

# tiff

## Film Circuit Release Schedule Fall 2016

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## THE HOT LIST

## CURRENT

## COMING SOON

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## EXPLANATION OF TERMS FOUND IN THIS SCHEDULE

### Distributor

The name of the company that owns the rights to distribute the specific film title in Canada. This is the company that will receive payment from Film Circuit locations.

### Availability

Dates are approximate and are subject to change. For example, prior to a title's theatrical release, the availability date can be affected by an unexpected shift in the distributor's release strategy, which may result in the film being available later than expected. After its release, a film sometimes becomes available sooner than expected when distributor booking patterns become more clearly established. When distributors have assigned a season for release but have not specifically dated the film, its availability will be listed as TBD (to be determined).

### Synopsis

The synopsis is drafted from a variety of sources and generally offers the following information:

- A press kit-style synopsis of the film's central themes, characters and plot line. This promotional information is designed to highlight a film's strengths and notable performances, and does not necessarily reflect the qualitative view of the Film Circuit office.
- An indication of the film's performance at major film festivals, and/or any awards won.
- Quotes from favourable reviews. If a quote is not attached to the synopsis, this does not mean that favourable reviews do not exist; it means a representative review was not available at the time of printing.

### DCP

A collection of digital files used to store and convey Digital cinema audio, image and data streams. It is shipped to the theatres in a specialty hard drive designed for digital cinema server to ingest from.

### Rating

Films are rated separately by each province's film review board. The listed ratings, also known as classifications, have been established by:

#### **The Alberta Film Classification Board**

780.427.2006  
[www.albertafilmratings.ca](http://www.albertafilmratings.ca)

#### **British Columbia Film Classification Office**

604.660.6821  
[www.BPCPA.ca](http://www.BPCPA.ca)

#### **Maritime Film Classification Board**

902.424.4498  
[www.gov.ns.ca/lwd/agd/film/](http://www.gov.ns.ca/lwd/agd/film/)

#### **Manitoba Film Classification Board**

204.945.0889  
[www.gov.mb.ca/chc/mfcb/](http://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/mfcb/)

#### **Ontario Film Review Board**

416.314.3626  
[www.ofrb.gov.on.ca/english/default.htm](http://www.ofrb.gov.on.ca/english/default.htm)

#### **La Régie du cinéma du Québec**

514.873.2371  
[www.rcq.qc.ca](http://www.rcq.qc.ca)

#### **Saskatchewan Film Classification Board**

306.787.5550  
[www.justice.gov.sk.ca/filmandvideoclassification/](http://www.justice.gov.sk.ca/filmandvideoclassification/)

Once your film has been confirmed, please contact your respective ratings board in your province to check the rating.

Please note that the information in this guide is correct at the time of publication. We advise that you check with your programmer when submitting requests, as the information may have changed.

## WHAT IS THE FILM CIRCUIT RELEASE SCHEDULE?

The Film Circuit Release Schedule provides information about current and upcoming Canadian and independent films, and is designed to be used by Film Circuit locations as a resource tool for programming and promotional purposes. Most importantly, it provides a guide that approximates when these titles will be available for screening through Film Circuit. Due to the timelines of distributor release information, not all available films are included.

## WHAT DOES THE LISTED INFORMATION MEAN? HOW CAN IT BE USED?

The Release Schedule is presented in its current form to aid locations in two ways:

1. It provides programmers with information to assist film selection.
2. It offers publicists a media package that they can use to promote the film.

## EXCLUSIVE BLU-RAY PRE-RELEASE

Increasingly, distributors are making films on Blu-ray available to our locations in advance of their commercial release dates, when the Blu-ray becomes widely available to the public. The “Formats” line in the credit block will indicate Blu-ray availability of the title. For more information, please get in touch with your Film Circuit programmer.

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## WHAT FILMS ARE INCLUDED IN THE SCHEDULE?

The titles included in the Release Schedule represent a select list of Canadian and international films expected to have a limited theatrical release pattern — i.e., films that are unlikely to gain substantial (if any) screen time outside key markets. However, it is worth noting that the term “limited release pattern” refers to a relative condition. Although the release may be “limited,” some titles may actually spill over to include an exhibitor run in some mid-range or larger Film Circuit markets. In other words, what is “limited” for some Film Circuit communities may not be for others. Given this variance, the information provided strives to cover the widest base of films possible. Please contact your programmer for further information.

We hope the Release Schedule proves to be an entertaining and informative package that maps out a world of intriguing possibilities for Film Circuit locations engaged in planning their next programme.

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HOT LIST · CURRENT

## Genius

Michael Grandage

USA, 2016  
English  
104 minutes

Principal Cast: Colin Firth, Jude Law, Nicole Kidman, Laura Linney

### DISTRIBUTOR DETAILS

Distributor: Elevation Pictures  
Estimated availability: Current  
Formats: DCP/Blu-ray

The debut feature from West End theatre ace Michael Grandage, *Genius* takes a journey back in time to the vital New York literary scene of the Roaring Twenties. Adapted by John Logan from the 1978 book *Max Perkins: Editor of Genius* by A. Scott Berg, *Genius* stars Colin Firth (*The King's Speech*, *The Railway Man*) as Perkins, the legendary literary editor who discovered such magnificent talents as Ernest Hemingway and F. Scott Fitzgerald.

*Genius* follows the burgeoning friendship between Perkins and the then unknown Thomas Wolfe (Jude Law, *The Grand Budapest Hotel*, *Anna Karenina*). When Wolfe's sprawling, chaotic manuscript falls into his hands, Perkins is convinced that he has discovered a literary genius, and sets out to hammer it into shape for publication. Under Perkins' supervision, Wolfe cuts a third of the pages from his manuscript and endows it with a new title: *Look Homeward, Angel*. The intensive editing process leads to the blossoming of a close relationship between the gentle family man Perkins and the eccentric Wolfe — a relationship that is viewed with suspicion by the men's romantic

partners, Perkins' wife Louise Saunders (Laura Linney, *Mr. Holmes*, *Hyde Park on Hudson*) and Wolfe's lover, the author Aline Bernstein (Nicole Kidman, *Lion*, *The Railway Man*).

The always reliable Firth gives a restrained and poignant performance as Perkins, while Law delivers a tremendous turn as the increasingly troubled and conflicted Wolfe. Taking us inside the work of writing like few films have ever done, *Genius* is an extraordinary saga about one of the most important creative collaborations in American literary history.

*An intriguing study of the personalities and torturous process behind some of the early 20th century's great writing.*

—Tom Russo, Boston Globe



HOT LIST · CURRENT

## Love & Friendship

Whit Stillman

IRELAND/NETHERLANDS/FRANCE/USA, 2016  
English  
92 minutes

Principal Cast: Kate Beckinsale, Chloë Sevigny,  
Xavier Samuel

### DISTRIBUTOR DETAILS

Distributor: Mongrel Media  
Estimated availability: Current  
Formats: DCP

OFFICIAL SELECTION, 2016 SUNDANCE  
FILM FESTIVAL

Writer-director Whit Stillman departs from the milieu of the contemporary New York upper crust that he so memorably explored in such films as *Damsels in Distress*, *The Last Days of Disco* and *Metropolitan* for this sharp-tongued and riotously funny examination of 18th-century polite society. Adapting Jane Austen's long-unpublished epistolary novella *Lady Susan*, Stillman creates a period piece whose spirit is unmistakably modern.

