

# WINNIPEG FILM GROUP

Annual Report 2022 - 2023



Filmmaker Rachel Beaulieu's set at the WFG Black Lodge Studio, filming scenes from one of her upcoming new short films, *The Otherside*.

Check out more of Rachel's work here at [www.candreamproductions.com](http://www.candreamproductions.com)



# Land Acknowledgment

We acknowledge we are on unceded Treaty 1 territory, the ancestral lands of the Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota and Dene Peoples and the National Homeland of the Red River Métis. Our clean water is sourced from Shoal Lake 40 First Nation, that was created when The City of Winnipeg displaced Shoal Lake 40 First Nation from its historic village site between 1912-1919.

To advance reconciliation and undoing ongoing colonial processes, the Winnipeg Film Group (WFG) is committed to supporting Indigenous narrative sovereignty through material access to film production and presentation resources, and to continue to work collaboratively with Indigenous filmmakers to uplift Indigenous narratives.

## About the Winnipeg Film Group

The Winnipeg Film Group (WFG) is a charitable, artist-run organization dedicated to promoting the art of cinema and serves as an affordable resource centre for independent filmmakers in Manitoba.

Incorporated in 1974, we encourage the production, presentation and distribution of films of a social, artistic, experimental and educational nature and to enhance the production and appreciation of film making.

The Winnipeg Film Group has three distinct departments, each working towards their own, if interconnected, objectives. These centres are the Dave Barber Cinematheque, Distribution Centre and Production Centre.

## Mission, Vision and Values

### MISSION

The Winnipeg Film Group is an artist-run education, production, exhibition and distribution centre committed to promoting the art of cinema.

### VISION

The Winnipeg Film Group dares to be the Canadian vanguard in the creation and promotion of diverse cinematic forms, and to ignite a community of artistic exploration.

### VALUES

ARTIST-RUN promoting artistic excellence and achievement

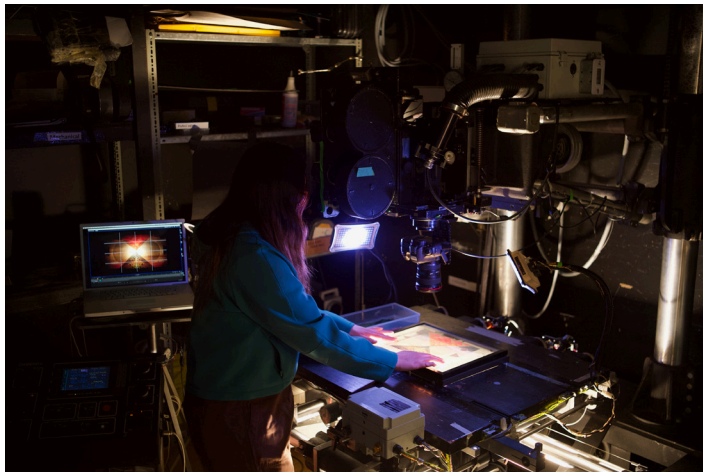
DIVERSITY reflective of our community

FILM fostering the use and appreciation of motion picture film as an artistic medium, alongside supporting work in digital approaches

INDEPENDENCE providing a platform of expression for a wide range of voices and approaches, supporting the filmmaker as an artistic creator

INNOVATION fostering creativity and new directions and ideas

## Message from Executive Director



My first year as Executive Director of the Winnipeg Film Group (WFG) began at the start of the 2022-23 fiscal. It was a tumultuous beginning with a steep mountain of challenges. A sustained, concerted and collaborative effort from the whole community - WFG staff, Board, filmmakers, membership, patrons and partners to re-ignite our programming and spaces has made a positive difference.

Our earned revenues have increased by an average of 35% each year since the start of the pandemic. While this increase has been substantial, with COVID relief funding now over, inflation, and our public funding at a freeze, we are facing significant operating financial challenges.

Small to medium arts organizations like the WFG, to large ones across the country like TIFF and Hot Docs are facing similar financial crises.

I echo Hot Doc's new president Marie Nelson's warning that more government support is needed to face unprecedented challenges for arts organizations across the country. We can't face this crisis alone.

I'd like to thank the whole WFG community for your support and devoted efforts to keep the WFG a place for everyone to make films and fulfill our mandate of advancing the art of the moving image.

Thanks to all the staff and to Dylan Baillie, Production Programs Manager, Jillian Groening, Distribution Director, Olivia Norquay, Programming Coordinator for their assistance in creating this annual report.

A special thanks to Amanda Kindzierski, Ben Williams, Karen Remoto and last but not least, Jaimz Asmundson for your guidance and mentorship.

## Board of Directors

**Ryan Simmons**  
President

**Kier-La Janisse**  
Vice President

**Fritzi Adelman**  
Secretary

**Fernando Dalayoan**  
Treasurer

**Brenda Austin-Smith**  
Director

**Marc Greene**  
Director

**Cameron MacGowan**  
Director

**Caelum Vatnsdal**  
Director

**Ross Ikeda**  
Appointed Director

**Aikaterini Zegeye-Gebrahiwot**  
Appointed Director

**Kevin Tabachnick**  
Appointed Director

Directors who have left (as of March 11, 2024)

**Jean-Jaques Javier**

The Board of Directors of the Winnipeg Film Group is responsible for governing and overseeing the strategic direction of the organization, which is dedicated to promoting and supporting independent filmmaking in Winnipeg and Manitoba. The board sets policies, ensures financial stability, and guides the organization's mission to provide resources, education, and opportunities for filmmakers.

The Board works closely with the Executive Director to ensure the organization's objectives are met and that it continues to foster a vibrant filmmaking community.



