



OCT 19-23, 2022

IN PERSON + ONLINE



THE RBC
MICHELLE JACKSON
 EMERGING FILMMAKER AWARD

ST. JOHN'S INTERNATIONAL
 WOMEN'S FILM FESTIVAL



**CONGRATULATIONS
 TO THIS YEAR'S
 WINNER,
 BRIANNA RUSSELL**

Brianna is a writer, director and producer based out of Newfoundland, Canada. Her work tends to focus on the inventive stories of LGBTQ+ women, and she hopes to reflect the vast diversity of her community in a refreshing and entertaining way. Most recently, **Brianna** associate produced Brad Gover's Picture Start *None To Fear*. Her latest short film, *Powdered Dandelions* has played at festivals across Canada and around the world. In addition, her feature film script *Poster Child* was a Quarter Finalist in the Outstanding Screenplays Feature Competition 2021. Currently, **Brianna** is studying film at Toronto Metropolitan University.

RBC Michelle Jackson Emerging Filmmaker Award was created and administered by the St. John's International Women's Film Festival in memory of St. John's filmmaker, student mentor and friend Michelle Jackson. The award is made possible with the support of the St. John's International Women's Film Festival, RBC Foundation, MO Entertainment, Panoramic Pictures, CBC Newfoundland and Labrador, Newfoundland and Labrador Film Development Corporation, Newfoundland Independent Filmmakers Co-Operative, Atlantic Studios Co-Operative, Page to Screen's Ruth Atkinson, Casting by Maggie, Women in the Director's Chair.

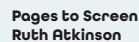










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Need assistance with this guide? Call 1-866-775-4933

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Land Acknowledgement

The St. John's International Women's Film Festival is based in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, and we respectfully acknowledge the land on which we gather as the ancestral homelands of the Beothuk, whose culture has been lost forever and can never be recovered.

We also acknowledge the island of Ktaqmkuk (Newfoundland) as the unceded, traditional territory of the Beothuk and the Mi'kmaq. And we acknowledge Labrador as the traditional and ancestral homelands of the Innu of Nitassinan, the Inuit of Nunatsiavut, and the Inuit of NunatuKavut. We recognize all First Peoples who were here before us, those who live with us now, and the seven generations to come.

As First Peoples have done since time immemorial, we strive to be responsible stewards of the land and to respect the cultures, ceremonies, and traditions of all who call it home. As we open our hearts and minds to the past, we commit ourselves to working in a spirit of truth and reconciliation to make a better future for all.

Welcome from SJIWFF



Meghan Hollett
Interim Executive Director, SJIWFF

Welcome to the 33rd annual Festival, we've missed you!

As a community and industry we have made it through some challenging times and we are ready to welcome you back, in person this year. Whether you are joining us in the theatre or for a Forum panel, we can't wait to share space with you again.

While we are excited to get together, we know that it doesn't work for everybody and thus we are committed to continuing our digital offerings. You can catch the majority of our film selections online via our streaming service, on demand, during the Festival. To complement these films we have a number of intimate Q&As, as well as masterclasses with some of the best in the industry and your new favorites!

This year our team is full of many new faces who are bringing new energy, talent and perspective to SJIWFF. All the while, we are fortunate to have the organizational wisdom from teammates who have worked for years to inform our decisions. Our Festival & Forum would not exist without our talented team of staff, who help build towards our celebration all year round.

It has been a great opportunity to experience this side of the Festival; to see all the magic at work, beyond my years as a volunteer and supporter. I have a newfound appreciation for the Festival and the Canadian screen industry. It's impossible to fill anybody's shoes, including those of Jenn Brown, but I have been greeted with unwavering support from the arts community, staff team, volunteer board members, and beyond in my short time with SJIWFF.



It takes dedication and commitment to build a festival to this level. Many women and community members have built SJIWFF to what it is right now. I hope people take pride in this strong standing organization that we have built together and see themselves reflected in our programming during our five-day celebration and all year long.

We exist because you exist & create generously! Short films on a shoestring budget, first time features, large scale productions from seasoned veterans - we are here to celebrate and lift up filmmakers of all levels.

Thank you for investing in us, for showcasing and sharing your talents with us - catering, photography, jurying, filmmaking, top notch spreadsheets, positive attitudes - trust me, we appreciate it all!

Get ready to be wowed. We've curated something great for you, so let's get this show started already.

Lights, Camera, Action!

Meghan Hollett
—Interim Executive Director, SJIWFF

Message from the Board



Vicki Murphy
Chair, SJIWFF

Back in 1989 when our film festival was born, virtually all the top-grossing movies were written and directed by white men, with men in the starring roles. One of the biggest films that year was *The Little Mermaid*, the story of a mermaid princess who falls in love with a human prince (at first sight, mind you) and gives up her voice to try and win his love. Sure, the protagonist was a woman – albeit another white princess – but not exactly the story I want for my kids. Newsflash: *The Little Mermaid* was written by a man, and directed by a man, and scored by a man (who won the Oscar), and made a whole lot of men very rich – though they had worried that a “girl’s film” would be a flop.

That’s why we are here – to get more women working in film, especially in roles where they have the power to tell the stories they want to tell, the way they want to tell them. It matters who’s behind the camera, and in front of it. Because it matters what our kids are seeing on the screen.

Our organization’s solid leadership since its inception, and the steadfast support of funders and audiences like you, have enabled us to keep working and shining a light on women’s stories – at a time when we need them most.

In the darkest times, movies are an escape. Our love of film unites us across backgrounds and languages. From a record 979 film submissions this year, we have built a lineup of 10 features and 33 shorts representing 11 countries and 7 languages. Over 60% of our films were made by BIPOC filmmakers. Our closing feature was made by a trans woman.

As always, we hold space for local films. 65% of this year’s content is Canadian, including 8 films made right here in Newfoundland and Labrador. Our film

and TV scene is booming here at home. Directors and crews are busy. Disney has been here! Our province is on the movie-making map and we’re thrilled to be a part of it.

We’re also happy to be back for some in-person events this year, but proud to continue virtual screenings too which gives everyone access from the comfort of home. Our ticket prices are also affordable, at a time when groceries are not. Our Virtual Accessibility Pass allows audiences to view any film with captioning or full subtitling. And our Film Industry Forum of panels, pitch sessions, and masterclasses – both in-person and virtual – will be completely free.

I am delighted to be a part of this revered organization that continues its long legacy with the vision of Executive Director Jenn Brown and interim ED Meghan Hollett, along with our staff and board. What a brilliant bunch. We continue to evolve to ensure we are always leading the way – not just as an arts organization but as a feminist one.

By the way, the live-action remake of *The Little Mermaid* is set to come out in 2023, re-written by a woman, with Ariel played by a black woman. We take faith in this little glimmer of hope. We need it, because we still have a whole lot of work to do.

Thank you for coming to the movies with us.

