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FEBRUARY 1-11, 2024

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Feb 9

Feb.

24

Mar

28

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Tickets

All tickets and passes are while supplies last. Please purchase at



reelout25. eventive.org/ welcome

Individual Tickets per Program General Admission \$15 + service fees Students/Seniors \$12 + service fees

Tickets for ReelOut's Opening Shindig

General Admission \$20 + service fees **Students/Seniors** \$15 + service fees

25@25 Pass \$100 + service fees You can choose 25 out of the 29 programs at the festival and save a whopping \$375 (based on general admission)! Please ensure after you purchase your pass that you RSVP ("buy" tickets) for every program you want to attend as we do not reserve seats for Pass Holders.

Rush Line/In-Person

There may be limited numbers of RUSH LINE seating to be purchased in-person (CASH ONLY) and will be available on a first come-first serve basis 20 minutes prior to showtime at The Screening Room (120 Princess Street). Please buy online to avoid disappointment.

Venues

The Screening Room 120 Princess St. – Reelout Box Office and all film screenings

The Broom Factory 305 Rideau St. – Reelout's Opening Shindig All venues have optional single-use, wheelchair accessible, gender neutral washrooms and are directly on public transit routes.

Proud supporter of the Reelout Queer Film Festival







Two deeply closeted gay men struggle to accept themselves. In a parallel dimension, the Closet Monsters bring hope.

> "What an original, entertaining, even hilarious book."

SIR IAN MCKELLEN



Schedule at a Glance

Schedule at a Glance

View the schedule at a glance at reelout25.eventive.org/schedule



/schedul	e Real Peeps R	eelOut in the Dark	Shorts	
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1 at The Broom Factory PAGES				
6:30pm	ReelOut's 25th Opening Shindig with Dare DeLaFemme! 8			
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2 at The Screening Room				
7pm	³ THINGS CONSULTING/REELOUT OPENING SELECTION: PeaFowl + short film <i>Embrace the Moon</i>			
9pm	Saint Drogo + short film Forever Flowers			
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3 at The Screening Room				
12pm	Summer Qamp + short films The P	rince's Dilemma & Patches	10	
2pm	eilani's Fortune + short film A Tender Date			
4pm	The Floating Man + short film Meet The Creatures II			
7pm	Dreamers of the Day (34th Anniv	Dreamers of the Day (34th Anniversary Retrospective)		
9:30pm	pm A Big Gay Hairy Hit! Where the Bears Are: The Documentary			
	Skin Deep (29th Anniversary Retrospective)			
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4 at The Screening Room				
12pm	Queendom		13	
2pm	Sorry I'm Late I Didn't Want to	Come: Shorts & Performance	14	
4pm	The Radical + short film Absent Bo	dies		
6pm	The Splendor of Gender: Shorts	Program	15	
8pm	tOuch Kink with shorts Fursona, Pr	ivate Chat & Pup Perfect	16	
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5 at The Screening Room				
6pm	Africa: Within & Without Shorts	s Program	17	
8pm	Chasing Chasing Amy			
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6 at The Screening Room				
6pm	Y a une étoile + court-métrage La	Maine Gauche	18	
8pm	Howdy, Neighbor! + short film She's a Sensation			
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7 at The Screening Room				
6pm	Persisting Lights: Stories of H	ope & Courage Shorts Progra	am 19	
8pm	Aligned + short films Sweat & Burn	My Skin	20	
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8 at The Screening Room				
6pm	In Her Gaze: Women's Shorts Prog	ram	21	
8pm	Outed + short film Good Morning I'm	a Whore	22	
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9 at The Screening Room				
6pm	Labor + short film Confusion of the A	Afternoon	23	
8pm	The Judgment + short film EITR			
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10 at The Screening Room				
12pm	Wigudun + short film Mawitai'kw		24	
2pm	We are Family: Shorts Program		25	
4pm	Susan Feniger: Forked		26	
7pm	Happy Feet & Melodies Sweet	Shorts Program	27	
9pm	closing selection: Glitter and Doom		28	

Feature-Length Narratives

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Parties

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RealOut Doc Series

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Funding Partners



Community Sponsors: TransFamily Kingston, Kingston Writers Fest, Skeleton Park Arts Festival, Kingston Pride, Beyond the Binary, M4M Sexual Health at Trellis, Maison DePoivre Gallery, OPIRG Kingston, The Queer Muslim Collective, Modern Fuel Artist Run Centre, Knifey Spooney, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, George Taylor Richardson Memorial Fund, Riverside RV Campground, Queen's Human Rights & Equity Office/Positive Space Program, SWAG, Sexual Assault Centre Kingston, Queen's University Association for Queer Employees, All Our Relations Land Trust, Justin Case and the Closet Monster, Westport Pride, Greater Napanee Pride, Black Luck Collective, Kingston School of Dance, The Juvenis Festival, Queen's Black Studies, Sexual Health Resource Centre, EQUIP.

Empire

Special Thanks to Amherst Island Radio for their generous donation! And Thank You to the hundreds of sponsors, volunteers, donors and artists who have contributed to ReelOut's success over the past 25 wonderful years!

Credits

Matt Salton EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Amillia Ho FESTIVAL MANAGER Andi Wilder VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR **Griffen Penney** TECHNICAL DIRECTOR Rvan Randall TECHNICAL ADVISOR Vincent Perez GRAPHIC DESIGNER Parker Robb, Deanna Auger ADDITIONAL GRAPHIC DESIGN Ruth Messier BOOKKEEPER

Festival Team

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Ying Cui Devon Bellamy Mackenzie Loveys Leikang Li Shirley King Laura Cybulski

Programming Committee

Aksel Richard, Matt Salton, Kel Martin, Tory Moar, Tyler Cyr, Tamara Lang, Jirjees Al-Shammaa, Jennifer Good, Mars Atkins, Angel Tucker, Izzy Myers-Tung

Special Guest Curators

Michelle Bunton, GHY Cheung, Tamara Lang, Dan Vena, Nasrin Himada

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Thank you to everyone that donated \$25 or less over the year too!







Welcome Back Friends!

ReelOut takes place on the unceded traditional territories of the Mohawk, Anishinabek, Huron-Wendat, Algonquin, Iroquois, Mississauga and, later, the Metis settlers. February is Black History Month.

This year we mark our silver anniversary celebrating 25 fabulous years of independent queer cinema

We're showcasing over 90 films from 35 countries/diasporas and we'll be revisiting some of our most beloved themes from past years including our Reel Peeps Doc Series, our RealOut Doc Series, our ReelOut in the Dark "Thriller" spotlight and of course our exciting narratives and incredible shorts programs as well. We're also thrilled to be showcasing retrospective works from the early 90s by Midi Onodera (Skin Deep) and the Kingston-lensed Dreamers of the Day by Patricia Rivera Spencer!

