



Media Release // For Immediate Release
August 13, 2025

WORLD PREMIERE FILMS AT CIFF 2025

Announcing the first wave of films at this year's festival, including appearance & performance by Canadian icon BIF NAKED!

Calgary, AB – The Calgary International Film Festival, presented by Servus Credit Union, unveils the first wave of films to be screened at CIFF 2025 from **September 18 – 28**, including world premiere titles and celebrity appearances. The festival will kick off its DAY ONE program with the Spotlight+ screening of **BIF NAKED**, a raw and unfiltered look at the life of one of Canada's most iconic and fearless musicians. Bif Naked will be on the red carpet in advance of the screening, with a Q&A and musical performance to follow.

"Every year we get so excited about the lineup and can't wait for audiences to dig into all the gems we've found. We're always looking for a unique mix from around the world, with something for everyone. This year we have a record number of world premieres, with nine so far in the line-up, and we've also made sure to seek out some exciting family-friendly films. And of course, we always love celebrating all the hard work of our local filmmakers, with nine feature films in the Alberta Spotlight section this year," said Brenda Lieberman, CIFF's Lead Programmer.

"At this year's festival we will kick things off with our DAY ONE films, with five features from different sections at Contemporary Calgary and Globe Cinema, with one big after-party. We're all big fans of Bif Naked, who will take centre stage with our Spotlight+ screening and performance. Highlights from our Special Presentations and Alberta Spotlight sections will get audiences hyped for their next 11-days of movies, guests, Q&A's, socials, panels, and so much more."

Tickets for the Spotlight+ screening of BIF NAKED will be \$35 each, and will include access to the DAY ONE after-party. These tickets go on sale to the general public on August 14 alongside tickets for CIFF's annual Trailer Party, which takes place on August 27 at 6:30 p.m. at Globe Cinema.

WORLD, INTERNATIONAL AND NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERES

From documentaries and drama, to Music on Screen, CIFF has it all! From around the world to right here at home, we are pleased to announce the World, International, and North American premieres at CIFF 2025:

WORLD PREMIERES

BIF NAKED, directed by Pollyanna Hardwicke-Brown & Jennifer Abbott (Canada)

BIF NAKED is a raw and unfiltered look at the life of one of Canada's most iconic and fearless musicians.

A DICKENS OF A CHRISTMAS, directed by Gillian McKercher (Canada)

At a Victorian Christmas dinner, a skeptical lawyer meets a charming renovator and receives a ghostly gift that might just restore her faith in love.

CALORIE, directed by Eisha Marjara (Canada)

A bittersweet drama follows three generations of women whose present and past lives collide during an emotionally packed summer in India.

DO US PART, directed by Clare Preuss (Canada)

After years of propping up her husband's fledgling eco-architecture business, a matriarch upends their carefully constructed world igniting a family firestorm.

FRUIT IS RIPE, directed by Yuqi Kang (Canada)

Through seasons of change, a Chinese farmer named Caicai and a group of immigrant fathers navigate work, longing, and the search for home in Canada.

LOVE, HAROLD, directed by Alan Zweig (Canada)

Shocked by a friend's suicide, renowned documentary filmmaker Alan Zweig seeks understanding from 23 individuals grieving a similar loss.

MIDDLE LIFE, directed by Pavan Moondi (Canada)

Andie saves Ryan from a car wreck, sparking a tumultuous year that might just prove life could be great. Starring July Talk's Leah Fay Goldstein and Peter Dreimanis.

PULSE OF THE CONTINENT, directed by Eric Gonzalez (Canada)

Amid the largest railway merger in North American history, a century-old steam locomotive is brought back to life for a journey unlike any before.

SINGHS IN THE RING, directed by Akash Sherman (Canada)

A ride through the legacy of Gama Singh— a Punjabi immigrant turned Canadian wrestling icon—and his son Raj, who fights to carry the family name into a new era.

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERES

THIS WILL NEVER WORK, directed by Marina Tempelsman & Niccolo Aeed (United States)

The family has decided there's a problem. That problem is you.

NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERES

LOWLAND KIDS, directed by Sandra Winther (Denmark)

Two teenagers and their uncle face an uncertain future as their community has to resettle before their island in Louisiana succumbs to the sea.



Stay tuned for **CIFF's Full Festival Lineup Announcement** on **August 27, 2025**. A press conference will be held at **11 a.m. at Globe Cinema**, more details coming soon.

Single tickets will be on sale August 28, 2025 at 10 a.m. MST. For more information, please visit <https://www.ciffcalgary.ca/>

MEDIA IMAGES <https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/2vtqhmk0cggfa4qper3v3/AB4tQNSfakRSnQj4dHfNIV0?rlkey=h045jemb3hhdtjojsydken8ov&st=i8h2p3st&dl=0>

Media Accreditation is now open until August 25 - <https://www.ciffcalgary.ca/media-2/media-accreditation/>

-30-

For Media Inquiries, please contact:

Aldona Barutowicz (she/her), Publicist

Telephone: (403) 471-5308

Email: publicist@ciffcalgary.ca

CIFF | Calgary International Film Festival

September 18 – September 28, 2025

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

For interview requests for BIF NAKED, please contact:

Eric Alper, Publicist

Telephone: 647-971-3742

Email: Eric@ThatEricAlper.com

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 26th festival from September 18 – September 28, 2025 with in-cinema screenings, celebrating stand-out stories and offering once-in-a-lifetime experiences.

CIFF Thanks their Presenting Partner



CIFF Thanks their 2025 Public Funders

