finding hope from a new source. Balog argues that the fifth element — the human element — can bring the whole system back into balance. ~OY



I AM CUBA (SOY CUBA)

Directed by Mikhail Kalatozov
Soviet Union/Cuba | 1964 | Fiction | 135 min
English, Spanish w/ English subtitles

Film Source: Milestone Films
Sponsors: John Douglas

SHOWTIME

THUR, OCT 24 | 3:45PM | FH

Coproduced by the state film organizations of Fidel Castro's socialist regime and the Soviet government, *I Am Cuba* is a series of four vignettes about the Cuban revolution that melds the urgent thrust of the propaganda films perfected by Sergei Eisenstein with the anything-goes aesthetics of the French New Wave. While each of the four segments serves as a fascinating time capsule of a tipping point in Cuban history, the film's greatest asset is its mind-boggling camerawork. In one scene, a fisheye wide shot literally turns aquatic as the camera plunges from a hotel balcony into a swimming pool. In the film's most virtuoso sequence, a shot begins by tracking a funeral at street level. The camera then rises to the rooftops, tracks into a cigar factory, and finally soars high above the funeral procession — all in one unbroken shot, more than a decade before the Steadicam was invented. Presented in a sparkling 4K restoration by Milestone Films, *I Am Cuba* has never looked better. Yes, it's propaganda. But propaganda has never been so technically spectacular. ~LB



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THE INFILTRATORS

Directed by Alex Rivera & Cristina Ibarra
USA | 2019 | Fiction | 91 min
Film Source: Oscilloscope

Sponsors: Nat and Martha Winthrop
Co-sponsors: Peace & Justice Center of Vermont

SHOWTIME
FRI, OCT 25 | 4:00PM | BB

The Infiltrators tells the incredible story of Marco and Viri, two young undocumented immigrants who embarked on a high-risk mission: penetrate a for-profit detention center, expose cases of abuse and set people free. Mixing footage of its real subjects with the actors portraying them, husband and wife co-directors Ibarra and Rivera create a hybrid work that is equal parts journalistic exposé and taut drama. Rather than blending protest footage with somber tales of families split apart, *The Infiltrators* explains the precise function of ICE, delivering a fascinating contrast to national headlines. ~OY

Followed by Q&A



IT MUST SCHWING —
THE BLUE NOTE STORY

Directed by Eric Friedler
Germany | 2018 | Documentary | 115 min
English, German w/ English subtitles

Film Source: Studio Hamburg
Sponsors: Lisa Schamberg and Pat Robins

SHOWTIME
SAT, OCT 26 | 3:30PM | FH

Blue Note Records has produced some of the most famous albums in jazz history: Thelonious Monk’s *Genius of Modern Music*, John Coltrane’s *Blue Train* and Herbie Hancock’s *Maiden Voyage*, to name just a few. But less well known is the story of the record label’s founding, in 1939, by German Jewish refugees Alfred Lion and Francis Wolff, who immigrated to the United States to escape Nazi persecution. The empathy between the Jewish jazz aficionados and African American musicians facing a different form of racism forms the core of *It Must Swing – The Blue Note Story*, a documentary that combines expressionistic animated sequences with interviews with veteran Blue Note artists, including Wayne Shorter, Sonny Rollins, Ron Carter and Sheila Jordan. With a soundtrack featuring more than 30 classic Blue Note cuts and insightful segments on Rudy Van Gelder’s engineering wizardry and Wolff’s striking album-cover photography, *It Must Swing* is a jazz lover’s dream that also serves as an excellent introduction to the art form’s most distinguished record label. ~LB

Followed by Q&A with Reuben Jackson



LIL’ BUCK: REAL SWAN

Directed by Louis Wallecan
France/USA | 2019 | Documentary | 85 min

Film Source: Versatile Films
Sponsors: Patricia Fontaine | Andrea Rogers

SHOWTIMES
MON, OCT 21 | 7:00PM | FH
WED, OCT 23 | 2:15PM | FH

In this exuberant documentary featured at the Tribeca Film Festival, director Louis Wallecan takes an in-depth look at an extraordinary dance artist in the making — the totally wonderful Charles “Lil’ Buck” Riley, who learned the smooth dance moves of Memphis jookin on the tough neighborhood streets, parking lots and slippery floors of the Crystal Palace Roller Skating Rink. We see Lil’ Buck’s neighborhood up close, with its deprivations but also his competitive instinct, dedication to perfection and interest in expanding jookin’s vocabulary. After he wins a scholarship to study ballet, Lil’ Buck further mixes jookin with other artistic forms, ultimately merging aesthetics and cultures with a celebrated performance of Camille Saint-Saëns’ haunting “The Swan” with famed cellist Yo-Yo Ma accompanying him. It is this “portrait of the artist as a young man” that makes this film a joy to discover. ~AM

VENUES	FH: FILM HOUSE	EC: ECHO	BCA: BURLINGTON
	BB: BLACK BOX THEATER CR: CLASSROOM All in Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center	LAKESIDE HALL Echo Leahy Aquatic Center 1 College Street	CITY ARTS 135 Church Street



THE MILK SYSTEM

Directed by Andreas Pichler
Germany/Italy | 2018 | Documentary | 91 min

Film Source: Magnetfilm

SHOWTIME
SUN, OCT 20 | 1:30PM | FH

There's one thing milk traditionally stands for — health. It's seen as natural, nutrient-rich and comes from happy cows in green meadows. Today, however, milk is big business and a highly sought-after commodity that is subject to aggressive trading. In Europe alone, 2 billion tons of milk and milk powder are produced annually and sold worldwide. How did cows become suppliers for the high-tech milk industry? What alternatives are there? Who are the people behind it? How does milk consumption affect our health? This film goes behind the scenes and allows the players to have their say. This fascinating journey through the world of milk takes us across Europe, America, Asia and Africa to meet farmers, dairy owners, politicians, lobbyists, NGOs and scientists in order to investigate the far-reaching consequences of the Big Agra industry. ~OY

Followed by Q&A with Roger Allbee, former Secretary of Agriculture for Vermont.



MONOS

Directed by Alejandro Landes
Colombia/Argentina | 2019 | Fiction | 102 min
Spanish w/ English subtitles

Film Source: Neon
Awards/premier festivals: Sundance Film Festival - World Cinema Dramatic Jury Award

SHOWTIME
SAT, OCT 26 | 9:15PM | FH

Monos takes place entirely in remote mountains and jungles, where eight teenage commandos with guns and code names like Smurf, Bigfoot and Rambo watch over a milk cow and a female hostage they call Doctora (Julianne Nicholson) for a collective named The Organization. The film is an unwavering visual and psychological dare that illustrates the surreal nature of war, seen mostly from the unique perspective of adolescence. As director Alejandro Landes says: "The idea was to create an atemporal world, out of place, out of time, far away from everything. ... Though the specifics of the Colombian civil war are the source of inspiration, the idea was always for the experience of the film to cross borders and exist as a world in and of its own." ~OY



MR. TOILET: THE WORLD'S #2 MAN

Directed by Lily Zepeda
USA | 2019 | Documentary | 87 min

Film Source: The Film Collaborative
Awards/premier festivals: HotDocs 2019 - Student Choice Award
Sponsors: Jane and Michael Michaud | Vermont Council on World Affairs

SHOWTIMES
TUES, OCT 22 | 4:00PM | FH
THUR, OCT 24 | 1:45PM | FH

To a stranger, he's a guy obsessed with toilets. But to those who know him, he's "Mr. Toilet," a crusader in global sanitation. Born in the Singapore slums, Jack Sim knows firsthand the agonies of not having a proper loo. Now, he's dedicating his life to a crisis no one dares talk about: Shit. Using humor as his main weapon, he plunges into his biggest challenge yet when he is asked to secure 6 million toilets for the "Clean India" initiative as the shocking conditions are exposed. *Mr. Toilet* is a strong, entertaining, character-based documentary about an impassioned, rebellious advocate who sometimes forgets the difference between raising awareness and producing results. ~OY

Followed by Q&A with Patricia Preston, Executive Director of Vermont Council on World Affairs (Tues, Oct 22 only)



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NON-FICTION (DOUBLES VIES)
OPENING NIGHT FILM

Directed by Olivier Assayas
France | 2018 | Fiction | 108 min
French w/ English subtitles