One of the unique trends our programming committee noticed when considering the hundreds of submissions since May of 2023, was the sheer number of films that incorporated song and dance; including films that wouldn't be considered part of the musical genre (the Acadian feature-doc Y a une étoile (There's a Star) for example); our opening (Peafowl) and closing (Glitter and Doom) selections revolve around dance as an expression of queerness; we witness the rise of the musical genius of Witch Prophet (Leilani's Fortune); the steamy erotic dance film Aligned; and an entire shorts program filled with memorable musical moments (Happy Feet & Melodies Sweet). Perhaps having been sequestered away from each other for many years, and now living in a world at war, creatives were ready to explode in the most sincere forms of artistic expression.

We hope that for 10 days, we can offer a slice of sanity and positivity to anyone and everyone that wishes peace on this earth and a kinder and more empathetic society.

Cheers to Queers,

۲0 a M.A

Matt Salton Executive Director on behalf of the ReelOut Team

Jury for the 2024 Kim Renders Memorial Awards for Best Performance

Daniel Pauley is a theatre and film actor originally from Prince Edward Island. Daniel strives to make an emotional connection with his audience when acting. He loves watching films and is honored to be a member of the ReelOut Jury in honour of Kim Renders.

An impassioned creator, **Scott Forster** is a proud member of the LGBTQ+ community and an activist for proper representation of BIPOC and intersectional communities in both theatre and film. With a performance background in musical theatre, Scott began his career as an actor and theatre director while studying theatre production and design during his time at the Dan School of Drama and Music. Through his early work, Scott discovered a passion for creating opportunities for marginalized voices to be heard and has since dedicated much of his career to implementing EDI ideals in performance spaces.

Brayah Pickard is a Kingston-based performer who also enjoys directing, writing, and teaching. She has most recently been seen in the roles of Cybelle for Theatre Kingston's Blood River and Cristabel in Leslie Arden's new musical The Lancashire Lass. She is passionate about the acting world being a place of discovery, community, and acceptance for other young queer people, just as it has been for her.







Friday February 2

7PM FRIDAY FEBRUARY 2 Three Things Consulting/Reelout Opening Gala Selection:

PEAFOWL

Directed by Sungbin Byun/South Korea/2022/1:54:15 Korean with English Subtitles

Myung is a transgender woman who cut ties with her family and hometown because of who she is. Now, all she needs is the surgery but the only way to earn money, by winning the Waacking dance competition, didn't go well. One day, she receives a call that her father passed away and Myung finds out that her father left a will that will give her the legacy if she performs Drum Dance during his 49th memorial ritual. With no choice left, Myung goes back to her hometown to perform according to her father's will.

PRECEDED BY THE SHORT FILM: EMBRACE THE MOON

d. Katrina Pleasance/Canada/2023/4:40

The Moon Goddess falls in love with a human farmer. Even though they're a world apart, she longs to meet her and uses her powers to bring them both together.

COMMUNITY SPONSOR:



9PM FRIDAY FEBRUARY 2 SAINT DROGO

Directed by Michael J Ahern, Ryan Miller, Brandon Perras-Sanchez/USA/2023/77:00

Caleb has been plagued by nightmares about an ex who had been working in Provincetown, MA but now won't return his calls. Under the guise of taking a respite, he convinces his boyfriend Adrian to trek down to the Cape Cod town in the off-season of winter. When they arrive, Caleb's ex is nowhere to be found, and the locals provide no help. As Caleb's dreams continue to haunt him, he becomes more determined to find his ex, even as the search puts more strain on his relationship. But the more he persists in his search, the closer he nears the sinister secret the town is hiding. **Filmmakers in attendance. Canadian Premiere!**

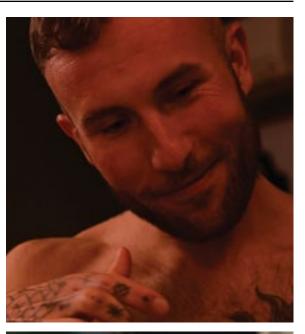
PRECEDED BY THE SHORT FILM: FOREVER FLOWERS

d. Joe Solomon/UK/2023/13:00

When a young caregiver and her unsavoury boyfriend attempt to steal from an elderly couple, their plans unravel as they meet an unexpected fate beyond their imagination.

COMMUNITY SPONSOR: Kingston Writersfest







12PM SATURDAY FEBRUARY 3 FAMILY FRIENDLY SUMMER QAMP

Directed by Jen Markowitz/Canada/2023/80:00

Buried within the woods of Alberta, Canada sits camp fYrefly, a haven for LGBTQIA2S+ teens, far away from the fierce political battle currently being waged against queer expression and gender identity. SUMMER QAMP invites audiences into the innocence and joy of a summer away with friends, while never losing sight of the bravery of these young protagonists whose very existence is challenged in their normal lives.

PRECEDED BY THE SHORT FILMS:

THE PRINCE'S DILEMMA d. Devin Rowe/USA/2023/5:00

This animated short follows Prince Philip, who longs to be with a prince of his own and must decide whether to follow tradition or forge his own happily ever after.

PATCHES d. Georgie Athanasopoulos/Canada/2021/2:01

Outcast due to physical differences, a lonely little boy in the 1920's makes an unlikely friend and finds belonging through sacrifice.

COMMUNITY SPONSOR:

Kingston Frontenac Public Library & TransFamily Kingston









2PM SATURDAY FEBRUARY 3 LEILANI'S FORTUNE

Directed by Loveleen Kaur/Canada/2023/80:00

Leilani's Fortune is an intimate journey that follows the blossoming career of queer, Ethiopian-Eritrean artist, Witch Prophet. After a decade of struggling as an independent artist, she is finally getting the validation and support she needs to create the album of her prophecies. Canada boasts some of the biggest names in music including Celine Dion, Justin Bieber, Michael Bublé, and Drake. With her hypnotic harmonies and genre bending sound, she is poised to shape the next era of global Canadian artists. **Filmmaker Loveleen Kaur will be in attendance.**

PRECEDED BY THE SHORT FILM:

A TENDER DATE

d. Tanesha Morris/USA/2023/8:26

A couple has their first date and realize they have a strong connection and an even stronger disconnection. Filmmaker/Actor Tanesha Morris will be in attendance.

COMMUNITY SPONSOR: Kingston Canadian Film Festival







4PM SATURDAY FEBRUARY 3 THE FLOATING MAN

Directed by Michael V. Smith/Canada/2023/1:17:32

As anti-trans and drag queen rhetoric rages in gender wars across the globe, Michael V. Smith's intimate documentary unpacks his journey as a radical drag performer and genderqueer. Inspired by Agnes Varda, The Floating Man is a unique blend of DIY documentary, road trip, performance art, and videopoem. In this intimate self-portrait by a self-described sissy, The Floating Man sources Smith's provocative art practice, to examine a lifetime of untrue stories about his body. The Floating Man is an uplifting and timely film about gender fluidity and the power of art to transform a life.

