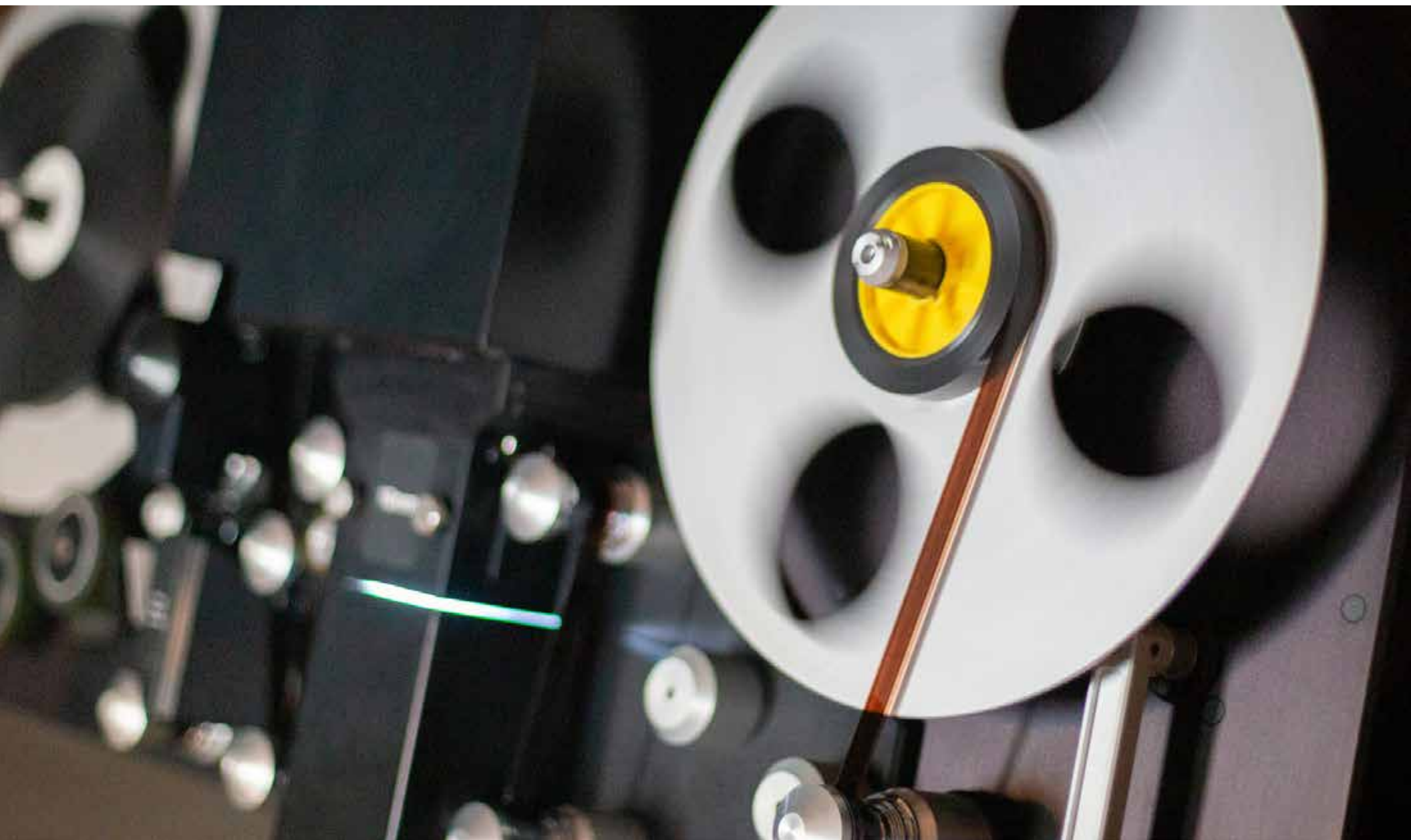


WINNIPEG FILM GROUP

Annual Report 2023 - 2024



Land Acknowledgment

The Winnipeg Film Group recognizes its presence on the traditional territory of Anishinaabe, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene peoples, and the birthplace and National Homeland of the Red River Métis. We are sustained by drinking water from the community of Shoal Lake 40 First Nation in Treaty 3 Territory and electricity from beyond Treaty 1 Territory, including Nelson River in Treaty 5 Territory.

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 Value

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

The 2023-24 fiscal year was a period of change for the Winnipeg Film Group. We continued offering our robust slate of workshops, screenings, and artist support programs while making significant strides in strengthening our infrastructure. Thanks to all of our generous donors, we set-up a permanent endowment fund at the Winnipeg Foundation, in the name of Dave Barber.

We also committed to the creation of a permanent endowment in honour of Jaimz Asmundson, the Winnipeg Film Group's Programming Director of the Dave Barber Cinematheque, who suddenly passed away at the age of 42 on January 1, 2024. Jaimz was an integral and beloved member of the film, music, and arts community, and we miss him dearly here at the WFG.

In 2023-24, we were proud to acquire a new archival film scanner, enhancing our ability to support filmmakers working with analog formats. Additionally, our newly renovated box office has improved accessibility and enriched the overall experience for our community of cinephiles.

We invite you to explore the highlights of the past fiscal year, while we look into the future and celebrate a significant stride forward in terms of labour.

In March 2025, the staff of the WFG officially ratified their first collective agreement with IATSE Local 63, joining their colleagues at Plug In ICA and ARP Books in building greater labour solidarity across Winnipeg's arts sector. This milestone reflects a growing movement toward equitable, sustainable, and safe working conditions in artist-run centres, where cultural work has long been undervalued. By unionizing, WFG staff have strengthened their collective voice contributing to a broader transformation of labour power in the arts.

- Leslie Supnet

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.

Current Board of Directors

Ryan Simmons
President

Fernando Dalayoan
Treasurer

Brenda Austin-Smith
Director

Marc Greene
Director

Cameron MacGowan
Director

Caelum Vatnsdal
Director

Dominique Wightman
Director

Aikaterini Zegeye-Gebrahiwot
Director

Oliver King
Director

Michael Drabot
Community Appointee

Farrah Murdock
Community Appointee

Directors who have left
(as of March 2025)

Kier-La Janisse
Fritzi Adelman

Kevin Tabachnick
Community Appointee term end February 2025

Core Operating Funding for 2023-2024

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).

Canada Council for the Arts

2023-24 was the fourth 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 2023-24 in the amount of \$28,000.



Manitoba Arts Council

Our annual operating funding from MAC was slightly increased from a consistent \$95,000 since 2010-11, to \$100,000 for 2023-24.

In 2023-24 MAC provided \$7,125 for the Manitoba Hothouse Award for Creative Development.



