

RENDEZVOUS WITH MADNESS FESTIVAL

OCT 27 – NOV 6

#RWMFEST

#MORETHANREBELLION

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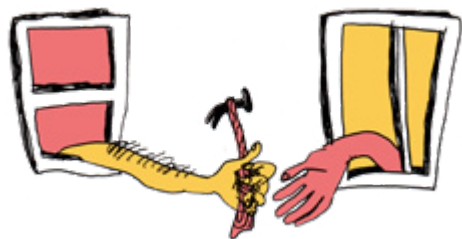
#RWMFEST

#MORETHANREBELLION

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Artwork by

Gil Goletski (@ggoletski)



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PARTNER



SPONSORS



GOVERNMENT FUNDERS





BOX OFFICE INFORMATION

ADVANCE TICKETS:

Online: workmanarts.com

Phone: 416-583-4339

(Monday - Friday, 12 - 5 PM)

HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS:

Proof of vaccination is not required for in-person events.

Mandatory mask wearing:

All in-person visitors must wear a mask at all times.

Reduced seating in CAMH Auditorium to 50% regular capacity.

Physical distancing protocols at all venues.

Hand sanitizing stations and face masks available at all festival venues.

Symptom-free policy: We ask visitors with any COVID-19 symptoms to not attend in-person events. We will gladly refund tickets to patrons feeling unwell.

AT THE DOOR TICKETS:

We strongly recommend purchasing tickets for in-person events in advance.

ACCESS TO THE *KIND RENDERINGS* EXHIBITION

Exhibition is open each day October 27 - November 6 from 12 - 6 PM.

No reservation is necessary. We ask visitors to wear a mask at all times.

OPENING NIGHT FILM and RECEPTION:

5 PM - Reception

6:30 PM - Film with post-show Q&A

Tickets: \$25 and includes individual gourmet food box and beverages.

*if available, in-person FILM ONLY tickets will be released for sale on Friday October 21.

MEDIA:

Suzanne Cheriton, Red Eye Media

(film/performance)

suzanne@redeyemedia.ca

Aidan Cowling (exhibition)

aidan.cowling@gmail.com

ALL TICKETS TO SCREENINGS AND PERFORMANCES ARE PAY WHAT YOU WISH AND NEED TO BE RESERVED IN ADVANCE (see Advance Tickets).

ACCESS TO THE *KIND RENDERINGS* EXHIBITION IS FREE AND DOES NOT REQUIRE ADVANCE BOOKING.

CONTACT INFO:

workmanarts.com

 @WorkmanArtsTO

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#RWMFEST

#RWMFEST22

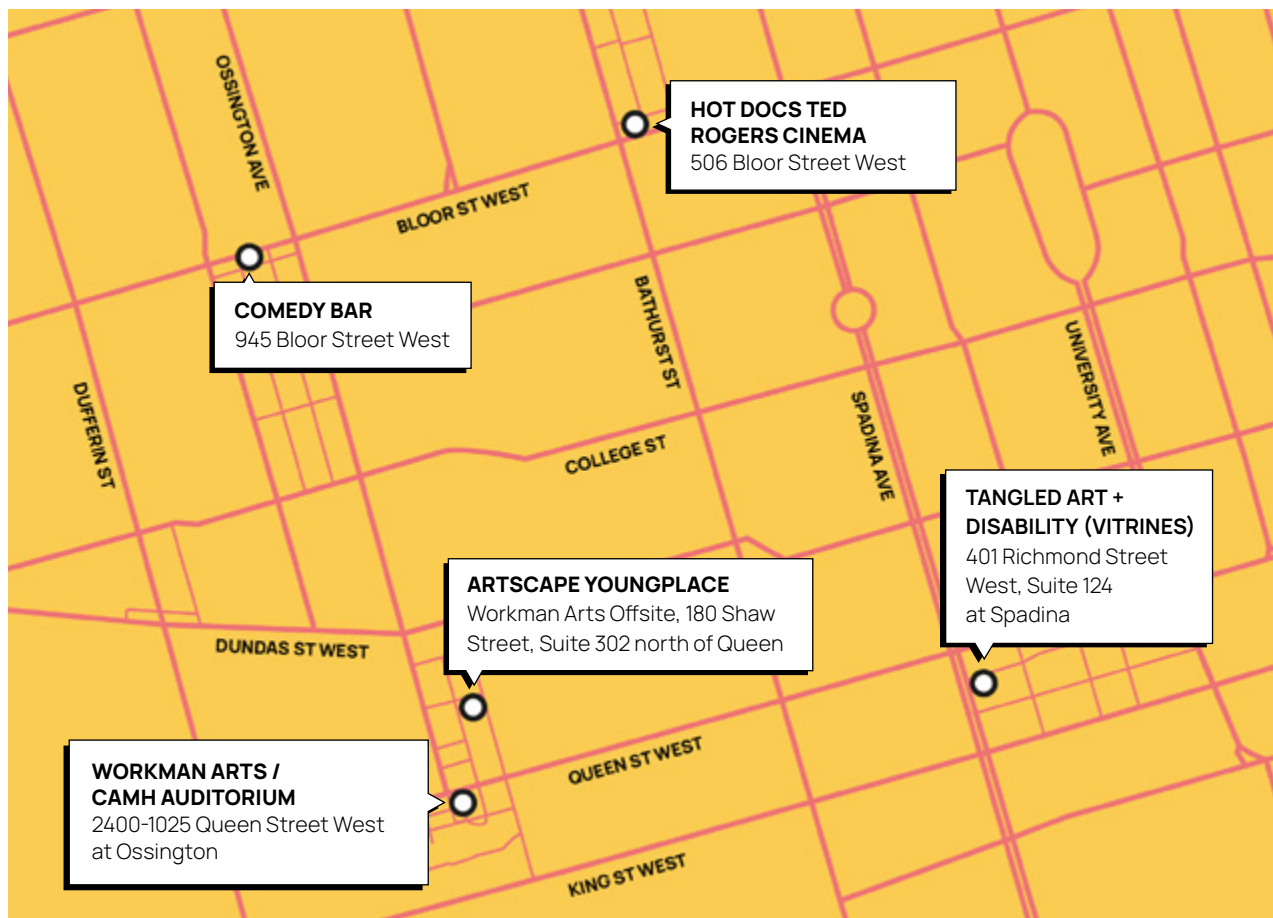
#MORETHANREBELLION

PLEASE NOTE:

Due to the evolving situation with the COVID-19 pandemic, please check our website for the most up-to-date information about in-person events.

Thank you!

VENUES & MAP



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LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Due to the fact that the Rendezvous With Madness Festival will be operating from both an onsite and an online space, viewers will be joining us from various points around the world. We encourage you to take a moment to consider the place where you are currently located and to acknowledge the Indigenous people who are the original caretakers of the land you are on.

Workman Arts would like to acknowledge the Indigenous land on which we are located. Toronto comes from the Kanien'kéha word Tkaronto, which can be translated as "where the trees meet the water." It is part of the traditional territories of many nations: the Huron Wendat, the Haudenosaunee, the Anishinaabe and the Mississaugas of the Credit.

Workman Arts recognizes this is an ongoing dialogue; we are grateful to live and work on this land with all people—those Indigenous to Turtle Island and those from all over the world.

ACCESSIBILITY

Rendezvous With Madness is committed to values of inclusivity and accessibility for all guests, staff, volunteers and artists. We are listening and learning from our community to help address barriers and open opportunities for anyone interested in engaging with the growing dialogue surrounding mental health and/or addictions.

If you have any questions about accessibility and/or access needs please contact Raine Laurent-Eugène at raine_laurenteugene@workmanarts.com or phone the festival box office at **416-583-4339**. Learn more about our accessibility initiatives at workmanarts.com.

MENTAL HEALTH ACCESS—IN-PERSON AND BY-TELEPHONE HELD SPACES

As important as we believe it is to engage in honest and direct discussions about mental health and/or addictions, we recognize that this material can be difficult and/or triggering for some. In line with our commitment to being trauma-informed, each program will offer an active listener, either onsite or through the phone, to help provide self-care and emotional support. This year's Held Spaces will be staffed by active listeners who will be available to debrief the programs, offer resources or just talk about your day. Information for accessing support will be available on our website.

If you are visiting in person, please feel free to pick up a free self-care bag with materials and resources to support your self-care at all locations.

PHYSICAL ACCESS

Workman Arts/CAMH Auditorium, located inside the CAMH McCain Centre for Complex Care and Recovery at 1025 Queen Street West, is fully wheelchair accessible.

Artscape Youngplace, located at 180 Shaw Street, Suite 302, is fully accessible by Ontario standards, with a wheelchair ramp at the 180 Shaw Street doors, an elevator and a fully accessible washroom on each level. The nearby 63 Ossington bus is wheelchair accessible.

The Comedy Bar, located at 945 Bloor Street West, is unfortunately not accessible, as the entrance has 16 steps going down into the building. Once inside, both theatres, the bar area and washrooms are located on a single level.

Tangled Art + Disability, located at 401 Richmond Street West, Suite 124, is a fully wheelchair-accessible building, equipped with accessible and gender-neutral washrooms.

Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema, located at 506 Bloor Street West, has a fully wheelchair-accessible main floor.

FINANCIAL ACCESS

All tickets are pay what you wish (by donation). Please note that this year there are no walk-up sales due to COVID-19, so please book in advance online.

SERVICE ANIMALS

Service animals are welcome onsite at the Rendezvous With Madness Festival. Please advise our box office beforehand.

PERSONAL SUPPORT WORKERS

If you require a personal support worker to accompany you to programs, please let our box office know and we will be happy to welcome your personal support worker free of charge to any programs.

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (ASL) INTERPRETED PROGRAMS

Check the calendar to see which programs will be ASL interpreted. **If you require ASL interpretation in order to engage with a program you're interested in, please contact raine_laurenteugene@workmanarts.com.**

OPEN CAPTIONING

Open captioning will be provided for all film programs, as well as live captioning for all Q&As, workshops and select panels. **If you require open or live captioning, please contact raine_laurenteugene@workmanarts.com.**

NAVIGATION ASSISTANCE

For all inquiries pertaining to navigating the festival, please see our website for accessibility information, including navigation guides (written and/or video). These guides will tell you how you can engage with different programs—virtually or in person—and what to expect from each experience.