# Core Operating Funding for 2022-2023

The WFG maintains our annual core funding from the Canada Council for the Arts (CCA), as well as annual operating from the Manitoba Arts Council (MAC) and the Winnipeg Arts Council (WAC). We also occasionally receive special project grants from them.

## Canada Council for the Arts

2022-23 was the third year of our Core funding cycle from the Canada Council for the Arts.

We will receive \$285,870 each year in this cycle (2020-2027).

We received a Media Arts Equipment Acquisition Grant from the Canada Council for the arts in 2022-23 in the amount of \$29,060.



Canada Council  
for the Arts

Conseil des arts  
du Canada

## Manitoba Arts Council

Our annual operating funding from MAC has maintained consistent at \$95,000 since 2010-11.

We requested an increase with our 2024-25 funding application.

In 2022-23 MAC provided \$7,125 for the Manitoba Hothouse Award for Creative Development.

MANITOBA  
ARTS COUNCIL



CONSEIL DES ARTS  
DU MANITOBA

## Winnipeg Arts Council

We received \$51,800 from WAC, an increase from \$49,275 the previous year.



WINNIPEG  
ARTS COUNCIL

## We received the final payments of COVID-19 related funding:

Government of Canada - \$20,076 - Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy



Government  
of Canada

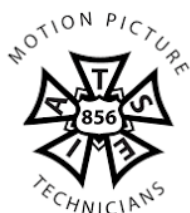
## In comparison to 2021-22:

- Government of Canada - \$148,269 - Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy
- Government of Canada - \$27,203 - Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy



# Project Funding & Ongoing Sponsorships

The Winnipeg Film Group continues to receive project funding from The Winnipeg Foundation, Manitoba Film and Music, The Province of Manitoba, the Winnipeg School Division, Telefilm Canada, IATSE 856, Creative Manitoba, and Assiniboine Credit Union. Thank you for your ongoing support and partnerships.



Additonal sponsorships were generously provided by:





# DAVE BARBER CINEMATHEQUE

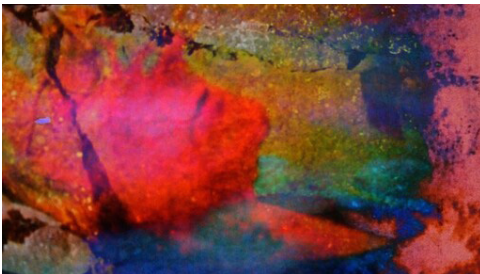
## In Memoriam - Jaimz Asmundson (April 7, 1981 – January 1, 2024)

We would like to pay tribute to Jaimz Asmundson, Programming Director of the Dave Barber Cinematheque, who the community lost suddenly on January 1, 2024. As we reflect on his accomplishments, we are reminded of Jaimz' profound dedication to enrich the lives of others. We honour their memory and celebrate the legacy he has left behind.



Our dear friend, collaborator and coworker Jaimz Asmundson: a beloved member of the film, music and arts community passed away suddenly of an aneurysm on January 1, 2024. Jaimz's untimely departure has left us all with a deep sense of loss and an irreplaceable void in our hearts. Our thoughts are with Karen Asmundson, Graham Asmundson, Jackie, and all of his family, friends and colleagues.

Jaimz has been involved in the arts scene in Winnipeg since the age of 15. He was an extraordinary, gleefully transgressive, award-winning filmmaker, talented musician, film programmer and brilliant graphic designer known for his iconic original VHS covers.



Jaimz's short films screened worldwide at festivals such as Hot Docs, Antimatter, Festival du Nouveau Cinéma, Ann Arbor, Lausanne Underground, Dawson City, BFI, Queer City Cinema, POP Montreal and Fantasia. He created the cult Super 8 favorite "*Goths! On The Bus!*" (2010) which went viral for a time and led to a comprehensive federal ban on crows on public transit in Canada. Other notable, beautiful works include "*The Magus*" (2011), a film that documents his father, visual artist C. Graham Asmundson's body of work over a rigorous six-month period using cinematography and editing as magical weapons to ritualistically birth, destroy and resurrect his father's work; and "*Echoes*" (2015), a rich, process-based visual meditation about his memories and dreams prior to his mother's death.



Jaimz was a devoted cultural worker and dedicated much of his energy to the Film Group as the Programming Director of the Cinematheque in collaboration with Dave Barber for many years until Dave's untimely passing. Jaimz took over subsequently. Jaimz was also an early curatorial member of the WNDX Festival of Moving Image and took over the responsibility of producing multiple successful editions of the Gimme Some Truth documentary festival in Winnipeg.



Jaimz was a gifted film editor who became in demand in the local film industry, but he preferred to work with his friends in the arts community and mentor new talent.





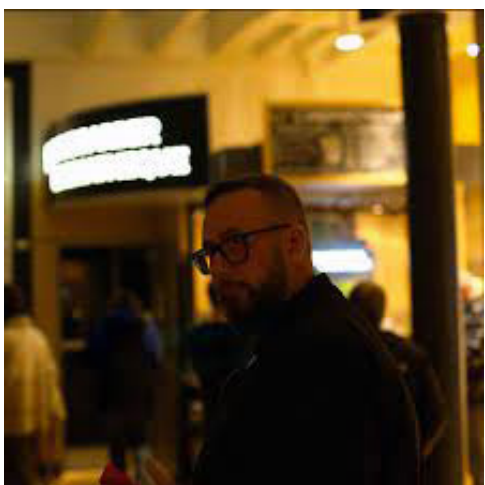
As a member of the dark synthwave duo Ghost Twin, along with Karen, he was a fixture of the local music scene and toured extensively.