FILM SOURCE: Sundance Selects/ Ifc
SPONSORS: 05401

SHOWTIME
FRI, OCT 18 | 7:00PM | FH

The latest film from French auteur Olivier Assayas (*Personal Shopper*; *Clouds of Sils Maria*) is a delightfully witty sex comedy set in the Parisian publishing world. Léonard (Vincent Macaigne) is a novelist with a troublesome habit of writing barely disguised fiction that's uncomfortably close to the real lives of his friends and lovers. When his longtime editor, Alain (Guillaume Canet), refuses to publish his latest book, it sends Léonard into a self-destructive melancholy that threatens to expose his relationship with Alain's wife (the always superb Juliette Binoche), with whom he's been having a long-term affair. But beneath the film's breezy exterior, Assayas probes salient questions about perceptions of authenticity in fiction and real life in the digital age. Shot on Super 16mm film, *Non-Fiction* provides potent commentary about life in the post-digital world and how we consume information and relate to one another in the era of social media and e-devices. ~LB



NOTHING FANCY: DIANA KENNEDY

Directed by Elizabeth Carroll
USA | 2019 | Documentary | 74 min
English, Spanish w/ English subtitles

Film Source: Filmmaker
Sponsors: A spirited group of industry professionals and food enthusiasts | Anonymous

SHOWTIMES
SUN, OCT 20 | 4:00PM | FH
SUN, OCT 27 | 11:00AM | FH

Master chef, teacher and environmental activist Diana Kennedy is living proof that size has nothing to do with strength. Now in her 90s and barely five feet tall, she's a fierce jolt of energy who has become one of the most celebrated culinary legends of Mexican cuisine. Aware of her own mortality, she works tirelessly to solidify her legacy with the hope of turning her home into a foundation for culinary education in Mexico. Blending archival footage from her many television appearances and access to the ecologically sustainable home where she cooks, recycles rainwater, uses solar power and grows her own crops, *Nothing Fancy* is an inspiring homage to a culinary and environmental trailblazer. But whatever you do, don't blend your avocado! ~OY

Followed by a panel discussion with the producer Gina Abatemarco and Professor Luis Vivanco, cultural anthropologist and co-director of UVM's Humanities Center (Sun, Oct 20 only).



OUR BODIES, OUR DOCTORS

Directed by Jan Haaken
USA | 2019 | Documentary | 77 min

Film Source: Filmmaker
Sponsors: The Caroline Fund for Women in Need | Sue Burton and Jan Schultz

SHOWTIME
FRI, OCT 25 | 7:00PM | FH

This powerful film shines a light on new, unexplored aspects of the timely issue of abortion rights in America. The film introduces the audience to a new generation of female doctors who are putting themselves in danger in order to offer women reproductive choice. In one enthralling scene, the filmmakers follow the doctors to a medical school, where they answer questions from students about the dangers of performing abortions in America. The filmmakers were able to capture the true vulnerability of these young medical students and the fear inherent in their choice of whether or not to perform abortions. The film also brings to light the new reality of non-religious hospitals combining with religious institutions, and the real consequences of those mergers. There have been many recent films about the changing access to abortions in the American South, but this film shows that the threat is real for all of America, no matter what the laws say. ~JS

Followed by a panel discussion with the filmmaker, Dr. Sarah Prager, participant in the film, Melinda Moulton, on the Board of PPNNE and Dr. Lauren K. MacAfee, gynecologist and obstetrician at UVM Medical Center.

VENUES	FH: FILM HOUSE	EC: ECHO	BCA: BURLINGTON
	BB: BLACK BOX THEATER CR: CLASSROOM	LAKESIDE HALL	CITY ARTS
	All in Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center	Echo Leahy Aquatic Center 1 College Street	135 Church Street



PARASITE

Directed by Bong Joon-ho
South Korea | 2019 | Fiction | 132 min
Korean w/ English subtitles

Film Source: Neon

Sponsors: Middlebury College

This film is one of three films selected by the Film and Media Culture Department at Middlebury College in partnership with VTIFF to screen in the Hirschfield International Film Series.

SHOWTIME

SAT, OCT 19 | 7:00PM | FH

Winner of the prestigious Palme d'Or at this year's Cannes Film Festival, *Parasite* is a black comedy thriller about a lower-class family of four who con their way into working at a rich couple's mansion. As the grifters grow increasingly bold in their gambit, a wildly unexpected twist of fate threatens to derail the entire enterprise. Directed and cowritten by Bong Joon-ho (*The Host*; *Snowpiercer*), the film is simultaneously a superbly entertaining suspense yarn and a biting social commentary on wealth disparity and class discrimination in contemporary South Korea. Dazzlingly directed and effortlessly blending elements of the caper comedy and home invasion genres, *Parasite* is a masterpiece by a modern master. ~LB



PORTRAIT OF A LADY ON FIRE (PORTRAIT DE LA JEUNE FILLE EN FEU)

Directed by Céline Sciamma
France | 2019 | Fiction | 121 min
French w/ English subtitles

Film Source: Neon

Awards/premier festivals: Cannes Festival 2019 - Best script award

Sponsors: Barbara Zucker | Barbara Perry | Judy Gerber

This film is one of three films selected by the Film and Media Culture Department at Middlebury College in partnership with VTIFF to screen in the Hirschfield International Film Series.

SHOWTIME

SUN, OCT 20 | 7:00PM | FH

In 18th century France, a young painter, Marianne, is commissioned to do the wedding portrait of Héloïse without her knowing. Therefore, Marianne must observe her model by day to paint her portrait at night. Day by day, at a slow, caressing pace, the two women become closer as they share Héloïse's last moments of freedom before the impending wedding. While the artist in the film is not based on any specific historical character, it is inspired by centuries of female artists who were overwritten and/or erased by their male contemporaries. The ravishing cinematography and lighting and the mesmerizing acting of the two women create an intense and sensual mood. The films of director Céline Sciamma (*Tomboy*; *Girlhood*) share a common theme of the fluidity of gender and sexual identity among young women. Here she has created a profoundly erotic film about the process of self-discovery and becoming. ~OY



THE RAFT

Directed by Marcus Lindeen
Denmark | 2019 | Documentary | 97 min

Film Source: Metrograph

Awards/premier festivals: CPH:DOX - Main Prize; Chicago International Film Festival - Silver Hugo

Sponsors: Bridget and Nick Meyer

SHOWTIME

SAT, OCT 19 | 11:00AM | FH

In the summer of 1973, a young international crew of six women and five men embarked on a most unusual sea voyage — a close-quarters trip across the Atlantic from Spain to Mexico on a free-floating raft christened the Acali. The journey was initiated by Mexican anthropologist Santiago Genovés, who proposed to use the group as guinea pigs in his investigation of the origins of violent conflict and the dynamics of sexual attraction. Contentious from the get-go, and incorrectly labeled by the media as “The Sex Raft,” the Acali mission stayed afloat for 101 days. Now, more than 40 years later, the surviving crew members reunite to reenact and recollect their experiences. With extensive 16mm archival footage from the voyage brilliantly edited by Alexandra Strauss (*I Am Not Your Negro*), the film is a document of the thin line between science and cultism in the early '70s, as well as an unforgettable portrait of oblivious, toxic masculinity. ~OY