Filmmaker Michael V. Smith in attendance

PRECEDED BY THE SHORT FILM:

MEET THE CREATURES

d. Veronica Dymond/Canada/2023/4:00

A mother isn't sure she can accept her daughter's new paramour in this home-brew animated sci-fi short.

COMMUNITY SPONSOR:

Modern Fuel Artist-Run-Centre & Justin Case and the Closet Monster

MODERNFUEL

JUSTIN CASE and the CLOSET MONSTER

7PM SATURDAY FEBRUARY 3 DREAMERS OF THE DAY **34TH ANNIVERSARY RETROSPECTIVE**

Directed by Patricia Rivera Spencer/Canada/1990/94:00

Audiences love this lesbian romantic comedy and give it standing ovations almost everywhere it shows! Watch it just for fun, watch it to learn about the community, or watch it for the sheer pleasure of seeing Canadian talent in a film shot right here in Kingston. A writer/ filmmaker with an acknowledged passion for women, Andra has everything in the current project carefully plotted. Except for Claire. It's a story about two women who help each other to be all that they can be, and who fall in love in the process. It's a movie about being true to who you are.

OUT OF THE ARCHIVE: CANADA'S LOST LESBIAN DECADE, 1990-1999

This screening series is part of a larger research project by Queen's Film and Media professors Tamara de Szegheo Lang and Dan Vena. It is funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council and George Taylor Richardson Memorial Fund.







9:30PM SATURDAY FEBRUARY 3 A BIG GAY HAIRY HIT! WHERE THE BEARS ARE: THE DOCUMENTARY Directed by Eduardo Aquino/USA/2023/91:00

This hilarious and touching documentary tells the story of how three older, gay, "bears" working in Hollywood, tired of having their gay-themed ideas rejected by the mainstream, decided to self-produce their own web series. Against all odds, the comedy featuring three bear roommates like "The Golden Girls" solving crimes ala "Murder, She Wrote," became a sensation online and one of the most successful web shows of all time. The documentary examines ageism, body-shaming, sex-positivity, the creative process and how friendship and community can ultimately create something beloved all over the world.

COMMUNITY SPONSOR: Riverside RV Campground





9:30PM SATURDAY FEBRUARY 3 **SKIN DEEP**

Directed by Midi Onodera/Canada/1995/85:00

Skin Deep leads us into worlds where people are never what they appear to be. It is a riveting psychological drama about obsession, relationship and sexuality. As Alex Koyama prepares to shoot an exploitation film about tattooing and the culture of pleasure and pain, the world around her exists only to serve her film. She initiates a dangerous and threatening game when Chris Black responds to her ad in a tattoo magazine. For Alex, this is living research, and she ignores the fact that Chris is deeply disturbed and gender-disoriented. This denial escalates into a psychological battle between Alex and Chris which alters their lives forever – because in a world of illusion, reality is the biggest lie. **Featuring a post screening conversation with Director Midi Onodera**.

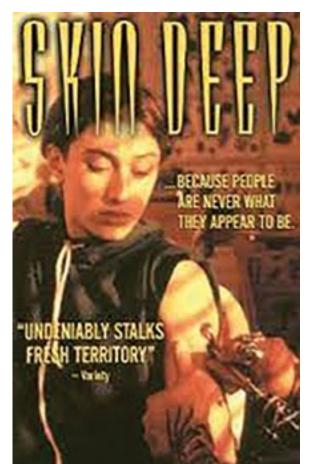
Out of the Archive: Canada's Lost Lesbian Decade, 1990-1999

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COMMUNITY SPONSOR:

Queen's University Film and Media Department & The George Taylor Richardson Memorial Fund







12PM SUNDAY FEBRUARY 4 QUEENDOM

Directed by Agnia Galdanova/France/USA/2023/98:00

Gena, a queer artist from a small town in Russia, dresses in otherworldly costumes made from junk and tape, and protests the government on the streets of Moscow. Born and raised on the harsh streets of Magadan, a frigid outpost of the Soviet gulag, Gena is only 21. She stages radical performances in public that become a new form of art and activism. By doing that, she wants to change people's perception of beauty and queerness and bring attention to the harassment of the LGBTQ+ community. The performances—often dark, strange, evocative, and queer at their core—are a manifestation of Gena's subconscious. But they come at a price.

COMMUNITY SPONSOR: The Skeleton Park Arts Festival



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CANADIANA HISTORY FIRST NATIONS MYSTERY SCIENCE FICTION SEXUALITY AND MORE

2PM SUNDAY FEBRUARY 4 SORRY I'M LATE I DIDN'T WANT TO COME: SHORTS PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCES

Sorry I'm late I didn't want to come, shorts program and performances presented by Wee Bit Off Centre, an embryonic art centre and a gathering place for its own imagining. SILIDWTC indulges a fascination with failure, something that queer folks have always done deftly and with elan. It brings scenes of refusal and futility and redundancy across several short videos together with live performances of rejections that have been reworked at our upcoming public workshop.

This program is being presented as part of Wee Bit Off Centre's rethinking of art institutional practices, including how failure helps us articulate visions of working and being together unavailable under current logics of success.

Initiated by Tear Jerkers (Michelle Bunton and GHY Cheung), WBOC is co-stewarded alongside William Carroll, Em Harmsen, Faten Nastas Mitwasi and Mehvish Rather. The project is curated by Nasrin Himada, Associate Curator, Academic Outreach and Community Engagement, at Agnes Etherington Art Centre. WBOC takes up residence across Etherington House and other off-site locations from 1 January to 31 March 2024.



COMMUNITY SPONSOR: Agnes Etherington Art Centre

AGNES

4PM SUNDAY FEBRUARY 4 THE RADICAL

Directed by Richard Finn Gregory/S. Africa/Kenya/2022/87:00

Muhsin Hendricks was a fashion designer in South Africa, who struggled to reconcile his sexuality with his faith. He studied in Pakistan to become an imam—a religious leader—so that he could understand Islam more deeply. After deciding that he had to be truthful to himself and the world, he came out in 1995, and established the radically-inclusive mosque in Cape Town that gave rise to the global queer Muslim network. Today, Hendricks leads a devoted group of LGBTQ+ Muslims and allies, based in a working-class neighborhood of the city. He decides to take his work to where it is needed most: the East African communities living under anti-LGBTQ+ laws.