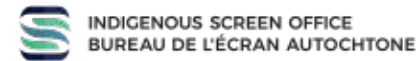
Winnipeg Arts Council

We received \$51,800 from WAC.



Project Funding & Ongoing Sponsorships

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



Additional sponsorships were generously provided by:



WINNIPEG FILM GROUP

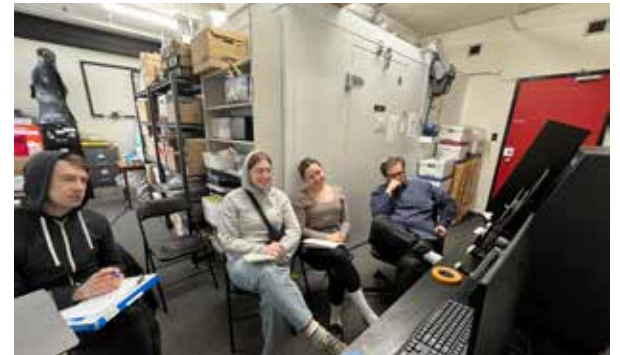
Film Scanning

Thanks to a one-time Community Services Recovery Fund initiated by the Government of Canada through the United Way, the WFG acquired a Lasergraphics Archivist Film Scanner in the Fall of 2023 with this grant of \$99,832..

With the film scanner, we are able to offer professional, high-resolution scanning services to our members, clients, and community. This investment reflects a growing commitment to film preservation, access, and the growing “archive fever” seen across the arts and media sectors which underscores the urgency of digitizing and safeguarding analog media before it is lost to time or decay.

Our particular Archivist scanner allows for gentle, high-fidelity transfers of 8mm, Super 16mm, and Super 16mm film formats, offering 5K resolution and tools for advanced color correction and stabilization. This equipment enhances our capacity to serve independent filmmakers, artists, and institutions in Manitoba and beyond who are seeking professional scanning services. This was a gap in the region we are proud to help fill.

The scanner is actively being used to digitize and preserve the WFG’s Distribution Collection, a unique body of independent and artist-driven Canadian cinema that spans over four decades. This acquisition was driven by both the cultural responsibility to safeguard this work and the practical need to develop new revenue streams that support the long-term sustainability of the WFG as a media arts centre.



Funded by the
Government of Canada's
Community Services Recovery Fund

Canada



United Way
Winnipeg

WINNIPEG FILM GROUP

Dave Barber Cinematheque Box Office Renovations

The WFG secured a total of \$128,396 in funding from the Province of Manitoba's Sport, Culture and Heritage Small Capital Grant, the Exchange District BIZ's Building Better Business Grant, and the Winnipeg Foundation's Community Grant to complete renovations to the Dave Barber Cinematheque's box office. These renovations created a more spacious and functional work area for staff and improved the overall visitor experience. Importantly, the box office countertop was redesigned to be fully accessible, ensuring a more inclusive and welcoming environment for all patrons.



DAVE BARBER CINEMATHEQUE

Highlights from the 2023-24 programming year

Suzuki Seijun Retrospective Tour (August 4-6, 2023)

A Canada-wide retrospective tour with rare screenings of Suzuki Seijun's films from his five-decade-long career, all shown on 35mm film. Presented in partnership with The Japan Foundation, Toronto.

Winnipeg Art Gallery Rooftop Series: The Colour of Pomegranates (August 17, 2023)

A rooftop screening presented in partnership with WAG-Qaumajuq.

Nuit Blanche: Big Shiny Sing-Along! (September 23, 2023)

A music video sing-along in celebration of Nuit Blanche.

Silent Movie Day: Häxan (September 29, 2023)

A celebration of silent movies, featuring a screening of Benjamin Christensen's silent classic Häxan, accompanied by a live soundtrack mix by Scott Fitzpatrick.

And a current runs through me...: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Shorts Program (September 30, 2023)

Presented in recognition of National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, this program featured works by Indigenous filmmakers Sonya Ballantyne, Jennifer Dysart, the Ephemerals, Chanelle Lajoie, Caroline Monnet, and Charlene Moore. Curated by Jillian Groening and Mahlet Cuff. Presented in partnership with Urban Shaman Contemporary Aboriginal Art.

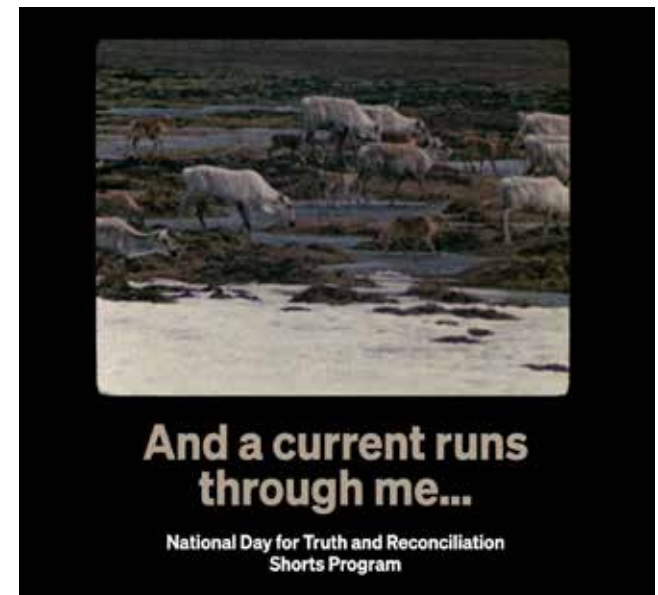
Ceremonies of Light: The Films of Kenneth Anger (October 28, 2023)

This special survey of Anger's work, curated by Jaimz Asmundson and introduced by Murray Leeder, was presented on 16mm courtesy of Canyon Cinema. The screening was held in conjunction with The Undead Archive: 100 Years of Photographing Ghosts, an exhibition curated by Dr. Serena Keshavjee and co-presented by the School of Art Gallery, University of Manitoba, University of Manitoba Archives and Special Collections, and The University of Winnipeg's Gallery 1C03.

