June 11-13 | 2021
Projecting Possibilities

THIRD ACTion FILM FESTIVAL

www.THIRDACTionfilmfest.ca
Global Connectivity

Supporting THIRD ACTion Behind the Scenes

DATAHIVE
Technology With Imagination
FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Welcome to our 4th annual festival!

Like everyone else, we continue to pivot and adapt. We are very excited about our new online platform and the integration of our ticketing platform. Now, you get a personal link to our screenings in your Showpass confirmation email. As a small festival (with big dreams), we are constantly striving to improve the festival and it’s operations.

I hope you are as excited as I am to delve into our films and engage with our filmmakers and speakers. By attending, I know you have a desire to explore the many facets of ageing, and hopefully supporting the growing cultural movement to end ageism and promote age-positive living for older adults.

THIRD ACTion Film Festival continues to raise the curtain on the celebration of ageing, addressing a variety of topics through a diverse range of independent, documentary, feature, and short films from all over the world. We are pleased to have 5 wonderful Canadian films highlighting the talent on tap from across the country and 1 from right here in our own backyard.

I extend a grateful thank you to our sponsors, and big love to our incredible volunteers who have worked tirelessly to bring the festival to life, and to you for “adapting” in one more way so you can see the films, the filmmakers and the speakers! Today, we are making a difference.

I hope that you will find a fresh perspective and new insight into a variety of topics associated with ageing through these films, be inspired by the resiliency, creativity and accomplishments of older adults and, revel in the entertainment of stories told well!

Roll film!

Mitzi Murray
Executive Director
On behalf of the Government of Alberta, I am pleased to support and offer my best wishes for the THIRD ACTion Film Festival, being held June 11-13 in Calgary.

This wonderful festival screens a variety of fare that celebrates aging and the accomplishments of older adults. It showcases a wide range of issues affecting seniors that help us explore and think differently about what we know and think about aging.

I believe an event such as the THIRD ACTion Film Festival, has the potential to help people of all ages understand what it means to be a senior and, ultimately, to reduce ageism.

Alberta’s seniors population is growing rapidly, and now exceeds 670,000. Every month, 4,000 Albertans turn 65 years old. By 2035, there will be more than one million seniors in Alberta.

My ministry is responsible for providing programs and services to support seniors. Equally important to me, as Minister, is to underline to all Albertans that seniors are a vibrant, active, and diverse group. From June 7-13, we will celebrate the 35th edition of Seniors’ Week, a celebration of all that seniors have contributed to family, community, and to building Alberta.

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted many seniors, and my thoughts are with all who have lost a loved one during this difficult time. Alberta’s government took early and swift action to strengthen supports for seniors during the pandemic, and I am heartened to see so many seniors have received their vaccinations.

I hope the in-person portion of the THIRD ACTion Film Festival at the Calgary Downtown Public Library Theatre is possible, depending upon public health restrictions. If not, I hope to join you online to watch what I know will be uplifting, thoughtful, and engaging content. Showcasing these stories helps us to better understand the issues around aging, the ways to age well, and to support seniors to fully enjoy their own third act.

Have a wonderful festival.
Fraudsters use fear and uncertainty to lure in potential investors.

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Learn more about the frauds affecting Albertans during this uncertain time. Learn how to protect yourself and what you’ve worked hard to build.

Visit our website or call us at 1.877.355.4488.

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Let’s Stop Ageism!

#LetsStopAgeism together. Now.

The ultimate aim of Let’s Stop Ageism Campaign? Ageism is stopped. Not reduced. Beyond being addressed. We wouldn’t reduce racism, ableism, sexism. We stop it! Find out how you can help.

Alberta Council on Aging
www.acaging.ca

CJSW Radio is one of Calgary’s only independent media outlets and is Calgary’s only campus and community radio station. Based on campus at the University of Calgary located on Treaty 7 land, we operate as a non-profit society with a small team of staff and a large dedicated volunteer base. We broadcast over 110 music, spoken word and multicultural programs in more than 10 languages.

CJSW broadcasts far and wide across Southern Alberta with a strong 18,000 watt FM signal, a globally reaching presence online at cjsw.com, and podcasting of all of our programs.

We take pride in our mandate to bring diverse and passionate voices from throughout Calgary and the surrounding areas to discuss topics that may not receive mainstream exposure elsewhere. With depth and breadth unlike anything else in Calgary’s media landscape, we tell stories you won’t hear anywhere else, and work to strengthen relationships among the arts, business, intellectual, and cultural communities and the audiences they are looking to reach.

Whenever there is something progressive and new in Calgary, CJSW is there first
TICKETS
This year’s festival will be online only.

Marquee Screenings: $12.50
ReCast Screenings (Short Film Series): $12.50

Tickets can be purchased online at: https://www.thirdactionfilmfest.ca/attend.html

ACCESSIBILITY
All films will be either subtitled or closed captioned.
All ReCast screenings will have American Sign Language (ASL) Interpretation of the film introductions and Q&A sessions.