PRECEDED BY THE SHORT FILM: ABSENT BODIES d. Antonius Ghosn/Lebanon/2023/26:14

N returns to his hometown of Beirut after years of absence but remains invisible to his loved ones, who can only feel his presence. As he listens to a series of confessions recorded by his lover, he learns of their lives without him. N wanders between dreams, reality and fantasies in his own city.

COMMUNITY SPONSOR: The Queer Muslim Collective







6PM SUNDAY FEBRUARY 4 THE SPLENDOR OF GENDER SHORTS PROGRAM

A collection of animation, experimental, documentary and narrative stories that run across the gender spectrum that is as diverse as the emotions evoked throughout. **Content Warning:** Although we have attempted to program a collection that overall will leave our Trans/ NB/GF/Intersex/Gender diverse audiences feeling seen/heard and uplifted, there are some incidents of transphobic microaggressions and discussions around conversion therapy on this journey so please be advised.

I WOULD LIKE TO LIVE ON THE MOON

d. Emily Burke/UK/2023/2:23

A young non-binary person feels overwhelmed and wants to escape – literally, to the moon.

OUTSIDE THE LINES

d. Stan Oversteegen/The Netherlands/2023/4:48

In this short animated documentary, young queer people share their experiences on what it's like to deviate from the straight-, cis- norm and how this makes them feel.

THIS LIGHT IS MY BIRTHPLACE

d. Shaun Soutar/Canada/2023/14:28/

Two opposing TV signals compete for airtime. The usual narratives of trans identity touted by dominant media are disrupted by authentic stories from trans people.

VEGAS

d. Anna Wheeler/Canada/2023/10:30

A disillusioned artist- turned taxi driver picks up an unassuming stranger and things take a dramatic turn when it is revealed not everything is as it appears. Vegas is a coming of age dramedy, wrapped inside a neon-noir urban mystery.

RIVER

d. Rafal Sokolowski & Kanat Umurbekov/USA/2023/9:00

River, a trans woman, returns home to attend the funeral of her estranged father. She arrives consumed by regret for not seeing him before he passed, but instead of closure, she finds that the funeral has been staged and that her father faked his death to lure her into 'conversion therapy'.

LAMBING

d. Katie McNeice/Ireland/2023/18:00

A young dad in rural Ireland must face his anxiety around gender and bullying when his baby is born Intersex.



ABAN

d. Abbas Taheri & Mahdieh Toosi/Iran/2023/15:59

Under constant pressure from her exhusband, Nazanin should turn their child – Aban, nine years old – away from a very driven feminine taste. One day, Aban goes to the hospital thinking of undergoing life-changing surgery.

MICKEY

d. Stevey Hunter/Canada/2023/5:19

Mickey isn't one to share their feelings. But after a winter-break fling, everything changes. Will they work up the courage to express how they really feel?

GORDITX

d. Malik Ever/USA/2023/14:55

As summer comes to a close, kung-fu obsessed Ursula discovers she's not the only outcast at an exclusive country club summer camp. With the kids' golf tournament looming, Ursula hopes to win and prove her worth with the help of Chef Cormac, the transmasculine former ladies golf pro.

BECOMING QUEER JOY

d. Ronnie Cheng, Leo Litke/Canada/2023/5:58

Tien is the first Asian trans man to publicly come out in the Vancouver, then, gay and lesbian community of 2001. In this profound and inspiring film, Tien shares his story as a trailblazing, racialised, transgender immigrant and his journey to discovering his true purpose in life — cultivating and becoming joy.

COMMUNITY SPONSOR:

TransFamily Kingston & Beyond the Binary



8PM SUNDAY FEBRUARY 4 TOUCH KINK

Directed by Todd "Max" Carey/Canada/2023/75:01

A documentary film journey into the secret world of pleasure, pain, and power. Told through the interweaving of four main stories; Grace, an all-American soccer mom, learns to "Awaken the Goddess" inside her as she makes her nervous first foray into the realm of being a Dominatrix. Mistress Evilyne, a British Dominatrix on a cultural mission, is outed to the tabloid press and harassed by the British establishment. Robin, the fearless Kinkster and good old boy from Texas, who just happens to be a slave and property of a Dominatrix. January Seraph, the mercurial muse, guide, and inspiration behind understanding the secret power that all possess, but few truly realize, is revealed to those brave enough to "tOuch Kink". **Filmmaker Todd "Max" Carey will be in attendance.**

PRECEDED BY THE SHORT FILMS: FURSONA

d. Alyssia Labbé-Hervieux/Canada/2022/5:00

The Furry community is made up of people who use drawing and costumes to bring animal characters with human characteristics to life. "Fursona" depicts the universe of Aly, a member of this community.

PRIVATE CHAT

d. Ashley Song Melinger & Joe Bowden/USA/2023/12:22

In an attempt to up her game, a young woman purchases some one-on-one time with a webcam model. When she decides to reveal her true identity, the two of them have a conversation about intimacy, desire, and which angles best showcase your ass. Private Chat is a scintillating window into the voyeuristic world of cam modeling, challenging the preconceived notions and stigma around sex work.

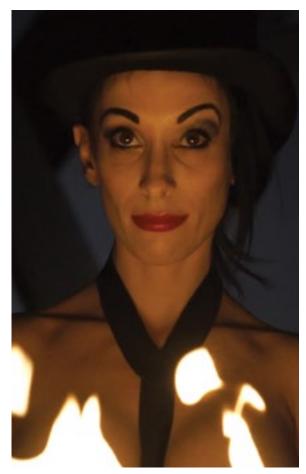
PUP PERFECT

d. Henry Baker/USA/2023/16:48

Most likely the first documentary to explore the world of gay/queer human Pups. This subculture evolved from the gay leather community and now thrives in tandem. Interviews with over a dozen Pups reveal that Pup Play is a way of embodying the spirit of a dog, both physically and mentally. More than just a sexual fetish, Pup Play provides a way for individuals to escape the stresses of everyday life and embrace a mindful existence. Our "dogumentary" sheds light on this unique LGBT+ lifestyle, its stigmas and the freedoms attached to it.

COMMUNITY SPONSOR: SHRC (Sexual Health Resource Centre)











6PM MONDAY FEBRUARY 5 AFRICA: WITHIN & WITHOUT SHORTS PROGRAM

Join us for this shorts program that starts off by exploring what it means to leave one's home to start anew (without) and then shifts to two narratives that represent the vibrant, queer stories being made by filmmakers in Nigeria (within). Filmmaker Ayo Tsalithaba (they/ them/theirs) in attendance.

ATMOSPHERIC ARRIVALS

d. Ayo Tsalithaba/Canada/ Ghana/ Lesotho/2023/6:37

"Atmospheric Arrivals" is about home and the (im) possibility of return. The "atmospheric arrival" captures a means of coming into being through memory and imagination; by reaching across spacetimes to "fetch" parts of the self that may exist elsewhere.

