There is a wealth of short films in Canada — fiction and documentary, live action and animation — that we are excited to share with you.

We offer a slate of short films to choose from on a wide variety of themes and topics. If you’d like to screen a short film programme at your school, we want to help you select a perfect combination. Get in touch with us at contactus@reelcanda.ca for advice and tips.

PAGE 2 • LIGHT(S) AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL

11 short films produced by Netflix and REEL CANADA in celebration of #CanFilmDay 2021

PAGE 4 • SHORT FILMS

A broad selection of great Canadian shorts curated by REEL CANADA for educators

Indigenous-made films (written, directed or produced by Indigenous artists)  
Films that were produced by the National Film Board of Canada
LIGHT(S) AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL

11 short films by 15 emerging talents

In 2021, REEL CANADA and Netflix partnered to commission original short films from some of the nation’s talented rising stars. The 15 emerging filmmakers were asked to interpret our National Canadian Film Day theme: Light at the End of the Tunnel. We wanted to capture a timely snapshot of the moment we were all living through, and offer our audiences a shot of hope.

The films range from one to eight minutes in length and include documentaries, animation and live action, in both English and French, by filmmakers from across the country. We are honoured to make these films available to teachers and students through our educational programmes.

THE FILMS

5:1
Director: Sara Ben-Saud / documentary / 8 min.
Filmmaker Ben-Saud takes us into her family home, where she was confined with her parents and adult brother and sister during the early months of the lockdown, to experience the sometimes funny and sometimes challenging realities of pandemic coexistence.
Sara Ben-Saud is a Montreal-based director and screenwriter whose credits include the documentary series Skindigenous, among others. She is currently developing the documentary À toi Jeddi, about her Libyan heritage, produced by Nish Media and financed by SODEC.

7H59, MILE END
Director: Mattias Graham / documentary / 9 min.
A docu-fiction portrait of residents of the Mile End neighbourhood in Montreal, QC, and the way they dealt with changes in their lives necessitated by pandemic lockdown measures. The film pairs reflections on the subjects’ changing relationships with their community, with stories from the historic 8pm - 5am curfew.
Mattias Graham is a settler filmmaker from Regina, Saskatchewan (Treaty 4), currently based in Montreal. His work focuses on prairie stories, masculinity, and helping others tell their own stories. His short Gas Can (2017) won the SIFA for Best Short Film and the Ruth Shaw - Best of Saskatchewan Award at the Yorkton Film Festival. His upcoming short film Bleach won the WGC English-language script prize at the Cours écrire ton court.
DIVINATIONS
Directors: Dan Boos & Simon “Paul M” Mutabazi / live-action / 7 min.
A young filmmaker contacts six clairvoyants, ultimately discovering a deep need to confront his family history. Blending fiction and documentary, Mutabazi and Boos find surprisingly touching results after speaking with several real psychics.

Simon “Paul M” Mutabazi is an award-winning actor from Halifax, NS, who got his start as David on the hit Canadian sitcom Mr. D and has gone on to work with names such as Director X, Cory Bowles, Thom Fitzgerald and Seth Smith.

Dan Boos’ shorts have screened at many international festivals. His film, Thug (p.78), won Best Atlantic Short and Outstanding Performance by an Actor (for Simon Mutabazi) at the 37th Atlantic Film Festival, followed by an online premiere with Issa Rae Presents.

LE GIVRE DE BOBBY-YVES
Directors: Bogdan Anifrani & Ranee Inez / animation / 4 min.
The tenacious Bobby-Yves wakes up to find himself stranded in a blizzard, and must explore the landscape to find shelter and warmth before he succumbs to the icy white abyss. A suspenseful and unexpectedly humorous tale told through a beautiful, minimalist animation style, Le givre de Bobby-Yves is an instant classic.

Bogdan Anifrani is a Montreal-based animator of Togolese and Ukrainian descent who has worked on a vast array of short film projects, commercials, and three feature films.

Ranee Inez is a queer multimedia artist whose work includes installation pieces and illustrations exhibited in the Montreal art scene. Le givre de Bobby-Yves will be among her first works as an independent filmmaker and animator.

ON FIRE
Director: Dylan Glynn / animation / 1 min.
This beautiful hand-drawn animation juxtaposes the fires of hatred and greed which allow for the greatest atrocities of human suffering with the literal fires of a burning and rapidly transforming planet, and the fiery passion of movements that work to build a new world for the many and not the few.

Dylan Glynn is an award-winning animator, painter, and author whose work is characterized by its emotion, grace and sense of wild movement. His work has been exhibited by Society of Illustrators (Gold Medal SOI 62), American Illustration, Somerset House and the Canadian Screen Awards.

SARS-COV-2
Director: Andrew Huculiak / live-action / 4 min.
We have been changed in innumerable ways by the historical event of SARS-CoV-2. Ways that we haven’t begun to comprehend. In this short, an individual reflects on the chaos and monotony of the past year.

Andrew Huculiak is a Vancouver-based multi-talented artist known as the animated drummer of We Are The City, a celebrated Canadian experimental rock band, and the award-winning director of the feature films Violent and Ash. His work has won 19 awards on the international film festival circuit.

SHOOT YOUR SHOT
Directors: Madison Thomas & Meegwun Fairbrother / live-action / 7 min.
A sci-fi/action comedy that follows Tover, a teenager on the frontlines battling a future alien invasion. However, it’s not the aliens that terrify Tover, it’s the idea of asking out his crush, fellow soldier Savoy!

Madison Thomas is a filmmaker of mixed ancestry (Ojibwe/Saulteaux & Russian/Ukrainian settler) based in Winnipeg (Treaty 1), who was named one of Playback Magazine’s “Five Filmmakers to Watch. She has won awards worldwide, and her credits include the feature Ruthless Souls, as well as many shorts (Zoaasakwe (Shout with Joy), Fourth Period Burnout, Seven Drinks, Out of Reach among others), and television shows (Taken, Burden of Truth, Wolf Joe, and more).

Meegwun Fairbrother is an accomplished theatre and TV actor of Ojibway and Scottish origin, from Grassy Narrows First Nation and Toronto. His theatre credits include the Dora-nominated Isitwendam, Incident at Vichy and Caught among others. His TV credits include CTV’s Carter Files; APTN’s Wynter and Mohawk Girls; CBC’s Burden of Truth; and many more. His directorial debut, the doc Okichtow – Refeathering the Warrior, premiered at the Dreamspeakers Film Festival.