Vicki Murphy
—Chair, SJIWFF

Board of Directors



Chair
Vicki Murphy



Vice-Chair
Jennie Massey



Treasurer
Nancy Winsor



Secretary
Katie Jackson



Esraa AbouAmin



Mary Walsh

Staff



Executive Director
Jenn Brown



Interim Executive Director
Meghan Hollett



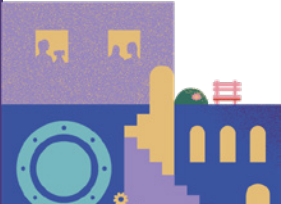
Office Manager
Chantal Lovell



Lead Programmer
Jenna Dufton



Technical Director
Victoria Wells





**Forum
Producer**

Jackie Hynes



**Interim Office
Manager**

Glen Paul



**Marketing &
Communications
Manager**

Natalie Dignam



**Social Media
& Web
Coordinator**

Alicia Hewitt



**Box Office
Coordinator**

Kai Bryan



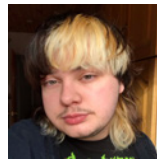
**Marketing &
Communications
Intern**

Liam Palavicini Jauregui



**Programming
Coordinator & Box
Office Assistant**

Erin Whitney



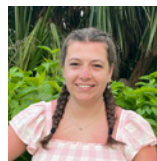
**Forum
Marketing
Assistant**

Tyler Putt



**Event & Guest
Services
Coordinator**

Carolyn Walsh



**Marketing
Assistant**

Laura Griffin



**Technical
Coordinator**

Alexa Jerrett



Projectionist

Phil Winters



Box Office Information



Content Advisory

Most films screened at SJIWFF are not yet rated and viewer discretion is strongly advised. All films are recommended for adult audiences, and may include triggering content.

We are thrilled to be sharing our exceptional lineup of films in St. John's and beyond! In-person film screenings and events will require registration or a ticket. Schedule subject to change, for more information visit WomensFilmFestival.com

The **health and safety** of SJIWFF audiences, staff, artists, and volunteers continues to be of the highest importance. We continue to work within COVID-19 safety measures and follow all provincial health guidelines. Staff and volunteers working the Festival and Forum will be required to wear a mask when socially distancing is not possible. We request that attendees wear masks in Festival and Forum spaces to keep themselves and community members safe.

The St. John's International Women's Film Festival and Industry Film Forum runs October 19-23, 2022. In-person and virtual events and film screenings will be held throughout the week. Go to page 24 or visit WomensFilmFestival.com the most up to date schedule.

Virtual films will be available throughout the festival. Once you click play, you have 48 hours to finish watching the film.

Box Office Locations

SJIWFF Box Office

Ticket sales open: September 20 at 11 am (NDT)
Ticket sales close: October 23 at 9 pm (NDT)
Regular Hours: Monday-Friday, 12 pm-6 pm (NDT)
Extended Hours: October 19-23, 12 pm-9 pm (NDT)

Website: WomensFilmFestival.com/BoxOffice2022

E-mail: boxoffice@womensfilmfestival.com

Phone: 1-866-775-4933 (1-866-7SJIWFF)

LSPU Hall Box Office

Regular Hours: Monday-Friday, 12 pm-5 pm (NDT)

Website: LSPUHall.ca

Phone: 709-753-4531



Screenings at the LSPU Hall: CBC Spotlight on Local

Tickets for films at the LSPU Hall must be purchased via the LSPU Hall Box Office. Please contact the LSPU Hall via phone to reserve accessible seating.

Pricing

You've checked out our list of films and shorts playlists and you're ready to watch! Here's how to buy and use tickets. There are Festival Passes and Bundles for film enthusiasts, too!

Ticket Prices	Regular	Student/Senior
In-Person tickets:	\$20	\$15
Virtual tickets:	\$10	\$8
Virtual Festival Pass:	\$99	
Virtual Pick 6:	\$50	\$40
Virtual Accessibility Pass:	\$70	

*Ticket and Pass prices do not include fees. There will be **no exchanges or refunds on ticket sales unless the screening is canceled.***

In-Person Tickets

Cineplex: Opening & Closing Night

Tickets for Cineplex events are \$20.00 regular and \$15.00 students/seniors (60+) plus fees. If you are unable to attend an in-person event at Cineplex due to illness (COVID-19 or otherwise), you may contact the Box Office up to 2 hours prior to the showtime and receive a full refund.

1. Individual tickets and ticket packages are available for purchase. Head to WomensFilmFestival.com to view the **Festival Lineup**. Click on Opening and/or Closing Night.
2. Once you purchase your ticket or bundle, an order confirmation email with a receipt and ticket will be sent to the email address provided. Your confirmation e-mail will also contain a discount code for our other in person Cineplex event! Be sure to check your spam folder!
3. Print your ticket or present it on your mobile device at the theatre.

Screenings at the LSPU Hall: CBC Spotlight on Local

Tickets: \$20.00 (regular) and \$15.00 (students/seniors), plus fees. Tickets for films at the LSPU Hall must be purchased via the LSPU Hall Box Office. Please contact the LSPU Hall via phone to reserve accessible seating.

Tickets can be purchased by phone, online, or in-person from the LSPU Hall

Regular Hours: Monday-Friday, 12 pm-5 pm (NDT)

Website: LSPUHall.ca

Phone: 709-753-4531



Bubble Seating

Auditorium 10 will have socially distanced seating.

Opening and Closing Night films will **not** be available for online viewing.



Opening/Closing Night Discounts

Buy a ticket to one, get 50% off the other!



Bubble Seating

The CBC Spotlight on Local screening at 2 pm on Saturday, October 22 will have reduced capacity seating.

Venues

Cineplex Avalon Mall

48 Kenmount Rd.
St. John's



Wheelchair accessible



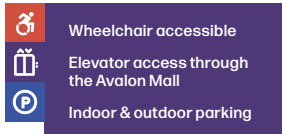
Elevator access through the Avalon Mall



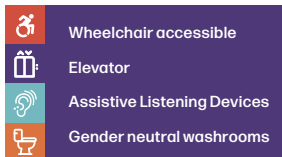
Indoor & outdoor parking

Venues cont'd

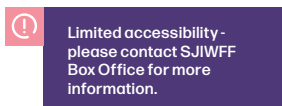
The Rec Room
48 Kenmount Rd.
St. John's



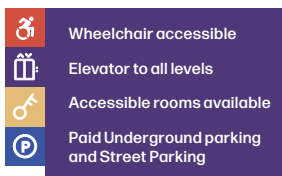
LSPU Hall
3 Victoria St.
St. John's



Christina Parker Gallery
50 Water Street
St. John's



Allt Hotel
125 Water Street
St. John's



Virtual Tickets

We are happy to be sharing our great lineup beyond St. John's. All online films are geoblocked (i.e available to watch) for audiences in Atlantic Canada, Quebec, and Ontario.



Accessibility software:

- Change text and subtitle fonts, sizes, spacing
- Change contrast and cursor
- Dyslexia-friendly mode

Screening Caps

Just like in-person, all of our virtual films have "seating" capacities. Make sure to get your tickets early to ensure you will have a virtual seat for our online screenings.

Tickets for virtual screenings are \$10 regular and \$8 students/seniors (60+). You can also purchase a Virtual Pick 6 Bundle, granting you access to 6 virtual films for the price of 5 (See **Passes** below).

1. Individual tickets are available for purchase. Head to WomensFilmFestival.com to view the **Festival Lineup**. Click on the feature film or shorts playlists you're interested in and click the "Buy Tickets" button.
2. Once you purchase your ticket, an order confirmation email with a receipt will be sent to the email address provided within an hour. Be sure to check your spam folder!
3. A separate email will then be sent with a link to watch on our streaming platform by October 19, or immediately if purchased during Festival week. You will be asked to create an account or log in.
4. Between October 19–23, you'll have 48 hours to watch from the time you hit play. Film access closes at 11:59 pm (NDT) on October 23.

