



Central Alberta Film Festival

2018 Selected Films

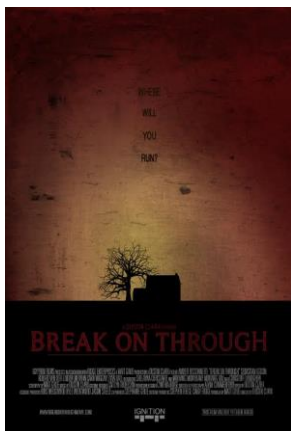


ABERRANTE

Director: Mauro Russo Rouge | 80-mins. | Italy | 2017 | Feature Narrative

A man inside a room is talking to someone we cannot see. Ivan, that's his name, is reciting a tremendous monologue that goes back to childhood memories and to his mother, who died in the bathroom. But who is he talking to? Who is that unknown person? And why is Ivan keeping him imprisoned in that dirty, crumbling room? These questions will soon have an answer, although unpleasant. ABERRANTE is a real escalation of physical and psychological violence.

Language: Italian

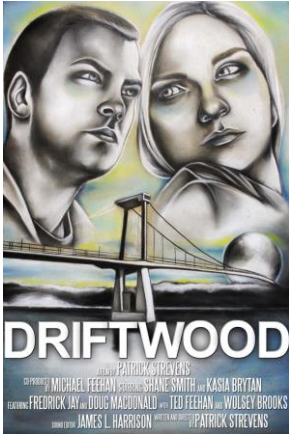


BREAK ON THROUGH

Director: Dustin Clark | 75-mins. | Canada | 2017 | Feature Narrative

A group of strangers find themselves trapped in an abandoned, isolated farmhouse during a potentially cataclysmic world event. As their fear and confusion mounts, they must learn to trust one another if they have any hope of survival.

Language: English



DRIFTWOOD

Director: Patrick Strevens | 105-mins. | Canada | 2016 | Feature Narrative

Driftwood chronicles a tumultuous summer in the life of Zachary Mann. Bad influences, chronic pain, drug and alcohol addiction along with unresolved mental illness drive him to the brink of insanity and the edge of society. As autumn closes in, Zach struggles to find redemption with some unlikely helpers.

Language: English



MY POT OF GOLD

Director: Priyanka Tanwar | 56-mins. | India | 2017 | Feature Narrative

My Pot of Gold revolves around the lives of three wonderfully different people; some family and some more than that. Alexandra (Nani), Kiarrah (Granddaughter) and Sunita (Maid) share a bond that none can describe. From the very start of their day; till night falls; they cannot help but call out to each other; if not 10 times; then 10 times 10. The relationship they share is so strong that in spite of all their violent and outrageous fights; a hearty laugh, a tight hug and a big kiss is undoubtedly exchanged. My Pot of Gold tells us a warm, loving and heartfelt story; of a day in the lives of Nani, Kiarrah and Sunita; their laughs, their love and the legacy left . . .

Language: English, Hindi



ONE, TWO, GUESS WHO'S WHO

Director: System | 108-mins. | Italy | 2017 | Feature Narrative

In a rich Manhattan condo a billionaire lady is murdered. All the evidence leads the police to the conclusion of a suspect but they are wrong.

A murder mystery in the style of Hitchcock that goes backwards.

Language: English

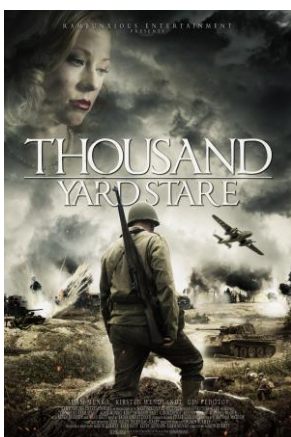


TALENT

Director: Lucas Frison | 80-mins. | Canada | 2017 | Feature Narrative

Hockey superfan Kaylee sucks at hockey but finds an unexpected way to use her love of the game.