Beyond his professional achievements, Jaimz was a thoughtful, empathetic, kind-hearted soul known for his generosity, warmth and unwavering support for fellow artists. He was a true cinephile and beacon of creativity and passion, constantly encouraging others to pursue their artistic visions with courage and authenticity.

He was a devoted collector of VHS tapes, with peerless curatorial instincts and an almost frightening knowledge of the history and outer limits of these misbegotten formats. His passion was so great he modified the dashboard screen in his car to be able to play them. He was a well-known, respected, and much-loved member of the VHS community.

Above all, Jaimz was beloved by his colleagues. He was always most enthusiastic about creating commercials for Cinematheque, involving all the skills he had accrued from the many stations he had held in his life, his beloved coworkers and the comedic instincts he was raised with and knew instinctively. He could also bench press over 500 hundred pounds (on a machine).

Any future student interested in the Winnipeg Film Group will deeply miss Jaimz's presence, his sense of comedy is present in all of the films produced during his tenure there and is already deeply missed.



## Jaimz Asmundson Memorial Fund

With the permission of Jaimz' family, the WFG is collecting donations in an effort to establish an endowment fund at The Winnipeg Foundation in Jaimz' name. We hope to raise the initial \$20,000 in order to set up this fund.

Donations above \$10 will receive charitable tax receipts. No matter your donation we sincerely appreciate your support.



# DAVE BARBER CINEMATHEQUE

## Highlights from the 2022-23 programming year

### House of Psychotic Women - September & October 2022

A film series inspired by Kier-La Janisse's pioneering work and in celebration of the 10th anniversary and the expanded edition of *House of Psychotic Women*.

### Astral Projection - November 25, 2022

A new monthly screening series exploring astrology through film curated by our Box Office Manager, Nic Kaneski.

### 13th Annual Gimme Some Truth Documentary Festival - December 7-11, 2022

Five day festival featuring local and international doc premieres, visiting filmmaker Alexandre O. Philippe, virtual Q&As with filmmakers Rob Freeman, Chase Joynt and Elizabeth Purchell, an incredible program of early and newly completed Winnipeg docs from founding members of the Winnipeg Film Group curated by Kevin Nikkel, and the Gimme 10- in-30 Documentary Challenge.

### "Good Afternoon Native America" - January 27, 2023

A retrospective screening of Darryl Nepinak's films, as part of the 2021 Manitoba Film Hothouse Award.

### Staff Picks - January 28, 2023

A new monthly series where Winnipeg film Group staff select and introduce new and old favourites.

### Reimagining the Black Diaspora: Spirituality, Mythology and Collective Memory - February 2023

A film series in celebration of Black History Month, curated by Mahlet Cuff, examining Black diaspora.

### I Like Movies - March 11 and 12, 2023

Film screening and in-person discussion with filmmaker Chandler Levack.

### Archangel 35mm screening - March 22 and 23, 2023

Special screenings of our archival 35mm print of Guy Maddin's *Archangel*.

### Establishing Shots Book Launch - April 12, 2023

The launch of *Establishing Shots: An Oral History of the Winnipeg Film Group* with filmmaker and author Kevin Nikkel, featuring a shorts program and discussion with Dr. Andrew Burke.







# DAVE BARBER CINEMATHEQUE

## Highlights from the 2022-23 programming year

### National Canadian Film Day

#### WIFC Shorts Program - April 19, 2023

In celebration of National Canadian Film Day, the Winnipeg Indigenous Filmmakers Collective presented a program celebrating new cinematic works reflecting the diaspora of identity, culture, and image. Featuring works by Amanda Kindzierski, Charlene Moore, Nathaniel Magbanua, Westin Sutherland, Farrah Murdock, Kevin Settee, Olly King and Fawnda Neckoway.



### Dancing Swords: The Wuxia Films of King Hu - May 2023

A film series in celebration of Asian Heritage Month, curated by Leslie Supnet, showcasing five of King Hu's exhilarating wuxia epics.

### Spatial Velocities: Short Experimental Films by Toshio Matsumoto and Takashi Ito - May 19, 2023

An experimental short film program highlighting the ground-breaking work of Toshio Matsumoto and Takashi Ito. This series merged documentary with the avant garde and explored the concept of 'neo-documentarism' and 'new realism'.



### Ghostly Revenants: Short works by Stephanie Comilang, Simon Lui, Riar Rizaldi and Shireen Seno - May 20, 2023

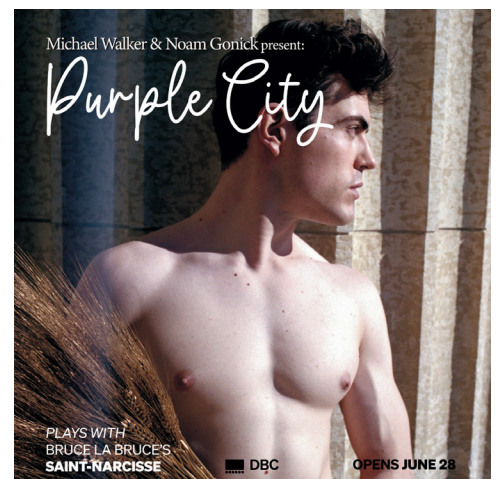
A short film program focusing on works by Stephanie Comilang, Simon Liu, Riar Rizaldi and Shireen Seno, reflecting on image-making as historical transmission, giving voice to personal, cultural, and regional realities enmeshed in colonial legacies.

### You Are In Bear Country: The Governmental Films of Matthew Rankin - June 10, 2023

One part live performance, one part short film screening, You Are in Bear Country is a personal narrative of experimental filmmaker Matthew Rankin. This event featured an in-person artist talk, film curation and live performance with musical interlude and Bear.