Didn't receive your confirmation email?

Contact our Box Office at BoxOffice@WomensFilmFestival.com or 1-866-775-4933 (1-866-7SJWFF).

Virtual Passes & Bundles

We are offering three streaming passes to maximize your Festival experience and save you money. *Passes are non-transferable, and only apply to films screened online.*

Virtual Festival Pass

The best value for film lovers. With this pass, you will have access to one virtual viewing of all 43 films.

Virtual Festival Pass: \$99

Virtual Accessibility Pass

This pass allows audiences to watch every film that has captioning or full subtitles - 70% of our lineup! Visit our Accessibility Page for a frequently updated list of films.

Virtual Accessibility Pass: \$70

Virtual Pick 6 Bundle

Six films for the price of five - your choice! A great deal if you want to watch a few films or shorts playlists.

Virtual Pick 6 Bundle:

\$50 (regular) \$40 (student/senior)

How to use your Pass or Pick 6

1. Once you purchase your Pass or Bundle, an order confirmation email with a receipt will be sent to the email address provided. Be sure to check your spam folder!
2. This confirmation email outlines how to use your Pass. Please read carefully.
3. Once you've logged in, you will have access to one viewing of all films provided under your Pass.
4. Between October 19–23, you'll have 48 hours to watch once you hit play.



Share your festival experience
@sjwff
/WomensFilmFestival
#sjwff33
WomensFilmFestival.com



Thank You For Supporting Cultural Artists

The Cultural Artists Plan for Emergencies (CAPE) Fund is renowned in our community as a one-time means of support for artists and cultural workers in Newfoundland and Labrador when needed the most. 50¢ from every SJWFF33 ticket and pass sold will be donated to CAPE to help them fund as many emergency requests as possible. For more information visit: Facebook.com/CapeFund

I Like Movies

Director/Writer:

Chandler Levack

Lawrence Kweller is a highly ambitious teenage cinephile living in the suburbs of Toronto in the year 2003. Wracked with anxiety about his future Lawrence gets a job at the corporate video store Sequels in his last year of high school to save money for his dream of attending film school at NYU. As his dream begins to feel further and further out of reach Lawrence takes out his frustrations on his best friend Matt Macarchuck, his single mother Terri, and his store manager Alana. As all of his relationships become increasingly strained he begins to come to a painful realization: that he might just be a pretentious asshole.

Producers:

Lindsay Blair Goeldner

Evan Dubinsky

Chandler Levack

1 hour 33 minutes

Canada

English

Chandler Levack's delightful feature debut is smart, funny, full of heart, and puts Levack on the map as a Canadian filmmaker to watch.

Content Warning: **Themes of suicide, sexual abuse, and mental distress.**



Bubble Seating

Auditorium 10 will have socially distanced seating.



Cineplex, St. John's

Oct. 19 • 7 pm – 9 pm (NDT)

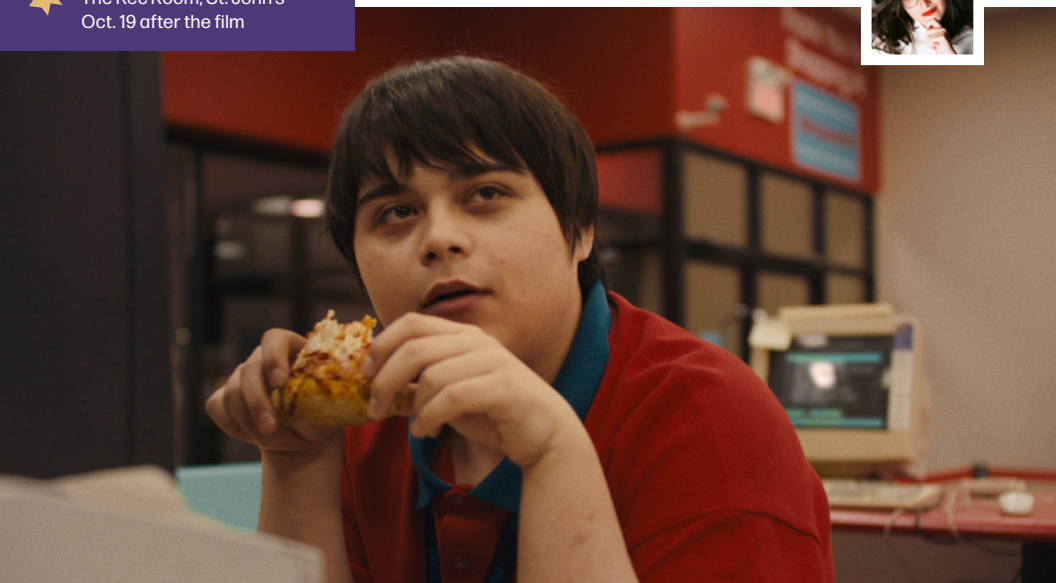
SJIWFF Box Office

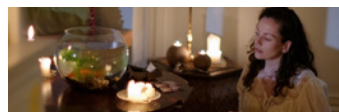
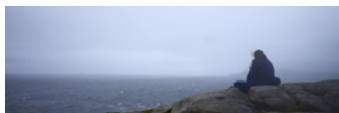
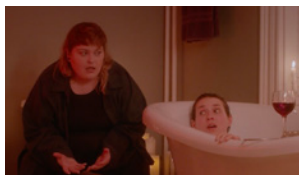
WomensFilmFestival.com



Opening Night Reception

The Rec Room, St. John's
Oct. 19 after the film





Q&As with Filmmakers after each screening!



LSPU Hall, St. John's
 Oct. 22 • 2 pm & 7:30 pm (NDT)
 Two separate screenings
 to enjoy!

LSPU Hall Box Office:
 LSPUHall.ca
 709-753-4531

! **Bubble Seating**
 The CBC Spotlight on Local screening at 2 pm on Saturday, October 22 will have reduced capacity seating.

Also online!
 See page 35

Memento Mori

Director/Writer/Producer:
 Shan Leigh Pomeroy

Dead Wife Club

Director:
 Shara Desiree King
Writer:
 Amanda (Andie) Bulman
Producer:
 Ashley Knight

FRAMED: Spirit Song Festival

Director:
 Framed Documentary Crew
Writers:
 Natalia Bradley, Jessica Brown, Zach Bonnell, Allie Duff, Amanda Gear
Producers:
 St. John's International Women's Film Festival, First Light, Latonia Hartery

Secret Santa

Director/Writer:
 Lynn Kristmanson
Producers:
 Lynn Kristmanson
Associate Producers:
 Andrew Loman

love, amma

Director/Writer:
 Prajwala Dixit
Producer:
 Annette Clarke

Fishbowl

Director:
 Vaida Nairn
Writers:
 Vaida Nairn, Daniel Griffin
Producer:
 Ashley Knight

BOUNCE

Director/Writer:
 Elizabeth Hicks
Producer:
 Kyla Smith

**Bubble Seating**

Auditorium 10 will have socially distanced seating.

Cineplex, St. John's
Oct. 23 • 7 pm – 9 pm (NDT)
SJIWFF Box Office
WomensFilmFestival.com

Something You Said Last Night

Director/Writer:**Luis De Filippis****Producers:****Jessica Adams****Michael Graf****Harry Cherniak****Rhea Plangg****Michela Pini****Luis De Filippis****1 hour 36 minutes****Canada/Switzerland****English**

Ren, a trans woman in her mid-twenties, reluctantly accompanies her very Italian family on a beach resort holiday. As her younger sister makes friends and parties, Ren navigates a resort that does not cater to her and struggles to cope with her parents' loving yet overbearing nature, trying to balance the yearning for independence with the comfort of being taken care of. Looming in the back of Ren's mind is the secret of her recent dismissal from work, and that once the holiday is over, she will need to rely even more on her family's support.