ABOUT WORKMAN ARTS

Workman Arts is a multidisciplinary arts organization that promotes a greater understanding of mental health and/or addiction issues through creation and presentation. Workman Arts supports artists with lived experience through peer-to-peer arts education, public presentations and partnerships with the broader arts community and works in partnership with the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH).

Workman Arts was founded in 1987 by Lisa Brown, a former psychiatric nurse at the Queen Street Mental Health Centre (now known as CAMH). It started as a theatre company of eight member artists and has grown to a multidisciplinary arts organization with 550+ member artists. Workman Arts has produced a variety of projects, including 30+ original full-length Canadian plays, the annual Rendezvous With Madness Festival and the annual Being Scene juried art exhibition. In November 2020, Workman Arts moved to the brand new **McCain Complex Care and Recovery Building** at CAMH.

For more information please visit

WORKMANARTS.COM



BECOME A MEMBER

If you are an artist with lived mental health and/or addiction experience and you're interested in our programs, consider applying for membership. We are always interested in connecting with artists and adding new perspectives and talents to the Workman Arts community.

Member artists arrive at Workman Arts with varying levels of experience ranging from emerging to professional artists. Workman Arts is best suited to artists who have an existing art practice and goals to further develop, professionalize and share their practice. Workman Arts offers training programs in Media, Literary, Music, Theatre and Visual Arts delivered by artists and arts professionals. Members also receive access to free studio space, onsite gear and equipment, exhibition opportunities and professional support. These programs support members to reach their potential by honing their artistic skills and practice. All programs are free of charge to members.

We do not require formal referrals. Artists are encouraged to contact us directly. For more information or to become a member, contact Membership & Hospital Programs Manager Raine Laurent-Eugène by email (raine_laurenteugene@workmanarts.com) or by phone (416-583-4339 ext. 9).

Workman Arts values inclusivity, anti-oppression and safety at all levels. Everyone has a role to play in maintaining that spirit. Please see our full anti-oppression statement and code of conduct at workmanarts.com.

STAFF



Adé Abegunde
Rendezvous Program
Assistant



Azul Baez
Administrative &
Programs Coordinator



Scott Miller Berry
Interim Executive
Artistic Director



Katelyn Gallucci
Rendezvous Program
Coordinator



Hanan Hazime
Education Manager



Jules Vodarek Hunter
Performance Manager



Raine Laurent-Eugène
Membership & Hospital
Programs Manager



Tram Nghiem
Interim Managing
Director



Kais Padamshi
Communications and
Development Manager



David Sweeney
Technical Director



Joshua Vettivelu
Visual Arts Manager



Paulina Wiszowata
Exhibition Curator

Scratch Anderson, Finance Coordinator
Suzanne Cheriton, Red Eye Media, Publicist
Aidan Cowling, Exhibition Publicist
Alexi Manis, Film Projectionist
Kevin Yue, Production Manager
Max Fearon, Art Training Program Coordinator
(Satellite Programs)
Meek, Front of House Coordinator
Tai Nguyen, Marketing Assistant
Emma Badame, Film Programming Committee Member
Jaene Castrillon, Film Programming Committee Member
Victor Stiff, Film Programming Committee Member
Sylvia Frey, Exhibition Jury Member
Esmond Lee, Exhibition Jury Member
Laura Shintani, Exhibition Jury Member
Senjuti Sarker, Performance Jury Member
Van Boomen, Performance Jury Member
Morgan Davis, Performance Jury Member

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rendezvous With Madness was founded in 1993
by Lisa Brown and Kathleen Fagan.

Norma Mendoza, Chair
Krista Chaytor, Vice Chair
Hardish Dhaliwal, Treasurer
Seerat Siddique, Secretary
Mark Goldbloom, Chair Emeritus
Mark Jordan
Karim Kanji
Fanny Martin
Donna Slaight
Lori Spadorcia

MORE THAN REBELLION

Welcome to the 30th Rendezvous With Madness Festival, the world's first and largest arts and mental health festival and public discussion forum.

The theme of Rendezvous 2022 is "**more than rebellion**," a statement that embodies the festival's efforts to normalize informed public discourse around mental health, addiction, recovery and wellness. Rendezvous With Madness continues to provide a platform for artists with lived experience in these areas. Their profound work plays a crucial role in reducing the stigma surrounding mental health while also interrogating society's out-of-touch definition of "normal."

Traditionally, rebellion within a society is an opposition to authority. Acts of rebellion stem from a yearning for distinct change when faced with limited options, and a new path forward is needed. The rebel finds alternative means to disrupt the status quo, but a true rebel doesn't stand alone; they force open the doorway to change and then welcome the rest of the world into a new reality.

More than rebellion means tearing down a broken system in favour of a generational change. This makes every artist featured at Rendezvous 2022 a rebel. They've looked at the world and deemed it lacking, so they've used their art to hold society to a higher ideal. The art showcased at the festival will mend broken hearts and soothe weary minds. This art will challenge, inspire and enlighten. This art will fuel a rebellion, and so much more. We hope you enjoy the programming and thank you for attending and supporting this event.

Hello! Welcome to the 30th anniversary of Rendezvous With Madness. We're so grateful you are joining us, whether in person or online, and for your contributions to our unique arts event that intersects with mental health, addiction, recovery and wellness. I'd like to thank our co-founders Lisa Brown and Kathleen Fagan, who had the incredible foresight to create the world's first mental health-focused film festival in 1993.

Rendezvous is again a hybrid festival and we truly hope you can take in what you can where you can. We'd like to humbly think the 30th festival serves as a reminder that we can still connect while apart, and we invite you to take in a film, performance, exhibit, talk or panel from the comfort of your home, the public library or in a select number of onsite programs at the new CAMH Auditorium at the corner of Queen & Ossington—live and in person (with safety protocols, of course, see page 2 for details).

We are excited to present this year's programming. Don't miss the *kind renderings* exhibition at our new offsite space at Artscape Youngplace, open daily 12-6 PM with an artist talk and tour also scheduled. We're thrilled to have multiple live performances including a run of *The Flin Flon Cowboy* and the return of a comedy night—laughter truly is the best medicine. We're honoured to open the festival with the new documentary *How To Save A Dead Friend* by Marusya Syroechkovskaya, an incredible and personal portrait of a couple and their community's struggle with addictions and responses to political traumas. We're also excited to close with local film *When We Reach Out, Who Will Respond?* by first-time filmmaker Luke Galati followed by an important talk discussing non-police responses when our neighbours experience a mental health-related emergency.

To accommodate viewers at home, we're proud to offer accessibility support including captions, "virtual" and onsite supportive listeners, ASL interpretation and more—all the details can be found on page 4. We hope you'll take in our keywords and content warnings to make informed decisions about your viewing!

Heartfelt thanks to all who submitted projects to us and special thanks to all programming juries. I'd like to thank the film programming team for their non-stop viewing and insightful discussions: Katelyn Gallucci, Adé Abegunde, Emma Badame, Jaene Castrillon and Victor Stiff. Enjoy the festival—we look forward to seeing you onsite and online and welcome your feedback always.



A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink.

Scott Miller Berry
Interim Executive Artistic Director
Workman Arts

We welcome everyone to the 30th Rendezvous With Madness Festival: more than rebellion.

These 30 years of gathering and programming have embodied art, dialogue and expression—a milestone that the Workman Arts Board of Directors celebrates and honours by eagerly sharing 2022's programming for the world's largest and longest running mental health festival!

The collective flow of this pandemic and its continued intersection with the human condition has validated for many the foundational need for mental health, and it deserves the enduring conversations that we hope the Rendezvous With Madness Festival will spark.

We encourage you to view and interpret a multitude of films that can be accessed in person or online. This includes our annual visual art exhibit, with live performances, presented in a gallery format. Keeping your wellness and safety in mind, our in-person screenings will have masking protocols in place and all but one of our venues will be fully accessible. As in previous years, the festival will also continue to have an active listener available at each program, either onsite or virtually, to help provide self-care and emotional supports.

The intent of the festival is to create an inclusive space for all, to engage with what resonates and what might also feel challenging. This year's theme, "more than rebellion," invites us all to collectively normalize informed discussions around mental health, addiction, recovery and wellness. We hope this year's theme invites audience members to move through co-created spaces of reflection, validation, discussion and assembly in service of widening perspectives and growing our community. We further invite you to help create momentum around these conversations via social media by using [#MoreThanRebellion](#) and [#RWMFest](#).

This unique festival is truly made possible by our donors and supporters. Your contributions ensure that the art and discourse continually evolve and expand, and for this, we thank you. We also cannot overstate our deep appreciation to the dedicated labour offered by the Workman Arts staff who have passionately organized this event. Without their meaningful inputs this festival simply does not exist. Thank you.

Finally, we thank you, the audience member, for your time, and presence.

We hope you will find something of value in the Rendezvous With Madness Festival that endears you to join the conversation.

Sincerely,



Norma Mendoza
Chair, Board of Directors
Workman Arts



It's my pleasure to welcome you to the 30th annual Rendezvous with Madness Festival presented by Workman Arts. I'm delighted to introduce this groundbreaking festival as one of my first duties as CAMH's new President and CEO.

The theme for Rendezvous with Madness 2022 is "more than rebellion." This powerful statement epitomizes the festival's tradition of challenging preconceived ideas about mental health, addiction, recovery and wellness. This year's program takes that tradition forward, aiming to break down stigma by interrogating what it means to be "normal."

The festival offers a vibrant series of events in which there is truly something for everyone. You will find content and formats that satisfy a diverse range of interests, including in-person and online screenings, performances, exhibitions, discussions and workshops. There are 40 films from close to 20 countries featured in the 2022 program.

If audience engagement appeals to you, then you are definitely in the right place. Rendezvous with Madness is known for its lively post-show discussions, where active audience input is encouraged both onsite, and online.

This festival touches on powerful and challenging issues, so it also carefully considers the feelings and reactions its content might produce. One thing that particularly caught my attention is the "Held Spaces" available at each event. If an audience member would like to speak to someone about the emotions that the artworks bring up for them, they can connect with an active listener to help them process these feelings. Held spaces will be available in person when programs are onsite, and for additional hours by phone, text and email.

We are proud to call Workman Arts our partner because of their commitment to displaying and amplifying the voices of artists with lived and living experiences. At a time when so many are still feeling the challenging effects of recent years, these voices will soothe, challenge and inspire you. Warmest congratulations to everyone involved in making this event possible, and I wish you all a fantastic festival.

Join me to celebrate [#MoreThanRebellion](#) at [#RWMFest](#) from October 27 to November 6.