### Purple City - June 29, 2023

Film screening and in-person discussion with filmmakers Noam Gonick and Michael Walker.



## Partnerships:

We regularly partner with multiple organizations to present special programming and offer our venue for their own festival programming. Between 2022 and 2023 we partnered with:

- send + receive: The Lost Generation - July 2022 & Nam June Paik: Moon is the Oldest TV April 2023 - ongoing partnership exploring visual and sound art in film.
- WNDX Festival of Moving Image - October 2022
- Groundswell: Delia Derbyshire: The Myths and the Legendary Tapes - January 2023 - ongoing partnership exploring experimental music in film.
- Canadian Museum for Human Rights: Human Rights Through Film monthly series - March 2023
- 7th Annual Alliance Française French Film Festival - March 24-26, 2023
- Architecture+Design Film Festival - April 26-30, 2023
- Winnipeg Underground Film Festival - June 1-4, 2023
- Jazz Winnipeg: Jazz on Film - June 2023 - ongoing partnership exploring jazz music in film.
- Urban Shaman: Winnipeg Indigenous Filmmakers Collective shorts program September 2022 and April 2023 - ongoing partnership focussing on Indigenous films.

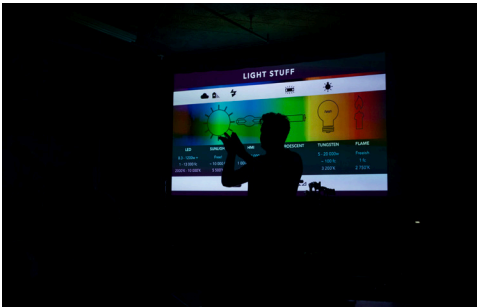




# PRODUCTION DEPARTMENT

## Highlights from the 2022-23 programming year

In 2022-23, the Production Centre continued to serve and support independent filmmakers working in all media and forms. Affordable training (for digital and analogue equipment), both in-person and online, mentorship, production funding, and screening opportunities through Members Screenings were offered.



Intro to After Effects with Rylan Gimby, September 2022

Cinematography & Colour Grading Basics with Quan Luong, September 2022

Seven Oaks Student Filmmaking Classes with Amanda Kindzierski, October 2022 - March 2023



Editing In Premiere Pro with Karsten Wall, October 2022

Sound Recording with Cody Blacksmith, October 2022

Obliterating Conventional Expectations of Film with Rhayne Vermette, October 2022

Direct Animation and Post-Film Practice with Scott Fitzpatrick, October 2022



Like Things - An Experimental Animation Workshop with Ed Ackerman, November 2022

Arriflex SR1 and SR3 Workshop with Josh Marr, December 2022

Scripting the Unscripted with Alexandre O. Philippe, December 2022



Directing for Documentary with JJ Neepin, January 2023

Character Design Workshop with Alex Copones and Mandy Szwaluk, January 2023

Make Your Own Dentures Workshop with Brendan Murphy, January 2023

Editing & Motion Graphics with Sara Bulloch, February 2023



DIY Colour Super 8 Film with Kristiane Church, February 2023

Smartphone Filmmaking with Tommy Inthirath, February 2023

Let's Get Personal! How to Write A Screenplay From Your Own Experiences with Chandler Levack, March 2023

Lighting Faces with Andrew Forbes, March 2023

Quantum Youth Filmmaking Workshop with Kristiane Church and

Gwen Trutnau, February 2023 - April 2023

Creative Manitoba Youth Mentorship Workshops with Ben Williams, March 2023 - May 2023

Grant Writing Workshop with Kevin Tabachnick, March 2023

A 16mm Bolex Experiment with Rhayne Vermette and Kristiane Church, March 2023 - May 2023

Set Dressing Workshop with Morgan Traa, April 2023

Crafting A Short Film Script with Melva McLean, April 2023

Basic Filmmaking Workshop Series with Amanda Kindzierski, May 2023 - June 2023

Camera Assistant Workshop with Ryan Offenloch, May 2023

Animation Under the Camera with Leslie Supnet, May 2023

DaVinci Resolve Workshop with Abby Falvo, May 2023

Creating Under Constraints with Laina and Taylor Brown, June 2023

Sound Editing Workshop with Jordan Voth, June 2023

Regular-Double 8mm Film with Sandy McLeannan, June 2023





## Filmmaking Funding

With financial support provided by Manitoba Film & Music (MFM), we provide \$32,000 in cash and up to \$23,000 in-kind services in annual Filmmaker Funds to assist Winnipeg Film Group members in the development of their artistic careers.



### WFG's Fall 2022 MFM Post/Production Fund

Ethan Billard Dooley - Rain on the Muddy Ground - \$1,000 Cash

Jordan Johnsen - The Last Chance Casino - \$1,000 Cash

Mackenzie Leigh - Healer - \$1,000 Cash

Fawnda Neckoway - Language Keepers - \$2,000 Cash and \$2,000 WFG Services

Haley Charney - The Cold Rush - \$1,000 Cash

The selection committee was comprised of Roger Boyer, Maggie Collins and Rowan Gray.  
The selection committee was chaired by WFG's Production Programs Manager Dylan Baillie.

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### WFG's Spring 2023 MFM Post/Production Fund

Sidney Phommarath - Cellars Market - \$2,000 Cash

Laura Cameron - What to Expect - \$2,000 Cash and \$2,000 WFG Services

Victoria Redsun - ETTÉN - \$2,000 Cash and \$2,000 WFG Services

Vince Tang - All of Us Are Ghosts - \$1,000 WFG Services

The selection committee was comprised of Luke Whitmore and MC de Natividad.  
The selection committee was chaired by WFG's Production Programs Manager Dylan Baillie.

