

VANCOUVER
LATIN AMERICAN
FILM
FESTIVAL

n°9

SEPT
1-11
2011

www.
VLAFF
.ORG

FESTIVAL GUIDE



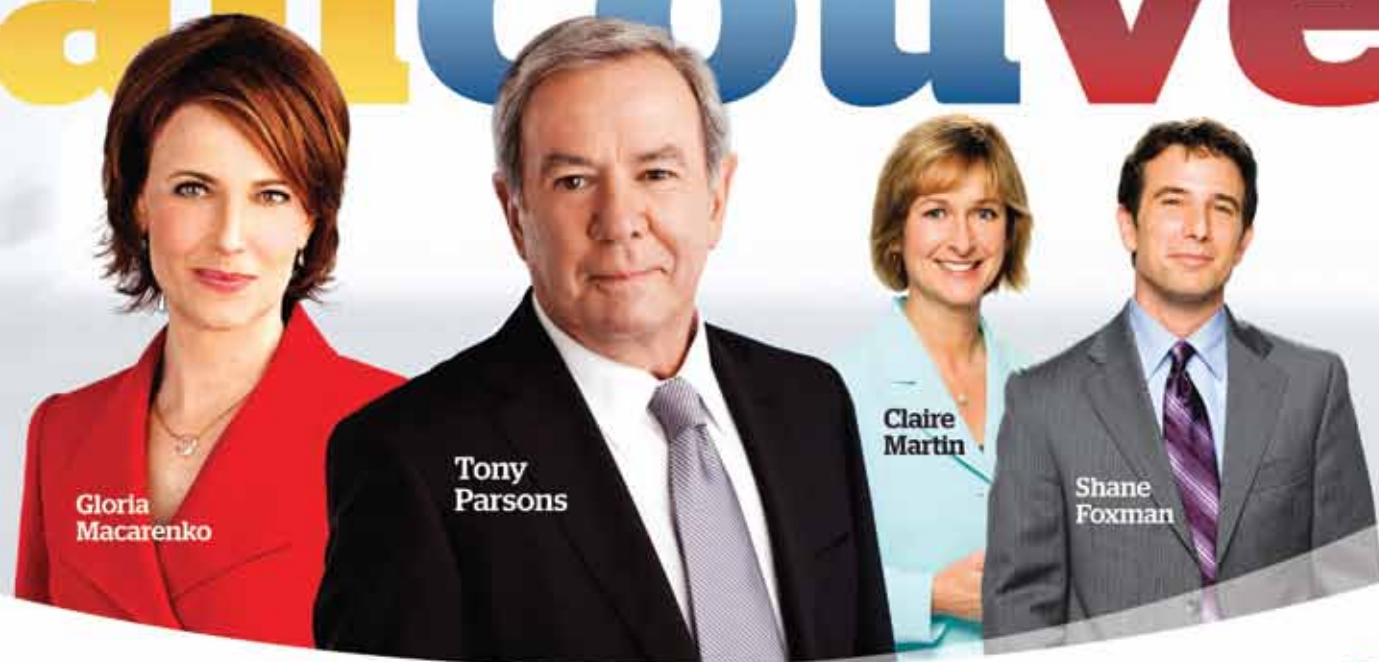
- SEVERE WEATHER
- POLICE
- INTERNET
- BREAKING NEWS
- DEVELOPING STORY
- ENTERTAINMENT

Get the stories that matter to you.

CBC News Vancouver

YOUR CITY. YOUR NEWS.

Vancouver



Gloria
Macarenko

Tony
Parsons

Claire
Martin

Shane
Foxman

Weekdays at 5, 5:30 & 6 pm
Late Night following The National
Saturdays at 10:30 pm and Sundays at 11 pm



WELCOME | BIENVENIDOS | BEM-VINDOS



3

9th Annual Vancouver Latin American Film Festival

NINE YEARS AGO, WHEN A SMALL GROUP OF FRIENDS started this festival, it is unlikely that any of them imagined how this event would grow to become one of the most important windows into Latin American cinema in Canada.

This year our festival not only keeps its promise of bringing the best of Latin American cinema to Vancouver, but for the first time VLAFF will include competitive sections for documentary, narrative and short films. Seven extraordinary films will compete for the Al Jazeera Documentary Award, which will be one of the most significant cash prizes given to a Latin American documentary. We are pleased to partner with the Al Jazeera Documentary Channel to present this award. Twelve short films from over 100 entries have been chosen to compete for the VLAFF Short Film Award. To select and present the Youth Choice Award, we have brought together a jury of seven students from colleges and universities in the Vancouver area. The winner of each award will be announced at our Closing Night Gala on September 10.

Our festival will once again provide a program of free screenings at the SFU Harbour Centre campus, a collaboration that has been graciously supported by the Latin American Studies Department since 2007.

For the first time, VLAFF will co-present screenings with SFU Woodward's at the Djavad Mowafaghian Cinema, the newest film venue in town, in the historic Woodward's district. We are very excited to add this state-of-the-art venue to our festival.

VLAFF is proud to present two special programs as part of our 2011 festival. "Indigenous Film from BC and Beyond" features screenings of short films by Mayan filmmakers and First Nations youth from BC, followed by a panel presentation. This marks the first time our festival has brought together indigenous filmmakers from across the Americas to showcase their works side-by-side. As a highlight of our Canada Looks South section and in recognition of the 125th Anniversary of the City of Vancouver, we will host "¡Fiesta 125!: A Celebration of Latin American Culture in Vancouver," a spectacular evening featuring a retrospective screening of short films by Latin American artists whose work is inspired by Vancouver, the city they call home. The screening will be followed by a reception with local Latin American musicians. We welcome everyone to come celebrate with us.

All of these programs are only possible because of the widespread support we receive. We thank with deep appreciation all of our funders, sponsors, partners, and our amazing volunteers. And we thank you, our incredible audience who every year attends our festival to immerse yourselves in Latin American stories brought to life by filmmakers from all around the world.

¡Viva el cine! Viva o cinema!

Sincerely,

Vancouver Latin American Film Festival

2011 VLAFF MEMBERSHIP - \$2
As a registered non-profit society, the Vancouver Latin American Film Festival screens films that have not been rated by Consumer Protection BC. Under BC law, any person wishing to see these unclassified films must be a member of the VLAFF society and be 18 years of age or older.

The membership fee is \$2 and is valid until July 31, 2012. Please carry your membership card with you at all times, as you will be required to show it at all VLAFF screenings, including special screenings throughout the year.

FESTIVAL CATALOGUE: \$2

TICKETS
General Admission: \$10
SFU Harbour Centre: Free Admission (2011 VLAFF membership required)

SPECIAL EVENT TICKETS
Opening Night Film: \$15 (Includes membership)
Opening Night Film and Party: \$20
¡Fiesta 125!: A Celebration of Latin American Culture in Vancouver: \$10
Indigenous Film from BC and Beyond (screening and panel discussion): Free admission (all ages - no membership required)
Brazilian Gala Film and Reception: \$15
Mexican Gala Film and Reception: \$15
Closing Night Film and Award Ceremony: \$10

VLAFF FESTIVAL PASS - \$120 (CASH ONLY)
Available for purchase at the VLAFF Ticket Outlet at Pacific Cinémathèque. Subject to availability, the festival pass includes access for one to all VLAFF screenings and events except the Opening Night Party.

Passholders must arrive 20 minutes prior to the screening time to claim an entrance ticket from the Box Office. A festival pass does not guarantee seating to sold-out shows. **Passholders must carry a valid 2011 VLAFF membership card.**

ONLINE ADVANCE TICKET SALES: WWW.VLAFF.ORG
Tickets on sale beginning Thursday, August 18, 2011.
Ticket orders must be placed by 12noon on the day of the screening and will be available for pick-up at the Will Call table starting one hour before the screening.
We accept VISA, MasterCard and American Express.
\$2 processing fee per order.

TICKET OUTLET (CASH ONLY)
Tickets on sale beginning Monday, August 22, 2011.
VLAFF TICKET OUTLET AT THE PACIFIC CINÉMATHEQUE
1131 Howe Street (between Helmcken and Davie)
Prior to the festival: Aug. 22 – Sept. 1, Monday to Friday
12 noon to 4pm.
During the festival: Sept. 2 – Sept. 11, daily from 4pm – 9pm.

TICKETS AT THE DOOR (CASH ONLY)
Subject to availability, day-of-show tickets may be purchased at the Box Office where the film is screening beginning 30 minutes prior to the first screening of the day. Please check the schedule as times vary.

WILL CALL
Will Call opens one hour prior to the first screening of the day. Please arrive in advance to allow time to pick up your order. You must present your confirmation number and photo ID in order to pick up your tickets.

SOLD OUT SHOWS
If advance tickets for a show are sold out, rush tickets may be available at the door. Any unclaimed seats will be released just prior to screening time to those in the Rush Ticket Line. **Please note: you must be standing in the line in order to purchase a ticket and there is a limit of one rush ticket per person.**

FREE SCREENINGS AT SFU HARBOUR CENTRE
Admission is on a first-come, first-seated basis. Doors open 30 minutes prior to each event. **Attendees are required to purchase a \$2 VLAFF membership (except for the all ages event, Indigenous Film from BC and Beyond).**

LATECOMERS ARE NOT GUARANTEED SEATING. PLEASE ARRIVE EARLY. TICKETS ARE NON-REFUNDABLE.

VENUE INFORMATION
Ayden Gallery
International Village, 2nd Floor
88 West Pender St. (at Abbott)
Granville 7 Cinemas (GR 7)
855 Granville Street (between Robson and Smithe)
Pacific Cinémathèque (PC)
1131 Howe Street (between Helmcken and Davie)
SFU Downtown Campus Harbour Centre (SFU-HC)
515 West Hastings (between Seymour and Richards)
SFU Woodward's/ Goldcorp Centre for the Arts (SFUW)
Djavad Mowafaghian Cinema, 3rd Floor, 149 West Hastings Street (enter from the courtyard at the corner of Cambie and Cordova)
Vancity Theatre (VCT)
1181 Seymour Street (between Helmcken and Davie)
The Waldorf Hotel (WALD)
1489 East Hastings Street (between Clark and Commercial Drive)

FESTIVAL INFORMATION
604 708 5657
info@vlaff.org
www.vlaff.org

MAILING ADDRESS
420 – 111 West Hastings Street
Vancouver, BC, Canada V6B 1H4

Contents

Al Jazeera Documentary Competition.....	37-44
Canada Looks South.....	45-50
Contemporary Latin American Cinema.....	12-36
Festival Juries.....	9-10
Festival Schedule.....	30-31
Short Film Competition.....	51-54

Features & Short Film Programs

Opening Night: El hombre de al lado	12
Closing Night: Chicogrande	13
Brazilian Gala: As melhores coisas do mundo	16
Mexican Gala: Las buenas hierbas	24
5xFavela: Agora por nós mesmos	15
Abel.....	23
A flor de piel, un ramo de Colombia.....	48
Agnus Dei: Cordero de Dios	43
Besouro.....	17
Casa vieja	21
El cielo abierto.....	42
Detrás del milagro.....	49
Dos hermanos.....	14
El edificio de los chilenos	40
¡Fiesta 125! A Celebration of Latin American Culture in Vancouver (Shorts Program)	46
Gatos viejos.....	18
Hermano.....	35
Impunity	44
Indigenous Film From BC & Beyond (Shorts Program).....	47
El infierno.....	25
Las marimbas del infierno	22
Operación diablo.....	39
O samba que mora em mim.....	38
Post Mortem	19
Selections from <i>Rapa Nui Film Festival</i> , Chile (Short Films) ...	56
La sociedad del semáforo.....	20
Soy libre.....	41
También la lluvia.....	26
Verano de Goliat.....	50
La vida útil.....	36
Winners from <i>Cine en el campo</i> , Mexico (Short Films).....	56
Young Women in Film: Peru (Shorts Program)	55

VLAFF Opening Night Party

At the Waldorf Hotel, where contemporary art, music, food and culture convene under one roof.

Thursday, September 1 • 9:30 PM - late
(following the Opening Night Film, *El hombre de al lado*)
Film + Party: \$20, limited number available

Purchase tickets online at **www.vlaff.org** or at the VLAFF Ticket Outlet at the Pacific Cinémathèque.



The Waldorf Hotel
1489 East Hastings Street (between Clark and Commercial Drive)





A Message from the Premier

As Premier of the Province of British Columbia, I am very pleased to welcome everyone to the 2011 Vancouver Latin American Film Festival.

This is a wonderful opportunity for feature, short and documentary filmmakers to share their pride in Latin American cinema with the general public, and each other, over an eleven-day period.

I commend Festival Director, Christian Sida-Valenzuela, and the entire VLAFF Team for their time and commitment to planning and organizing this great event. British Columbia is so enriched with a vast array of multicultural events and this 9th Annual Film Festival will inspire and impress the thousands of people who will come to experience and enjoy this special exposure to Latin American film projects.

Thank you to the filmmakers for sharing their work with us. Thank you to the audiences for coming out to enjoy the richness of Latin American cinema right here in Vancouver.

Sincerely,

Christy Clark
PREMIER



A Message from the Mayor

On behalf of my colleagues on City Council, I am pleased to extend my very best wishes to the organizers, volunteers and filmmakers of the 2011 Vancouver Latin American Film Festival.

As Mayor, I am proud of our thriving arts community and I am pleased to congratulate the Vancouver Latin American Film Festival for providing a platform in which independent Latin American filmmakers can introduce us to their art and promote awareness of their cultures and traditions. It also provides educational and inspirational opportunities to aspiring filmmakers through various partnerships with educational institutions and industry organizations. I want to thank the organizers, volunteers and filmmakers who make this festival a success.

Best wishes for another fantastic festival.

Yours truly,

Gregor Robertson
MAYOR



A Message from the BC Arts Council

Latin American cinema is as rich and diverse as any in the world. With a strong history and tradition, Latin American screenwriters, directors and producers are creating work that engages, inspires and challenges movie audiences around the world.

For almost a decade, the Vancouver Latin American Film Festival has been celebrating the films of the Latin American diaspora and providing local audiences with a unique opportunity to see some of the finest independent films being made today.

As chair of the BC Arts Council, I am pleased that Council is able to support the excellent programming in cinema that the festival has provided over the past years, and I would like to extend my congratulations to all the filmmakers who are showcasing their talents. I would also like to acknowledge the very important hard work of the organizers and volunteers who help make this festival an annual highlight of Vancouver's cultural calendar.

Stan Hamilton
CHAIR, BC ARTS COUNCIL



A Message from the Consul General of Brazil

As a new Latin American official representative in this city, it's my pleasure to greet and welcome the ninth edition of the Vancouver Latin American Film Festival (VLAFF). Having served in Latin America on two different occasions, I can confidently attest to the region's innovative and creative cinema. It is a promising reflection of the flourishing times our countries are experiencing.

Once again, Brazil will present a variety of works: feature films, documentaries and short films, showcasing a selection of Brazilian talent in the art of cinema. Our participation in VLAFF has the traditional support of the Cultural Department of the Ministry External Relations of Brazil. I'm also pleased to announce that a Brazilian director will participate in discussions on cinema in Brazil during the festival.

I congratulate all those involved in the organization of this remarkable festival for their dedicated effort to bring such a representative sample of Latin American culture to the Vancouver public. It's an initiative that deserves full encouragement from everyone who believes the art of cinema is a powerful source to promote understanding among cultures.

My very best wishes for a successful, pleasant and educational journey through VLAFF's ninth edition!

Sincerely,

Sérgio Abreu e Lima Florencio
CONSUL GENERAL OF BRAZIL



A Message from the Consul General of Mexico

I am pleased to extend my best regards to the attendees, organizers, volunteers and staff of the 9th annual Vancouver Latin American Film Festival.

VLAFF is recognized as one of the best film festival showcases in Western Canada as it includes some of the best filmmakers from Latin America. This year, as part of Mexico Fest 2011 and the celebration of Mexico's Independence, I am glad to present some outstanding Mexican films, documentaries and short films.

As in previous years, the Consulate General is proud to be a sponsor of VLAFF 2011.

Sincerely,

Ángel Villalobos Rodríguez
CONSUL GENERAL OF MEXICO





Reel Images - VLAFF at SFU Harbour Centre

On behalf of the Latin American Studies Program at Simon Fraser University, we welcome film aficionados from throughout the Lower Mainland to the 2011 Vancouver Latin American Film Festival. We are proud to have this opportunity to collaborate with VLAFF in bringing you some of the most exciting examples of contemporary cinema from Latin America, where film production is thriving as never before.

We especially encourage everyone to join us for the free screenings of *Verano de Goliath* (*Summer of Goliath*), *Detrás del milagro* (*Beyond the Miracle*), *El cielo abierto* (*The Open Sky*), *A flor de piel, un ramo de colombia* (*To Flower from Skin: A Bouquet from Colombia*), *Agnus Dei: Cordero de Dios* (*Agnus Dei: Lamb of God*) and *Casa vieja* (*Old House*), all of which screen on September 2, 3 and 9 at SFU Harbour Centre. In addition, please join us for two special programs of short films: *Indigenous Film from BC and Beyond* at 3:30 PM on Saturday, September 3 and *Young Women in Film: Peru* on Friday, September 9 at 3 PM.

Alexander Dawson
DIRECTOR, LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES PROGRAM
SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY



VLAFF at SFU Woodward's

Welcome to the Djavad Mowafaghian Cinema! SFU Woodward's is pleased to be entering into a co-presentation relationship with VLAFF as we celebrate our first anniversary of our doors opening.

This select series features four diverse and outstanding films all to be screened in 35mm in our state-of-the-art cinema. They are: *Post Mortem*, from Chile, on September 3.; *Abel*, from Mexico, on September 4; *5x Favela*, from Brazil on September 6; and, *Hermano*, from Venezuela, on September 9.

Though VLAFF's programming is international in scope, its heart is strongly local, providing unique perspectives and insights into Latin American culture, politics, art and storytelling. We wish to acknowledge VLAFF as a supporter of SFU Woodward's community engagement initiatives, through a dedicated ticket program to Vancouver's inner city. May these films enrich you.