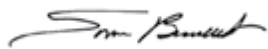


Sarah Downey
CEO, CAMH

Artists and their collaborators have played a vital role throughout the pandemic: their creations offered hope, helped maintain connections and pointed to a brighter future.

As we move forward, we need the arts more than ever—to inspire us and bring us together as we envision a better world for all. Strong support for a resilient, inclusive and accessible arts sector benefits society in all its diversity.

The Canada Council for the Arts is a proud supporter of Rendezvous With Madness and its contributions to our shared work to bring the arts to life.

Simon Brault, O.C., O.Q.
Director and CEO
Canada Council for the Arts

The board and staff of the Ontario Arts Council (OAC) congratulate Workman Arts on the 30th anniversary of the Rendezvous With Madness Festival!

In this anniversary year, we celebrate the work of the festival—drawing attention through art to mental health and addiction issues. After more than two years in a world gripped by a pandemic, the festival continues to provide a welcome space to gather, reflect and discuss the emotional effects caused by COVID-19. With both in-person and virtual options, participants can choose what feels best for them.

The OAC is pleased to support the Rendezvous With Madness Festival and their efforts to showcase the artistic achievements of artists with lived experience of mental health issues and addiction.

All the best,




Rita Davies, C.M.
Chair
Ontario Arts Council



Welcome to the 30th Rendezvous With Madness festival—the first and largest mental health festival in the world. Toronto Arts Council is proud to support Workman Arts and its visionary festival as it engages artists and audiences alike in essential discussions around mental health, addiction, recovery and wellness.

The City of Toronto, through Toronto Arts Council, invests public funds in the arts, allowing millions of Torontonians and visitors to enjoy incredible local artistic activity, like the Rendezvous With Madness Festival. We applaud this festival for being a leader in challenging the stigma surrounding mental illness and addiction by giving voice to those with lived experience and providing a forum for critical discussions here in Toronto. This work is integral to continuing to build strong, connected, creative communities across this city, block by block.

Congratulations to the staff and board at Workman Arts and thank you to the volunteers who have continued to help this inspiring event thrive over the last 30 years.

Wishing you continued success.

Yours truly,



Celia Smith
Chair
Toronto Arts Council



**Canadian
Heritage**

**Patrimoine
canadien**

For 30 years, Rendezvous With Madness has blazed a trail for those living with mental illness or addiction challenges.

As this festival celebrates three decades, it's important to acknowledge how the conversation around mental health and addiction has changed in recent years. Those who suffer are no longer met with silence. They are vibrant, creative Canadians, and our government is proud to support this gathering.

As Minister of Canadian Heritage, I'd like to thank everyone at Workman Arts and those involved with this year's celebration.



The Honourable Pablo Rodriguez
Minister of Canadian Heritage

Design for change.



**Strategy, Design
& Communications**

Proud sponsor of
Rendezvous With Madness
and Workman Arts

coeffect.ca

**DON'T JUST
WATCH A MOVIE.
FEEL ONE.**

TELEFILM PARTNER
CANADA OF CHOICE

FEEL AGAIN AT A
THEATRE NEAR YOU.



FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

12

	11 AM	12 PM	1 PM	2 PM	3 PM	4 PM
THURS OCT 27						
FRI OCT 28						
SAT OCT 29			KIND RENDERINGS (EXHIBITION OPENING & ARTISTS TALK) Artscape Youngplace P.14			
SUN OCT 30						
MON OCT 31						
TUES NOV 1						
WED NOV 2						
THURS NOV 3						
FRI NOV 4						
SAT NOV 5			NEURODIVERGENT CREATOR COZY TEA TIME... Online (Zoom) P.43			IF YOU ASK ME CAMH Auditorium
SUN NOV 6						

KIND RENDERINGS
EXHIBITION
P.14

THEATRE
P.22

FILM
P.23

WORKSHOPS
P.46

	5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	9 PM
		HOW TO SAVE A DEAD FRIEND Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema P.26			
		LES PRIÈRES DE DELPHINE/DELPHINE'S PRAYERS CAMH Auditorium P.27			
	THE FLIN FLON COWBOY CAMH Auditorium P.22		MIS DOS VOCES / MY TWO VOICES CAMH Auditorium P.28		
	UPON, REFLECTION: RECENT SHORT FILMS BY WORKMAN ARTS AND SATELLITE MEMBERS CAMH Auditorium P.29		PUBLIC SPEAKING THROUGH COMEDY Comedy Bar P.23		
		LIZ ROBERTS AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL FILMMAKING WORKSHOP Online P.43	THE FLIN FLON COWBOY CAMH Auditorium P.22		
			A VOICE ... P.24	THE SUICIDE KEY P.25	
	KIND RENDERINGS (EXHIBITION TOUR) P.14		THE FLIN FLON COWBOY CAMH Auditorium P.22		
				DON'T LET ME FALL TOO FAR CAMH Auditorium P.25	
	P.30		WHEN WE REACH OUT, WHO SHOULD RESPOND? CAMH Auditorium P.31		
	DO SAG / TWO DOGS / دو سگ P.32				

Most films include open captions (**OC**).

Q&As/panels have closed captioning (**CC**)
and ASL interpretation (**6g**).

Please check listings for accessibility details.

OCT 27 – NOV 6

KIND RENDERINGS

ARTISTS

STÉPHANE ALEXIS
TWINKLE BANERJEE
BOOZIE
WEN TONG
JESSICA FIELD
JENNY CHEN

VENUE

Workman Arts Offsite
Gallery, Artscape
Youngplace, 180 Shaw
Street, Unit 302, Toronto

GALLERY HOURS

October 27
to November 6, 12 - 6 PM

14

Kindness is not an act of weakness. It is an act that resists societal expectations of doing and saying nothing. This form of rebellion is evident in this year's Rendezvous With Madness visual art exhibition whereby the six exhibiting artists address within their work personal experiences that challenge what mental health and wellness look like. Action is apparent through frameworks of compassion, thought-provoking imagery and considerate storytelling.

WORKMAN ARTS MEMBER ARTISTS JURY

Sylvia Frey, Visual Artist, Toronto
Esmond Lee, Visual Artist, Researcher, and Architect, Toronto
Laura Shintani, Visual Artist, Toronto

EXHIBITION OPENING & ARTISTS' TALK

October 29, 1-4 PM, Talk at 2:30 PM
After the opening reception, engage with the artists of *kind renderings* as they delve into their work and practice.

TOURS

Please join us for a guided tour on Thursday,
November 3 at 5 PM

CHAINS & CROWNS

STÉPHANE ALEXIS

KEYWORDS

Activism, Community, Depression, Racism, Trauma



15

Chains & Crowns is a photo-based series of artworks inspired by and dedicated to the artist's mother. This vinyl print depicts the history, politics, science and psychology of Black hairstyles. The typological series displayed in a grid format encourages the viewer to cross-reference hairstyles and allows the Black and broader communities the opportunity to draw from their personal experiences, whether that be through their own stories or through their community members. The work also comes with information on styles that derive from an array of time periods, cultures and movements ranging from Ancient Egypt (2700 BC - 343 BC) to the natural hair movement (1960 - present). This gives way

for the audience to further solidify their understanding through historical text and to question the multifaceted ways these styles have been utilized and evolved in impact over time.

Stéphane Alexis is an artist based in Ottawa, Canada. His work stems from personal experiences, research, community collaborations and visual expression, all fostering a strong desire to bring a level of understanding to the often overlooked communities. Stéphane's work seeks to give insight into these communities he belongs to.

OCT 27 – NOV 6

MIXED-MEDIA INSTALLATION

THE THINGS WE CARRY WITH US

TWINKLE BANERJEE

KEYWORDS

Activism, BIPOC Experience, Bipolar Disorder, CPTSD, Generational Trauma, Trauma

16



The things we carry with us is a mixed-media installation that explores the life of the artist's grandmother, who experienced displacement as a child when India was partitioned as the British exited India. What the artist's grandmother saw or experienced was never discussed but the signs of her trauma remained. The family went through much emotional upheaval, which shaped the artist's anxieties as her grandmother remained the artist's caregiver for most of her childhood.

The things we carry with us explores coping mechanisms we pick up as children to survive. And, in practice, it can take a very long time to come to terms with our realities, and sometimes we never do; we live behind a net seeing and experiencing the world differently, and that becomes the only world we know.

Twinkle Banerjee (she/her) is an Indian-Canadian visual artist who explores work that deals with social issues such as generational trauma, globalization and human rights. Understanding the pressure put on BIPOC artists for creating trauma-related work, she also tries balancing her work with introspective experiments with a focus on poetic imagery.

Twinkle has exhibited in the USA, Canada, the UK and Armenia, been published in Berlin and been featured on CBC. In 2021 her artwork *Characters of Memorial Park* was part of an exhibition and publication at the ICP-New York.

LOSING IT

BOOZIE

KEYWORDS

Anxiety, BIPOC Experience,
Family, OCD



Inspired by the helplessness of being stuck on a hamster wheel, this series chronicles one's inner dialogue. *Losing It* explores the journey of trying to confront your demons after listening to them tell you lies all day long. For the artist, this includes trying out all the self-help tricks in the book with the hope that a light can someday be found at the end of the tunnel. This series was created to find an outlet and a means of articulating the artist's mental health struggles with room for some humour in the despair.

Boozie is an independent, self-taught artist based in Toronto. She finds inspiration in everyday moments. Her artwork primarily focuses on her experiences as a woman. Being drawn to portraits, many of her works reflect everyday women in different personas.

CINNAMON

WEN TONG

KEYWORDS

BIPOC Experience,
Youth, Teens and/or Children

18



Cinnamon is a series of paintings which, like the spice, is mundane yet leaves an experience that invigorates the senses and provides a magical quality. Ideas for the paintings came from everyday experiences in a suburban setting, yet a fantastical theme is constructed throughout the series.

This reflects the artist's own sensitivity and yearning for what is beyond daily life, where she experiences flashes of inspiration through living her life. These may be the unexpected consequences of meditative practices of a state of mind that carries over to everyday experiences. Regardless of origin, these visions are triggered by the world around her, and they reshape moments into a fresh perspective. The artist's work aims to share the knowledge gained from these experiences.