AWARDS
CHECKFIRST AUDIENCE FAVORITE AWARD
$1,000
The best of the festival; decided by you!
All ReCast films in the festival are eligible for the CheckFirst Audience Favorite Award and is based on audience feedback after the screening.

BEST SHORT FILM AWARD
$1,000
The Best Short Film award is selected by a Jury Review Panel on all eligible short films that are less than 60 minutes in length and exemplify the festival’s focus to celebrate ageing and the accomplishments of older adults and to help speed along an age-positive culture shift.

BRENDA STRAFFORD CENTRE ON AGING’S RESILIENCY IN AGING AWARD
$1,000
This film award is a one of kind and the films considered for this award recognize the creative adaptability of older individuals that is attributed to and celebrates the accumulated wisdom garnered through life experience.
Providing volunteer delivered programs combined with professional social work services for our communities’ less fortunate seniors.

DONATE OR VOLUNTEER TODAY!

www.calgaryseniors.org
(403) 266-6200

CALGARY SENIORS is proud to partner with the THIRD ACTion Film Festival. We share their belief that older adults and aging are underrepresented and misrepresented in mass media – that needs to change. At Calgary Seniors, we believe that seniors matter. They are our parents, grandparents, neighbours, friends and co-workers.

Like THIRD ACTion, we envision a world where seniors no longer face barriers. We see a world where they have community and friends, support systems when they need help, safe and affordable housing, food security, appropriate transportation and activities that give them joy.

When you support Calgary Seniors, you are ensuring low-income and isolated seniors have access to free programs and service that assist with their physical, social and emotional wellbeing.

DONATE OR VOLUNTEER TODAY!

www.calgaryseniors.org
(403) 266-6200
SCHEDULE

Friday, June 11

7:00 pm  KICK OFF – MARQUEE SCREENING
FILM: Ladies of Steel
AVAILABLE: Across Alberta

Saturday, June 12

10:30 am  THE FUTURE’S SO BRIGHT, I GOTTA WEAR SHADES – RECAST SCREENING
FILMS: Ray: A Life Underwater
The Last Barber
The Girl in the Red Dress and Yellow Hat
The Long Today
The Gun Killers
Bob & Marion
The Frenchy
AVAILABLE: Across Canada
SPEAKERS: Amanda Bluglass
Alex Rotas

1:30 pm  ALL BY MYSELF – RECAST SCREENING
FILMS: Toto
The Old Fight
Chloe Van Herzeele
Baby?
Madame Grenier’s Toaster
AVAILABLE: Across Canada
SPEAKER: Lori Paine
Yeonjung Lee

4:30 pm  MAKING IT WORK – RECAST SCREENING
FILMS: Character
When Tomatoes Met Wagner
AVAILABLE: Across Canada
SPEAKERS: Lois Faris
Mark Metcalf

7:30 pm  SATURDAY NIGHT IS ALL RIGHT – MARQUEE SCREENING
FILM: My Wonderful Wanda
AVAILABLE: Across Canada
SCHEDULE

Sunday, June 13

10:30 am  DON’T STOP BELIEVIN’ – RECAST SCREENING
FILMS: Vera
Climb
AVAILABLE: Across Canada
SPEAKERS: Neil Myers
Patricia Doyle-Baker

1:30 pm  YOU GOT A FRIEND IN ME – RECAST SCREENING
FILMS: Lost in Memory
Garden Shark
AVAILABLE: Across Alberta
SPEAKERS: Amy McDonough
Navjot Virk
Dawn Nagazina
Anna Cooley

4:30 pm  THE BEST IS YET TO COME – RECAST SCREENING
FILM: The Paper Man
AVAILABLE: Across Canada
SPEAKERS: Lorraine Venturato
Tanya Lapointe

7:30 pm  BRINGING IT HOME – MARQUEE SCREENING
FILM: One Careful Owner
AVAILABLE: Across Canada
The guy who designed the program you’re reading co-wrote a feature documentary you might enjoy. Watch it here: https://www.tvo.org/video/documentaries/the-shadow-of-gold-ep-1
MAKING AN EXPERIENCE OF YOUR SCREENINGS ONLINE

It’s not the same as being in-person at a theater - that doesn’t mean it can’t be exciting - set the stage for a great viewing experience.

It’s all about the five senses.

SIGHT
The screen is the most important part. If you don’t have one, you can’t watch the films. The big thing is lighting around your viewing area. If the room has windows consider black-out curtains or hanging a heavy blanket. Remove all reflections as best you can.

SOUND
There is nothing worse than not knowing what is going on. If you are on a computer or tablet make sure you have some good headphones or earbuds ready to go. If you are watching on a TV make sure you can control the volume through whichever streaming service or device you are using (ie. Apple TV box or HDMI cable from your computer to your TV). How close is your laundry room? Maybe hold off on the laundry during showtime. Boisterous dog or hungry cat? Make sure they have been fed and the dog’s been out for a pee before showtime.

TOUCH
What does your seating arrangement look like? Shuffle that La-z-boy recliner into its optimal viewing position. Grab yourself some pillows. Get comfy!