TUSSLE
Director: Christopher Grant / animation / 2 min.
In this hauntingly beautiful hand-drawn animation, simple shapes form increasingly complex entities, all set to an immersive and powerful score by the filmmaker. Playful forms must merge together in an anxious wrestle for unified harmony, no matter how difficult.

Christopher Grant is a Mi’gmaq filmmaker from Pabineau First Nation, New Brunswick. Inspired by life and death, Chris animates to express the humour and terror of existence. He has worked with the NFB’s Hothouse project, and his work has been exhibited at galleries, museum and film festivals internationally.

3 REEL CANADA SHORT FILMS
NFB CLASSIC ANIMATIONS

BEGONE DULL CARE
Norman McLaren, Evelyn Lambart 1949 8 min.
An innovative experimental film consisting of abstract shapes and colours shifting in sync with jazz music performed by the Oscar Peterson Trio.

THE BIG SNIIT
Richard Condie 1985 10 min.
A wonderfully wacky look at two conflicts — global nuclear war and a domestic quarrel — and how each is resolved. Nominated for an Oscar.

THE CAT CAME BACK
Cordell Barker 1988 7 min.
In this Oscar-nominated short, a humorous song tells the silly tale of a man who just can’t get rid of an unwanted cat.

COSMIC ZOOM
Eva Szasz 1968 8 min.
A visually stunning journey from the farthest point of the universe to the tiniest particle of matter.

THE SWEATER
Sheldon Cohen 1980 10 min.
Iconic author Roch Carrier narrates a mortifying boyhood experience in this animated adaptation of his beloved book The Hockey Sweater.

THE STREET
Caroline Leaf 1976 10 min.
An award-winning adaptation of a story by Canadian author Mordecai Richler about how families deal with older relatives, and the emotions surrounding a grandmother’s death.

CONTEMPORARY ANIMATION

TUKTUMIT
Ippiksaut Friesen (Inuk) 2014 4 min.
This gorgeously rendered animation explores the way traditional hunting in Nunavut has evolved to maintain its vital role in contemporary Inuit culture.

ABORIGINALITY
Dominique Keller, Tom Jackson (Cree) 2007 5 min.
A young boy is transported through his television set to the scene of a traditional hoop dance, encountering his family’s cultural heritage in a new way.

AL GHORBA
Aila Hijab 2019 6 min.
Through a conversation with her family back home, a Syrian immigrant in Canada expresses her loneliness, and faces her mounting fears about the future.

AMAQUT NUNAAT / CHILDREN OF EARTH
Antony Dubé (Atikamekw) 2015 3 min.
Awaskinawson is made up of the Atikamekw words awacic (child), aski (earth) and takonawason (having the responsibility for). A plea to respect the great circle of life.

AWASKINAWSON / CHILDREN OF EARTH
Antony Dubé (Atikamekw) 2015 3 min.
Awaskinawson is made up of the Atikamekw words awacic (child), aski (earth) and takonawason (having the responsibility for). A plea to respect the great circle of life.

THE BASKETBALL GAME
Hart Snider 2011 5 min.
When nine-year-old Hart attends Jewish summer camp, his group must play an epic basketball game against the students of a notorious Holocaust denier. What awaits him on the court?
CONTEMPORARY ANIMATION (continued)

BIIDAABAN

Howie Shia 2015 6 min.
In this modern adaptation of the story of Hercules, a young boxer struggles to negotiate between his shy, bookish nature and his divinely violent temper.

BIIDAABAN (THE DAWN COMES)
Amanda Strong (Michif) 2018 19 min.
In this dream-like animation, a young Anishinaabe artist comes to a suburban neighbourhood to reclaim her ancestral tradition of sap harvesting.

BIRCHBARK
John Hupfield (Anishinaabe) 2008 4 min.
Symbols of traditional knowledge come alive and find themselves inside the pages of a book.

BLIND VAYSHA
Theodore Ushev 2016 8 min.
A young girl’s left eye sees only the past while her right sees only the future. Haunted by what was and threatened by what will be, Blind Vaysha is cursed to be incapable of living in the present.

BONE MOTHER
Dale Hayward, Sylvie Trouvé 2018 8 min.
A traveller wanders deep into the forest to visit Baba Yaga, a mysterious woman who is said to possess the powers of life and death.

FOUR FACES OF THE MOON
Amanda Strong (Michif) 2016 13 min.
In this intricate and stunning stop-motion animation, a young filmmaker travels back through time, encountering pivotal moments in her family’s history and strengthening her connection to her Métis, Cree and Anishinaabe ancestors. Content Note: Intergenerational trauma.

GIANT BEAR
Neil Christopher (Inuk), Daniel Gies 2019 12 min.
A stunning animation of an Inuit legend in which a hunter battles his greatest foe, a giant bear. Content Note: Graphic animated violence.

THE END OF PINKY
Claire Blanchet 2013 8 min.
Johnny is out to kill his best friend, Pinky, in this film noir adaptation of a short story by acclaimed Canadian author Heather O’Neill. Content Note: Mature subject matter.

FIGHTING CHANCE
Alexandra Lazarowich (Cree) 2011 9 min.
With a family history of residential schooling, 13-year-old Joey is put into a group home, where he gets a chance to turn his life around.

FLUX
Christopher Hinton 2002 7 min.
A whimsical piece that plays with both the significant and mundane events in the lives of a large family.

THE GIFT
Terril Calder (Métis) 2011 2 min.
This clever animation illustrates the community disrupts the balance of life, revealing the same emotions that unite rather than divide us.

I MET THE WALRUS
Josh Raskin 2007 5 min.
In 1969, a 14-year-old Beatles fan sneaks into John Lennon’s Toronto hotel room and convinces him to do an interview for his school paper. This clever animation illustrates the audio recording of that conversation.
CONTEMPORARY ANIMATION (continued)

MADAME TUTLI-PUTLI
Chris Lavis, Maciek Szczeprowski 2007 17 min.
Madame Tutli-Putli boards a night train for a mysterious and suspenseful journey in this stunning stop-motion short. Nominated for an Oscar.