Followed by Skype Q&A with Director Marcus Lindeen



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SCHEDULE

WED. OCT. 16

7:00PM
GRATITUDE / MAJOR
ARCANA
(87) FH

LOCATION GUIDE

FH
FILM HOUSE

60 Lake Street,
3rd Floor
Main Street Landing,
Performing Arts Center

BB
BLACK BOX
THEATER

60 Lake Street
3rd Floor
Main Street Landing
Performing Arts Center

BCA
BURLINGTON
CITY ARTS

135 Church Street
Downtown Burlington

EC
ECHO

1 College Street
Burlington Waterfront

LL
LAKE LOBBY

60 Lake Street
3rd Floor
Main Street Landing
Performing Arts Center

CR
CLASSROOM

60 Lake Street
2nd Floor
Main Street Landing
Performing Arts Center

THURS. OCT. 17

11:00AM
THE SILENCE BETWEEN
/ NOYANA – SINGING AT
THE END OF LIFE
(38) FH

12:30PM
THE APARTMENT /
SACRED HAIR /
THE COLLECTOR
(66) FH

2:30PM
BIRCH / MIDNIGHT
AT THE OASIS /
DOOM VIBRATIONS
(58) FH

4:30PM
A CAVE YOU FEAR TO
ENTER / A GAME DINNER
/ HERD / LITTLE BEERY'S
MARCH
(53) FH

6:00-6:45PM
RECEPTION
LL

7:00PM
NOTHING TO MY NAME
/ THE SOUND OF A
WILD SNAIL EATING /
SNOWBIRDS
(77) FH

FRI. OCT. 18

11:00AM
PRECIOUS GURU –
JOURNEY INTO THE WILD
HEART OF THE SECOND
BUDDHA
(70) FH

12:45PM
LEWISTON / RECOVERY
COUNTY / NORTH
COUNTRY
(57) FH

2:30PM
BROTHERS
(75) FH

4:15PM
DOLLS DON'T DIE /
FIRST LIGHT / DEAR
GEORGINA / CAROL
STREET / THE EPITAPH
OF MARWA STEIN
(60) FH

5:30-6:45PM
VIP RECEPTION
CR

7:00PM
OPENING NIGHT
NON-FICTION
(107) FH

9:00PM
OPENING NIGHT PARTY
LL

SAT. OCT. 19

11:00AM
THE RAFT + Q&A
(97) FH

1:30PM
WHEN LAMBS BECOME
LIONS + Q&A
(76) FH

3:45PM
THE RIVER AND THE
WALL + PANEL
(100) FH

6:00-6:45PM
RECEPTION
LL

7:00PM
PARASITE
(132) FH

SUN. OCT.20

11:30AM
THE BIG BAD FOX &
OTHER TALES
(80) FH

1:30PM
THE MILK SYSTEM + Q&A
(90) FH

4:00PM
NOTHING FANCY: DIANA
KENNEDY + PANEL
(74) FH

6:00-6:45PM
RECEPTION
LL

7:00PM
PORTRAIT OF A LADY ON
FIRE
(121) FH

MON. OCT 21

12:00PM
LUNCHTIME SHORTS
BCA
PG 21

1:30PM
ÁGA
(96) FH

1:45PM
DIAMANTINO
(92) BB

3:45PM
GENESIS
(129) FH

4:00PM
TONI MORRISON:
THE PIECES I AM
(120) BB

6:00-6:45PM
RECEPTION
LL

6:45PM
THE REPORTS ON
SARAH AND SALEEM
(127) BB

7:00PM
LIL' BUCK: REAL SWAN
(85) FH

SAT. OCT. 19 + SUN. OCT. 20

11:00AM-7PM CONTINUOUS GAMING
LOST CITY OF MER
VR VIDEO GAME
FREE EVENT
LL

TUES. OCT. 22

12:00PM
LUNCHTIME SHORTS
BCA
PG 21

1:30PM
GIVE ME LIBERTY
(119) FH

1:45PM
THE TOBACCONIST
(117) BB

4:00PM
MR. TOILET: THE WORLD'S #2 MAN + Q&A
(87) FH

4:15PM
ROJO
(109) BB

6:00-6:45PM
RECEPTION
LL

6:45PM
THE CHAMBERMAID
(102) BB

6:45PM
THE HUMAN ELEMENT
(76) EC

7:00PM
THE BLAIR WITCH PROJECT
(105) FH +
TRANSFORMATIONS
(10) - FH
(NOT A FESTIVAL SCREENING)

WED. OCT 23

12:00PM
LUNCHTIME SHORTS
BCA
PG 21

1:45PM
THE VENERABLE W.
(100) BB

2:15PM
LIL' BUCK: REAL SWAN
(85) FH

4:00PM
SUBURBAN BIRDS
(113) BB

4:15PM
BE NATURAL: THE UNTOLD STORY OF ALICE GUY-BLACHÉ
(102) FH

6:00-6:45PM
RECEPTION
LL

6:45PM
DIAMANTINO
(92) BB

7:00PM
BUTTERFLIES
(117) FH

THURS. OCT. 24

12:00PM
LUNCHTIME SHORTS
BCA
PG 21

1:15PM
SURPRISE SCREENING
(108) BB

1:45PM
MR. TOILET: THE WORLD'S #2 MAN
(87) FH

3:45PM
I AM CUBA
(135) FH

4:00PM
THE TOBACCONIST
(117) BB

6:00-6:45PM
RECEPTION
LL

6:45PM
ROJO
(109) BB

7:00PM
CLEMENCY
(113) FH

FRI. OCT. 25

1:30PM
TONI MORRISON: THE PIECES I AM
(120) BB

1:45PM
BUTTERFLIES
(117) FH

4:00PM
THE INFILTRATORS + Q&A
(91) BB

4:15PM
ÁGA
(96) FH

6:00-6:45PM
RECEPTION
LL

6:45PM
SUBURBAN BIRDS
(113) BB

7:00PM
OUR BODIES, OUR DOCTORS + PANEL
(77) FH

9:30PM
CHAINED FOR LIFE
(91) FH

SAT. OCT. 26

11:00AM
DAN HIGGINS: MAKING PICTURES
(WORK IN PROGRESS SCREENING)
(72) FH

11:00AM
SCRATCHATOPIA ANIMATION FOR ALL
(90) LL

1:00PM
THE DAYS TO COME + Q&A
(90) FH

1:30PM
THE CHAMBERMAID
(102) BB

3:30PM
IT MUST SCHWING — THE BLUE NOTE STORY + Q&A
(115) FH

3:45PM
THE VENERABLE W. + Q&A
(100) BB

6:00-6:45PM
RECEPTION
LL

6:45PM
GENESIS
(129) BB

7:00PM
A FAMILY TOUR
(107) FH

9:15PM
MONOS
(102) FH

SUN. OCT. 27

11:00AM
NOTHING FANCY: DIANA KENNEDY
(74) FH

12:00PM
FAMILY SHORTS
(76) BB

1:15PM
ADVOCATE + Q&A
(108) FH

1:45PM
ALAN MAGEE: ART IS NOT A SOLACE + Q&A
(58) BB

3:45PM
THE REPORTS ON SARAH AND SALEEM
(127) BB

4:00PM
GIVE ME LIBERTY
(119) FH

6:00-6:45PM
RECEPTION
LL

7:00PM
THE CABINET OF DR. CALIGARI
(WITH LIVE MUSIC)
(75) FH

8:30PM
CLOSING NIGHT PARTY
LL



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THE REPORTS ON SARAH AND SALEEM

Directed by Muayad Alayan
Palestine | 2018 | Fiction | 127 min
Arabic, Hebrew, English w/ English subtitles

Film Source: Dada Films
Awards/premier festivals: International Film Festival Rotterdam - Special Jury Award; Seattle International Film Festival - Grand Jury Prize; and many others
Sponsors: Burlington-Bethlehem-Arad Sister City Program

SHOWTIMES
MON, OCT 21 | 7:00PM | BB
SUN, OCT 27 | 3:45PM | BB

In many countries, an affair between a married woman and a married man would be just that: an affair. When the woman is Jewish Israeli and the man is Muslim Palestinian, it cannot be that simple. When Sarah and Saleem are spotted in the wrong place at the wrong time, the affair naturally takes on a political dimension, leaving them to deal with more than just broken marriages. Director Muayad Alayan picks up on the nuanced engagement with Palestinian-Israeli tensions of his first feature, *Love, Theft, and Other Entanglements*, and gradually unravels them through the vehicle of a psychosocial drama-thriller with many surprises along the way. The non-linear structure emphasizes the complexity of the narrative as it impacts both their families in personal and political ways. A richly detailed Jerusalem and neighboring Bethlehem serve as both background and center players. ~OY



THE RIVER AND THE WALL

Directed by Ben Masters
USA | 2019 | Documentary | 100 min

Film Source: Filmmaker
Sponsors: The Nature Conservancy Vermont Chapter

SHOWTIME
SAT, OCT 19 | 3:45PM | FH

This adventurous film follows five friends on an immersive journey through the wilds of the Texas borderlands as they travel from El Paso to the Gulf of Mexico on horses, mountain bikes and canoes. Conservation filmmaker Ben Masters recruits National Geographic explorer Filipe DeAndrade, ornithologist Heather Mackey, river guide Austin Alvarado and conservationist Jay Kleberg to join him on a 2 1/2-month journey down 1,200 miles of the U.S.-Mexico border. They set out to document the region and explore the potential impacts of a border wall on the natural environment, but as the wilderness gives way to the more populated and heavily trafficked lower Rio Grande Valley, they come face to face with the human side of the immigration debate and enter uncharted emotional waters. ~OY

Followed by Q&A with producer and participant Jay Kleberg and from The Nature Conservancy: Heather Furman, Vermont State Director and Phil Huffman, Director of Policy



ROJO

Directed by Benjamin Naishtat
Argentina | 2018 | Fiction | 109 min
Spanish w/ English subtitles

Film Source: Distrib Films USA
Awards/premier festivals: San Sebastian Film Festival - Best Director, Best Cinematography, Best Actor
Sponsors: The Vermont Wine Merchants Company