Language: English



THOUSAND YARD STARE

Director: Aaron Kormey | 90-mins. | Canada | 2017 | Feature Narrative

During World War II, German forces crush the Americans at the 'Battle of Kasserine Pass'. A lone Sergeant, Roland Rothach, is separated from his platoon in the North Africa deserts. Captured by German soldiers, he's forced to face his worst fears. Fears that haunt him long after the war ends. Back home he struggles with flashbacks of the horrors and trauma he experienced, a failing marriage, and the emptiness of isolation.

Language: English

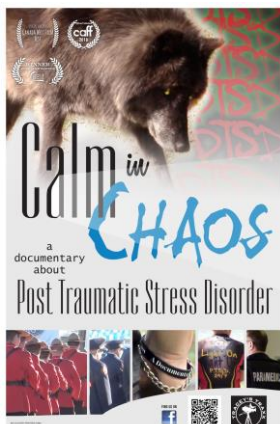


ALL THE WILD HORSES

Director: Ivo Marloh | 89-mins. | UK | 2017 | Feature Documentary

All The Wild Horses follows five international riders from the USA, Canada, South Africa, Ireland and the UK as they compete in the Mongol Derby horse race in Mongolia. This multi-horse, multi-station race over a 1000 kilometers of Mongolian steppe is the longest and toughest horse race on the planet. The riders are out on their own and navigate with GPS from horse station to horse station, where they change their horses every 40 kilometers, staying the nights out in the wild or with nomad families along the way. After a dramatic start, the first casualties are soon medevacked from the field, but this proves to be only a prelude for what's to come over 8 grueling race days. 22-year-old American rider Devan Horn battles heat, exhaustion and wild dogs as she takes the lead early on, trailed relentlessly by Irish jockeys Donie Fahy and Richie Killoran. The race throws up twists and turns as it builds to an unexpected, nailbiting finish.

Language: English

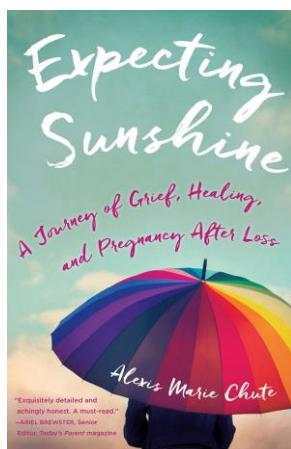


CALM IN CHAOS

Director: Tracey April Cochrane | 65-mins. | Canada | 2017 | Feature Documentary

Calm In Chaos is a documentary about first responders and PTSD.

Language: English

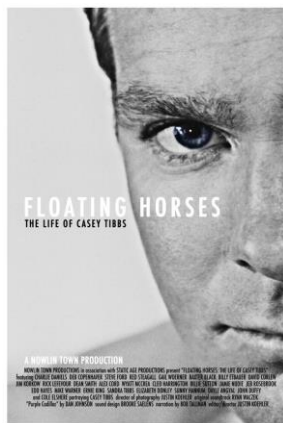


EXPECTING SUNSHINE

Director: Alexis Marie Chute | 48-mins. | Canada | 2017 | Feature Documentary

Exposing the journey of grief, healing, and pregnancy after the early loss of a child, *Expecting Sunshine* is a creative and touching film. It documents an actual loss – Zachary Chute, filmmaker Alexis Marie Chute's second child, who died at birth from a cardiac tumor – and the healthy pregnancy and delivery that followed years later. Through intimate interviews, the film shares real stories of bereaved mothers and fathers, researchers, counselors, advocates, doctors, and nurses. *Expecting Sunshine* breaks the taboo around this common yet hidden type of loss. One in four pregnancies end in miscarriage. One in onehundred-and-sixty pregnancies end in stillbirth. Pregnancy loss and early infant loss affect many, which is why *Expecting Sunshine* is a needed and impactful documentary.

Language: English

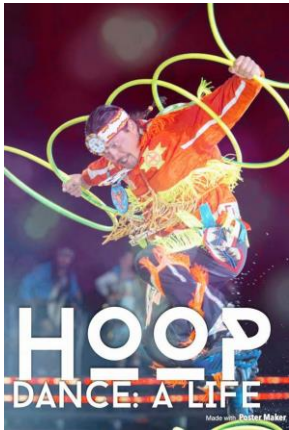


FLOATING HORSES: THE LIFE OF CASEY TIBBS

Director: Justin Koehler | 94-mins. | USA | 2017 | Feature Documentary

American cowboy Casey Tibbs, a nine-time world champion who left home at the age of 13 in 1942 due to his father's disdain of rodeo, had a rags-to-riches life after his groundbreaking spurring lick was developed and he was launched to stardom. Akin to riding a wild bronc in competition, his unpredictable journey had its grand victories and cheerless crashes. Get ready to "Let'er Buck!"