AS LEAVES IN THE WIND

d. Sofia Luz/Spain/Equatorial Guinea/2023/10:56

As Leaves in the Wind is the story of two transgender women who migrate from their home countries seeking asylum and opportunities in a new continent. Their lives go through structural changes when they meet and take part in a new support network. Made by them for them.

THIS IS NOT YOU d. Amara Ogara/Nigeria/2023/33:00

A lesbian couple, Lolo and Ade prepare to host their friends for their weekly bonfire night, but tension begins to simmer in their home as Lolo handles all the cooking while Ade offers minimal assistance, creating a growing imbalance. Despite the mounting tension, the couple strives to maintain a jovial atmosphere, engaging in heartfelt conversations about the challenges they face as queer individuals in Nigeria.



14 YEARS & A DAY d. Ayo Lawson, Uyaiedu Ikpe-Etim/ Nigeria/2023/20:49

In a riveting tale of love and self-discovery, a restless young woman finds herself embroiled in a passionate conflict with her partner of 14 years. Fuelled by frustration, she seeks solace in a solitary dinner, unaware that fate has something extraordinary in store. As the stars align, she encounters a captivating stranger whose mere presence ignites a storm of doubt within her heart.

COMMUNITY SPONSOR:

Black Studies at Queen's University & Black Luck Collective



8PM MONDAY FEBRUARY 5 CHASING CHASING AMY

Directed by Sav Rodgers/USA/2023/95:00

In Sav Rodgers' debut feature film, he explores the unexamined legacy of Kevin Smith's cult classic, Chasing Amy. His documentary is both a tribute to the movie that saved his life as a queer kid, coming of age in Kansas, and an exploration of its mixed reviews from the LGBTQ+ community. Through candid interviews with Smith and star Joey Lauren Adams, Sav discovers their journey of making their movie was far more difficult and emotional than anyone could have possibly known. CHASING CHASING AMY is a trans coming of age love story, set against the backdrop of an indie film that solidified some careers and damaged others.



GREATER NAPANEE



6PM TUESDAY FEBRUARY 6 Y A UNE ÉTOILE

Director/Réalisateur Julien Cadieux/Canada/2023/1:12:00

Samuel LeBlanc, a young transgender musician, undertook an artistic approach to find a rural queer community in his native Acadia. During his wanderings, he will find, behind the heteronormative rural landscapes, people determined to live their differences without having to leave their hometown or deny their cultural identity to get there. Samuel will come out with the conviction that the rural queer reality in Acadia, although sometimes difficult, has its share of beauty and community acceptance and that a queer Acadia can and does exist.

Samuel Leblanc, un jeune musicien transgenre, entreprend une démarche artistique pour découvrir une communauté rurale queer dans son Acadie natale. Tout au long de son périple, il va trouver, au sein des paysages ruraux hétéronormatifs, des gens déterminés à vivre leurs différences sans avoir à quitter leur ville d'origine ou à nier leur identité culturelle pour y arriver. Samuel aura la conviction que la réalité rurale queer en Acadie, bien que parfois difficile, a sa part de beauté et d'acceptation communautaire et qu'une Acadie queer peut et doit exister.

PRECEDED BY THE SHORT FILM/PRÉCÉDÉ DU COURT MÉTRAGE: LA MAIN GAUCHE (THE LEFT HAND) d./e. Maxime Robin/Canada/2023/13:34

Young Maxime's mother starts worrying about him when his 2nd grade teacher declares him "abnormal".

La maman du petit Maxime se fait beaucoup de souci pour lui quand son enseignante de 2e année le déclare. belonging through sacrifice.





COMMUNITY SPONSOR: Centre Culturel Frontenac



8PM TUESDAY FEBRUARY 6 HOWDY, NEIGHBOR!

Directed by Allisyn Snyder/USA/2023/1:20:00

When former child actor, Benjamin (Matthew Scott Montgomery), is recognized by his new neighbor (Grant Jordan), the lines between friend and fan become blurred, turning his number one fan into his number one nightmare. With no help from law enforcement, Benjamin begins investigating the oddly familiar man with his best friend Harley (Debby Ryan).

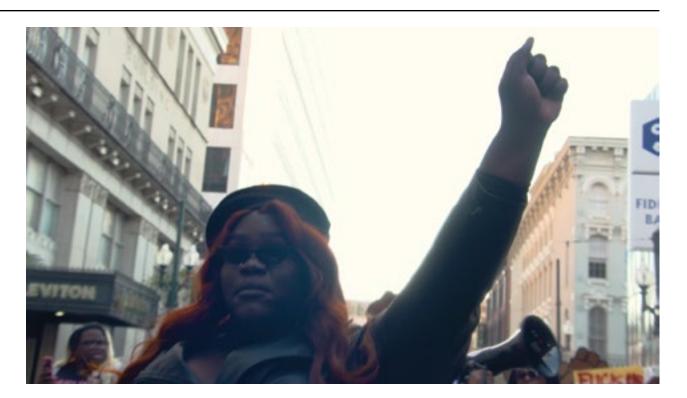
PRECEDED BY THE SHORT FILM: SHE'S A SENSATION

d. Manu Fernández/Spain/2023/15:00

Ángelo, a boxing trainer, prepares Irene – La Perla Torres – to fight for a world title. La Perla tattoos a word on her heart, convinced that this will give her special power in combat. Things get complicated when everyone discovers that her rival has also tattooed her heart.







6PM WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 7 PERSISTING LIGHTS: STORIES OF HOPE & COURAGE SHORTS PROGRAM

These documentary short-subject films focus on beacons of hope & courage during even the darkest times.

HOUSE OF TULIP

d. Cydney Tucker/USA/2023/24:02

House of Tulip follows two Black trans activists as they run for office and work to build Louisiana's first housing refuge that provides residency for trans and gender non-conforming residents. We'll follow the founders as they fight to use their organization to protect and build community in a state with one of the highest gun-related murder rates in the country. Their journeys will highlight the dangerous yet beautiful reality of what it means to be Black trans women in the deep South.

TWO SOULS

d. Myat Noe/Myanmar/2023/21:03

Two gay lovers, now living as political refugees from Myanmar (Burma) in a Thai border town reunite. But the scars and traumas of their experiences under military coup in their native country, as well as changing sentiments, challenge their relationship.

THE PRIDE LIAR

d. Andres Lübbert/Belgium/2023/19:00

Emzo is a queer activist from Georgia who had to flee his country 5 years ago. In Belgium he continues his struggle.