Michael Boucher
DIRECTOR-CULTURAL PROGRAMS & PARTNERSHIPS
SFU WOODWARD'S



VLAFF Youth Jury

VLAFF's first annual Youth Jury was selected from a city-wide competition open to post-secondary students aged 18 to 30. Interested students applied by submitting a 700-word film critique. The jury members were selected based on the quality of their work, their academic experience, and interest in Latin American culture. The Youth Jury will select the **Youth Choice Award for a Fiction Film** at VLAFF 9. We are very excited to welcome this talented group of students to our festival!



Naomi White, 20, with a Jamaican, English and Irish background is a student of Video and Integrated Media at Emily Carr. She has developed critical thinking skills at school and is excited to bring her knowledge to the jury while broadening her outlook.



Maria Camila Arias, 25, from Colombia, graduated from the Vancouver Film School this year. She was also a film student in Colombia and Cuba which has given her a wide experience in production, writing and film theory.



Nicholas Aubichon, 28, is a Métis Canadian and Langara Student interested in Latin American culture and politics. Nicholas has always enjoyed watching films and being part of the Youth Jury is an important step for him towards becoming a journalist.



Victor Borba, 20, from Brazil studies Communications at Simon Fraser University. Since Borba arrived in Vancouver in 2009, he has been following the local arts and culture community. Borba hopes that being part of the Youth Jury will help him achieve his career goals.



Arianna Sanelli, 21, is an Italian-Canadian Linguistics student at Langara College. She has a great interest in Latin American culture and the Spanish language. She hopes to travel in South America and learn more about Latin American cultures.



Saki Serizawa was born in Japan but was raised in White Rock, B.C. She is a student at Langara College and is working towards being admitted to the GRS program at UBC. She hopes to continue her explorations of the world and to become fluent in Spanish and French.



Kazue Toma, 21, from Japan is a student at Douglas College. She has been interested in Spanish language and culture for many years and has taken related courses. She feels that Latin American filmmaking usually conveys meaningful messages and would like to better understand Latin American cinema.



Al Jazeera Documentary Competition Jury



Carmen Henríquez has produced, directed, shot and edited documentary, television and multimedia content internationally. As a co-principal of Vancouver-based RealWorld Media Inc., Carmen's filmmaking interests are focused on themes of social, economic and environmental justice. *Twenty Years of Silence*, an intimate portrait of Carmen's family growing up under Chile's military dictatorship, was the filmmaker's first documentary in South America. Bilingual by her teens, Carmen's translating and interpreting skills took her to Canada and Japan before settling in Vancouver. Her most recent film, *Cry of the Andes* premiered at VLAFF 8.



Geminiano Pineda studied filmmaking at the Escuela Superior de Artes y Espectáculos de España, in Madrid. His first work in Mexican cinema was on the production team of *Kilómetro 31* and *Morirse en Domingo*. Geminiano is the Executive Producer of CANANA, a production company of films, television series and documentaries funded by the Mexican actors Diego Luna and Gael García Bernal, responsible for projects like *Drama/Mex* (VLAFF 2007) by Gerardo Naranjo, *Déficit* (VLAFF 2008) by Gael García Bernal, *J.C. Chávez* (VLAFF 2008), *Abel* (Cannes 2010 and VLAFF 2011) by Diego Luna and *Post Mortem* (Venice 2010 and VLAFF 2011) by Pablo Larraín.



Yves J. Ma, Producer, NFB has been producing narrative and documentary films over the past 15 years and joined the National Film Board of Canada in 2008. His recent productions include Sturla Gunnarson's feature documentary, *Force of Nature- the David Suzuki Movie*, which won the 2010 Documentary Audience Award at the Toronto International Film Festival, as well as Scott Smith's Leo Award-nominated short documentary, *Where Do I Start?* He also co-produced the Vancouver International Film Festival Audience Award and Sundance Special Jury Prize winning feature drama, *Eve & the Fire Horse*. His work at the NFB involves working with documentary, drama, animation and interactive creators.

Short Film Jury



Adriana Castillo studied Communications at the Metropolitan University of Mexico and specialized in Film Screenwriting at the prestigious film school Centro de Capacitación Cinematográfica. She obtained her Master's degree in Communication and History of Culture at the University of Barcelona. She has worked in documentary programs for the U.N. High Commission of Refugees. Adriana was the sub-director of research at the Centro de Capacitación Cinematográfica, where she also organized the International Festival of film schools. She works in the production and academic area at the UNAM, National University of Mexico. In 2010, she coordinated the academic area at DOCSDF, the Mexico City International Documentary Film Festival. She currently teaches cinema at the Anáhuac University and coordinates a production forum Mexico-Korea, at the International Film Festival in Guanajuato.



Alex Garcia co-founded (with Sandro Fiorin) FiGa Films in 2006 with the intent of discovering and distributing the best of Latin American cinema. The company has since become a sales agency in 2008, acquiring new films for worldwide sales, as well as serving as associate producers in projects in development. Born and raised in Miami, Florida, Mr. Garcia attended film school at Columbia College/Hollywood where he now teaches film editing, bringing his experience and knowledge of working in that capacity for 24 years. He has been invited to numerous festivals as a panelist to discuss the state of foreign film distribution and new media. He is of Cuban descent and is fluent in Spanish and mastering Portuguese.



Carmen Rodríguez left Chile following the 1973 military coup and made her home in Vancouver, Canada. She's the award-winning author of *Guerra prolongada/Protracted War*, a volume of poetry, and *De cuerpo entero/And a Body to Remember With*, a collection of short stories. Her novel *Retribution* will be published in October, 2011. Rodríguez teaches in the Latin American Studies Program of Simon Fraser University and is a Vancouver correspondent for the Spanish section of Radio Canada International.



FESTIVAL FUNDERS



GOLD PARTNER



SILVER PARTNERS



MAJOR MEDIA PARTNERS



CO-PRESENTATION PARTNER



DOCUMENTARY AWARD PARTNER



PARTNERS



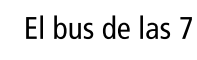
TRANSPORTATION PARTNER



CONSULATE AND CULTURAL PARTNERS



MEDIA PARTNERS



HOSPITALITY PARTNERS



TRAVEL PARTNER



COMMUNITY PARTNERS





El hombre de al lado

(The Man Next Door)

Argentina, 2009
Spanish with English subtitles/ 100 min

Directors: Mariano Cohn, Gastón Duprat **Producers:** María Belén De la Torre, Fernando Sokolowicz **Screenplay:** Andrés Duprat **Cinematographers:** Mariano Cohn, Gastón Duprat **Editors:** Jerónimo Carranza, Klaus Borges **Music:** Sergio Pángaro **Principal Cast:** Rafael Spregelburd, Daniel Aráoz, Eugenia Alonso, Inés Budassi, Loren Acuña

We don't choose our neighbours.

Leonardo, a successful industrial designer, lives with his family in an architectural wonder, a Mid-Century modern Le Corbusier house in Buenos Aires. One morning, he wakes to an irksome noise and is appalled to discover that workmen next door are constructing a large window that faces directly into his home. Victor, the neighbour, is an odd and extroverted character whose attitude is very friendly, yet threatening at the same time. He provokes in Leonardo both a strong dislike and an uncomfortable submissiveness to his will. This minor incident starts to take over Leonardo's time, taking him away from his work and family and calling into question all his bourgeois illusions of power.

No escogemos a nuestros vecinos.

Leonardo es un importante diseñador industrial quien vive con su familia en la única casa que construyó el gran arquitecto Le Corbusier en América. Una mañana la rutina y tranquilidad de su hogar se ve afectada por el comienzo de unas obras en la casa de al lado. Un vecino pretende hacer una ventana ilegal con vista a su casa. Víctor, el vecino, es un personaje raro y extrovertido. Su actitud extremadamente amistosa y a la vez amenazante crea en Leonardo un fuerte rechazo y a la vez una sumisión inmanejable. El incidente comienza a ocuparle a Leonardo todo su tiempo e interés, apartándolo de su rutina laboral y familiar, cuestionando con énfasis sus ilusiones de poder elitista.



Argentine filmmakers **Gastón Duprat** (born in 1969) and **Mariano Cohn** (born in 1975) together have created more than 20 experimental film and video works. They designed, founded, and directed the

Ciudad Abierta TV channel in Buenos Aires. Their award-winning feature films include *Enciclopedia* (1998), *Yo Presidente* (2006), and *El artista* (2008). *El hombre de al lado* (2009) won the award for Best Argentine Feature Film at the 24th Mar del Plata Film Festival and Best Cinematography in the World Dramatic Competition at the Sundance Film Festival in 2010. It was one of the most highly acclaimed films in Argentina last year.

SPONSORED BY:



THURSDAY, **SEPTEMBER 1** | 7 PM | GR7
(Followed by Opening Night Party at the Waldorf Hotel.)

MONDAY, **SEPTEMBER 5** | 9:15 PM | PC



Chicogrande

Mexico, 2010
Spanish with English subtitles/ 100 min

Director: Felipe Cazals **Producers:** Fernando Gou, Gerardo Barrera **Screenplay:** Felipe Cazals, Ricardo Garibay **Cinematographer:** Damián García **Editor:** Oscar Figueroa **Music:** Murkof, Víctor Báez Báez **Principal Cast:** Damián Alcázar, Daniel Martínez, Juan Manuel Bernal, Iván Rafael González, Tenoch Huerta, Patricia Reyes Spindola

"With the United States, we will always be neighbours, occasionally we will be partners, but we will never be friends." –Felipe Cazals

In 1916, following the failed invasion of the town of Columbus (New Mexico), Pancho Villa retreats, only to be injured in the leg by Carranza's troops in the city of Guerrero. The U.S. Cavalry, on Mexican territory, launch a massive campaign to capture him dead or alive. Needing to convalesce, Villa takes refuge deep in the mountains. Chicogrande, an ardent follower, is given the task of finding medical assistance and is prepared to give up his own life in the attempt to save Pancho Villa.

—De los Estados Unidos siempre seremos vecinos, ocasionalmente seremos socios, pero nunca seremos amigos. –Felipe Cazals

Pancho Villa, después de su frustrada invasión a Columbus (Nuevo México) en 1916, emprende la retirada y en Ciudad Guerrero es herido en una pierna por tropas carrancistas. Los estadounidenses, en territorio mexicano, inician una persecución masiva para capturarlo vivo o muerto. Villa, convaleciente, se refugia en la sierra, en lo más profundo de las montañas. Chicogrande, un villista, tiene el encargo de conseguir asistencia médica y está dispuesto a sacrificar su propia vida para lograrlo.



Felipe Cazals, born in 1937, is one of Mexican cinema's most important and prolific directors with over 34 films to his credit. He has garnered many prestigious awards in his career including the Special Jury Prize at the

Berlin Festival in 1976 for *Canoa*. Together with Arturo Ripstein, he is considered one of the most emblematic film directors of his generation. *Chicogrande* was filmed in Durango, Mexico, an iconic film location for many Hollywood westerns such as the John Wayne classic *True Grit* (1969). *Chicogrande* was the opening film at the San Sebastián Film Festival in Spain in 2010, and received 10 nominations at the Mexican Film Awards, including Best Film and Best Director.

SPONSORED BY:



SATURDAY, **SEPTEMBER 10** | 8 PM | GR7



Dos hermanos

(Brother and Sister)

Argentina, 2010
Spanish with English subtitles/ 107 min

Director: Daniel Burman **Producers:** Diego Dubcovsky, Micaela Solé, Daniel Hendler
Screenplay: Daniel Burman, Sergio Dubcovsky **Cinematographer:** Hugo Colace
Editor: Pablo Barbieri **Music:** Nicolás Cota **Principal Cast:** Graciela Borges, Antonio Gasalla, Elena Lucena, Osmar Nuñez, Rita Cortese

"I can't find any other issue in life more problematic than that of the family, for even if you have no family, the absence of it is a big issue." –Daniel Burman

After sixty years living within a maternal grip that is overbearingly protective and suffocating, Marcos, an educated and delicate goldsmith, believes he may finally have found freedom upon the death of his mother. However, at 64 years old, he still finds himself dogged by unresolved family matters. His flamboyant sister, Susana, a dubious real estate negotiator and unscrupulous social climber, decides she is the one now to decide what's best for him. His search to fulfil pent-up dreams clashes against a reality from which he cannot escape for as much as he despises his sister, he needs her. In this dark comedy, two siblings vie to settle the score between the one who cares and the one who controls.

—No puedo encontrar otros problemas en la vida más que la familia, y aún si no tienes familia, la ausencia de esta es un gran problema. —Daniel Burman

Después de vivir más de sesenta años bajo el cepo materno, protector y asfixiante, Marcos, un orfebre culto y delicado cree hallar la liberación el día que muere su madre. Pero a los 64 años, presionado por asuntos familiares no resueltos, es confinado a dejar Buenos Aires y emprender el exilio en un pequeño balneario uruguayo. La búsqueda de placer choca contra una realidad de la que no puede escapar. No logra soportar los baches de la ausencia. Su hermana, diez años menor que él y con una personalidad entre avasallante y delirante, se convierte en el único bastión que encuentra para seguir adelante. Los dos están solos. Se necesitan, pero a la vez se odian. La relación entre ellos oscila como un péndulo y día a día ajustan cuentas pendientes y recuerdos mal guardados.



Daniel Burman was born in Argentina in 1973. He is a director, writer, producer and screenwriter as well as a founding member of the Academy of Argentine Cinema. He studied law before making the transition to filmmaking.

Burman is one of the members of the "New Argentine Cinema" wave that began in 1998. He has directed eleven films including *El nido vacío* (2008), *Derecho de familia* (2006), and *El abrazo partido* (2004). *Dos hermanos* was selected at numerous international festivals including Chicago, Rio de Janeiro, and Karlovy Vary and it received nine nominations at the Argentina Film Awards including Best Film, Best Actress and Best Actor.

COMMUNITY PARTNER:
THE VANCOUVER JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL
WWW.VJFF.ORG

FRIDAY, **SEPTEMBER 2** | 5 PM | PC
WEDNESDAY, **SEPTEMBER 7** | 9:15 PM | PC



5x Favela: Agora por nós mesmos

(5x Favela: Now by Ourselves)

Brazil, 2010
Portuguese with English subtitles/ 103 min

Directors: Cacau Amaral, Cadu Barcellos, Luciana Bezerra, Manaira Carneiro, Rodrigo Felha, Wagner Novais, Luciano Vidigal **Producers:** Carlos Diegues, Renata Almeida Magalhães
Script coordinator: Rafael Dragaud **Cinematographer:** Alexandre Ramos **Editor:** Quito Ribeiro
Music: MV Bill and AfroReggae **Principal Cast:** Silvio Guindane, Juan Paiva, Thiago Martins, Vitor Carvalho, Marcio Vito

This time we do it by ourselves.

In 1961, five middle-class filmmakers who belonged to the student movement collaborated to make a film called *Five Times Favela*. After four decades, the idea has been revisited although this time the cameras have been taken up by the residents themselves of favelas in Rio de Janeiro. *5x Favela: Agora por nós mesmos* is entirely written, directed and produced by young filmmakers mentored in professional workshops administered by big names in Brazilian cinema like Daniel Filho, Walter Salles, Fernando Meirelles and others. Composed of five different stories that achieve the feat of dialogue among each other, these films show the realities of honest families who are in need, whose lives can't help but intersect with the complex life of the favela and the wider world outside.

Agora fazemos por nós mesmos.

Em 1961, cinco cineastas de classe média, oriundos do movimento estudantil universitário, realizavam o filme *Cinco Vezes Favela*. Passadas quatro décadas *5x Favela, Agora por nós mesmos* reúne dessa vez jovens cineastas moradores de favelas do Rio de Janeiro, treinados e capacitados a partir de oficinas profissionalizantes de audiovisual ministradas por grandes nomes do cinema brasileiro, como Daniel Filho, Walter Salles, Fernando Meirelles e muitos outros. *5x Favela*, reúne cinco histórias distintas, mas que conseguem a proeza de dialogar entre si, para mostrar como as realidades das famílias carentes – e honestas – se cruzam com a realidade da favela e com a vida fora dela.



The films:
Fonte de renda by **Manaira Carneiro** (age 22, *Higienópolis favela*) and **Wagner Novais** (age 26, *City of God favela*).
Arroz com feijão by **Rodrigo Felha** (age 30, *City of God favela*) and **Cacau Amaral** (age 37, *Suburb Caxias favela*).
Solo de violino by **Luciano Vidigal** (age 32, *Vidigal favela*).
Deixa voar by **Cadu Barcellos** (age 23, *Complexo de Maré favela*).
Acende a Luz by **Luciana Bezerra** (age 35, *Vidigal favela*).

5x Favela premiered in the Official Selection at the 2010 Cannes Film Festival. It won the Audience Award at the Biarritz Festival and Best Film at the Paulina Film Festival in Brazil.

SEPTEMBER 6TH SCREENING CO-PRESENTED BY:



ELIGIBLE FOR THE YOUTH CHOICE AWARD

TUESDAY, **SEPTEMBER 6** | 7 PM | SFUW
FRIDAY, **SEPTEMBER 9** | 7 PM | PC



As melhores coisas do mundo

(The Best Things in the World)

Brazil, 2010
 Portuguese with English subtitles/ 100 min

Director: Laís Bodanzky **Producers:** Caio Gullane, Fabiano Gullane, Debora Ivanov, Gabriel Lacerda **Screenplay:** Luiz Bolognesi **Cinematographer:** Mauro Pinheiro Jr. **Editor:** Daniel Rezende **Music:** Eduardo Bid **Principal Cast:** Denise Fraga, José Carlos Machado, Gustavo Machado, Paulo Vilhena

Mano is a 15-year-old boy experiencing the tumultuous transition from childhood to adulthood within the bustling metropolis of São Paulo, Brazil. He has to cope with his parents’ divorce and the discovery that his father is gay; his rebellious brother; conflicts with his peers, the discovery of his own sexuality, and the joys and pains of first love. *The Best Things in the World* approaches the experiences of modern, urban teenagers with honesty and humour.