SHOWTIMES
TUES, OCT 22 | 4:15PM | BB
THURS, OCT 24 | 6:45PM | BB

What was the Argentinian mindset immediately preceding Jorge Rafael Videla's right-wing military coup? Director Benjamin Naishtat's *(History of Fear; The Movement)* darkly funny, highly stylish film immerses itself in Argentina's collective conscious in 1975, resulting in an X-ray image of seeping moral decline under the guise of a murder mystery. The underlying tension is palpable throughout and affects all walks of life. Tense relations with the U.S. are also brought in through an incident with American cowboys, hinting indirectly at American involvement in the coup. But the film is primarily concerned with the disintegration of morals and society during times of uncertainty and lawlessness through the perspective of a complicit middle-class community, including a respectable judge and his family. It conveys the very gradual erosion of respect for human beings as each change brings about a "new normal." ~OY

VENUES	FH: FILM HOUSE	EC: ECHO	BCA: BURLINGTON
	BB: BLACK BOX THEATER CR: CLASSROOM	LAKESIDE HALL	CITY ARTS
	All in Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center	Echo Leahy Aquatic Center 1 College Street	135 Church Street



SUBURBAN BIRDS

Directed by Qiu Sheng
China | 2018 | Fiction | 113 min
Mandarin w/ English subtitles

Film Source: Cinema Guild
Sponsors: Arnie Malina | Duncan Wisniewski
Architecture

SHOWTIMES
WED, OCT 23 | 4:00PM | BB
FRI, OCT 25 | 6:45PM | BB

Chosen for the New Directors/New Films showcase at Lincoln Center in New York City, and a hit at the prestigious Locarno Film Festival, this lauded debut by Chinese director Qui Sheng teases the audience with two intertwining plotlines that have inexplicable temporal twists and turns as the plot lines echo and overlap. An engineer tries to figure out why craters have opened up on the edge of the city; a preteen spends long afternoons with his playmates in a lyrical portrait of youth and memory. But one by one his friends disappear. Poetic and enigmatic, suspenseful and often beautiful to watch, *Suburban Birds* is as much about love and dreams as corruption and bureaucracy. Discover a totally surprising film from a talented new director. ~AM



THE TOBACCONIST (DER TRAFIKANT)

Directed by Nikolaus Leytner
Germany | 2018 | Fiction | 117 min
German w/ English subtitles

Film Source: Menemsha
Sponsors: Barbara McGrew

SHOWTIMES
TUES, OCT 22 | 1:45PM | BB
THUR, OCT 24 | 4:00PM | BB

Vienna, 1937-38. Set just before, and during, the Nazi occupation of Austria, *The Tobacconist* is the story of one young man's coming of age and his unlikely friendship with Sigmund Freud (Bruno Ganz, in his penultimate role). The film excels in portraying the creeping anti-Semitism and swift embrace of Nazi ideology from the points of view of 17-year-old Franz, the music-hall dancer he pines for, and of Freud himself. As war approaches and the city descends into turmoil, the personal dramas of these protagonists are swept up into the larger events that are shaking the foundations of Europe. Shot in beautifully muted tones that provide a real sense of place, *The Tobacconist* resonates way beyond period and location. Based on the international bestseller by Robert Seethaler. ~OY



TONI MORRISON: THE PIECES I AM

Directed by Timothy Greenfield-Sanders
USA | 2019 | Documentary | 120 min

Film Source: Magnolia
Sponsors: Patricia Fontaine

SHOWTIMES
MON, OCT 21 | 4:00PM | BB
FRI, OCT 25 | 1:30PM | BB

Made and released before she died in August at the age of 88, *Toni Morrison: The Pieces I Am* is an artful, uplifting documentary about the life and works of the legendary storyteller and Nobel Prize winner who created *Beloved* and *Song of Solomon*. The film is indispensable and delivers what we crave most: hearing from this wise, eloquent and often funny interpreter of our society. Morrison talks directly to us about urgent matters of race, the black experience and the white gaze, as well as her life as an editor and writer and her childhood memories of growing up in a segregated society. Interviews with Oprah Winfrey, Angela Davis, Fran Lebowitz, Sonia Sanchez and others speak to Morrison's importance, while a tapestry of classic black art and photography threads through the film. But nothing is more compelling than Morrison's own beauty, in voice and image, from her younger years to her authoritative maturity. ~AM



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THE VENERABLE W.

Directed by Barbet Schroeder
France | 2018 | Documentary | 100 min
Burmese w/ English subtitles

Film Source: Cinema Europe
Sponsors: Kevin Meehan

SHOWTIMES

WED, OCT 23 | 1:45PM | BB
SAT, OCT 26 | 3:45PM | BB

The Swiss-French director Barbet Schroeder completes his “Trilogy of Evil” (*General Idi Amin Dada: A Self Portrait*; *Terror’s Advocate*) with *The Venerable W.*, about a Buddhist monk in Myanmar who uses strong anti-Muslim and anti-Rohingya rhetoric in his speeches and writings. Schroeder’s singular style, as he expressed in an interview with the BBC, is “not to judge those people, but to make them talk and find out more about them and eventually ... give them enough rope to hang themselves.” And so, in this film, he relies partly on our ignorance of the conflicts in Myanmar and plays up the noble aspects of Buddhist culture, while gradually letting the monk, Ashin Wirathu, self-indict. In a sense, this is the most terrifying of Schroeder’s portraits, because unlike Amin, for example, we also see Wirthu’s followers through footage culled from phone videos and other immediate media sources. Wirathu represents an awful idea, one that cannot be banished, and one he propagates with chilling skill. “What was terrifying for me,” said Schroeder, “was my realization that you can meet evil people every day and fail to notice them. It’s not as if there is a big flashing light next to their heads.” The final words of the Buddhist Burmese song at the end of the film — “We’ll wall our country with our bones if we have to” — are quite chilling. ~OY

Followed by Q&A with director Barbet Schroeder via Skype (Sat, Oct 26 only)



WHEN LAMBS BECOME LIONS

Directed by Jon Kasbe
USA/Kenya | 2019 | Documentary | 76 min

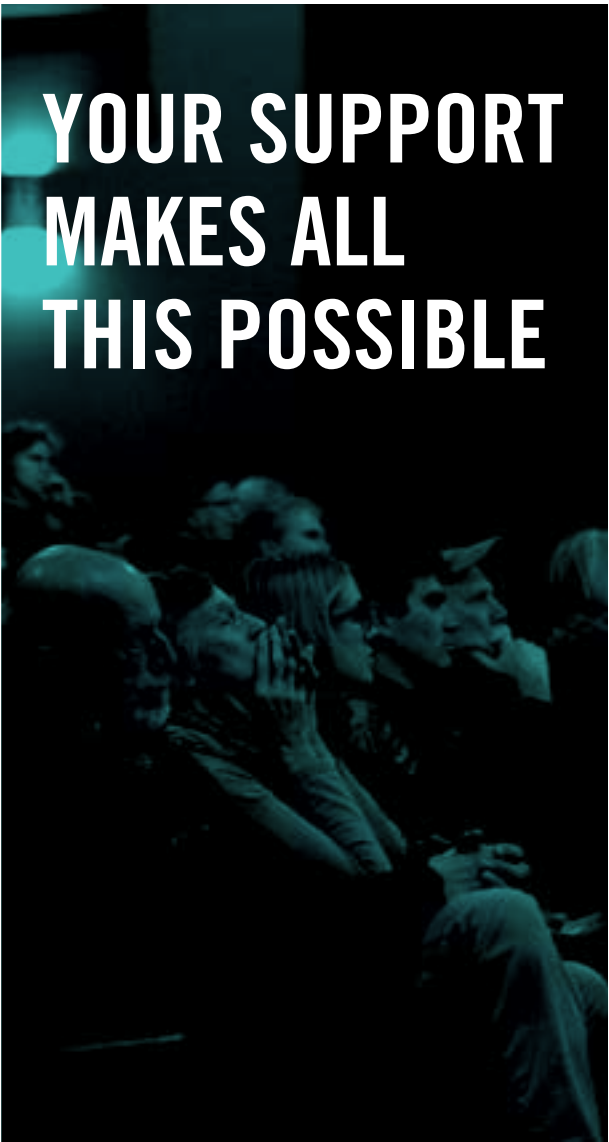
Film Source: Oscilloscope Pictures
Awards/premier festivals: Wild & Scenic - Best of Festival

SHOWTIME

SAT, OCT 19 | 1:30PM | FH

In a Kenyan town bordering wildlife conservation land, two men try to hold onto their increasingly fragile status quo. A small-time ivory dealer fights to stay on top while forces mobilize to destroy his trade. When he turns to his younger cousin, a conflicted wildlife ranger who hasn’t been paid in months, they both see a possible lifeline. The plummeting elephant population in Africa has captured the attention of the world. And as the government cracks down, the poachers face their own existential crisis. For them, conservationists are not only winning their campaign to value elephant life over its ivory, but over human life as well. Director Jon Kasbe followed the film’s subjects over a three-year period, gaining an extraordinary level of access and trust as he became part of their everyday lives. The result is a tense, rare and visually arresting look through the perspectives and motives of the people at the epicenter of the conservation divide. ~OY

Followed by Q&A with Director Jon Kasbe (via Skype)



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MON, OCT 21 | 12 NOON

SUNDANCE SHORTS FILM TOUR - SELECTION

FAST HORSE

Directed by Alexandra Lazarowich
Canada | 13'30" mins

The Blackfoot bareback horse-racing tradition returns in the astonishingly dangerous Indian Relay.