Luis De Filippis' debut feature lovingly explores the realities of being a trans woman and a stunted millennial still learning that it's okay to ask for help.

Content Warning: **Alcohol abuse.**





Featuring RBC MJ Award short

Vegas

Director/Writer: Anna Wheeler
Vegas is a coming of age dramedy, wrapped inside a neon-noir urban mystery.

11 minutes When Vegas, a disillusioned artist- turned taxi driver, picks up an unassuming stranger, things take a dramatic turn when it is revealed not everything is as it appears. Bold and electric, Vegas is a film about the beauty of living ones most expansive and authentic self.

Canada

English



Closing Night Reception

The Rec Room, St. John's
Oct. 23 after the film





And Still I Sing

Director/Writer:

Fazila Amiri

Producers:

Fazila Amiri

Lesley Johnson

1 hour 30 minutes

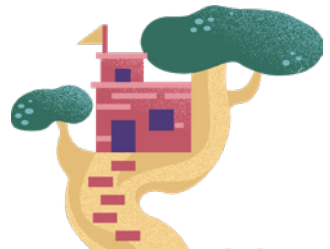
Canada

Dari, Pashto, English

Closed Captions

Controversial Afghan pop star and activist Aryana Sayeed mentors young hopefuls as they prepare to appear on a hit TV singing competition show. As the show's female contestants Zahra Elham and Sadiqa Madadgar are on the verge of their dreams becoming reality, the Taliban returns to power.

SJIWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com





Compulsus

Director/Writer: Tara Thorne
Producer: Nicole Steeves

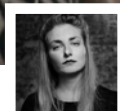
Driven by rage, empathy, and something she can't yet name, Wally secretly patrols the streets at night, taking physical revenge on abusive hipster men on behalf of the survivors who can't. When law-abiding Lou enters her world, love and revenge clash threatening to infiltrate their relationship.

1 hour 20 minutes SJIWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com

Canada

English Content Warning: **Discussions around sexual assault, scenes depicting violence.**

Closed Captions



Jeannette

Director/Writer: Jeannette is a competitive bodybuilder and queer single mother who is learning to cope with trauma after surviving a mass shooting. A powerful film about resilience, Jeannette, gives us the opportunity to move past the headlines and ask: in the wake of tragedy, how do we

Maris Curran

Producers:

Maris Curran

Jon Coplon

move toward wholeness?

SJIWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com

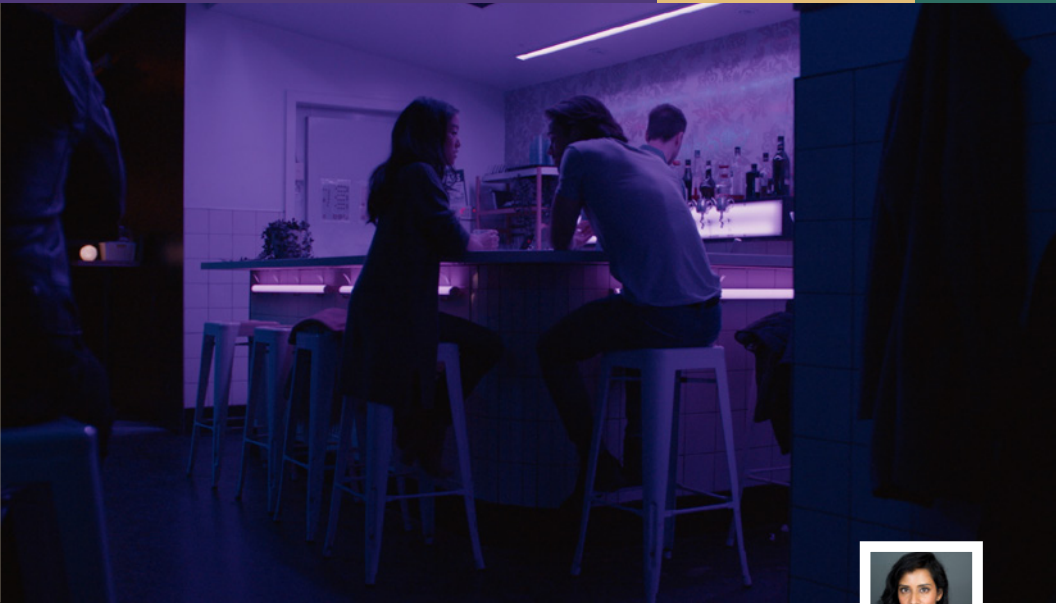
1 hour 18 minutes

USA

English

Closed Captions

Content Warning: **Discussions around gun violence and trauma.**



Stay the Night

Director/Writer:
Renuka Jeyapalan

At a time when dating apps and casual hook-ups are the new romance standard, inexperienced Grace feels like an outcast. When she meets Carter, a professional athlete at a crossroads, she wonders if he might be the perfect solution to her problem.

Producers:
Brian Robertson
Glenn Cockburn

SJIWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com

1 hour 34 minutes

Canada

English





Slash/Back

Director: When Maika and her ragtag friends discover an alien invasion in their tiny arctic hamlet, it's up to them to save the day. Utilizing their makeshift weapons and horror movie knowledge, the aliens realize you don't mess with girls from Pang.

Writers:
Nyla Innuksuk
Ryan Cavan

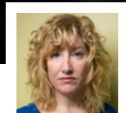
SJIWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com

Producers: Daniel Bekerman, Christopher Yurkovich, Alex Ordanis, Nyla Innuksuk, Stacey Aglok McDonald, Alethea Arnaquq-Baril, Ethan Lazar

Content Warning: **Depictions of violence and some frightening scenes.**

1 hour 26 minutes
 Canada
 English
 Closed Captions





Bernie Langille Wants to Know What Happened to Bernie Langille

Director/Writer:

Jackie Torrens

Bernie Langille Wants to Know What Happened To Bernie Langille is a story about a grandson trying to find out what happened to his grandfather & namesake, a military corporal who died in 1968 under mysterious circumstances.

Producer:

Jessica Brown

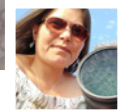
[SJWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com](http://SJWFF.BoxOffice.WomensFilmFestival.com)

1 hour 18 minutes

Canada

English

Closed Captions



The Ice Walk

Director/Writer:
Eliza Knockwood

Producer:
Renee Laprise

1 hour 16 minutes
Canada
English

Closed Captions

The Ice Walk exposes the little told story of the journey across the ice from mainland Prince Edward Island to Lennox Island reserve. As the Lennox Island first nation and ally settlers host a reconciliation event, community Elders share their stories and question whether The Ice Walk is just another performative reconciliation event or is the settler community really ready to commit to change.

SJIWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com

Content Warning: **Discussions around anti-Indigenous racism, Residential Schools, and trauma.**





Black Mothers Love & Resist

Director: Wanda Johnson and Angela Williams, mothers of young Black men victimized by police brutality, come together and build a network of community-led support, mutual aid, and healing.