*Love & Friendship* revolves around the beautiful and cunning Lady Susan Vernon (Kate Beckinsale, *The Aviator*, *The Last Days of Disco*), a recent widow who engineers all manner of wonderfully devious plots to bend the world to her will and land herself a wealthy new husband. Taking up residence at Churchill, her in-laws' estate, she sets her sights on the dashing Reginald De Courcy (Xavier Samuel, *Fury*, *Anonymouse*), and soon has him wrapped around her little finger. However, her plans are derailed when her beautiful daughter Frederica (Morfydd Clark, *Madame Bovary*) turns up at Churchill after being dismissed from boarding school. Fearing that Frederica will turn Reginald's head, Lady Susan sets

out to obtain her daughter a suitor of her own. Enter Sir James Martin (Tom Bennett), a well-meaning but witless older man who is utterly confounded by the fact that there is neither a church nor a hill at Churchill.

Brilliantly played by Beckinsale, Lady Susan possesses a confidence, audacity, and unapologetic dishonesty ("Facts are horrid things," she laments after being caught in a lie) that paradoxically endow her with a winning charm, and make her an Austen heroine to rival Elizabeth Bennett and Emma Woodhouse. If you're looking for a smart, fun, and scruple-free romp, *Love & Friendship* is definitely your cup of tea.

*With his love of fine clothes and finer diction, Whit Stillman proves an unsurprisingly intuitive fit for Austen, but he also knows just how to give her pointed social satire an extra stab of wink-wink postmodern drollery without breaking the spell.*

—Justin Chang, *Variety*



HOT LIST · CURRENT

## Captain Fantastic

Matt Ross

USA, 2015  
ENGLISH  
120 minutes

Principal Cast: **Viggo Mortensen, Frank Langella, Kathryn Hahn, George MacKay, Steve Zahn, Ann Dowd**

### DISTRIBUTOR DETAILS

Distributor: **Entertainment One**  
Estimated availability: **Current**  
Formats: **DCP**

**OFFICIAL SELECTION, 2016 SUNDANCE  
FILM FESTIVAL**

The sophomore film from actor-director Matt Ross (best known for his roles on TV's *Big Love* and *Silicon Valley*), *Captain Fantastic* offers a delightfully offbeat and heartwarming tale about love, duty, and family.

Ben (Viggo Mortensen, *A Dangerous Method*, *Eastern Promises*) and his wife are non-conformists who have chosen to raise their six kids deep in the forests of the Pacific Northwest, where they have been taught to live off the land, trained to have the endurance of professional athletes, and instilled with advanced knowledge of philosophy, literature, and geopolitics (they consider soda “poison water” and celebrate “Noam Chomsky Day” in place of Christmas). When tragedy strikes and the delicate ecosystem of their counterculture paradise is thrown into disarray, Ben and his clan are forced to take a trip across the country in their camper van, which is affectionately named “Steve.” Both heartbreak and hilarity ensue as the kids face some of their first social interactions with the wider world — and discover hot dogs. As his children see more of the world — and as his rebellious eldest son (George MacKay, *Pride, Sunshine on Leith*)

becomes determined to march to the beat of his own drum — Ben begins to question whether shutting them off from it is the right decision.

Best known for his heavy-duty dramatic roles, Mortensen reveals a wonderful gift for comedy as the back-to-nature patriarch Ben, and his interactions with the young actors playing his children yields some truly laugh-out-loud moments (particularly when he doles out hunting knives to the older kids as presents, and bestows a copy of *The Joy of Sex* upon his six-year-old son). Boasting a stellar supporting cast that includes veterans Steve Zahn, Kathryn Hahn, and the great Frank Langella, *Captain Fantastic* is an irresistible comedy-drama that asks what it is that truly makes a family.

*Captain Fantastic should connect in a major way with those looking to be swept up and moved by such a fundamental human experience.*

—Peter Debruge, *Variety*



HOT LIST · CURRENT

## It's Only the End of the World

Xavier Dolan

CANADA, FRANCE, 2016  
French  
95 minutes

Principal Cast: Nathalie Baye, Vincent Cassel, Marion Cotillard, Léa Seydoux, Gaspard Ulliel

### DISTRIBUTOR DETAILS

Distributor: **Entertainment One**  
Estimated availability: **October 2016**  
Formats: **DCP**

**OFFICIAL SELECTION, 2016 CANNES  
FILM FESTIVAL**

Following the success of his critically acclaimed and award-winning film *Mommy*, Xavier Dolan returns with *It's Only the End of the World*, a thunderous drama about home and familial roots. Winner of the Grand Prix in Cannes, Dolan's latest film, which won the Grand Prix at Cannes and is based on the late French playwright Jean-Luc Lagarce's *Juste la fin du monde*, demonstrates how his singular voice transcends borders and makes him one of Canada's most exciting contemporary filmmakers.

Louis (Gaspard Ulliel, *Saint Laurent*, *Paris, je t'aime*) is a successful director who, having just received a terminal diagnosis, receives a terminal diagnosis and returns home to his estranged family after a 12-year absence. However, his homecoming is quickly tainted by lingering resentment from his family, who see Louis as both a prodigy and a deserter. His attempts to inform his mother (Nathalie Baye, *Lawrence Anyways*, *Catch Me If You Can*), sister (Léa Seydoux, *The Lobster*, *The Grand Budapest Hotel*), brother (Vincent Cassel, *A Dangerous Method*, *Eastern Promises*), and sister-in-law (Marion Cotillard, *Macbeth*,

*Rust and Bone*) of his illness are repeatedly stymied by the surfacing tensions between family members.

Stunningly stylized and shot in intimate close-ups, the film's aesthetic helps convey the director's intuitive understanding of the characters, their memories, disappointments, and, ultimately, their profound love for each other.

*"Xavier Dolan's It's Only the End of the World is histrionic and claustrophobic: deliberately oppressive and pretty well pop-eyed in its madness — and yet a brilliant, stylized and hallucinatory evocation of family dysfunction"*

—Peter Bradshaw, *The Guardian*





HOT LIST · CURRENT

## The Dressmaker

Jocelyn Moorhouse

AUSTRALIA, 2015

English

118 minutes

Principal Cast: Kate Winslet, Liam Hemsworth, Judy Davis, Hugo Weaving

### DISTRIBUTOR DETAILS

Distributor: Entertainment One  
Estimated availability: October 2016  
Formats: DCP/Blu-ray

**tiff.**40 toronto  
international  
film festival

OFFICIAL SELECTION 2015

This wickedly comic drama stars Kate Winslet (*Steve Jobs*, *Labor Day*) as a worldly dressmaker returning to the Australian backwater that exiled her. The latest feature from writer-director Jocelyn Moorhouse (*How to Make an American Quilt*) after an almost 20-year hiatus, *The Dressmaker* is a sumptuous, saucy, and scandalous tale of love and vengeance in the mid-1950s. It also has the most fabulous gowns this side of the red carpet.

Tilly Dunnage (Winslet) arrives in the small town of Dungatar like a gunslinger: broad-brimmed hat on her head, sleek pumps on her feet, trusty Singer sewing machine at her side. Driven away when she was just 10 years old for supposedly committing a heinous crime, the resilient Tilly found her way to Paris, where she trained under legendary designer Madeleine Vionnet. She has come back to look after her ailing mother, Molly (Judy Davis, *The Young and Prodigious T.S. Spivet*, *To Rome With Love*), but, with her beguiling, form-fitting dresses, she's soon turning heads at the town rugby game — most notably the one atop the broad shoulders of star player Teddy McSwiney (Liam Hemsworth, *Cut Bank*).

When Tilly is hired to design and custom-make haute couture for the more rebellious local ladies, a battle line is drawn: on one side, those who love Tilly's progressive style, and on the other side, Dungatar's conservative busybody contingent. As tension between these camps escalates, Tilly's shadowy past becomes her enemies' most potent weapon — but this fearsome fashionista has resolved to never let Dungatar get the best of her again.

Winslet exudes femme-fatale danger and sexiness as Tilly — she's Clint Eastwood meets Rita Hayworth. And Moorhouse, working with co-writer P.J. Hogan in adapting Rosalie Ham's novel, infuses *The Dressmaker* with a perfect blend of glamour and edginess, generating laughter and intrigue right up to the explosive finale.