MUTEUM

Directed by Äggie Pak Yee Lee
Estonia/Hong Kong | 4 mins

In an art museum, we learn — from outer to inner, from deep to its deepest, seriously and sincerely.

BROTHERHOOD

Directed by Meryam Joobeur
Canada/Tunisia/Qatar/Sweden | 25 mins

When a hardened Tunisian shepherd's son returns home after a long journey with a new wife, tension rises between father and son.

SOMETIMES, I THINK ABOUT DYING

Directed by Stefanie Abel Horowitz
USA | 12 mins

Fran is thinking about dying, but a man in the office might want to date her.

TUES, OCT 22 | 12 NOON

ANIMATION FROM NATIONAL FILM & TV SCHOOL - AND MORE

LISTEN TO ME SING

Directed by Isabel Garrett
UK | Puppet | 11'12" mins

A miserable hotel performer learns to express herself when she falls in love with a walrus.

ALMOST THERE

Directed by Nelloy Michenaud
UK | Stop Motion | 8'44" mins

On an everyday train quite unlike any other, a group of absurdly troubled characters' encounter each other on a bizarre journey, as their problems escalate from the relatively benign to the downright absurd.

A BIRD WITH NO LEGS

Directed by Nicolas Cinelli
UK | Stop Motion | 9'03" mins

James cannot process the loss of his wife and is lost in an isolated, oppressive, and dissonant world. His son, Theo, plays the songs he needs hear to overcome his emotional and musical block, and put their world back in harmony.

TUES, OCT 22 | 12 NOON (CONT.)

ANIMATION FROM NATIONAL FILM & TV SCHOOL - AND MORE

HEAT WAVE

Directed by Nelloy Michenaud
UK | Mixed Media | 7'13" mins

On an everyday train quite unlike any other, a group of absurdly troubled characters' encounter each other on a bizarre journey, as their problems escalate from the relatively benign to the downright absurd.

IT'S A CRACKING CELEBRATION, GROMIT

Directed by John Lee, Vicky Hewlett, Bex Singleton
UK | Live action | 8'15" mins

Made to celebrate 30 years since NFTS alumnus, Nick Park, created *Wallace & Gromit* via his Oscar nominated graduation film, *A Grand Day Out*.

WED, OCT 23 | 12 NOON

FILMS FROM IRAN AND TURKEY

UNDER THE BLADE

Directed by Javid Farahani
Iran | Fiction | 15 mins

Filming the making of a film about censorship and rape and the custom of alimony (mehr). A woman who leans towards modernity and feminism but uses the custom of "mehr" to attain her goals.

THE CAFÉ

Directed by Javad Hakami
Iran | Fiction | 6'28" mins

Can one live and behave against society's norms despite fearing them? A film about conformity.

PRISON

Directed by Ramazan Çardak
Turkey | Fiction | 22 mins

A young man learns to survive in prison.

BETTER THAN NEIL ARMSTRONG

Directed by Alireza Ghasemi
Iran | Fiction | 20 mins

Four kids start their journey to the moon with the mission of finding a mysterious place called The Redland but the gates of Redland are being guarded by a mischievous snake.

BCA

LUNCHTIME SHORTS

12:00 - 1:00PM

TICKET PRICE INCLUDES A LIGHT LUNCH

Films are shown on the second floor of the BCA Center

135 Church St. Downtown Burlington

THURS, OCT 24 | 12 NOON

DOCUMENTARIES

JUNCTION

Directed by Brendan Young
USA | Documentary | 25 mins

On the Navajo Nation, basketball is as much a part of life as the surrounding natural beauty and ancient traditions. This is especially true for Nahatabaa Nacona, whose talent could prove to be her only path to college. The film follows her through her senior year at the junction between life on and off the reservation.

DISH PIGS

Directed by John Deitcher
Canada | Documentary | 22'46" mins

From five-star restaurants to dirty dives, the most compelling stories come from the dish pit. Meet three Montrealers who choose to wash dishes for a living.

NIGHT AT THE GARDEN

Directed by Marshall Curry
USA | Archival Compilation | 7 mins

Archival footage of an American Nazi rally that attracted 20,000 people at Madison Square Garden in 1939, shortly before the beginning of World War 2.

MADE HERE SHOWCASE AT THE FILM HOUSE



MADE HERE is a partnership between VTIFF and Vermont PBS, in collaboration with WRIF.

MHS 1 | **WED., OCT 16** *Filmmakers in attendance*
7:00PM



GRATITUDE

By Walter Ungerer | ME | 6 min
Nature is an amazing elixir. It brings tranquility to the soul which rejoices in contentment.



MAJOR ARCANA

By Josh Melrod | VT | 81 min
An itinerant carpenter's struggle to end a legacy of alcoholism and poverty as he attempts to build a log cabin by hand, in the back woods of Vermont.

MHS 2 | **THURS., OCT 17** *Filmmakers in attendance*
11:00AM



THE SILENCE BETWEEN

By Danielle Hazelton | VT | 10 min
Pat, a young trombonist, lives his life auditioning for touring ensembles. With a scattered mind and isolated lifestyle, he struggles to live with his long-term girlfriend who keeps him from his work.



NOYANA – SINGING AT THE END OF LIFE

By Keith Oppenheim | VT | 28 min
The story of the Noyana Singers, a Burlington chorus that sings to terminally-ill patients in hospice and home settings.



THE COLLECTOR

By Maria T Alvarado | VT | 41 min
A film about beauty, commitment and the cycle of life through the eyes of Donald Dreifuss, a horticulturist and artist who lives in New Hampshire.

MHS 3 | **THURS., OCT 17** *Filmmakers in attendance*
12:30PM



THE APARTMENT

By Justine Gauthier | QC | 12 min
For the first time since her divorce, a mother welcomes her two kids into her modest new flat. Her son's liveliness and her daughter's questions make for a weekend that wavers between tension and tenderness.

MHS 4 | **THURS., OCT 17** *Filmmakers in attendance*
2:30PM



BIRCH

By Paisley Walsh | VT | 15 min
Jed lives in the house that he and his wife never finished restoring. Now a single parent with two children, he struggles to get through life. All obstacles are heightened when their dog "Bear" goes missing.



SACRED HAIR (CHEVEUX SACRES)

By Mario Morin | QC | 13 min
A fortuitous life-changing encounter between a young ill boy and a Muslim woman in a Montreal Park.



MIDNIGHT AT THE OASIS (MINUIT À L'OASIS)

By Jason Béliveau | QC | 18 min
Audrey and Simon don't love each other. Well, yes, maybe. Audrey shows up at Simon's an evening during the weekend. She is a student, he is her teacher. Is this story written in advance?

MADE HERE SHOWCASE AT THE FILM HOUSE



DOOM VIBRATIONS

By Garret Harkawik | VT | 25 min

Steve Kohlase began hearing an inexplicable, low-frequency rumble in his home in 2009. We follow his ten-year journey to figure it out.

MHS 5 | **THURS., OCT 17** *Filmmakers in attendance*
4:30PM



A CAVE YOU FEAR TO ENTER

By Peter Ackerman | VT | 6 min

The cave you fear to enter, holds the treasure you seek. ~ Joseph Campbell



A GAME DINNER

By Peter Ackerman | VT | 11 min

What's on your plate, and how did it get there? When it comes to eating meat, are some ways more ethical than others?



HERD (MEUTE)

By Florence Lafond | QC | 11 min

That morning, as she gets ready for her dance audition, Alex is outraged when her mother forces her once again to babysit her disabled sister.



LITTLE BEERY'S MARCH

By John Griesemer | NH | 25 min

War. A nomad family profiting from it. Until the war comes for them.

MHS 6 | **THURS., OCT 17** *Filmmakers in attendance*
7:00PM



NOTHING TO MY NAME

By Qian Li | VT | 14 mi

Discovering the past of my grandfather.



THE SOUND OF A WILD SNAIL EATING

By Elisabeth Tova Bailey | ME | 15 min

When a woman is bedridden by a mysterious pathogen, a forest snail unexpectedly takes up residence on her nightstand. An intimate and surprising live action true story. Adapted from the award-winning nonfiction memoir of the same title.