SUZUKI SEIJUN 鈴木清順 RETROSPECTIVE TOUR



PLAYS AUGUST 4-6



DAVE BARBER CINEMATHEQUE

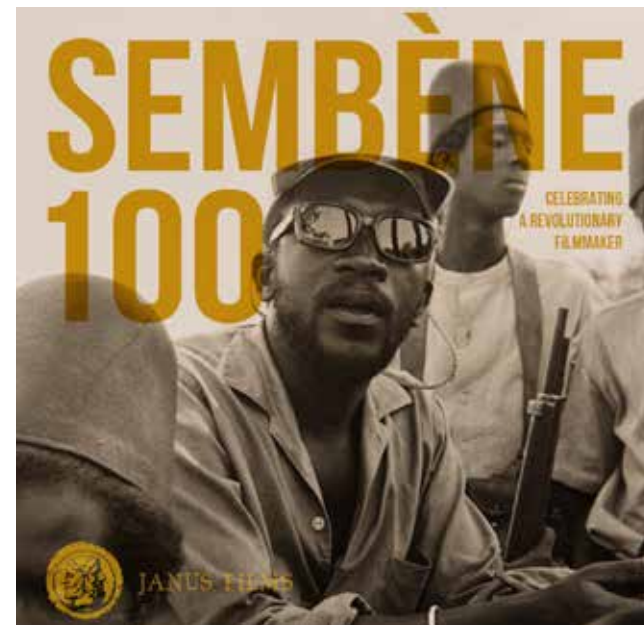
Highlights from the 2023-24 programming year

Kinosvit (November 2023-December 2023) - A program of feature-length and short films representing both modern and traditional Ukrainian films curated for Winnipeg's Ukrainian diaspora and the local film community. Guest curated by Dmytro Kashuba. Sponsored by Manitoba Film & Music, DOC Manitoba and DOC National.

Activated Memory: The Short Films of Sabrina Ratté (November 23, 2023) - This short film program exemplified Ratté's sensibilities to push the boundaries of digital art, image-building and cinema, while exploring technology, architecture, perception, and the nature of reality. Curated by Meganelizabeth Diamond. Presented in partnership with Platform Centre for Photographic + Digital Arts.

Sembène 100 (December 1-30, 2023) - In celebration of his centennial year, the Dave Barber Cinematheque presented a month-long retrospective of Senegalese filmmaker Ousmane Sembène's work. Curated by Olivia Norquay.

14th annual Gimme Some Truth Documentary Festival (December 13-17, 2023) - A five day festival featuring local and international doc premieres, featuring a presentation from visiting filmmaker Daniel Barrow of his recently completed, 2023 iteration of the hybrid curatorial/archival/expanded cinema project Winnipeg Babysitter, examining Winnipeg's unique history of public access television; Confessional Cinema, a short film program curated by local filmmaker Aaron Zeghers, featuring 10 Canadian and international works examining the cinematic confessional; Replanted Roots: Immigrant Documentary Filmmakers in Conversation, a panel discussion on the experiences of documentary filmmakers newly arrived in Canada, in partnership with DOC Manitoba; and our annual documentary challenge Gimme 10 in 30!, featuring 10 new short documentaries created by local filmmakers made in the 30 days prior to the festival. Curated by Jaimz Asmundson and Olivia Norquay.



DAVE BARBER CINEMATHEQUE

Highlights from the 2023-24 programming year

Cabin Fever: Free Films for Kids! (February 4-25, 2024) - Our ongoing, ever-popular free screening series of cherished kids' films. Curated by Olivia Norquay. Generously sponsored by Assiniboine Credit Union.

Black Audio Film Collective (February 23-24, 2024) - Five essential and radical works by the Black Audio Film Collective that encapsulate community, politics and protest, including Handsworth Songs (1986), Twilight City (1989), Who Needs a Heart (1991), Seven Songs for Malcolm X (1993) and Three Songs on Pain, Time and Light (1995). Curated by Leslie Supnet and Olivia Norquay. Generously sponsored by IATSE 856 Manitoba.

Armour for Living: A Celebration of Women's Moving Image (March 1, 2024) - In celebration of MAWA's 40th anniversary, we presented an exciting selection of shorts from the Winnipeg Film Group vault and beyond. Armour for Living: A Celebration of Women's Moving Image showcased local artist films and videos that address themes such as memory, diaspora and intergenerational narratives that span over the past four decades. Curated by Leslie Supnet and Olivia Norquay. Presented in partnership with MAWA.

Last Things 35mm screening (March 9, 2024)

Hong Kong New Wave (May 1-29, 2024) - For Asian Heritage Month, the Dave Barber Cinematheque presented three newly restored films of the Hong Kong New Wave that explored the rapidly changing urban landscape and socioeconomic anxieties of Hong Kong – Fruit Chan's Made in Hong Kong (1997), Patrick Tam's My Heart is That Eternal Rose (1989) and Lawrence Lau's Spacked Out (2000). Curated by Olivia Norquay

Female Perversions: The Films of Catherine Breillat (June 5-July 31, 2024) - Transgressive and challenging, Female Perversions aimed to explore the career of a singular and unapologetic filmmaker whose films examine the meaning of bodies from social, political and personal angles. Featuring Romance (1999), Fat Girl (2001), Anatomy of Hell (2004), and Last Summer (2023). Curated by Olivia Norquay. Presented in partnership with Alliance Française du Manitoba. Generously sponsored by the Ambassade de France au Canada.

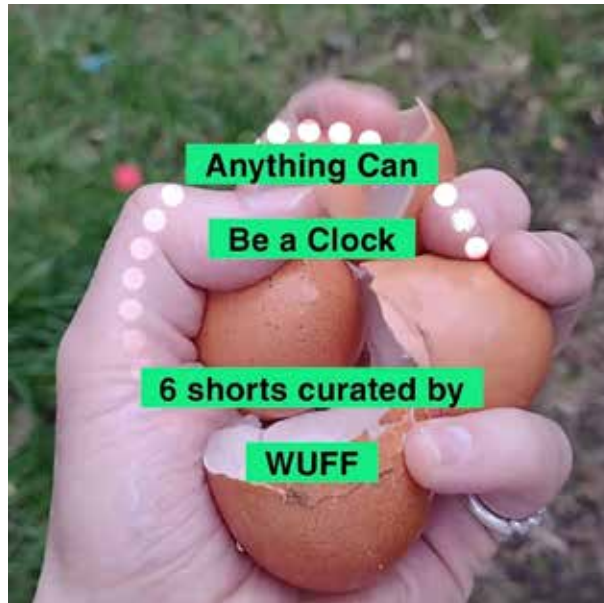


DAVE BARBER CINEMATHEQUE

Partnerships

We regularly partner with multiple organizations to present special programming and offer our venue for their own festival programming. Between 2023 and 2024 we partnered with:

- Human Rights Through Film series (April 2023 - March 2024) - a monthly series in partnership with the Canadian Museum for Human Rights
- Groundswell (November 1-8, 2023) - Stop Making Sense, part of an ongoing series in partnership with Groundswell exploring experimental music in film.
- Architecture+Design Film Festival (March 20-24, 2024)
- Alliance Française French Film Festival (March 29-31, 2024)
- Winnipeg Underground Film Festival (May 30-June 2, 2024)
- Jazz on Film (June 14-16, 2024) - One Hand Don't Clap, part of an ongoing partnership with Jazz Winnipeg
- Winnipeg Underground Film Festival - June 1-4, 2024



DAVE BARBER CINEMATHEQUE

Staff Updates:



The Winnipeg Film Group extends our heartfelt thanks to Sam Sarty for their remarkable 11 years of dedication to the Dave Barber Cinematheque. Sam's contribution as a Projectionist and valued member of our technical team has left a lasting impact on our organization.