*Moorhouse's adaptation of Rosalie Ham's 2000 novel may lead audiences to expect a primmer, more well-behaved movie based on its title alone, but that doesn't mean it won't have them in stitches.*

—Justin Chang, *Variety*



CURRENT

## Closet Monster

Stephen Dunn

**CANADA, 2015**  
English  
90 minutes

Principal Cast: **Connor Jessup, Aaron Abrams, Joanne Kelly, Aliocha Schneider, Sofia Banzhaf, Jack Fulton, Mary Walsh, Isabella Rossellini**

### DISTRIBUTOR DETAILS

Distributor: **Elevation Pictures**  
Estimated availability: **Current**  
Formats: **DCP/Blu-ray**

**Winner of Canada Goose Award for Best Canadian Feature Film, Toronto International Film Festival 2015**

**tiff.40** toronto international film festival™

OFFICIAL SELECTION 2015

The coming-of-age (and out-of-the-closet) story gets an imaginative twist in the first feature by writer-director Stephen Dunn. Winner of the Canada Goose Award for Best Canadian Feature Film at the 2015 Festival and selected as one of the ten best Canadian films of the year at the 2016 Canada's Top Ten Film Festival, *Closet Monster* is ceaselessly inventive in its chronicle of an East Coast teen wrestling with his sexuality and learning to find his own way in life.

High-school student and aspiring special-effects makeup artist Oscar Madly (Connor Jessup, *Blackbird*) needs out: out of the Newfoundland town that is stifling his budding creativity, out of his restrictive home life, and out of the closet, where he has fearfully remained after witnessing a brutal hate crime as a young boy. While he finds much-needed support from his best friend Gemma (Sofia Banzhaf) and his pet hamster, Buffy (who talks to him via the voice of the great Isabella Rossellini, *Enemy*), Oscar is haunted by horrifying visions of the consequences of revealing his homosexuality — a fear that is compounded by the presence of

his increasingly judgmental and erratic father (Aaron Abrams, TV's *Hannibal*, *Republic of Doyle*). When Oscar meets the handsome Wilder (TIFF Rising Star Aliocha Schneider, *Ville-Marie*), he is immediately attracted and utterly terrified. With his fantasies becoming darker and ever more vividly real, Oscar finds that he must break free of the chains that bind him and live a life that is true to who he really is.

Impressing his unique sensibility on every frame of his remarkably accomplished debut feature, Newfoundland native Dunn establishes himself as one of Canada's brightest young talents. Striking, sometimes shocking and often unexpectedly funny, *Closet Monster* is simply a stunner.

*An imaginative spin on the coming-of-age tale that blends together both straightforward storytelling and recognizable emotional beats with creative flourishes.*

—Katie Erbland, *Indiewire*



CURRENT

## Konelīne: Our Land Beautiful

Nettie Wild

CANADA, 2016  
English  
96 minutes

### DISTRIBUTOR DETAILS

Distributor: **Canada Wild Productions**  
Estimated availability: **October 2016**  
Formats: **DCP/Blu-ray**

Taking its name from a Tahltan First Nation word meaning both “our land beautiful” and “our mind beautiful,” *Konelīne* captures the splendour of remote northwestern British Columbia and tells the story of those who call this magnificent land home. Celebrated Canadian documentarian Nettie Wild (*FIX: The Story of an Addicted City*) directs, writes, and produces this unique portrait of the Tahltan territory and the people whose identities are so closely tied to this land.

Winner of the 2016 Best Canadian Feature Documentary Award at Hot Docs Film Festival, and shot in majestic CinemaScope, *Konelīne* explores the breathtaking landscapes and contradictions of the land and provides a glimpse of the Canadian wilderness in the throes of change. Nicknamed the “Golden Triangle” by gold and copper mining companies, and the “Canadian Serengeti” by hunters, the rich natural resources and beauty of the Tahltan land has attracted interest and visitors from across the country, all united by their love and admiration for the northern British Columbian wilderness.

Conceived as a cinematic poem, *Konelīne* offers a succession of stunning images — from the dazzling Northern Lights, to horses swimming across the Stikine River, to a 16,000-pound electrical cable being carried over the mountains via helicopter — that will remain indelibly imprinted on your memory. Capturing both the majesty of the land and the eerily impressive spectacle of encroaching industrialization, director Wild and her cinematographer Van Royko (*Monsoon*) visualize one of the crucial issues of our century with striking immediacy and enduring artistry.

*If you're looking for a simple take on the politics of development in the wilds of British Columbia, keep looking. If, on the other hand, you can handle some moral ambiguity being served by fantastic visuals, then keep looking at this beautiful, complicated, compelling documentary by Nettie Wild.*

—Chris Knight, *National Post*



CURRENT

## Dark Horse

Louise Osmond

UNITED KINGDOM, 2015  
English  
85 minutes

With: Jan Vokes, Brian Vokes, Howard Davies

### DISTRIBUTOR DETAILS

Distributor: **Mongrel Media**  
Estimated availability: **Current**  
Formats: **DCP**

**tiff.**40 toronto  
international  
film festival

OFFICIAL SELECTION 2015

A story of dreams, determination, and class consciousness set in the world of horse racing, this inspirational documentary from director Louise Osmond (*Deep Water*) follows a group of friends and neighbours in a small Welsh town who find themselves breaking social barriers by competing against some of the wealthiest racehorse owners in the UK.

In the beleaguered former coal town of Cefn Fforest, South Wales, a middle-aged barmaid named Jan Vokes rallies a syndicate of friends to pool their £10 per week towards breeding, raising, and training a racehorse they call Dream Alliance. Unexpectedly, Dream Alliance shows great promise, and the Welsh townsfolk are soon competing against the sport's elite. Though their gamble is the furthest thing from a sure bet, and requires years of perseverance through a multitude of factors outside of the stakeholders' control, for the team behind Dream Alliance it's not all about money: in the words of one backer, "Dream took us to places you couldn't even imagine."

Osmond elicits warm and funny interviews from the participants, particularly the plucky Vokes, who fondly recalls how she first pulled her underdog syndicate together back in 2000. Illustrating the team's anecdotes through carefully chosen archival footage and artful re-enactments — with cinematographer Benjamin Kracun capturing the horses so beautifully you'll want to reach out and touch them — this remarkable true story about a long shot is a sure winner.

*A heartwarming true story that has been expertly crafted into an irresistible, emotion-charged documentary.*

—Allan Hunter,  
*Screen International*



CURRENT

## Into the Forest

Patricia Rozema

CANADA, 2015

English

96 minutes

Principal Cast: **Ellen Page, Evan Rachel Wood, Callum Keith Rennie, Max Minghella**

### DISTRIBUTOR DETAILS

Distributor: **Elevation Pictures**

Estimated Availability: **Current**

Format: **DCP/Blu-ray**

**tiff.40** toronto  
international  
film festival™

OFFICIAL SELECTION 2015

After several years of acclaimed television productions, writer-director Patricia Rozema (*Mansfield Park, I've Heard the Mermaids Singing*) returns to the big screen with *Into the Forest*, a mesmerizing and powerful story about two teenage sisters who are forced to fend for themselves in a society that may be on the brink of collapse.

Based on Jean Hegland's novel of the same name, *Into the Forest* takes place in the not-too-distant future, as a massive power outage overwhelms all of continental North America. Living with their recently widowed father (Callum Keith Rennie, *October Gale, The Young and Prodigious T.S. Spivet*) in a house over thirty miles from the nearest town, sisters Nell (Ellen Page, *The East, To Rome With Love*) and Eva (Evan Rachel Wood, *The Wrestler, Across the Universe*) gradually become aware of the severity of their situation as their supplies dwindle and the blackout continues with no end in sight. As they contend with the threats of intruders, disease, loneliness and starvation, the young women are forced to re-examine their place in

the world and their relations to the land, their home, and each other.