SMELL
It’s all about the popcorn! Even if you don’t want to eat it, just having the aroma will get you into the right mood.

TASTE
Make sure you have your favorite movie treats ready to go. If purchased a few days earlier, hide them until showtime. You don’t want anyone partaking early, and leaving your snack bucket empty. How about ordering in? Since you are at home you can bring in whatever you want to your personal theater.

Remember this is an event! Half of the fun is the anticipation while you are getting ready.

And now on to the films (in order of appearance)
LADIES OF STEEL

Friday / June 11, 2021 / 7:00 PM
Finland / 2020 / 91 min / Comedy / Finnish w/English subtitles
Available Viewing Area: Across Alberta

SYNOPSIS
Inkeri, 75, after hitting her husband on the head with a frying pan, flees with her two sisters Raili and Sylvi. The journey through Finland is filled with charming hitchhikers, memories, and sinful dancing. When Inkeri comes across her old university writings and finds Eino, a crush from her youth, she is reminded of her dreams that were later suppressed by a patriarchal marriage. Inkeri has to make the biggest choice concerning the rest of her life, a choice between happiness and convention.

AWARDS/FESTIVALS
Göteborg Film Festival – Official Selection

CREDITS
Director(s): Pamela Tola
Producer(s): Aleksi Bardy, Dome Karukoski, Sirkka Rautiainen
Key Cast: Leena Uotila, Seela Sella, Saara Pakkasvirta
RAY: A LIFE UNDERWATER

Saturday / June 12, 2021 / 10:30 AM
United Kingdom / 2011 / 9 min / Documentary / English
Available Viewing Area: Across Canada

SYNOPSIS
A rogue with an eye for salvage, ‘Ray: A LifeUnderwater’ is an affectionate portrait of one man’s deep sea diving career, told through his extraordinary collection of marine artefacts.

AWARDS/FESTIVALS
San Francisco March 9, 2012 North American Permiere Best Adventure Film United States

CREDITS
Director(s): Amanda Bluglass
Producer(s): Amanda Bluglass
Key Cast: Ray Ives

This film is part of the series The Future’s So Bright, I Gotta Wear Shades (Age Positive)
THE LAST BARBER

Saturday / June 12, 2021 / 10:30 AM
Italy / 2019 / 15 min / Documentary / Italian w/English subtitles
Available Viewing Area: Across Canada

SYNOPSIS
56 years in 10 square metres. This is the time mister Gavino spent in his barber salon, a small shop in Sassari’s historic centre. 56 years in 10 square metres, this could look like a life sentence. It is the time and size of a happy life instead.

AWARDS/FESTIVALS
Nòt Film Festival Italian Premiere Best Doc Award
Varese International Film Festival Official Selection

CREDITS
Director(s): Antonio Macciocco
Producer(s): Antonio Macciocco

This film is part of the series The Future’s So Bright, I Gotta Wear Shades (Age Positive)
THE GIRL IN THE RED DRESS AND YELLOW HAT

Saturday / June 12, 2021 / 10:30 AM
Chile / 2019 / 13 min / Animation / Spanish w/English subtitles
Available Viewing Area: Across Canada

SYNOPSIS
Every night a mysterious girl in a red dress and yellow hat, passionately throws herself into Pablo’s arms at the train station, the trouble is that he is in love with his wife.

AWARDS/FESTIVALS (SELECTED)
Dunedin International Film Festival – Official Selection (2020)
Festival Internacional de Cortometrajes Experimentales Colombia – Official Selection
Festival Internacional de Cine Independiente de Villa de Leyva – Official Selection
Cine en corto – Official Selection
French Riviera Motorcycle Film Festival – Official Selection (2020)
(And many more. This film has appeared in 17 film festivals.)

CREDITS
Director(s): Álvaro Rozas Leiva
Producer(s): Aarón Navia Campos

This film is part of the series The Future’s So Bright, I Gotta Wear Shades (Age Positive)
SYNOPSIS
My Dad turned 70 this summer. So he found a “river” on a map, repaired one of his old wood canoes, and invited his family to help him celebrate the big day. Only a few of us showed up.

AWARDS/FESTIVALS
Banff Mountain Film Festival Banff October 30, 2020 World Premiere Official Selection Canada Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival Dumbo Film Festival

CREDITS
Director(s): Niobe Thompson
Producer(s): Niobe Thompson

This film is part of the series The Future’s So Bright, I Gotta Wear Shades (Age Positive)
GUN KILLERS

Saturday / June 12, 2021 / 10:30 AM
Canada / 2019 / 11 min / Documentary / English
Available Viewing Area: Across Canada

SYNOPSIS
In an undisclosed location in rural Nova Scotia, retired blacksmiths John and Nancy Little live a peaceful life, tending to their beautiful vegetable garden and crafting ethereal musical sculptures out of scrap metal. Occasionally, their special skills are put to use by the local police in an effort to protect the daily lives of all Canadians. Steeped in the atmospherics of a taut spy thriller, Gun Killers portrays two ordinary citizens as gentle national heroes.