MCLAREN’S NEGATIVES
Marie-Josée Saint-Pierre 2006 10 min.
An animated documentary shares the secrets of legendary Canadian animator Norman McLaren.

ME AND MY MOULTON
Torill Kove 2014 14 min.
In this Oscar-nominated short, a seven-year-old girl asks for a bicycle, knowing that her loving yet unconventional parents have other ideas.

MELTDOWN
Carrie Mombourquette 2012 1 min.
Because his icy arctic environment is disappearing, a polar bear heads for a mysterious and bleak and devastated environment.

MIA’
Amanda Strong (Michif), Bracken Hanuse Corlett (Wuikinuxv-Klahoose) 2015 8 min.
In this incredible stop-motion short, Mia’ is a young Indigenous street artist who paints scenes rooted in the supernatural history of her people. When her art comes to life, Mia too is transformed.

NADINE
Patrick Péris 2017 4 min.
Blending live-action and animation, this short tells the tale of an imaginative teen as he debates the best way to say hello to a cute girl at the library.

NO FISH WHERE TO GO
Nicola Lemay, Janice Nadeau 2014 12 min.
This compassionate animation looks at the consequences of war through the lens of two little girls who become friends despite their upbringing in opposing clans.

O CANADA
Jerry Popovich 2017 2 min.
Mercury Filmworks created this charming animated version of the national anthem for National Canadian Film Day 150. It screened at over 1,800 events around the world and became a classic.

ORIGIN OF THE DREAM CATCHER
Donavan Vollant (Innu) 2018 4 min
In this beautiful animated short film we learn about the creation of the very first dreamcatcher.

THE ORPHAN AND THE POLAR BEAR
Neil Christopher, Louise Flaherty (Inuk) 2014 9 min.
In this adaptation of an Inuit legend, an orphan is adopted by a polar bear elder who teaches him the skills he needs to survive.

PARADISE
Jesse Rosensweet 2007 7 min.
A brilliant stop-motion animation that follows a man made of metal who’s caught in the machine of daily routine.

PINCH
Jody Kramer 2006 5 min.
The story of a young woman — and the pet monster that lives on her arm!

REQUIEM POUR UNE ROMANCE / REQUIEM FOR ROMANCE
Jonathan Ng 2012 6 min.
A couple’s breakup phone call takes on epic proportions — in the director’s imagination — as the lovers become warriors in feudal China.

REVIVING THE ROOST
Vivek Shraya 2019 6 min.
Using neon-light animation, Shraya presents an ode to a gay bar in Edmonton that was important to her journey of self-acceptance.

RUNAWAY
Cordell Barker 2009 9 min.
Gleeful train passengers cavort to a jaunty jazz score, but when their driver disappears, the careless ride turns darkly funny.

RYAN
Chris Landreth 2004 14 min.
A touching, Oscar-winning tribute to Canadian animation pioneer Ryan Larkin.

SECOND HAND
Isaac King 2010 8 min.
Two neighbours have very different ideas about wasting time and saving stuff in this humorous meditation on what’s precious or disposable.

SKETCHI
Lily Sun 2010 3 min.
A young girl struggles to revive her beloved dead dog, Sketchi, in this charming short about the power of love and imagination.

THE STONE OF FOLLY
Jesse Rosensweet 2002 8 min.
In this twisted short, strange doctors cure bizarre ailments, and laughter inevitably proves to be the best medicine.

STRANGE INVADERS
Cordell Barker 2001 9 min.
Roger and Doris get more than they bargained for when a peculiar child appears at their doorstep. Nominated for an Oscar.

TO THIS DAY
Shane Koyczan 2013 8 min.
In this collaborative online project, 12 animators and 80 “motion artists” bring their unique styles to Koyczan’s poem about bullying.

TRADITIONAL HEALING
Raymond Caplin (Mi’kmaw) 2013 3 min.
In this beautiful animation, a woman’s sacred healing dance causes a miracle to occur in an otherwise bleak and devastated environment.

THE VISIT
Lisa Jackson (Anishinaabe) 2009 3 min.
The charming “true” story of an encounter between extraterrestrials and a Cree family.

VIVE LA ROSE
Bruce Alcock 2009 6 min.
(French with English subtitles)
Based on the last recording by Émile Benoît, one of Newfoundland’s foremost traditional musicians, this touching short depicts a tragic Newfoundland love song.
CONTEMPORARY ANIMATION (continued)

**WALK-IN-THE-FOREST**
Diane Obomsawin (Abenaki) 2009 3 min.
A medicine man walks in the woods and discovers a secret world.

**WHEN THE DAY BREAKS**
Amanda Forbes, Wendy Tilby 1999 10 min.
The charming, bittersweet story of Ruby, a pig whose life takes an unexpected turn after she witnesses the accidental death of a stranger.

**THE AFTERLIFETIME OF COLM FEORE**
Colm Feore visits the Afterlifetime Achievement Agency, where he receives absolutely terrible post-career advice.

**CHEF DE MEUTE**
After the death of her aunt, Clara throws a party in memory of Ruby, a customer's bizarre eating habits.

**THE BIG CHARADE**
A mock trailer about a boy and his father, who teaches him all he knows about the game of charades.

**GOOD GIRLS DON'T**
Ana de Lara 2018 15 min.
A Filipino girl is constantly told by her parents that only boys play sports, and only a divine intervention will change their mind. **Content Note:** Graphic Content & Religious Themes

**GREEN DOOR**
Semi Chellas 2008 13 min.
A case of mistaken identity drives this humorous tale of apartment living and unrequited love.

**THE GREEN FILM**
Andrew Williamson 2008 5 min.
It's not easy being green — especially when you're trying to make the most environmentally friendly movie of all time.

**GROCERY STORE ACTION MOVIE**
Matthew Campbell 2016 14 min.
In this hilarious send-up of action movie clichés, a man gets into the express line in a grocery store and then realizes he's forgotten one thing.

**HIP HOP MOM**
Mina Shum 2011 4 min.
A comedic take on how moms can stay true to themselves while raising a family.

**HOP THE TWIG**
Kyle Rideout 2011 10 min.
In this quirky fairytale, little Audrey's houseplant withers away, plunging her into her deepest fear: that one day she'll similarly lose her mother.