SNOWBIRDS

By Joannie Lafrenière | QC | 48 min

A growing trend of an entire generation of Canadians is the migration to the tropics during the winter season, in particular Florida. With tenderness and humor, this sociological documentary goes to the heart of their daily lives by painting a human portrait of this typically Canadian social phenomenon.

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TELEVISION



MADE HERE SHOWCASE AT THE FILM HOUSE

MHS 7 | **FRI., OCT 18**
11:00AM *Filmmaker in attendance*



PRECIOUS GURU – JOURNEY INTO THE WILD HEART OF THE SECOND BUDDHA

By Marc Wennberg | VT | 70 min

The film follows the arc of Guru Rinpoche’s sacred biography and journey, from his immaculate birth on a lotus in northwest Pakistan; to his taming and subduing of Tibet’s demons in the 8th Century in order to establish Buddhism on the Tibetan plateau; to the central role of his Tibetan consort and main disciple, Princess Yeshe Tsogyal; and finally, his departure for the Land of the Rakshas, where he continues to subdue and tame the demons.

MHS 8 | **FRI., OCT 18**
12:45PM *Filmmakers in attendance*



LEWISTON

By David Shayne & Jacob Roberts | NY | 18 min

In Lewiston, Maine, a violent summer threatens the fragile peace between unlikely neighbors.



RECOVERY COUNTY

By Cody Ball | MA | 19 min

In the outskirts of rural Massachusetts, one small community provides a glimpse of hope in the ongoing American Opioid Epidemic. This film follows one doctor in her efforts to make treatment more widely available, and provides a deeply personal window into the lives of people recovering from addiction.



NORTH COUNTRY

By Nick Martini | NH | 20 min

In the rugged White Mountains of northern-New Hampshire, Lahout’s has remained open 365 days a year since 1920. A family of Lebanese immigrants has prevailed for a century, beating the Great Depression, World War II, Dot Com Crash and Great Recession. This film tells a timeless short story of the American dream and the family that put a community on skis. After 100 years, Lahout’s is still a family business moving onto its fourth generation. Through past and present, we learn the true source of the store’s success.



MHS 9 | **FRI., OCT 18**
2:30PM *Filmmaker in attendance*



BROTHERS

By Reginald Groff | VT | 75 min

The story of a family who have faced incredible adversity but continue to push forward; It centers around Mike, an artist and filmmaker with Muscular Dystrophy and the fate of his younger brother, JT, the athletic, charismatic and once potential pro-skateboarder.

MHS 10 | **FRI., OCT 18**
4:15PM *Filmmakers in attendance*



DOLLS DON'T DIE (LES POUPÉES NE MEURENT PAS)

By Julie Prieur | QC | 10 min

5-year old Mia hasn’t seen her big sister in a long time. Her mom said she’ll be back home when she’ll eat again. So between dreams and memories, Mia starts to cook, to bring her back.

SHOWCASE SPONSORS

Maine Public Television, Vermont PBS,
Vermont Community Foundation, Québec
Government Office in Boston

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Vermont | Hawk Ostby | Bill Stetson

PLEASE NOTE

All screenings followed by Q&As with filmmakers

MADE HERE SHOWCASE AT THE FILM HOUSE

MHS 10 | FRI., OCT 18 4:15PM *Filmmakers in attendance*



FIRST LIGHT

By Adam Mazo, Ben Pender-Cudlip | MA | 13 min

Documents the US Government’s practices of taking Native American children away from their tribes and tells the story of an unprecedented experiment in truth-telling and healing for Wabanaki people and child welfare workers in Maine.



DEAR GEORGINA

By Adam Mazo, Ben Pender-Cudlip | MA | 15 mins

A Passamaquoddy elder tries to sharpen the blurry outlines of her identity.



CAROL STREET

By Demetrius Borge | VT | 15 min

“Being of mixed races, I have always enjoyed many of the privileges of being Black, but faced none of its consequences. I became inspired to better understand the Black experience at Middlebury College not by internalizing the experience, but by opening myself up to those already in this space” ~ D Borge.



THE EPITAPH OF MARWA STEIN

By Rachel Friedman | VT | 7 mi

A woman’s life, as told after her death.

MHS SPECIAL WORK-IN-PROGRESS SCREENING

Filmmakers in attendance

SAT., OCT 26 11:00AM



DAN HIGGINS: MAKING PICTURES

By Eleanor Lanahan | VT | 72 min

Dan Higgins is an artist who uses photography to introduce us to the abundant cultures and stories he has found in his community. With a rare, multi-decade commitment, Higgins engages with, and documents, the impact of urban renewal on Winooski and invites us, through personal vignettes and group portraiture, into the many worlds that abound in our neighborhood.



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SPECIAL EVENTS



LOST CITY OF MER

***FREE*, FAMILY FRIENDLY**
Director/Producer Liz Canner

SAT/SUN, OCT 19/20

11:00 AM – 7:00 PM | LL

Sponsor: Kids VT

Canner will be on hand throughout the weekend and will be happy to answer any questions.

An immersive, interactive experience in virtual reality. Innovative swimming navigation, gameplay, and elements of sci-fi and mystery inspire users to reduce carbon footprint in the real world in order to restore a lost civilization in the virtual world. An innovative approach to climate education, spurring action by showing the beauty of our myths, and the stakes of our neglect. Come for the dive! Sign up for a dive by reserving a time slot. Bring the kids – they'll love it.

SCRATCHATOPIA ANIMATION WORKSHOP

EDUCATION AND FUN FOR ALL AGES
FREE EVENT

SAT, OCT 26 | 11:00 AM | LL

LED BY STEVE WOLOSHEN

Sponsor: Kids VT

Back by popular demand, world-renowned animation director, Steve Woloshen, will once again show participants how to paint on film strip and create animations. No experience needed. Watch your drawings move on the screen.



GINA ABATEMARCO (*NOTHING FANCY: DIANA KENNEDY*)

Gina is a 2018 Guggenheim Fellow. Her debut feature *KIVALINA* made its world premiere at the Berlinale Culinary Cinema and was broadcast on the Emmy Award winning show *America Reframed*. Gina is the Co-Founder of the Fusion Film Festival celebrating female filmmakers at NYU Tisch School of the Arts. When not working on films, Gina is active in the sustainable food movement. She has worked for farmers and artisans at The Union Square Greenmarket, collaborated with Slow Food International, and apprenticed at the "Rome Sustainable Food Project" at The American Academy in Rome.



ROGER ALLBEE (*THE MILK SYSTEM*)

Roger Allbee is the former Secretary of Agriculture for the State of Vermont. He also has been a member of the Senior Management Team of the former Farm Credit and Bank for Cooperatives for the Northeast; a former Chair of the Animal Products Advisory Committee to the a former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture and U.S. Trade Ambassador. He lives in Townshend, Vermont.



EVAN BARQUIST (*ADVOCATE*)

Evan Barquist is a general practice litigator. He represents clients in criminal and traffic defense matters, civil litigation, and real estate litigation. Evan grew up around the country and around the world.



LIZ CANNER (*LOST CITY OF MER*)

Liz makes documentaries, digital public art installations and new media projects on human rights issues. She often employs cutting edge technologies to explore social issues from a new perspective. A prime example of this is her critically acclaimed public cyber art documentary *Symphony of a City*. Her documentary *Deadly Embrace: Nicaragua, The World Bank and the IMF* (1995), was one of the first films to look critically at the effects of the IMF World Bank policy and globalization. In 2009 Canner directed *Orgasm Inc.: The Strange Science of Female Pleasure* (2009), a feature-length investigative a feature-length investigative documentary on the pharmaceutical industry and women's health.



HEATHER FURMAN (*THE RIVER AND THE WALL*)

As State Director of The Nature Conservancy in Vermont since August 2013, Heather Furman leads a statewide team of conservation and programmatic talent to achieve a resilient and connected landscape for both nature and people. Within the New England Division, Heather also guides a team of scientists and conservation experts to achieve large scale protection for land and water.



JAN HAAKEN (*OUR BODIES, OUR DOCTORS*)

Jan is professor emeritus of psychology at Portland State University, a clinical psychologist, and documentary filmmaker. From refugee camps, shelters, war zones and mental hospitals to drag bars and hip-hop clubs, Jan Haaken's documentary films focus on people and places on the social margins, drawing out their insights on the world around them.

COLIN HENKEL (*THE CABINET OF DR. CALIGARI*)

Colin is a percussionist and musician.