Mano é um garoto de 15 anos de idade passando por uma turbulenta transição da infância para fase adulta na movimentada cidade de São Paulo, Brasil. Ele tem que lidar com o divórcio dos pais, com a descoberta de que seu pai é gay, com o irmão rebelde, conflito com seus amigos, a descoberta da própria sexualidade, além das alegrias e sofrimentos do primeiro amor. *As melhores coisas do mundo* aborda as atuais experiências dos adolescentes das grandes cidades com honestidade e humor.



Laís Bodanzky was born in 1969 in Brazil. Prior to her first feature film, the acclaimed *Bicho de sete cabeças* (*Brainstorm*) released in 2000, she directed short films and documentaries. In 2007, she released her second feature,

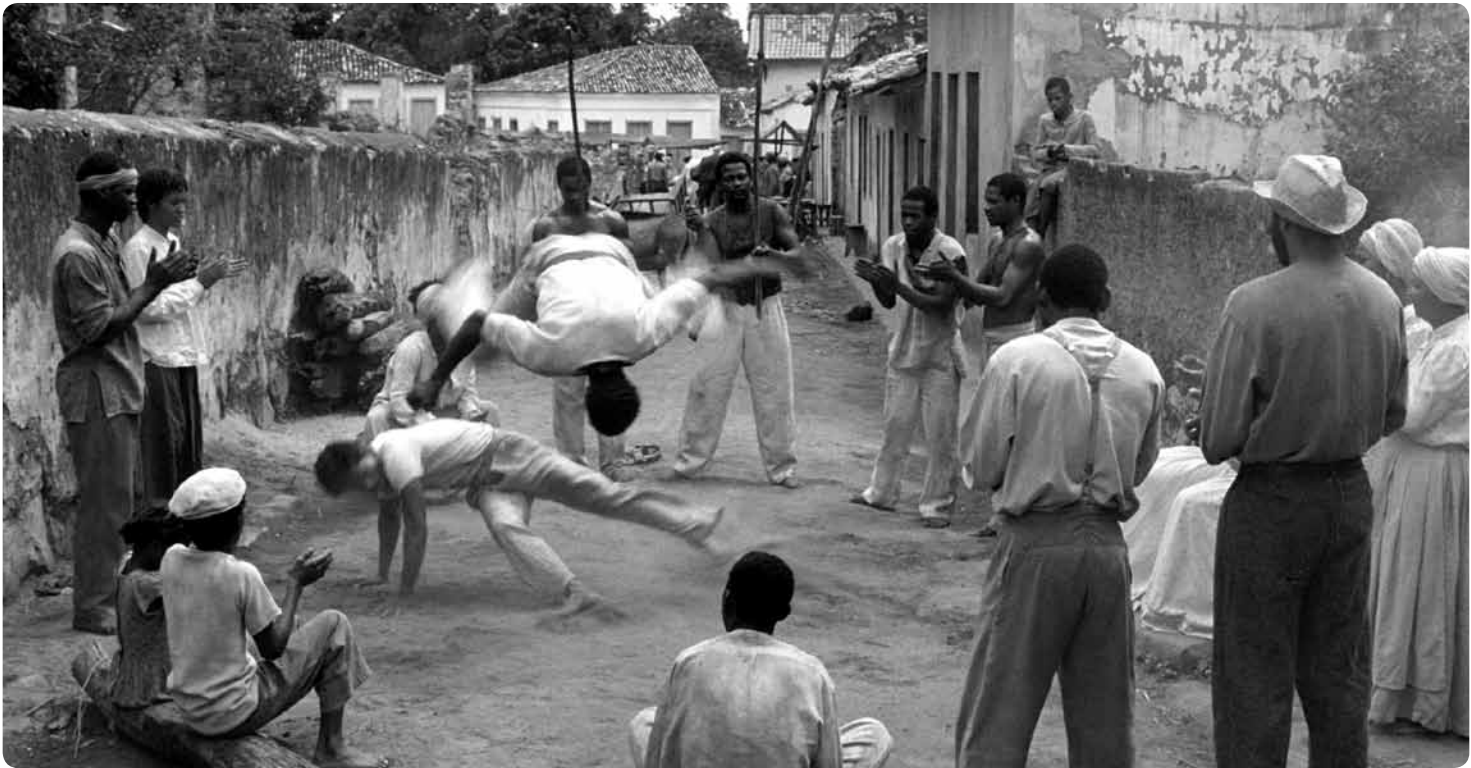
Chega de saudade (*The Ballroom*). *As melhores coisas do mundo*, Bodanzky’s third feature film, premiered at the Rome Film Festival.

SPONSORED BY:



CONSULATE GENERAL OF BRAZIL
IN VANCOUVER

WEDNESDAY, **SEPTEMBER 7** | 7 PM | GR7
 (BRAZILIAN GALA PRESENTATION)
 SATURDAY, **SEPTEMBER 10** | 3:15 PM | PC



Besouro

Brazil, 2010
 Portuguese with English subtitles/ 95 min

Director: João Daniel Tikhomiroff **Producers:** Vicente Amorim, Daniel Filho **Screenplay:** João Daniel Tikhomiroff, Patrícia Andrade, Bráulio Tavares **Cinematographer:** Enrique Chediak **Editor:** Gustavo Giani **Music:** Rica Amabis **Principal Cast:** Ailton Carmo, Jessica Barbosa, Anderson Santos de Jesus, Flavio Rocha

In 1920s Brazil, former black slaves still suffer under the heel of oppressive white plantation owners who forbid them from engaging in their cultural practices, such as the traditional martial art of capoeira. When the leader of the resistance movement is assassinated, his protégé Besouro must take up his mantle. Using his mastery of capoeira and the supernatural abilities given to him by ancient West African deities, Besouro becomes an untouchable mystic, freedom fighter and symbol of revolt. Based on the life of legendary capoeira master, Besouro Mangangá, this film mixes historical drama with dizzying acrobatic choreography to create a cinematic extravaganza like no other.

Na década de 20 no Brasil, ex-escravos ainda sofrem com a opressão do homem branco, o donos das fazendas que os proíbem de praticar sua cultura, como por exemplo a tradicional arte marcial de capoeira. Quando o líder do movimento de resistência é assassinado, seu protegido Besouro, precisa assumir seu lugar. Usando sua mestria em capoeira e habilidades sobrenaturais passadas a ele por antigas divindades do Oeste africano, Besouro se torna um mítico intocável, um defensor da liberdade e um símbolo de revolta. Baseado na lendária vida do mestre de capoeira, Besouro Mangangá, este filme mistura drama histórico com uma incrível coreografia acrobática criando um espetáculo cinematográfico com nenhum outro.



João Daniel Tikhomiroff was born in Rio de Janeiro in 1950. Although *Besouro* marks his debut as a feature film director, he has worked extensively in the film industry as an editor and producer. For over thirty years, he has also been one of Brazil’s most sought after and well-known directors of award-winning commercials through his company Jodaf. The recipient of more than 41 awards at the Cannes Lions International Festival of Creativity makes him the winner of the second highest number of accolades in the world for his commercials. *Besouro* screened as part of the Panorama Section at the 2010 Berlin Film Festival.

COMMUNITY PARTNER:

AXÉ CAPOEIRA SCHOOL

FRIDAY, **SEPTEMBER 2** | 7:15 PM | PC
 MONDAY, **SEPTEMBER 5** | 4:45 PM | PC



Gatos viejos

(Old Cats)

Chile, 2010
Spanish with English subtitles/ 88 min

Directors: Sebastián Silva, Pedro Peirano **Producers:** Kim Jose, David Robinson, Sebastián Silva
Screenplay: Sebastián Silva, Pedro Peirano **Cinematographer:** Sergio Armstrong **Editor:** Gabriel Diaz **Principal Cast:** Bélgica Castro, Claudia Celedón, Catalina Saavedra, Alejandro Sieveking

“Personally I am from a huge family, so I’ve experienced the claustrophobia and the horror.” —Sebastián Silva

Isadora and Enrique live a comfortable life. They have a modest yet elegant apartment in Santiago’s old downtown district - complete with a lovely terrace and mountain views. Well into their eighties, they both maintain their independence and live happily with their books, their eclectic art and, most of all, with their two beloved and rotund cats. Isadora’s passionate “wild child” daughter, Rosario, and her butch female lover, Hugo, come for a visit with a new “scheme” of how to make them all rich. From the creators of *La nana*, this is another great film about family.

—Personalmente vengo de una enorme familia, así que he experimentado la claustrofobia y el horror. —Sebastián Silva

Isadora y Enrique viven una vida cómoda, tienen un modesto pero céntrico y elegante apartamento en la parte vieja de Santiago, que tiene una hermosa terraza y vista a las montañas. Ya entrados en sus ochenta años, los dos mantienen su independencia y viven felices con sus libros, su arte ecléctico y lo más importante: sus dos amados gatos. Rosario, hija de Isadora y quien vive una vida acelerada, viene a visitarlos en compañía de su novia llamada Hugo, con la oportunidad de “convertir” a todos ricos. De los creadores de la exitosa película *La Nana*, esta es otra excelente cinta acerca de la vida íntima familiar.



Sebastián Silva’s first fictional feature film, *La vida me mata*, won a plethora of awards in his native Chile, but it was his second, *La nana*, that launched his career internationally with a Golden Globe nomination for Best

Foreign Film and accolades at the Sundance and Gotham festivals.

Pedro Peirano is the co-writer of *La vida me mata* and *La nana*. Peirano has developed *31 minutos*, one of Chilean television’s most successful children’s series ever. *Gatos viejos* was selected at the New York Film Festival, Sundance among many others.

ELIGIBLE FOR THE YOUTH CHOICE AWARD

SATURDAY, **SEPTEMBER 3** | 1 PM | PC
WEDNESDAY, **SEPTEMBER 7** | 7:15 PM | PC



Post Mortem

Chile / Mexico / Germany, 2010
Spanish with English subtitles / 98 min

Director: Pablo Larraín **Producer:** Juan de Dios Larraín **Screenplay:** Pablo Larraín, Mateo Iribarren
Consultant: Eliseo Altunaga **Cinematographer:** Sergio Armstrong **Editor:** Andrea Chignoli
Music: Alberto Iglesias **Principal Cast:** Alfredo Castro, Antonia Zegers, Jaime Vadell, Amparo Noguera, Marcelo Alonso

“Conclusion: Male corpse, identified as Salvador Allende Gossens...”
—The doctor in the morgue

Where were you on September 11th, 1973? 55-year-old Mario works in a morgue typing out autopsy reports. In the midst of the 1973 Chilean coup d’état, he daydreams about his neighbour Nancy, a cabaret dancer, who disappears mysteriously on September 11th. Following a violent search by the army of her family’s house, Mario learns that they have arrested her brother and father, a staunch Communist and supporter of Salvador Allende. Beside himself with worry over the disappearance of his would-be lover, Mario begins a frantic search for Nancy that takes him into the very core of his country’s violence.

—Conclusión: Cadáver de sexo masculino, identificado como Salvador Allende Gossens...” —El doctor en la morgue

¿Dónde estabas el once de septiembre de 1973? Mario, de 55 años, trabaja pasando a máquina informes de autopsias en un depósito de cadáveres. En pleno golpe de Estado chileno de 1973, Mario fantasea con su vecina Nancy, bailarina de cabaret, que desaparece misteriosamente el 11 de septiembre. Tras un violento registro del Ejército en casa de ella, se entera de que han arrestado al hermano y al padre, destacado comunista y partidario de Salvador Allende. Preocupado y enloquecido por la desaparición de la que hubiera sido su amante, Mario se pone a buscar desesperadamente a Nancy, lo que lo lleva al epicentro de la violencia en su país.



Pablo Larraín was born in Santiago de Chile in 1976. Having studied Audiovisual Communication at the UNIACC, in 2005 he directed his first feature, *Fuga*, released in Chile in 2006. In 2007, he made his second film, *Tony*

Manero, enjoying its world premiere at the 2008 Directors’ Fortnight in Cannes. *Port Mortem* is his third feature and had its world premiere at the Venice Film Festival. The film has gathered top awards in the Havana, Guadalajara and Cartagena film festivals.

SEPTEMBER 3RD SCREENING CO-PRESENTED BY:



ELIGIBLE FOR THE YOUTH CHOICE AWARD

SATURDAY, **SEPTEMBER 3** | 7 PM | SFUW
SUNDAY, **SEPTEMBER 11** | 5:15 PM | PC



La sociedad del semáforo

(The Stoplight Society)

Colombia/ France/ Spain/ Germany, 2010
Spanish with English subtitles / 109 min

Director: Rubén Mendoza **Producers:** Daniel García, Diana Camargo **Screenplay:** Rubén Mendoza **Cinematographer:** Juan Carlos Gil **Editors:** Rubén Mendoza, Luis Ospina, Jonathan Palomar **Music:** Edson Velandia **Principal Cast:** Alexis Zúñiga, Abelardo Jaimes, Gala Bernal

“With twenty seconds more on red, you’ll be made rich.” —Raúl Tréllez

Stoplights at city intersections are a black hole for thousands of people displaced from their native rural settings and forced to come beg in the streets of urban centres. One such man is Raúl, a recycler alienated from society by stubbornness, a desire for total freedom and a reckless pursuit of drugs. He is bent on using the little knowledge he possesses to rig up a few improvised devices to allow those working the stoplight to control when it changes from red to green, thereby lengthening the performance time for the jugglers, disabled beggars, and street vendors. In the middle of a fantastic delirium, the circus-like halo encircling this street society slowly changes to a symphony of despair, hopelessness, and all-out anarchy.

—Con veinte segundos más en rojo, se hacen ricos. —Raúl Tréllez

Los semáforos son la tumba en vida de miles de campesinos desplazados que se ven obligados a ir a mendigar a la ciudad. Uno de ellos, Raúl, un reciclador, enajenado por la terquedad, la libertad absoluta y las drogas, está empeñado en lograr con sus pocos conocimientos y sus improvisados dispositivos, que la duración de la luz roja del semáforo pueda ser controlada por ellos, el tiempo que quieran, para poder montar actos más largos entre malabaristas lisiados y vendedores ambulantes. En medio del delirio y la fantasía, el halo circense que recubre sus vidas se va convirtiendo en una sinfonía al desespero, a la desesperanza y a la anarquía.



Rubén Mendoza was born in Colombia in 1980. He graduated from the Film and Television Directing School at the National University of Colombia. He also studied at the Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema at Concordia

University in Montreal. Mendoza is a member of Día Fragma Fábrica de Películas alongside producer Daniel García. The script of *La sociedad del semáforo* was accepted at the prestigious L’Atelier at the Cannes Film Festival and the film, Mendoza’s first feature, went on to win the award for Best Film at the Cartagena Film Festival. Since then it has been selected at a number of international film festivals.

COMMUNITY PARTNER:
COMUNIDAD COLOMBIANA
WWW.COLOMBIANOSENBC.COM

ELIGIBLE FOR THE YOUTH CHOICE AWARD

FRIDAY, **SEPTEMBER 2** | 9:15 PM | PC
TUESDAY, **SEPTEMBER 6** | 9:15 PM | PC



Casa vieja

(Old House)

Cuba, 2010
Spanish with English subtitles/ 90 min

Director: Lester Hamlet **Producers:** Esther Masero, Marcel Piedra, Alberto Reytor **Screenplay:** Mijail Rodríguez, Lester Hamlet **Cinematographer:** Rafael Solís **Editor:** Adrián García **Music:** Aldo López Gavilán **Principal Cast:** Yadier Fernández, Daisy Quintana, Alberto Pujol, Adria Santana, Susana Tejera, Isabel Santos, Manuel Porto

“I believe in that which lives and changes.” —Esteban

Upon learning that his father is on his deathbed, Esteban travels from Barcelona back to his native Cuba after an absence of fourteen years to be with his family in their time of grieving. But in his childhood home he encounters a past that has not changed: old family secrets, resentments and unresolved misunderstandings make time itself an apparent prisoner of the old house.

—Yo creo en lo que esta vivo y cambia. —Esteban

Al enterarse de la inminente muerte de su padre, Esteban, tras catorce años de exilio, vuelve a Cuba desde su residencia en Barcelona para compartir con sus familiares tan doloroso momento. Rencores y secretos salen a flote en la Casa vieja durante este catártico encuentro, marcado por la suerte de un país que parece resistir a cambiar, a crecer.



Lester Hamlet was born in Havana, Cuba in 1971. He has worked as a film editor, writer, cinematographer and music producer. He co-directed *Tres veces dos* (2004), which won the Silver Zenith for First Fiction Feature Film at the

28th Montreal World Film Festival. He was the film editor for *La edad de la peseta*, directed by Pavel Giroud (2006), which was selected in a number of international film festivals including the 5th Vancouver Latin American Film Festival, and won the Best Film Award at the Cartagena Film Festival. His forthcoming second feature film as a director, *Fabula*, is a Canadian co-production.

COMMUNITY PARTNER:
VANCOUVER QUEER FILM FESTIVAL
WWW.QUEERFILMFESTIVAL.CA

ELIGIBLE FOR THE YOUTH CHOICE AWARD

MONDAY, **SEPTEMBER 5** | 7 PM | PC
FRIDAY, **SEPTEMBER 9** | 6:30 PM | SFU-HC



Las marimbas del infierno

(Marimbas From Hell)

Guatemala/ France/ Mexico, 2010
Spanish with English subtitles/ 73 min

Director: Julio Hernández Córdón **Producer:** Julio Hernández Córdón, Pamela Guinea, Cyriac Auriol **Screenplay:** Julio Hernández Córdón **Cinematographer:** María Secco **Editor:** Lenz Claire **Music:** Guerreros del Metal, Bacteria Sound System **Principal Cast:** Alfonso Tunché, Blacko González, Víctor Hugo Monterroso

Don Alfonso plays the marimba, a traditional Guatemalan instrument that resembles a large xylophone. More and more he faces the public's lack of interest for his folkloric music, considered out-of-date and unfashionable. Blacko is a pioneer of the heavy metal Guatemalan underground scene. He is also a doctor in the public hospital but nobody wants to be treated by him because of his long hair and rocker tattoos. An odd circumstance brings Don Alfonso and Blacko together and they decide to combine their talents to form a band called "Marimbas from Hell." All kind of havoc is unleashed when mallet meets metal in this artsy, hilarious, head-banger of a film.