**INDIAN**
Darryl Nepinak (Saulteaux) 2008 2 min.
In this amusing and powerful short, the etymology of the word “Indian” is deconstructed at the Canadian National Spelling Bee.
COMEDY (continued)

INSTANT FRENCH  
André Leduc 1979  1 min.  
This hilarious commercial for a make-believe electronic translation device is a wry commentary on the anxiety of our nation’s Anglophones.

JORDAN GORDON’S GUIDE TO KUUJJUAQ  
Jordan Gordon (Inuk) 2018  4 min  
Jordan Gordon is thrilled to show you around his hometown, taking you through the highlights with a wonderful mix of humour and charm.

KING CHICKEN  
Nicolas Bolduc 2010  7 min.  
King Chicken walks into a language lab to learn English and is suddenly love-struck by a quirky and cute student. Will he be able to approach her?

LÉGER PROBLÈME  
Hélène Florent 2009  9 min.  
(French with English subtitles)  
While it’s usually good to be light on one’s feet, it’s best not to get too light! In this inventive short, a man struggles to obey the laws of gravity.

MAN V. MINIVAN  
Spencer Maybee 2009  17 min.  
Days before getting married, Shane receives a minivan from his future in-laws, which leads to a comedic case of cold feet.

MATTRESS  
Michelle Kee 2014  10 min.  
The Lee family dumps an old mattress in an alley, sparking an all-out suburban war. It’s up to their youngest to break the world record for longest distance travelled in a pedestrian costume.

A MILE IN THESE HOOVES  
James Brylowski 2014  15 min.  
Tom and Mark set out on a mission to break the world record for Longest Distance Traveled in a Two-Person Costume. As the heat from their donkey costume rises, so do the tensions between them.  
Content Note: Coarse language

MOVING ON  
Mike Fardy 2016  7 min.  
In this hilarious tale about facing adult responsibility, a young couple with relationship troubles must choose between talking things through or using their newly acquired magic wands to resolve their issues.

NO RESERVATIONS  
Trevor Carroll (Ojibway) 2018  10 min.  
How does a predominantly white community react when an Indigenous construction team arrives to build a pipeline through their backyard?

OLIVER BUMP’S BIRTHDAY  
Jordan Conning 2011  16 min.  
A 12-year-old boy who believes he is fated to die on his 13th birthday must find a way to cheat death before the clock runs out.

OÙ EST MAURICE?  
Alek Rzeszowski, Matthew Rankin 2006  5 min.  
A woman searches for her lost dog and instead finds a Parisian man eager to take its place in this quirky absurdist comedy.

PARACHUTE  
Martin Thibaudeau 2012  5 min.  
(French with English subtitles)  
A vacationing couple discovers an unconventional skydiving club. Should they take the plunge?  
Content Note: Coarse language

THE PARIS QUINTET  
Benjamin Schuetze 2010  11 min.  
In this beautifully choreographed film, five sharply dressed men go about their daily routines in a cramped Paris apartment.

PEDESTRIAN JAR  
Evan Morgan 2011  4 min.  
A group of coworkers come up with their own unique solution to pedestrian-related driving accidents in this hilarious mock-doc.

LA PEPPERETTE / THE PEPPERETTE  
Jérôme Hof 2014  4 min.  
(French with English subtitles)  
Two bumbling teens try to rob a convenience store, but end up with a salty treat instead.

POOL POOL  
Adam Brodie, Dave Derewlany 2007  3 min.  
Two oddball brothers are dedicated to playing billiards in a swimming pool.

RADICAL  
Deanne Foley 2019  6 min.  
A profile of legendary Canadian comedian Mary Walsh, and her fearless, funny career.

RECORD  
Dylan Reibling 2011  5 min.  
A sidewalk record sale takes an emotional turn when a chance musical discovery yields a powerful response.

RIBOFLAVIN!  
Blair Dykes 2009  9 min.  
When two men set out to see what happens if they ingest too much riboflavin, they end up causing an unexpected rift in time.

ROLAND  
Trevor Cornish 2013  11 min.  
Roland, a keen art supply store clerk, is rattled after a crazed man insists on being allowed to use the store’s washroom, which is against store policy.  
Content Note: Coarse language

SAD BEAR  
Mark Slutsky 2011  10 min.  
Due to a misunderstanding, a secular Jew in Montreal ends up the subject of an impromptu Hasidic tribunal.

SORRY, RABBI  
Liz Van Allen Cairns, Joe LoBianco 2010  10 min.  
A sincere and funny story that tackles the universal need to simultaneously hold on and let go.

SAD BEAR  
Mark Slutsky 2011  10 min.  
Due to a misunderstanding, a secular Jew in Montreal ends up the subject of an impromptu Hasidic tribunal.

THE TRUTH ABOUT HEAD  
Dale Heslip 2004  12 min.  
A bizarre comedy about Ed, a head who travels the countryside with a freakshow in order to raise money for an operation to get himself attached to a body.

WILLIAM SHATNER SINGS O CANADA  
Jacob Medjuck 2011  5 min.  
The always-charming William Shatner treats us to a memorable rendition of Canada’s national anthem. This heartwarming short pokes fun at our beloved “home and native land”.

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DANCE AND EXPERIMENTAL

**BABA**
Jonathan Lawley 2006  3 min.
Different people, cultures and styles of dance come together in one vivid expression of love and life. Choreographed by Tré Armstrong.

**BUNDLE**
Jamie Whitecrow (Anishinaabe) 2020  4 min
A look at the Anishinaabeg tradition of carrying a small bundle at all times containing items that are essential to maintaining spiritual and emotional wellbeing.

**BUS NO. 9**
Michael Downing 1999  3 min.
A chance encounter at a bus stop becomes an excuse for a sultry tango pas de deux.

**THE CINNAMON PEELER**
Veronica Tennant 2004  3 min.
Michael Ondaatje reads his poem The Cinnamon Peeler accompanied by the choreographed movements of two dancers.

**CYCLES**
Joe Cobden 2016  4 min.
Through playful choreography and piano harmonies, a man revisits abstract memories of a failed relationship.

**FOUND**
Paramita Nath 2009  6 min.
Toronto poet Souvankham Thammavongsa tells the story of her family’s escape from Laos in the 1970s through old photos, animation and home movies.