Wen Tong was born in Jinan, China before immigrating to Canada at the age of two. She received her HBSc from the University of Toronto in 2021, studying biotechnology and computer science, but also took studio art classes at Sheridan College in both painting and printmaking. Wen is an award-winning contemporary artist who creates cinematic oil paintings in the style of magical realism. She has shown in a number of exhibitions across Ontario and has artwork in multiple private and public collections. Wen works from her studio in Oakville, Ontario.

MY LEFT-HAND IS TALKING AND MY RIGHT-HAND IS NURTURING

JESSICA
FIELD

CREDITS

*Coding Visual Layout
Algorithm:*
Meera Balendran
Book Designer:
Lisa Kiss Design
Video and Editing:
Empty Cup Media
*Images, Poetry and
Artificial Life Algorithms:*
Jessica Field

KEYWORDS

Anxiety
Grief
Psychiatry
Trauma

CONTENT WARNING

This artwork contains content that may be triggering to some individuals.



My left-hand is talking and my right-hand is nurturing is about the experience of living with inexplicable illness and pain, loss of memory, abuse, love and loss. It celebrates the beauty of imagination's power to heal the body and rejuvenate the sense of self and teaches how empathy and perspective taking can lead to better ways of living.

Jessica Field creates AI drawings to explore new configurations beyond her lived experience to see what drawing about pure emotion can say about the greater concept of the human condition. This project shows how empathy and perspective taking bridge these gaps by putting the discussion into the space of universal human experience where we all can relate to each other.

Jessica Field works with installation, video and performance to create AI systems to show the impact of our environment on mental health and how individual histories and temperaments influence the ways that we live our lives. Jessica has exhibited in Sweden, Switzerland, Austria and Canada. She has shown in Electrohype 2008, the Montreal Museum of Fine Art, Oboro, Optica, the Museum Tingely and Kunsthaus Graz.

Jessica teaches as a full-time sessional at Toronto Metropolitan University; she received her AOCAD at the Ontario College of Art and Design, Toronto, Ontario and her MFA at Concordia University in Montréal, Québec.

MULTITUDE OF FISH – ASCENSION TALES

JENNY CHEN

KEYWORDS

Anxiety, BIPOC Experience, Community, Trauma

20



Multitude of Fish - Ascension Tales is an animation that tells the story of fish ascending into the heavens, symbolizing spirits being uplifted. This animation was created by hand drawing each frame. The images were derived from the artist's mental wellness journey, specifically the healing of past trauma and depression.

For the past few years, Jenny Chen has worked with the recurring image of water and fish to symbolize the flow of energy. This larger body of work, titled *Multitude of Fish*, exists in mediums such as drawing, painting, clay sculptures, installation and animation. The fish organically moves through its surrounding space, leading the viewer on different journeys. These spaces are reminiscent of the inner realm while taking inspiration from outer landscapes.

Jenny Chen is a visual artist living in Toronto. She makes art to process the world around her while raising questions about existentialism and spirituality. Her work uses symbols to create mystical environments, inspiring viewers to wonder about life beyond the material world. She graduated from OCAD University with a major in drawing and painting and a minor in illustration. Since then, Jenny has worked mainly in watercolour, pen and clay. Her exhibition history includes the Small Arms Inspections Building, Toronto Media Arts Centre and Living Arts Centre. She has received grants for her work from the Ontario Arts Council.



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EXHIBITIONS

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POST-PRODUCTION SERVICES & DCP

SCREENINGS, OUTREACH, MEDIA LAB, PUBLICATIONS

OCT 29 - NOV 3

FLIN FLON COWBOY COLLECTIVE

THE FLIN FLON COWBOY

RUNTIME

60 minutes

VENUE

CAMH Auditorium

SHOWTIMES

Saturday October 29, 5 PM
 Tuesday November 1, 7 PM
 Thursday November 3, 7 PM

There will be a talk
 back following each
 performance.

CREATIVE TEAM

Created and Performed by
 Ken Harrower

Written by
 Ken Harrower and Erin
 Brandenburg

Music by
 Ken Harrower and Johnny
 Spence

Directed by
 Erin Brandenburg

Musical Direction by
 Johnny Spence

Dramaturgy by
 Debbie Patterson

Lighting Design by
 Echo Zhou

Set/Costume Design by
 Michelle Tracey

Additional Set Design
Elements by
 Sonja Rainey

Sound Design by
 Johnny Spence

Stage Management by
 Nazerah Carlisle

Video Design by
 Kejd Kuqo

CONTENT WARNINGS

Swearing / Mature language
 Violence
 Sexual Content
 Suicide

KEYWORDS

2SLGBTQIA+
 Addiction
 Depression
 Disability
 Suicide



BIOGRAPHY

Ken Harrower is an award-winning film and theatre actor. His recent work includes *Boys in Chairs* (Summerworks – Winner of John Kaplan Spotlight Award) and *What Dream It Was* (Dora nomination – Outstanding Ensemble 2017). He starred in the short film *Hole* (Canadian Screen Award 2015) and *Luk' Luk'i* (TIFF 2017 – Winner of Best Canadian First Feature). Ken graduated from the Toronto Film School and has collaborated with ARTS4ALL and Jumbies Theatre as an actor and choir member. Ken identifies as a member of the disabled community and the LGBTQ community, advocating for equal rights and freedoms for those communities.

SYNOPSIS

The Flin Flon Cowboy is a new musical created and performed by Ken Harrower. This cabaret presentation centres around Ken's life, his mysterious origins in Flin Flon, Manitoba, his experiences as a child with a disability in the Winnipeg foster care system and his adventures in Toronto searching for connections in the gay community while creating a life as an artist. The story touches on issues of consent, sexuality, Queerness, mental health, addiction, forgiving others and oneself and moving forward with accountability. Ken shares his experience with addiction and mental health with honesty, integrity and grit. He does not shy away from the dark and difficulties that come with being a gay disabled person navigating this world.

PUBLIC SPEAKING THROUGH COMEDY

RUNTIME

120 minutes

VENUE

Comedy Bar
(945 Bloor Street West)

SHOWTIMES

Sunday October 30, 7 PM

CREATIVE TEAM

Juan Cajiao
Stephan Dyer

CONTENT WARNINGS

Loud sounds
Swearing / Mature language
Sexual Content

KEYWORDS

2SLGBTQIA+
BIPOC Experience
Community
Depression
Racism

BIOGRAPHY

Originally from Costa Rica and Colombia, **Stephan Dyer** and **Juan Cajiao** are bilingual corporate leadership and communication trainers who also happen to be award-winning comedians and improv experts.

Leaving their executive positions in the banking world in 2017 to pursue their professional careers in stand-up comedy, they have successfully founded MalPensando, a bilingual (English, Spanish) comedy and public speaking school.



SYNOPSIS

These students impressed in their Level 1 Grad Show and are now back for more!

In this course they learned how to:

- Unlock their funny
- Be a great master of ceremonies
- Interact with an audience
- Deal with hecklers and interruptions
- 15 tools of comedy

Come and witness six weeks of hard work and dedication boiled down to one amazing comedy night! These students will speak from the heart and (hope to) make you laugh till you drop!

23



This program was made possible by the generous support of The Slaight Family Foundation in partnership with North York Arts.

A VOICE THROUGH THE MELT

RUNTIME

15 minutes

VENUE

CAMH Auditorium

SHOWTIMES

Wednesday
November 2, 7 PM

CREATIVE TEAM

Spoken Word Artist
Natalie Wee

Singer and Musician
Anda Zeng

KEYWORDS

Anxiety
BIPOC Experience
Community
Depression
Grief

24

BIOGRAPHY

Natalie Wee (she/her) is a Queer creator whose work explores themes of race, gender, Queerness and nationhood. She is deeply informed by grassroots communities. She has written two poetry collections, *Our Bodies & Other Fine Machines* (San Press, 2021) and *Beast At Every Threshold* (Arsenal Pulp Press, 2022). Born in Singapore to Malaysian parents, Natalie is currently a settler in Tkaronto. natalieweewrites.com

Anda Zeng (she/her) writes cinematic night songs for the daydreamer. Her years of creating impressionistic blends of harp, piano, dreamy vocals and visceral lyrics culminated in the release of her debut EP, *Night Dress*, produced by Jonathan Wu. At once soothing and wounding, *Night Dress* lures listeners through the small hours into dawn, through the thicket of our illusory selves into our vulnerable human core. Anda is also a vocalist, harpist and songwriter for the band Tiger Balme. www.andazeng.com

SYNOPSIS

A Voice Through The Melt, a multidisciplinary piece incorporating spoken word and music, is a collaboration between musician Anda Zeng and writer Natalie Wee. In this performance piece spanning 11 to 12 minutes, the collaborating artists open new pathways for entering belonging, mental health, selfhood and grief.

Individually, Anda's cinematic songwriting allows for an embodied engagement with feeling, whereas Natalie's written words create a cerebral experience guided by the reader's input. In this crossover collaboration, Anda's voice and harp create a sonic resonance with excerpts from Natalie's new poetry collection, *Beast At Every Threshold*, performed in spoken word style. This creative call and response not only allows audiences to engage the work in a new way but also explores new interdisciplinary possibilities.