Don Alfonso toca la marimba, el instrumento nacional de Guatemala. Pero su viejo instrumento está pasado de moda y no despierta ningún interés. Blacko es pionero del Heavy Metal guatemalteco y además es médico en un hospital público, pero nadie quiere que Blacko lo atienda, por su estilo de rockero duro y porque tiene tatuajes. Una oportunidad extraña hace que Alfonso y Blacko se conozcan y así deciden combinar sus talentos en un nuevo proyecto, al que llaman "Marimbas del infierno." Todo tipo de enredos suceden cuando la música de las Marimbas se unen al Metal, en esta muy única y artística película.



Julio Hernández Córdón was born in 1975 in Raleigh, North Carolina to a Mexican father and a Guatemalan mother. He studied at the University Rafael Landívar in Guatemala and the Centro de Capacitación

Cinematográfica (CCC) in México City. His first feature film, *Gasolina* (2008), won the Horizons Award for Best Latin American feature at San Sebastián. *Las marimbas del infierno* won Best Film at the Morelia International Film Festival, a Jury Prize at Torino and Miami, and a Special Mention at the Buenos Aires Festival of Independent Cinema. In 2010, *Las marimbas del infierno* was the first Guatemalan film ever selected at the Toronto International Film Festival.

ELIGIBLE FOR THE YOUTH CHOICE AWARD

SATURDAY, **SEPTEMBER 3** | 3 PM | PC
TUESDAY, **SEPTEMBER 6** | 7:15 PM | PC



Abel

Mexico, 2010
Spanish with English subtitles/ 85 min

Director: Diego Luna **Producers:** Gael García Bernal, John Malkovich, Pablo Cruz, Geminiano Pineda **Screenplay:** Augusto Mendoza, Diego Luna **Cinematographer:** Patrick Murguía **Editor:** Miguel Schverdfinger **Music:** Alejandro Castaños, Lynn Fainchtein, Julieta Venegas **Principal Cast:** Geraldine Alejandra, Christopher Ruiz-Esparza, Gerardo Ruiz Esparza, Karina Gidi

"And what are you to Selene?"
"She's my girl."

Abel, a nine-year-old boy, has stopped talking since his father left home. One morning he starts to speak again, pretending to be the head of the family. No one dares to challenge this miracle and Abel begins to act like the man of the house. Despite their confusion and irritation, Abel's family try their best to accept his actions and keep him happy. Things start to look up for the small family, as everyone begins to adjust to their new lifestyle. That is until the day a man shows up at the door: his father.

— ¿Y usted que tiene que ver con Selene?
— Es mi morra.

Abel, un niño de nueve años, ha dejado de hablar desde que su padre dejó su casa. Una mañana él comienza a hablar de nuevo, pretendiendo ser la cabeza de la familia. Nadie se atreve a retar el milagro y Abel comienza a actuar como el hombre de la casa. A pesar de la confusión e irritación, la familia de Abel trata de aceptar sus acciones y tenerlo contento. Así, las cosas empiezan a mejorar para esta pequeña familia, cuando todos comienzan a ajustarse a su nuevo estilo de vida. Hasta que un día, un hombre se presenta en la puerta: su padre.



Diego Luna was born in Mexico City in 1979. He earned international fame for his role in Alfonso Cuarón's *Y tu mamá también* (2001), alongside his friend Gael García Bernal. The two were reunited in Carlos Cuarón's *Rudo y cursi* (2009). He starred with Sean Penn in *Milk* (2008), directed by Gus Van Sant. *Abel*, his feature directorial debut, premiered at Sundance and was given a Special Screening in the Official Selection at Cannes. *Abel* won Best Film at San Sebastián's "Horizontes Latinos" and the São Paulo Film Festival and has been selected in more than twenty international festivals.

SEPTEMBER 4TH SCREENING CO-PRESENTED BY:
SFU **WOODWARD'S**

ELIGIBLE FOR THE YOUTH CHOICE AWARD

SUNDAY, **SEPTEMBER 4** | 7 PM | SFUW
FRIDAY, **SEPTEMBER 9** | 9:30 PM | PC



Las buenas hierbas

(The Good Herbs)

Mexico, 2010
Spanish with English subtitles / 120 min

Director: María Novaro **Producers:** Julio Bárcenas, María Novaro **Screenplay:** María Novaro **Cinematographer:** Gerardo Barroso **Editors:** María Novaro, Sebastián Garza **Music:** Santiago Chávez, Judith de León **Principal Cast:** Úrsula Pruneda, Ofelia Medina, Ana Ofelia Murguía, Miriam Balderas

Dreams are truth while they last. Can we say something different about life?

Dalia, who is separated from her husband, lives with her young son, Cosmo and works for a community radio station. Her mother, Lala, is an ethnobotanist in charge of the Botanical Gardens at the University of Mexico. These two ordinary lives march on slowly until one day Lala is diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease and asks her daughter to prepare to take charge of her before she completely loses control of her mind. Lala gives Dalia her latest research on plants and herbal remedies that according to pre-Columbian Mexican traditions, cure the human soul. *Las buenas hierbas* is a story about brain chemistry, the chemistry of plants and human emotions; of the invisible bonds that unite the living with their dead and of nature, to which we all belong.

Los sueños son reales mientras duran. ¿Podemos decir algo distinto de la vida?

Dalia esta separada, vive con su pequeño hijo Cosmo y trabaja para una radio comunitaria. Su madre, Lala, esta a cargo del jardín botánico de la Universidad de México. Dos vidas ordinarias marchan lentamente hasta que un día Lala es diagnosticada con Alzheimer y le pide a su hija se haga cargo de ella antes de que pierda completamente su memoria. Lala le da a Dhalia sus últimas investigaciones en remedios de plantas y hierbas, que de acuerdo a la tradición mexicana pre-colombina, curan el alma humana. Esta cinta es un relato sobre la química del cerebro, la química de las plantas y las emociones humanas; los lazos invisibles que unen a los seres vivos con sus muertos y con la naturaleza a la que todos pertenecemos.



María Novaro, born in 1951 in Mexico City, is one of the most successful woman directors in Mexican cinema history. Her first feature film was *Lola* (1989), followed by *Danzón* (1991) and *Jardín del edén* (1994). *Las buenas*

hierbas was the only Latin American film selected at the 2010 Rome Film Festival, where the entire female cast won the Marc’ Aurelio Jury Award for Best Actress. At the Havana Film Festival, it received the Third Coral Award in fiction and was also recognized for best original music. It won ten awards at the 2010 Guadalajara Film Festival including Best Mexican Feature.

SPONSORED BY:



FRIDAY, **SEPTEMBER 9** | 4:45 PM | PC
SUNDAY, **SEPTEMBER 11** | 5 PM | GR7
(MEXICAN GALA PRESENTATION)



El infierno

(Hell)

Mexico, 2010
Spanish with English subtitles/ 145 min

Director: Luis Estrada **Producers:** Luis Estrada, Sandra Solares **Screenplay:** Luis Estrada, Jaime Sampietro **Cinematographer:** Damián García **Editor:** Mariana Rodríguez **Music:** Michael Brook **Principal Cast:** Damián Alcázar, Joaquín Cosío, Ernesto Gómez Cruz, María Rojo, Elizabeth Cervantes, Daniel Giménez Cacho

“In this damn country you don’t do what you want but what you can.”

Mexico 2010: Benjamin García, otherwise known as “El Benny,” is deported from the United States and upon returning to his village, comes across a devastating scene. The irrational violence, widespread corruption and economic crisis that have gripped the country have completely devastated his hometown. Seeing no alternative, and in order to help his family get ahead, El Benny gets involved in drug dealing and, for the first time in his life, he prospers and has plenty of money, women and power. However, he will find out soon enough that even though a criminal way of life is tempting, it does not always pay off.

—En este pinche país, no haces lo que quieres sino lo que puedes.

México 2010: Benjamin García, El Benny, es deportado de Estados Unidos y al regresar a su pueblo encuentra un panorama desolador. La violencia irracional, la corrupción generalizada y la crisis económica que azotan al país, han devastado por completo al lugar. El Benny, sin otras opciones y para ayudar a su familia a salir adelante, se involucra en el negocio del narco en el que tiene, por primera vez en su vida, una fulgurante prosperidad llena de dinero, mujeres y violencia, pero al final descubrirá en carne propia, que el tentador camino de la vida criminal no siempre paga lo que promete.



Luis Estrada was born in Mexico City in 1962. He studied at the University Centre of Film Studies (CUEC) and the Film Training Centre (CCC). He has ten feature films to his credit including *Camino largo a Tijuana* (1991), *Bandidos* (1991)

and *Ámbar* (1994). *El infierno* concludes a trilogy of social and political satire that began with *La ley de Herodes* (1999), which won the Latin America Cinema Award at Sundance, followed by *Un mundo maravilloso* (2006). *El infierno* received nine awards from the Mexican Film Academy, including Best Film and Best Director, and was nominated for a Spanish Goya Award.

SATURDAY, **SEPTEMBER 3** | 9 PM | PC
THURSDAY, **SEPTEMBER 8** | 9 PM | PC



También la lluvia

(Even the Rain)

Spain/ France/ Mexico, 2010

Spanish with English subtitles / 104 min

Director: Icíar Bollaín **Producer:** Juan Gordon **Screenplay:** Paul Laverty **Cinematographer:** Alex Catalan **Editor:** Angel Hernandez Zoido **Music:** Alberto Iglesias **Principal Cast:** Gael García Bernal, Luis Tosar, Karra Elejalde, Juan Carlos Aduviri

How long will you remember that water is Yaku?

Sebastián and Costa arrive in Cochabamba, Bolivia, to make a period film about Christopher Columbus's arrival in the Americas. They are on the tightest of budgets, but the shoot gets off to a smooth start. Not long after though, things get complicated when their extras and leading actor, all locals of Cochabamba, rise up against the privatization of their drinking water. The filmmakers' battle to get their film made intertwines unexpectedly with the fight of their Bolivian crew, who are being deprived of their most basic rights, prohibited from collecting *even the rain*.

¿Cuánto tiempo recordarás que aguas se dice Yaku?

Sebastián y Costa llegan a Cochabamba en Bolivia, para filmar una película del periodo cuando Colón llega a América. La producción se encuentra en un presupuesto muy rígido, pero la filmación comienza de manera adecuada. Después del inicio del rodaje, las cosas se complican cuando los extras y el actor principal, quienes son originarios de Cochabamba, comienzan a protestar en contra de la privatización del agua potable. La batalla para realizar su película se mezcla con la pelea de los bolivianos que son parte de la producción, a quienes se les niega el derecho a sus necesidades más básicas, y se les prohíbe el simple derecho de colectar *también la lluvia*.



Icíar Bollaín was born in Madrid in 1967. Her career in cinema began as a teenage actor with roles in films such as Victor Erice's *El sur* and Manuel Gutierrez Aragon's *malaventura*. She made her debut as a director in 1995

with *Hola, ¿estás sola?*. She subsequently directed *Flores de otro mundo* (1999), which won Best Film in the International Critics' Week at Cannes, and *Te doy mis ojos* (2003) for which she won seven Goya Awards, including Best Director, Best Original Screenplay and Best Film. *También la lluvia* premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival last year and was Spain's Official Selection for the Academy Awards.

SUNDAY, **SEPTEMBER 4** | 9 PM | PC
SATURDAY, **SEPTEMBER 10** | 1 PM | PC

THE GEORGIA
straight
VANCOUVER'S NEWS & ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY WWW.STRAIGHT.COM

Vancouver's leading entertainment source.



Proud Media Sponsor
VLAFF 9

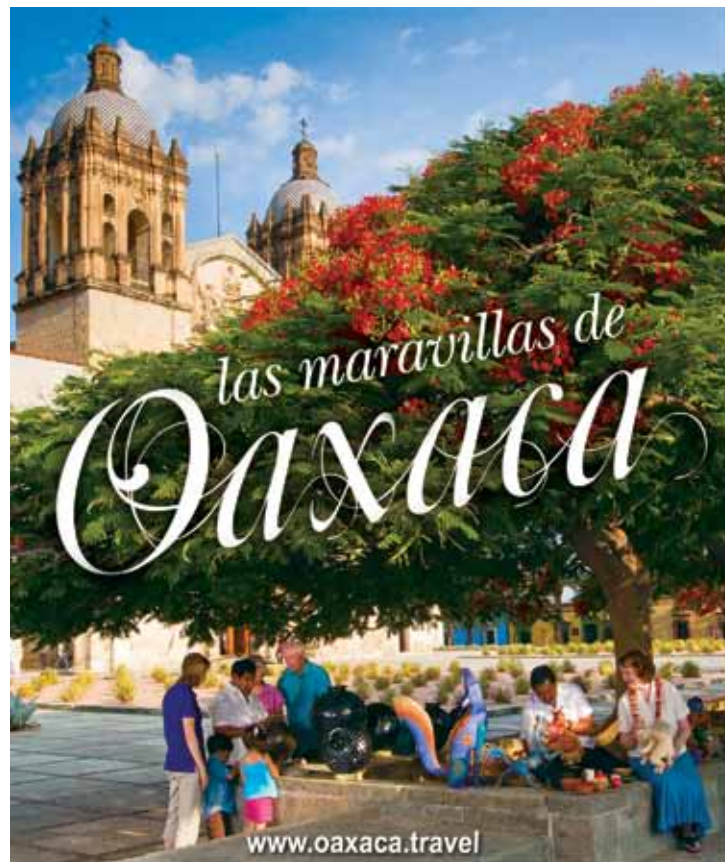
STAY CONNECTED AT **straight.com**



MéxicoFest experience mexico in vancouver
september 9-14, 2011

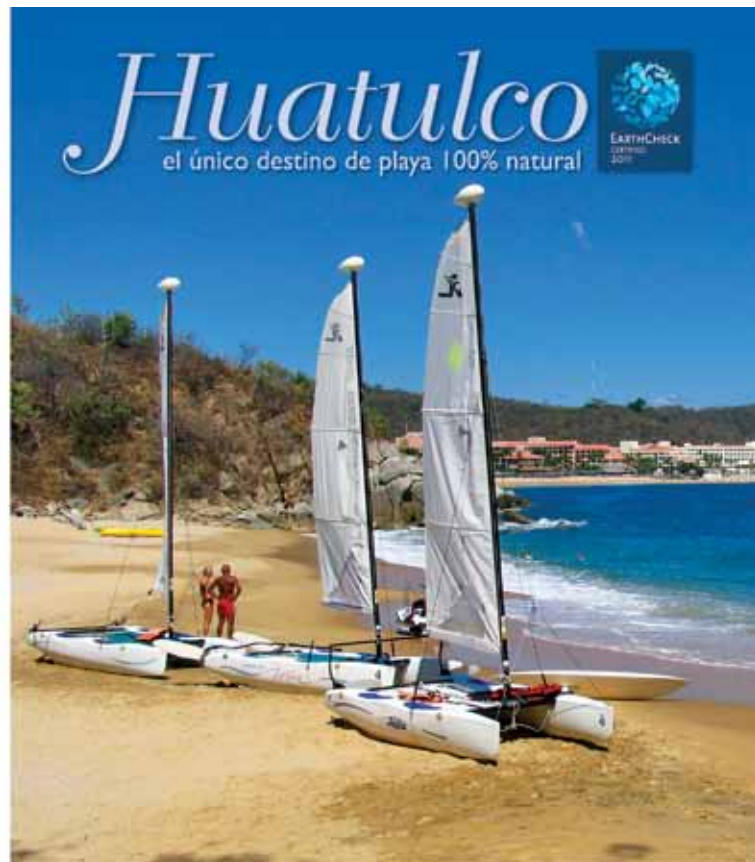
for more information:
www.mexicofest.ca

featuring the magical state of
Oaxaca



oaxaca
Fiesta de Arte y Color

México
www.visitmexico.com



oaxaca
Tu México!

Huatulco
cerca del cielo



In the world of entertainment...

Durango *Mexico's Icon*

Incentives. Local Crew. Stage. Rural Locations. Equipment

www.VISITADURANGO.COM.MX

CALENDAR

CALENDAR



PROUD SPONSOR OF VLAFF 9



**It's more fun
to share.**

Carsharing gives you all the good things about having a car - freedom, spontaneity, convenience - with none of the hassle: car payments, insurance, gas, repairs.

**It's not what you drive,
it's what you share.**



the car co-op

Official transportation of the
2011 Vancouver Latin American Film Festival

604.685.1393

www.modo.coop





LEVANTON, José Luis Ramírez, 2011

YUXTAPOSICIÓN

An exhibition of paintings by José Luis Ramírez, one of Mexico's most exciting up-and-coming young artists.

Opening Reception:
Friday, September 9
7pm – 11pm
Ayden Gallery
International Village (formerly Tinseltown)
2nd floor, 88 West Pender St. (at Abbott)

Free admission. Cash bar.
José Luis Ramírez will be in attendance.

Yuxtaposición runs for one month beginning on Friday, September 9.



Hermano

(Brother)

Venezuela, 2010
Spanish with English subtitles/ 97 min

Director: Marcel Rasquin **Producers:** Enrique Aular, Marcel Rasquin, Liz Mago Bosch, Juan Antonio Diaz **Screenplay:** Marcel Rasquin, Rohan Jones **Cinematographer:** Enrique Aular **Editors:** Carolina Aular, Juan Carlos Melian **Music:** Rigel Michelena **Principal Cast:** Eliú Armas, Fernando Moreno, Beto Benites, Gonzalo Cubero, Marcela Girón

"Life will always score against us, that's why every day we must get up convinced that the game is still nil-nil."