AWARDS/FESTIVALS
FIN Atlantic International Film Festival – Best Atlantic Editor
Calgary International Film Festival – Official Selection (2019)

CREDITS
Director(s): Jason Young
Producer(s): Rohan Fernando
Key Cast: John & Nancy Little

This film is part of the series The Future’s So Bright, I Gotta Wear Shades (Age Positive)
SYNOPSIS
“It’s the agony and the ecstasy,” reflect Marion (78) and Bob Luker (81). An intimate portrait of a lifetime’s marathon running, set against Dartmoor’s epic landscape.

AWARDS/FESTIVALS
Kendal Mountain Film Festival – World Premier Official Selection (2019), United Kingdom

CREDITS
Director(s): Amanda Bluglass & Callum Earnshaw
Producer(s): Amanda Bluglass & Callum Earnshaw
Key Cast: Bob Luker & Marion Luker

This film is part of the series The Future’s So Bright, I Gotta Wear Shades (Age Positive)
THE FRENCHY

Saturday / June 12, 2021 / 10:30 AM
United States / 2018 / 14 min / Documentary / English
Available Viewing Area: Across Canada

SYNOPSIS
Jacques “The Frenchy” Houot (pronounced “oo-oh”) is a Colorado icon. He is an 82-year-old athlete who gets after it non-stop on skis, mountain bike, and the cyclocross race circuit. Jacques is a badass athlete, but the real story is how he inspires us with his contagious love of life, epic tales of survival, ability to counter aging through laughter, and his impact on the community over decades.

AWARDS/FESTIVALS (SELECTED)
5Point Adventure Film Festival Carbondale April 19, 2018 World Premiere Pure Joy Award USA
Bovec Outdoor Film Festival Bovec December 28, 2018 Audience Choice Award Slovenia
Cervino Cinemountain Film Festival August 12, 2018 Italy
(And many more. This film has appeared in 12 film festivals.)

CREDITS
Director(s): Michelle Smith
Producer(s): Ungrounded LLC
Key Cast: Jacques Houot

This film is part of the series The Future’s So Bright, I Gotta Wear Shades (Age Positive)
SYNOPSIS
Rosa Forlano, a 90 year old Nonna, teaches a robot how to make spaghetti. Unfortunately a software update erases her family recipe. Rosa, her daughter, and her granddaughter all relate differently to the robot, and all have different levels of fluency in Italian. The software update and the language use both bring out the theme of change across generations. TOTO is a sci-fi story about intergenerational communication and the pace of change, both bitter and sweet. Rosa is the real life Nonna of filmmaker Marco Baldonado and TOTO is an ode to her family traditions.

CREDITS
Director(s): Marco Baldonado
Producer(s): Jeremiah Lapointe
Key Cast: Rosa Forlano, Simon Dragland, Walter Woodman, Marco Baldonado, Justin Macri, Gabriela Francis, Mary Rose Sciarrillo

This film is part of the series All By Myself (Isolation)
SYNOPSIS
Maria is 93 years old and lives alone in her small flat, where time seems to have stopped 50 years ago. Her only contact with the outside world is the weekly call to her childhood friend. This is until she forgets her phone number forever, becoming even more isolated from the world.

AWARDS/FESTIVALS
IKUSKA – Seccion Femenino Plural (2020)

CREDITS
Director(s): Carol Rodríguez, Marina Rodríguez
Producer(s): Laura Rubirola Sala, Clàudia Maluenda, Alba Sotorra, Eva Murgui
Key Cast: Rosó Amades

This film is part of the series All By Myself (Isolation)
Chloé Van Herzeele

Saturday / June 12, 2021 / 1:30 PM
France / 2019 / 17 min / Animation / French w/English subtitles
Available Viewing Area: Across Canada

SYNOPSIS
Chloé, an old lady, organizes screenings in a subterranean space. She shows to a journalist her galleries where her collection of silver films is stored. As we follow them, we dive with her into her altered universe.

CREDITS
Director(s): Anne-Sophie Girault & Clémence Bouchereau

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This film is part of the series All By Myself (Isolation)
**BABY?**

**Saturday / June 12, 2021 / 1:30 PM**
New Zealand / 2017 / 12 min / Drama / English
Available Viewing Area: Across Canada

**SYNOPSIS**
Isabelle is determined not to spend her 65th birthday alone. When her daughter doesn’t turn up for dinner, Isabelle invites herself into the home of her new neighbour, Leisha. Once inside and eating cake, Isabelle soon discovers that this young woman has recently lost her baby to cot death. When Isabelle’s prying triggers a nervous breakdown in Leisha, she helps her in a way nobody else can.