Over the years, Sam played a vital role in sustaining the day-to-day operations and care of the Cinematheque. Their deep knowledge of projection and technical operations, helped ensure countless screenings ran smoothly and professionally. Sam's calm presence, dependability, and generosity in sharing knowledge helped shape the strong foundation we continue to build on. We are especially grateful for their support in training new staff which reflects both professionalism and kindness.

As an acclaimed musician and filmmaker, Sam's creativity and artistic spirit also contributed to the cultural fabric of the WFG. As an artist-run centre, we valued Sam's technical skill and their unique artistic voice, which enriched our community in meaningful ways.

While we are sad to see Sam go, we fully support their decision to step into a new chapter with care and reflection. Sam will always be a cherished part of the WFG, and their presence at the Cinematheque will be deeply missed. Thank you Sam!

DAVE BARBER CINEMATHEQUE

Jaimz Asmundson Memorial Fund & Dave Barber Memorial Fund



In Memory of Jaimz Asmundson (1981–2024)

On January 1, 2024, we lost a beloved colleague, friend, and artist, Jaimz Asmundson, who served as the WFG's Programming Director of the Dave Barber Cinematheque. His sudden passing at the age of 42 left a profound void within our organization and the wider film, music, and arts community. Jaimz is deeply missed by us all.

A multidisciplinary artist since his teens, Jaimz was a gifted filmmaker, musician, graphic designer, and VHS archivist. His award-winning short films screened globally at festivals such as Hot Docs, BFI, Fantasia, Ann Arbor, and Festival du Nouveau Cinéma. Cult favourites like *Goths!*, *On The Bus!* and *The Magus* demonstrated his dark wit, technical brilliance, and fearless creativity.

With the help and initiated by Jaimz' family, the WFG started raising funds to establish a permanent endowment at The Winnipeg Foundation in Jaimz's name. This fund will honour his legacy and continue his support for independent film in perpetuity. So far we have raised approximately \$9,400, which is almost half of our goal of \$20,000.



Dave Barber Memorial Fund at the Winnipeg Foundation

In December of 2023, we announced the establishment of the Dave Barber Memorial Fund at The Winnipeg Foundation, a tribute to our cherished coworker, mentor, and friend, who left us on July 26th, 2021. His legacy endures through the lives he touched and the community he created. We would like to thank all the WFG patrons, membership and staff – especially the late and dearly missed Jaimz Asmundson, who generously contributed over the years towards the establishment of this permanent fund at The Winnipeg Foundation, and to The Winnipeg Foundation for matching our gift to the fund. Donations to the Dave Barber Memorial Fund are pooled and invested, and the income generated by this fund will be distributed to Winnipeg Film Group to be used to establish a film fund or bursary. The fund has raised \$30,354 at the Winnipeg Foundation.



PRODUCTION DEPARTMENT

Highlights from the 2023-24 programming year

In 2023-24, the Production Centre continued to serve and support independent filmmakers working in all media and forms. Affordable training, mentorship, production funding, and screening opportunities through Members Screenings were offered.



July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024 Workshops:

July 2023 - Basic Filmmaking Teen Summer Camp 2023

July 8, 2023 - Documentary Cinematography Workshop with Jesse De Rocquigny

Aug. 12, 2023 - Cinematography Basics Workshop with Quan Luong

Sept. 16 and 17, 2023 - Finding Your Own Documentary Style with Patrick Lowe

Oct. 14, 2023 - Editing a Movie From Start to Finish

Oct. 18 and 19, 2023 - Indie Producing with Rachel Beaulieu

Oct. 21, 2023 - Toon Boom with Anita Lebeau

Nov. 25 and 26, 2023 - Arri SR3 Workshop with Josh Marr

Dec. 2 and 3, 2023 - Bolex 101 with Josh Marr

Dec. 16, 2023 - Music Videos with Ryan Steel

Jan. 20 and 21, 2024 - Screenwriting Workshop with Mandeep Sodhi

Jan. 20, 2024 - WIFC Skoodoodisden Film Incubator Kick-off

Jan. 23 - March 25, 2024 - Quantum Filmmaking Program

Feb. 11, 2024 - Sound Recording Workshop with Cody Blacksmith

Feb. 24, 2024 - Directing for Documentary; A Documentary Film & TV Workshop with JJ Neepin

Feb. 2024 - Black & White Super 8 Workshop

May - June, 2024 - DIY Black & White Super 8 Filmmaking with Kristiane Church

June 1, 2, 8 and 9, 2024 - Digital Camera Bonanza with Ryan Offenloch

June 23 and 30, 2024 - 16mm Eco Processing Workshop – A Sustainable Approach to Working With Film

Creative Manitoba Workshops

Feb. 28 to April 29, 2024 - Creative MB Workshop

Instructors/Speakers: Ben Williams, Taryn Edgeworth, Danielle Sturk, Jennifer Beasley
Andrew Luczenczyn, Kevin Nikkel, Sara Bulloch, Monique Perro



With financial support provided by Manitoba Film & Music (MFM), we provide \$35,000 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 2023 MFM Post/Production Fund

Alexander Gordon - The Martians - \$2,000 Cash
Jessica Landry - I Fall to Pieces - \$2,000 Cash
Jordan Johnsen - Francine (working title) - \$2,000 WFG Services
Joshua Banman - The Sculptor - \$2,000 in Cash & \$1,000 in WFG services
MC de Natividad - griePH - \$2,000 WFG Services

The selection committee was comprised of filmmakers Gwendolyn Collins and Bisong Taiwo and chaired by Dylan Baillie.

WFG's Spring 2024 MFM Post/Production Fund

Joyce Delaronde - One Sidedness - \$2,000 Cash
Darcy Fehr - Dinner Date - \$2,000 Cash
Miriam Temesghen - Friendzone - \$2,000 Cash

The selection committee was comprised of filmmaker Justina Neepin and visual artist and art educator Derek Brueckner. It was chaired by Dylan Baillie.

WFG's 2024 First Film Fund

Megan Robinson - The Dottir of New Iceland - \$2,000 Cash and \$2,000 WFG Services
Aidan Billard Dooley and Gabe Cole - STORM OF THE MILLENNIUM! - \$2,000 Cash and \$2,000 WFG Services

The selection committee was comprised of filmmakers Nathaniel Magbanua and Sara Bulloch and chaired by Dylan Baillie.