Language: English



HOOP DANCE: A LIFE

Director: Dallas Arcand | 62-mins. | Canada | 2018 | Feature Documentary

Dallas Arcand, world champion hoop dancer describes the achievement of his life and dreams as he attempts to get closer to the spirit of the Hoop Dance.

Language: English

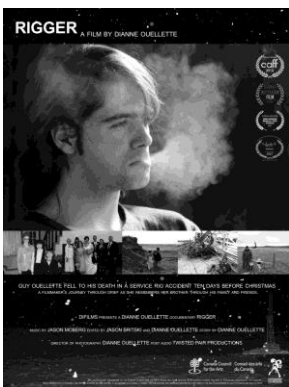


OTA BENGA

Director: Niyi Coker, Jr. | 60-mins. | USA | 2015 | Feature Documentary

An African was removed from the Congo in 1904, brought to he New York City Bronx Zoo, placed in a cage with primates and housed at the Monkey house at nights. He was to be evidence of Darwin's theory of evolution.

Language: English, French



RIGGER

Director: Dianne Ouellette | 91-mins. | Canada | 2017 | Feature Documentary

Rigger is a filmmaker's journey through grief as she remembers her brother who died in a service rig accident in southeastern Saskatchewan through his friends and family.

Language: English

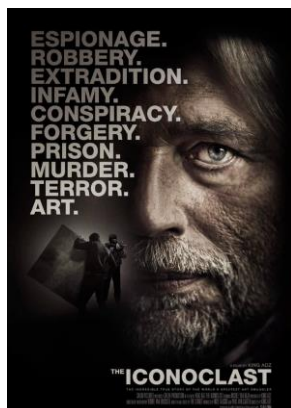


THAT NEVER HAPPENED: CANADA'S FIRST NATIONAL INTERNMENT OPERATIONS

Director: Ryan Boyko | 75-mins. | Canada | 2017 | Feature Documentary

That Never Happened reveals the story of Canada's first national internment operations between 1914 – 1920, when over 88,000 people were forced to register and more than 8,500 were wrongfully imprisoned in concentration camps across Canada, not for anything they had done but because of where they came from. In 1954, the public records were destroyed and in the 1980s a few brave men and women began working to reclaim this chapter in history and ensure future generations would know about it.

Language: English



THE ICONOCLAST

Director: King ADZ | 80-mins. | UK | 2016 | Feature Documentary

For twenty years, Michel van Rijn led a cat-and-mouse chase, made millions smuggling artworks and rare antiquities into Europe and the USA, evading Interpol and the CIA. Throughout the 70s and 80s Michel lived a Jet-set lifestyle, bolstered by the false claim he was a descendant of Rembrandt, but was eventually captured, extradited, and imprisoned.

Michel then worked for Scotland Yard. Through his pioneering website, he became a crusader for the art world, uncovering trails of Nazi gold...

Then he disappeared.

Now in hiding, Michel is under investigation from the FBI.

A confession that the cause of death of the Nazi War criminal, Joseph Mengele, was in fact murder... Revelations that link Islamic State terror cells to the highest and most prestigious levels of the art world in Western society... And a smoke screen of a man, at odds with all he says, and yet charismatic, love-able, and cultured to the highest order. All set against the unbelievable life story of the twentieth century's last great swashbuckling adventurer: The Iconoclast.