**AWARDS/FESTIVALS (SELECTED)**
Show Me Shorts Film Festival Auckland October 28, 2017 World Premiere Winner – Best Actor New Zealand
Downunder Berlin September 22, 2018 European Premiere Official Selection Germany
Reel East Texas Film Festival Kilgoure November 17, 2018 US Premiere Winner – Best Actress, Winner – Best Supporting Actress, Winner – Best International Film United States

**CREDITS**
Director(s): Mark Prebble
Producer(s): Ruby Reihana-Wilson, Marion & Mark Prebble
Key Cast: Julie Collis, Marion Prebble, Nisha Madhan

This film is part of the series All By Myself (Isolation)
SYNOPSIS
Madame Grenier is married to her toaster. It’s a happy relationship, filled with wonderful memories. But as her toaster doesn’t talk a lot, she sometimes suffers her solitude a little....

AWARDS/FESTIVALS (SELECTED)
Indo French International Film Festival – Best Supporting Actress, Special Jury Award–Best Actress, Best Womens Film (2021)
Cours Charlie, Courts
FilmFest Bremen – Official Selection (2021)
Faludi International Film Festival – Official Selection (2020)
China International New Media Short Film Festival – Official Selection (2020)

CREDITS
Director(s): Jethro Massey
Producer(s): Film Fabric
Key Cast: Florence Monge, Lee Delong

This film is part of the series All By Myself (Isolation)
SYNOPSIS
Actor Mark Metcalf made his reputation in Hollywood playing aggrieved authority figures. Now in his 70s, he takes a look back on his career in this meditation on power, privilege, and the perils of being a “type.”

AWARDS/FESTIVALS
Sundance Film Festival – World Premier (2020)

CREDITS
Director(s): Vera Brunner-Sung
Producer(s): Vera Brunner-Sung
Key Cast: Mark Metcalf
When Tomatoes Met Wagner

Saturday / June 12, 2021 / 4:30 PM
Greece / 2019 / 72 min / Documentary / Greek w/English subtitles
Available Viewing Area: Across Canada

SYNOPSIS
Do tomatoes taste better when they listen to the music of Richard Wagner? Elias, a small farming village in central Greece, is dying out. But two cousins team up with the village grannies to cultivate tomatoes. With a little help from Wagner’s music, the villagers export their little jars with organic tomato recipes across the world. The film follows the protagonists of this unlikely story, as they struggle to make their dream come true. Humorous and bittersweet, this surreal story speaks to us about the importance of reinventing oneself in times of crisis and the power of human relationships. A bittersweet story of two ingenious Greek cousins who defy industrial farming by cultivating organic tomatoes sensitive to Wagner’s music.

AWARDS/FESTIVALS
Visions du Reel Festival Intenational de Cinema Nyon
Thessaloniki Documentary Festival – Fipresci Award

CREDITS
Director(s): Marianna Economou
Producer(s): Rea Apostolides, Yuri Averof, Spiros Mavrogenis

This film is part of the series Making it Work (Work)
SYNOPSIS
A delightful satire of the haves and the have-nots set against the backdrop of a gorgeous lakeside villa in Switzerland. At the story’s center is Wanda, a Polish caretaker who has left her own small children in Poland to look after Josef, the stroke-ridden patriarch of the wealthy Wegmeister-Gloor dynasty. Wanda is adept in navigating the tricky family dynamics between the two grown (if still childish) offspring and the elegant if controlling matriarch Elsa, along with the sporadic intervention of animals stuffed or alive. But an unexpected turn of events turns everything upside down. While My Wonderful Wanda exposes present-day realities of class injustice, thanks to writer-director Bettina Oberli’s empathetic lens, it is never less than a very human comedy.

AWARDS/FESTIVALS
Vancouver International Film Festival – Audience Award, Best Feature
Tribeca Film Festival – Special Jury Mention, Nora Ephron Award

CREDITS
Director(s): Bettina Oberli
Producer(s): Lukas Hobi, Reto Schaerli
Key Cast: Agnieszka Grochowska, Marthe Keller, André Jung, Birgit Minichmayr, Jacob Matschenz, Anatole Taubman, Cezary Pazura, Agata Rzeszewsk, Bruno Rajski, Iwo Rajski
SYNOPSIS
Vera, a great fan of classical music who works as a nighttime cleaner, discovers Miguel; a man she has never seen but who she imagines thanks to the objects he has on his desk.

AWARDS/FESTIVALS (SELECTED)
- Tribeca Film Festival - Official Selection (2020)
- Dumbo Film Festival - Finalist (2020)
- Festival de Cine Saint Joan d’Alacant - Official Selection (2020)
- Edmonton International Film Festival - Official Selection (2020)
- Accio Curts-Dones Visuals - Winner (2017)
(And many more. This film has appeared in 16 film festivals.)

CREDITS
- Director(s): Laura Rubirola Sala
- Producer(s): Laura Rubirola Sala, Clàudia Maluenda
- Key Cast: Paulina García

This film is part of the series Don’t Stop Believin’
CLIMB

Sunday / June 13, 2021 / 10:30 AM
United States / 2021 / 52 min / Documentary / English
Available Viewing Area: Across Canada

SYNOPSIS
The story of Neil Myers, a Santa Barbara triathlete in his 70s, that was nearly killed in a horrific training accident, survived, healed, rehabilitated, trained, and ultimately made it back to competition, winning the 2019 Santa Barbara Triathlon.