Producers: David Felix Sutcliffe
SJIWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com

Adina Luo
Débora Souza Silva Content Warning: **Discussions around racism, police brutality, gun violence, and trauma.**

1 hour 42 minutes
USA
English
Closed Captions

Festival at a glance

in-person

Opening Night *I Like Movies*

Cineplex, St. John's
Wednesday, Oct. 19
7 - 9 pm (NDT)

CBC Spotlight On Local

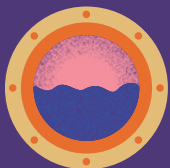
LSPU Hall
Saturday, Oct. 22,
2 - 4 pm & 7:30 - 9:30 pm
(NDT)

Two separate screenings that include a Q&A with local filmmakers following the films!

RBC Closing Night *Something You Said Last Night*

RBC MJ Award short
Vegas

Cineplex, St. John's
Sunday, Oct. 23
7 - 9 pm (NDT)



Film industry forum

In-person Forum Events

Opening Night Reception: *I Like Movies*

WHERE: The Rec Room
WHEN: Wednesday, Oct. 19
after the film

Coffee with Chandler Leveck of *I Like Movies*

WHERE: Christina Parker Gallery
WHEN: Thursday, Oct. 20,
11 am - 12 pm (NDT)

CBC Spotlight on Local Q&A

presented by CBC
WHERE: LSPU Hall
WHEN: Saturday, October 22
following the 2 pm & 7:30 pm (NDT)
screenings

Eat, Drink & Be Scene

WHERE: Alt Hotel
WHEN: Saturday, Oct. 22,
5 pm - 7 pm (NDT)

Brunch with Luis & Carmen of *Something You Said Last Night*

WHERE: Alt Hotel
WHEN: Oct. 23, 11 am - 12 pm (NDT)

Closing Night Reception: *Something You Said Last Night*

WHERE: The Rec Room
WHEN: Sunday, Oct. 23
after the film

on-demand

Features

And Still I Sing
Compulsus
Jeannette
Stay the Night

Slash/Back
The Ice Walk
Black Mothers
Love & Resist

Bernie Langille Wants to Know What Happened to Bernie Langille

shorts playlists

CBC Spotlight on Local

Memento Mori
Dead Wife Club
FRAMED: Spirit Song
Festival
Secret Santa
love, amma
Fishbowl
BOUNCE

comedy hour

The Syed Family Xmas
Eve Game Night
On Your Behalf
Demonstration Sport
Tula
How Not to Date
While Trans
Close Ties to
Home Country

documentary

Long Line of Ladies
GRANDMOTHERS
An Evening with Laila
(ليليل عم فرانس)
Dear Haiti
(Ayiti Cherie)
WhaleFall
REEL Black:
Our Film Stories

canadian shorts

Meg Writes a Reference Letter
Me, Mahmoud and the Mint Plant
Music Resistance
Scaring Women at Night
Rose
Esther & Sai
FuFu

going global

Warsha
Masquerade (Egúngún)
A Small Dream
(ريغص ملح)
Beauty Queen
You Go Girl!
Toolly

Virtual Forum Events

Face 2 Face Pitch Session
**held on Zoom*

On Deck: Pitching With Samantha MacAdam

Editing For Storytellers

Q&A with Director of *The Ice Walk*

Premiering All Week Long at WomensFilmFestival.com

First Features: The Scripted Edition

First Feature to Netflix: Checking in with Alumni Jasmin Mozaffari

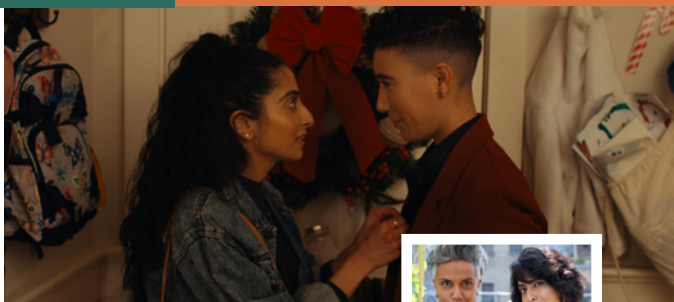
Q&A with the makers of *Jeannette*

Directing: A Conversation with Jordan Canning (Regional Spotlight)

Regional Storytelling For Global Audiences: A Conversation with Ashley McKenzie (Regional Spotlight)

Jean-Marc Vallée Discovery Award presented by DGC





Director: **The Syed Family**
Fawzia Mirza
Xmas Eve Game Night

Writer:
Kausar Mohammed

Producer:
Amalia Mesa-Gustin

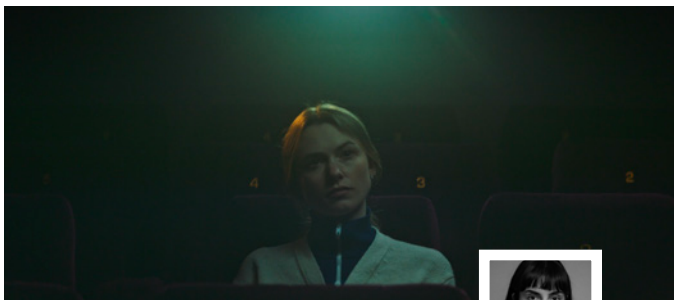
11 minutes

USA

English

All cards are on the table when a queer Pakistani Muslim woman brings her Puerto Rican partner home for the first time on the family's annual game night.

SJIWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com



Director/Writer: **On Your Behalf**
Ana Garcia Rico

Producer:
Maya Wills

16 minutes

United Kingdom

English

In the small police station of White Heights, Detective McHenry can't catch a break with an endless collection of unsolved homicides.

SJIWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com



Director: **Demonstration Sport**

Monica Mustelier

Writer/Producer:

Carli Haim

19 minutes

Canada

English

When Competitive Napping becomes an official Olympic sport, middle-aged athlete Amy finds herself training harder than ever, but will the sport's checkered past keep her from reaching the top of the podium?

SJIWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com



Director/Writer/Producer: **Tula**

Bea de Silva

Producers:

Katixa De Silva

Iñigo De Silva

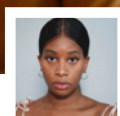
12 minutes

Spain

Spanish with English subtitles

Tula is the cleaning lady at a private school for girls. During her workday, she meets the headteacher's fourteen-year-old daughter in the toilet. The girl is going to tell Tula her secret. Tula will have to decide whether to help her or not.

SJIWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com



Director/Writer: **How Not to Date While Trans**

Nyala Moon

Producers:

ChienYu Wang

Eileen Makak

13 minutes

USA

English

"How Not To Date While Trans" is a break-the-fourth-wall, dark comedy that follows the dating life of a black trans woman and the problematic men she meets along the way.

SJIWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com



Director/Writer: **Close Ties to Home Country**

Akanksha Cruczynski

Producer:

Felicia Ferrara

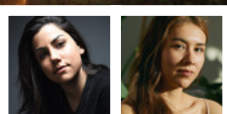
15 minutes

USA

English

Millennial immigrant Akanksha waits for her sister's visit from India (they haven't seen each other in nine years!) Meanwhile, she's dogsitting the fancy Frenchie of Instagram influencers India and Harry, who themselves are on a trip to India's namesake.

SJIWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com



Long Line of Ladies

Directors:

Rayka Zehtabchi

Shaandiin Tome

Producers:

Garrett Schiff, Rayka Zehtabchi,

Sam Davis, Pimm Tripp-Allen

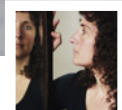
22 minutes

USA

English

A girl and her community prepare for her lhuk, the once-dormant coming of age ceremony of the Karuk tribes of Northern California.

SJIWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com



GRANDMOTHERS

Director/Writer/Producer:

Millefiore Clarkes

13 minutes

Canada

English

GRANDMOTHERS is a lyrical, art-based, short documentary that lends deep listening to, and seeks universal wisdom from, three formidable older women.

SJIWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com



Director/Producer:

Haya Alghanim

10 minutes

Kuwait

Arabic

An Evening with Laila (إيليل عم قرهس)

A short documentary about the life and true story of Laila Abdulaziz, a pioneer of music in the Arabian Gulf and staple of Kuwaiti history who had a vision for the future that no one was ready for, not even herself.

SJWWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com



Director/Writer/Producer:

Nélie Diverlus

7 minutes

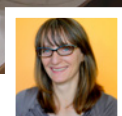
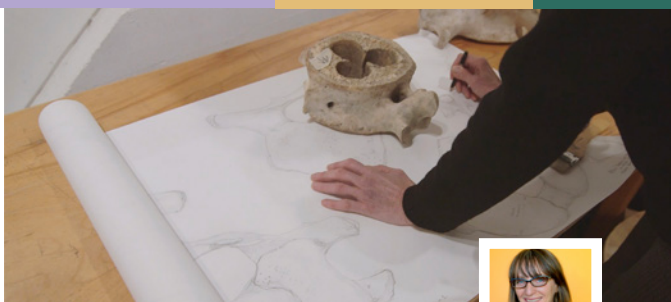
Canada

English and Haitian Creole

Dear Haiti (Ayiti Cherie)

Through navigating the intricacies of immigration, guilt and survival, a Haitian family shows us the constant grief that accompanies being so far from home.

SJWWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com



Director/Writer: **Whalefall**

Lily Gontard

Producers:

Lily Gontard

K.G. Green

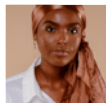
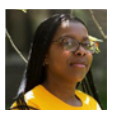
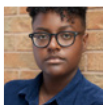
9 minutes

Canada

English

"Whalefall" is when a whale dies of natural causes and their body decomposes in the ocean, nourishing the environment. The film "Whalefall" follows Yukon artist Joyce Majiski as she carves out of sea garbage an exact replica of the skeleton of a humpback drowned by fishing gear.

SJIWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com



Directors/Writers:

Tristen Sutherland

Émeraude Domingos-Mbuku

Ayan Tani

Producers:

Alexx Bryant, Tristen

Sutherland, Enni Balo, Alison

Duke, Ngardy Conteh George

21 minutes

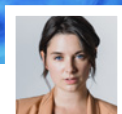
Canada

English

REEL Black: Our Film Stories

In an exploration of Black Canadian filmmaking, emerging filmmakers Christian Anderson and Ajahnis Charley quickly discover the realities of the industry. Through insights from veteran filmmakers such as Claire Prieto-Fuller, the young filmmakers learn that sometimes if you aren't given a seat at the table, you have to make your own.

SJIWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com



Director/Writer/Producer:

Katelyn McCulloch

Writers:

Maddy Foley

Becky Swannick

10 minutes

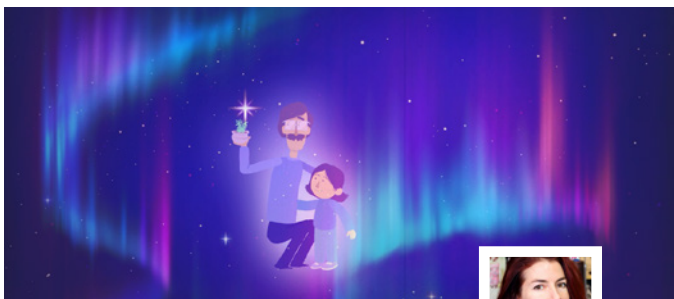
Canada

English

Meg Writes a Reference Letter

Meg is tasked with writing her own reference letter and naming all of her best qualities which ultimately brings out the worst in her.

SJIWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com



Director/Writer:

Cat Mills

Producers:

Felicity Justrabo

Isabella Carrera Alves

6 minutes

Canada

English

Me, Mahmoud and the Mint Plant

While working in war-torn Mosul, Iraq, in 2017, Canadian nurse Trish Newport developed an unlikely friendship with Mahmoud – a local man who carried a mint plant with him wherever he went. As Trish uncovered the mystery behind Mahmoud's precious plant, she discovered the power of keeping promises to the people you love...no matter how small.

SJIWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com

Content Warning: **Depictions of war.**



Director/Producer:
Erica Meus-Saunders

Writers:
Kirsten Taylor
Erica Meus-Saunders

13 minutes
Canada
English

Music Resistance

Four the Moment, an a cappella quartet, made their debut in 1981 at an anti-Ku Klux Klan rally in Halifax. This doc takes an intimate look at that history, the intermingling of the past and present through music, from mothers to daughters to a community, and demonstrates how Four the Moment's music continues to influence today's generation of African Nova Scotian musicians, who are continuing the cause with their unique approaches to performance and music.

SJWFFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com



Director:
Karimah Zakia Issa
Writer:
Ace Clamber
Producer:
Lindsay Blair Goeldner

11 minutes
Canada
English

Scaring Women at Night

Two strangers are scared on a late walk home. As they try to escape one another, their worlds collide at an intersection forcing them to question who they're afraid of and why.

SJWFFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com



Director/Writer: **Rose**

Roxann Whitebean

Producer:

Jason Brennan

25 minutes

Canada

English

Rose, a short film, explores a compelling story about a Mohawk family who fought against racist policies during the infamous 60s scoop and their plight to save Rose's child from being stolen.

SJIWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com



Directors/Writers: **Esther & Sai**

Rosie Choo Pidcock

Anaïsa Visser

Producers:

Jesse Copeland

Jon Warne

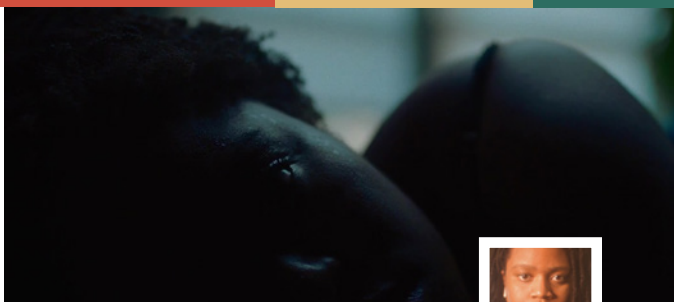
13 minutes

Canada

English

Esther and Sai are strangers with a few things in common: they are new immigrant students, they are homesick and they are hungry. When a racially charged interaction with a grocer goes awry, each finds themselves back in their dorm room with the only meal they could find: a box of macaroni and cheese. A night of loneliness and self doubt threatens to unravel each of them, but ultimately meeting a kindred spirit sparks the possibility of belonging. Based on a true story, Esther & Sai captures the struggle of immigrating to a new country through the beginning of a lifelong friendship.

SJIWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com



Director/Writer: **FUFU**

Omolola Ajao

Producer:

Peter Widdrington

15 minutes

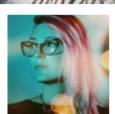
Canada

English

A told, subjective portrait of a first-generation immigrant daughter's recollection of her mother's life. Through what is intended to be the perfect creation of a childhood meal of fufu and egusi, the daughter immerses herself into the labour of tradition and remembrance.

SJIWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com





Director/Writer/Producer: **Memento Mori**

Shan Leigh Pomeroy

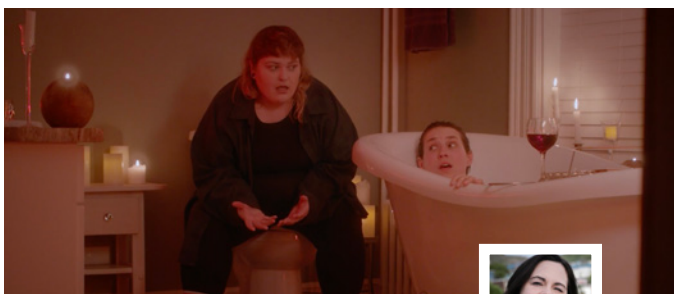
4 minutes

Canada

English

A short stop motion animation about death and time, dedicated to a favourite feline companion, Gravy, who was tragically lost to heart failure last year.

SJIWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com



Director: **Dead Wife Club**

Shara Desiree King

Writer:

Amanda (Andie) Bulman

Producer:

Ashley Knight

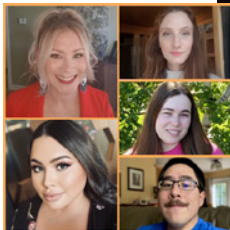
14 minutes

Canada

English

Luke Laghari has been veering between panic and numbness ever since losing his wife to thyroid cancer. In a last-ditch effort to feel something, anything, he attends a bereavement counseling meeting at a nearby outreach center. When it's time for Luke to talk, he admits that he's angry with his dead wife, sparking a debate and a series of flashbacks that examine relationships, love, and anger.

SJIWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com



Director: **FRAMED: Spirit Song Festival**

Framed Documentary Crew

Writers:

Natalia Bradley, Jessica Brown, Zach Bonnell, Allie Duff, Amanda Gear

Producers:

St. John's International Women's Film Festival, First Light, Latonia Hartery

15 minutes

Canada • English

This documentary explores the beginnings, trailblazing goals, and story of the beloved Spirit Song Festival, an annual event which fosters the celebration of Indigenous arts and culture.

SJIWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com



Director/Writer: **Secret Santa**

Lynn Kristmanson

Producer:

Lynn Kristmanson

Associate Producer:

Andrew Loman

10 minutes

Canada

English

Robin is Santa's biggest fan. It's Christmas Eve and Robin has hatched a plan to stow away in Santa's sleigh and hitch a ride to the North Pole. Won't Santa be surprised! But it's Robin who'll be getting the surprise. Robin is about to find out that you should never meet your heroes. Warning - this adventure is too unsettling for small children or sentimental adults.

SJIWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com



Director/Writer: **love, amma**

Prajwala Dixit

Producer:

Annette Clarke

15 minutes

Canada

**English and Kannada
with English subtitles**

love, amma is an intimate, intergenerational conversation about the diagnosis and acceptance of borderline personality disorder in a South Asian Canadian family.

SJIWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com





Director: **Fishbowl**

Vaida Nairn

Writers:

Vaida Nairn

Daniel Griffin

Producer:

Mike Hickey

18 minutes

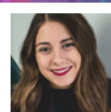
Canada

English

When Newfoundland locks down during the COVID-19 pandemic, a former dancer becomes further trapped in a toxic relationship with her emotionally abusive husband. Increasingly isolated and with only a goldfish as a friend, she is forced to choose between placating her husband and freeing herself.

SJIWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com

Content Warning: **Depictions of emotional abuse.**



Director/Writer: **BOUNCE**

Elizabeth Hicks

Producer:

Kyla Smith

11 minutes

Canada

English

Darcy is a fifteen-year-old mix of energy, perfectionism, and insecurity. When an ultra-cute boy from her cadet corps insists that she attend that night's Trampoline Social, Darcy raids her sister's drawers and sets off for a dramatic evening of self-acceptance and sweet backflips.

SJIWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com



Director/Writer:

Dania Bdeir

Producer:

Coralie Dias

16 minutes

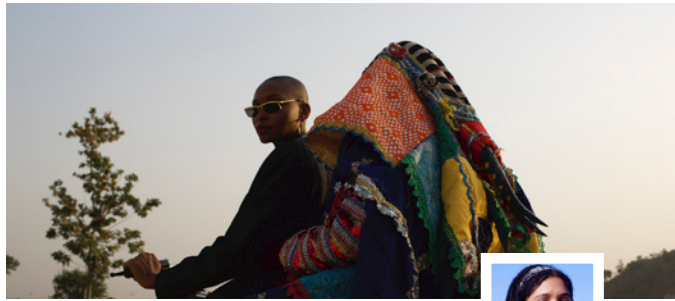
France, Lebanon

Arabic

Warsha

Mohammad is a crane operator working in Beirut. One morning he volunteers to take on one of the tallest and notoriously most dangerous cranes in Lebanon. Away from everyone's eyes, he is able to live out his secret passion and find freedom.

SJIWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com



Director/Writer:

Olive Nwosu

Producer:

Alex Polunin

15 minutes

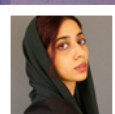
Nigeria

English; Yoruba

Masquerade (Egúngún)

In search of healing, a young woman returns home to Nigeria, the country of her birth.

SJIWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com



Director/Writer: **A Small Dream (ري غص ملح)**

Sarra'a Alshehhi

Producer:

Eman Alsabah

15 minutes

UAE

Arabic

Living in Ras Al Khaimah, UAE, a conservative society, Maitha has a small and seemingly simple dream of swimming in the sea that she frequents. Maitha, economically challenged and a veiled Muslim woman, encounters various obstacles. She struggles to find balance between fulfilling her dream of swimming in the sea and avoiding agonizing encounters in public due to her veil and society's awareness of her gender. But, her fear of judgement is her biggest obstacle.

SJWWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com



Director/Writer: **Beauty Queen**

Myra Aquino

Producers:

Tita Pambid

Reuben Domingo

Myra Aquino

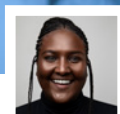
18 minutes

Philippines

Kapampangan, Tagalog

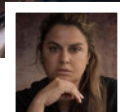
1942, Pampanga, Philippines. When the Empire of Japan invades the Philippines during WWII, Remedios, a beauty queen, runs to the mountains with her brother to join the Hukbalahap resistance. From there, she struggles to find the strength to be who she needs to be for her country-while still unapologetically being herself.

SJWWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com

**Director/Writer:** **You Go Girl!****Shariffa Ali****Producers:****Adrian Alea****Kamilah Long****Courtney Williams****13 minutes****USA****English**

Audrey Jenkins is a New York City comedian eager to get her big break. Impressing club managers is no joke, but comedy helps Audrey navigate a difficult relationship with her distant, disapproving "outdoor enthusiast" of a mother. That all changes when Audrey receives devastating news and travels to an isolated mountain range in Oregon. There she must rise above her fears and make peace with the world her mother has come to love. And in the process, embrace her whole self.

SJIWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com

**Director/Writer:** **Tooly****Karla Hart****Producer:****Cody Greenwood****11 minutes****Australia****English & Noongar**

A young Indigenous girl who is absorbed in the modern world learns of a soft spiritual rain called Tooly, the sign of an impending death in the family. She quickly realizes there are some things she can't ignore.