Language: English



THIS IS HOME

Director: Var Bhalla | 52-mins. | Canada | 2017 | Feature Documentary

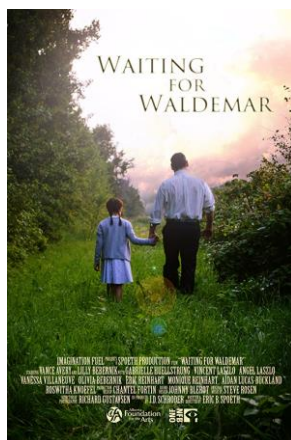
This is a story about how a husband and wife immigrated from India to Northern Alberta to start a new life. It's a story about the different people that came to call Fort McMurray home and how 30 years after the filmmaker was born there, his home-town almost burned to the ground.

From the ashes of one of the worst natural disasters in Canadian history, this documentary explores the restoration of hope in a community that faced tragedy and devastation.

Var Bhalla (narrator and guiding character) returns to his hometown after 'the Beast' ravaged the city. The repercussions of the fire introduces viewers to the characters in the story and the life-changing effects it had on them.

The story focuses on the immigration of the Bhalla family before shifting to the relationship between the filmmaker and his brother as they reflect on life growing up in the isolated north and connect with members in the community.

Language: English



WAITING FOR WALDEMAR

Director: Eric Spoeth | 46-mins. | Canada | 2016 | Feature Documentary

Waiting for Waldemar is a moving film about a family that escaped to Germany from the USSR during the Second World War. Erika and her brother Wiegand, who were only babies when their father Waldemar disappeared during the escape and are now in their 70's, combine fragments of memories and third-hand testimonies to paint a picture of the man that meant – and means – so much to them. Waiting for Waldemar is a bittersweet affirmation that love bears all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Language: English



ALCHEMY

Director: Brandon Polanco | 14:05 | USA | 2015 | Short Narrative

An epic transformation manifests from a seemingly routine interview. A failed everyman begins working through pages and pages of questions. As time begins to elongate, the man finds himself tormented and more and more isolated. He battles the unknown ultimately transcending into a heightened reality, discovering a new life existing between multiple worlds, both familiar and otherworldly.



BLOWS WITH THE WIND

Director: Hazhir As'adi | 6:30 | Iran | 2017 | Short Narrative

Animation After occurring some events for the scarecrow, scarecrow becomes human.



EUREKA!

Director: David B. Ricard and Menka Nagrani | 15:25 | Canada | 2016 | Short Narrative

People with Down syndrome get their hands on an automaton and train her in a circus act.



I PHUB YOU

Director: Shannon Hunt | 10:27 | Canada | 2017 | Short Narrative

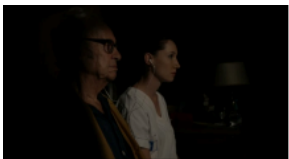
After an incident that leaves the world around him silent, Kurtis discovers what it means to communicate in a technologically consumed society.



SIV

Director: Ivy Miller | 17:00 | Canada | 2017 | Short Narrative

A girl and her robot have two questions hanging between them: Can a robot love? And if so, should she?



THE COURTESY OF ANGELS

Director: Valérie Théodore | 23:30 | France | 2016 | Short Narrative

Louise, a young care assistant, performs an internship in a retirement home, final step before the hiring that she hopes for. Her unexpected encounter with an old amnesic man, Mr. Vadim, leads the young woman to face a decisive choice. Her future is about to tip over.



FORESTS, FINS & FOOTPRINTS

Director: Michael Glaser | 23:00 | Canada | 2017 | Short Documentary

In Alberta, Public Lands in the Foothills are being clear-cut at a rate faster than they can recover, with little opportunity for public input or understanding. *Forests, Fins and Footprints* is a community-funded documentation of clearcutting in the Ghost Valley — a watershed located just upstream of Calgary, on the Eastern Slopes of the Rocky Mountains. Wondering how to make a difference, we asked for answers from environmentalists, biologists, geologists, and people who live and work on the land. How does clearcutting affect an area's water, landscape, and wildlife, as well as the people living in that watershed? How will clear-cut forestry impact the future? And how can we as a society move forward more thoughtfully?



THE STORY OF ALBERTA'S MALTSTERS

Director: Hendrik van Wyk and Braam Compton | 17:06 | Canada | 2018 | Short Documentary

Alberta, Canada has a strong grain producing history thanks to the flat topography of its landscape, its fertile soil, sunny summers, and the pioneering hardiness of its people. The Province's farmers plant and grow the best barley and wheat in North America. It is this grain that is sent all over the world to make some of the world's best beer and whiskies. It is also the grain that is helping to fuel the explosion; some may say the revival, of craft brewing in North America.