AWARDS/FESTIVALS
Santa Barbara International Film Festival
Cowpokes International Film Festival
Columbia Film Festival

CREDITS
Director(s): Neil Myers
Producer(s): Neil Myers
Key Cast: Eric Colvin - composer

This film is part of the series Don’t Stop Believin’
Lost in Memories

Sunday / June 13, 2021 / 1:30 PM
Netherlands / 2019 / 71 min / Documentary / Dutch w/English subtitles
Available Viewing Area: Alberta

SYNOPSIS
Father Jac has created his own little paradise: an acre of land with horses, chickens and a vegetable garden. The meadow is his life’s work and Jac is determined to continue looking after it. Especially once he has been diagnosed with dementia. His land and his animals offer Jac comfort and provide a grip in an increasingly confusing life. Mother Ria is concerned about Jac’s decline. The care for her husband becomes more and more intensive and she must give up parts of her own life. Her feelings of love regularly shift to feelings of frustration and loneliness. Nevertheless, she wants to take care of Jac at home for as long as she can.

AWARDS/FESTIVALS (SELECTED)
IDFA Amsterdam November 25, 2019 World premiere Netherlands
Limburg Film Festival Venlo January 12, 2020 *Winner Best Documentary Netherlands
Guangzhou International Documentary Filmfestival 2020 Asian premiere China
(And many more. This film has appeared in 10 festivals.)

CREDITS
Director(s): Ruud Lenssen
Producer(s): Ruud Lenssen

This film is part of the series You Gotta Friend In Me
GARDEN SHARK
there are some things dementia can’t touch

Sunday / June 13, 2021 / 1:30 PM
Canada / 2020 / 27 min / Documentary / English
Available Viewing Area: Alberta

SYNOPSIS
Garden Shark breaks through the hopelessness and loss of a dementia diagnosis by giving people living with dementia and their caregivers a new way to connect and find joy. It explores improv’s ability to teach people to live in the moment, communicate, and learn to laugh in spite of their struggles. Garden Shark highlights couples’ individual experiences and shows how beautifully partners living with dementia respond to the risk free, playful and hilarious environment created by Inside Out Theatre’s Village Improv for Alzheimer’s program.

AWARDS/FESTIVALS (SELECTED)
Stinger Awards Calgary Best Long Form Documentary, Best Director - Anna Cooley, Best Cinematographer - Kara Artym Canada

CREDITS
Director(s): Anna Cooley
Producer(s): Dawn Nagazina

This film is part of the series You Gotta Friend In Me
SYNOPSIS
Much like Fred Rogers in the United States and Mr. Dressup in Canada, Claude Lafortune was a staple of French-Canadian television through the ’70s, 80s and 90s. The beloved children’s television host inspired generations of children through his celebration of creativity, inclusivity and diversity. For over five decades, he dedicated his life to transforming mere paper into whimsical sculptures, creatures and film sets. “The Paper Man” reveals the depths of Claude Lafortune’s work, as well as his continuing legacy.

AWARDS/FESTIVALS (SELECTED)
Whistler Film Festival – Public Prize and Honorable Mention Documentary
Twilight Tokyo Film Festival – Best Documentary Film
Kingston Canadian Film Festival – Official Selection
Sea Views – Official Selection
Invermere Film Festival – Official Selection

CREDITS
Director(s): Tanya Lapointe
Producer(s): Tanya Lapointe

This film is part of the series The Best is Yet To Come (Age-Positive)
SYNOPSIS
When Sara is offered the chance to buy the house of her dreams, she can’t believe her luck. The house is light and airy, with spectacular views and extremely cheap. There’s just one “small” snag: Lola, the 80 year-old current owner, will remain living in it until she dies. In theory, Sara shouldn’t have to wait long to have the house all to herself. Lola has already had two heart-bypasses, smokes like a chimney and drinks like a fish. So Sara decides to take the risk and wait it out. But, as with so many things in life, things don’t turn out exactly as expected. The months go by and Lola seems more vivacious than ever! And to make matters worse, Sara’s own life starts to crumble around her after an unexpected event. The two women, so very different, yet united in their loneliness, will form an unlikely friendship. One that is filled with tenderness, emotion and a lot of laughs.

CREDITS
Director(s): Bernabe Rico
Producer(s): Olmo Figueredo
Key Cast: Juana Acosta, Kiti Manver, Carlos Areces, Jose Sacristan
The Reel Research Speakers Series features experts selected to illuminate the biological and social science as well as the practical reality behind the subject matter of the THIRD ACTion films you’ve just seen. We hope the series will create a three-way dialogue between you, the audience members, the creators of the films you’ve watched, and these local experts. They were chosen to provide their insights and help dispel myths about aging. They will tell us when they think the filmmakers used poetic licence and deviated from the facts of the matter to tell a story, and will also indicate when we (they and us) just don’t know. Please ask about anything that came to mind as you watched the films. Your questions are required to spark the needed dialogue about the complex issues these films have explored. We are confident the perspectives of these speakers will open your mind about aging and its possibilities. We thank THIRD ACTion Film Festival for initiating these important conversations through film.
We were elated when the Brenda Strafford Centre on Aging asked to sponsor our speakers this year. With their help, we have identified both researchers and filmmakers that will enrich the film going experience.