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### WFG's 2023 First Film Fund

Aubrey Stewart - Something on Your Mind - \$2,000 Cash and \$2,000 WFG Services

Émilie Michalik - RIP: Or, The Self-Made Prometheus - \$2,000 Cash and \$2,000 WFG Services

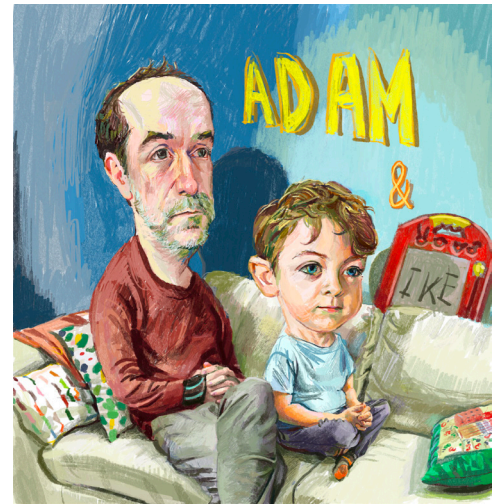
The selection committee was comprised of Adam Yarish and Rachel Beaulieu.  
The selection committee was chaired by WFG's Production Programs Manager Dylan Baillie.



## WFG's MFM Manitoba Hothouse Award for Creative Development

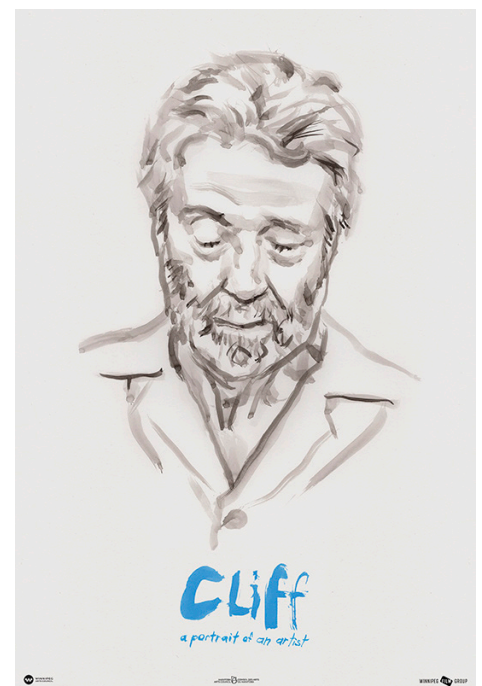
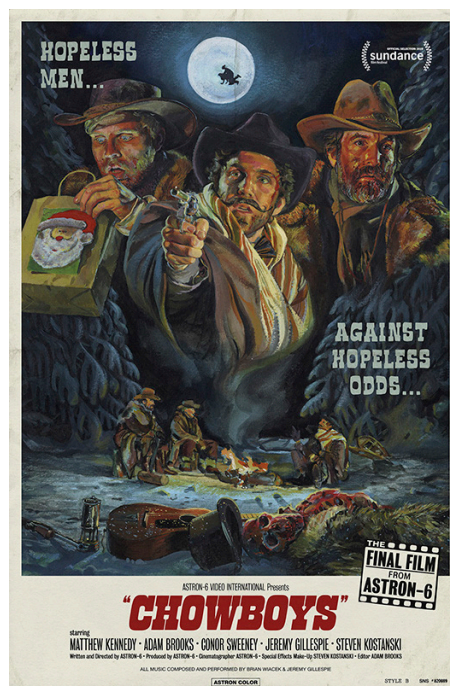
In September of 2023, Adam Brooks received the Manitoba Film Hothouse Award, which recognizes the career of an established Manitoba filmmaker. It comes with \$10,000 in cash (courtesy of the Manitoba Arts Council and Manitoba Film and Music), \$5,000 in WFG production services, and a WFG Membership with Production Add-on.

Adam was selected for the award unanimously by a peer assessment selection committee comprised of: filmmaker Heidi Phillips, photographer and filmmaker Diana Thorneycroft and visual artist Luther Konadu. The selection committee was chaired by WFG's Executive Director Leslie Supnet.



## Adam Brooks Biography

Born and raised in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Adam Brooks dreamed of drawing comic books for a living before he set his sights on the world of fine arts. He exhibited his oil paintings at The <SITE> Gallery and the Winnipeg Art Gallery among others before ever stepping foot on a film set. In 2006 he formed the filmmaking collective ASTRON-6 with four of his closest friends. Their films have been exhibited all over the world, most notably at The Toronto International Film Festival (2014) and The Sundance Film Festival (2019.) Adam has appeared in multiple films as an actor including 'Stump The Guesser' by Guy Maddin and the Johnson bros, and 'Psycho Goreman' by Astron-6 Alum Steven Kostanski. In 2019 Adam won the Best Actor award at The Gimli Film Festival for the Astron-6 picture 'Chowboys' and in 2022 he won Best Manitoba Director for his documentary 'Cliff: a Portrait of an Artist.' When he's not working he still finds time to draw and paint. One of his illustrations was recently featured on an episode of Amazon's 'The Boys' (s03e02). He still dreams of drawing comic books (or making movies) for a living and continues to make films and animations with his two sons in Winnipeg (see - 'Pandemic Bear' on Youtube).





In March of 2023, Angeline Javier received the WFG's Mosaic Award for her film "Pages", which includes:

\$2,000 in living expenses  
\$3,500 to support production & post-production expenses  
\$2,000 in WFG Services  
\$1000 in access support such as child care or ASL interpretation  
A General Membership + Production Add-on with the WFG valid for 1 year.



Hazel Venzon was chosen by Angeline as her filmmaker mentor. The peer assessment selection committee was comprised of: filmmaker Shira Newman and filmmaker Fawnda Neckoway (a past recipient of the fund). The selection committee was chaired by WFG's Production Programs Manager Dylan Baillie.