WFG's MFM Manitoba Hothouse Award for Creative Development

In September of 2023, Curtis Wiebe 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.

Curtis was selected for the award by a peer assessment selection committee comprised of: filmmaker Scott Fitzpatrick and arts administrator Joy Loewen. The jury meeting was chaired by Dylan Baillie.

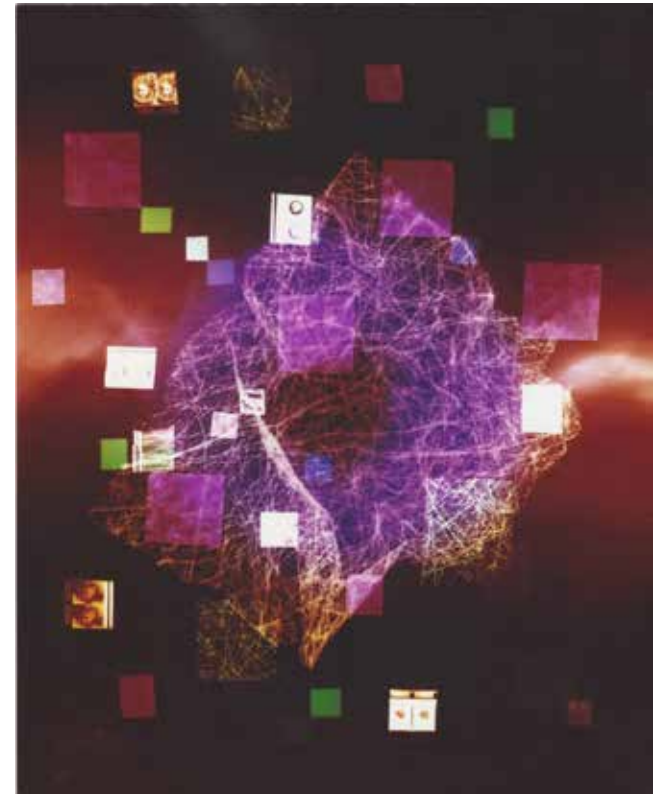


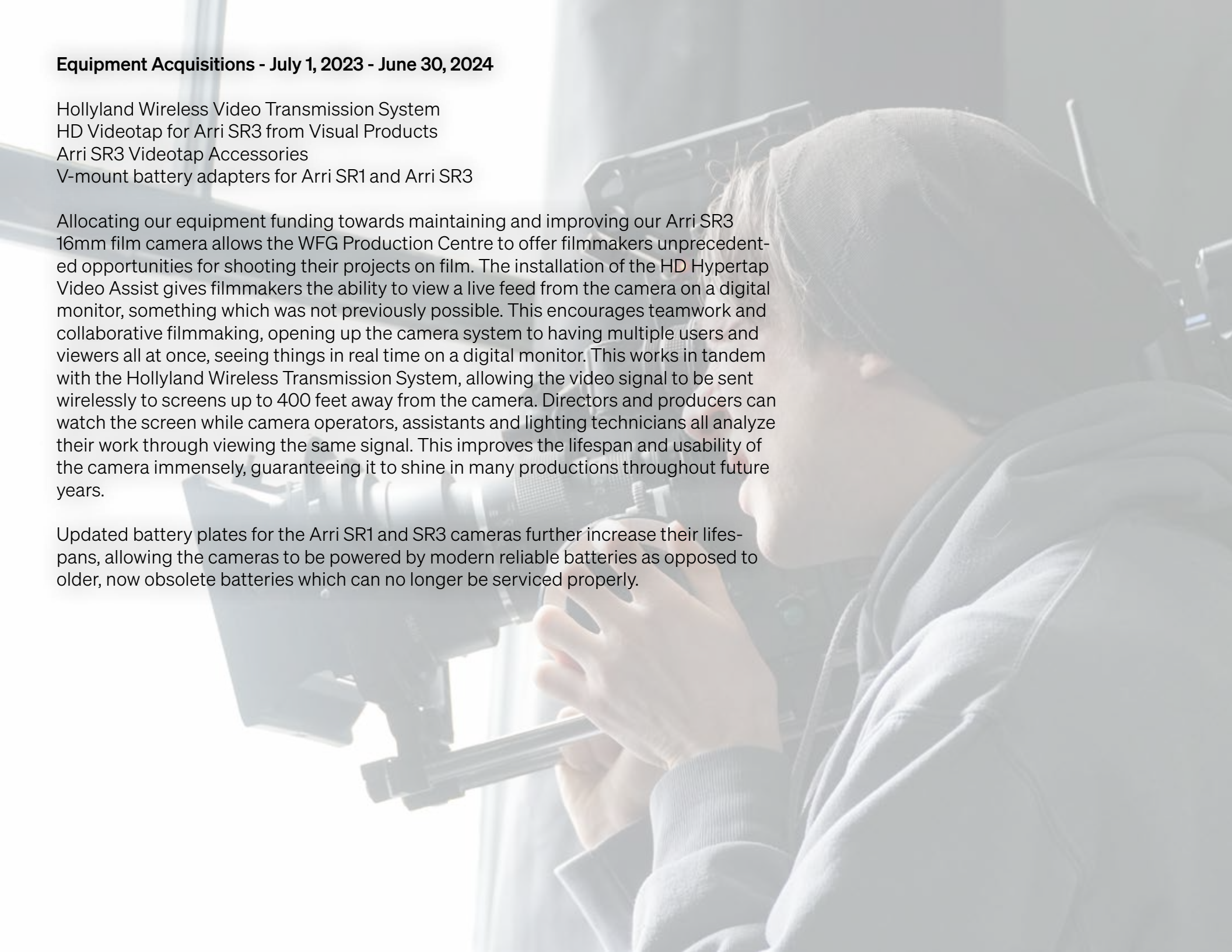
WFG's MOSAIC Award 2024

katnancy received the 2024 MOSAIC Film Fund. katnancy was awarded \$5,000 in cash funding, \$3,000 in-kind equipment rentals and a WFG Membership with Production Add-on. for her film project femme4femme. Lindsay McIntyre was chosen to mentor her for the duration of the project.

The peer selection committee was comprised of filmmakers: Danielle Sturk and Sidney Phommarath. The selection committee was chaired by 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.



A person wearing a dark hooded jacket is operating a professional video camera. The camera is mounted on a rig and has a large lens. The person's hands are visible, adjusting the camera. The background is blurred, suggesting an indoor setting with bright light.