PHIL HUFFMAN (*THE RIVER AND THE WALL*)

Director of Government Relations and Policy for The Nature Conservancy in Vermont. He leads the Chapter's work on state and federal policy advocacy to sustain and enhance Vermont's lands and waters for nature and people, as well as emerging efforts to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions, promote a clean energy future, and slow the pace of climate change.



CRISTINA IBARA (*THE INFILTRATORS*)

Cristina is a brown border crosser and an award-winning independent filmmaker with roots along the Texas/Mexico border.



REUBEN JACKSON (*IT MUST SCHWING - THE BLUE NOTE STORY*)

Reuben Jackson is a poet, curator, educator and music historian and critic. He served as curator of the Smithsonian's Duke Ellington Collection in Washington, D.C. for over twenty years. His music reviews have been published in the *Washington Post*, *Washington City Paper*, *Jazz Times*, and on *All Things Considered*.



JON KASBE (*WHEN LAMBS BECOME LIONS*)

Jon is an Emmy Award-winning director, cinematographer, and editor. Born to an Australian mother and an Indian father, Jon spent most of his childhood traveling extensively. Growing up in this environment instilled in him a deep curiosity and desire to explore the world. *When Lambs Become Lions* is his first feature length film.



JAY KLEBERG (*THE RIVER AND THE WALL*)

Jay is the Associate Director for Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation. He is part of a team that conserves Texas' most pristine lands to benefit wildlife and provide recreational opportunities to the public. He is a sixth generation Texan, born and raised on a working cattle ranch in South Texas. He is co-founder of a Brazilian-based Amazonian adventure travel company and conservation organization. Jay lived in El Paso for eight years working in cities along both sides of the US-Mexico border.

FESTIVAL GUESTS – FILMMAKERS AND SPEAKERS



MARCUS LINDEEN (*THE RAFT*)

Marcus is a writer and director. His debut documentary feature, *Regretters*, won the Prix Europa for Best European Documentary, the Swedish Academy Awards and the Swedish Emmy for Best Documentary in 2011. His second film, *Glorious Accidents*, a fiction feature, premiered at the Venice Film Festival, winning the prize for Best Medium-Length film. Lindeen's theatre work has been presented at Sweden's National Theatre, The National Theatre in Oslo and The Schaubühne in Berlin. *The Raft* premiered at CPH:DOX film festival in Copenhagen where it won the main award.

DR. LAUREN K MACAFEE (*OUR BODIES, OUR DOCTORS*)

Dr. MacAfee is a gynecologist and obstetrician at the University of Vermont Medical Center, and assistant professor at the Larner College of Medicine at UVM in Burlington, VT. Dr. McAfee specializes in obstetric, gynecology, reproductive health, family planning, and substance use disorders.



CARLOS MARQUES-MARCKET (*THE DAYS TO COME*) Carlos Marques-Marcet is an editor and director, known for *10,000 Km* (shown at VTIFF 2016), *Anchor and Hope* and *The Days to Come*. He

lives in Barcelona.



MELINDA MOULTON (*OUR BODIES, OUR DOCTORS*) Melinda serves on the Boards of Planned Parenthood of Northern New England and Vermont Main Street Alliance. Over the past

30 years she has put her energy and time, in a variety of ways, to focus on environmental concerns and the improvement of the status of women.



RANDAL PIERCE (*THE CABINET OF DR. CALIGARI*) Randal Pierce music directs for the Flynn Theater, Vermont Stage Company and the University of Vermont. He writes music for films,

theater pieces and runs a regular silent film series with Main Street Landing. Randal also runs a private piano teaching studio in Burlington, VT.

DR. SARAH PRAGER (*OUR BODIES, OUR DOCTORS*)

Dr. Prager is UW associate professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. She is the director of the Family Planning Division and Family Planning Fellowship.



PATRICIA PRESTON (*MR. TOILET: THE WORLD'S #2 MAN*) Patricia is the

Executive Director of the VCWA. This past September she facilitated an exchange to connect future leaders

and mentors invested in women's health, innovation, and equity in Tanzania. The students chose an issue to focus on and drafted plans to address it. The Tanzanian group chose to tackle the lack of accessibility of women's sanitary products. These products are often expensive or otherwise inaccessible, and seeking them out carries the weight of a deep stigma. The VCWA is proud to support *Mr. Toilet: The World's #2 Man*, as we feel connected to spreading awareness of sanitary health and hygiene and supporting young leaders to evoke change in their communities.



ALEX RIVERA (*THE INFILTRATORS*)

Alex is a filmmaker who has been telling new, urgent, and visually adventurous Latino stories for more than twenty years. His first feature

film, *Sleep Dealer*, won multiple awards at the 2008 Sundance Film Festival and the Berlin International Film Festival.



BARBET SCHROEDER (*THE VENERABLE W.*) Schroeder started his career in

French cinema in the 1960s, working with directors such as Jean-Luc Godard and Jacques Rivette. Since the

late 1980s, he has directed big budget Hollywood films such as *Single White Female* and *Murder by Numbers*. He was nominated for the Academy Awards and the Palme d'Or for his 1987 *Barfly*. He has also made a series of documentary films such as *General Idi Amin Dada: Autoportrait*. *The Venerable W.* is in this style of letting the subjects of the films condemn themselves.



LEA TSEMEL (*ADVOCATE*) Lea is an

Israeli lawyer known for her work in support of Palestinian rights. She defines her career as one involving "everything [that occurs] between

the Palestinians and the authorities" and gained fluency in Arabic over five decades of representing Palestinians in court.



PROF. LUIS VIVANCO (*NOTHING FANCY: DIANA KENNEDY*) Prof. Vivanco is a

cultural anthropologist and co-director of UVM's Humanities Center. His scholarship focuses on understanding

the cultural and political aspects of environmental change and efforts to "save nature" through environmental social movements.

DAVID WRIGHT (*ALAN MAGEE: ART IS NOT A SOLACE*) David is an award-winning director and

cinematographer (Emmy & BAFTA) and has worked in over 60 countries. He shoots stories relating to both environmental and human justice issues, plus works on television series such as David Attenborough's *Life* and *Frozen Planet*.



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PETER ACKERMAN (*A CAVE YOU FEAR TO ENTER & GAME DINNER*) Peter is a Danish-American filmmaker and graduate of the University of Vermont's Film & Television Studies Program.

His films explore the ways in which we understand ourselves as part of nature, as well as removed from it. He currently works full-time as Videographer for an animal health company in Portland, ME.



MARIA T. ALVARADO (*THE COLLECTOR*) Maria is a creative producer and editor for promotional campaigns [HBO Latin American Group, Discovery Channel] and creates videos focusing on arts, gastronomy, and events.



CODY BALL (*RECOVERY COUNTY*) Cody is a documentary cinematographer and editor from Western Massachusetts, and is currently based in Brooklyn and Los Angeles. In both his branded work

and original films, Cody seeks to bring out deep human truth in seemingly small stories, with the hopes of sparking meaningful conversation of all shapes and sizes.



JASON BÉLIVEAU (*MIDNIGHT AT THE OASIS*) Jason Béliveau is the programming director for Antitube, an organisation dedicated to film screening in Quebec City. He is also a film critic

for the magazines *Spirale et Séquences* and a radio and television columnist. *Midnight at the Oasis* is his first short film.



DEMETRIUS BORGE (*CAROL STREET*) Demetrius has been producing videos since he accidentally erased all the family photos during a summer trip. He co-owns 273 Productions where

he has worked as a producer, director, editor, and cinematographer on short films and commercials. *Carol Street* is Demetrius's debut festival appearance.



JOHN GRIESEMER (*LITTLE BEERY'S MARCH*) John is a filmmaker, actor, and novelist. He lives in Lyme, NH and wrote and directed the web series *Parmalee*.



GARRETT HARKAWIK (*DOOM VIBRATIONS*)

Garrett is a southern Vermont-based documentary filmmaker and composer, whose work has been featured in *The Atlantic*, *Aeon*, and *Short of the Week*.

His previous film *Remote Viewing Memories* tracked 30 years in the life of military psychic Ed Dames using only promotional commercials and other found footage.



DANIELLE HAZLETON (*THE SILENCE BETWEEN*) Danielle has collaborated with a variety of companies including BBC Three UK, Vice Media, and The Food Network. She has worked on

projects in Ireland, England, and Wales, including the feature documentary *Violet Gibson: The Irish Woman Who Shot Mussolini*.



JOANNIE LAFRESNIÈRE (*SNOWBIRDS*)

Based in Montreal, Joannie is a documentary filmmaker and photographer with an anthropological focus. Her latest documentary project, *The*

Woman Who Saw the Bear, has been shown in major festivals across Canada and internationally.