MAGHREB'S HOPE

d. Bassem ben Brahmim/Tunisia/2023/24:00

Through a fusion of drawing, animation techniques, and real-life footage, these artistic portrayals highlight the experiences of queer individuals from the "BIG Maghreb" region, including Libya, Algeria, Tunisia, and Morocco. These individuals have courageously shattered societal taboos surrounding their gender and sexuality, defying legal, social, and familial pressures, even among those who have chosen to distance themselves from their families.

PARADISE

d. Minki Hong/South Kore/2023/29:57

"Paradise" revisits South Korea's era of authoritarian development (1970s-1980s) through the lens of queer livelihood. Despite the harsh realities of successive dictatorships, compulsory military service, and expectations of marriage and childbirth, six elderly gay men reveal how they converted second-run theaters and nearby bars into popular sites of erotic liberation, same-sex friendships, and romantic encounters. Using rare footage of Seoul's only extant secondrun movie house, visual archives, and historical animation, "Paradise" documents South Korea's vibrant gay underground before the solidification of democracy and the introduction of the internet in the 1990s.

COMMUNITY SPONSOR: OPIRG Kingston





8PM WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 7 **ALIGNED**

Directed by Apollo Bakopoulos/Greece/2023/1:17:22

Aligned is an intimate exploration of self-discovery, love, desire and pain. Set against a backdrop of beautiful music, dance and photography. Two male dancers with shared cultural heritage, though worlds apart, find a deep unexpected connection. This intimate tale reveals the beauty that lies within us all and the transformative power of self-love.

PRECEDED BY THE SHORT FILMS

d. Wrik Mead/Canada/2023/2:30

Sweat presents a lone male figure who enters a sauna and eventually is drowned by his own fear. Is he really under attack by the whispers in the room or are they just voices in his head?

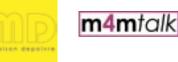
BURN MY SKIN

d. Leonardo Amorim/Brazil/2023/19:25

These men are all dripping in sweat, but it doesn't matter.

COMMUNITY SPONSOR:

Maison DePoivre Gallery & M4M Sexual Health at Trellis







6PM THURSDAY FEBRUARY 8 IN HER GAZE WOMEN'S SHORTS PROGRAM

This series of shorts focuses on stories of a diverse array of women and the connections to sexuality, history, and autonomy.

KENOPSIA

d. Maneet Shergill/Canada/2023/14:50

Kenopsia is a film about the life cycle of a Green Room Couch and the fear of a normally busy room becoming empty. Through the life cycle of the Green Room Couch, we also follow the Life Cycle of the Students and Actors that use the Green Room and said Couch through several generations.

IN BETWEEN

d. Christie Pawluch/Canada/2023/13:39

In Between tells the story of Blake, who lives a happy heteronormative life with her long time partner, Eric. After some vivid unexpected dreams, she gets a visit from a love from her past life, Adeline, who shows up to her home from across the world. If your past showed up on your doorstep... what would you do?

HE LOVES ME UNTIL HE HATES ME

d. Vivek Shraya/Canada/2023/12:00

Taking inspiration from such 90's classics like The Bodyguard and erotic thrillers, "He Loves Me Until He Hates Me" creates a meaningful (and playful) look at the unpredictability of masculinity—how it can fluctuate in insidious ways within a relationship, how one can be worn down in this type of power dynamic, and worse, how that can turn into lateral violence towards other women.

TETE A TETE

d. Florence Sobieski/Canada/2023/25:00

Though they seem to have little in common, a famous lesbian comedian with strong ties to Toronto's LGBTQ2S+ community and a high-profile corporate lawyer wellestablished in New York City discover they share a similar fear of losing their status over living their true identity. This Canadian bilingual short film shot in Toronto explores themes of sexual identity, biphobia and social facades.

DEAR VANESSA

d. Roku Jingwen Long/USA/2023/13:00

Amidst a night of heartache and longing, two Asian girls, Lucy and Vanessa seize an opportunity to get closer through laughter, tears, and shared dreams. As their connection deepens, Lucy must navigate her hidden feelings toward Vanessa while exploring the possibility of a profound and unexpected love. Along the way, Lucy reveals her desire to create a story about their journey, and the film becomes the realization of her deepest aspirations.



SEPTEMBER 10TH

d. Tasneem Nanji/Canada/2023/15:10

Two queer Muslim Women, one in Toronto one in New York, navigate love, family, and connection the night before 9-11.

WHEN THERE WERE TREES d. Shahin Gorgani/Iran/2023/21:50

Azar (82), a former actress, learns of the passing of her lover. With the help of a traveling theater troupe, she embarks on a journey to find the woman she was forced to leave because of society's taboos. Her journey allows her to reflect on her past and her regrets, but instead of death, it brings her life.

TIDES OF CONNECTION

d. Terra Kalena Graber & Maya Westra/ Canada/2023/3:35

Two teenagers have deep conversation through a message in a bottle and overtime develop feelings for each other.

COMMUNITY SPONSOR:

The Ban Righ Foundation & The Beaver Lodge







8PM THURSDAY FEBRUARY 8 OUTED

Directed by Blake Arthur/USA/2023/1:27:00

CANADIAN PREMIERE! This black and white lensed comedic drama from emerging filmmaker Blake Arthur is bound to make audiences cringe and cheer in equal measure.

Oliver, a recent high school graduate, is kicked out of his house after his parents find out he is gay. He struggles to make it on his own as he tries to find a way to pay for college.

PRECEDED BY THE SHORT FILM: GOOD MORNING I'M A WHORE

d. Aleksandar Mijatovic/Germany/2023/4:10

In this hilarious and vibrant music video, Sherry Vine takes center stage to celebrate sex positivity and empowerment with a humorous twist, while meeting up with other glamorous Drag Queens, including some familiar faces from the Ru Paul's Drag Race franchise.

COMMUNITY SPONSOR:

QUAQE (Queen's University Association for Queer Employees)





6PM FRIDAY FEBRUARY 9

Directed by Tove Pils/Sweden/2023/95:00

Hanna wants to explore herself and her sexuality beyond the possibilities of her small Swedish hometown. She leaves her girlfriend Emma behind to go to San Francisco with its lively and tolerant queer community. At a party, she meets Chloe and Cyd. One is a dominatrix, the other a trans man, both experienced sex workers who dream of stable lives in the growing West Coast city. And with their help, Hanna begins to explore the parts of her sexuality she has only dared to fantasize about. Suddenly working in sex herself, she finds herself in a dilemma between being free and true to herself, and not being able to share her newfound sides of herself with the people she loves most back home in Sweden. But perhaps there is a place – a film, for instance – where the two worlds can meet after all. 'Labor' is an intimate story about the difficult struggle to win acceptance of who you are.

PRECEDED BY THE SHORT FILM: CONFUSION OF THE AFTERNOON

d. Yung-Chieh Lee/Taiwan/2023/2:50

In the boring afternoon after class, two boys play poker cards in this animated short.