NOV 2		NOV 4		THEATRE
THE SUICIDE KEY		DON'T LET ME FALL TOO FAR		
RUNTIME 30 minutes	CONTENT WARNINGS Swearing / Mature language Sexual Content Suicide Addiction Subject matter: Medical assistance in dying (and the right to die with dignity)	RUNTIME 60 minutes	CREATIVE TEAM <i>Live Performance by</i> Rosalind MacPhail <i>Film by</i> Raven Blue	
VENUE CAMH Auditorium		VENUE CAMH Auditorium		
SHOWTIMES Wednesday November 2, 7:30 PM There will be a talk back following the performance.		SHOWTIMES Friday November 4, 8 PM There will be a talk back following the performance.	CONTENT WARNING Strobe Lights	
CREATIVE TEAM <i>Creator and Performer</i> Laura Piccinin <i>Dramaturg</i> Cass Van Wyck <i>Image Design</i> Gabriella Okuda	KEYWORDS 2SLGBTQIA+ Alcoholism Depression Trauma Suicide		KEYWORDS Anxiety Depression Family Homelessness Youth	
BIOGRAPHY Laura Piccinin was born to tell stories. Whether as a dancer/aerialist with Tokyo Disney, a playwright and performer for the new Canadian musical Every Silver Lining or her solo shows LESBIHONEST and The Suicide Key, a teacher at the Toronto District School Board, or a comédienne in Footloose with Just for Laughs, Laura's unstoppable passion in life lies in telling people all sorts of eccentric stories—whether they want to hear them or not. SYNOPSIS The Suicide Key is a solo storytelling piece derived from a series of conversations between two close friends as one contemplates and plans her suicide. This dark comedy explores the depth of the human experience through the lens of mental illness and offers a commentary on the right to life, death and happiness.		BIOGRAPHY Newfoundland's award-winning songwriter, looping flutologist and inspirational speaker explores new ways of combining image, inspiration and sound in audiovisual works that speak honestly of people, place and the human experience. A classically trained flautist, MacPhail layers moody vocals, electrifying flute loops, omnichord and driving electronics through her effects pedals and the digital audio workstation Ableton Live. MacPhail has received multiple honours and awards, including an East Coast Music Award for Electronic Recording of the Year and MusicNL's Female Artist of the Year. She has recorded 12 albums, composed music for film and toured internationally over the last two decades. SYNOPSIS A special live music and cinema event featuring Newfoundland's award-winning performer Rosalind MacPhail. DON'T LET ME FALL TOO FAR tells a timeless story of self-discovery experienced by a young woman navigating her way through a vulnerable period in her life. Haunting, lonely, dreamy and deeply honest.		25

OCT 27

OPENING NIGHT FILM / ONTARIO PREMIERE

HOW TO SAVE A DEAD FRIEND

DIRECTOR

Marusya Syroechkovskaya

**2022, SWEDEN, NORWAY,
FRANCE, GERMANY,
103 MINUTES**

Russian with English
Subtitles

AVAILABLE TO WATCH ONLINE

October 27, 8 PM - 12 AM ET
across Canada

October 28 - November 6
in Ontario only (see ticket
info p. 2)

IN-PERSON SCREENING

Thursday October 27,
6:30 - 8:30 PM (Hot Docs
Ted Rogers Cinema, 506
Bloor Street West)

KEYWORDS

Addiction
Authoritarianism
Depression
Suicide
Youth

GENRE

Documentary

ACCESSIBILITY



26



It's 2005, and Russia is governed by leaders who are keen to uplift their authoritarian dream.

Millennial suicides have become omnipresent—a last act of self-will among a generation denied the chance to envision a better future. Marusya, 16, has decided this will be her year to die.

Muzzled by the increasingly autocratic regime of the "Depression Federation," Marusya decides to join her generation's suicide statistics by the end of the year. Then, she meets Kimi and an unexpected love story begins between the two millennials caught in the undertow of their oppressive government. Together, Marusya and Kimi film the euphoria, anxiety and despair of their youth, burning the candle at both ends fueled by drugs and music. When Kimi's addiction threatens to make him fade away forever, Marusya's camera becomes

her last chance to save some part of his fragile soul. Filmed over the course of 12 years, this film is a personal cry from the heart and a message from a silenced generation. It is an unbreakable love story existing in a destructible world.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

On October 27th enjoy a post-film conversation with director Marusya Syroechkovskaya. Conversation moderated by Victor Stiff and Emma Badame.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS



LES PRIÈRES DE DELPHINE/ DELPHINE'S PRAYERS

DIRECTOR

Rosine Mbakam

**2021, BELGIUM,
CAMEROON,
91 MINUTES**French with English
Subtitles**AVAILABLE TO WATCH
ONLINE**October 27 - November 6
across Canada (see ticket
info p. 2)**IN-PERSON SCREENING**Friday October 28, 6 - 8 PM
(CAMH Auditorium, 1025
Queen Street West)**KEYWORDS**Colonialism
Domestic Violence
Family
Generational Trauma
Racism**GENRE**

Documentary

ACCESSIBILITY

27

A potent and intimate portrait by Rosine Mbakam, a Cameroonian filmmaker based in Belgium who introduces us to her friend and compatriot Delphine, a young Cameroonian girl who, after her mother's death and the abandonment of her father's parental responsibilities, was raped at the age of 13. She engages with sex work to support herself and her daughter and ends up marrying a Belgian man who is three times her age, hoping to find a better life in Europe. Seven years later, the European dream has faded and her situation has only worsened. Delphine, like others, is part of a generation of young African women crushed by patriarchal societies and left with Western sexual colonization as the only means of survival. Winner of the IndieLisboa Award for best film, *Les prières de Delphine* is a candid story of courage and strength in the face of racism, misogyny and poverty.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

On October 28th enjoy a post-film conversation with director Rosine Mbakam.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

OCT 29

FILM

MIS DOS VOCES/ MY TWO VOICES

DIRECTOR

Lina Rodriguez

**2022, CANADA,
68 MINUTES**

Spanish with English
Subtitles

AVAILABLE TO WATCH ONLINE

October 27 - November 6
across Canada (see ticket
info p. 2)

IN-PERSON SCREENING

Saturday October 29,
7 - 8:30 PM (CAMH
Auditorium, 1025 Queen
Street West)

KEYWORDS

Immigration
Resilience
Trauma
Women's Issues

GENRE

Documentary (feature)
Animation (short)

ACCESSIBILITY



28



Canadian director Lina Rodriguez paints a lyrical and truly unique portrait of what it means to be an immigrant and how this can affect one's sense of self. Shot with luminous 16mm film, the documentary introduces audiences to three Latina women who gradually reveal their individual migration stories, discuss the inherent challenges in starting afresh in a new country and explore how those difficult experiences have shaped their lives. Though their origins differ significantly, all three have faced similar struggles with language and belonging as they attempt to balance their present with complicated past memories. Rodriguez allows the identities of these women to remain concealed throughout and, instead, uses their voices to shift perspectives and reframe their emotional journeys of self-discovery and understanding. *My Two Voices* is a thoughtfully constructed cinematic ode to resilience in the face of trauma and perseverance during a time of seismic upheaval.

SCREENING WITH

UNDER THE FULL MOON / LYNN DANA WILTON / 2022 /
CANADA / 1 MINUTE / SILENT

When anxiety affects your ability to sleep it can be difficult to tell what is real and what is a dream. A short film animated with vine charcoal.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

On October 29th enjoy a post-film conversation with director Lina Rodriguez, moderated by Tamara Toledo.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS



UPON, REFLECTION: RECENT SHORT FILMS BY WORKMAN ARTS AND SATELLITE MEMBERS

AVAILABLE TO WATCH ONLINE

October 27 - November 6
across Canada (see ticket
info p. 2)

IN-PERSON SCREENING

Sunday October 30,
5 - 6:30 PM
(CAMH Auditorium, 1025
Queen Street West)

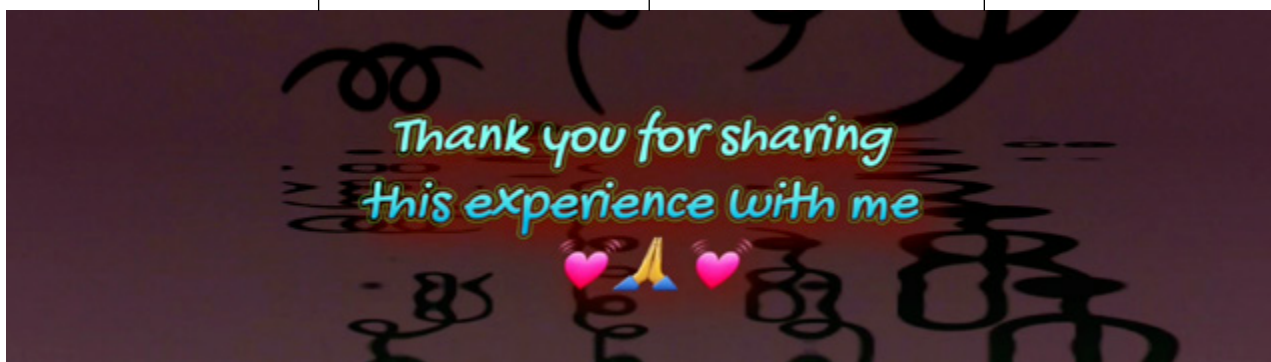
KEYWORDS

Artists
Experimentation
Healing
Resilience

GENRE

Short film

ACCESSIBILITY



29

Upon, Reflection is an anthology of recent short films by Workman Arts members and Satellite program artists. Filmmaking is a medium that allows us to tell stories and reflect on our own personal journeys. Each film presented in this series speaks to the vastness of storytelling and how it can transform us to make lasting and meaningful connections.

W.I PISTOLARY / Conilyn Herrera / Canada / 2022 / 4 minutes

EXPRESS YOURSELF / Sirene Qureshi & Luis Estores / Canada / 2018 / 4 minutes

THE HALLWAY / Zan Redcrow / Canada / 2022 / 3 minutes

HYPOTHETICALLY FEBRUARY 15 / Jasmine Vanstone / Canada / 2022 / 4 minutes

TORONTO INTERLUDE / Christine Waloszczyk / Canada / 2022 / 5 minutes

TRIGGER WARNING / Dorothy Ogda Laxton / Canada / 2022 / 36 minutes

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Join the filmmakers for an in-person Q&A on Sunday October 30th, moderated by filmmaker James Buffin.

CO-PRESENTED WITH



IF YOU ASK ME

DIRECTORS

Sameena Anis, Mikaela Cordero, Shian Grace, Corinne Langmuir, Gladys Lou, Sanskruti Marathe, Lee Nisar, Esteban Powell, Roberto Santaguida, Agnes Wong

**2022, CANADA,
60 MINUTES**

English

**AVAILABLE TO WATCH
ONLINE**

October 27 – November 6
across Canada (see ticket
info p. 2)

**IN-PERSON SCREENING
AND PANEL DISCUSSION**

Saturday November 5,
4 - 5:30 PM (see ticket info
p. 2)

KEYWORDS

Addiction
Mental Health
Trauma
Youth

GENRE

Various

ACCESSIBILITY



30



For the sixth consecutive year, *If You Ask Me (IYAM)* has supported emerging filmmakers with lived mental health and/or addiction experience to create new short works. This year's program features shorts by filmmakers from across the Greater Toronto Area (GTA).

These new films were developed from August to October 2022 under the guidance of Roberto Santaguida, along with *IYAM* alumni Angela Feng, Maud Mostly and Vyom Malhotra serving as mentors. Over the course of three months, filmmakers strengthened their film production skills in the company of peers and industry guests. Rendezvous With Madness is excited to support the production and exhibition of these distinctly personal creative works.