**Amanda Bluglass** / Saturday, June 12, 2021 / 10:30 AM
Amanda Bluglass is a British award-winning film maker who specialises in short documentary character studies. A former BBC newshound with a love of photography, she combines her eye for composition with curious storytelling.

**Anna Cooley** / Sunday, June 13, 2021 / 1:30 PM
Anna Cooley is a filmmaker who is hungry for projects that handle important subjects with humour. She wrote and directed Garden Shark: there are some things dementia can’t touch, short film Sleepwalker and feature doc A Sauropod Abroad. Anna is an alumna of the Women in the Directors Chairs Story and Leadership Program, and the Academy Directors Program for Women. Her cinematography work can be seen in Clebs, a short documentary, winner of the Crystal Bear for Best Short Film at the 2020 Berlinale.

**Patricia Doyle-Baker** / Sunday, June 13, 2021 / 10:30 AM
Dr. Doyle-Baker’s career has been framed around exercise and sport science and she describes herself as a health conversationalist with a sporty leadership style! Tish completed her Doctor of Public Health degree in California with a PhD in exercise prescription for chronic diseases. She is a professor at the University of Calgary in the Faculty of Kinesiology and saves the weekends in winter to coach Alpine Skiing and in the summer cycling.

**Lois Faris** / Saturday, June 12, 2021 / 4:30 PM
I am fortunate to have enjoyed a lifetime of work that is in alignment with my values. I am deeply committed to supporting people to create a life of meaning and purpose. At age 91 I still do a few presentations and coaching appointments. We need new opportunities for elders to share their skills and knowledge the way they choose. Not only for themselves but also to benefit the community.
Tanya LaPointe / Sunday, June 13, 2021 / 4:30 PM
Tanya LaPointe is the co-founder of Les Productions sur le toit (PSLT) and is the director/producer of “The Paper Man”, as well as the co-director and co-producer of “50/50: The Documentary”. Other film credits include working alongside Denis Villeneuve on “Arrival”, “Blade Runner 2049”, and as executive producer on the upcoming “Dune”. As an author, she has penned several books including “The Art and Soul of Blade Runner 2049”. Prior to her film work, Tanya’s journalistic endeavours spanned 15 years as a reporter for Radio-Canada, RDI and CBC.

Yeonjung Lee / Saturday, June 12, 2021 / 1:30 PM
Dr. Yeonjung Lee is Social Gerontologist and Associate Professor of Social Work at University of Calgary. Yeonjung’s research program focuses on improving the quality of life of older adults through understanding their lives to inform effective policies and practices, especially in the context of caregiving, home care, and aging in place/community. Currently, Yeonjung is leading community-based research that explores the experiences and perceptions of aging in community among older adults living in Calgary.

Amy McDonough / Sunday, June 13, 2021 / 1:30 PM
Amy leads the United Minds program at United Active Living in Calgary. In this role, she implements and leads the company’s integral living and relationship-centered philosophy, educating and empowering front-line staff, managers, families, and residents to support those living with dementia. Previously, Amy was the co-lead and educator for the Dementia Butterfly Model of Care Project with Dementia Care Matters at Intercare Southwood Care Center.

Mark Metcalf / Saturday, June 12, 2021 / 4:30 PM
Mark Metcalf just became three quarters of a century old. For two thirds of that time he has made his living exclusively as an actor and occasionally as a producer and writer in what is called “the show business.” He did own a bar/restaurant for a while called Libby Montana. Sadly it was in Wisconsin and not Montana, but that was a bit like show business, too.

Neil Myers / Sunday, June 13, 2021 / 10:30 AM
Neil Myers is a native Californian who has lived for the past 32 years in Santa Barbara. As the owner of a successful marketing firm, Neil has been telling stories for the past 32 years. His lifelong goal is to make documentary films. When Neil was involved in a near-fatal bicycle accident in 2018, from which he survived, healed, rehabbed and ultimately returned to triathlon competition, he realized he had the basis for his first documentary. Climb is Neil’s first documentary film.
Dawn Nagazina / Sunday, June 13, 2021 / 1:30 PM
Dawn Nagazina is an ambitious and emerging Métis-Canadian filmmaker and actor based in Calgary. Her innate curiosity draws her to places of vulnerability where her mission is to build empathy and inspire authenticity. Dawn produced the award-winning short documentary “Garden Shark: there are some things dementia can’t touch”. She recently completed Whistler Film Festival’s Indigenous Fellowship Program with her short film, “The Superlative” and co-created, wrote, produced and acted in a short film anthology series with her producing partner Kelsey Andries.

Lori Paine / Saturday, June 12, 2021 / 1:30 PM
Lori Paine has worked in the nonprofit sector for almost 25 years and with Calgary Seniors Resource Society as Executive Director since 2008. She has led her team in supporting seniors to remain living safely in their own homes and ending loneliness and isolation of those most vulnerable and at-risk through creative and innovative programming, diversifying service delivery, expanding collaborative efforts in the community, and community engagement and development.

