



Central Alberta Film Festival

2022 Selected Films



April Skies

WINNER – Best Feature Narrative

Three stories based in three countries in Europe. Three languages with three sets of peoples, all intertwine to the same tragedy.



Oma

WINNER – Best Feature Documentary

Following the death of her husband, retired nurse Sandy Moser claims that the arts saved her life. And with the COVID-19 pandemic hitting the theatre and live event industries the hardest, she wanted to give back. But how does one woman living on her country acreage repay a whole community? For Sandy, it was making 3000 cloth masks. By herself. For free.



Blind Ambition: The Wop May Story

WINNER – Best Short Documentary

Shot on 35mm filmstock with an orchestral musical score, *Blind Ambition* brings to life the story of an inspiring and courageous pilot.

After learning to fly in WWI, a young Canadian man returns to home to start a bold career in aviation. Barnstormer, lifesaver, and intrepid bush pilot, Wilfred 'Wop' May proves the value of flight to the world. But when a 15 year old injury requires catastrophic vision surgery, he is forced to admit he'd done it all with only one good eye. Now grounded, Wop continues to push aviation forward by running training schools for pilots and navigators in WWII, creates the first Air Search and Rescue service, and opens the Arctic and Pacific Rim to commercial flight. However, this dedication leaves little time for family, and upon Wop's death, his teenage son discovers how little he really knew his father when he travels the North and hears tales of his father's adventures, heroics, and generosity - the legacy of Wop May.

NOTE: Denny May, son of Wilfrid 'Wop' May and our main interview, died the night before the world premiere at the Edmonton International Film Festival.



Reformat

WINNER – Best Short Narrative and Elodie Doumenc for Best Actress

After the body of an AI student is found on school grounds, an investigation into the last 7 people who interacted with the student takes place.



Metube: August Sings 'UNA FURTIVA LAGRIMA'

WINNER – Best Music Video

The third part of the internationally award-winning MeTube short film series. This time the intergalactic music nerds August and Elfi conquer the opera stage and orchestrate their final adventure in an opulent manner.



Jalopy

WINNER – Paul Batten for Best Actor

A middle aged man's body begins to break down similarly to a car.



Love of the Game

WINNER – Audience Choice – Feature Documentary

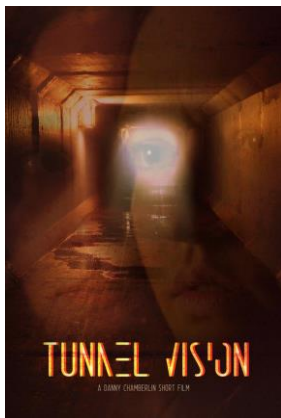
Love of the Game is a documentary about adaptive sports for people with disabilities in Alberta. Whether people play competitively or just for fun, they all come together with the same united passion and love of the game.



Ferryman

WINNER – Audience Choice – Feature Narrative

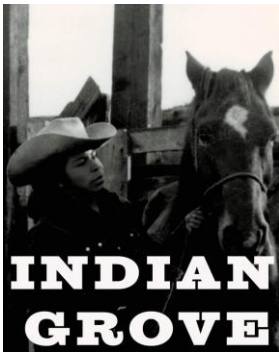
A secret club draws a haunted, young soldier into the orbit of a beautiful, reckless woman. But as they are falling in love, a life-threatening challenge forces them to make the most of every moment they have together.



Tunnel Vision

WINNER – Audience Choice – Short Narrative

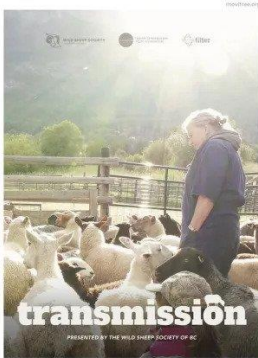
A young woman who develops troubling dreams experiences an unexpected encounter which may unlock her inner truth.



Indian Grove

WINNER – Audience Choice – Short Documentary

Spend time in our landscape, meet our horses and understand how traditions keep our community strong.