**GLORIA VICTORIA**
Theodore Ushев 2012  9 min.
Recycling elements of surrealism and cubism, this Genie-nominated animation explores relationships between art and war. Content Note: Violence

**INDIGO**
Amanda Strong (Michif) 2014  9 min.
A trapped woman is freed by “Grandmother Spider,” who still has some important webs to weave. Inspired by Indigenous stories & realized through stop-motion animation.

**IN THE GROOVE**
Clarence Ford 2006  2 min.
This combination of hockey, dance, figure skating and rock/funk takes place on ice and features champion figure skater Kurt Browning.

**INU SHOP**
Jobie Weetaluktuk (Inuk) 2009  2 min.
Weetaluktuk mixes archival reels with new footage to make this poignant commentary on cultural appropriation.

**LITTLE THUNDER**
Nance Ackerman, Alan Syliboy (Mi’kmaw) 2009  3 min.
Inspired by the Mi’kmaw legend “The Stone Canoe,” this coming-of-age story follows a boy who reluctantly sets out on a canoe trip by himself as a rite of passage into adulthood.

**LOST ACTION: TRACE**
Marlene Millar, Crystal Pite & Philip Szporer 2011  3 min.
The horror and devastating consequences of war are explored through contemporary dance in this visually-stunning animation.

**MOBILIZE**
Caroline Monnet (Algonquin) 2015  3 min.
Through a performance of her own powerful poem, Innu poet Natasha Kanapé Fontaine invites us to rise up and bring light to the world.

**NOUS NOUS SOULEVERONS / WE WILL RISE UP**
Natasha Kanapé Fontaine (Innu) 2015  4 min.
Through a performance of her own powerful poem, Innu poet Natasha Kanapé Fontaine invites us to rise up and bring light to the world.

**PORTRAIT AS A RANDOM ACT OF VIOLENCE**
Randall Lloyd Okita 2009  3 min.
A trapped woman is freed by “Grandmother Spider,” who still has some important webs to weave. Inspired by Indigenous stories & realized through stop-motion animation.

**SISTERS AND BROTHERS**
Kent Monkman (Cree) 2015  3 min.
Renowned Cree artist Kent Monkman draws a parallel between the residential school system and the buffalo hunt in this powerful and moving short documentary.

**SNARE**
Lisa Jackson (Anishinaabe) 2013  4 min.
Spare and visually arresting, this performance piece captures the brutality of violence against Indigenous women, and the possibility of healing and grace.

**SOMETHING’S COMING**
Veronica Tennant 2012  3 min.
A creative split-screen film featuring ballet and singing performances of “Something’s Coming!” from West Side Story.

**TERMINUS**
Trevor Cawood 2007  8 min.
One man manages, at a gruesome cost, to escape from the shadows of the dancing concrete figure that dogs him.

**THROAT SINGING IN KANGIRSUK**
Manon Chamberland (Inuk), Eva Kaukai (Inuk) 2019  3 min.
A mesmerizing duet between two Inuit throat singers forms the soundtrack for this journey through the four seasons of the Arctic.

**TROPICAL RUMOURS**
Veronica Tennant 2004  4 min.

**VERY NICE, VERY NICE**
Arthur Lipsett 1961  7 min.
An avant-garde collage of photography and sound that looks behind the business-as-usual face we put on in life, showing anxieties we’d rather forget.

**WAVE A RED FLAG**
Adam Garnet Jones (Cree/Métis) 2009  3 min.
A whimsical, wordless exploration of Indigenous identity, community and culture.

**ZAASAAKWE**
Madison Thomas (Ojibwe/Saulteaux) 2017  5 min.
A powerful call to action to all Indigenous people to shout for joy and celebrate their identity.
REEL CANADA SHORT FILMS

**4 AM**
Janine Fung 2011  4 min.
Spoken-word poet Muhammad Muwakil conjures up a powerful picture of suburban life in Trinidad.

**7A**
Zachary Russell 2018  10 min.
A routine home repair becomes a living nightmare as a mysterious gas descends on an apartment building, leaving one of its residents with a terrifying life-or-death decision.

**35 MPH**
Jean-Marc E. Roy, Philippe David Gagné, Dominic Leclerc 2011  10 min.  (French with English subtitles)
Two buddies share a passion for dirt bikes, but their friendship is also based on a deeper understanding that only they share.

**AIR SHOW**
Maya Bastian 2017  8 min.
Having recently started a new life in Toronto, a Tamil family comes face to face with their lingering trauma when they first encounter the thundering noise of the air show.

**ANATOMY OF ASSISTANCE**
Cory Bowles 2013  13 min.
When defiant Talia challenges the assistance envelope given to her at school, she comes to better understand herself and to rethink how assistance programs work.

**ANIRNIQ / BREATH**
R.J. Sauer 2011  5 min.  (Inuktitut with English subtitles)
A beautiful exploration of the Inuit belief that when someone dies, their spirit enters the living creatures around them.

**ARROWHEAD**
Peter Lynch 1994  30 min.
An ingeniously wry look at the way people struggle to find meaning within sterile urban environments.

**ARUBA**
Hubert Davis 2005  11 min.
A young boy employs ingenuity and his imagination to escape his difficult life circumstances.

**ASSINI**
Gail Maurice (Cree/Métis) 2015  13 min.
Seven-year-old Assini and her friends often play Cowboys and Indians. But when Assini discovers that she herself is an “Indian,” the game takes a new turn.

**AVILIAQ / ENTWINED**
Alethea Arnaquq-Baril (Inuk) 2014  15 min.  (Inuktitut with English subtitles)
In the 1950s, two Inuit women attempt to protect their relationship when pressure from their new colonial culture forces them to marry men.

**BAREFOOT**
Danis Goulet (Cree/Métis) 2012  11 min.
In a tight-knit Cree community in northern Saskatchewan, 16-year-old Alyssa enjoys the attention that comes with pregnancy — until her secret plan unravels. Content Note: Mature subject matter

**BIG GIRL**
Renuka Jeyapalan 2005  15 min.
A poignant tale of a little girl who embarks on a battle of wills with her mother’s new boyfriend.

**THE BLANKETING**
Trevor Mack (Tsilhqot’in) 2013  8 min.
In the mid-1800s, the Tsilhqot’in First Nation of British Columbia was nearly wiped out by a devastating smallpox outbreak. The Blanketing depicts a fictional confrontation before the epidemic.