Equipment rentals and facilities were generously provided by our community sponsor, Trinity Square Video.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION: FILMMAKING NOW

The world has changed substantially since *If You Ask Me* 2021. This year's cohort of filmmakers adapted their practices to ever-changing social realities. Join the in-person panel discussion to learn how each artist developed their film.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS



WHEN WE REACH OUT, WHO SHOULD RESPOND?

DIRECTOR

Luke Galati

**2022, CANADA,
57 MINUTES**

English

**AVAILABLE TO WATCH
ONLINE**

October 27 - November 6
across Canada (see ticket
info p. 2)

IN-PERSON SCREENING

Saturday November 5, 7 - 9
PM (CAMH Auditorium, 1025
Queen West)

KEYWORDS

Bipolar Disorder
Class
Police Violence
Systemic Racism

GENRE

Documentary (feature)
Documentary (short)

ACCESSIBILITY



31

Toronto filmmaker Luke Galati's documentary *When We Reach Out, Who Should Respond?* was born out of a tense interaction he had with police during a bipolar episode.

In the documentary, he follows his own mental health journey in an effort to change emergency response and end mental illness stigma.

The film spotlights the Toronto Community Crisis Service, a pilot service responding to mental health-related calls with nurses and crisis workers rather than police officers. *When We Reach Out, Who Should Respond?* examines the need for alternative crisis response models through a series of interviews with politicians, activists and crisis workers advocating for change. Galati's thoughtful documentary invites audiences to engage in a necessary conversation about compassionate alternatives to police intervention during a mental health crisis.

SCREENING WITH

**HANGING ON / ALFIE BARKER / 2021 / UNITED KINGDOM /
16 MINUTES / ENGLISH**

A creative documentary spotlighting the strength of community united when faced with eviction.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

On November 5th enjoy a post-film discussion on mental health response and police brutality in Toronto, featuring director Luke Galati and moderated by Asante Haughton.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS



NOV 6

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

DO SAG/TWO DOGS/دو سگ

DIRECTOR

Amir Azizi

**2021, IRAN,
83 MINUTES**

Farsi with English Subtitles

IN-PERSON SCREENING

Sunday, November 6, 5 - 8 PM (see ticket info below)

KEYWORDS

Anxiety
Class Struggle
Depression
Generational Trauma

GENRE

Fiction

ACCESSIBILITY



32



Iman and Sajjad are two young men struggling with the kinds of problems typical for people in their 30s in Iran nowadays: unemployment, depression and a lack of self-confidence. Iman is translating Franz Kafka's *Investigations of a Dog* into Farsi while working as a cab driver. His passengers are like the characters of Kafka's story. Sajjad, Iman's best friend, is inhibited by the way he looks and is trying to gather money for surgery. Both have dogs that look very similar to their owners. The dogs, while not always welcomed by their families, make the men feel less lonely living in traditional Iranian society.

PRE-FILM RECEPTION hosted by the Intercultural Iranian Canadian Resource Centre. To reserve your \$20 tickets (includes food, art, socializing & film) please contact I2CRC at 416-388-9314 or info@i2crc.org

JOIN THE CONVERSATION: PANEL DISCUSSION

Following the screening of *Two Dogs*, join the Intercultural Iranian Canadian Resource Centre for a panel discussion about the film and the intersections of isolation, depression and human/animal relations. Translated between Farsi and English with ASL interpretation and captioning available.

COMMUNITY PARTNER



BIGGER THAN TRAUMA

DIRECTOR

Vedrana Pribacic

**2022, CROATIA,
90 MINUTES**

Croatian with English
Subtitles

**AVAILABLE TO WATCH
ONLINE**

October 27 – November 6
across Canada (see ticket
info p. 2)

KEYWORDS

Healing
Mutual Aid
Trauma
War
Women's Issues

GENRE

Documentary (feature)
Documentary (short)

ACCESSIBILITY

OC



33

The brutal Croatian War of Independence came to an end in 1995, but survivors of the conflict continued to feel its devastating effects almost 30 years later. Justice has been slow—if it comes at all—and institutional supports are few and far between, particularly for women who continue to live side by side with the very men who captured, tortured and raped them.

Vedrana Pribacic's *Bigger Than Trauma* is an intimate portrait of a group of Serbian and Croatian women who join a groundbreaking and unconventional therapy group to break their long-held silences, share their individual experiences and empower them to begin the long road to healing. However, their journey is not without its fair share of obstacles of pain revisited, cultural friction and resentment. In this tender setting, Pribacic's documentary gives voice to the oft-forgotten and ignored victims of war for their own self-determination after trauma.

SCREENING WITH

YAREN AND THE SUN / JOREN SLAETS, RENATE RAMAN / 2021 / BELGIUM / 19 MINUTES / DUTCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Yaren's mother died when she was six. Her friend Kato's father died a year ago. Yet the atmosphere in a therapeutic summer camp is far from mournful, when one of the supervisors dances with a girl to the lively song "La Bamba." It's fine to have fun, the children learn—it can coexist with sadness.

COMMUNITY PARTNER


OCT 27 – NOV 6

BIGGER THAN US

DIRECTOR

Flore Vasseur

**2021, FRANCE,
95 MINUTES**

English

**AVAILABLE TO WATCH
ONLINE**

October 27 - November 6
across Canada (see ticket
info p. 2)

KEYWORDS

Climate Change
Refugee Crisis
Women's Rights

GENRE

Documentary

ACCESSIBILITY

OC



How does one keep it together in a world coming apart at the seams? Climate change ravages the planet as greedy corporations keep polluting the environment at an unsustainable rate. With much of the global population living like there's no tomorrow, fighting for change can feel pointless. Writer-director Flore Vasseur's documentary *Bigger Than Us* offers viewers reason to remain hopeful.

Bigger Than Us follows 18-year-old Indonesian activist Melati Wijsen on her quest to meet with the 18- to 25-year-olds fighting for change. Melati heads to Lebanon, Malawi, Greece, the United States, Brazil and Uganda to celebrate the activists fighting for free speech, food security and equal rights. These defiant

young people refuse to let soulless corporations and self-interested politicians dictate their future. This beautifully shot documentary will shock, inspire and, most importantly, leave viewers hopeful about the future.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

camh | The Margaret and Wallace McCain Centre
for Child, Youth & Family Mental Health

PLANET in FOCUS
INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL FILM FESTIVAL

EAT YOUR CATFISH

DIRECTORS

Adam Isenberg, Noah Amir
Arjomand, Senem Tüzen

**2021, UNITED STATES,
SPAIN, TURKEY,
70 MINUTES**

English

AVAILABLE TO WATCH ONLINE

October 27 - November 6
across Canada (see ticket
info p. 2)

KEYWORDS

ALS
Chronic Illness
Disability
Family
Mental Health

GENRE

Documentary

ACCESSIBILITY

OC



35

Years with ALS have left Kathryn paralyzed and needing 24-hour care. With her mind intact and having opted for mechanical breathing, she could live like this indefinitely. But the situation has embittered and alienated her husband, Said, and proved too much for many nurses and aides. Her grown son Noah, who lives with Kathryn and Said in their New York City apartment, struggles to balance his academic obligations with those he feels he has to his mother. Kathryn often falls into despair, but she has been holding on to see her daughter's wedding day.

This project draws on 930 hours of footage filmed with a fixed camera from Kathryn's point of view, without any crew present. The result is a profoundly intimate, layered and wryly funny portrait of a family at its breaking point.

COMMUNITY PARTNER

ReelAbilities
FILM FESTIVAL
TORONTO

OCT 27 – NOV 6

GEMMEL & TIM

DIRECTOR

Michiel Thomas

**2021, UNITED STATES,
91 MINUTES**

English

**AVAILABLE TO WATCH
ONLINE**

October 27 - November 6
across Canada (see ticket
info p. 2)

KEYWORDS

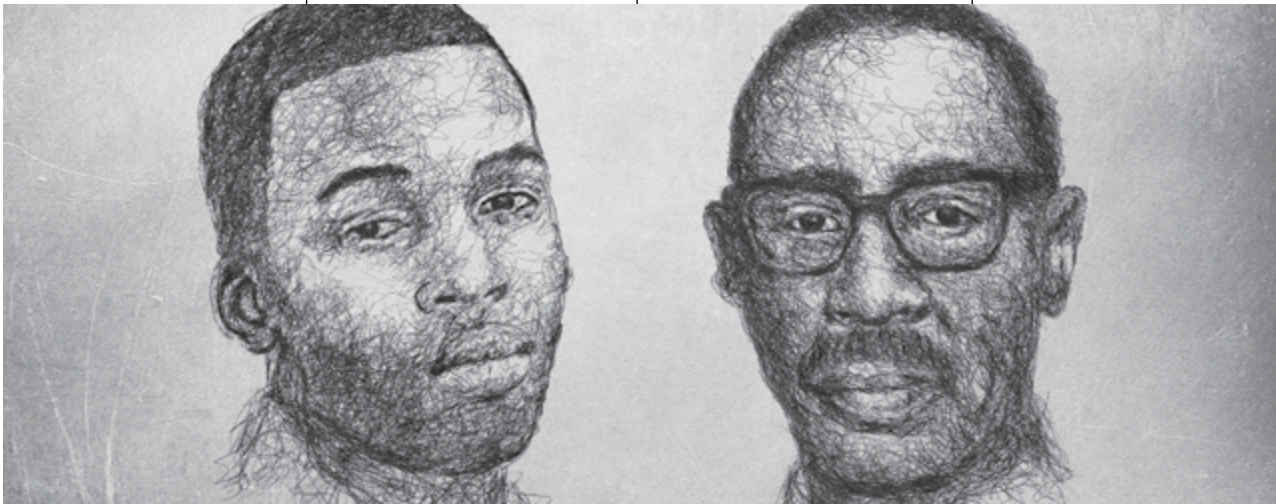
Addictions
Class
Overdose
Racism
Trauma

GENRE

Documentary (feature)
Fiction (short)

ACCESSIBILITY

OC



36

In the span of 18 months, two gay Black men died of drug overdoses inside the West Hollywood home of political donor Ed Buck. Yet it was four years (and many public protests) before a federal jury convicted Buck for his crimes. Writer-director Michiel Thomas's documentary *Gemmel & Tim* tells the story of Gemmel Moore and Timothy Dean, the two men who died in Buck's home under suspicious circumstances.