Transmission

Doctors, farmers, biologists, & volunteers come together to fight a deadly disease threatening both wild & domestic sheep, in this feature-length documentary



A Bird Flew In

When lockdown is imposed, the cast and crew of a film are taken from the set and sent home — alone. Actors without an audience. Directors without a script. Couples who fall apart. While others come together.

A film composed of six interlinked narratives, 'A Bird Flew In' explores what happens when we are freed from external distractions and forced to find the meaning in our lives and loves.



A Feast That Never Comes

Four characters inhabit cycles within cycles of contentment, discontentment, inertia, movement, desire, and betrayal. A story emerges—told through the marriage of music (*Ex-Fiancée*) and dance (*ChrisMastersDance*)—functioning as a set of nesting dolls, inviting you to uncover as many layers as you wish. Directed by Maria Juranic.



Toxic Neighbour

Eugene Bourgeois had no concerns about nuclear energy when he built his farm next door to the world's largest nuclear facility in 1974. Over that time, he and his wife Ann ran a successful wool business and taught generations of people around the world the art of knitting. They really believed they had found paradise. However, over the next few decades, Eugene, his family, and his sheep flock were frequently exposed to hydrogen sulfide, a deadly nerve gas from the nuclear plant, which caused hundreds of his sheep to be blinded, born deformed, or killed. The industry has denied any wrongdoing, but Eugene has always known the truth and dedicated the rest of his life to pushing his nuclear neighbor for greater transparency and accountability.

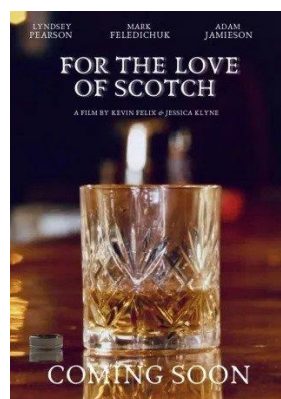


Undiagnosed

UNDIAGNOSED is a feature-length documentary film that brings forward remarkable cutting-edge science and compelling human drama to shine a light on a widespread but little-known issue devastating families across the world: undiagnosed illnesses.

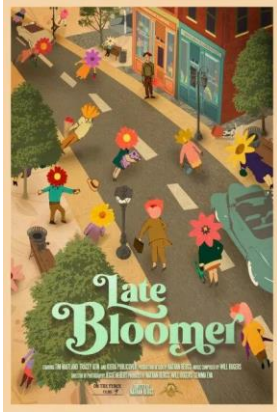
Told through the captivating stories of 4 different families, the film explores why the medical system is failing this population and how studying these patients will advance medicine for all of humanity. Combining genetic technology, the power of community, and unwavering parental love, these families push against the ticking clock of rapid degeneration to find answers.

UNDIAGNOSED is the culmination of 9 years of work by Dr. Katia Moritz, the director and an undiagnosed patient herself—supported by an extraordinary team that includes Oscar and Emmy winning filmmakers, world-renown scientists, and leading genetic technology companies.



For the Love of Scotch

John orders glass after glass of scotch as he laments the loss of the wife he loved. As he drinks, he stares at his wedding ring, wary before meeting Evelyn, who comforts and confronts him on why he needs to move on before inviting him to dance. There they twirl across the dance floor in each other's arms, sharing a heartfelt moment that makes John see a new path into the future without his scotch.



Late Bloomer

After the simple intention of gifting a young woman with roses on Valentine's Day is ridiculed by a mysterious flower shop owner, Henry discovers the importance of selecting the right flower for the right person.



A Woman's Voice

A Woman's Voice explores the circumstances of four women who all face and overcome challenges encountered by many women at some point in their lives (domestic abuse, bullying and peer pressure, self-esteem, depression and loneliness). This short film is set against the backdrop of three of Sutter's original songs and features debut acting performances of many of her friends and relatives.



The Guardian | The Orb's Archive

Follows the adventures of Raddix and Emma in a post apocalyptic world. Raddix is bent on restoring what is known as "the Order of the Orbs", and bringing about peace and stability throughout the region. The legendary "Archives" is known to contain the mysteries of the magics that exist on the world, and is rumored to contain the answers that Raddix seeks.



The Surrogate

Markus, a young man, feels that he has missed out substantially on having a relationship with his father and he decides to hire someone to help him process his feelings.