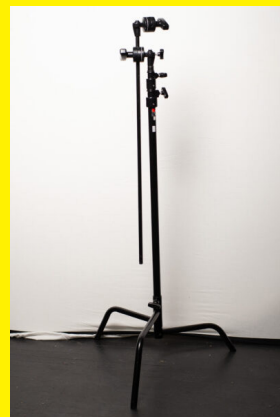
Mosaic was founded by Winnipeg Film Group's former Executive Director, Cecilia Araneda in an effort to support diverse talent in our local filmmaking community.

### **Angeline Javier Biography**

Angeline Javier is a Filipino-Canadian photographer and filmmaker based in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Her passion for visual media began as a child, filming and editing home videos with her sisters. In 2022, she graduated from the Sisler CREATE program and decided to pursue a career in film. Angeline continued her studies at the Red River College Polytechnic in Digital Film and Media Production. As an emerging artist, she is dedicated to telling stories that shed light on underrepresented voices and issues.

### **Equipment Acquisitions**

In October of 2022 the WFG's Production Centre acquired a new selection of lighting and grip gear. This includes a Aputure 600D LED Monolight, Amaran F22C LED Mat, and a variety of clamps and C-stands to support our full selection of grip gear. These lights have opened up new possibilities for filmmakers, especially the LED Mat which is fully RGBWW with excellent colour rendition.



## TELEFILM: TALEN TO WATCH PROGRAM

The WFG re-opened its dormant Telefilm Talent to Watch Designated Industry Partner Program, in March of 2023. Telefilm's Talent to Watch supports emerging filmmakers looking to finance the production stage of their first feature film project(s).

Emerging filmmakers were asked to apply to the WFG's Telefilm Talent to Watch Designated Industry Partner Program to be considered by an internal WFG jury for recommendation.

As a Designated Industry Partner, the WFG was eligible to recommend one first feature film (fiction or documentary) project to the Main component and Indigenous Component.

Ian Bawa's ***Strong Son*** (Drama) was chosen by the WFG for recommendation from both the WFG and On Screen Manitoba.

Ian's project was successful in securing Telefilm Talent to Watch Funding, in a very competitive awards process.

A commitment of \$3.6 million will be invested into these projects by Telefilm and the Talent Fund.







# DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT

## Highlights from the 2022-23 programming year:

The WFG Distribution Department offers personalized distribution services for filmmakers whose works align with the organization's objectives, which is to support Canadian artists while earning rental and sales revenue on the filmmaker's behalf. The department continues to evolve their services and skills to allow for changes in technology, demand of work, artistic output, and paid opportunities for artists. In addition to the daily distribution activities involving festival submissions, composing educational streaming licenses, and delivering film materials, the department strives to continually seek out and create screening opportunities for filmmakers in the WFG catalogue.

From July 1, 2022 through to June 30, 2023, there were a total of 178 screenings at film festivals, galleries, conferences, and arthouse cinemas around the globe. There were also 82 film sales. This figure encompasses not only DVD purchases, but also digital streaming license agreements purchased by educators, and films acquired by university libraries.

### Acquisitions:

There were a total of 69 submissions and of those 69, 18 films were brought into the WFG Distribution Catalogue. While most of these films entered the two-year active (or festival-oriented) distribution circuit, a handful were acquired due to educational purposes and went directly into non-active distribution. Non-active distribution means that the film materials enter the WFG catalogue and are organized and cared for accordingly, but they are not 'actively' submitted to film festivals.

Of the 18 films brought in to the WFG catalogue:

- 72% are made by women or gender-diverse filmmakers
- 56% are made by filmmakers of Colour
- 17% are made by filmmakers who are Queer and/or LGBTQ2SA
- 61% are made by filmmakers based in Manitoba

The films brought into the WFG Catalogue from July 2022 to June 2023 include:

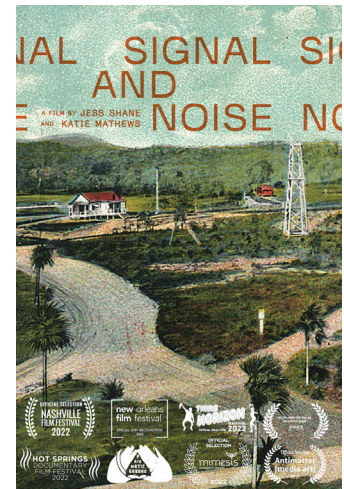
- *(un)frozen architecture* by James Pomeroy (2019)
- *1200+* by Leonard Yakir and Sheila North (2020)
- *Bumalik (to go back)* by MC de Natividad (2023)
- *Discordia* by Rowan Gray (2023)
- *Hangover* by Farrah Murdock (2023)
- *Hello Anson* by Yvonne Sung (2023)
- *How amazingly unlikely is your birth* by Clare Samuel (2022)
- *Intersection* by Cecilia Araneda (2022)
- *Kita kiskithihtahkwaw: So They Will Know* by Fawnda Neckoway (2022)





## Acquisitions (continued):

- *Mary's Way of the Cross* by Bisong Taiwo (2022)
- *Shitty Little* by Jeff McKay and Takashi Iwasaki (2023)
- *Signal and Noise* by Jess Shane and Kate Matthews (2022)
- *Smoke Eater* by Gloria Mercer (2022)
- *Spirit Bear: Honouring Memories, Planting Dreams* by Spotted Fawn Productions (2022)
- *Strong Son* by Ian Bawa (2020)
- *Tattoo* by Liam Karp (2023)
- *Winter Break* by Lasha Mowchun (2022)
- *Witch Woman* by Pixie Cram (2022)