Featuring brilliant performances by Page and Wood and offering a disturbingly plausible vision of an apocalyptic future, *Into the Forest* is a thought-provoking film about hope, despair, and the bonds of love.

*Into the Forest* amply illustrates the vital need for female voices in the industry; Rozema possesses the insight and sensitivity to reimagine the apocalypse as a low-key trial of sisterhood instead of a race to avoid whatever deafening CGI eyesore might come next.

—Charles Bramesco, *The Playlist*



CURRENT

## The Man Who Knew Infinity

Matthew Brown

UNITED KINGDOM, 2015  
English  
114 minutes

Principal Cast: **Dev Patel, Jeremy Irons, Devika Bhise, Stephen Fry, Toby Jones**

### DISTRIBUTOR DETAILS

Distributor: **Mongrel Media**  
Estimated availability: **Current**  
Formats: **DCP/Blu-ray**

**tiff.40** toronto  
international  
film festival™

OFFICIAL SELECTION 2015

Featuring terrific performances by Dev Patel (*The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*, *Slumdog Millionaire*) and Academy Award winner Jeremy Irons (*Margin Call*, *Inland Empire*), *The Man Who Knew Infinity* tells the story of Srinivasa Ramanujan, the Indian mathematician whose contributions to number theory, continued fractions, and infinite series revolutionized the field. This sweeping historical film, a Gala Presentation at the 2015 Toronto International Film Festival, about high science and the tragic repercussions of racism amongst the ostensibly enlightened is a testament to the wonder and precariousness of genius — and the power of friendship to change the world.

Opening near the dawn of the 20th century, the film follows Ramanujan (Patel) from his humble roots in Madras — where opportunities for someone of Ramanujan's abilities are few — to Cambridge University, where the young prodigy's visionary theories attract the attention of English mathematician G.H. Hardy (Irons). The chance to work in the same hallowed halls where Isaac Newton formulated the laws of motion and universal gravitation is a dream come true for Ramanujan, but also proves to be

a sort of nightmare. His colleagues, unable to see beyond his dark skin and unfamiliar culture, harass and humiliate him, while Hardy insists that Ramanujan deliver countless proofs before being allowed to publish his work.

One of the most remarkable feats of *The Man Who Knew Infinity* is the way it renders Ramanujan's groundbreaking, complex theories understandable even to a layperson. But even more important is the film's depiction of Ramanujan and Hardy's difficult yet deep friendship, as they gradually evolve from stern mentor and untamable protégé to true peers, whose mutual love and respect transcend the formidable obstacles of race, class, culture, and tradition.

*This is not so much a film about understanding the numbers, but understanding the men who made us see their merit, and the passion that drives each of us to find the true meaning in our lives.*

—Miriam Di Nunzio, *Chicago Sun Times*



CURRENT

## The Daughter

Simon Stone

AUSTRALIA, 2015

English

96 minutes

Principal Cast: **Geoffrey Rush, Ewen Leslie, Paul Schneider, Miranda Otto, Anna Torv, Odessa Young, Sam Neill**

### DISTRIBUTOR DETAILS

Distributor: **Mongrel Media**

Estimated availability: **Current**

Formats: **DCP**

**tiff.40** toronto  
international  
film festival

OFFICIAL SELECTION 2015

A young man returns to his dying hometown and discovers a dark family secret that could tear apart the lives of those he left behind, in this contemporary adaptation of Henrik Ibsen's play *The Wild Duck*.

After a 15-year absence, Christian (Paul Schneider, *Lars and the Real Girl*) returns to his family home in rural New South Wales for the marriage of his father, Henry (Geoffrey Rush, *The King's Speech*, *The Eye of the Storm*), the wealthy owner of the local mill that has been the economic bedrock of the community for generations. Christian gets reacquainted with his old friend Oliver (Ewen Leslie) and finds himself drawn to Oliver's family, which includes wife Charlotte (Miranda Otto), daughter Hedvig (Odessa Young), and father-in-law Walter (Sam Neill, *Jurassic Park*). When Henry announces the imminent closure of the mill, it sends a quake through the community, particularly Oliver's family, and the subsequent fissures release bitter secrets.

Stone allows his fine cast every opportunity to make Ibsen's classic tale their own, with atmospheric support from cinematographer Andrew Commis (who creates a disarming intimacy with his use of the handheld camera) and composer Mark Bradshaw, who provides a lush, brooding score. While dysfunction and deception lie at the core of *The Daughter*, there is hope as well, with each of the characters imagining something better: a future unencumbered by the sins and betrayals of the past.

*Theater director Simon Stone delivers a powerful, low-key yet achingly intense reimagining of Ibsen's The Wild Duck.*

—Eddie Cockrell, *Variety*



CURRENT

## Our Little Sister

Hirokazu Kore-eda

JAPAN, 2015

Japanese with English subtitles  
128 minutes

Principal Cast: Haruka Ayase, Masami Nagasawa,  
Kaho, Suzu Hirose

### DISTRIBUTOR DETAILS

Distributor: Mongrel Media  
Estimated availability: Current  
Formats: DCP

**tiff.**40 toronto  
international  
film festival™

OFFICIAL SELECTION 2015

After their estranged father's death, three twentysomething sisters discover that they have a teenaged step-sibling, in this gentle, deeply affecting family drama from Japanese master Hirokazu Kore-eda (*Like Father, Like Son*).

The three Koda sisters have been on their own ever since their parents' divorce, their mother having moved away shortly after her husband left her for another woman. Now in their twenties, the sisters still live together in the house that once belonged to their grandmother. The eldest sister, Sachi (Haruka Ayase), the de facto head of the family, works as a nurse; the middle child, Yoshino (Masami Nagasawa, *From Up on Poppy Hill*), has a successful career at a bank; while the youngest, Chika (Kaho), is a fashionable, fun-loving free spirit. When they receive news of their father's death, the sisters are surprised to discover that they have a step-sibling, the 13-year-old Suzu (Suzu Hirose), who gratefully accepts her elder sisters' offer to come live with them. The presence of the shy young Suzu, for whom the loss of her father is still a fresh wound, stirs long-dormant memories

among the three sisters, who had thought of their father (if they thought of him at all) as a phantom. And the painful past becomes fully present once more when the women's mother suddenly reappears after 15 years.

*Our Little Sister* is a subtle meditation on loss, absence, and the acceptance of death. Carrying on a great tradition of Japanese filmmaking, Kore-eda once again transforms everyday life into a deceptively simple yet truly majestic masterpiece.

*The film is quiet, understated and gentle, allowing the audience to take pleasure in teasing out its narrative subtleties, and presented with wonderful freshness and clarity... It is impossible not to be touched and beguiled by it.*

—Peter Bradshaw, *The Guardian*





CURRENT

## Angry Indian Goddesses

Pan Nalin

INDIA, 2016  
English, Hindi  
104 minutes

Principal Cast: **Amrit Maghera, Rajshri Deshpande, Pavleen Gujral, Anushka Manchanda, Sandhya Mridul, Sarah Jane Dias, Tannishtha Chatterjee**

### DISTRIBUTOR DETAILS

Distributor: **Mongrel Media**  
Estimated availability: **Current**  
Formats: **DCP**

**tiff.40** toronto  
international  
film festival™

OFFICIAL SELECTION 2015

On the eve of their friend's wedding in Goa, a group of women discuss everything under the sun in this largely improvised and refreshingly frank depiction of contemporary Indian society from award-winning director Pan Nalin (*Samsara*), which has been billed as "India's first female buddy comedy."