Alex Rotas / Saturday, June 12, 2021 / 10:30 AM
Alex Rotas is an award-winning British photographer who specialises in photographing older sportsmen and women who still compete in national and international championship events through their 60s to 100+. She has exhibited widely in many countries and is a frequent radio and TV speaker in the UK. Above all, she is an anti-agism activist, determined to challenge, through her photography, the widely held, pessimistic notions that getting old inevitably means diminished horizons, purpose, fulfilment and happiness.

Lorraine Venturato / Sunday, June 13, 2021 / 4:30 PM
Dr. Lorraine Venturato is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Nursing at the University of Calgary. She held the Faculty’s inaugural Chair in Gerontology (2014 – 2019) and has extensive experience as a clinician, educator, and researcher working with older adults. Dr. Venturato uses participatory and arts-based research approaches and her current research explores the lives and homes of older people across Alberta and the NWT. She is also a keen photographer and an inveterate, though currently grounded, traveler.

Navjot Virk / Sunday, June 13, 2021 / 1:30 PM
Navjot Virk is the Research and Innovative Practice Manager at The Brenda Strafford Foundation. She is a registered nurse who has worked in gerontological nursing for the last ten years. Currently Navjot is a PHD student at the University of Calgary Faculty of Nursing and is interested in exploring healthcare innovation and system level change.
We are delighted to once again be a sponsor of the THIRD ACTion Film Festival.

As we spend so much time in “lock down” these days, the diversion and entertainment of the film festival is a welcome addition to the opportunity to connect with others. I am so looking forward to a real tight, squeezy hug when we get through this fiasco….

As daily money managers, we encounter all sorts of interesting situations:

From financial mistreatment, placement in long term care without need, to unnecessary control by the Office of the Public Guardian and Trustee.

What is becoming so apparent is the need for an advocate (or two!) for each senior. And, having advocates who will challenge and question versus passively accept directives and decisions.

We are passionate about assisting seniors to age in place safely and independently with the supports and services they need.
Dementia Connections is very pleased to support the 2021 THIRD ACTion Film Festival, and to partner for the dementia and care partner themed Recast Screening.

Like our friends at THIRD ACTION, Dementia Connections celebrates aging and older adults. We collaborate to build a more age-positive culture in Canada, and to reduce stigma about aging and dementia. Aging and dementia are not synonymous, yet aging is the biggest risk factor for dementia.

The good news is that researchers continue to discover many ways cognitive decline can be prevented or slowed, even as we age. Learn more about prevention in our magazine and at our website.

Published quarterly, Dementia Connections magazine provides forward thinking coverage of the latest dementia news and research, along with practical expert advice so you can live well, despite dementia.

DementiaConnections.ca
A Love Letter to Our Volunteers from the Executive Director

To all our volunteers, past and present, and our board of directors, I celebrate you and the priceless gift you give us throughout the year with your unwavering dedication to our success.

The future is bright, and it’s you lighting the way!

Your efforts have fanned the flames of a spark of an idea. Soon, those flames will become a bonfire blazing across Canada and changing attitudes in the process – that will be your doing. By instilling your trust in me, the festival and our mandate, you have proven that anything is possible. As Margaret Meade said, “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world.” – she was speaking of you.

Yes, you, our extraordinary volunteers—who tirelessly give of yourselves to help the festival flourish. I want you to know that I see you, appreciate you, and yes - love you!

You are the festival, it’s sense of community and its heart and I am so happy that you let me lead it.

With heart felt appreciation,

Mitzi Murray

Executive Director
In my early fifties, I discovered I had energy to burn, my children were becoming adults, my career was stable. I started dreaming about picking up a thread from an early life interest of folk music and song writing. Working alongside clients who were experiencing the loss of memory and language further fueled the desire to express myself through song. I created a CD filled with prairie sentiment. I received positive praise, opportunities, awards, world wide air play, then this…

One day I was reading a letter to the editor in the Journal. The author was bemoaning the performers at the folk festival were old and they needed to make way for the up and coming – the emerging artists. After I recovered from the emotional punch in the gut, I realized age and emerging artist were linked and I was missing out on equal opportunities due to age. When I went to support a colleague, in her early twenties, at her show she straight away asked me, “are you still playing?” Did she mean have you retired yet? You are no longer relevant? (I was just getting started!) Tellers of stories – poets, actors, writers, filmmakers, dancers, musicians are all ages and at all stages in their art and I must fight now to keep a place and space for myself. Artists, as with most trades, get better over time. We must consciously engage our older artists whether they are emerging or have been at their trade for decades. It’s that simple.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

For their guidance, vision and fortitude in supporting and piloting the festival, a huge thank you to those that have taken on the heavy lifting!

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Rose Bene
Shafiq Bhura
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Louise Gallagher
Gordon Grant
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Dave Pickersgill
Pele Williams

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