COMMUNITY SPONSOR: SWAG (Sex Workers Action Group), SACK (Sexual Assault Center Kingston) and Trellis Community Care



8PM FRIDAY FEBRUARY 9 THE JUDGMENT

Directed by Marwan Mokbel/Egypt/Lebanon/USA/2023/111:00

Mo and his boyfriend Hisham, a gay Egyptian couple, return from the U.S. to Egypt for a family emergency, but they need to pretend to be just friends in order to stay safe in Egypt's very homophobic environment. Coming back leaves Mo especially anxious because someone knows his secret. They leave witchcraft at his door so that he feels threatened and ashamed. Although he pretends to be a modern American atheist, and therefore free from the superstitions of his religion and culture, Mo is terrified. Stepping back into the world of witchcraft has revived childhood terrors and deep religious fears, and he is afraid that his shame will be exposed to Hisham, who doesn't know that Mo still views their relationship as sinful. Little by little, the judgment day Mo always feared approaches. Will he be strong enough to fight back and eventually be liberated?

PRECEDED BY THE SHORT FILM:

EITR d. Fateema Al-Hamaydeh Miller/Canada/2023/14:40

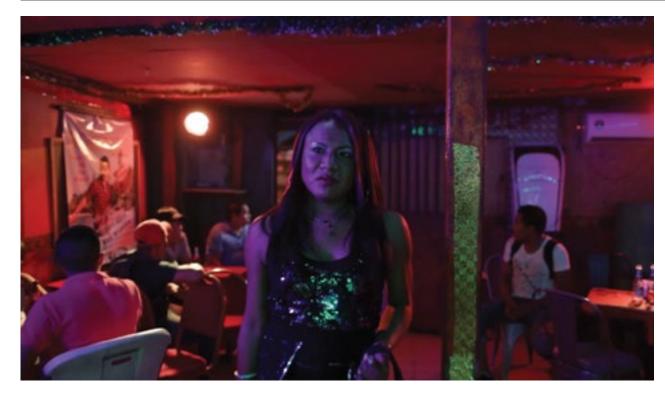
In Eitr, Mohamed's fear of his true desires will be tested as he is caught off guard by the power of being seen, but can this connection break him out of his performative shell, even for a lingering moment? **Filmmaker in Attendance.**





COMMUNITY SPONSOR: The Queer Muslim Collective





12PM SATURDAY FEBRUARY 10 WIGUDUN

Directed by Fernando Munoz, Raphael Salazar/ Panama/2023/1:18:23

As the colonial chronicles of the 15th and 17th centuries collect, several indigenous peoples of America considered that gender was not binary, male and female, on the contrary, diversity was the rule. In Panama, the Guna People identify Omeggid people as a third gender, which implies much more than a sexual orientation or erotic preference.

Guna society is matrilineal, the figure of women is very important in this society, they are the ones who inherit the lands, and although they do not exercise leadership positions in the general congress, they are highly respected and venerated. This is why when a child is approached by women's tasks and behaviours in that sense, mothers raise them as if they were women.

Nandin, Yineth, Rosario and Débora are some of the members of the Wigudun Galu Group (the house of Wigudun, a movement that brings together the Omeggids protagonists of this film).

This film brings together 4 protagonists in their intimacy, such as mothers, couples, professionals and leaders of the Wigudun movement. They define themselves as a separate group and their claims are particular to their group. They want visibility, their struggle is uphill, they are Indigenous, they are Trans, they are Ommegids. Discriminated inside and outside their community.

PRECEDED BY THE SHORT FILM: MAWITAI'KW

d. Bretten Hannam/Canada/2022/16:55

Across Wabanaki territory, Two-Spirit people overcome distance, isolation, and a pandemic to come together as a community.

COMMUNITY SPONSOR:

All Our Relations Land Trust & Trellis HIV + Community Care





2PM SATURDAY FEBRUARY 10 WE ARE FAMILY SHORTS PROGRAM

This afternoon we explore the dynamics of what it means to be "family" in all its facets– affirming and notso affirming. Filmmaker Katia Café-Fébrissy will be in attendance. Please note this program deals with mature subject matters including the death of a child/parent, sexuality and abortion and is not intended for children.

STILL WATERS

d. Katia Cafe-Febrissy/Canada/2023/10:50

The most terrifying thought for a parent is the loss of their child. Feelings of unfairness, despair, guilt take over and consume entirely. Especially when an accident happens. This is what this mother Gabrielle and her wife Raquel have to navigate in the short film Still Waters, adapted from a theatrical play by the same title.

HEY DARLING

d. Elliot Walker/Canada/2023/9:59

Dorian is a transgender teen boy who lives at home with his single dad, Barney. Dorian feels trapped in a mirage of masculinity by his father and the gendered expectations of the world around him. One day a mysterious figure leaves behind a flyer advertising an amateur drag competition and a spark ignites in Dorian's mind.

COLOURS OF THE LAKE

d. James Cooper/Canada/2023/11:02

A father-son fishing trip gets awkward for Chase when his glamourous secret life comes to light.

HI ADING

d. Dinaly Tran/Canada/2023/2:07

"hi ading" is a poetic short that provides a glimpse into a love story. Speaking to their parents' past selves, Dinaly asks and hopes that these past versions might help them realize that the decisions they may not understand are still made out of love.

MOONBOY

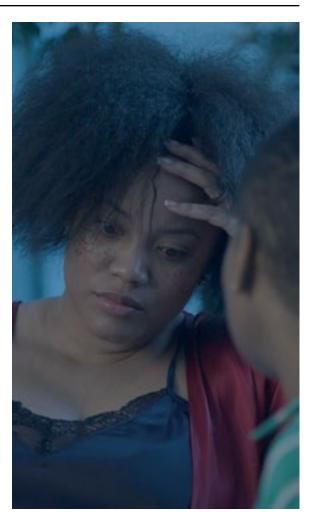
d. Rachel Kwan/Canada/2023/21:14

Following the tragedy of their mother's passing, class clown Aidan Lee is forced to navigate a world without her in it. Unable to identify with their traditional Chinese father and goofy high school friends, Aidan dresses up in their mother's drag in hopes of reconnecting.

MOM DOESN'T WANT TO GO TO THE BEACH

d. Ana Belén Barragán Castañeda/Spain/2023/16:00

A transgender woman resumes her hormone treatment while her daughter begins puberty and menstruates for the first time. Mother and daughter experience changes, doubts about their bodies, and face the fear of going to the beach for the first time.



TRIPPING

d. Amelia Xanthe Boscov/USA/2023/11:24

A flirty-butch, lesbian mom (Dot-Marie Jones – GLEE, BROS), goes on a road trip with her pregnant high schooler daughter in order to get an abortion at the nearest women's health clinic.

