

	<p style="text-align: center;">VANCOUVER QUEER FILM FESTIVAL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tickets Now on Sale at Queerfilmfestival.ca</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Premieres of Local and International Films</p> <p style="text-align: center;">August 15 - 25, 2019</p>
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(Vancouver, B.C. - July 8, 2019) **Out On Screen** is pleased to announce the full program for the 2019 **Vancouver Queer Film Festival (VQFF)**, with tickets on sale at www.queerfilmfestival.ca. This year's Festival features four spotlights, more than 50 events, and over 100 films for people to enjoy.

"From our Opening Gala showing of **Song Lang**, to our **projecting brilliance: two spirit showcase**, this year's Vancouver Queer Film Festival is more enthralling and entertaining than ever." says Artistic Director **Anoushka Ratnarajah**.

The VQFF will premiere the work of homegrown queer emerging and established filmmakers. These short films range in genre and style, from documentary to narrative, animation, fantasy, experimental and romance. Make sure to join us for the best in local queer film premieres, including **Brunch Queen**, a short documentary by **Sean Horlor** about the iconic Elbow Room Cafe; World Premieres of two short films from VQFF Award winning Vancouver director **Linnea Ritland**, **Everything's Great!** and **Amateur Dramatics**; two films from indigenous queer artists **Tyler Jacobs (Walk with My Spirits)** and **Jazmine Smith-Gladue (I Am Me)**; and of course the World Premiere of **Yellow Peril: Queer Destiny** from Love Intersections, as previously announced.

"The VQFF is a global leader in queer film presentation and this year is a shining example of that excellence", said **Out On Screen** Executive Director **Stephanie Goodwin**. "See for yourself

the range of experiences available at the Festival this year. You won't want to delay, pick up your Festival Guide and get your tickets today."

International Film Highlights include: the Canadian premiere of the Brazilian documentary **Mr. Leather** (director: **Daniel Nolasco**), which tells the history of the Brazilian Mr. Leather competition, a thrilling opportunity for the emerging leather and kink community in the city of São Paulo; the Canadian premiere of the Australian documentary **Nothing to Lose**, which follows the fierce, fat, queer cast of Force Majeure's award winning, groundbreaking dance theater production of the same name, with director **Kelli Jean Drinkwater** in attendance; the Canadian premiere of **Socrates** (co-presented with the Vancouver Latin American Film Festival), the debut feature film from Brazilian-American director **Alexandre Moratto**. Produced by the Querô Institute, a UNICEF-supported project that provides filmmaking mentorship to teenagers of low income households in the Baixada Santista region of São Paulo, Brazil. The film was co-written, produced, and acted by at-risk teenagers from these communities, under the direction and mentorship of the director.

The VQFF is also excited to present the Vancouver premieres of two queer period films starring well known actors: **Lizzie** (USA), a reimagining of the Lizzie Borden murders starring Chloe Sevigny and Kristin Stewart, directed by Craig Willian McNeil; and Scottish romance **Tell it to the Bees** (USA), starring Anna Paquin and Holliday Grainger, directed by Annabel Jankel.

Live Performance and other events include a pop up gallery exhibition of Vancouver visual media artist **Zachary Longboy**, called **running, running trees go by...** at the SUM Gallery from August 20-25. An intimate artist salon will be held on August 25 from 1-3pm, in conversation with the artist and curator Justin Ducharme. The Festival is also delighted to host Two Spirit interdisciplinary artists **Anthony Hudson** and **Beric Manywounds** for an **evening of indigenous performance**, who each explore queerness, indigeneity and representation through film, performance and dance.

The 11-day festival is the largest queer arts event in Western Canada and the second-largest film festival in Vancouver. With more than 100 films from 27 countries, the Festival will run from August 15 to 25, 2019 at the Cineplex Odeon International Village Cinemas, SFU's Goldcorp Centre for the Arts, the York Theatre, VIFF Vancity Theatre, and the Vancouver Playhouse. The Vancouver Queer Film Festival celebrates the best in independent queer cinema and facilitates a unique community space through a variety of performances, panels and workshops.

More information and tickets at www.queerfilmfestival.ca

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Out On Screen is a charitable organization that illuminates, celebrates and advances queer lives through film, education and dialogue. The Vancouver Queer Film Festival creates a dynamic platform for queer cinema that reflects a diversity of experiences while connecting and strengthening our communities. The award-winning Out In Schools anti-bullying program brings age-appropriate queer cinema into secondary school classrooms to combat homophobia and transphobia. Out On Screen is proud to be among the leaders in Canada working to create an equitable society where sexual and gender diversity are embraced. www.outonscreen.com

Photos available on: [Media](#)

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