Daniel is an exceptional footballer, a phenomenal striker. Julio is the team's captain, a born leader. As brothers they grew up playing football together in a Caracas slum called "La Ceniza." While Daniel dreams of playing professional football, Julio supports the family with "dirty" money; he has little time to dream. The opportunity of their lives arrives when a football scout invites them to tryout with the city's best team: the Caracas Football Club. But tragedy looms nearby. They must choose, on a dusty football pitch, what is most important: family unity, revenge or the chance of a lifetime. On this pitch, life is on the line.

—La vida siempre nos va caer a goles, por eso es que todos los días tenemos que levantamos convencidos que el juego va cero a cero.

Daniel es un delantero excepcional, un fenómeno. Julio, el capitán del equipo, es un líder nato. Ambos son hermanos de crianza y juegan al fútbol en el pequeño barrio de "La Ceniza." Mientras Daniel desea con todas sus fuerzas llegar a ser un futbolista profesional, Julio mantiene a su familia con dinero sucio y no tiene tiempo para soñar. La oportunidad de sus vidas llega cuando un cazatalentos los invita a unas pruebas en el famoso equipo de la ciudad: el Caracas Fútbol Club. En ese momento una tragedia los sacude y deben decidir, a patadas y sobre una cancha de tierra, qué es más importante: la unión de la familia, el sabor de la venganza o el sueño de sus vidas.



Marcel Rasquin was born in Venezuela and began his career in 1997 as part of the A&B Producciones team. His debut feature film, *Hermano*, has screened at many international film festivals, receiving wide acclaim. It won the Golden George Award for Best Film at the Moscow International Film Festival, Best Film at the International Festival in Huelva, Best First Feature Film at Havana and the Audience Choice Award at the Los Angeles Latino International Film Festival. It was submitted as the Venezuelan entry for the 83rd Academy Awards. *Hermano* is one of the most highly awarded films in Venezuelan history.

SEPTEMBER 9TH SCREENING CO-PRESENTED BY:



ELIGIBLE FOR THE YOUTH CHOICE AWARD

SUNDAY, **SEPTEMBER 4** | 5 PM | PC
FRIDAY, **SEPTEMBER 9** | 7 PM | SFUW



La vida útil

(A Useful Life)

Uruguay/ Spain, 2010
Spanish with English subtitles/ 67 min

Director: Federico Veiroj **Producers:** Inés Bortagary, Arauco Hernández **Screenplay:** Inés Bortagary, Arauco Hernández, Gonzalo Delgado, Federico Veiroj **Cinematographer:** Arauco Hernández **Editors:** Arauco Hernández, Federico Veiroj **Music:** Leo Masliah, Macunaima, Eduardo Fabini **Principal Cast:** Jorge Jellinek, Manuel Martínez Carril, Paola Venditto

"Unfortunately, we will not continue to support the Cinematheque as it is not a profitable project from a financial point of view." —Member of the foundation.

At the age of 45, Jorge still lives with his parents. He has been the film programmer and technical manager at the local cinémathèque for 25 years. He also has a show at a Montevideo radio station where he conducts interviews and talks about movies with filmmakers. With attendance down, the cinémathèque is struggling to make a profit, threatening to leave Jorge unemployed. For the first time, he is forced to change his way of life in order to adapt to the new world he faces. *La vida útil* is a film for all those cinephiles who, like Jorge, find their lives consumed by movies. Featuring a unique send-up to Mark Twain's satirical essay "On the Decay of the Art of Lying."

—*Lamentablemente, no vamos a continuar apoyando a Cinemateca, en la medida de que no es un emprendimiento económicamente redituable.* — Miembro de la fundación.

Jorge tiene 45 años y aún vive con sus padres. Ha sido el programador y técnico de la cinémathèque de Montevideo por 25 años. Jorge también tiene un programa de radio donde conduce entrevistas y charla acerca de películas con los directores. Y mientras bajan la audiencias, la cinémathèque se ve con dificultad para obtener ganancias y tiene que cerrar sus puertas, dejando a Jorge sin empleo. Es así como por primera vez se ve forzado a cambiar su estilo de vida para poder adaptarse a un nuevo mundo que enfrentar. *La vida útil* es una película para todos esos cinéfilos, que, como Jorge, encuentran sus vidas consumidas por el cine. La cinta presenta un único ensayo satírico de Mark Twain: "La decadencia en el arte de mentir."



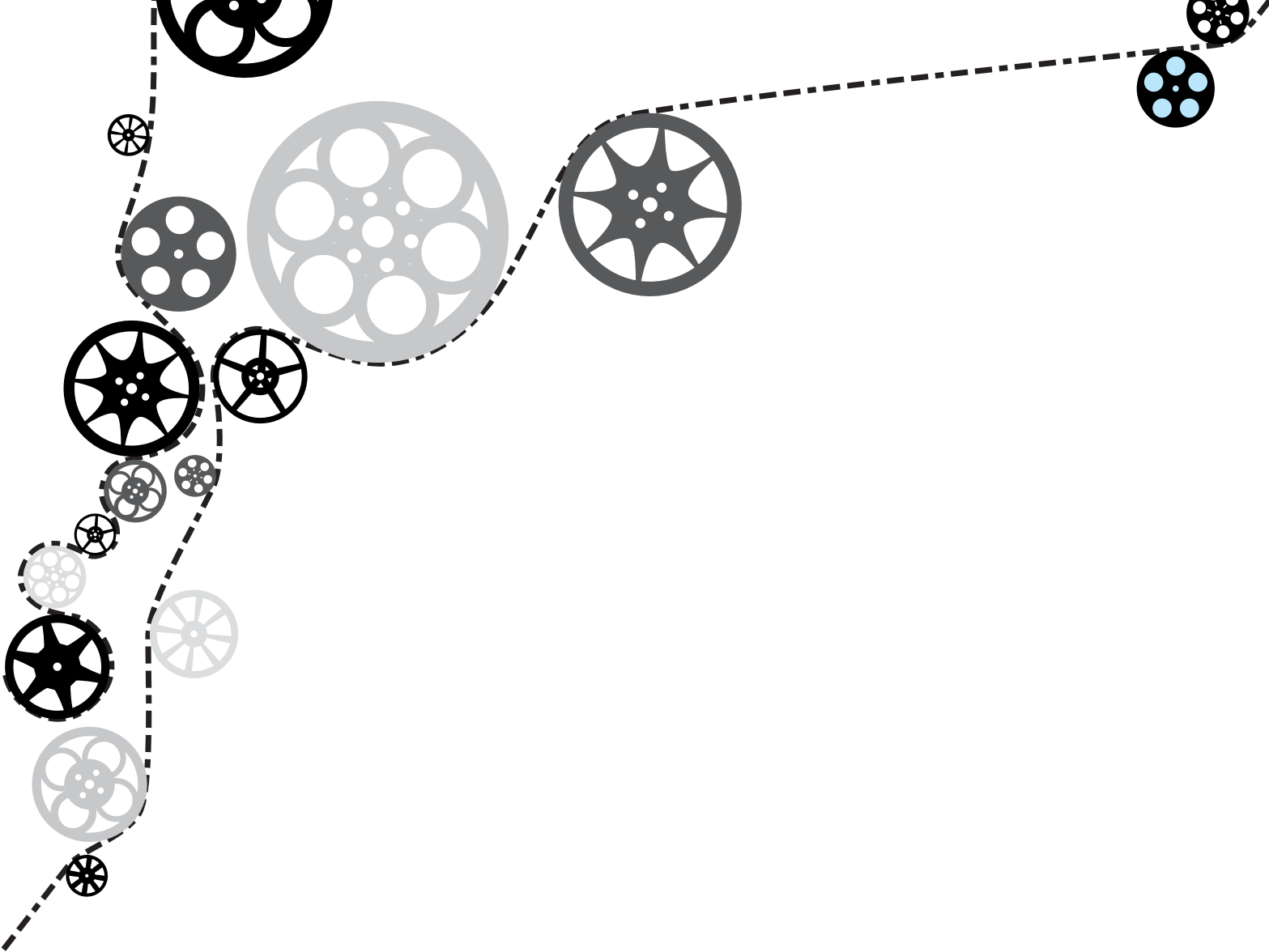
Federico Veiroj was born in Montevideo in 1976. He has worked at the Uruguayan Cinematheque and the Spanish Film Library, and is currently a film programmer. His first feature film, *Acne* (2008), premiered at the Directors' Fortnight in Cannes and won awards at "Cine en Construcción" in San Sebastián, AFI – Los Angeles, the Havana Film Festival and Sanfic in Chile. *La vida útil* was Uruguay's official entry for the Academy Awards. It won Best Film at the Havana Film Festival, Grand Jury Prize at Miami and Special Jury Prize at Istanbul. It has been selected at the Toronto, Rotterdam, and San Sebastián festivals.

A USEFUL LIFE IS CO-PRESENTED BY THE GLOBAL FILM INITIATIVE AND IS PART OF THE GLOBAL LENS 2011 FILM SERIES. FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WWW.GLOBALFILM.ORG.



ELIGIBLE FOR THE YOUTH CHOICE AWARD

SUNDAY, **SEPTEMBER 4** | 1 PM | PC
THURSDAY, **SEPTEMBER 8** | 7 PM | PC



AL JAZEERA DOCUMENTARY COMPETITION

In collaboration with the Al Jazeera Documentary Channel, VLAF is proud to present its first competition for Best Documentary.

- Agnus Dei:* Cordero de Dios, Alejandra Sánchez (MEXICO/ FRANCE)
O samba que mora em mim, Geórgia Guerra-Peixe (BRAZIL)
Soy libre, Andrea Roggon (CUBA/ GERMANY)
El edificio de los chilenos, Macarena Aguiló (CHILE/ FRANCE/ CUBA/ NETHERLANDS)
Impunity, Juan José Lozano and Hollman Morris (SWITZERLAND/ FRANCE/ COLOMBIA)
El cielo abierto, Everardo González (MEXICO)
Operación diablo, Stephanie Boyd (CANADA/ PERU)



O samba que mora em mim

(The Samba Within Me)

Brazil, 2010
Portuguese with English subtitles/ 72 min

Director: Geórgia Guerra-Peixe **Producers:** Denise Gomes, François d'Artemare, Maria João Mayer
Screenplay: Ticha Godoy, Geórgia Guerra-Peixe **Cinematographer:** Marcelo Rocha
Editors: Mair Tavares, Nani Garcia, Jair Peres **Music:** Dimi Kireef **Principal Cast:** Timbaca, Cosminho, Lili,Vó, Luciola, Hevalcy, Mestre Taranta, DJ Glauber

Set in the Mangueira Hill favela in Rio de Janeiro during the pre-carnival period, this visually stunning documentary begins in the Estação Primeira de Mangueira samba hall, the place where director Geórgia Guerra-Peixe rediscovers her own family history in relation to the tradition of carnival. From the dance hall, she weaves her way up the Hill of Mangueira through the narrow streets and into peoples' homes, driven by her desire to go beyond the samba to get to know the residents and history of her neighbourhood. Her camera's viewpoint acquires melancholic variations and different rhythmic cadences, resulting in a composition that could be called the *samba of a glance*. Beyond the hall lies the samba of Geórgia Guerra-Peixe, a samba that is a way of being, of living and also, a way of singing and dancing.

Um documentário ambientado no Morro de Mangueira, na cidade do Rio de Janeiro, no período do pré-carnaval. O ponto de partida é a quadra da escola de samba Estação Primeira de Mangueira, lugar do reencontro da diretora Geórgia Guerra-Peixe com sua própria história. É no início do documentário, em primeira pessoa, que a diretora conta o que o carnaval sempre significou na sua família e na sua vida. Da quadra, ela parte para subir o morro pela primeira vez, movida pelo desejo de ir além do samba. O olhar muito particular da diretora conduz este deixar-se ir contínuo pelo morro; um caminhar que naturalmente vai adquirindo variações melódicas e cadências rítmicas diferentes, resultando na composição do que poderia ser chamado de samba enredo documental ou um *samba de olhar*. Além da quadra mora o samba de Geórgia Guerra-Peixe. Um samba que é jeito de ser, de viver e também, mas não só, de cantar e dançar.



Geórgia Guerra-Peixe graduated in Cinema Studies from the Fundação Armando Álvares Penteado (FAAP) in São Paulo. She began her career in Rio de Janeiro at the production houses of Tizuka Yamasaky and Arnaldo Jabor. In addition to directing short films, documentaries and theatre plays, she worked as an assistant director in advertising. Her impressive portfolio includes ads for some of the main agencies in the country, such as McCann Erickson, JWThompson and DM9DDB. *O samba que mora em mim*, her first feature-length documentary, has been selected in many international film festivals such as Guadalajara, Stockholm, Rio de Janeiro and the Thessaloniki Documentary Festival in Greece.

FRIDAY, **SEPTEMBER 2** | 3 PM | PC
THURSDAY, **SEPTEMBER 8** | 5 PM | PC



Operación diablo

(The Devil Operation)

Canada/ Peru, 2010
Spanish with English subtitles/ 69 min

Director: Stephanie Boyd **Producers:** Ernesto, Ricardo Cabellos **Screenplay:** Stephanie Boyd
Cinematographer: Ernesto Cabellos Damian **Editor:** Fabricio Deza Iturri
Music: Omar Garaycochea

"I am asking you to be patient; you are fighting against the largest mining company in the world." —Father Marco Arana

Father Marco Arana is being followed. A private investigative firm is photographing and videotaping his every move. This humble priest has spent two decades defending Peruvian mountain farmers from a US-owned gold mine, earning him the nickname "El Diablo." When Father Marco's allies are tortured and assassinated, he and his supporters take action and develop a counter-espionage plan. They obtain graphic footage, photos and reports taken by the spies worthy of a Hollywood spy flick. This real-life thriller exposes the new wave of corporate terrorism faced by Latin America's human rights defenders.

—Yo les pido paciencia, están luchando contra la empresa minera, más grande del mundo. —Padre Marco Arana

El padre Marco Arana, un humilde párroco de los Andes peruanos, está siendo seguido. Una empresa privada de vigilancia graba en video y fotografía cada movimiento del sacerdote; sus informes meticulosos están bajo el nombre clave de Operación Diablo. Nosotros seguimos al Padre Marco a través de una prueba documental de suspenso político y misterio que apunta a la minera de oro más grande de Sudamérica. En la década pasada, el sacerdote y su grupo de activistas han defendido a las comunidades agrícolas contra los abusos de la minería, ganando el sacerdote el apodo de "El Diablo." Este real y escalofriante relato expone la nueva ola de persecución enfrentada por activistas de los derechos humanos en Latinoamérica.



Stephanie Boyd was born in Canada and has spent the past 14 years living and working in Peru as a filmmaker and journalist. Her first two films, *Choropampa*, *The Price of Gold* (2002) and *Tambogrande, Mangos, Murder, Mining* (2007), co-directed with Peruvian Ernesto Cabellos, have won 40 awards and distinctions. Stephanie's films have been broadcast on the Sundance Channel, CBC Country Canada, PBS affiliates, Al Jazeera, TeleSur and broadcasters in Peru, Cuba, Burma, Hungary and dozens of other countries. *The Devil Operation* has been selected at the most prestigious documentary film festivals in the world, including IDFA in Amsterdam and Hot Docs in Toronto.

SATURDAY, **SEPTEMBER 3** | 7 PM | PC
MONDAY, **SEPTEMBER 5** | 1 PM | PC



El edificio de los chilenos

(The Chilean Building)

Chile/ France/ Cuba/ Netherlands, 2010
Spanish with English subtitles/ 95 min

Director: Macarena Aguiló **Co-director:** Susana Foxley **Producers:** Juan Manuel Egaña, Macarena Aguiló **Screenplay:** Macarena Aguiló, Susana Foxley **Cinematographer:** Arnaldo Rodríguez **Editors:** Macarena Aguiló, Catherine Mabilat, Ilán Stehberg, Ismael Miranda, Galut Alarcón **Music:** Elizabeth Morris

Towards the end of the 1970s, the militants of MIR (Movement of the Revolutionary Left) who had been exiled in Europe decided to return to Chile in order to support the fight against the military dictatorship. Some had had children while abroad, but felt it was not safe to return with them. Many of these children ended up growing up in communes run by MIR comrades referred to as their "Padres Sociales," estranged from their parents and the struggle to regain Chile. Director Macarena Aguiló was one of these children.

"Our parents' sacrifice for their fight to change the Chilean society, stamped us with painful as well as generous life experiences...when words such as 'revolution' and 'socialism' seem quite far, I undertake a voyage towards the intimacy built on those experiences and those big dreams." —Macarena Aguiló

A fines de los años '70, los militantes del Movimiento de Izquierda Revolucionaria (MIR) exiliados en Europa regresaron a Chile a luchar clandestinamente contra la dictadura. Muchos de esos militantes tenían hijos que no podrían llevar con ellos. Para esos hijos nació un espacio de vida comunitaria que reunió niños que fueron cuidados por adultos, llamados Padres Sociales. La directora Macarena Aguiló fue una de esos niños.

—El sacrificio de nuestros padres en su lucha por cambiar la sociedad chilena imprimió dolorosas y al mismo tiempo generosas vivencias en nuestras vidas... cuando palabras como "revolución" y "socialismo" parecen ser muy lejanas, emprendo un viaje hacia la intimidad de esas vivencias construidas a partir de esos grandes ideales. —Macarena Aguiló

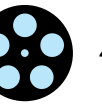


Macarena Aguiló

was born in Chile in 1971. She studied Audiovisual Communication at the ARCOS Professional Institute. Since 1997 she has worked as an art director in TV series and films

such as *Paradise B* by Nicolas Acuña and *Eternal Blood* by Jorge Olguín. Her autobiographical documentary, *El edificio de los chilenos*, is her first feature-length film and was the winner of the Grand Prize at the FIDOCs festival in Santiago, Chile, second prize at the Havana Film Festival, and more than ten other Honourable Mentions and awards.