**BOXED IN**
Shane Belcourt (Métis) 2009  4 min.
A woman of mixed ancestry struggles with an Equal Opportunity form that requires her to respond to the dilemma “Ethnicity — Choose One.”

**CAMERA**
David Cronenberg 2000  5 min.
A seasoned actor discusses the current state of cinema while a group of young children sneak in with production equipment to film him.

**CHERCHE FEMME FORTE / WANTED: STRONG WOMAN**
Marilyn Cooke 2019  15 min.
Nawedge, a nurse in a care home, discovers a new side of herself when she joins an underground wrestling ring.

**CLADDAGH**
Brett Ferster 2016  8 min.
Truth and loyalty are tested when three brothers discover a dead body on their way to go swimming in the forest. Content Note: Violence

**COVERED**
Jonathon M.B. Hunter 2014  7 min.
Actors reinterpret a 1960s television interview with folk music icon and legendary Indigenous-rights activist Buffy Sainte-Marie.

**THE DROP IN**
Naledi Jackson 2017  13 min.
A drop in at a hair salon takes a sudden and violent turn when truths come to light. Content Note: Violence

**DUET**
Andrew Coll 2017  13 min.
A pianist with stage fright gets the opportunity of a lifetime when his idol visits his school and sees his potential. Will he gather up the courage to perform on the biggest stage of his life?

**ELEVATED**
Vincenzo Natali 1996  20 min.
A routine elevator ride becomes a living hell for its three trapped passengers. Content Note: Course language & some violence

**EMMA**
Martin Edralin 2016  13 min.
Fourteen-year-old Emma struggles with alopecia areata, a condition of rapid, unpredictable hair loss. A delicate film about the uneasy path towards self-acceptance and putting one’s own well-being above what others think.

**ENTANGLED**
Tony Elliott 2014  15 min.
Forced to care for her catatonic lover after a secret quantum experiment goes awry, Erin is determined to uncover the cause of his condition — even at the risk of her own life. Content Note: Mature subject matter

**FROST**
Jeremy Ball 2012  14 min.
Young Arctic hunter Naya embarks on a search for food outside her ancestral hunting grounds. There, she discovers an unfamiliar new world and a dangerous predator.

**THE GAME**
Andrew Chiang 2012  11 min.
After a professional basketball player is cut from his team, he reflects on the talent and passion that brought him to this point by playing a game against three younger versions of himself.
**Drama (continued)**

**Heart**  
Ann Marie Fleming 2002 7 min.  
A singer prepares for a performance while fighting back tears; a beautifully rendered response to the events of September 11, 2001.

**Heart of the World**  
Guy Maddin 2000 5 min.  
The story of state scientist Anna and the two brothers who vie for her love while she tries to save the world.  
Content Note: Sexual content

**Mahalia Melts in the Rain**  
Dev Khanna 2009 11 min.  
A charming, tongue-in-cheek drama about a woman who waits with Saint Peter outside the gates of heaven for her soulmate.

**Home Away**  
Hannah Yohannes 2013 10 min.  
With nowhere left to turn, pregnant Sabrina checks herself into a group home for teen girls and discovers the family she desperately needs.

**Kajutajuq: The Spirit That Comes**  
Scott Brachmayer, Co-producer/Co-writer: Nyla Inuksuk (Inuk) 2014 15 min.  
Part Inuit legend, part thriller, an Arctic hunter tries to live by the traditional skills his grandfather taught him — but they are difficult for a modern man to apply, and the price of failure is high.

**Leftover**  
Eui Yong Zong 2014 19 min.  
A family of North Korean refugees tries to adjust to a new life in Etobicoke, Ont., with painful memories of the oppressive regime still fresh in their minds.

**Mahalia Melts in the Rain**  
Emilie Mannering, Carmine Pierre-Dufour 2018 11 min.  
A young Black girl feels alienated at her ballet school’s photo shoot when her hair stops her from joining the other girls to play in the rain.

**My Father’s Hands**  
Sudz Sutherland 1999 27 min.  
A powerful and moving short about a father and a son, each representing a different culture and time.

**Shahzad**  
Haya Waseem 2016 12 min.  
Shahzad is a young boy recently arrived from Pakistan. He finds that integrating into Canadian life and school is easy — but his life at home with his father is becoming increasingly strained.

**Shin Chi’s Canoe**  
Zacharias Kunuk (Inuk) 1989 58 min.  
Conflicts arise when families in an Inuit camp build a communal igloo to celebrate the coming of spring with games, singing and drum dancing.

**The Music Video / Le Videoclip**  
Camille Poirier 2020 14 min.  
A 13-year-old tomboy is told to put on makeup and sexy clothes to be the dancer in her brother’s friends’ video, then quickly sees their attitude towards her change.  
Content Note: Coarse language

**Newborn**  
Ray Savaya 2018 6 min.  
A couple’s debate about what to name their first child becomes confrontational as they start to weigh the real-world consequences that the child will face because of that name.

**Paranormal Radio**  
Andrew Jeffrey 2015 12 min.  
Are we alone? One stormy night, a talk-radio host who is an expert in the paranormal receives a call that may have the answer....

**Pick**  
Alicia K. Harris 2019 11 min  
A Black teenager gets treated differently when she decides to come to picture day with her hair in a natural afro instead of straightening it as she usually does.

**Pudge**  
Annie Bradley 2008 17 min.  
Twelve-year-old Violet just wants a winter coat that fits, but what she gets is an unusual friendship that fits her best of all.

**Qaggiq / Gathering Place**  
Zacharias Kunuk (Inuk) 1989 58 min. (Inuktut with English subtitles)  
Conflicts arise when families in an Inuit camp build a communal igloo to celebrate the coming of spring with games, singing and drum dancing.

**Recrue / Rebel**  
Pier-Philippe Chevigny 2019 15 min. (French with English subtitles)  
A young boy brought along by his father on a vigilante border patrol looking for illegal immigrants starts to question the morality of the group’s actions.

**Savage**  
Lisa Jackson (Anishinaabe) 2009 6 min.  
This “residential school musical” uses song and dance to depict a little girl’s dehumanizing journey into the residential school system, as well as her mother’s pain.

**Snow**  
Kim Barr 2017 10 min.  
A young girl who recently immigrated to Canada has mixed feelings about seeing her first snowfall.