SISTERS DON'T FIGHT

d. Clementine Lesley/Canada/2023/8:27

Sisters Don't Fight is a queer coming of age comedy set in the late 2000. The film explores sibling relationships and dynamics with emphasis on queer sibling relationships and navigating a heteronormative world.

DANDELION GREEN

d. Kathleen Burgess/Canada/2023/25:00

Weeks before aging out of the foster care system, 17-year old Kay falls into an electric friendship with Olivia, transforming the way they see themselves, and their future.

COMMUNITY SPONSOR: Positive Space & TransFamily Kingston



ansfamily 🛱



4PM SATURDAY FEBRUARY 10 SUSAN FENIGER: FORKED Directed by Liz Lachman/USA/2023/1:29:50

Susan Feniger. FORKED...a verite feature documentary film following award-winning celebrity chef Susan Feniger on her first solo restaurant, her passionate struggle and quest to bring global street food under one roof in the form of a new LA restaurant: STREET. Shot by her longtime filmmaker partner, it's a story about starting over and about not IF one fails... but HOW.

COMMUNITY SPONSOR: Collective Joy Farm and Knifey Spooney





Tir nan Òg

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7PM SATURDAY FEBRUARY 10 HAPPY FEET & MELODIES SWEET SHORTS PROGRAM

Happy Feet + Melodies Sweet features nine exciting short films from Canada, France, the UK, Argentina, Brazil and India, compiled together to form a moving viewing experience that will put a spring in your step and a song in your heart. **Featuring a special performance by celebrated artist J- Marsh.**

LULLABY

d. Irène-Kimberley Valin-Awashish/Canada/2022/3:55

Lullaby is a documentary essay about coming of age and the power of the unconscious. In the continuity of "Sweatlodge song", this short film is a message of courage and hope.

NOT THREE NOT FOUR

d. Renée Wong/Canada/2023/8:26

Nate travels between imaginations, dreams and realities as they attempt to transition away from their mother — someone who feels most inescapable. Each night they dream of spiders, cockroaches, and centipedes. One thing becomes clear: the insects represent aspects of their mother and the arguments they have. Nate is forced to tackle their fear, this very transformative period of their life, right here, right now.

UNSEEN DANCER

d. Kevin Corbeil Palma/Canada/2023/6:24

Luca performs for the first time in a queer ballroom and is interrupted on the dance floor by his mother, even though she has already passed away.

PRIVATE FLOWERS

d. Haui/Canada/2023/7:00

In 1832, a Canadian Infantryman was hanged for making love with another man. The victim's rank was Private, and his name was Flowers. Private Flowers is part of a series of art projects by Black, Indigenous and artists of colour, operating under the principles of anti-oppression, anti-colonialism and anti-racism and is part of the City's efforts to address anti-Black racism. **Filmmaker in Attendance.**

OUTSIDE THE SAFEHOUSE

d. Nisha Luthra/India/2023/18:22

Jai wants to learn Bharatnatyam which is a form of dance originated in the South of India and prevalent all over the world but his father cannot accept the fact that his son was getting the exhilaration from the rhythm of the ghungroos which his elder sister presented him while he was pushed out of the house.



A BIRD CALLED MEMORY d. Leonardo Martinelli/Brazil/2023/15:00

A Bird Called Memory has forgotten how to come back home. Lua, a trans woman, tries to find Memory in the streets, but the city can be a hostile place.

YOUSSOU & MALEK

d. Simon Frenay/France/2023/27:34

Youssou and Malek are in love but they now have to say goodbye. Tomorrow, Youssou is flying off to the other side of the world, leaving Malek and their neighborhood behind. They promised each other to meet at the top of the hill for their last sunset together.

THE DANCE OFF

d. Nicolás Keller Sarmiento/USA/ Argentina/2023/13:00

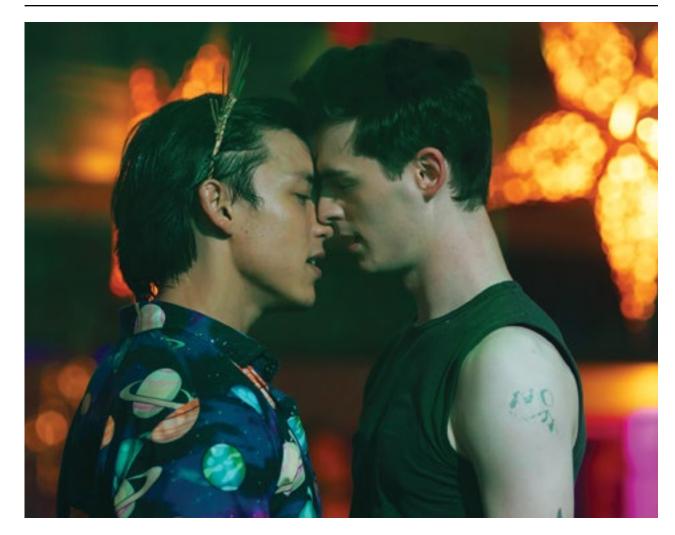
By a quiet gas station in a rural town, a young queer kid, Ernesto, confesses to his friend that he wants to be a dancer when he grows up. But in the patriarchal flatlands of Argentina, dancing isn't really an option. After being harassed, Ernesto hides in the bathroom where he magically runs into a broken-hearted drag queen, Ruby. Charmingly mischievous, Ruby challenges Ernesto to a fateful dance-off; one that will ultimately encourage him to follow his dancing dreams.

JOHNNY BARNES

d. Alex Etchart/UK/2023/11:06

Inspired by one of the oldest surviving LGBTQ+ Irish folk songs, JOHNNY BARNES is a post-modern gender-blending storytelling project encompassing music and narrative that tells the story of a repressed lord who becomes infatuated with a common sailor and questions his own gender identity in the process.

COMMUNITY SPONSOR: Kingston School of Dance



9PM SATURDAY FEBRUARY 10 GLITTER AND DOOM

Directed by Tom Gustafson/Mexico/USA/2023/1:53:00

From the filmmaker behind the queer musical classic Were the World Mine and the sexy Go Doc Project comes this joyous, colourful musical sure to please!

A fantastical summer romance musical told with the iconic tunes of INDIGO GIRLS. A musician who wears charisma as camouflage & a carefree kid about to run away with the circus fall in love at first sight. But will 29 days be enough time to fall in love forever? G&D stars out LGBTQ discoveries Alex Diaz (Philippines) & Alan Cammish (UK) along with Missi Pyle, Ming-Na Wen, Lea DeLaria, Tig Notaro, Amy Ray, Emily Saliers, Beth Malone & Kate Pierson.

COMMUNITY SPONSOR: Kingston Pride & The Juvenis Festival





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