MONDAY, **SEPTEMBER 5** | 3 PM | PC
 SATURDAY, **SEPTEMBER 10** | 5:15 PM | PC



Soy libre

(I am Free)

Cuba/ Germany, 2010
Spanish with English subtitles/ 87 min

Director: Andrea Roggon **Producers:** Andrea Roggon, Hagen Schönherr, Daniellis Hernández **Script:** Andrea Roggon **Cinematographers:** Petra Lisson, Hagen Schönherr **Editors:** Julia Böhm, Andrea Roggon **Music:** Mirella Kern, Oliver Frick, Niko Lazarakopoulos, Thorsten Puttenat

"For me, freedom means being able to stand on any street corner and cry out: There is no freedom here." —Yoani Sánchez

Faces, sounds and voices from Havana. We watch unidentified Cubans as they get crammed onto the bus, run through rain-soaked streets, or wash hair on a rooftop, while off-screen and with complete honesty, other Cubans tell us about their ideas of freedom. They are well aware of the restrictions placed on them: "I can do whatever I want," says one subject, "but only within a clearly defined context, place and time." The only identifiable speaker is Yoani Sánchez, who in her blog aims to overcome apathy and silence by exposing the nature of the system. She is one of the few dissidents to have ever left Cuba and then returned, believing she can help shape a different future for her country.

—Libertad es la posibilidad de pararse en una esquina y gritar: Aquí no hay libertad. —Yoani Sánchez

Rostros, sonidos y voces de La Habana. Los vemos fuera de cámara, subiéndose a autobuses repletos o corriendo por calles bajo la lluvia, así, con completa honestidad, los cubanos nos dicen cual es su idea de libertad: *Es una mentira repetida muchas veces, he comenzado a creerlo: Soy libre*. Todos estas concientes de las restricciones que hay sobre los seres humanos: *Puedo hacer lo que yo quiera, pero solo sobre un contexto definido, un lugar y un tiempo*. La única persona identificable en la cinta es Yoani Sánchez, una joven Bloggera quien expone la naturaleza del sistema en sus artículos. Su anhelo es sobreponerse de la apatía y el silencio expuesto por la naturaleza del sistema. Ella es una de las pocas disidentes que se fue de Cuba y que después regresó, creyendo que ella puede ayudar a moldear un futuro diferente de su país.



Andrea Roggon was born in Germany in 1981. She earned a Master's Degree from the International Film and Television School of San Antonio de los Baños (EICTV) in Cuba. Her first documentary

feature, *Enrique and Judita* (2007), was selected in a number of international film festivals including Bogotá, EDOC in Ecuador and Docupolis in Barcelona. *Soy libre* was selected at the renowned documentary film festival IDFA in Amsterdam, the Max Ophüls Preis Film Festival in Germany, and the Festival dei Popoli in Florence, Italy, among others.

COMMUNITY PARTNER:
 DOXA www.doxafestival.ca

SUNDAY, **SEPTEMBER 4** | 7:15 PM | PC
 WEDNESDAY, **SEPTEMBER 7** | 5 PM | PC



El cielo abierto

(The Open Sky)

Mexico, 2011
Spanish with English subtitles/ 100 min

Director: Everardo González **Producer:** Martha Orozco and Everardo González
Cinematographer: Everardo González **Editor:** Juan Manuel Figueroa **Music:** RADAID

First came the word, then the fatal bullet, then silence. So begins this hard-hitting documentary about Monsignor Óscar Arnulfo Romero, the priest who gave a voice to El Salvador's voiceless. In the throes of one of the region's bloodiest civil wars, Monsignor Romero dared to state that the Church's mission was solidarity with the poor. He was assassinated on March 24, 1980, a crime that was long anticipated, judging from *El cielo abierto*, which treats his death as inevitable given the situation in El Salvador. The architecture of this film is faultless, offering a clear overview of the facts leading up to the death of a man who is still mourned.

Primero fue la palabra, luego la bala asesina y a continuación el silencio. Así comienza este vigoroso documental sobre Monseñor Óscar Arnulfo Romero, la voz de los sin voz en El Salvador, el pastor que en medio de una de las guerras civiles más crudas del continente, se atrevió a decir que la misión de la Iglesia es la identificación con los pobres. Monseñor Romero fue asesinado el 24 de marzo de 1980, en uno de esos crímenes largamente anunciados, aspecto que *El cielo abierto* trabaja como un destino inevitable dado lo que ocurría en ese país.



Everardo González graduated from Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana with a Bachelor's Degree in Social Communication and from Centro de Capacitación Cinematográfica with a Bachelor of Cinematography. He is one of Latin America's most talented documentary filmmakers, a director who knows a documentary needs more than an interesting subject to be successful. González was awarded the Silver Ariel for Best Cinematography in 2010 for his documentary about the fiction feature film *Backyard: el traspaso*. He also directed the multi-award winning documentary *Los ladrones viejos* (VLAFF 2008).

SATURDAY, **SEPTEMBER 3** | 6:30 PM | SFU-HC
SUNDAY, **SEPTEMBER 11** | 1 PM | PC



Agnus Dei: Cordero de Dios

(Agnus Dei: Lamb of God)

Mexico/ France, 2010
Spanish with English subtitles/ 84 min

Director: Alejandra Sánchez **Producers:** Celia Iturriaga, Carole Solive **Screenplay:** Alejandra Sánchez **Cinematographers:** Pablo Ramírez, Erika Licea **Editor:** Ana García **Music:** Tareke Ortiz

"It was Christmas, I was around twelve years old, the priest went over to my house for dinner.... And at Christmas it happened." —Jesús Romero.

When Jesús Romero was eleven years old, he was sexually abused by his parish priest. Now an adult, Jesús decides not only to denounce his aggressor but to find him and confront him. This is a story that reveals the impunity of the Catholic Church towards acts of pederasty committed by some of its members, while at the same time, shows how courage and self-respect become the most powerful defences for a man whose childhood was stolen from him.

—Fue navidad, yo tenía como doce años, el cura fue a cenar a mi casa.... Y en navidad pasó. —Jesús Romero.

Jesús Romero fue abusado sexualmente por un sacerdote cuando era un niño de 11 años. Siendo adulto decide no solo denunciar a su agresor sino buscarlo y encararlo. Esta es una historia donde la valentía y la construcción de la dignidad son las armas de un hombre con una infancia fracturada. Al mismo tiempo, también se revela la impunidad de la que goza la iglesia católica frente a actos de pederastia cometidos por algunos de sus miembros.



Alejandra Sánchez was born in Mexico in 1973. She studied Cinematography at the University Centre for Cinematographic Studies and in 2006, won a Talent Campus Scholarship at the Berlin Film Festival. Her debut feature documentary, *Bajo Juárez: La ciudad devorando a sus hijas* (2006), has earned her several national and international recognitions including being nominated for the 2008 Ariel Award for Best Documentary. *Agnus dei: Cordero de dios* has screened at a number of international film festivals and was awarded a Special Mention at the Guadalajara Film Festival.

COMMUNITY PARTNER:
WOMEN IN FILM AND TELEVISION VANCOUVER
www.womeninfilm.ca

TUESDAY, **SEPTEMBER 6** | 5 PM | PC
FRIDAY, **SEPTEMBER 9** | 4:30 PM | SFU-HC



Impunity

Switzerland/ France/ Colombia, 2010
Spanish with English subtitles/ 84 min

Directors: Juan José Lozano, Hollman Morris **Producers:** Isabelle Gattiker, Marc Irmer
Screenplay: Juan José Lozano **Cinematographers:** Sergio Mejia, Heidi Hassan, Diego Barajas, Alex Restrepo **Editor:** Ana Acosta **Music:** Gabriel Scotti & Vincent Hanni

What kind of war for Colombia?

Colombia today: the biggest trial against paramilitary armies—accused of killing thousands of Colombians—is designed to create “peace and justice.” Instead the process comes to an abrupt halt, when the political and economic interests in the paramilitary war are uncovered. Are the victims’ families doomed to stay victims forever or are they able to fight Impunity? One witness testifies, *My brother was playing with his friends by the river when they saw a few armed men. They hid themselves, but the men caught them and cut off their heads... When night fell, we went to look for him. I carried his body on my back and my father carried his head.*

¿Qué tipo de guerra hay en Colombia?

Colombia, años 2000: un proceso para juzgar a los grupos paramilitares—acusados del asesinato de miles de colombianos—es diseñado por el gobierno para alcanzar “la paz y la justicia.” El proceso llega sin embargo a un abrupto fin cuando los intereses políticos y económicos de algunos sectores en la guerra paramilitar se descubren. ¿Estarán las víctimas condenadas a seguir siendo víctimas para siempre o podrán al fin superar la impunidad? Un testigo lo narra: Mi hermano jugaba con sus amigos a la orilla del río cuando vieron llegar unos hombres armados. Se escondieron pero los hombres los atraparon y cortaron sus cabezas... Cuando cayó la noche fuimos a buscarlo. Yo cargué su cuerpo en la espalda y mi padre tomó su cabeza.



Juan José Lozano

is a Swiss and Colombian filmmaker born in 1971 in Ibagué, Colombia. He worked during the 1990s as an independent producer and director for documentaries at

a Colombian Television network. Since 2000, he has lived in Switzerland.

Hollman Morris is a Colombian journalist born in Bogotá in 1968, who has spent more than 15 years covering Colombia’s internal armed conflict, with a particular focus on human rights issues. *Impunity* won Best Documentary at the Toulouse Film Festival, the Camera Justice Award at The Hague Festival and Special Mention at the Human Rights Festival in Geneva.

COMMUNITY PARTNER:
AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
www.amnesty.ca

SATURDAY, **SEPTEMBER 3** | 5 PM | PC
SUNDAY, **SEPTEMBER 11** | 3:30 PM | PC



CANADA LOOKS SOUTH

A look at the innovative work of Latin-Canadian filmmakers.

This year we are proud to present four feature-length films as well as two special programs as part of Canada Looks South.

- *Verano de Goliath (Summer of Goliath)*, from the young Mexican-Canadian director, Nicolás Pereda.
- *Detrás del milagro (Beyond the Miracle)*, from the Chilean, Montreal-based, filmmaker Orlando Arriagada.
- *A flor de piel, un ramo de Colombia (To Flower from Skin: A Bouquet from Colombia)*, from Vancouver-based Quebecois directors Sarah and Simon Charland-Faucher.
- *Operación diablo (The Devil Operation)*, from the Canadian, Peruvian-based director, Stephanie Boyd. *(In competition)*

¡Fiesta 125! A Celebration of Latin American Culture in Vancouver

In honour of the City of Vancouver’s 125th anniversary, VLAFF is proud to present this series of short films showcasing creative works by Vancouver-based filmmakers of Latin American descent. If Vancouver -and Canada as a whole- is a place where immigration has played an important role in shaping society, arts and culture have undoubtedly played a substantial role in giving voice to the stories of immigrants in their new city. Each of the films selected highlights the filmmakers’ visions of the city they now call home while incorporating perspectives inexorably linked to their countries of origin. Presented with support from the City of Vancouver’s 125th Anniversary Grant Program.

Indigenous Film From BC & Beyond

How do the cinematic views of BC First Nations peoples and indigenous peoples of Latin America relate? In this program of short films we will highlight the parallels between the work of Mayan filmmakers from Guatemala and Mexico in the south and First Nations filmmakers from British Columbia in the north. Presented in collaboration with the New York Havana Film Festival and the Reel Youth Film Festival, with financial support from the British Columbia Arts Council.



¡Fiesta 125! A Celebration of Latin American Culture in Vancouver

Kid Colours

Director: Ruben Castelblanco/ 75 min

Everyone is the new kid at some point in their life. Alejandro is a new student at high school. As he doesn't speak English, he has difficulty understanding his peers and teachers. Under pressure, he finds a way to adapt to his new environment with dignity.

Breaking Ground

Director: Olesia Shewchuk/ Canada/ 16 min

Bill, a Canadian border guard, is disgruntled that his job has become mere administration. That is, until Paolo arrives hidden in a shipping container, claiming to be a displaced Colombian farmer. Bill faces a tough choice as he hears Paolo's plea; his decision to reject or accept the stowaway into Canada will be a turning point in both their lives.

Nomadic Brush Strokes

Director: Roxana Slujitoru/ Canada/ 9 min

Young artists Adriana Contreras and Juan Pablo Munoz were born in Colombia, but immigrated to Vancouver, Canada at the change of the millennium. Deeply rooted in the pursuit of their poetry and visual art, they provide a quick glimpse into their ideas about art for social change and activism, and their fears and hopes in life.

Happiness

Director: Sandra Vigil Fonseca/ 25 min

Happiness is an exploration of the life-stories of Maria, Sandra's mother, who lives in Havana and Pat, a new friend in Vancouver. Pat was "a very liberal" youngster who late in her life took classical studies. Nowadays, she enjoys life in a society that allows her great autonomy. Maria, on the other hand, lost property, friends and family, with the triumph of the Cuban revolution. Today, she reads in her room and worries about the destiny of her daughters.

Seeds of the Inner City (preview)

Director: Andrés Salas/ 7 min

This is a 7-minute preview of a feature-length documentary about SOLEfood, an urban agricultural enterprise established in 2009 on a half-acre plot adjacent to the Astoria Hotel in downtown Vancouver. This short was part of the WE: Vancouver - 12 Manifestos for the City exhibit at the Vancouver Art Gallery in early 2011.

Soundwalk

Director: Andrés Salas/ 8 min

Soundwalk is a journey of sound and images. Vancouver musician Hildegard Westerkamp shares her thoughts on the city's soundscapes, allowing us to experience the city using a different sense.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4 | 7 PM | VCT

Followed by a Q&A and a reception featuring the music of La Trova Nuestra.



Indigenous Film From BC & Beyond

Short films created by BC First Nations youth and curated by the Reel Youth Film Festival

Residential Truth, Unified Future

Created by: Ian Bee, Amber-Lynn Flamand, Courtenay Agecutay, Bacilia Ramirez, Kim Webber at the Urban Native Youth Association/ Vancouver/ 11:52

Life in Reverse

Created by: Matt at the Knowledgeable Aboriginal Youth Association/ Vancouver/ 2:35

Bandaid

Created by: Jimmy, Bryton, Austin, Tara, Jordan/ Sliammon territory, Powell River, BC/ 1:30

Cody

Created by: Cody Henry at the Knowledgeable Aboriginal Youth Association/ Vancouver/ 3:28

Peel

Created by: T.J., Jade Littlepoplar, Kevin E., Kaylene at CampOUT/ Vancouver/ 1:00

Kaiya

Created by: Kaiya O'Cheek with the Southern Cortes Community Association/ Cortes Island, BC/ 1:00

Faren

Created by: Faren at the Knowledgeable Aboriginal Youth Association/ Vancouver/ 2:40

Dreamcatcher

Created by: Tommy, Samantha Maracle, John, with the Richmond Youth Services Agency/ Richmond, BC/ 1:00

24/7

Created by: Kiel MacDonald, Whitney Wells-James, Garrett Douglas with the Society for Children and Youth of BC/ Vancouver/ 3:30

Grandfather

Created by: Caitlin Hager at the Knowledgeable Aboriginal Youth Association/ Vancouver/ 2:20

Decolonization

Created by: Zach, Jessica, Tyra, Cody, Tarin, Bryan/ Powell River, BC/ 1:10

Britney

Created by: Britney at the Knowledgeable Aboriginal Youth Association/ Vancouver/ 2:15

Together We Are Strong

Created by: James, Darren, Justin, Raven, at the Pathways Aboriginal Centre/ Richmond, BC/ 1:10
• Winner for Best Local Film in the Reel Youth Film Festival in Victoria, BC.

Ignite My Flame

Created by: Girls at the Burnaby Youth Custody Centre/ Burnaby, BC/ 5:00

Philanthropy

Created by: Tyler MacDonald with the Society for Children and Youth of BC/ Vancouver/ 1:40

Five short films by Indigenous filmmakers from Mexico and Guatemala, programmed by the Havana Film Festival, New York.

Voladora (A Flying Woman)

Director: Chloé Campero/ Mexico/ 11 min

Ri wachik-Mi sueño (Ri Wachik- My Dream)

Director: Berta Lidia Chirix/ Guatemala/ 9 min

El llanto de la tierra (The Crying of the Earth)

Director: Lucio Olmos/ Mexico/ 8 min

La pila (The Wash House)

Director: Fernando Martinez/ Guatemala/ 9 min

Ixquic

Director: Cesar Manuel León Osorio/ Guatemala/ 5 min



BRITISH COLUMBIA
ARTS COUNCIL
An agency of the Province of British Columbia

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 | 3:30 PM | SFU-HC
Followed by a panel discussion.





A flor de piel, un ramo de Colombia

(To Flower from Skin: A Bouquet from Colombia)

Canada, 2010
Spanish with English subtitles/ 54 min

Directors: Sarah Charland-Faucher, Simon Charland-Faucher **Producers:** Sarah Charland-Faucher, Simon Charland-Faucher **Screenplay:** Sarah Charland-Faucher **Cinematographer:** Simon Charland-Faucher **Editor:** Rock Laflamme, Simon Charland-Faucher **Music:** Sergio Abel Mendez

Behind its grim statistics, Colombia has one of the largest biodiversity of flowers in the world, and a population equally as diverse—50,000 species of little-known flowers, just like the stories of its districts and the work of its people, their resistance, their dreams. Workers in factory greenhouses, vendors in the streets and cemeteries, social workers, unionists, peasants, ex-guerillas, artists and children of the street, all open their hearts in this documentary that explores the darker side of the flower industry in Colombia and the daily struggles of its inhabitants to make a living in an industry that tends to disguise its exploitation and fickleness. It draws up in front of our eyes, a bouquet of testimonies from which real life blooms.

Detrás de sus estadísticas negras, Colombia posee una de las más grande biodiversidad de flores en el mundo y una población igual de diversa. 50 000 especies de flores desconocidas, así como los barrios de este país, el trabajo de su gente, su resistencia, sus sueños. Obreras de invernaderos, vendedores ambulantes, comerciantes a los alrededores de los cementerios, trabajadoras sociales, sindicalista, campesino, ex-guerrillera, artista y niños de la calle se frecuentan en este documental conmovedor que nos enseña más sobre la explotación en la industria de las flores y sobre las luchas cotidianas de los habitantes de este país, pero que nos presenta, más que todo, un ramo de testimonios para que florezca la vida.