In the scenic beachside state of Goa, Frieda (Sarah Jane Dias), a strong-willed and successful photographer, gathers her closest friends on the eve of her nuptials. The diverse group offers a snapshot of modern Indian society: Su (Sandhya Mridul), a businesswoman and mother; the engaging Nargis (Tannishtha Chatterjee, *Siddharth, Anna Karenina*); Jo (Amrit Maghera), an aspiring film actress; Pammy (Pavleen Gujral), a housewife; Mad (Anushka Manchanda), a singer-songwriter; and house servant, Lakshmi (Rajshri Deshpande). Everything's set for a night of celebration. There's only one issue: Frieda won't say who her betrothed is. As the women banter their way through the evening, covering topics ranging from sex to street harassment to the buff (and often shirtless) next-door neighbour, we become acquainted with the

women's dreams, desires, fears and, above all, the unbreakable bond between them — a bond that will eventually lead them to take some extreme actions.

Developing the film's dialogue almost entirely out of improvisations with his actors, director Nalin allows her narrative to take surprising turns that upend genre expectations and explore the pressing issues of gender and sexism in contemporary Indian society. Shuttling from the jubilantly comic to scenes of touching pathos, *Angry Indian Goddesses* is a refreshing and frank depiction of female empowerment from a key figure in independent South Asian cinema.

*The cast are a talented and spirited bunch, enjoying the opportunity to let loose with grievances while revelling in the togetherness of female-centric safety.*

—Jay Weissberg, *Variety*



CURRENT

## Driving With Selvi

Elisa Paloschi

CANADA, 2015  
ENGLISH  
74 minutes

With: Selvi

### DISTRIBUTOR DETAILS

Distributor: **Independent**  
Estimated availability: **September**  
Formats: **DCP/Blu-ray**

*Driving with Selvi* is a life-affirming documentary that follows the indomitably spirited and utterly magnetic Selvi as she finds her place in the world.

Selvi overcame life as a child bride to become an entrepreneur, as South India's first female taxi driver. Despite her dark past, Selvi is full of joy, light and determination. She eventually finds love (on her own terms) and starts a family. When her daughter is born, she becomes even more resolved to make the world a better place and pave the way for future generations.

Canadian filmmaker Elisa Paloschi traced Selvi's journey over the course of 10 years, and the friendship that the two women forged over that decade is evident in the film's honesty, compassion and beauty. *Driving with Selvi* is a timely piece of filmmaking that examines vital sociological and political terrain: the film is accompanied by a robust social-impact campaign to support women and girls' resilience,

empowerment, and economic opportunity in India. But ultimately, its strength in those areas is fuelled by the impact that it has on a personal level. Set against the warm hues and bold colours of the region, every inch of this inspirational story is as vibrant as Selvi and her mega-watt smile.

*In Driving with Selvi, Paloschi crafts the type of inspirational film that will help motivate viewers to tackle the obstacles holding them back in their own lives.*

—Victor Stiff, *Pop Optiq*



CURRENT

## A Tale of Love and Darkness

Natalie Portman

ISRAEL/USA, 2015

Hebrew  
97 minutes

Principal Cast: Natalie Portman, Gilad Kahana,  
Amir Tessler

### DISTRIBUTOR DETAILS

Distributor: **D Films**  
Estimated availability: **Current**  
Formats: **DCP/Blu-ray**

**tiff.**40 toronto  
international  
film festival™

OFFICIAL SELECTION 2015

The Academy Award-winning actor Natalie Portman (*Black Swan*, *Cold Mountain*) makes her debut as writer and director with this adaptation of the best-selling memoir by celebrated Israeli author Amos Oz. Portman's deep understanding of her homeland permeates this touching film, which places the struggles of an immigrant family against the backdrop of a nation's birth.

*A Tale of Love and Darkness* begins in the mid-1940s as the eight-year-old Amos (Amir Tessler) is living with his father Arie (Gilad Kahana) and mother Fania (Portman) in British Palestine, a region riven by escalating tensions between Jews and Arabs — conflicts that mirror the troubled marriage of Amos' parents, both of whom were refugees who fled to Palestine for safety. Though the film is told through the eyes of the young Amos, it is his mother around whom most of the narrative revolves. An intellectual raised in privilege, Fania now struggles to adapt to her life as both the wife of a failed academic, and an impoverished newcomer to a land fighting to establish itself as a nation. Yet despite her spiritual desolation and emotional fragility,

Fania still finds a redemptive joy in her only son, who was born native to the unfamiliar land she now must call home.

Though the writer eventually repudiated both the cultural and political legacy of his parents by changing his surname from Klausner to Oz — the Hebrew word for “strength,” a signifier of his allegiance to his fledgling homeland as opposed to his parents' European heritage — the tender portrait of Fania that emerges from both book and film indicates the complex emotions involved in this break. With her skilled direction and impressive visual aesthetic complementing her own typically remarkable performance, Portman has created an extraordinary cinematic adaptation of Oz's compelling story.

*Tale exhibits a moment-to-moment beauty that's affecting, presenting members of an ordinary Jewish family who just happen to be alive during one of the first of many tumultuous periods in Israel's history.*

—Tim Grierson, *Screen Daily*



CURRENT

## Sing Street

John Carney

**IRELAND, 2015**  
English  
105 minutes

Principal Cast: **Ferdia Walsh-Peelo, Lucy Boynton, Jack Reynor, Maria Doyle Kennedy, Aidan Gillen**

### DISTRIBUTOR DETAILS

Distributor: **Elevation Pictures**  
Estimated availability: **Current**  
Formats: **DCP/Blu-ray**

**OFFICIAL SELECTION, 2016 SUNDANCE  
FILM FESTIVAL**

Irish writer-director John Carney refreshed and revitalized the film musical with the Oscar-winning *Once* and his follow-up *Begin Again*. With his new film *Sing Street*, Carney takes us to 1980s Dublin for a semi-autobiographical tale about a teenager who turns to music to escape his chaotic home life — and, naturally, to impress a girl.

Forced to start over at a rough public school when his parents pull him from private school due to their financial struggles, 14-year-old Conor (Ferdia Walsh-Peelo) becomes enamoured of the beautiful and mysterious Raphina (Lucy Boynton). Eager to make an impression, Conor invites Raphina to star in his band's music video — despite the fact that he has not yet formed a band, or even written any music. With the guidance of his drop-out older brother, Conor restyles himself as “Cosmo,” recruits some enthusiastic but musically untrained schoolmates, and sets out to make a band from scratch by studying and

emulating the New Wave stars of the era like A-ha, Duran Duran, and Spandau Ballet. Soon, the ragtag group is shooting music videos on a less-than-shoestring budget and looking to wow their fellow students at the upcoming school ball — and meanwhile, Cosmo starts making progress in his quest to win Raphina's heart.

Featuring a stellar soundtrack that mixes nostalgic hits and original music, *Sing Street* combines the scrappy energy of 2013 Film Circuit favourite *We Are the Best!* with the sweetness and charm of a coming-of-age love story. As with the director's previous hits, Carney's latest is sure to have audiences cheering and singing along once again.

*Sing Street makes you feel like you're growing up all over again.*

—Ethan Anderson,  
*Slashfilm*



CURRENT

## Hevn (Revenge)

Kjersti Steinsbø

**NORWAY/CANADA, 2015**  
Norwegian with English subtitles  
104 minutes

Principal Cast: **Siren Jørgensen, Frode Winther, Maria Bock, Anders Baasmo**

### DISTRIBUTOR DETAILS

Distributor: **Kinosmith**  
Estimated availability: **Current**  
Formats: **DCP/Blu-ray**

The feature debut from writer-director Kjersti G. Steinsbø, *Hevn* is a gripping combination of psychological drama and revenge thriller set against the majestic backdrop of the Norwegian fjords.