However, there is a less glamorous side to the story. A contribution that begs to be highlighted and must be shared. A role that remains obscured in the beard boding, hipster culture wielding world of craft. It is the role of the maltster. Before Alberta's grain becomes beer and whisky, it needs first to become malt, which is the foundational ingredient in any brew. Someone is malting our grains and we need to know who it is. We are telling the maltster's story.

The role of Alberta's Maltsters goes back to the late eighteen hundreds with a company called Canada Malting. Today, this company is the most significant malt company in Canada, producing approximately 400,000 metric tonnes of malt per year. They are sending it to brewers and distillers around the world. Alberta's maltster has been fueling the beer industry, and more recently, the craft beer and distilling industry in a substantial way, and they are planning to continue to do so.



ARE YOU LISTENING?

Director: Wanda Reinholdt | 33:19 | Canada | 2017 | Short Narrative

Inspired by the Smiles Thru Lindsey Foundation & The Empathy Program, community leaders and young people create conversation, listen and look for solutions to mental illness in youth.



DON'T CRY

Director: Alice Kim | 11:00 | Canada | 2017 | Short Narrative

Gina and her mother Mi-Kyoung own a dry cleaners in downtown Toronto. Every day, Gina watches as her mother is humiliated by the customers of their store. One particular day, a customer comes in to pick up his clothes; however he clearly wants more than his clean laundry. Gina must confront her stoic mother after watching her being sexually assaulted by this man. As Gina begins to cry not knowing what else to do, MiKyoung sternly orders her not to cry.



LANGUAGE

Director: Mortada Gzar | 12:05 | USA | 2017 | Short Narrative

People know him as "Hakam the blind". He transforms sewing machines into Braille printing machines. A Baghdad resident, Hakam spends his time listening to the voices of his city. When he survives a blast, he invents a special way to communicate with Baghdad.



LISTEN

Director: David Moody | 10:00 | Ireland | 2017 | Short Narrative

An exploration of the Irish language told through the eyes of a young family living in modern day Belfast.



THE WORLD IN MY DREAMS

Director: Anusha Srinivasan Iyer | 5:09 | India | 2016 | Short Narrative

The short is about the journey of a mute boy Raju. The mute child who works in a tea stall as a helper boy. Raju refuses tips and once gets rewarded with Rs 500. He has dreams... Big dreams for a poor child... But the teenager sacrifices it all in seconds to feed a little child. After all, the world is in his dreams.



WHEN WE LISTEN

Director: Amr Moustafa | 14:29 | Canada | 2017 | Short Narrative

Sometimes all we need to make us move forward in our lives, to make us handle our own pain, is to have someone listen to us. Amal is a Syrian refugee who needs someone to listen to her pain, to make her move forward in her life.



HERSELF

Director: Kintan Chauhan | 8:31 | USA | 2018 | Short Narrative

A gift for mother.



SWEET YOYO

Director: Mark Cira | 18:00 | Canada | 2017 | Short Narrative

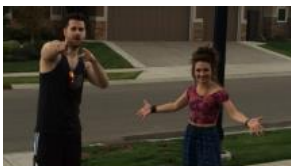
Nine-year-old Yoyo must confront the reality of being diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes with her single mother Hannah.



THE WEIGHT

Director: Peter Kominek | 16:21 | Canada | 2017 | Short Narrative

After a Deputy accidentally kills a U.S. Marshal while they are tracking suspects, he must drag the man's body back to his family.



WEEDS IN THE GARDEN

Director: Barb Briggs | 10:08 | Canada | 2017 | Short Narrative

When a new neighbour distracts Sarah from removing a persistent weed from her garden, she must come to terms with what she is really trying to remove.



YOU & ME

Director: Hannah Sanson | 18:56 | Canada | 2017 | Short Narrative

Tara has been left as the sole guardian of her 10 year old sister, Kayla, and is struggling to shoulder the responsibilities. Kayla feels like she is a burden and distances herself, straining the relationship even further. After a few hard lessons are learned, communication and honesty bridges the gap between them.