ANTHONY LAHOUT (*NORTH COUNTRY*)

Anthony is Joe Lahout's grandson as well as the Executive Producer of *North Country*. Outside of filmmaking he is a native of the White Mountains.



ELEANOR LANAHAN (*DAN HIGGINS: MAKING PICTURES*) Lanahan has lived in Vermont since 1971 and has been illustrating stories her entire life —

through children's books, advertising, map making, biography, portraits, animation and documentaries.



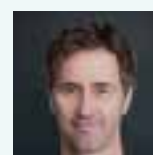
BÉATRICE LECLERC (*HERD*) Béatrice works as production coordinator, manager and assistant at Metafilms and UQAM.



QIAN LI (*NOTHING TO MY NAME*) Qian Li is an aspiring filmmaker from Shanghai, China. She works as an assistant in film instruction at Middlebury College where she recently graduated with a joint major in English and film. *Nothing to My Name* is her thesis film.



JOSH MELROD (*MAJOR ARCANA*) Josh Melrod is an award-winning filmmaker and editor who splits his time between Vermont and New York. *Major Arcana* is his first narrative feature.



MARIO MORIN (*SACRED HAIR*) I aim to respect the universal law of interconnectedness, and keep at bay the unhappiness that comes from the belief that I am separate from others.

Connection is a universal law by which I aim to act upon, in everything I do.



KEITH OPPENHEIM (*NOYANA - SINGING AT THE END OF LIFE*) Keith is Associate Professor of Broadcast Media Production at Champlain College. He began working on *Noyana - Singing At The*

End Of Life because his sister-in-law is a member of the choir that sings to terminally-ill residents at Respite House in Colchester.



JULIE PRIEUR (*DOLLS DON'T DIE*)

As a trained musician, Julie Prieur transposes her musicality in movies. Her art revolves about the themes of beauty and femininity.



JACOB ROBERTS (*LEWISTON*)

Jacob Roberts (b. Washington, DC, 1997) lives in New York City and does odd jobs.



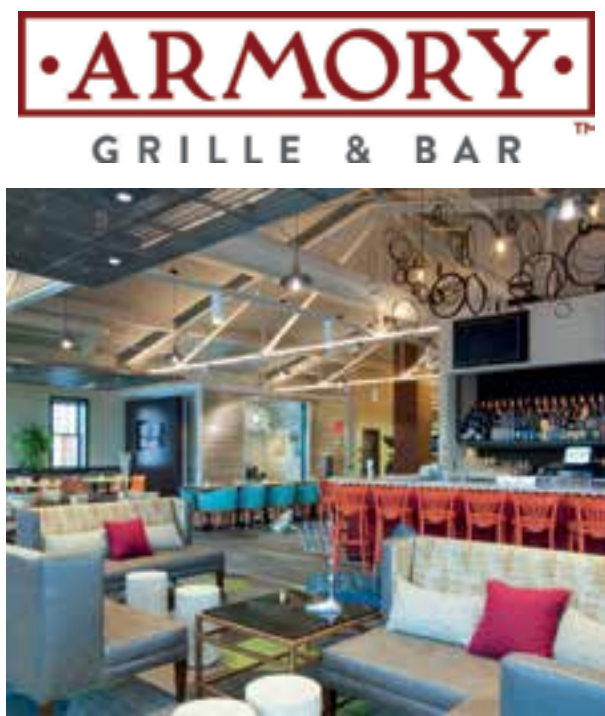
DAVID SHAYNE (*LEWISTON*)

David Shayne lives in New York City and recently graduated from Harvard College. He is originally from Nashville, TN.



MARC WENNBERG (*PRECIOUS GURU*)

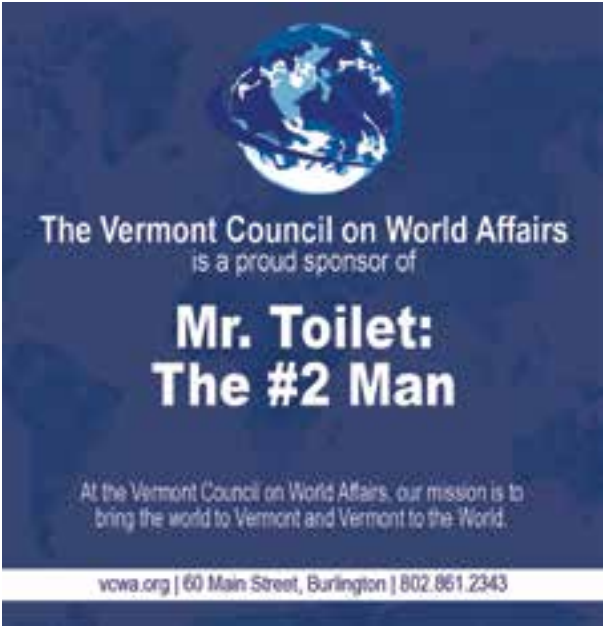
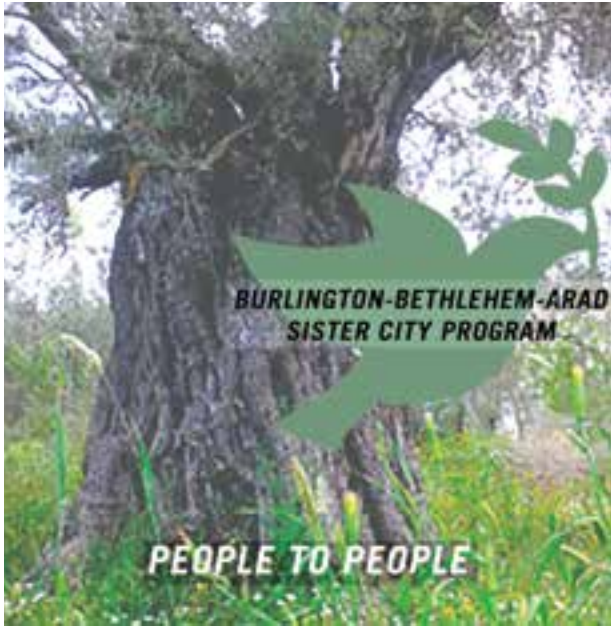
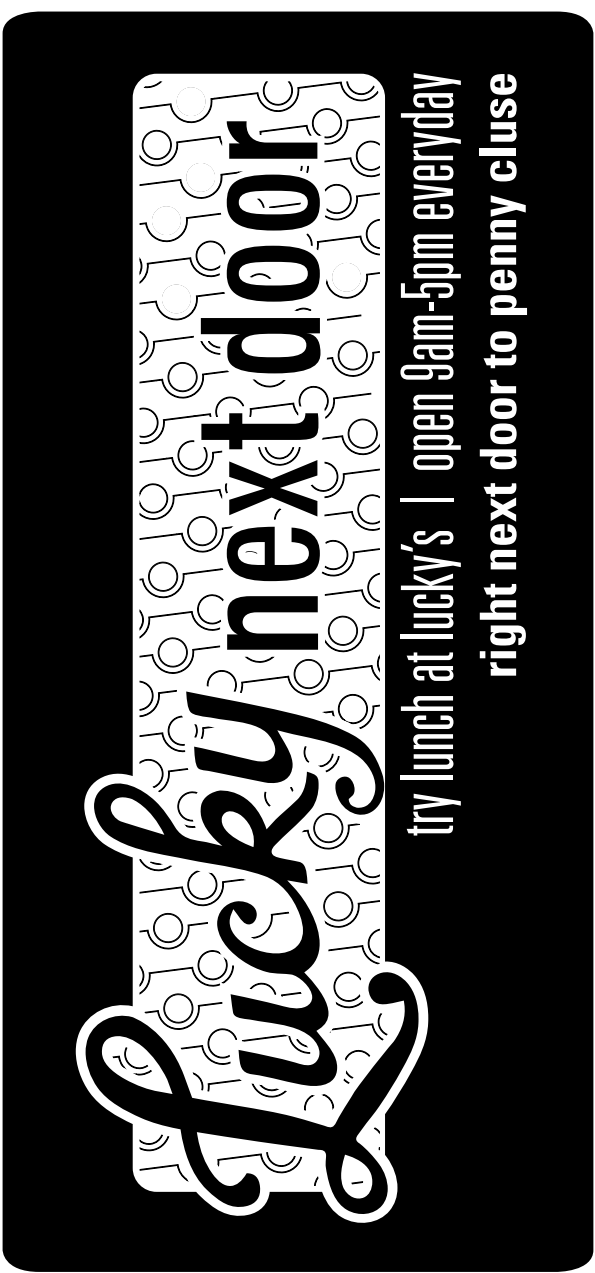
Precious Guru is my first film and a 7-year labor of love that came to fruition due to the support of many hands and talents.



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