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Announcing the CIFF 2022 Lineup!

ALBERTA - The Calgary International Film Festival, presented by connectFirst Credit Union, is thrilled to announce its exciting 2022 Festival lineup, featuring the year's most groundbreaking and must-see films from around the world! Featuring titles such as **BROKER, DECISION TO LEAVE, FINAL CUT** and **TRIANGLE OF SADNESS**, which have made their way from Cannes to CIFF, this year's lineup also includes 33 feature films that are premieres in North America, Canada and Internationally, all screening from **September 22 to October 2, 2022.**

"I think the lineup truly reflects the overall strength of the films that were submitted and highlights the amazing cinematic work being created all across the globe," said Brian Owens, CIFF's Artistic Director. "There is a diversity of voices, diversity of genre and a diversity of style in these films."

"We are also excited to feature **EMILY, VIKING, HAWA**, and previously announced **RICEBOY SLEEPS**, which come to Calgary straight from Toronto International Film Festival's prestigious Platform Competition," added Owens.

"We are incredibly excited to be the presenting partner for CIFF this year to support local filmmakers and the creative industries in Alberta, as well as help shine a spotlight on filmmakers and talent from around the world," said Wellington Holbrook, CEO of connectFirst Credit Union.

"There's no better feeling than seeing Calgary come alive for a special event – the city becomes electric. It's going to be especially true with the calibre of talent that CIFF is featuring in their lineup this year, it's going to be spectacular. We can't wait to see everyone at the theatre to celebrate these amazing films."

Here are a few highlights from this year's festival - please visit <https://www.ciffcalgary.ca/browse/2022/> to view all of the CIFF 2022 titles.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

BROKER, Directed by Hirokazu Kore-eda (South Korea)

One rainy night, a young woman (Lee Ji-eun) leaves her baby at a safe haven drop-off facility. Two men (Song Kang-ho, *PARASITE*, CIFF 2019; Dong-won Gang, *PENINSULA*) secretly take it home. However, the next day, when the young woman unexpectedly returns for her baby, she finds him missing and calls the police. When the men explain they took the child in order to find him a suitable home, she decides to join them on their mission.

Arguably Japan's best living director, Hirokazu Kore-eda returns to CIFF (*SHOPLIFTERS*, CIFF 2018; *OUR LITTLE SISTER*, CIFF 2015) and takes his trade to South Korea with this achingly touching drama about how chosen family can be found in the most unusual places.

DEAD FOR A DOLLAR, Directed by Walter Hill (United States/Canada)

When it appears a young woman (Rachel Brosnahan) has run off with an army deserter, a hired gun, Max (Christoph Waltz), is contracted to go after them and bring her home.

After learning that she fled from an abusive husband, Max is faced with the choice to finish the job or look the other way as ruthless assassins and his longtime rival, Joe (Willem Dafoe), close in.

DECISION TO LEAVE, Directed by Park Chan-Wook (South Korea)

A man falls from a mountain peak to his death. The detective in charge, Hae-joon (Park Hae-il), comes to meet the dead man's wife Seo-rae (Tang Wei), who does not show any signs of being upset by her husband's death. With her behaviour so unlike that of a grieving relative, the police consider her a suspect. Hae-joon interrogates Seo-rae and while observing her on a stakeout, feels himself slowly developing an interest in her.

Master director Park Chan-wook (*THE HANDMAIDEN*, CIFF 2016; *OLDBOY*) weaves mystery and romance in a seamless manner that won him Best Director at the Cannes Film Festival in May. In a year filled to the brim with excellent South Korean films, *DECISION TO LEAVE* is the nation's submission to the Academy for Best International Film.

GOOD NIGHT OPPY, Directed by Ryan White (United States)

In 2003, NASA launched the Opportunity rover with the intention of it landing on Mars and exploring the planet for approximately 90 days. Opportunity (nicknamed Oppy) made a number of discoveries about the Red Planet, including dramatic evidence that long ago, at least one area of Mars stayed wet for an extended period and that conditions could have been suitable for sustaining microbial life. It also continued operating and exploring for a whopping 15 years.

Director Ryan White (ASSASSINS, CIFF 2020; CODED, CIFF 2021) brings excitement and energy to this incredible story of scientific achievement in the face of adversity, granting us intimate access to the scientists who made the journey possible.