Sarah Charland-Faucher graduated in Political Science and Literature from the Université du Québec à Montréal and has been committed for many years to projects in support of human

rights, social justice and peace. *À Fleur de Peau, un bouquet de la Colombie*, her first documentary, was inspired after questioning street vendors in Montreal as to the source of their flowers.

Simon Charland-Faucher studied Arts and Media Technology at Cégep de Jonquière and has been doing camera work for almost ten years. He has travelled in many countries, working on various projects including the popular American TV reality show *The Amazing Race* in New York.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2 | 6:15 PM | SFU-HC



Detrás del milagro

(Beyond the Miracle)

Canada, 2010
Spanish with English subtitles/ 52 min

Director: Orlando Arriagada **Producers:** Orlando Arriagada, Alejandro Arretx **Screenplay:** Louis-François Genier **Cinematographer:** Alain Fournier **Editor:** Guillermo López Pérez **Music:** La Hacienda Creative **Principal Cast:** Carlos Mamani, Luis Urzúa, Edison Peña, José Henríquez, Isabel Allende

Thirty-three miners—688 metres underground—69 days—35°C heat!

The figures are amazing and so are the men. When they finally got out of the hellish mine, Los 33, as they are known, became popular heroes. They are assailed by the media, recognized in the street, always in demand. But beyond their miraculous rescue, who are these men that everyone is fighting over? The film has attempted to penetrate the mystery by talking to four of them, gaining privileged insight into their reality and new lives, which began in the heat of the spotlight.

Treinta tres mineros- 688 metros debajo de la tierra- 69 días- 35°C de calor!

Si bien el documental *Detrás del milagro* presenta magníficas imágenes de archivo del rescate de los 33 mineros chilenos de la mina San José, el interés fundamental se basa en mostrar las emociones vividas durante los 68 días y después del rescate. Este drama es ilustrado por diferentes actores quienes participaron de cerca a lo largo de esta épica historia. La película va al encuentro de cuatro mineros, en su hogar, en un atmósfera de intimidad, el director se convierte en un testigo privilegiado de la vida que sucede después del accidente. Mineros que súbitamente se convirtieron en héroes nacionales a partir de vivir una situación extremadamente difícil.



Orlando Arriagada was born in the Chilean Andes. He is the president and main producer of the production house, Pimiento. After finishing his media and film studies in Santiago de Chile and in

Quebec, he produced his first film, *Guantanamera Boxe* (2000). In Quebec he has produced the film *Portrait d'une dame par un groupe* (2005), *Caporal Mark* (2006) and *50 tonnes d'épinettes* (2007). *Detrás del milagro* is his directorial debut film.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2 | 4:45 PM | SFU-HC
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4 | 3 PM | PC



Verano de Goliat

(Summer of Goliath)

Canada/ Mexico/ Netherlands, 2010
Spanish with English subtitles/ 76 min

Director: Nicolás Pereda **Producers:** Nicolás Pereda, Andrés Castañeda
Screenplay: Nicolás Pereda **Cinematographer:** Alejandro Coronado
Editor: Nicolás Pereda **Locations Sound:** Mauricio Villalba
Principal Cast: Teresa Sánchez, Gabino Rodríguez, Juan Rodríguez, Harold Torres, Oscar Saavedra Miranda

*"Clemen, I want to tell you something."
"We are dancing, can't you see?"*

Shocked by her husband's sudden departure, Teresa embarks on a mission to find out what happened. Instead of finding answers, her mission becomes a journey through the streets and homes of the people she encounters. Blending fiction and documentary, *Verano de Goliat* is constructed through characters and the village's corporeal landscape. The film drifts with Teresa through spaces and people suffering the effects of lost loved ones, broken promises, disconnection and eternal longing.

*—Oye Clemen, es que quiero decirte algo.
—Estamos bailando ¿qué no ves?*

Después de que la abandona su marido, Teresa pasa los días desesperada intentando entender que sucedió. En lugar de encontrar respuestas, su misión se convierte en un viaje por las calles y casas de gente que conoce a su esposo. Mezclando ficción y documental, sus visitas retratan al pueblo y sus habitantes. *Verano de Goliat* es una reflexión acerca del sufrimiento tras el abandono, promesas rotas, desconexión y anhelo eterno.



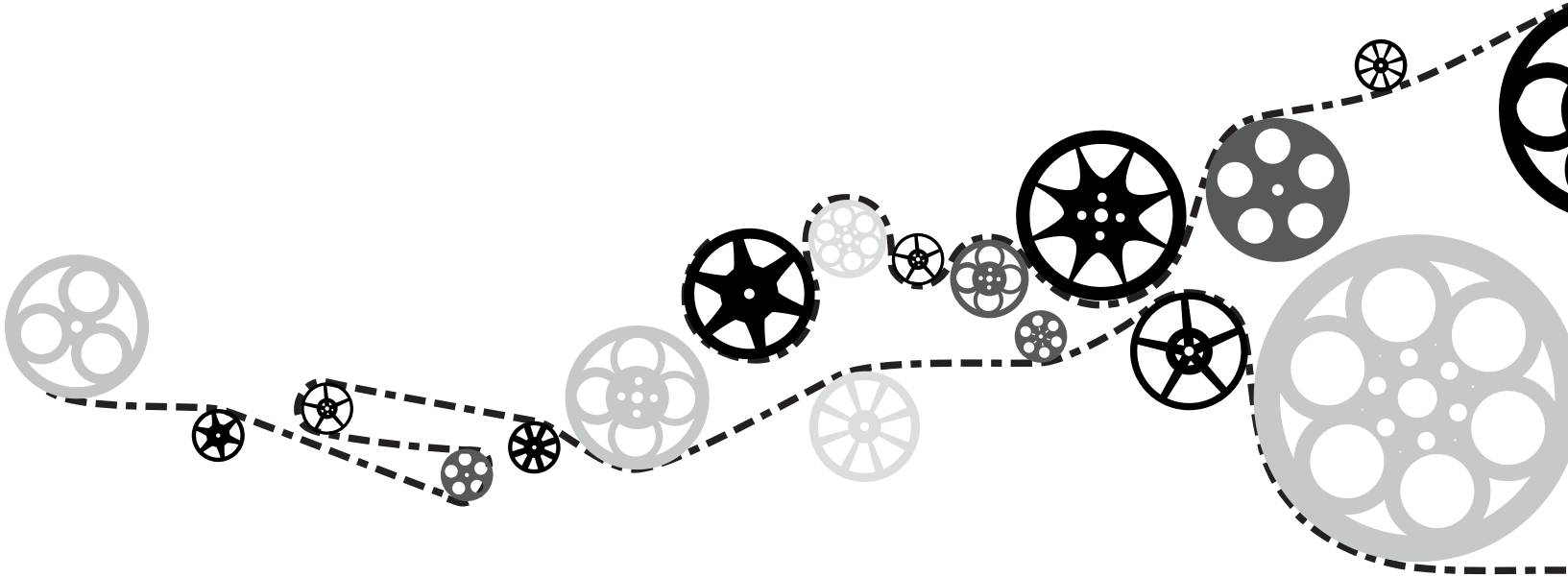
Nicolás Pereda was born in Mexico City in 1982. He holds an MA in Film from York University. His first feature, *¿Dónde están sus historias?*, won the award for Best Feature Film at the

Morelia International Film Festival and the French Critics' Discovery Award at Toulouse. In 2010, Cine Las Americas programmed a retrospective of his work, an impressive achievement for a 27-year-old filmmaker. *Verano de Goliat* had its world premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival and won the Orizzonti Award at the 67th Venice Film Festival.

COMMUNITY PARTNER:
CINEWORKS

ELIGIBLE FOR THE YOUTH CHOICE AWARD.

FRIDAY, **SEPTEMBER 2** | 3 PM | SFU-HC
FRIDAY, **SEPTEMBER 9** | 3 PM | PC



SHORT FILM COMPETITION

Asepsia • Gustavo Vinagre (BRAZIL/CUBA)

Balanços e milkshakes • Fernando Mendes,
Erick Ricco (BRAZIL)

Cincuenta • Manuela Montoya (COLOMBIA/CUBA)

En aguas quietas • Astrid Rondero (MEXICO)

La ducha • María José San Martín (CHILE)

Lápis de cor • Alice Gomes (BRAZIL)

Los Teleféricos • Federico Actis (ARGENTINA)

Maniobra • Ricardo Fontana (URUGUAY/CUBA)

Mar Blindado • Gerard Uzcátegui (VENEZUELA)

No es mucho lo que heredamos de nuestro abuelo
Fernando Domínguez (ARGENTINA)

Noches de tungsteno • María Torres (MEXICO)

Tecópolis • Javier Mrad (ARGENTINA)



No es mucho lo que heredamos de nuestro abuelo

(It's not Much that We Inherited from our Grandfather)

Argentina, 2010
Spanish with English subtitles/ 15 min

Director: Fernando Domínguez

Two brothers receive a bag with some objects as the only inheritance from their grandfather. Among those objects is a camera with undeveloped film inside. While developing it, they try to reconstruct their grandfather's ordinary but miraculous last afternoon.

MONDAY, **SEPTEMBER 5** | 7 PM | PC
FRIDAY, **SEPTEMBER 9** | 6:30 PM | SFU-HC



Los teleféricos

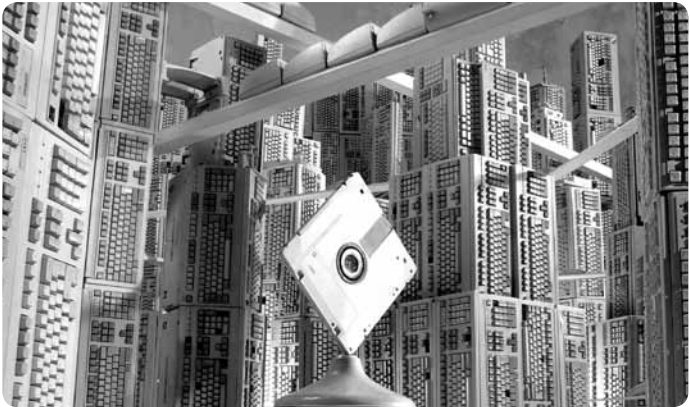
(The Cable Cars)

Argentina, 2010
Spanish with English subtitles/ 14 min

Director: Federico Actis

The Cable Cars is a story looking for a way out, a desired final escape. It is a story about roads that come and go but never meet, like cable cars themselves. It is the story of Lucas who decides to help his grandfather and leave a city that always has the same grey scenery. Lucas's grandfather needs a cable car; he is finding it hard to keep climbing.

THURSDAY, **SEPTEMBER 1** | 7 PM | GR7 (*OPENING NIGHT*)
MONDAY, **SEPTEMBER 5** | 9:15 PM | PC



Teclópolis

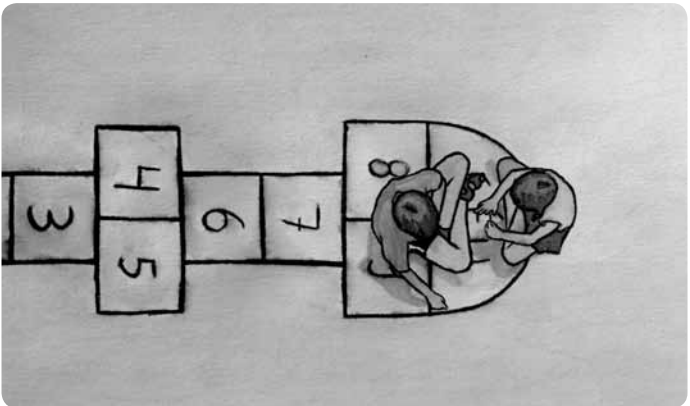
(Teclopolis)

Argentina, 2009
Spanish with English subtitles/ 12 min

Director: Javier Mrad

Once upon a time old magazines gently dance in the wind, a Super-8 camera crawls over a wooden table while an old carpet waves in and out. Suddenly, a mouse. Then, a whole civilization running towards its inevitable destiny. Plastic waste has reached the point where not even the most distant beaches are safe.

SUNDAY, **SEPTEMBER 4** | 1 PM | PC
THURSDAY, **SEPTEMBER 8** | 7 PM | PC



Balanços e milkshakes

(Swings and Milkshakes)

Brazil, 2010
Portuguese with English subtitles/ 10 min

Directors: Fernando Mendes, Erick Ricco

A love experienced by two children is remembered by a narrator.

FRIDAY, **SEPTEMBER 2** | 7:15 PM | PC
MONDAY, **SEPTEMBER 5** | 4:45 PM | PC



Lápis de cor

(Coloured Pencils)

Brazil, 2010
Portuguese with English subtitles/ 16 min

Director: Alice Gomes

Cláudio is a poor boy who loves to draw. His father left some years ago and Cláudio thinks that drawing a colour portrait of his father will make him come home. But Cláudio doesn't have coloured pencils. When he finally obtains 3 coloured pencils, his mother allows him to use only one colour per day.

WEDNESDAY, **SEPTEMBER 7** | 7 PM | GR7
FRIDAY, **SEPTEMBER 9** | 7 PM | PC



La ducha

(The Shower)

Chile, 2010
Spanish with English subtitles/ 10 min

Director: María José San Martín

A couple separates. Elisa got a job outside the country and Manuela, who lived with her for five years, has decided not to accompany her. Unable to say goodbye, they spend the last morning together as refugees under the shower.

SATURDAY, **SEPTEMBER 3** | 1 PM | PC
WEDNESDAY, **SEPTEMBER 7** | 7:15 PM | PC



Asepsia

(Cleanness)

Brazil/ Cuba, 2010
Spanish with English subtitles/ 5 min

Director: Gustavo Vinagre

Marta lives in a small Cuban village. Her life consists of cooking and washing her clothes in an old Russian washing machine. However, nothing is what it seems, and the arrival of a cinema crew will reveal hidden things.

FRIDAY, **SEPTEMBER 2** | 3 PM | PC
THURSDAY, **SEPTEMBER 8** | 5 PM | PC



Cincuenta

(Fifty)

Colombia/ Cuba, 2010
Spanish with English subtitles/ 10 min

Director: Manuela Montoya

In an old house in Havana, Marina gets a divorce to celebrate her fiftieth birthday. With the hope of speaking with her daughter in exile, Marina isolates herself in her bedroom. When it gets dark she finally decides to leave the bedroom: an encounter with the present marked by the abyss between generations and echoes of a happy past.

FRIDAY, **SEPTEMBER 2** | 5 PM | PC
WEDNESDAY, **SEPTEMBER 7** | 9:15 PM | PC



En aguas quietas

(In Still Waters)

Mexico, 2010
Spanish with English subtitles/ 14 min

Director: Astrid Rondero

Ana is running away from her hometown while Mar, an old acquaintance of hers, is coming back after a long absence. They find each other in the middle of the road and through the night, they journey amongst their fears to discover that still waters run deep.

FRIDAY, **SEPTEMBER 2** | 3 PM | SFU-HC
FRIDAY, **SEPTEMBER 9** | 3 PM | PC



Noches de tungsteno

(Tungsten Nights)

Mexico, 2010
Spanish with English subtitles/ 10 min

Director: María Torres

José and Juan begin a journey to see the stars with their grandfather, who is in a wheelchair, wondering if he will smile again. When they encounter a series of obstacles, they realize that sometimes stars can be closer for those who imagine.

SUNDAY, **SEPTEMBER 4** | 7 PM | SFUW
FRIDAY, **SEPTEMBER 9** | 9:30 PM | PC



Maniobra

(Manoeuvre)

Uruguay/ Cuba, 2010
Spanish with English subtitles/ 11 min

Director: Ricardo Fontana

Torres, a lonely rookie, is afraid to go through with tonight's manoeuvre. The Lieutenant takes advantage of the situation and sends him to accompany Sergeant Cairo on an assignment. Torres will find that something far worse than the manoeuvre awaits.

SATURDAY, **SEPTEMBER 3** | 3 PM | PC
TUESDAY, **SEPTEMBER 6** | 7:15 PM | PC



Mar blindado

(Shielded Sea)

Venezuela, 2010
Spanish with English subtitles/ 11 min

Director: Gerard Uzcátegui

The sentry box in a bank holds within its walls a man and his story. Inside that dark and reduced space, reality is washed away by the surge of time. Layer-by-layer new sensations, situations and visions are unveiled. The closer we get, the more we realize in truth how far away we are from discovering the contradictions of this man, held in the shadow of this shelter turned prison...

SUNDAY, **SEPTEMBER 4** | 5 PM | PC
FRIDAY, **SEPTEMBER 9** | 7 PM | SFUW



Young Women in Film: Peru

Lunes

(Monday)

Director: Stella Maris Barrionuevo Pérez/ 7 min

Crows gather for one reason only: fear.

Conversations II

Director: Marianela Vega/ 17 min

Conversations II offers an intimate look at the female universe. It is a journey through time using evocative images and the testimonies of women from the same family, contrasting the dreams, ideas and experiences of the generations.

Por mis hijos

(For My Kids)

Director: Aymée Cruzalegui/ 16 min

Norma, a Latin American immigrant in Barcelona, fights against loneliness and tries to maintain a relationship with her family thousands of kilometres away.

Soy eterno

(I'm Eternal)

Director: Sofía Velázquez/ 5 min

Reconstruction of memory through music, memories and the lack of both.

Amelia y Morena

(Amelia and Morena)

Director: Andrea Franco/ 12 min

Both Morena and Amelia work. Morena runs a home business, baking cookies and desserts. Amelia has been working as a maid in Morena's house for almost 20 years. They both spend an afternoon at work, sharing the kitchen as their workspace.

Danzak

Director: Gabriela Yepes/ 20 min

Danzak tells the story of Nina, a ten-year-old girl whose father, a Master Dancer, asks her to fulfil his last wish. This short film was inspired by *The Agony of Rasu Niti*, a short story by the Peruvian writer José María Arguedas.

La Niña

(The Girl)

Director: Karina Cáceres/ 12 min

Lucía, a teenager who is eager to learn more about her sexuality, decides to have her first sexual experience with her sister's boyfriend.