Equipment Acquisitions - July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

Hollyland Wireless Video Transmission System
HD Videotap for Arri SR3 from Visual Products
Arri SR3 Videotap Accessories
V-mount battery adapters for Arri SR1 and Arri SR3

Allocating our equipment funding towards maintaining and improving our Arri SR3 16mm film camera allows the WFG Production Centre to offer filmmakers unprecedented opportunities for shooting their projects on film. The installation of the HD Hypertap Video Assist gives filmmakers the ability to view a live feed from the camera on a digital monitor, something which was not previously possible. This encourages teamwork and collaborative filmmaking, opening up the camera system to having multiple users and viewers all at once, seeing things in real time on a digital monitor. This works in tandem with the Hollyland Wireless Transmission System, allowing the video signal to be sent wirelessly to screens up to 400 feet away from the camera. Directors and producers can watch the screen while camera operators, assistants and lighting technicians all analyze their work through viewing the same signal. This improves the lifespan and usability of the camera immensely, guaranteeing it to shine in many productions throughout future years.

Updated battery plates for the Arri SR1 and SR3 cameras further increase their lifespans, allowing the cameras to be powered by modern reliable batteries as opposed to older, now obsolete batteries which can no longer be serviced properly.

TELEFILM: TALENT TO WATCH PROGRAM

The WFG's Telefilm Talent to Watch Designated Industry Partner Program 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.

Ryan Steel's *Meat* was chosen by a peer assessment jury - Roger Boyer and Sonya Ballantyne for the WFG for recommendation. Directed by Ryan Steel, written by Steel and Sean Henderson and produced by Sean Maheux Galway.

Ryan'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 2023-24 programming year:

The WFG Distribution Department offers personalized, artist-focused distribution services for independent filmmakers working across Canada.

The objectives of the WFG Distribution Department include:

- Providing member filmmakers with increased exhibition opportunities across Canada and around the World
- Providing member filmmakers with a financial return
- Maintaining archival and access copies of all works in the WFG Distribution Collection to ensure that they are accessible for research and viewing for current and future generations
- Assisting in the development of member filmmakers' careers through exhibition and advocacy
- Supporting the long-term care and awareness of member filmmakers' bodies of work through film preservation infrastructure and special projects
- Developing and expanding audiences and opportunities for Canadian independent film

The WFG Distribution Department continues to evolve their services and skills to allow for changes in technology, demands of work and exhibition, artistic outputs, and paid opportunities for artists. In addition to the daily distribution activities, which include submitting to film festivals, composing educational streaming licenses, processing DVD sales as well as both digital and celluloid print traffic, the department strives to continually seek out and create screening opportunities for films in the WFG Distribution Collection.

From July 1, 2023 through to June 30, 2024, there were a total of 175 screening events and sales featuring films from the WFG Distribution Catalogue. Of these 175 screening events and sales:

- **42%** were individual film festival screenings
- **17%** were curated repertory screenings at microcinemas, galleries, arthouse theatres, museums, and music academies
- **13%** were screenings hosted by broadcasting channels. Of these broadcast screenings, 35% were educational in nature
- **11%** were educational screening events at conferences and in classrooms as well as institutional library acquisitions and digital streaming licenses for classroom use
- **4%** were community screening events hosted by arts centres, law offices, government offices, and band offices. Of these community screenings, 83% are educational in nature
- **4%** were DVD and book sales for private use
- **3%** were theatrical screenings presented at cinematheques, cinemas, and film societies
- **2%** were installations in art galleries and museums
- **1%** were image reproduction sales

Acquisitions

There were a total of 104 submissions made to the WFG Distribution Collection between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024. Of those 104 films, 29 films (28% of the amount submitted) were acquired and brought into the WFG Distribution Collection.

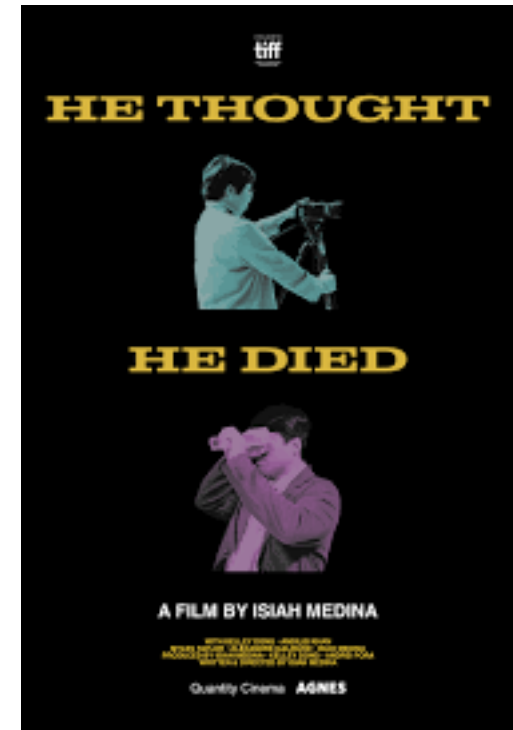
Of the 29 films acquired by the WFG Distribution Department between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024:

- 53% are made by women
- 47% are made by filmmakers based in Manitoba
- 25% are made by filmmakers who are queer and/or LGBTQIIA+
- 22% are made by emerging filmmakers
- 16% are made by filmmakers of Colour
- 9% are made by filmmakers who are Métis
- 6% are made by filmmakers who are Trans
- 3% are made by Francophone filmmakers
- 3% are made by filmmakers who have disabilities

**these statistics are drawn via a self-identification process*

The films brought into the WFG Catalogue from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 include:

*666 by Abby Elizabeth Falvo (3:04, 2023)
avant seriana (before seriana) by Samy Benammar (19:10, 2024)
Big Things by Eric Peterson (17:32, 2021)
Brave Rebel Army by Michelle D'Alessandro Hatt (8:13, 2024)
Daughters of Blodeuwedd by Misha Horacek (12:20, 2024)
Dead Horse Bay by Zachary Finkelstein (12:08, 2024)
Find Me Outside by Ching Yu (17:20, 2024)
Fort Garry Lions Pool by Ryan Steel (6:01, 2024)
GeométriKa by Nicole Blundell (4:00, 2024)
He Thought He Died by Isiah Medina (1:10:05, 2023)
In Good Hands by Vanda Fleury (4:33, 2021)
In My Head by Irina Tempea (6:15, 2024)
legs by Christine Fellows, Jennifer Still, and Chantel Mierau (14:16, 2023)
Lynn, 27 Months by Martha Lyon (9:46, 2024)
Michif Land-Based Knowledge by Robyn Adams (3:09, 2024)
Please Handle With Care by Angeline Javier (9:53, 2023)



The films brought into the WFG Catalogue from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 include:

Purple City by Noam Gonick, Michael Walker (19:47, 2023)