Markus hears a knock as an old, bear-like man walks through the door. Markus is nervous and begins to fish around his hoodie for cash to pay the man. It feels as if Markus has hired an older prostitute, and that they are about to hook up, but as the dialogue continues it is evident that Markus hired the man for "other" therapeutic needs. Markus has hired Darryl, an inquisitive man, to act as his Father and help him process some of the trauma and neglect he experienced as a child.



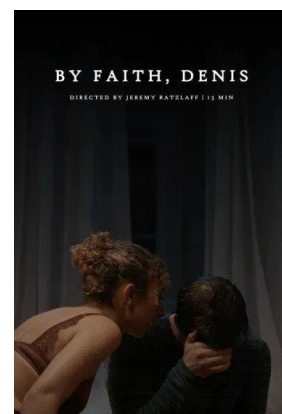
Body of Light

A young girl is left to herself while her grandfather takes a long sleep. She resolves to offer him eternal comfort in her last moment with him.



Awasisak Our Future

Awasisak Our Future (Cree for the The Children our Future) tells the story of a group of Indigenous and non-Indigenous walkers who in 2021 embarked on a learning journey in Treaty 6 Territory and attempted to complete a 100km walk on the Iron Horse Trail. This film is a follow up to the 2018 film Treaty Talk – Sharing the River of Life, and the 2020 award winning film - Treaty Walk - A Journey for Common Ground. Awasisak our Future continues conversations and work about treaty education, allyship and the power of walking together for this generation and the ones to come. This independent film was created and produced by Patricia Makokis and Janice Makokis from Saddle Lake Cree Nation and directed by Brad Leitch from Vancouver, BC.



By Faith, Denis

Denis is a Knight of Faith (at least in his mind). One night during a Bible study, the topic of sexual morality is broached, resulting in an uncomfortable confrontation.



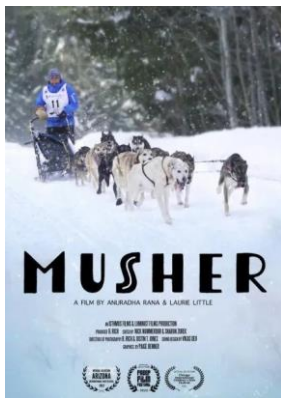
Indifference

Indifference is a short film about the toll that the daily grind of married life can take on a woman. We follow Lindsay a middle aged, married, mother that carries the bulk of the emotional, and physical, labor in her marriage on one day of her life as she tries to balance familial and relationship responsibilities and expectations, with her own frustration and loneliness.



Losing Arlene

A woman's behaviour becomes gradually more erratic at work and home after a powerful entity inhabits her mind, preventing her from sharing a discovery that can save humanity.



Musher

Musher peels back the veil behind the bond that four women have between their dogs and the world of sled-dog racing. As each woman prepares for the Copperdog annual race, we reveal the intimate insight into the mushing community, devotion to that lifestyle, and how women influence the sport.



Dancing in the Fire

Something fun is about to happen! Visually stunning and flowing, Dancing in the Fire makes you feel like anything can happen.



Wicked Plans

Style Dayne, the Pizza Guy from Deadpool stars as a foreign extremist from Amadajiya, who accidentally chooses Halloween to enact a moment of terror. To his surprise, he discovers that North American life and culture is truly special, unique and sweet.



Quinn

QUINN is an intimate documentary about change, gender identity and living outside the box.

Beautifully shot against the backdrop of nature and enriched by drawings and videos of young Quinn, the documentary offers a window into the joys and challenges of Quinn's gender journey, over 4 seasons and 4 years. This deeply personal, yet surprisingly universal, positive story of change is invigorated by the powerful music of celebrated, non-binary musician Rae Spoon.

"Nothing stays the same", says Quinn, as they strive to find a place in a society obsessed with labels.



Anonymous Heroes

In the midst of difficult circumstances, the support of anonymous individuals and community come together to help those in need.



Bunker Diaries

At the end of a thirty day beta test, Frankie must come to terms with the grim reality of his situation after discovering the hatch to his prototype bunker is jammed.