Throughout the film, their family and friends reminisce about their lives and share the shocking details surrounding their deaths. The film paints a touching portrait of love and regret as friends and family come to grips with the tragic loss of their loved ones. *Gemmel & Tim* is also a scathing indictment of America's broken justice system, calling out the blatant racial inequalities persisting decades after the abolition of Jim Crow.

SCREENING WITH

**LAY ME BY THE SHORE / DAVID FINDLAY / 2022 / CANADA /
18 MINUTES / ENGLISH**

Introducing a young cast of first-time actors, *Lay Me by the Shore* follows a week in the life of Noah, a high school senior in his final days of school as he comes to terms with his best friend's passing. Bathed in the warm light of long June days and with the intimidating spectre of an unknown future looming, the tale is told from the perspective of the recently departed. Through the prism of grief, the film highlights the raw and potent emotions of youth.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS



I DIDN'T SEE YOU THERE

DIRECTOR

Reid Davenport

**2022, UNITED STATES,
76 MINUTES**

English

**AVAILABLE TO WATCH
ONLINE**

 October 27 – November 6
across Canada (see ticket
info p. 2)

KEYWORDS

 Disability
Isolation
Mental Health
Othering
Perspective

GENRE

Documentary

ACCESSIBILITY
OC


37

Filmmaker Reid Davenport won the Sundance Documentary Directing Award for his feature-length directorial debut *I Didn't See You There*. This film unflinchingly explores the effects "othering" has on the disabled—from the days of the "freak show" to a modern society that continues to neglect and isolate the population—all framed through Davenport's literal perspective in his wheelchair. Inspired by the sudden appearance of a circus tent near his Oakland apartment, Davenport sets out to examine the legacy of showmen like P.T. Barnum while observing the lack of access, objectification and other forms of ableism he personally experiences with his family in Connecticut and at home as an artist in California. From construction and

maintenance that impedes his mobility, to the incredible inconvenience of "conveniences" put in place for wheelchair users, to the unsolicited offers of help and careless blocking of ramps, *I Didn't See You There* forces audiences to re-examine their own cultural perspectives and confront what it truly means to be "othered" within today's world.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

ReelAbilities
FILM FESTIVAL
TORONTO

**Inside
Out**

DE PÅRØRENDE – NÅR ENS BARN RAMMES AF PSYKISK SYGDOM / LOVE BOUND: WHEN YOUR CHILD BECOMES MENTALLY ILL

DIRECTOR

Vibe Mogensen

**2021, DEMARK,
52 MINUTES**Danish with English
Subtitles**AVAILABLE TO WATCH
ONLINE**October 27 - November 6
across Canada (see ticket
info p. 2)**KEYWORDS**Bipolar Disorder
Caregivers
Schizophrenia
Suicide**GENRE**Documentary (feature)
Fiction (short)**ACCESSIBILITY****OC**

38



Director Vibe Mogensen's documentary *Love Bound: When Your Child Becomes Mentally Ill* takes viewers behind closed doors to experience intimate group therapy sessions for empathic and stressed parents. Many of the caregivers featured in the film have children who will require specialized care throughout their entire lives. The parents struggle to maintain their own health, careers and social lives while meeting their kids' unique needs—schizophrenia, ADHD, bipolar disorder and suicidal ideation.

This revealing documentary is uplifting, heartbreaking and unapologetically honest. *Love Bound: When Your Child Becomes Mentally Ill* delivers a touching reminder of the superhuman levels of inner strength people are capable of when they have others to lean on.

SCREENING WITH**OUSMANE / JORGE CAMAROTTI / 2021 / CANADA / 25
MINUTES / FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES**

Ousmane, a newly arrived immigrant living in Montreal, faces a challenging situation when he meets an elderly disoriented woman at the end of his workday.

COMMUNITY PARTNER

MIDWASTE

DIRECTOR

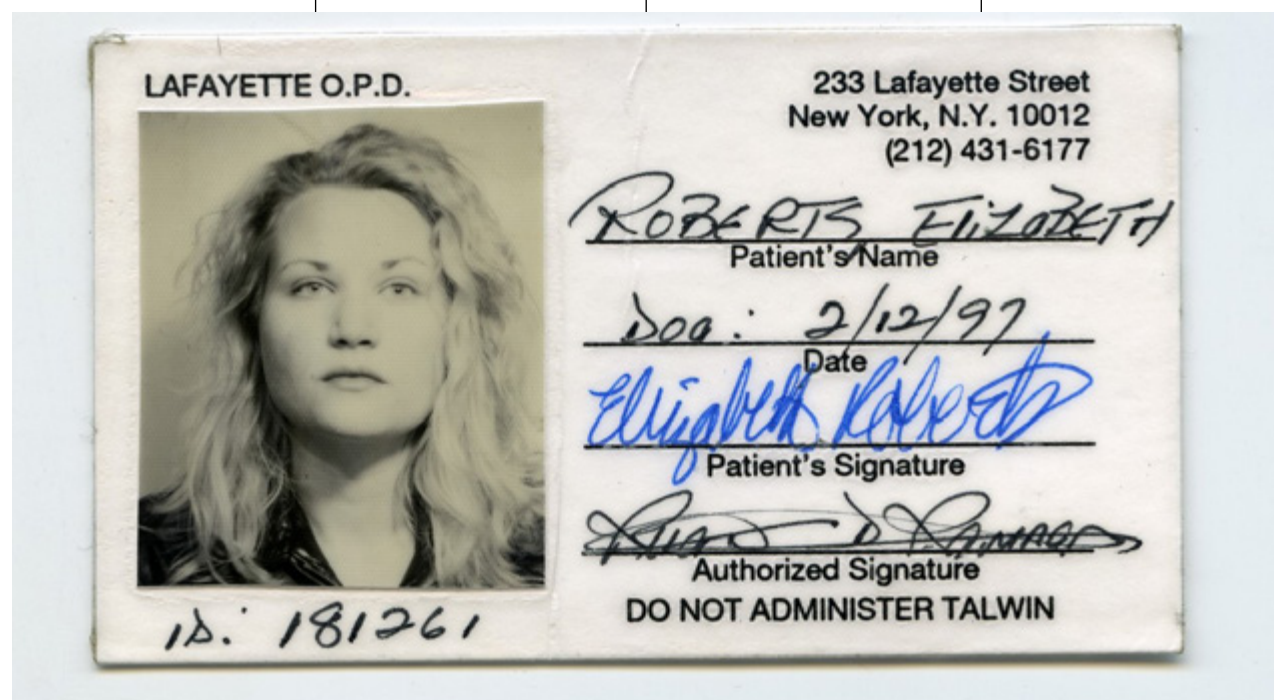
Liz Roberts

**2021, UNITED STATES,
23 MINUTES**

English

**AVAILABLE TO WATCH
ONLINE**October 27 - November 6
across Canada (see ticket
info p. 2)**KEYWORDS**Addiction
Artist
Autobiography
Healing**GENRE**

Short film

ACCESSIBILITY**OC**

Midwaste tells the story of Liz Roberts' relationship with heroin over several decades. Her connection to drug subcultures is inextricable from her relationship with the camera. She started making Super 8 films as a teen, shooting friends she became intimate with in circles of drug use. Her essay-documentary retraces her steps, interviewing friends about their memories of the past, and revisiting footage taken at various stages of her youth. Her methods are palpable and relational; the work opens with her first-ever film (a grainy black and white mud fight starring her friends), becoming more high-resolution as Roberts becomes more adept with profound reflection alongside different cameras and techniques.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Liz Roberts is running a virtual workshop on Tuesday November 1 on creating autobiographical films. Please see p. 41 or visit workmanarts.com for more details.

CO-PRESENTED WITH

OCT 27 – NOV 6

TORONTO PREMIERE

FILM

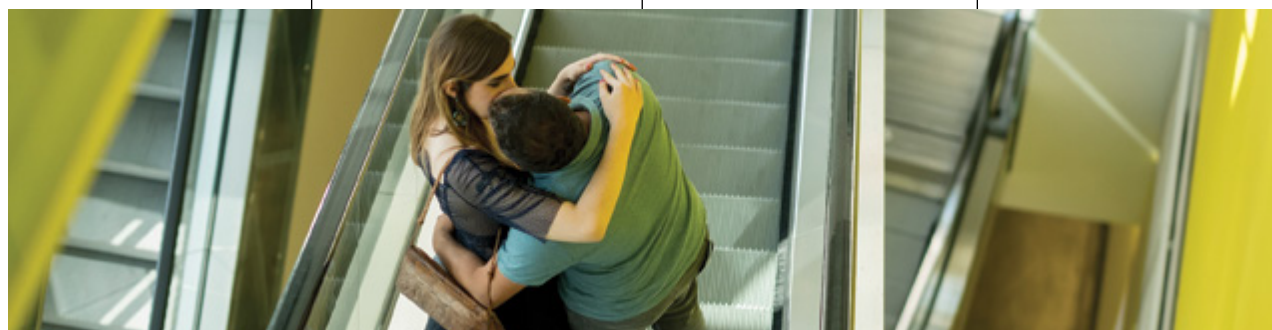
MI VACÍO Y YO / MY EMPTINESS AND I

DIRECTOR

Adrián Silverstre

**2022, SPAIN,
98 MINUTES**French and Spanish with
English Subtitles**AVAILABLE TO WATCH
ONLINE**October 27 - November 6
across Canada (see ticket
info p. 2)**KEYWORDS**Anxiety
Dating
Family
Gender Dysphoria
Youth**GENRE**Fiction (feature)
Fiction (short)**ACCESSIBILITY****OC**

40



"Raphi, young and naive, enjoys writing love poems and dreams about falling in love. She leaves her native France and moves to Barcelona, where she works in a call centre. She struggles with maintaining relationships with boys and what it means to be diagnosed with gender dysphoria. As a trans woman, Raphi feels the pressure to define and defend herself to anyone who asks, but also deals with the social pressures to move forward with irreversible reassignment surgery. Even among her trans support group, Raphi receives mixed messages about needing to love herself exactly as she is ... or instead, change her body in order for someone to love her in return. The brutal dating scene is no help as she's matched with men who see her as more of a sexual novelty than a human being searching for love and connection. Wading through serious doubts and an array of intimate encounters of varying pleasure, Raphi must learn to trust herself and her newfound opportunity of the arts as a means of healing and empowerment. Raw, honest, and thought-provoking, *Mi vacío y yo* is

an intensely intimate journey of self-discovery and acceptance." —Cleveland International Film Festival

SCREENING WITH

THE SPIRAL / MARÍA SILVIA ESTEVE / 2022 / ARGENTINA /
SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

The Spiral is a dive into a lonely ride, a hypnotic escalation towards childhood, family and the loneliness of "home."

