

The 17th Gimli Film Festival runs July 26 - 30, 2017



SPOTLIGHT ON 2017 GIMLI FILM FESTIVAL FILMS AND SERIES

Gimli – July 19, 2017 – With just over one week to go until the 2017 Gimli Film Festival, anticipation is building for Manitoba’s film lovers. The Festival lineup invites filmgoers to spend a beautiful weekend in Gimli, catching Beach screenings of popular classics, intimate Q&As with special guest artists, innovative new media installations, curated filmmaker retrospectives, and fascinating new releases.

Attendees can expect a rich selection of films and series and can customize their 4-day cinematic experience from single film tickets to the full Super Pass experience. Films start at just \$5 for special Canada 150 screenings and Super Pass holders get unlimited access to screenings while getting to rub shoulders with industry players at hospitality and networking events. With more films than ever before, the 2017 Gimli Film Festival promises to be one of the best yet!

Take a closer look at what’s happening at this year’s Festival. The 17th annual Gimli Film Festival (GFF) runs Wednesday, July 26 – Sunday, July 30.

Special Guests

As a special treat for our audiences, GFF is thrilled to welcome internationally acclaimed film and video artists to Gimli. Experience the magic of connecting directly with filmmakers in intimate Q&As where you can ask questions about the filmmaking process and hear behind-the-scenes stories.

This year's guest list includes Daniel Warth, director of the Canadian dramatic film *Dim the Fluorescents*; Canadian independent, experimental filmmaker Mike Hoolboom; *My American Cousin* director Sandy Wilson; underground film/video art duo Duke & Battersby (aka. Emily Vey Duke and Cooper Battersby); and Attiya Khan, director of the powerful and incredibly personal Canadian documentary *A Better Man*.

Films and Series

The 2017 Gimli Film Festival features a number of distinct film series, including the Northern Lights Circumpolar Film Series, Icelandic Film Series, Social Justice Film Series, Indigenous Film Series, Great Canadian Film Series, Canadian Short Film Series, Manitoba Short Film Series and the BellMTS Stories From Home Series.

Each year we highlight the foreign films that are included in our Northern Lights program sponsored by Pharmasave in Gimli. This year's Northern Lights [Circumpolar Film Series](#) opens with *The Happiest Day in the Life of Olli Maki*, a true story about a Finnish boxer who had a shot at the 1962 World Featherweight title. Representing Russia, *The Road Movie*, filmed solely through dashboard camera videos, is a fascinating mosaic of the absurd and frightening nature of that country. Everything can happen on Russian roads. Everything can happen on the road of life.

Through support from The Mauro Family Foundation, GFF offers a series of stirring films that explore social issues plaguing society today. The [Social Justice Film Series](#) includes *A Better Man* from directors Attiya Khan & Lawrence Jackman. We are privileged to have filmmaker Attiya Khan attending the festival in person to introduce her film and host a Q&A after her screenings.

The [Indigenous Film Series](#) offers an opportunity to view the Canada Screen Award-winning locally shot and produced film *This River*. This short documentary offers an Indigenous perspective on the devastating experience of searching for a loved one who has disappeared. And don't miss the Indigenous Short Film Series, curated by the Indigenous Filmmakers Association (IFA), a non-profit filmmaker collective working to grow the Indigenous film community in Winnipeg and Manitoba.

The Gimli Film Festival is delighted to celebrate Canada 150 through the generous support of The Asper Foundation and the Community Foundations of Canada / Westshore Community Foundation. [The Great Canadian Film Series](#) will showcase the heritage of Canadian storytelling through retrospectives of some of the best Canadian films. Catch the coming-of-age classic *My American Cousin*, with director Sandy Wilson here in person to introduce her film and answer audience questions. The [Canadian Short Film Series](#) will feature a retrospective from legendary Oscar®-winning Canadian filmmaker, Norman McLaren.

One of our strongest programs to date, the [Manitoba Short Film Series](#) includes films that screened this year at TIFF and Tribeca. This collection of locally-made films was curated by a jury of industry professionals, organized by On Screen Manitoba.

Finally, through [Stories From Home](#), BellMTS provides funding and other production assistance to Manitoba-based community producers. The films produced through this program shine a spotlight on the province and local stories. These stories are created by people with a wide range of experience, including students and first-time producers. As part of this series, catch RBC Emerging Filmmaker Competition (2012) alum JJ Neepin's film *Bayline*, about a family travels back to the Hudson Bay Railway between The Pas and Churchill in Manitoba for a 3-day long camping trip.