Seeking revenge on the man responsible for destroying her sister's life, Rebekka (Siren Jørgensen, Netflix's *Lillehammer*) returns to the small Norwegian vacation town she and her family visited in her youth. Posing as a travel writer, she checks into an idyllic hotel under a false name and sets her sights on her quarry: local innkeeper and town "golden boy" Morten Holand (Frode Winther). Ingratiating herself into the lives of the locals, Rebekka sets out to destroy Morten's perfect family life and turn his friends and neighbours against him. But as life in the village begins to unravel, it becomes apparent that Rebekka's actions have consequences for more people than just Morten, and Rebekka must decide how far she is willing to go to achieve her goal.

Working with cinematographer Anna Myking (*Drone*), first-time director Steinsbø makes brilliant use of the breathtakingly expansive Norwegian landscapes as a contrast to the pressure-cooker atmosphere of her drama. Expertly crafted and boasting strong performances and assured direction, *Hevn* is a must-see.



CURRENT

## Dheepan

Jacques Audiard

FRANCE, 2015

Tamil, English, French with English subtitles  
114 minutes

Principal Cast: **Jesuthasan Antonyhasan,**  
**Kalieaswari Srinivasan, Claudine Vinasithamby**

### DISTRIBUTOR DETAILS

Distributor: **Mongrel Media**  
Estimated availability: **Current**  
Formats: **DCP/Blu-ray**

**OFFICIAL SELECTION, 2015 CANNES  
FILM FESTIVAL**

**tiff.40** toronto  
international  
film festival™

**OFFICIAL SELECTION 2015**

In *A Prophet*, Jacques Audiard pulled his audience deep inside a powerful prison drama. In *Rust and Bone*, he brought the same intensity and authenticity to an un-likely love story. In *Dheepan*, which won the Palme d'Or at Cannes, Audiard turns his piercing focus to a story so ubiquitous it practically hides in plain sight. What happens to the millions of migrants who flee conflict zones to find new homes in the cities of the west? In the case of the Tamil family at the centre of this searing film, conflict is never far behind.

The film begins in Sri Lanka at the end of the civil war, as a Tamil soldier (Jesuthasan Antonyhasan) burns the bodies of his fallen comrades. The guns are silenced, his family has been killed, and he seeks a way out. He and Yalini (Kalieaswari Srinivasan) are strangers in a refugee camp, but they cobble together a fake family with young Illayaal (Claudine Vinasithamby), fool the aid workers, and are able to obtain passage on a boat for France.

Once in the outskirts of Paris, they must use their hard-won survival skills to navigate a crime-ridden housing complex. Securing their position in France means making their false family real, but past violence and present threats create a volatile combination that is bound to explode.

*It shows Audiard once again drawn to resilient people in punishing situations, and its arc from the opening images of death to its final notes of hope and wholeness is quite moving.*

—David Rooney,  
*The Hollywood Reporter*



CURRENT

## The Meddler

Lorene Scafaria

USA, 2015  
English  
100 minutes

Principal Cast: Susan Sarandon, Rose Byrne,  
J.K. Simmons

### DISTRIBUTOR DETAILS

Distributor: Mongrel Media  
Estimated availability: Current  
Formats: DCP/Blu-ray

**tiff.**40 toronto  
international  
film festival

OFFICIAL SELECTION 2015

Striking a winning balance of insight, heart, and laugh-out-loud hilarity, the second feature from Lorene Scafaria (*Seeking a Friend for the End of the World*) stars the magnificent Susan Sarandon (*The Lovely Bones*) in one of her richest roles yet. Foregrounding a character typically relegated to the comic-relief sidelines, *The Meddler* is about that force of nature known as the doting mother.

For Marnie Minervini (Sarandon), motherhood is not a familial duty — it's a vocation. A compulsive advice-giver, the recently widowed but ceaselessly cheerful Marnie cannot stop texting, calling, and showing up unannounced (and with bagels in tow) at the home of her daughter Lori (Rose Byrne, TV's *Damages*). Desperate to gain some control over her life following a messy breakup, Lori attempts to establish some boundaries with her mother, only to inadvertently unleash Marnie's persistent meddling across the greater Los Angeles area. Whether out of habit or as an unconscious strategy to avoid dealing with her grief, Marnie can't stop being a mom to everyone she meets, whether it's funding the wedding of one of Lori's acquaintances or

driving a young Apple Store clerk to college classes. But a chance encounter with a charismatic, chicken-raising rent-a-cop (J.K. Simmons, *Whiplash*) offers Marnie the opportunity to leave her supporting role behind and finally become the star of her own life.

Scafaria's whip-smart storytelling and observations on relationships, ethnic ties, and the nuances of sixtysomething dating provide the film with a pervasive warmth and authenticity, while Sarandon's exceptional talents are on full display in one of the veteran actor's most memorable creations. Alternately maddening, lovable, and delightful, Marnie is both *The Meddler*'s emotional heart and its greatest triumph.

*The Meddler serves as a lovely valentine not just to Scafaria's mom, Gail, but to mothers everywhere — including the luminous Susan Sarandon in a role that seems to come naturally.*

—Peter Debruge, *Variety*



CURRENT

## Sunset Song

Terence Davies

UNITED KINGDOM/LUXEMBOURG, 2015

English  
135 minutes

Principal Cast: Agyness Deyn, Peter Mullan,  
Kevin Guthrie

### DISTRIBUTOR DETAILS

Distributor: Video Services Corp  
Estimated availability: Current  
Formats: DCP/Blu-ray

**tiff.**40 toronto  
international  
film festival™

OFFICIAL SELECTION 2015

Terence Davies (*The Deep Blue Sea*, *The House of Mirth*) has created some of the greatest British cinema of the past 40 years, and has now realized a long-held dream with this adaptation of Lewis Grassic Gibbon's classic 1932 novel (a staple in Scottish classrooms). Chronicling the joys and sorrows of Chris Guthrie (Agyness Deyn), the daughter of a farming family in northeast Scotland, *Sunset Song* is an exquisitely shot meditation on a way of life that has disappeared into the mists of the past.

Scratching a livelihood out of the harsh terrain, the Guthrie family cowers in obedient fear of its patriarch (Peter Mullan, *Sunshine on Leith*, *Riff-Raff*), a man prone to sudden and ferocious bursts of anger. Along with her brother Will (Jack Greenlees), the beautiful and intelligent Chris dreams of freedom and escape. When a surprising turn of events leaves Chris in charge of the farm, she rises to the occasion and is soon running her affairs singlehandedly. Proud and self-sufficient, Chris finds love with her neighbour, the handsome young Ewan Tavendale (Kevin Guthrie, *The Legend of Barney Thomson*,

*Sunshine on Leith*) — but the shadow of the Great War soon reaches even this remote corner of Europe, and Chris' home and happiness are threatened by forces beyond her control.

Applying his lyrical "memory realism" style to the simultaneously stunning and forbidding rural landscape, Davies makes every scene like something out of an Old Masters canvas. But while he finds great beauty in the world that Chris makes for herself, he well knows that nothing is permanent, and that the world outside can be harsh and unkind. Depicting both unexpected bliss and crushing sadness with incomparable sensitivity, Davies has created yet another heartbreakingly beautiful ode to a time long gone.

*Terence Davies's Sunset Song is a movie with a catch or sob in its singing voice: a beautifully made and deeply felt adaptation of Lewis Grassic Gibbon's 1932 novel of rural Scotland before the first world war*

—Peter Bradshaw, *The Guardian*





CURRENT

## The Steps

Andrew Currie

CANADA, 2016

English

98 minutes

Principal Cast: Jason Ritter, Emmanuelle Chriqui, James Brolin, Christine Lahti, Vinay Virmani, Steven McCarthy, Benjamin Arthur

### DISTRIBUTOR DETAILS

Distributor: Entertainment One

Estimated availability: Current

Formats: DCP/Blu-ray

A dysfunctional family's reunion at a lake house in northern Ontario descends into chaos, in this ensemble comedy-drama from Canadian director Andrew Currie starring James Brolin (*Elsa & Fred*), Emmanuelle Chriqui (TV's *Entourage*), Christine Lahti (TV's *Chicago Hope*) and Jason Ritter (*The Meddler*).