Signs + Traces by James Pomeroy (3:10, 2024)

Smooth Motion by Mitchell Stafiej (18:28, 2024)

Sous le soleil exactement by Noa Blanche Beschorner (14:28, 2024)

Spirit Bear: Echoes of the Past by Amanda Strong (26:13, 2024)

spring rebirth at source du Pêcher by Emma Roufs (1:40, 2024)

The Branches Bleed Code by Anthony Vicente-Pereira (10:16, 2023)

The Faith Healer by Karen Remoto (1:32, 2024)

The Human Under the Bed by Euan O'Leary (10:00, 2024)

The Mourning Suit by Leonard Yakir (1:30:00, 1976)

The Sculptor: Birth of the Patavision by Joshua Banman (9:42, 2024)

Think at Night by Greg Hanec (1:02:07, 2023)

Valley of Light by Heidi Phillips (1:07:00, 2023)

WFG Catalogue screening highlights include:

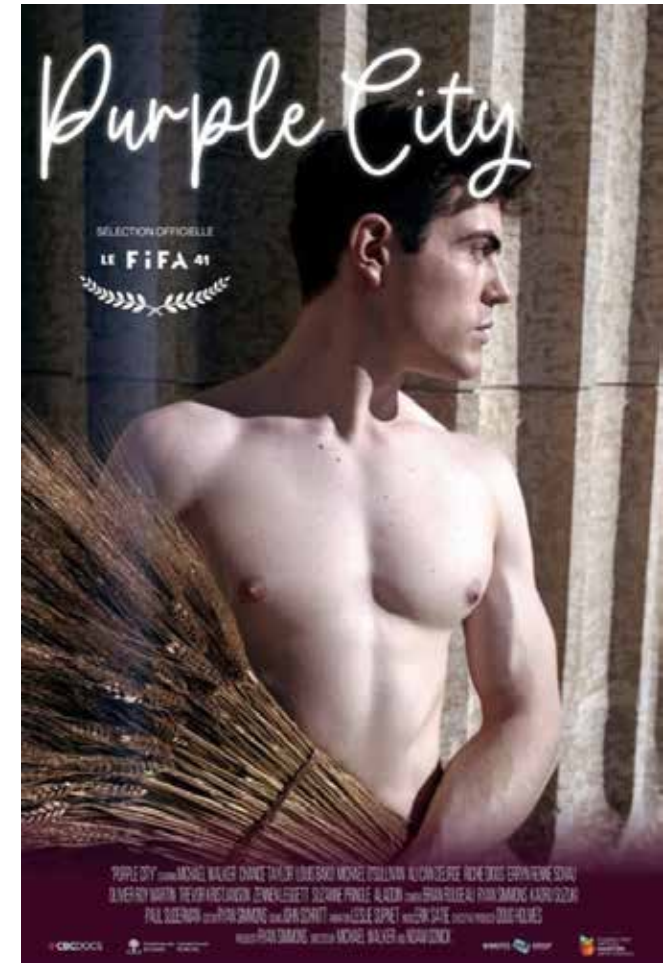
FekK Ljubljana Short Film Festival in Ljubljana, Slovenia screened *Heart of the World* (2000) by Guy Maddin as a part of *Classics: Do Not Go Gentle* in August, 2023.

Biidaaban (the dawn comes) (2018) by Amanda Strong and *Sweet Night* (2016) by Jessie Ray Short were included in Out On Screen's educational program *Out In Schools* from August 2023- July 2024.

The program Looking back, moving forward screened at the Douarnenez Film Festival in Brittany, France in August, 2023 and included the following works from the WFG Catalogue: *Heart* (2015) by Sam Karney, *Crash Site* (2015) by Sonya Ballantyne, *Two Scoops* (2008) by Jackie Traverse, and more.

Mia' by Amanda Strong and Bracken Hanuse Corlett was included in the exhibition *Those That Came Before Us* at the MacKenzie Art Gallery in Regina, Saskatchewan from September- December 2023.

The Fondazione Cinema per Roma presented a Tribute to Isabella Rossellini which included *The Saddest Music in the World* (2023) by Guy Maddin in Rome, Italy in October of 2023.



WFG Catalogue screening highlights cont'd

Winterthur Film Festival in Winterthur, Switzerland presented **Winnipeg Film Group: Cinematic Extravaganza** in November 2023 which included an entire program of films from the WFG Catalogue which featured **Late Summer** (2022) by Ryan Steel, **Cattle Call** (2008) by Mike Maryniuk and Matthew Rankin, **The Animated Heavy Metal Parking Lot** (2008) by Leslie Supnet, **Springtime in Greenland** (1981) by John Paizs, **Primiti Too Taa** (1986) by Ed Ackerman and more.

The curated program **Let the Record Show: Archived Cinema** screened at the Brooklyn Academy of Music in Brooklyn, New York on November 8, 2023 and featured **Kewekapawetan: Return after the Flood** (2014) by Jennifer Dysart.

On February 24, 2024 a retrospective screening of works by filmmaker and artist Alan Pakarynk was held in Winnipeg, Manitoba and included **Daydream** (1980) and **Adam's Dream** (1989).

As a part of the International Short Film Week Regensburg in Regensburg, Germany, **Cattle Call** (2008) by Mike Maryniuk and Matthew Rankin screened in the Canada Focus Program in March, 2024.

kaua'i 'ō'ō (2023) by Samy Benammar was an official selection at Experiments in Cinema v.19.8 in Albuquerque, New Mexico and the film screened during the festival in April, 2024.

The Bryn Mawr Film Institute in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania screened **Crime Wave** (1985) by John Paizs in May, 2024.

Birrarangga Film Festival presented **Spirit Bear and Children Make History** (2020) by Amanda Strong in June, 2024 in Canberra, Australia.

The Bryn Mawr Film Institute in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania screened **Crime Wave** (1985) by John Paizs in May, 2024.

Birrarangga Film Festival presented **Spirit Bear and Children Make History** (2020) by Amanda Strong in June, 2024 in Canberra, Australia.