**Spirit of the Bluebird**  
Jesse Gouchey (Cree), Xstine Cook 2011 6 min.  
A personal and poetic tribute by Gouchey to Gloria Black Plume, a woman who was murdered in Calgary in March of 1999.

**Stolen**  
Kawennáhere Devery Jacobs (Mohawk) 2017 7 min.  
This powerful short offers a glimpse into the life of Sheena, a troubled 14-year-old Indigenous girl who yearns for freedom away from the girls’ home she’s been placed in.

**Taxi Libre**  
Kaveh Nabatian 2010 13 min. (French and Spanish with English subtitles)  
Jose Garcia was a doctor in his home country. Now, as a taxi driver in Canada, he must cope with a playfully taunting prospective employer who takes a seat in his cab.

**Throat Song**  
Miranda de Pencier, Executive producers: Alethea Arnaquq-Baril (Inuk), Qajaq Ellsworth (Inuk) 2011 16 min.  
A young Inuit woman with a troubled past begins to connect with other victims of violence from her community, and reclaim her voice along the way.  
Content Note: Mature subject matter, coarse language
THUG
Daniel Boos 2017  15 min.
An aspiring Black actor risks everything to get the perfect audition tape in this provocative look at the different forms of racial language. Content Note: Depictions of trauma

TUNDRA
Carol Nguyen 2018  11 min.
The mother of a missing Vietnamese woman sees her daughter in her dreams, allowing her to come to terms with her grief.

UNDER
Mark Raso 2011  23 min.
Tom tries to help Sydney overcome her addictions in an isolated northern setting, but when an avalanche traps the couple, their trip becomes a battle for survival. Content Note: Coarse language

WAPAWEKKA
Dans Goulet (Cree/ Métis) 2010 16 min.
Josh and his father visit their family cabin in Saskatchewan for the last time, confronting the generational differences between their Cree heritage and Josh’s urban lifestyle.

7 MINUTES
Tasha Hubbard (Cree) 2016  7 min.
Marie’s walk home from university takes seven minutes, but when she is followed home by a stranger in a van, those seven minutes feel like an eternity. Content Note: Depictions of trauma

ACTIVISM 2.0
Emily Hunter 2015  15 min.
Filmmaker and eco-warrior Emily Hunter explores the unconventional tactics of the Black Fish, members of a new generation of high-tech environmental activists.

AGAINST THE GRAIN
Curtis Mandeville (Métis) 2009  24 min.
Survivors of the Indian residential school system attempt to cope with its impact on their personal lives and communities. A good primer for discussions of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission report.

CREE CODE TALKER
Alexandra Lazarowich (Cree) 2016 14 min.
During WWII, Allied Forces used Indigenous-language speakers to transmit coded messages that could not be broken. The contributions of Charles “Checker” Tomkins are revealed in this insightful doc.

CRY ROCK
Banchi Hanuse (Nuxalk) 2016 29 min.
Fewer than 15 Nuxalk-language speakers and storytellers are left in Bella Coola, B.C. This thoughtful film explores what is lost from a culture when a language threatens to go extinct.

THE CREATOR’S GAME
Canadace Maracle (Mohawk) 2011  41 min.
One year after being denied entry to the World Championship because of their Haudenosaunee passports, the Iroquois Nationals continue to fight for national sovereignty — and the title.

FIT TO BE TIED
James Cooper & Jess Hayes 2018 13 min.
At the Calgary Stampede, Cody BigTobacco competes in his first Indian Relay, a fast-paced and dangerous horse race where jockeys ride bareback and switch horses.

FIT TO BE TIED
James Cooper & Jeff Petry 2015  12 min.
Milan’s a regular teen: He likes sports, lasagna and hanging with friends. But unlike most other boys, he faces the struggles of a transgender identity. With his family supporting him, he helps educate and inspire those around him.

HANDSOME AND MAJESTIC
Nathan Drillot, Jeff Petry 2015  12 min. (French with English subtitles)
When No school in his northern community of Wapekeka, 14-year-old Miranda must move 500 km away for Grade 9. This touching doc reveals the challenges faced by many Northern Indigenous youth.

HARD LEARNING
Daniel Fortin (Métis) 2011  27 min.
Mel Davis, a member of the legendary Harlem Globetrotters, had two families — one in Chicago and one in Vancouver. His Canadian son, Hubert, takes a personal look at his father’s life. Nominated for an Oscar.

HARDWOOD
Hubert Davis 2004  27 min.

LE CHEMIN ROUGE / RED PATH
Thérése Ottawa (Atikamekw) 2015  15 min. (French with English subtitles)
This moving documentary tells the story of Tony Chachai, a young man who reconnects with his Atikamekw roots by dancing in powwows.

WAPAWEKKA

WILDFIRE
Bretten Hannam (Mi’kmaq) 2019 12 min.
On the run from their abusive father, two Mi’kmaq brothers befriend a hitchhiker who helps them connect to their identities.

A WORLD OF OUR OWN
Morningstar Derosier (Anishinaabe) 2018 9 min.
In a twist on futuristic sci-fi, a young woman becomes infatuated with a woman who removes a ubiquitous computer implant that has replaced most forms of communication.

CANDACE MARACLE

BANCHI HANUSE

NATHAN DRILLOT

JESS HAYES

JAMES COOPER

JEFF PETRY

MEL DAVIS

HUBERT DAVIS

THERÉSE OTTAWA

MORNINGSTAR DEROESIER

ENVERS ET CONTRE TOUT / AGAINST ALL ODDS
Kimberley Ann Surin 2021  7 min. (French with English subtitles)
An incisive look at the way racism continues to act as a barrier to Black athletes from participating in youth hockey programs.

Hard Learning

Cree Code Talker

The Creator’s Game

Candace Maracle

Alexandra Lazarowich

Banchi Hanuse

Cree Code Talker

Fit to Be Tied

James Cooper & Jeff Petry

Fit to Be Tied

James Cooper & Jess Hayes

Cry Rock

Banchi Hanuse

Cry Rock

Banchi Hanuse

Le Chemin Rouge

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Brandon W. Davis

Handsome and Majestic

Nathan Drillot, Jeff Petry

Wapawekka

Cree Code Talker

Fit to Be Tied

James Cooper & Jess Hayes

Cry Rock

Banchi Hanuse

Cry Rock

Banchi Hanuse

Le Chemin Rouge

Candace Maracle

Alexandra Lazarowich

Alexandra Lazarowich

The Creator’s Game

Candace Maracle (Mohawk)

Alexandra Lazarowich (Cree)

Candace Maracle (Mohawk)
HOME COOKED MUSIC
Mike Maryniuk 2014 9 min.
Is there anything more Canadian than a moose-antler electric guitar? After having a near-death experience, a retired machinist finds meaning by making whimsical stringed instruments from strange objects.