ABOVE THE MIST

Director: Gabriel Galand | 7:40 | Korea | 2016 | Short Narrative

A young man seeks an assisted suicide with an illegal agency in South Korea.



BARE KNUCKLE SUICIDE MUSIC

Director: Rob Jacobsen | 10:14 | Canada | 2017 | Short Narrative

Two friends butt heads as they deal with the deaths of their loved ones in wildly different ways.



COME TO ME

Director: Mitchell George | 16:29 | Canada | 2015 | Short Narrative

A fictitious documentary about a troubled man who struggles with the grief over the death of his wife and daughter. When he can't find the answers he's looking for, he does everything in his power to speak with the person he blames for their death.



CONSUME

Director: Michael Peterson | 19:05 | Canada | 2017 | Short Narrative

Inspired by true events, residential school survivor Jacob Wematim (Julian Black Antelope), struggles to hang onto his family, land and identity as his personal demons threaten to manifest in the form of the Wendigo spirit (Wilma Pelly) and take it all away.



MIRROR

Director: Sara Eustaquio | 3:00 | USA | 2016 | Short Narrative

She's young. She's in trouble. She's staring at the mirror looking for answers. But what she's about to find can change her life.



NO EXIT

Director: Dave Elder and Craig Nolin | 9:49 | Canada | 2018 | Short Narrative

Cursed to relive the same night over and over, unable to change their fate. Logan and Dave can't seem to find a way to escape the inevitable car wreck that starts and ends their eternal nightmare. There is No Exit.



SCATTERED

Director: Ellie Harvie | 9:39 | Canada | 2017 | Short Narrative

Two women venture into the woods to scatter their friend's ashes and fumble for a way to say good bye.



FORGOTTEN PRAIRIE

Director: Rueben Tschetter | 19:19 | Canada | 2017 | Short Documentary

Join Chris & Connie from The Big Doer, plus photographers Rob Pohl (large format film) and Byron Robb as they venture into the bitter cold, the ghost towns near the Alberta/Saskatchewan border & the incredible people connected to them. *Forgotten Prairie* takes the viewer on a cinematographic adventure with Team BIGDoer & friends to research and create stories among forgotten Saskatchewan ghost towns. "The past makes us what we are & what we are is our past".



ORPHANS UNWANTED

Director: Xavier Cattarinich | 9:57 | Canada | 2017 | Short Documentary

Between 2010 and 2015, Alberta Fish and Wildlife officers euthanized twenty-four orphaned bear cubs. Three of the cubs put down during that period were grizzlies, which are a threatened species in Alberta. This short documentary explores the Cochrane Ecological Institute's experience with orphaned bears, and CEI President Clio Smeeton's perspective on the Government of Alberta's policy forbidding the rehabilitation of orphaned bear cubs.



THE ARCTIC CIRCUS

Director: Connor Johnstone | 16:29 | Canada | 2017 | Short Documentary

The Arctic Circus is a film that investigates the controversial tourism industry of Churchill, Manitoba. Billed as the 'polar bear capital of the world', Churchill has become a veritable media frenzy caught between the intersection of economy and environmentalism.



TODDY

Director: Ranjit Mullakady | 10:00 | Canada/India | 2016 | Short Documentary

A look into the life of Raju, a young Indian man, who is likely to be the last of many generations who have harvested (tapped) the sap from the coconut trees in South India to provide the locals with the traditional, fermented drink of toddy.



TUPENDEO: ONE MOUNTAIN, TWO STORIES

Director: Robert Steiner | 25:30 | Switzerland | 2016 | Short Documentary

Upon their first ascent of the Tupendeo in the Kashmir region of India's Himalaya in 2015, Stephan Siegrist and Thomas Senf encounter a mystery. They find a rope and an abseil device but the tracks disappear just short of the summit. The locals vaguely remember there being a tragic accident. A year later it becomes clear that the person behind the story is the British scientist Jonathan Bamber, whose leg was almost completely severed by rock fall just short of the summit in 1992. He lay there waiting for many days on the mountain for either his rescue or certain death.