Working with Industrial Light and Magic and Lucasfilm on the visual effects, GOOD NIGHT OPPY grants Opportunity a voice of her own, a voice that will continue inspiring people for generations to come.

TRIANGLE OF SADNESS, Directed by Ruben Östlund (Germany, France, United Kingdom)

Carl and Yaya are models navigating the world of fashion while exploring the boundaries of their relationship. The couple is invited on a luxury cruise with a gallery of super-rich passengers, a Russian oligarch, British arms dealers and an idiosyncratic, alcoholic, Marx-quoting captain. At first, all appears perfectly Instagrammable, but a storm is brewing and everything is about to change.

From director Ruben Östlund (THE SQUARE, CIFF 2017; FORCE MAJEURE, CIFF 2014) comes the Palme d'Or winning TRIANGLE OF SADNESS, an uninhibited satire where roles and class are inverted and the tawdry economic value of beauty is unveiled.

FEATURE FILMS

BUTTERFLY IN THE SKY, Directed by Bradford Thomason and Brett Whitcomb (United States)

The bubbling synth sounds of its theme song will have children of the '80s and '90s exclaiming, "READING RAINBOW!" This beloved and ubiquitous children's television show introduced millions of kids to the wonder and importance of books, insisting on having kids speak to other kids about their favourite stories. READING RAINBOW also introduced the world to one of the most adored television hosts of all time, LeVar Burton. Thanks to his direct, non-patronizing and kind delivery, Burton became a conduit of learning for children of every background.

Bradford Thomason and Brett Whitcomb have crafted a wonderfully nostalgic look at the origin story of READING RAINBOW. The audience is invited to learn about the foundation of a show that for 25 years dedicated itself to bringing literature into children's lives and delving into the people, places and things each new story explored.

EMILY, Directed by Frances O'Connor (United Kingdom)

Emily (Emma Mackey, SEX EDUCATION) wears a mask. The world tells her she must be quiet, obedient and dutiful. She certainly must neither speak her mind nor share her thoughts, feelings or dreams. Emily though, is wildly alive. She rages with emotion, has a voice yearning to be heard and a mind overwhelmed by imagination. She has no interest in staying silent and doing what others want. Who was this young woman whose heart burned with such love and life? Who was the woman

who wrote one of literature's most timeless and searing masterpieces, WUTHERING HEIGHTS?

Debut filmmaker Frances O'Connor finds her voice, immersing the audience in Emily Brontë's hidden world. Emily is a rebel and misfit, a young woman daring to form herself and embrace her true nature, consequences be damned.

END OF SEX, Directed by Sean Garrity (Canada)

A couple feeling the pressure of parenting and adulthood send their kids to winter camp for the first time, embarking on a series of sexual adventures in an attempt to reinvigorate their relationship.

Director Sean Garrity and actors Jonas Chernick and Emily Hampshire have previously worked together on several festival films, including MY AWKWARD SEXUAL ADVENTURE (CIFF 2012) and BOREALIS (CIFF 2015.) None of them are strangers to bringing to screen a light-hearted, relationship comedy that's a ton of fun to watch!

FINAL CUT, Directed by Michel Hazanavicius (France)

In an abandoned building, a low-budget zombie horror film is falling apart on set. The abusive director (Romain Duris) is already pushing the cast and crew to the brink with his obnoxious behaviour when he reveals his plan to inject energy and excitement into the project: unlocking a real-life ancient zombie curse. In a frenetic one-shot where body parts and fluids are flying, the actors fight for their lives before the film comes to a shocking conclusion and the credits roll... but is that the whole story?

Academy Award®-winning writer-director Michel Hazanavicius (THE ARTIST, CIFF 2011) brings one of the most innovative and joyful love letters to film and filmmaking you'll ever see.

HAWA, Directed by Maïmouna Doucouré (France)

Hawa (Sania Halifa,) a 15-year-old girl who lives alone with her soon-to-be-dead grandmother (famed Malian singer, Oumou Sangaré) fears being placed in another home by social services. When she learns that Michelle Obama is visiting Paris for three days, Hawa sets out to get adopted by her, as she admires her more than anything.