## WFG Catalogue Screenings:

Of the 178 screenings from July 2022 to June 2023:

- 67% were film festivals
- 11% were screened on streaming platforms
- 6% were curated screenings
- 5% were educational
- 5% were at galleries and art museums
- 3% were theatrical screenings
- 1.5% were broadcasts
- 1% were for community groups
- .5% were for conferences



## WFG Catalogue screening highlights include:

Indi - Visual 2 at EXiS Experimental Film and Video Festival focused on the works of Solomon Nagler. The film prints for *skin of the cit-y* (2016), *genizah: passages from the lublin book graveyard* (2018), *perhaps/We* (2003), *Notes on Gesture* (2010), *The Sex of Self-Hatred* (2004), and *Fugue Nefesh* (2007) played in Seoul, South Korea in July 2022.

In September 2022, La Cinematheque du documentaire a la Bpi in Paris, France presented a screening series which featured three works in the WFG Catalogue: *Souvenirs: Waiting for the Parade* by Paula Kelly (2008), *yaya/ayat* by Hagere Selam (shimby) Zegeye-Gebrehiwot (2010), and *Caribou in the Archive* by Jennifer Dysart (2019).

From September 2022 through February 2023, *Nosisim* (2017) by Sonya Ballantyne screened in the Daphne Odjig Exhibition at the Art Gallery of Windsor.

In September 2022, the Cinema Politica Film Network hosted the "First Peoples, First Screens" program, which featured five films from the WFG Catalogue. The featured films include *A Common Experience* by Shane Belcourt (2013), *Four Faces of the Moon* by Amanda Strong (2016), *Indian* by Darryl Nepinak (2008), *Heart* by Sam Karney (2015), and *Two Scoops* by Jackie Traverse (2008).

Still: *Four Faces of the Moon* by Amanda Strong (2016)



## WFG Catalogue screening highlights continued:

Artist Estelle Chaigne curated a program of WFG Catalogue works which screened at L'Œil d'Oodaaq in Rennes, France, in December 2022. The films selected were *My Winnipeg* by Guy Maddin (2007), *We're Talking Vulva* by Tracy Treager and Shawna Dempsey (1990), *Black Forest* by Diana Thorneycroft (2020), and *Tudor Village: a one take deal* by Rhayne Vermette (2012).

The Cinematheque in Vancouver screened a Guy Maddin Retrospective in January 2023. The series featured a selection of shorts including *The Dead Father* (1985) and *Sissy Boy Slap Party* (2004) as well as features such as *Careful* (1992), *Cowards Bend the Knee* (2003), and *The Saddest Music in the World* (2003). The Retrospective also featured a screening of *Archangel* (1990) in 35mm.

From January to June 2023, *Footsteps* by Jeremy Benning (2020) was broadcast on Air Canada's In-Flight Films.

In February 2023, *Caribou in the Archive* by Jennifer Dysart (2019) screened at the Florida State University Museum of Fine Arts.

From February through August 2023, *Brown Town Muddy Water* by Jesse Green (2015) streamed on Hot Docs at Home presented by Hot Docs International Documentary Film Festival.

The Reimagining Queer Liberation Series, presented by Pleasure Dome TO in April 2023, featured *Grand Mother Tongue* by Chanelle Lajoie (2021).

For National Canadian Film Day in April 2023, Le Circuit Beaumont in Quebec City screened *Crime Wave* by John Paizs (1985).

*yaya/ayat* by Hagere Selam (shimby) Zegeye-Gebrehiwot screened at the inaugural edition of IN RELATION: BLACK EXPERIMENTAL FILM FESTIVAL in May 2023.

During Indigenous History Month, the Remail Modern in Saskatoon screened *Spirit Bear and Children Maker History* by Amanda Strong and Spotted Fawn Productions (2020).

WFG Catalogue screenings at festivals outside of Canada include Birrarangga Festival in Naarm, Australia, Kaboom Animation Festival in Amsterdam, Monstra Animated Film Festival in Lisbon, Margaret Mead Film Festival in New York City, Indigen – Das Nordamerika Filmfestival in Stuttgart, Ravenheart International Film Festival in Oslo, Moviate Underground Film Festival in Harrisburg, the Indigenous Peoples Festival in Seattle, and the Kabayitos Microcinema Experimental Short Film Program in NYC.



There were also screenings at well-loved Canadian festivals such as the 8fest, Halifax Independent Filmmakers Festival, Festival REGARD, Skoden Indigenous Film Festival, FIN Atlantic International Film Festival, Breakthroughs Film Festival, Toronto Jewish Film Festival, the Future of Film Showcase, Reel Pride, DOXA Documentary Film Festival, Dreamspeakers Festival Society, Images Festival, Vox Popular Media Arts Festival, International Festival of Films on Art (le FIFA), Kingston Canadian Film Festival, Toronto Queer Film Festival, Asinabka Film & Media Arts Festival, and Gimli International Film Festival.



### Sales Highlights:

Of the 82 sales:

- 70.7% were DVD sales
- 29.3% were digital streaming agreements

WFG Catalogue works purchased for educational use were acquired and screened by organizations such as the Telus Spark Science Centre in Calgary, Out On Screen's Out In Schools program, Dryden Public Library, the Manitoba College of Social Workers, and the LGBTQA+ Centre at the Wright State University as well as institutions such as the University of Toronto, Northern Michigan University, the University of Regina, Athabasca University, Toronto Metropolitan University, the Pembina Trails School Division, Champlain College, the School District of Mystery Lake, St. James-Assiniboia School Division, and the Toronto District School Board.