Jane

Director: Magaly del Castillo/ 13 min

Jane reminisces about experiences that reveal her perception of romance, sexual curiosity, and desire.

FRIDAY, **SEPTEMBER 9** | 3 PM | SFU-HC



Winners from the 2011 Cine en el campo Festival in Mexico



Azul

Director: Hugo Arizmendi/ 12 min

The story follows the life of a character over many years. He wants his story to show his grandchildren what water means to the world, and how important it is to take care of it and the people of the planet.

SATURDAY, **SEPTEMBER 3** | 6:30 PM | SFU-HC
SUNDAY, **SEPTEMBER 11** | 1 PM | PC



Dulce

Director: Iván Ruiz Flores/ 12 min.

Behind the window of a house, where some say sweetness lives, a delightful story is enacted nightly.

MONDAY, **SEPTEMBER 5** | 3 PM | PC
SATURDAY, **SEPTEMBER 10** | 5:15 PM | PC



Eskimal

Director: Homero Ramirez Tena/ 9 min

Situated in a fantastic world threatened by the devastating consequences of pollution, Eskimal and Walrus work together to preserve

the Great Glacier from an impending catastrophe caused by neglect and lack of interest from an industrialized world. The characters react to a situation that will change the environment, endangering their lives and strengthening their bonds of friendship.

SUNDAY, **SEPTEMBER 4** | 7:15 PM | PC
WEDNESDAY, **SEPTEMBER 7** | 5 PM | PC



Selections from the Rapa Nui Film Festival in Chile

El efecto Kulechov (The Kulechov Effect)

Director: Sebastián Lelio/ 6 min

Nicolas is a young cinema student. He and his girlfriend go to Rapa Nui for holidays. Nicolas meets Cristina, an ex-actress who has been living on the island for some time. Cristina will not only show Nicolas the island's beautiful places, but she will also change Nicolas's way of thinking completely.

FRIDAY, **SEPTEMBER 2** | 9:15 PM | PC
TUESDAY, **SEPTEMBER 6** | 9:15 PM | PC

El fin del mundo (The End of the World)

Director: Gonzalo Justiniano/ 6 min

Roberto's grandfather watches television at home. The television stops working and he can't fix it.

SUNDAY, **SEPTEMBER 4** | 9 PM | PC
SATURDAY, **SEPTEMBER 10** | 1 PM | PC

Resurrección (Resurrection)

Director: Pablo Larraín/ 9 min

Martin and Sofia are in the *Dos Ventanas* cave on Easter Island, looking at the cliff where their father's corpse was found. Lako, a tourist guide, shows them the spot where their father fell, and tells them that one of his shoes is missing.

SATURDAY, **SEPTEMBER 3** | 7 PM | SFUW
SUNDAY, **SEPTEMBER 11** | 5:15 PM | PC



Board of Directors

Shane Vieau (*President*), Dan Badulescu (*Treasurer*), Adriana Contreras (*Secretary*), Marc Fournier, Carolina Ordoñez

Festival Director

Christian Sida-Valenzuela

Programming Coordinator

Mónica Herrera

Programming Committee

Mónica Herrera, Anne-Mary Mullen, Christian Sida-Valenzuela, Zoë Miles (*Reel Youth - Indigenous Films*), Diana Vargas (*Indigenous Films*), Mario Castro (*Peruvian Cinema*), Milagro Farfán (*Peruvian Cinema*)

Administration + Development Coordinator

Lisa Pearlman

Media Relations

Lina Zárate

Festival Consultant/ Development

Anne-Mary Mullen

Volunteer Coordinator

Carolina Ordoñez

Box Office Coordinator

Anne-Mary Mullen

Theatre Operations Coordinator

Laura Jaime Iñiguez

Hospitality Coordinator

Martha Emilia Valenzuela García

Sponsorship Manager

Xenia Batllori

SFU Coordinator

Diego Reyeros Sánchez

Print Traffic Coordinator

Emilio Ekuba

Social Media Team

Veronica Heringer-Ames (*Digital Strategy Manager*)
Juan Sotelo

Sr. Graphic Designer

steve chow | chowdesign.ca

2011 Poster Contest Winner

Jennifer Castro | jencastro.com

Graphic Designers

Kristy Perkins, Lisa Pearlman

Technical Coordinator + Photographer

Andrés Salas

Webmaster

Pedro Posada

Festival Trailer

Fraser Drysdale (*RealWorld Media Inc.*)
Garth Dyke (*Jericho Beach Entertainment*)

VLAFF Podcast

Lina Zárate, Daniel Ruiz (*Jingle Composer*)

Bookkeeper

Jessica Somers

Screening Committee

Lili Vieira de Carvalho (*Brazilian Cinema*),
Yoel Ortega Garrido, Lena Vinogradova

Honorary Programming Advisors

Lucile de Calan (*Festival Biarritz Amérique Latine*)
Mimi Plauché (*Programming Director, Chicago International Film Fest*)

2011 Volunteers

Adolfo Diaz Almazan, Adriana Cormier, Adriana Tagle, Allison Crowell, Ana Paola Dominguez, Anne Lim, Ashley BlackAstarte Sands, Ayumi Sato, Benjamin McMahon, Beth Van Camp, Blanca Diaz, Cecilia Cordero, Chantal Cooke, Christian Reyes, Colleen Iris Dixon, Dianna Drahanchuk, Elise Gervaise, Emilio Ekuba, Fernando Este, Gaby Garcia, Gemma Teixidó, Guillermo Sanchez, Hugh Gerring, Irma Molina, Ivette Hernandez D, Javier E Alvarez-Jaimes, Jayne Metcalf, Jennifer Boundy, Joan Verwoord, Joeanne Machin, Jorge Aguilar, Juan Carlos Azpilcueta, Juan Sotelo, Juan Velez, Julia Hodgins, Kristy Perkins, Laura Isabel Arana Santos, Lena Vinogradova, Lilian Sepulveda Navarrete, Lisa Atkins, Liz Parkin, Luis Jamie Benavides, Luiza Lopes Galvao, Nadia Carlos, Magin Payet Scudellari, Mahi Jordao, Maria Paz Alfaro, Maria Valkova, Mark Heilig, Martha Amaya, Midori Kawahara, Miriam Maurer, Nancy Love, Nayieli Fuentes-Vidal, Nikolai Neun-Hornick, Norma Maurtua, Oona Eager, Pablo Chung, Pamela Ordoñez, Paola Hinojosa, Patricio Xavier Ramirez, Polo Cebrero, Reem Morsi, Sandra Aguirre, Sergio Aquino, Sergio Muñoz, Shaddai Granados, Sylvia Rossell Ferrari, Valeria Betancourt, Vania Mello, Zarina Mulla

VLAFF BOARD OF DIRECTORS



(L-R) Dan, Adriana, Marc, Carolina.
Not Pictured: Shane Vieau.

VLAFF STAFF



(L-R) Christian, Monica, Lisa, Lina, Anne-Mary,
Laura, Tata, Xenia, Diego, Emilio
Juan, Veronica, Kristy, Andrés, Pedro.



Donors

Carmen Aguirre, Mark Angus, Fiona Begg, Russel Black, Lynne Cruz, Tony Dunn, Lili Vieira de Carvalho and Ken Eisner, Sally Friend, Ricardo Ordoñez Kock, Lauport Film Services Inc., Angela McWhirter, Wendy Mendes, Victoria Parr, Paul and Stephanie Pearlman, RealWorld Films Inc., Joel Sida, Rory Tennant, Kenneth Timewell, Cecilia and David Tingey.

Friends & Colleagues

Victor Martinez Aja • **Next Generation Arts Leadership** Kathleen Speakman, Maria Turnbull, Max Reimer & all participants • **Canada Summer Jobs** Jennifer Protsch • **Simon Fraser Student Society** • **Empire Theatres** Dean Leland • **Out On Screen** Amber Dawn, Drew Dennis & all staff • **BC Arts Council** Sue Donaldson, Sherry Ewings • **SFU Woodward's** Michael Boucher, Lenore Swenerton & all staff • **Vancity Theatre** Barbara Chirinos & all staff • **The Hamber Foundation** • **Alliance Française de Vancouver** • **Festival Cine en el Campo** Gabriel Perez & all staff • **Modo** Tanya Paz, Bernice Paul • **Ipsos** Majid Khoury • **City of Vancouver** Cherryl Masters, Connie Pavone, Klodyne Rodney, Kristen Lamberston • **Consulado Argentino en Toronto** • **CBC Radio and Radio Canada** • **Pacific Cinémathèque** Jim Sinclair, Sue Cormier, Sonya William & all staff • **Amigos del ICAIC** • **DOXA** Lauren Weisler & all staff • **General Consulate of Mexico in Vancouver** Fernando Alvarez, Lydia Flores, Patricia de la Maza • **Holiday Inn** Gisele Desmarais • All Staff at the **General Consulate of Brazil** • **Georgia Straight** Laura Moore, Jessica Moorhouse • **Amigos del IMCINE** • **Al Jazeera Documentary Channel** Mohamad Eid Zantout • Elisa Haro y todos en **Turismo Durango** • **FiGa Films** • **Elephant Eye Films** Cecile Ragot • **Outsider Pics** Paul Hudson • **Intra Movies** Manuel Mazzone • **The Global Film Initiative** Jeremy Quist • **Elle Driver** Julie Susset • **Shoreline** Erin Schroeder • **Dia Fragma** Daniel Garcia • **Independent Films** Sarah Lebutsch • **Outlook Films** Stephanie Holzhuber • **El Bus de las Siete** Ramón Flores • **Romantic Tango** Joaquín Ernesto González • Amigos de la Escuela de Todos los Mundos **EICTV** • **Planet in Focus Film Festival** Kathleen Mullen • **Horizon Publications** Don Roberts, Terry MacGregor • Ernesto Gomez & everyone at the **Waldorf Hotel & NUBA** • **Aleph Media** Cecilia Seguí • Fatima Amarshi • Luis F. Gonzalez • William Benavides • Fatima Jaffer • Denis Paquette • Sandra Suasnabar • Ari Belathar • Ulises Martinez Aja • Gisele Dutra • Martha Orozco • Raúl Gatica • Jill Margo • Mindy Abramowitz • Laura Pino • Barbara Melamed • Tommy Lee • Darlene Choo • Natalia Badulescu • Tony Dunn • Dan Russek • Wendy Mendes • Yuki Fournier • Rodrigo Arellano • Mario Lee • Tara Martinez • Teresa Rosselot • Everyone who entered our 2011 Poster Contest • Everyone who applied for the VLAFF Youth Jury • Thank you to everyone who has supported us over the past nine years, especially those who have worked with us in any capacity.

Your generous support enables us to:

- Present high-quality films from across Latin America in Vancouver, many of which will not be released in Canada.
- Give Latin American filmmakers the opportunity to participate in the festival and present their work in Canada.
- Continue to be the only film festival in Vancouver to present a large number of free screenings.
- Support the work of Latin-Canadian filmmakers through our "Canada Looks South" programming.
- Present the "Best of VLAFF" monthly screening series.
- Give young Latin American filmmakers the opportunity to present their short films in Canada.
- Promote cross-cultural understanding and enrich Canada's multicultural landscape through film and other festival programming.

On behalf of the Vancouver Latin American Film Festival, its Board of Directors and its committed volunteers, THANK YOU for supporting the exhibition and promotion of Latin American Cinema in Vancouver.

DONATE TO VLAFF

There are three easy ways to help us continue to bring the best Latin American cinema to Vancouver!

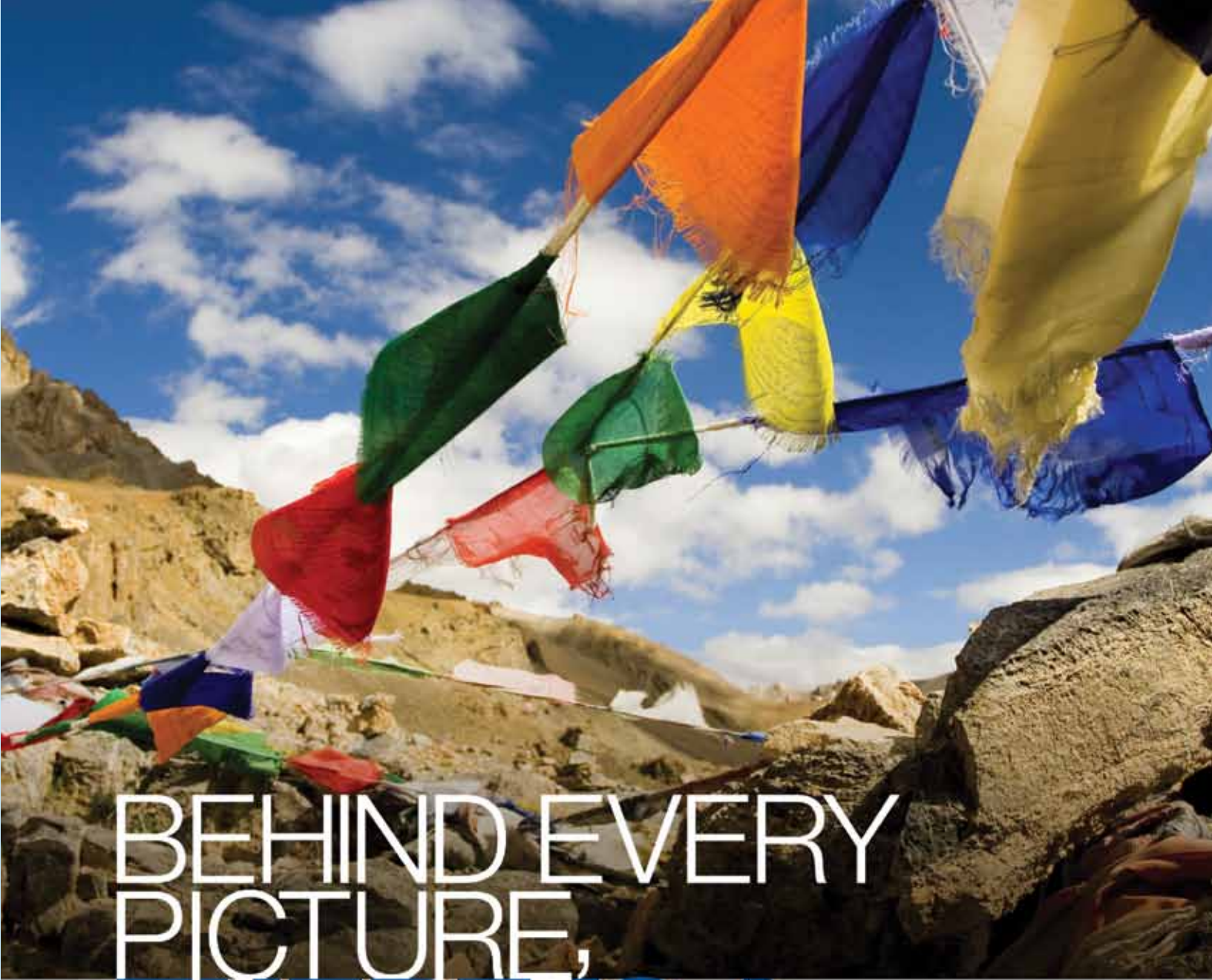
1. ONLINE: www.vlaff.org/en/donate
(VISA/ MasterCard/ American Express)

2. BY MAIL: Please make your cheque payable to the **Vancouver Latin American Film Festival** and send it to:

Vancouver Latin American Film Festival
420-111 Hastings Street West
Vancouver, BC V6B 1H4

3. IN PERSON: Talk to one of our fabulous donation volunteers during the festival to help you fill out a donation pledge form.

*VLAFF is a registered charity (888586104 RR0001).
Tax receipts will be issued for all donations of \$20 or more.*



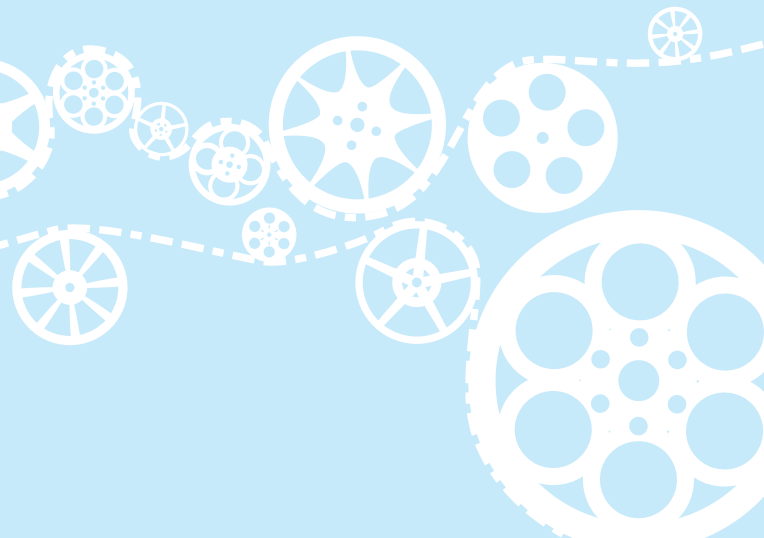
BEHIND EVERY PICTURE, THERE IS A STORY

For further information please contact:

moeid@aljazeera.net
Tel. +974 4489 6444
Fax. +974 4489 6447
www.aljazeera.net/doc



DOCUMENTARY





Scotiabank

Opening Night Gala
Sponsor

Scotiabank celebrates The Vancouver Latin American Film Festival!

As Gold and Opening Night Gala Sponsor, we're proud to continue to sponsor the Vancouver Latin American Film Festival and share the goal of bringing the arts and film to life.

 **Scotiabank** 
StartRightTM
PROGRAM FOR NEWCOMERS

Please visit: www.startright.scotiabank.com to learn more.

®Registered trademarks of The Bank of Nova Scotia. ™Trademark of The Bank of Nova Scotia.

*The Scotiabank StartRight Program, created for Canadian Landed Immigrants from 0-3 years in Canada, International Students and Foreign Workers.