Hawa's determination to find and meet Michelle Obama takes her through an emotional, fast-paced and spirited journey where she creatively makes her way through a concert, embassy, hospital, and airport, with the help of her mad scooter abilities! Director Maïmouna Doucouré's (CUTIES) second feature film is a creative and heartwarming story, with an incredible lead and music throughout.

VIKING, Directed by Stéphane Lafleur (Canada)

The Viking Society is recruiting volunteers for the first manned mission to Mars. The

goal is to form a B-team that will mirror the mission here on Earth to find solutions to the interpersonal problems that the Mars-bound crew is experiencing. David, a high school gym teacher, seizes this opportunity to revive his dream of becoming an astronaut and making a difference. VIKING is a little absurd, falling somewhere between a high-concept comedy and a straight-up allegorical tale. It's a story about the gap between our dreams and reality.

Shot on beautiful 35mm, VIKING is the latest film from Quebec Director Stéphane Lafleur (YOU'RE SLEEPING NICOLE, CIFF 2014; THE NATIONAL PARKS PROJECT, CIFF 2011.)

SHORT FILMS

THE FLYING SAILOR, Directed by Wendy Tilby and Amanda Forbis (Canada)

Two ships collide in a harbour, an explosion shatters a city and a sailor is blasted skyward. With ears ringing, blood pulsing and guts heaving, he soars high above the mayhem and towards the great unknown.

Academy Award®-winning, Alberta-based filmmakers Wendy Tilby and Amanda Forbis have crafted a bold blend of comedy, suspense and philosophy that is an exhilarating contemplation of the wonder and fragility of existence.

LET ME GO (THE RIGHT WAY), Directed by Destry Allyn Spielberg (United States)

Convinced that his life is being manipulated by an outside source, Aiden makes an appointment with the amiable Dr. Kemp. Initially, Dr. Kemp is a calming, supportive presence whose insights into Aiden's difficulties promise an encouraging prognosis. Over multiple sessions, however, the relationship between the doctor and his patient begins to take on new, ominous shades. As Aiden's condition fails to improve and, in fact, worsens, he begins to question kindly Dr. Kemp's intentions.

THE SENTENCE OF MICHAEL THOMPSON, Directed by Kyle Trash & Hayley Elizabeth Anderson (United States)

In 1994, Michael Thompson was arrested in Michigan for selling three pounds of marijuana to a close friend turned police informant and was sentenced to 40 to 60 years in prison and has been there ever since. After 25 years, three appeals, and two denied applications for clemency it seems like Michael may finally have a chance at freedom.

SHORTS: Spirits on Fire Package

A selection of short films curated by the [FOREIGNERZ](#) team. As we turn towards a peculiar future, the noise from the global underground takes us towards the absurd and the anxious. In all these films we looked at portraits of humans in a state of

flux - the ones who lean into the ludicrous, the human spirit on fire, the urgency of survival and need for transformation. Titles in this package:

CIA-BER, Directed by Ahmed Abdelsalam (Egypt)
FACE RECOGNITION, Directed by Martinus Klemet (Estonia)
F^K '€M R!GHT B@K, Directed by Harris Doran (United States)
SANDSTORM, Directed by Seemab Gul (Pakistan)
TANK FAIRY, Directed by Erich Rettstadt (Taiwan)
TIGRESS, Directed by Maya Bastian (Canada)

These are just a few of the amazing CIFF titles this year - the full list of films is available on <https://www.ciffcalgary.ca/browse/2022/>, with single tickets for these films on sale September 8, 2022.

Media Accreditation is open, please apply by September 5: <https://www.ciffcalgary.ca/festival/media/>

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CIFF | Calgary International Film Festival

September 22 - October 2, 2022

ciffcalgary.ca | @CIFFcalgary#260, 999 8 St. SW Calgary, AB

About the Calgary International Film Festival

Founded in 2000, the Calgary International Film Festival (CIFF) is a not-for-profit charitable organization that brings films and filmmakers from around the world to Calgary for its annual Fall festival and year-round programming. CIFF is now the largest event of its kind in Alberta and the sixth largest film festival in Canada, bringing audiences together for remarkable and engaging cinematic experiences.

CIFF is proud to present its hybrid festival from September 22 - October 2, 2022 with in-cinema screenings and at-home streaming, celebrating stand-out stories and experiences.

CIFF's Presenting Partner is



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