What's FREE

The RBC Beach Screenings (each evening at 10 pm): Wednesday July 26th - *The Fantastic Mr. Fox* (Wes Anderson); Thursday July 27th - *American Graffiti* (George Lucas); Friday July 28th - Double Feature: *Twister* (Jan De Bont), *The Birds* (Alfred Hitchcock); Saturday July 29th - *Footloose* (Herbert Ross); Sunday July 30th - *The Neverending Story* (Wolfgang Petersen).

RBC \$10,000 Emerging Filmmaker Competition: Five filmmakers will be given three minutes to pitch their short film ideas to the panel of industry professionals in front of a live audience on Saturday, July 29th, 10:00 am at the Gimli Theatre. The jury will select one filmmaker who will be awarded \$10,000 in production funds through the RBC Emerging Artists Project, a mentorship with industry professionals from the National Screen Institute, a one-year membership to On Screen Manitoba, a \$2,500 gift certificate courtesy of William F. White and a premiere screening of their film at next year's Gimli Film Festival.

Manitoba-made Virtual Reality (VR) Showcase: Explore storytelling through Immersive Content 360 experiences made right here in Manitoba. Three projects will be set up on First Street from 1:00 -4:00 pm on Saturday, July 29th. Come visit and try out these locally-made new media projects and win prizes provided by On Screen Manitoba.

Directing and Acting Workshop with Sean Garrity: Directors and Actors pre-registered for this free workshop on the use of improvisation on set and in prep to explore material, build character, and create authentic dialogue. Participants will explore how to make use of improv as both a filmmaker and an actor. A brief discussion, and screening of film clips will be followed by hands-on improvisation exercises with celebrated Canadian Director/Screenwriter Sean Garrity.

Hot Docs in the Name of All Canadians Screening: To commemorate Canada's 150th anniversary of Confederation, a compilation of six short documentaries inspired by Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms has been commissioned by the Hot Docs film festival. From Indigenous rights to multiculturalism to the controversial 'notwithstanding clause,' participating filmmakers have each selected a specific aspect of the Charter to explore, looking at how it resonates in the stories of their fellow Canadians.

Don't Miss

The 48 Hour Film Competition - Saturday, July 29th Gimli Theatre.

Manitoba Short Film Program with MFM Audience Choice Award - Saturday, July 29th Gimli Theatre.

RBC Beach Boardwalk - Friday & Saturday 7:30-9:30 pm on Gimli Beach.

Screening of Young Filmmakers from MTYP Movie Magic Camp - Sunday, July 30th.

Dim the Fluorescents (Daniel Warth) A struggling actress and an aspiring playwright pour all of their creative energy into the only paying work they can find: role-playing demonstrations for corporate training seminars. When they book the biggest gig of their careers at a hotel conference, they commence work on their most ambitious production to date. Special Q&A with director Daniel Warth.

Mike Hoolboom, 6 Films: A retrospective of work from Canadian independent, experimental filmmaker Mike Hoolboom. Hoolboom will be in attendance to introduce his films and answer audience questions.

Duke & Battersby, 3 Films: A retrospective program featuring experimental work by underground film/video art duo Duke & Battersby (aka. Emily Vey Duke and Cooper Battersby). Both artists will be in attendance at this year's festival to introduce their films and answer audience questions.

Tickets and passes are now on sale. Guarantee Your Seat – 50% of tickets to all films will be available in advance up to 5 pm the day before the screening. The remaining 50% will be rush seating on a first come first served basis at the door.

Super Pass - \$100

Access to all films plus the hospitality events.

100 Super Passes available.

Film Pass - \$75

Access to films only.

150 Film Passes available.

Filmmakers Pass - \$75

Access to all films and filmmakers networking events, including Filmmakers Reception on Saturday, July 29th.

50 Filmmakers Passes available.

Individual Film Tickets - \$10

Canada 150 Programming - \$5

Tickets and Passes can be purchased:

- Online at [Eventbrite](#).
- By Telephone (204) 642-8846.
- At the GFF Box Office: 41 Centre Street July 1-2, 8-9, 15-16, 22-30.

Twitter: @Gimlifilm

Instagram: @Gimlifilm

Facebook: facebook.com/Gimlifilmfestival

Hashtag: #Gimlifilm2017

The Gimli Film Festival is the largest film festival in Manitoba. Over the past sixteen years, our audience, sponsors and partners have supported and shaped the festival into what it is today. We showcase fiction feature films, documentaries and short films from Manitoba, Canada and the world, that promise informative, fascinating and riveting entertainment.

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