SJIWFF Box Office, WomensFilmFestival.com

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Film Industry Forum

In-person Forum Events



Bubble Seating

The CBC Spotlight on Local screening at 2 pm on Saturday, October 22 will have reduced capacity seating.

Opening Night Reception: *I Like Movies*

In-person celebration, open to everyone.



The Rec Room

Wednesday, Oct. 19 after the film

Coffee with Chandler Levack

In-person Q&A with the director of *I Like Movies*.

Moderated by Noreen Golfman

Reserve your spot online with SJWFF's Box Office

Christina Parker Gallery

Thursday, Oct. 20, 11 am – 12 pm (NDT)

CBC Spotlight on Local Q&A

presented by CBC

Two in-person Q&A sessions with featured local short film filmmakers.

Included with purchase of ticket to either screening.



LSPU Hall Theatre

Saturday, October 22 following

the 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. (NDT) screenings

Eat, Drink & Be Scene

In-person networking event. Guest list.



Alt Hotel

Saturday, Oct. 22, 5 – 7 pm (NDT)

Brunch with Luis & Carmen

In-person Q&A with the director and lead actor of *Something You Said Last Night*.

Moderated by Rheda Rollman

Reserve your spot online with SJWFF's Box Office.



Alt Hotel

Oct. 23, 11 am – 12 pm (NDT)

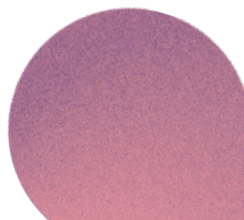
Closing Night Reception: *Something You Said Last Night*

In-person celebration, open to everyone.



The Rec Room

Sunday, Oct. 23 after the film





Virtual Forum Events

Premiering all week long on WomensFilmFestival.com

*Exception: Face 2 Face Pitch Session
will be held on Zoom*

Face 2 Face Pitch Session

Virtual one on one pitch sessions/networking.
Industry event connecting creators and
industry leaders.

By application only. Deadline to apply: Oct. 14.
Please visit WomensFilmFestival.com/
FilmIndustryForum

On Deck: Pitching With Samantha MacAdam

Virtual workshop with Playback's 10 to Watch
Samantha MacAdam.
Moderated by Kerry Gamberg

Editing for Storytellers

Virtual Panel with Michelle Szemberg
& Orlee Buium. Recent work includes *All My
Puny Sorrows*, *Queen of the Morning Calm*,
and *Kick Ass 2*.
Moderated by Gloria Kim

Q&A with Director of The Ice Walk

Filmmaker Q&A with Eliza Knockwood.
Moderated by Leena Minifie of Stories First

First Features: The Scripted Edition

Virtual Panel with *Stay the Night* Writer/Director Renuka
Jeyapalan, and *Compulus* Writer/Director Tara Thorne,
exploring the process of making their first feature films.
Moderated by Melanie Oates

First Feature to Netflix: Checking in with Alumni Jasmin Mozaffari

Jasmin's feature debut *Firecrackers* named "One of the
best Canadian films in years" by Toronto Star. She has now
directed shows for Netflix, Hulu, CBC, Global, and PBS.
Moderated by Latonia Hartery

Q&A with the makers of Jeannette

Filmmaker Q&A with director Maris Curran and
Jeannette Feliciano.
Moderated by Renee Sharpe

Directing: A Conversation with Director Jordan Canning (Regional Spotlight)

Known for her directorial work on *Schitts Creek*, *Fraggle
Rock: Back to the Rock* and *Star Trek: Strange New Worlds*.
This virtual conversation explores the director's craft.
Moderated by Eva Crocker

Regional Storytelling for Global Audiences: A Conversation with Ashley McKenzie (Regional Spotlight)

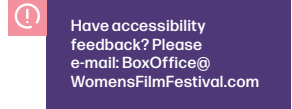
Director of *Queens of the Qing Dynasty*. This virtual
conversation explores the intersection of story and place
and the storyteller's journey.
Moderated by Tamara Segura

Jean-Marc Vallée Discovery Award presented by DGC

Virtual Conversation with Kari Skogland. Work includes
The Handmaid's Tale, *The Walking Dead* and *The Falcon
and the Winter Soldier*.
Moderated by Johanna Schneller

Accessibility

All of our in-person screenings are wheelchair accessible. See the Accessibility Key on page 3. We are pleased to continue working towards making our annual event more inclusive and accessible to all patrons.



Support Services

Content Advisory: Most films screened at SJWFF are not yet rated and viewer discretion is strongly advised. All films are recommended for adult audiences, and may include triggering content. We want our audiences to be supported in their viewing experience. Content warnings are provided throughout this program and we encourage viewers to utilize the following resources:

Newfoundland & Labrador:

- Call 811 to be connected to Mental Health services, including crisis services.
- Lifewise warm line (formerly CHANNAL)
- English: 1-855-753-2560 French: 1-833-753-5460
- <https://lifewisenl.ca/>
- Sexual Assault Crisis Line
- 1-800-726-2743 or (709) 747-7757 or (709) 726-1411 (available 24/7)
- Domestic Violence Help Line
- 1-888-709-7090 (call or text) (available 24/7)
- 2SLGBTQ Warm Line:
- 1-866-230-8041 (call or text)
- <https://www.plannedparenthoodnlshc.com/warmline.html>
- Safe Harbour Outreach Project (SHOP):
- Call or text (709) 771-7171 anytime.
- <http://sjwomenscentre.ca/programs/SHOP>
- Trans Support NL Inc.
- <https://www.facebook.com/tsnl.umbrella>

- Wabanaki Two-Spirit Alliance
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/wabanaki2spirits/>
- For a complete list, please visit 811 Healthline
- <https://www.811healthline.ca/mental-health/>
 - or <https://nl.bridgethegapp.ca/adult/service-directory/>

Available in Ontario:

- Talk4Healing - Indigenous women's resource line:
- 1-855-554-HEAL (available 24/7)
 - <http://www.talk4healing.com/>
- The 519 Community Centre (Toronto):
- <http://www.talk4healing.com/>

Available across Canada:

- National Indian Residential Schools Crisis Line
- 1-800-721-0066 (available 24/7)
- <https://www.irsss.ca/>
- First Nations and Inuit Hope for Wellness Help Line
- 1-855-242-3310 (available 24/7)
- <https://hopeforwellness.ca/home.html>

- Kids Help Phone
- 1-800-668-6868 or text "TALK" to 686868 (available 24/7)
 - <https://kidshelpphone.ca/>
- Black Youth Helpline:
- 1-833-294-8650
 - <https://blackyouth.ca/>
- Talk Suicide
- 1-833-456-4566 (available 24/7)
 - <https://talksuicide.ca/>
- Warm Line
- 1-888-768-2488
 - <https://www.warmline.ca/>
- Assaulted Women's Health Line:
- 1-866-863-0511 (available 24/7)
 - <https://www.awhl.org/>
- The Lifeline App
- <https://thelifelinecanada.ca/lifeline-canada-foundation/lifeline-app/>
- Trans Lifeline
- 1-877-330-6366 (available 24/7)
 - <https://translifeline.org/>
- 2SLGBTQ+ Youth Line
- 1-800-268-9688 or text (647) 694-4275
 - <https://www.youthline.ca/>

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