



Media Release // For Immediate Release
August 10, 2022

LET THERE BE MUSIC!

Announcing Music On Screen Titles at CIFF 2022 & the return of Chad VanGalen for a Special Presentation

Calgary, AB – Celebrating the magic that is music on screen, the Calgary International Film Festival has curated an exciting film lineup that celebrates the art of drumming, spotlights the New Orleans music scene and dives into Buffy Sainte-Marie's remarkable career, to name just a few, all screening during the 23rd Annual festival from **September 22 to October 2, 2022**. CIFF also welcomes back Chad VanGalen to the cinema for a live score of NOSFERATU, F.W. Murnau's horror classic that is celebrating its 100th Anniversary.

"With the most diverse array of subjects we've ever seen in the Music on Screen series, this year's CIFF audiences are going to be moved, inspired and exhilarated by this truly remarkable collection of music-themed films. From legends to legends in the making, this year's Music on Screen series proves that we've only just scratched the surface of the incredible musical stories yet to be told," said Guy Lavallee, CIFF's Features Programmer.

NOSFERATU with Live Score by Chad VanGalen (performing as Black Mold)

To celebrate the 100th Anniversary of F.W. Murnau's horror classic, CIFF joins forces with Calgary's own Chad VanGalen (performing as Black Mold) as he brings his unique sound to the Dome at Contemporary Calgary, where he'll perform a live score to one of the most influential films from the silent era.

"This was the first horror movie that I saw in a theatre and it changed my idea of what horror was. This is a unique opportunity to transform a masterpiece of cinema and it's a stroke of good luck for me to work alongside such evocative imagery," said Chad VanGalen.

MUSIC ON SCREEN TITLES 2022

AND STILL I SING, Directed by Fazila Amiri

AFGHAN STAR is Afghanistan's hugely successful version of AMERICAN IDOL. Since its inception, the show has had exclusively male winners. Then, in 2019 Zahra Elham threw her hat in the ring. Under the tutelage of controversial Afghan singer and activist Aryana Sayeed, Zahra and another young woman, Sadiqa Madadgar, are on the verge of achieving their dreams, that is, until the Taliban returns to power.

Award-winning Afghan-Canadian filmmaker, Fazila Amiri, follows the three women as they navigate the difficult journey of achieving success in a land where women are not encouraged to succeed. Through their story, AND STILL I SING reminds us that for over half a century, the right to artistic expression has never been guaranteed to Afghan women and continues to be contested.

BUFFY SAINTE-MARIE: CARRY IT ON, Directed by Madison Thomas

Buffy Sainte-Marie's remarkable career has spanned over sixty years and countless milestones. When the massive anti-war anthem "Universal Soldier" made her one of the biggest rising stars of the '60s folk scene, success was just around the corner. Alas, when she used her newfound platform to speak out about issues affecting Native Americans, she was blacklisted from American radio, ending her career overnight.

But Buffy came back stronger than ever as she went on to record one of the very first electronic music albums. She was the first Indigenous person to win an Academy Award and made history on Sesame Street. With Buffy as our guide, this remarkable film sheds light on an artist who, at 81, is still thriving, creating and evolving in every area of her life, helping the world to ripen a little more every day.

EVER DEADLY, Directed by Chelsea McMullan & Tanya Tagaq

Throughout her ground-breaking career, Inuk throat singer Tanya Tagaq has always had an intimate relationship with the Nuna—the Land—a living, breathing organism present in her improvised performances. Hers is a voice that, according to the New York Times, "demands full attention, whether she's whispering in her softest register or howling at the sky."

Co-directed by Tagaq and award-winning filmmaker Chelsea McMullan, EVER DEADLY weaves together intimate concert footage with stunning sequences filmed in Nunavut, seamlessly bridging landscapes, stories and songs with pain, anger and triumph—all through the expressions of one of the most innovative musical performers of our time.

I GET KNOCKED DOWN, Directed by Sophie Robinson & Dustan Bruce

Twenty years after his fall from grace, the former front-man of the anarchist band Chumbawamba is angry and frustrated. How does a middle-aged retired radical who feels invisible get back up again?

In this punk version of A CHRISTMAS CAROL, Dunstan Bruce is haunted by the antagonistic ghost of his anarchist past. Forced to question what he has done with

his life, Bruce searches his past for his long-lost anarchist mojo. **I GET KNOCKED DOWN** is a personal voyage of reawakening and redemption as well as a call to action inviting you to take activism into your own hands.

LET THERE BE DRUMS, Directed by Justin Kreutzmann

After the Grateful Dead's final 50th anniversary concerts in 2015, filmmaker Justin Kreutzmann (son of Bill Kreutzmann) realized that he and his dad could finally forge a relationship outside the band's shadow. Inspired, Justin sat down with the world's greatest drummers in the hopes of understanding his father and the instrument that defined his life.

With contributions from Ringo Starr, Stewart Copeland, Chad Smith, Jason Bonham, Steven Adler and the late, great Taylor Hawkins, **LET THERE BE DRUMS** is a joyous and emotional ode to drummers and the people who love them.

THE RETURN OF TANYA TUCKER - FEATURING BRANDI CARLILE, Directed by Kathryn Horan

Trailblazing, hell-raising country music legend Tanya Tucker defied the standards of how a woman in country music is supposed to behave.

Decades after Tanya slipped from the spotlight, six-time Grammy® Award-winning singer-songwriter Brandi Carlile takes it upon herself to write an entire album for her hero based on Tanya's extraordinary life, spurring the greatest comeback in country music history.

REVIVAL69: THE CONCERT THAT ROCKED THE WORLD, Directed by Ron Chapman

Coined "the second most important event in rock & roll history," the Toronto Rock & Roll Revival was a one-day event held at Toronto's Varsity Stadium. With a lineup that included Little Richard, The Doors and Alice Cooper, Revival was expected to be a can't-miss event. But, when ticket sales unexpectedly fizzled, resulting in a near cancellation, promoter John Brower threw out a Hail Mary. At the 11th hour, he invited John Lennon to perform. Astonishingly, he said yes.

Featuring the first-ever performance of John Lennon and The Plastic Onos, this priceless cinematic archive transports the viewer directly to that legendary day in 1969. Delight in this faithful documentation of the legends on stage, the mavericks behind the scenes and the audience who witnessed history in the making.

SIRENS, Directed by Rita Baghdadi

Headstrong 23-year-old guitarist Lilas Mayassi lives with her mom and younger brother on the outskirts of Beirut. By day, Lilas teaches music to kids. By night, she's trying to keep her thrash metal band together. On top of it all, Lilas is secretly falling for a young woman living across the border in Syria.

With the future of her band, her country and her dreams now at stake, Lilas must decide what kind of leader she will be for her band and as a young woman struggling to define herself amid political strife.

TAKE ME TO THE RIVER: NEW ORLEANS, Directed by Martin Shore

A follow-up to the award-winning TAKE ME TO THE RIVER, TAKE ME TO THE RIVER: NEW ORLEANS celebrates the rich musical history, heritage, legacy and influence of New Orleans and Louisiana. A true collaboration and melting pot of influences from around the globe, New Orleans has come together to form one of the world's most unique cultural jewels.

The awe-inspiring TAKE ME TO THE RIVER: NEW ORLEANS is a once-in-a-lifetime trip to the bayou and a legendary showcase of amazing music, featuring performances from artists like The Neville Brothers, Ani DiFranco, Snoop Dogg and many more.

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CIFF | Calgary International Film Festival

September 22 - October 2, 2022

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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.

Media Accreditation is now open - <https://www.ciffcalgary.ca/festival/media/>

CIFF's Presenting Partner is



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