ICE BREAKERS
Sandamini Rankaduwa 2019 15 min
A rising hockey star is introduced to the history of the Black hockey league in Atlantic Canada to inspire him to pursue his dreams in a sport where Black athletes like him remain underrepresented.

LESSONS INJUSTICE
Karen Chapman 2017 9 min.
A Black father takes his son for a driving lesson knowing he has to have a tough conversation about what it means to be a Black man in society.

IN THE SHADOW OF THE PINES
Annie Koizumi 2020 8 min.
Growing up, Anne Koizumi was embarrassed of having her father work at her school. Years later, she sees their relationship in a new light.

MOHAWK GIRLS
Tracey Deer (Mohawk) 2005 55 min.
Three teens from the Kahnawake Indigenous community wrestle not only with decisions about their futures, but also with the challenges of maintaining and embracing their Mohawk identity.

MA BOÎTE NOIRE / MY BLACK BOX
Nicolas-Alexandre Tremblay 2012 9 min.
An intimate portrait of the inspirational Ray Sanderson, a single father blinded by gun violence who pleads for us to look at things differently.

THE LITTLE DEPUTY
Trevor Anderson 2015 9 min.
Years after dressing up as a deputy sheriff for a western-style photo with his father, Anderson explores issues of gender identity when he tries to recreate the photo as it always should have been.

MÈMÈRE MÉTISSE
Janelle Wookey (Métis) 2008 30 min.
A young filmmaker explores her family’s past as she schemes to convince her grandmother to accept her Métis heritage. Wookey’s mischievous persistence uncovers a legacy of shame and the profound courage needed to overcome it.

MÉTIS GIRLS
Victoria Anderson-Gardner (Ojibwe) 2019 12 min
Indigenous youth leaders from the Standing Rock protests reflect on the experience of living at the camp as well as the importance and lasting impact that it had on their lives.

ME, MOM AND MONA
Mina Shum 1993 20 min.
In this evocative documentary, the women of the Shum family share in a discussion that reveals the impact of conflicting values on their lives.

MORE THAN A STEREOTYPE
Sinay Kennedy (Dene) 2019 4 min.
Dene filmmaker Sinay Kennedy reflects on Indigenous representation in the media and how she plans to combat stereotyping through her own art.

MR. SANDERSON
Ray Sanderson, Terrie McIntosh (Ojibwe) 2014 9 min.
During the Iran-Iraq war, an Iranian child soldier risked his life to save an injured Iraqi enemy. Years later, in Canada, the men meet by sheer coincidence and help each other heal the wounds of the past. An inspiring true story.

NAILS
Phillip Borsos 1979 13 min.
This documentary explores the manufacturing of nails and the gulf between the skilled labour of traditional tradespeople and modern mechanization.

NOEUDS / KNOTS
Aïcha Morin-Baldé 2021 9 min.
Three Black women in Montreal embrace their natural hair. It is a journey of embracing their natural hair.
**THE ROUTES**
James McDougall (Anishinaabe) 2014 4 min.
A man cycles through his memories of the local women who have gone missing in his Anishinaabe community.

**SHARKWATER REVOLUTION SAIPAN**
Rob Stewart 2011 5 min.
After watching the feature film Sharkwater, a Grade 6 class in Saipan of the Northern Mariana Islands pressures their government to ban shark fins — and succeeds.

**SOBER HOUSE: A SIGN OF CHANGE IN CREE NATION**
Wendell G. Collier (Mi’kmaw) 2019 20 min.
A group of teen activists work together to institute a city-wide program to combat alcohol abuse, using signs placed in front windows to mark alcohol-free homes.

**TAKING ME TO PROM**
Andrew Moir 2019 21 min.
The high school tradition of prom is explored through a series of interviews with LGBTQ+ students over the years, sharing their own diverse stories and perspectives.

**TURNING TABLES**
Chrisann Hessing 2018 16 min.
Anishinaabe music producer Joshua DePerry, aka Classic Roots, uses his platform as an award-winning DJ to empower the youth in his community and examine what it means to be both urban and Indigenous.

**THUNDERBIRD**
Erin Collins (Anishinaabe) 2017 3 min.
The amazing story of Steven Collins, a First Nations ski jumper who competed in the Olympics when he was only 15 years old.

**UTE KANATA / HERE IN CANADA**
Virginie Michel (Innu) 2016 2 min.
This poignant take on “O Canada” adapts the national anthem to the reality of the First Nations of Canada, and provides a rallying song for all peoples.

**VOLTA**
Ryan Mullins 2009 13 min.
In this gorgeously shot documentary, Ryan Mullins is guided by a former projectionist on a tour of a derelict movie theatre in rural Ghana that is now serving as a make-shift school.

**WAYS OF YESTERDAY**
Elliott Simon (Anishinaabe) 2014 6 min.
Through breakdance and rap, Elliott, a rapper, and Curtis, a b-boy, share their life experiences and try to motivate and inspire Indigenous kids to follow their dreams.

**WHAT ARE YOU?**
Richard Pierre 2019 20 min.
The mixed-race identity is explored through a series of interviews recounting the isolation, discrimination and self-discovery that come from being stuck between two cultures.

**WHERE THE CHILDREN LEFT**
Charlene Moore (Cree) 2019 11 min.
With no high school in their community, the people of Shoal Lake 40 First Nation must send their children away from home at only 14 years old in order to access educational opportunities.

**YESTERDAY IN RWANDA**
Thirza Cuthand (Cree) 2019 6 min.
A lyrical ode to the hard work, determination and kinship of the fishermen of Gesgapegiag First Nation.

**YESTERDAY IN RWANDA**
Davina Pardo 2005 14 min.
A documentary examining the resonant horrors of the Rwandan genocide — through the eyes of Claire Wihogora, a survivor.