When failed investment banker Jeff (Jason Ritter) and his party-animal sister Marla (Chriqui) are invited by their publishing-magnate father Ed (Brolin) to visit his cottage in northern Ontario, they are hesitant, to say the least. Not only is Canada an even bigger wasteland than Wyoming to their New York minds, but ever since their father married Sherry (Lahti), a woman with a checkered past and children by three different men, they've been worried they may never see any of their father's fortune. Arriving in Georgian Bay, they find that things are worse than anticipated, as Sherry's crew of grown offspring would have to step up their game just to reach the "motley" level. Keith (Steven McCarthy, *Picture Day*) is an unemployed musician who was kicked out of his emerging

band; Samir (Vinay Virmani, *Dr. Cabbie*) is a pot dealer and full-time stoner; and though eldest son David (Benjamin Arthur, *Less Than Kind*) may have the third-largest paintball field in all of Ontario, he also seems to have fairly serious rage issues. And now Sherry and Ed are planning on a few changes to their family that may leave Jeff and Marla out in the cold.

Mocking peculiar obsessions and peccadilloes on both sides of the border, *The Steps* has an enormous amount of fun skewering everything from Americans' less appealing dietary habits to Canada's love of Nickelback. As lingering bitterness and current disappointments wreak havoc in the cottage and disaster looms, threatening even Ed and Sherry's idyllic happiness, these strangers slowly, and hilariously, figure out how to become a family.



CURRENT

## Lo And Behold: Reveries Of The Connected World

Werner Herzog

USA, 2016  
English  
98 minutes

With: Werner Herzog, Elon Musk, Leonard Kleinrock

### DISTRIBUTOR DETAILS

Distributor: **Unobstructed View**  
Estimated availability: **Current**  
Formats: **DCP/Blu-ray**

In his unmistakable, Bavarian-accented deadpan voiceover, the great Werner Herzog (*Cave of Forgotten Dreams*, *Grizzly Man*) guides us through this eccentric, entertaining and enlightening meditation on our interconnected digital world.

Since its humble inception in 1969 — where it began as a short message shared between two computers — the internet has become, as Herzog describes it, “one of our biggest revolutions.” *Lo and Behold: Reveries of the Connected World* investigates the history of the internet’s integration into every aspect of our lives and how it became an essential part of our public infrastructure. Through interviews with researchers, scientists and entrepreneurs at the cutting edge of digital technologies — and taking time for his trademark, often wonderfully comic digressions — Herzog considers the new possibilities in health care, robotics and transportation opened up by the internet, and speculates on how humanity and the world will be impacted by these developments.

These promises of a bright future are tempered by the darker realities presented in the film, from self-imposed internet exiles living off the grid in West Virginia as they recover from “internet overdose” to the victims of online harassment. *Lo and Behold: Reveries of the Connected World* ultimately strikes an ambivalent tone, and refrains from any final judgments on the assimilation of the digital sphere into our daily lives, instead leaving the viewer to consider the implications on their own lives and hopes for the future.

*These discrete “reveries of the connected world” represent the latest of Herzog’s heady explorations of what it means to be human (and even post-human), rendered in his characteristically personal, decidedly analog style.*

—Justin Chang, *Variety*



CURRENT

## Spirit Unforgettable

Pete McCormack

**CANADA, 2016**  
English  
86 minutes

With: John Mann, Hattie Daumann, Vince Ditrich

### DISTRIBUTOR DETAILS

Distributor: **Project 10**  
Estimated availability: **Current**  
Formats: **DCP/Blu-ray**

Following Canadian Celtic rock band Spirit of the West as they prepare for their final performances, *Spirit Unforgettable* documents the band's race against time as their charismatic lead singer John Mann begins to succumb to early-onset Alzheimer's disease.

Spirit of the West's immortal lyrics "You'll have to excuse me, I'm not at my best" have a painful new resonance following Mann's Alzheimer's diagnosis at the age of 52. With the end of their frontman's touring days looming, the band, with the support of Mann's wife Jill Daum, plan a goodbye to their fans in their first and likely final performance at Toronto's iconic Massey Hall. While Mann struggles to remain the captivating performer he's always been even as the lyrics he's known by heart for years slip away from him in the face of the "empty white wall" of Alzheimer's, his bandmates try to balance their desire to provide one last blowout show for their dedicated fans with their concerns for their long-time friend's well-being.

Archival footage and interviews interspersed through the film relate the band's history and movingly depict the close-knit relationship between these marvellous musicians. *Spirit Unforgettable* is a must-see for Spirit fans, and an emotional tribute to a great Canadian artist.

*You don't need to be a Spirit fan to be moved by what happens at Massey Hall — and in Mann's life. Like the band's music, the film is smart and sensitive without being sappy.*

—Marsha Lederman, *The Globe and Mail*



COMING SOON

## Maudie

Aisling Walsh

CANADA/IRELAND, 2016

English

115 minutes

Principal Cast: **Ethan Hawke, Sally Hawkins, Kari Matchett**

### DISTRIBUTOR DETAILS

Distributor: **Mongrel Media**

Estimated availability: **Coming soon**

Formats: **DCP**

Determined to prove her independence to herself and her overprotective family, the Nova Scotian Maud Dowley (Sally Hawkins, *Blue Jasmine, Happy-Go-Lucky*) answers an ad for a live-in housekeeper for the reclusive Everett Lewis (Ethan Hawke, *Born to Be Blue, Boyhood*), but her artistic skills quickly eclipse her domestic duties. Director Aisling Walsh brilliantly captures Maud's growth into one of Canada's most celebrated folk artists.

Maud has spent her whole life constrained by the effects of juvenile rheumatoid arthritis, causing her parents and brother to have little faith in her ability to live independently. After the loss of her parents leads her brother to sell her childhood home, Maud sets out to make her own way in the world and pursue her passion for art. Determined to get a job and provide for herself, she shows up at Everett's door. Slowly, Maud's warmth and positivity breaks through her new employer's cold and reserved demeanour. She accompanies him on his fish deliveries and brightens up his home and his customer's shipments with her colourful paintings. With the encouragement of Sandra (Kari Matchett), one of Everett's

customers, Maud begins selling her cards and paintings. Locals soon take note, and word of her talents spreads far beyond Nova Scotia, attracting visitors to Maud and Everett's home and notice from the White House.

Touching, funny and wonderfully acted by its two remarkable leads, *Maudie* is an inspirational, based-on-fact tale of a young artist whose talent and determination allowed her to surmount the obstacles in her way, and an unlikely love story of two lonely souls who find their place in the world together.



COMING SOON

## Lion

Garth Davis

AUSTRALIA, UK, USA, 2016

English

135 minutes

Principal Cast: Dev Patel, Rooney Mara, Nicole Kidman

### DISTRIBUTOR DETAILS

Distributor: Entertainment One

Estimated availability: Coming soon

Formats: DCP

Based on Saroo Brierly's memoir *A Long Way Home*, *Lion* tells the remarkable true story of a young Indian boy who mistakenly boards a train and travels thousands of miles away from everything and everyone he knows. Isolated and alone, he escapes a number of dangerous situations before being adopted by a loving Australian couple, who bring him to a new place he will call home: Tasmania. Many years later, Saroo's memories of his past begin to surface and he sets out to find the original family he lost in early childhood.

A seemingly folkloric tale come to life, director Garth Davis' feature debut is both a heart-wrenching and heart-warming celebration of love across boundaries. With a tremendous cast that includes Dev Patel (*Slumdog Millionaire*, *The Man Who Knew*

*Infinity*) as the adult Saroo, Nicole Kidman (*Genius*, *Strangerland*) and David Wenham (*Paper Planes*) as his adoptive parents, and Rooney Mara (*Carol*, *Her*) as his encouraging partner, *Lion* demonstrates the enduring strength of family bonds and the transcendent power of technology to bring people together.