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Enjoy a prerecorded conversation with director Adrián Silverstre, moderated by Anna Daliza.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

**Inside
Out**



**VANCOUVER
QUEER
FILM
FESTIVAL**

二〇二〇年的一场雨 / RAIN IN 2020

DIRECTOR

Lee Yong Chao

**2021, MYANMAR, TAIWAN,
79 MINUTES**Chinese and Burmese with
English Subtitles**AVAILABLE TO WATCH
ONLINE**October 27 – November 6
across Canada (see ticket
info p. 2)**KEYWORDS**Anxiety
Dictatorship
Environmental catastrophe
Pandemic
Resource extraction**GENRE**

Documentary

ACCESSIBILITY**OC**

Rain in 2020 took director Lee Yong Chao seven years to make. It intimately documents a family coping with the constantly changing situations in Myanmar. Amid the pandemic in 2020, a torrential rain caused the family and the entire village to live their daily lives in the flooding sewage. Nobody knows when the muddy water will be gone and what will come after the storm.

"At the beginning of 2020, I was in the process of filming *The Bad Man* in Myanmar. The sudden outbreak of COVID-19 forced me to stay at home. Meanwhile, I was suffering from some health issues when the tragedy of a major fatal collapse of a jade mine in Pakant occurred, and I could do nothing but worry every single day about my brother who worked in the mine. Month after month,

the pandemic in Myanmar became more and more out of control, which prevented me from returning to Taiwan. Various factors interweaving triggered my anger and doubts toward things which happened in Myanmar society in recent years. In mid-September, there was a sudden rainfall. Along with the flood, I let out my long accumulated dissatisfaction with people's daily life in my hometown in Myanmar over the years."—Lee Yong Chao

COMMUNITY PARTNER

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reel asian
INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL



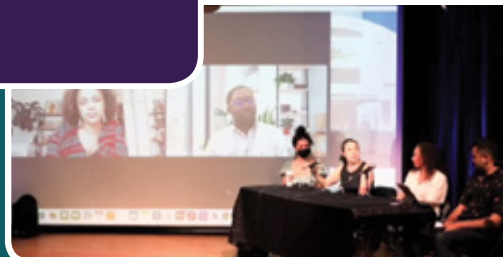
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NOV 1		NOV 5		WORKSHOPS
LIZ ROBERTS: ON AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL FILMMAKING		NEURODIVERGENT CREATOR COZY TEA TIME: ENVISIONING AFFIRMING AUTISTIC AND ADHDER REPRESENTATION		
DATE Tuesday November 1, 2022, time TBC	LIVE STREAM ONLY Free to register at workmanarts.com	FACILITATED BY Kat Singer	LIVE STREAM ONLY Zoom Free to register at workmanarts.com	
ACCESSIBILITY ASL () available by request (raine_laurenteugene@workmanarts.com) Live auto captioning will be provided		DATE Saturday November 5, 2022	ACCESSIBILITY ASL () and live captioning will be provided	
<p>Liz Roberts makes work that is often collaborative and rooted in moving image and sound. She has held teaching positions in the Cinema Department at Denison University, Film & Video, Graduate Studies at Columbus College of Art & Design and the Art and Film Studies departments at The Ohio State University. Her her early 16mm films have screened with Ann Arbor Film Festival (Michigan), Microscope Gallery (Brooklyn) and Filmmakers' Coop (New York) and were awarded at the New York Exposition of Short Film & Video and the Chicago International Film Festival. From 2015 to 2018 Roberts was a core participant in MINT—a collective, gallery and multidisciplinary warehouse space in Columbus, Ohio. In 2019 she received a fellowship in sculpture for Vermont Studio Center, volunteered as staff at ACRE (Artists' Cooperative Residency and Exhibitions) and was in residence at The Growlery in San Francisco. Currently she has a monthly show on Columbus, Ohio based Verge.FM and KCHUNG Radio in Los Angeles. Her most recent film, <i>Midwaste</i>, screened at Hot Docs in 2022. She is a 2022 BAVC (Bay Area Video Coalition) MediaMaker fellow.</p>		<p>According to numerous self-advocates, Autism and ADHD representation in film leaves much to be desired. The host, multimedia artist and neurodiversity*-affirming therapist Kat Singer brings together fellow neurodivergent** artists to share their work, explore their relationships with diagnosis and speak to the representation they would like to see on screens.</p> <p>We will be sharing a virtual "living room" and drinking non-alcoholic beverages of our choice—join us for 90 minutes of insightful and authentic conversation in a relaxed, gently facilitated space.</p> <p>*; **Individual human brains naturally differ in how they are built and how they function; this biological fact is referred to as "neurodiversity." Autism and ADHD are examples of diagnostic labels for people whose brains look and function differently from what is considered typical or "normal." These individuals sometimes choose to self-identify as neurodivergent. Self-advocates have begun to reclaim these medical terms that have been used to oppress them, transforming stigma into pride and creating communities of like-minded people. To learn more about key terms, see Nick Walker's seminal essay: https://neuroqueer.com/neurodiversity-terms-and-definitions/</p> <p>Our special guests at Neurodivergent Creator Cozy Tea Time will be announced soon—check our website for up-to-the-moment details (workmanarts.com/rwm)</p>		43

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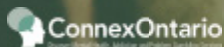


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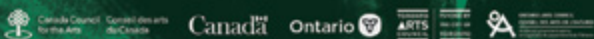
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MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES

There are many options for accessing local and affordable mental health and addictions support. The resources below are arranged alphabetically by name, with the focus or format of their support listed below.

If you are in crisis, call Toronto Distress Centres at 416-408-HELP (4357) 24/7/365 or visit your closest hospital emergency department.

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7 Cups: Free online text support
7cups.com

Across Boundaries:
Mental health and addictions support
for racialized communities
acrossboundaries.ca

Al-Anon Family Groups:
Addiction
al-anon.org

Alcoholics Anonymous: Addiction
aatoronto.org | aa.org

Anishnawbe Health Toronto:
aht.ca

Arts Health Network of Canada:
Artist health
healtharts.ca/arts-health-network

Assaulted Women's Helpline:
Violence against women
awhl.org

Barbara Schlifer Commemorative Clinic: Women's health
schliferclinicW

Healing In Colour—BIPOC Therapists Canada-Wide:
healingincolour.com

CAMH Aboriginal Service:
camh.ca/en/your-care/programs-and-services/aboriginal-substance-use-outpatient-counselling-service

Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture:
Newcomer and refugee mental health/trauma
ccvt.org

Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse (CCSA):
ccsa.ca

Centre for ADD/ADHD Awareness Canada: ADD/ADHD
caddac.ca

Centre for Addiction & Mental Health (CAMH):
Mental health + addiction
camh.ca

COSTI:
Newcomer + refugee mental health
costi.org

Distress and Crisis Ontario:
Distress support + resource referral
dcontario.org

The Empowerment Council:
CAMH client advocacy
empowermentcouncil.ca

First Nations, Métis & Inuit Hope Help Line: Canada-wide 24/7
1-855-242-3310

Frederick W. Thompson Anxiety Disorders Centre:
Anxiety
sunnybrook.ca/content/?page=frederick-thompson-anxiety-disorders-centre

Gerstein Crisis Centre:
Distress support + resource referral
gersteincentre.org

Hard Feelings: Low-cost therapy
hardfeelings.org

Hong Fook:
Ethno-cultural community mental health support services
hongfook.ca

Hope for Wellness Chat:
Indigenous online chat counselling
hopeforwellness.ca

Kids Help Phone: Youth mental health
kidshelpphone.ca

Lesbian Gay Bi Trans Youth Line:
Youth LGBTQ+
youthline.ca

Métis Nation of Ontario:
metisnation.org/programs-and-services/healing-wellness

Maggie's Toronto:
Sex work + mental health
maggiesto.org

Mind Your Mind: Youth mental health
mindyourmind.ca

Mood Disorders Association of Ontario:
Mood disorders
mooddisorders.ca

National Eating Disorder Information Centre (NEDIC): Eating disorders
nedic.ca

Thrive Youth Development Canada:
thriveyouth.ca

Native Child and Family Services:
Indigenous mental health
nativechild.org

Native Youth Crisis Line:
24/7 crisis line for Indigenous Youth available for residents of Canada and the US.
1-877-209-1266

Network for Aboriginal Mental Health Research: Mental health programs database
namhr.ca/mental-health-programs/

Ontario Obsessive Compulsive Disorder Network (OCD Ontario):
Anxiety/OCD
ocdontario.org

Ontario Peer Development Initiative (OPDI): Peer advocacy
opdi.org

Ontario Suicide Prevention Roundtable: Suicide prevention
wrspc.ca/about-us/ontario-suicide-prevention-roundtable/

Parents for Children's Mental Health (PCMH):
Youth mental health
pcmh.ca

Planned Parenthood Toronto:
Youth sexual health
ppt.on.ca

Progress Place Warm Line:
Peer support available from 12-8PM
warmline.ca

Psychiatric Patient Advocate Office (PPAO): Client advocacy
<https://www.ontario.ca/page/psychiatric-patient-advocate-office>

Renascent: Addiction
renascent.ca

Schizophrenia Society of Ontario:
Psychosis
iamentalhealth.ca

Sheena's Place: Eating disorders
sheenasplace.org

Survivors of Suicide Loss Support Program: Suicide grief
torontodistresscentre.com/suicide-loss

Talk4Healing:
Helpline for Indigenous women
talk4healing.com

The Family Association for Mental Health Everywhere (FAME):
Support for families + caregivers
reconnect.on.ca/fame-family-and-caregiver-support-services

The Gestalt Institute of Toronto:
Low-cost therapy
gestalt.on.ca/low-cost-therapy-clinic

The LifeLine Canada Foundation:
Offers free suicide prevention and awareness
thelifelinecanada.ca/lifeline-canada-foundation/lifeline-app

Toronto Aboriginal Support Services Council:
tassc.ca

Toronto Institute for Relational Psychology: Low-cost therapy
tirp.ca/lowcost

Virtuous Pedophiles Support Group: Sexual issues
virped.org

What's Up Walk-In Clinics:
Free counselling for youth
whatsupwalkin.ca

Women for Sobriety:
Addiction (focus on women)
womenforsobriety.org

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