### Archive/Counter-Archive WFG Case Study:

*Found Footage: Re-Examining the History of the Winnipeg Film Group*



Since 2019, the WFG Distribution Department has been one of eight Case Studies participating in a \$2.5 million SSHRC-funded project led by York University. Archive/Counter-Archive: Activating Canada's Moving Image Heritage (ACA) is a seven-year research-creation partnership that seeks to redress the crisis facing Canadian audiovisual heritage through a systematic, multi-institutional plan for facilitating public access and policy. ACA pairs partners from across the country including galleries, festivals, media arts distributors, universities and archives.

*Found Footage: Re-Examining the History of the Winnipeg Film Group*, the WFG Case Study, asks what archives can reveal about a city shaped by immigration, but built on Indigenous land, and how to re-centre the work of women filmmakers in our narratives.

The Distribution staff work closely on the Case Study with Andrew Burke, Associate Professor in the Department of English at the University of Winnipeg.



Highlights from the ACA Case Study from July 2022 to June 2023 include:

In April 2023, the department announced that sahgothé (redsun) was selected as the ACA Artist in Residence. sahgothé (redsun) is a two-spirit Dënësųlině and Nehithaw land and water protector, & multi-media artist. The beauty of the land, people, and spirits inspires the creation of their art which surrounds a non-linear form of being and creating. Their livelihood & practice as a two-spirit person is deeply ingrained in the land, ceremony, and ancestral connection.

In May 2023, the department hired Skye Callow as Archival Media Project Manager. Supported by Young Canada Works at Building Careers in Heritage, Skye assisted the department with researching, digitizing, and cataloging archival materials in the WFG's collection. Skye (re)connected with filmmakers whose works are in the WFG's historical collection and collaborated with the department to ensure that all data collection and digitization went smoothly.

In June 2023, the department welcomed Diana Hotka, Masters Graduate student in Film Preservation and Collections Management at Toronto Metropolitan University, who completed her school work placement at the WFG. Diana shared her immense knowledge involving film handling, film preservation, and data collection with the department in a series of workshops. She also developed a Better Practices manual and advanced the methods of categorization and preservation used in the WFG vault.



## VUCAVU

The WFG is happy to continue their partnership with VUCAVU, the pan-Canadian VOD platform, to support the digital distribution of Canadian independent film, video, and media art.

The Distribution Department maintains the goal to have all of their catalogue searchable, if not able to view digitally, on the platform in the coming years. In the winter of 2022, the [WFG Online Catalogue](#) was made public on the VUCAVU platform.

In June 2022, the Distribution Department was fortunate to be present at the Canadian Independent Media in Education Symposium, hosted by VUCAVU in both Toronto and Montreal.

The symposium discussed the challenges of distributing and programming in educational settings, as the distribution of Canadian Independent film, video and media arts is increasingly challenged by large corporate video distribution platforms. This reality leaves many stories, histories and cultures of people from across Canada out of the classrooms.

The symposium brought together representatives from the academic and the media arts communities to find solutions, create connections, and discuss mutual concerns and goals for educational access. The information gained and relationships cultivated continue to assist the WFG with how best to bring their catalogue into educational settings.

## Outreach

The Distribution Department was thrilled to be able to share information on distribution through a variety of platforms.

In the winter of 2022, NIMAC (National Indigenous Media Arts Coalition) invited the WFG to share a video discussing the department and the services they provide. The video was shared through NIMAC's newsletter and social media channels.

The department was also fortunate to visit classrooms at Canadian Mennonite University and Red River Collegiate to discuss the in's and out's of distribution and answer questions for film students.

### MFM Marketing Fund:

Funded by Manitoba Film and Music (MFM), the Marketing Fund helps filmmakers market and distribute media artworks by contributing to the cost of promotional materials and marketing expenses. Filmmakers can receive a maximum of \$750 per project through this fund.

#### Fall 2022 MFM Marketing Fund

Karen Tusa - *Richard the Third* - \$750

Note: There was no selection committee as there was only one applicant for this round, after an extension of the original deadline.

#### Spring 2023 MFM Marketing Fund

Ian Bawa - *My Son Went Quiet* - \$750

Abby Falvo - *\*666* - \$500

Noam Gonick and Michael Walker - *Purple City* - \$500

Fawnda Neckoway - *Kita Kiskithihtahkwaw: So They Will Know* - \$250

The selection committee was Jessica Gibson, Iyunade Judah, and Miriam Temesghen and was Chaired by Jillian Groening.



Still: 666\* by Abby Falvo (2022)



Still: My Son Went Quiet by Ian Bawa (2022)





(updated as of March 8, 2023)

### **Management & Administration**

Leslie Supnet, Executive Director

Jill Voth, Contract Bookkeeper

Karen Remoto, Contract Project Coordinator

### **Dave Barber Cinematheque**

Olivia Norquay, Programming Coordinator

Eric Peterson, Head Projectionist

Nic Kaneski, Box Office Manager

Box Office Staff: Jonathan Lee-Wing, Dina Hamid, Kristina Ansari, Saleena Zeru, Mulikat Sanni

Projectionists: Eric Peterson (Head Projectionist), Sam Sarty, Jonathan Lee-Wing

### **Distribution**

Jillian Groening, Distribution Director

Skye Callow, Contract Collections Coordinator

### **Production and Training**

Dylan Baillie, Production Programs Manager

Luke Roach, Technical Coordinator

Mandy Szwaluk, Training and Marketing Coordinator

We would like to thank staff members who left the organization:

Kristina Ansari, Projectionist and Box Office Staff

Jaimz Asmundson, Cinematheque Programming Director

Mahlet Cuff, Distribution Coordinator

Tommy Inthirath, Production Operations Manager

Omid Moterassed, Projectionist