COMING SOON

## Marguerite

Xavier Giannoli

FRANCE/CZECH REPUBLIC/BELGIUM, 2016  
English, Italian, French with English subtitles  
129 minutes

Principal Cast: Catherine Frot, Andre Marcon,  
Michel Gau

### DISTRIBUTOR DETAILS

Distributor: Entertainment One  
Estimated availability: Coming soon  
Formats: DCP

Loosely inspired by the true story of New York socialite Florence Foster Jenkins, *Marguerite* transplants the setting of the tale to 1920s Paris, where a wealthy grande dame will not let anything stand in her way of pursuing her dreams as an opera star. Winner of four César Awards, including Best Actress for lead Catherine Frot (*Haute Cuisine*), *Marguerite* is a tragicomic delight that has won over audiences in its native country.

We first meet the passionate Baroness Marguerite Dumont (Frot) at a lavish afternoon music benefit for war orphans that she is hosting at her chateau. Professional singers have been hired to be the opening act before Marguerite herself takes the stage in front of Parisian high society. However, as the first notes of Mozart's notoriously difficult "Queen of the Night" screech out of Marguerite's throat, it becomes painfully clear that the hostess possesses the same ear-splitting pitch as the peacocks roaming the grounds. As Marguerite is a generous patron of the music scene, everybody around her — including her

beloved but unfaithful husband — offer nothing but support to her face, while whispering insults behind her back.

Director Xavier Giannoli strikes exactly the right balance of comedy and empathy in his depiction of his deluded heroine, aided by Frot's pitch-perfect performance. *Marguerite* is so devoted to her music and believes in her calling that, in the end, it's hard for us to find fault in that.

*The film is neither kind nor cruel, but wise, great-spirited and wonderfully enjoyable. It's an addled dream of beauty unlike any other.*

—Joe Morgenstern, *The Wall Street Journal*



COMING SOON

## The Apology

Tiffany Hsiung

CANADA, 2016

Korean, Chinese, Japanese with English subtitles  
105 minutes

With: Gil Won-Ok, Lola Adela and Grandma Cao

### DISTRIBUTOR DETAILS

Distributor: **National Film Board of Canada**  
Estimated availability: **Coming soon**  
Formats: **DCP/Blu-ray**

It is estimated that during World War II approximately 200,000 women and girls in Japanese-occupied countries were kidnapped and forced into sexual slavery by the Imperial Japanese Army. Known euphemistically as “comfort women,” they were forced to serve in military “comfort stations” both in their homelands and abroad. *The Apology*, which premiered at the 2016 Hot Docs Film Festival, follows three of the last remaining survivors of this shameful historical legacy.

Many of the comfort women, now in their eighties and nineties, lived for decades in silence and shame. Grandma Adela never had the courage to tell her husband about her past before he died. Grandma Cao moved past the tragedy by adopting and singlehandedly raising a daughter in her remote village in China. The outspoken Grandma Gil, meanwhile, tirelessly travels around Asia speaking about her horrifying experiences and attending weekly demonstrations at the Japanese embassy in Seoul. Whether they are seeking a formal apology from the Japanese government or summoning the courage to finally share their secret with loved ones, these women are

determined to seize this last chance to set future generations on a course for reconciliation, healing, and justice.

*The Apology* is Canadian director Tiffany Hsiung’s exceptional first feature, and it’s particularly timely as the comfort women’s movement has been grabbing headlines worldwide this past year. At turns devastating and inspirational, beautiful and transformative, the painful and unresolved journey of these grandmothers is a profound testament to the human spirit.

*A landmark film for its subject matter and the sensitivity with which Hsiung approaches it, The Apology is one of the best films ever produced by the NFB.*

—Patrick Mullen, *POV Magazine*



COMING SOON

## Operation Avalanche

Matt Johnson

CANADA, USA, 2016

English

94 minutes

Principal Cast: Matt Johnson, Owen Williams, Josh Boles

### DISTRIBUTOR DETAILS

Distributor: Entertainment One

Estimated availability: Coming soon

Formats: DCP

OFFICIAL SELECTION, 2016 SUNDANCE  
FILM FESTIVAL

At the height of the Cold War, an amateur film crew becomes embroiled in a plot to beat the Russians to the moon by faking footage of an American landing, in this funny and thrilling “simulated documentary” from up-and-coming Canadian director Matt Johnson (*The Dirties*).

Using their own names, Johnson and co-star Owen Williams play two young film buffs who are improbably recruited by the CIA to help sniff out a suspected Soviet mole within NASA. Posing as an amateur film crew making a documentary, the pair infiltrates the space agency to discover that the promised American moon landing is far behind schedule — which gives the Soviets a decided edge in the Space Race. On their own initiative, the brash duo decides to fabricate footage of an American landing in order to score a propaganda coup, and seek the aid of a professional filmmaker who has sourced NASA technology in order to make a forthcoming science-fiction epic tentatively titled *A Space Odyssey*.

Witty, imaginative and consistently entertaining, *Operation Avalanche* garnered serious buzz at its premiere at the 2016 Sundance Film Festival for the story behind the making of the film: for the scenes at NASA, the filmmakers actually did pose as a student documentary crew and gain access to the space agency, then digitally altered the footage to remove any signs of contemporary technology and present NASA as it looked in the late '60s. This meticulous attention to detail gives the film's outrageous fabrications a stunning authenticity, and makes the counterfactual question at its centre all the more provocative. Even though most of us accept that the moon landing actually happened, would it have been possible to fool the entire world into believing in a cleverly constructed fake?

*Operation Avalanche isn't just about the thrill of making movies — it's about the thrill of making history.*

—Dan Caffrey, *Consequence of Sound*





COMING SOON

## Mean Dreams

Nathan Morlando

**CANADA, 2016**  
English  
108 minutes

Principal Cast: **Sophie Nélisse, Josh Wiggins, Bill Paxton, Colm Feore**

### DISTRIBUTOR DETAILS

Distributor: **Entertainment One**  
Estimated availability: **Coming Soon**  
Formats: **DCP**

With *Edwin Boyd* (aka *Citizen Gangster*), winner of the Best Canadian First Feature prize at TIFF, Nathan Morlando established himself as a director to watch. With his second feature *Mean Dreams* he more than delivers on that promise, crafting an emotionally powerful film about two young lovers on the run from their respective pasts.

The life of teenage Jonas Ford (Josh Wiggins) is dominated by his father's struggle to keep the family farm afloat and his mother's ongoing battle with severe depression. When Casey Caraway (Sophie Nélisse) moves in a few miles down the road, the two click immediately — but while most parents would be happy to see their children find companionship, Jonas' father sees Casey as someone who distracts Jonas from his duties, while Casey's father Wayne (Bill Paxton), an alcoholic prone to explosive and sometimes violent outbursts, sees Jonas as competition. Making things worse is the fact that Wayne is the town's new deputy, and the sheriff considers domestic abuse to be a household matter. With nowhere to turn, the young lovers are soon faced with an impossible decision.

Atmospherically shot by Steve Cosens (*Edwin Boyd: Citizen Gangster, The Tracey Fragments*), one of Canada's finest cinematographers, *Mean Dreams* percolates with a sense of both promise and dread, the vaulting sky above the lovers' heads signifying limitless possibility even while serving as a grim reminder of their seemingly inescapable pasts. Drawing fine performances from the veteran Paxton and especially his young leads Wiggins and Nélisse, Morlando creates a sensitive portrait of the dilemmas facing young people trapped by circumstance and history.

*Morlando draws great performances out of his two young leads ... who are like fugitives out of a French New Wave film, discovering love while also hatching a plan on the run.*

—Peter Howell, *The Toronto Star*