HUTTERITE HARVEST

Director: Rueben Tschetter | 20:40 | Canada | Short Documentary

Jeff Collins travels to Hutterite Colonies across Alberta to see why they are making major investments in Geo Thermal, Solar Thermal, Wind & Solar Electricity projects. This film explains how green energy projects fit well with and easily integrate into Hutterite communal culture.



JOHN WORT HANNAM IS A POOR MAN

Director: Michael B. MacDonald | 37:26 | Canada | 2017 | Short Documentary

John Wort Hannam is a Poor Man is a cine-portrait of a blue collar singer-songwriter struggling to make a living as an artist. John travels across the Canadian prairies from gig to gig, meeting old friends, competitive artists, and quirky characters.



OF THE VILLAGE

Director: Rueben Tschetter | 26:02 | Canada | Short Documentary

How diverse is Alberta & Western Canada? What is the significance of that diversity? What are the challenges of integrating into Canadian society since the Brexit vote and the outcome of the US. election.



THE SOUNDS OF HEALING

Director: Ross Gordon | 14:31 | Canada | 2017 | Short Documentary

Vibrant characters share a transformative physical and emotional journey led by contemporary sound healers. Nervous novices: a fighter pilot, a bureaucrat, and an actress encounter surprising changes of personal state. Sound healers demonstrate their craft bringing viewers into the intimate connectedness they create amid our modern disconnected world.



CRIMSON AND BLUE

Director: Randy S Kirk | 17:36 | Canada | 2017 | Short Narrative

A story about the power of first love and how it can resonate with you though out your life.



JETLAG

Director: Matthew Leigh | 14:48 | Canada | 2017 | Short Narrative

A woman re-enters the life of an ex lover one year to the day after his wife has passed away.



JOIN THE DANCE

Director: David D. Kohl | 9:00 | Canada | 2016 | Short Narrative

Join the Dance is the story of Vincent (Michael Moore), a promising young actor at the Sentinel Theatre, who hasn't been the same since Mary (Rina Pelletier), his frequent co-star and ballroom dancing partner—as well as the love of his life—has been gone. It's been three years, and the worst-kept secret at the Sentinel is that Vincent has never truly gotten over her



ONCE UPON A DREAM

Director: Anthony Nion | 13:25 | Belgium | 2016 | Short Narrative

When Valentin meets Ludivine, he is convinced she's the girl he has been dreaming of for the past weeks... Literally, the girl of his dreams ! Only, Ludivine has a feeling this boy meet girl scenario will take a nightmarish turn...



THE BEAUTIFULLY DROWNED

Director: Jon Dewar | 23:55 | Canada | 2016 | Short Narrative

A maritime fairy tale about a woman who longs for the day her husband will drown at sea.



THE ONE I ADORE

Director: Jason Seelmann | 8:38 | Canada | 2017 | Short Narrative

A story of love lost and the lengths some can go to get it back.



COLD FEET

Director: Keishi Suenaga | 27:00 | Japan | 2017 | Short Narrative

An assistant professor Noriyuki Kusakabe (Chikahiro Hanamura) visits his second house with his student, Arisa Hayami (Sahel Rosa). Arisa is at first delighted with the aged rooms and furnishings, but soon she begins to feel someone's memories, pains and regrets left in the second house. She finally knows that Kusakabe's former lover, Saki Arimura (Satoko Enmei), has died at the place. Kusakabe believes that Saki's spirit envies Arisa and wants to kill her, but Arisa begins to see things in a different way.



OUT OF TIME

Director: Nicholas Merritt | 9:20 | Canada | 2017 | Short Narrative

Four students enter an abandoned old house for a wild night, only to stumble into a bigger mess than they bargained for.



THE GOATMAN OF KANANASKIS

Director: Tristin Deveau | 8:20 | Canada | 2017 | Short Narrative

A group of campers share scary stories about the legendary Goatman of Kananaskis.



WHO KILLED MARY SUE

Director: Justin Kueber | 13:38 | Canada | Short Narrative

Three individuals find themselves held captive and under the mercy of a hooded vigilante, who is hell bent on finding out which one of them killed Mary Sue.