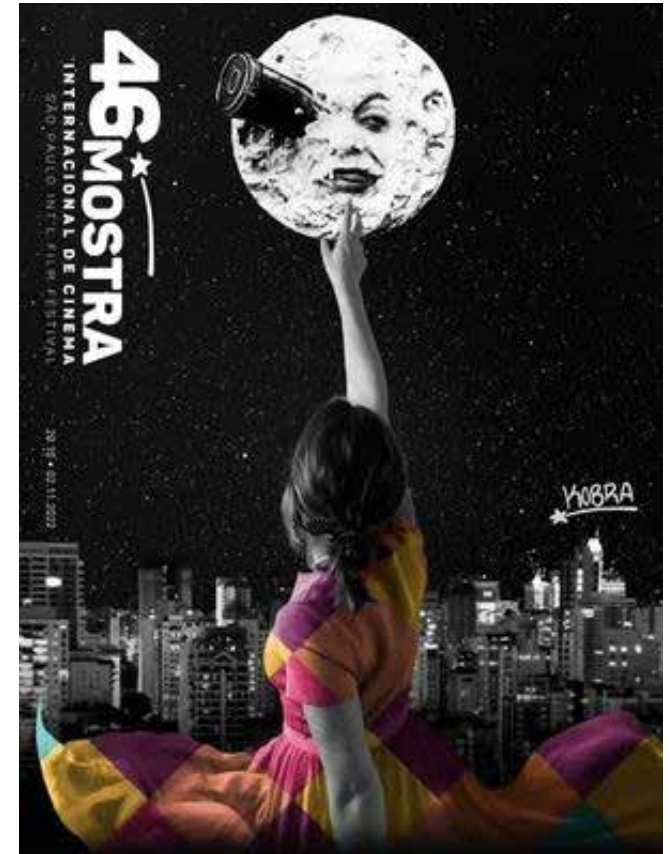


WFG Catalogue screenings at festivals outside of Canada include:

Athens International Film Festival in Greece
Atlanta Underground Film Festival in Atlanta, GA
Dublin International Film Festival in Ireland
European Media Art Festival in Germany
Experiments in Cinema v.19.8 2024 in Albuquerque, NM
Fantastic Fest in Austin, TX
FIFA + ARTS.FILM in Italy
Festival Tous Courts in France
International Short Film Week Regensburg in Germany
Macau International Short Film Festival in China
Montana Film Festival in Missoula, MT
NightWatch Videoclub in the UK
Onion City Experimental Film Festival in Chicago, IL
Portugal Indie Film Festival in Portugal
Prismatic Ground Film Festival in NY, NY
Random Acts of Terror Festival in Chicago, IL
Rewilding Experimental Media Arts Festival in Michigan, IN
Sao Paulo International Film Festival Monstra in Brazil
Spook Fest in San Francisco, CA
Santiago Horror Film Festival in Chile
Winterthur Film Festival in Switzerland
World of Film International Festival in Scotland
Zebra Poetry Film Festival in Germany

Canadian Festivals that screened works from the WFG Catalogue also include:

Ācimowin Film Festival
African Film Festival
Antimatter Film Festival
Asinabka Film and Media Arts Festival
Available Light Film Festival
Atlantic International Film Festival
Artifact Small Format Film Festival
Demonic Brilliance Film Festival
Dreamspeakers
Festival du nouveau cinéma
FascinAsian Film Festival



Canadian Festivals that screened works from the WFG Catalogue cont'd:

Fantasia Film Festival
Gimli Film Festival
Guelph Film Festival
Klondike Institute of Art and Culture
Mirror Mountain Film Festival
Monstra - Lisbon Animated Film Festival
Montreal International Animation Film Festival
Nickel Independent Film Festival
North Bay Film Festival
Ottawa International Animation Festival
Out North Queer Film Festival
Ourtoba Film Festival
ReFrame Film Festival
REGARD - Saguenay International Short Film Festival
Regent Park Film Festival
Skoden Indigenous Film Festival
South Asian Film Festival Montreal
The Festival of Animated Objects
The 8fest
Toronto After Dark Film Festival
Toronto Animation Arts Festival International
Toronto International Film Festival
Toronto Jewish Film Festival
Toronto Outdoor Picture Show
Vancouver Asian Film Festival
Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival
Winnipeg International Jewish Film Festival
Winnipeg Underground Film Festival
WNDX Festival of Moving Image



General Staffing Updates:

In January 2024, Jillian Groening was promoted to Distribution Director.

In February 2024, Mahlet Cuff departed from the role as Distribution Coordinator with the WFG.

In June 2024, Skye Callow officially joined the WFG Distribution Department as Distribution and Collections Coordinator.

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.

Staffing highlights from the ACA Case Study from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 include:

From May to October 2023, Skye Callow worked with the WFG Distribution Department 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.

From June to October 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.

Exhibition and Outreach highlights from the ACA Case Study from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 include:

In September 2023, the WFG Distribution Department partnered with the Centre for Cultural and Artistic Practices (C'cap - formerly Blinkers Art and Project Space) to present "The Early Video Works of Erica Eyres" at the WFG's Black Lodge microcinema space. Screened in association with the artist's solo exhibition "Dancing for Dummies", the selection of films spanned 2003-07 and offered a look at the early stages of Eyres' career, which from the start has encapsulated the strange, irreverent, and delightfully inappropriate approach to artmaking that Winnipeg is known for.

The event was free and open to the public.

In November 2023, Redsun//Sahgothé, Denesuline/Nehitho ACA Artist in Residence, presented "Stories from the Heart of Turtle Island", a curated selection of Indigenous Short Films from the WFG Distribution Collection. Exploring voices of resistance, truth telling, and comedy from the Heart of Turtle Island, the event featured Redsun//Sahgothé activating objects of curiosity from the WFG's archive. The evening culminated in a panel discussion with featured filmmakers including Rhayne Vermette, Darryl Nepinak, Ervin Chartrand, Myrle Ballard, and Charlene Moore.

The event was free and open to the public.

In March 2024, Skye Callow presented "Chasing Moons", a curated program of orphan/foster films found in the film vault during their tenure as Archival Media Project Manager. Recently digitized due to the ACA Case Study, The collection of shorts offered a glimpse into previously inaccessible parts of the WFG's archive and showcased five beautifully weaved visual stories of love, dreaming, and play. The event was free and open to the public.

Outreach and Engagement:

In July 2023, the WFG Distribution Department attended the 12th annual Gimli International Film Festival (GIFF). They were fortunate to meet with Manitoba-based filmmakers and industry professionals while supporting filmmakers in the WFG Distribution Collection through being present at screenings and the RBC Pitch Competition.

In September 2023, the WFG Distribution Department attended the 48th annual Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) where they had the chance to meet with Toronto-based filmmakers and visiting industry professionals. The WFG Distribution Department also had the chance to visit with former-Work Placement-ee Diana Hotka and went on a tour of the Toronto Metropolitan Universities Film Preservation facilities.

In April 2024, the WFG Distribution Department visited the Red River Collegiate to speak with Digital Film and Media Production students about independent film distribution.

In May 2024, the WFG Distribution Department was invited to sit on a panel discussing Film Festival Strategy at the 2024 Winnipeg FasinAsian Film Festival. The talk was presented in part with Film Training Manitoba and was an important knowledge-sharing venture among independent film professionals.

In June 2024, the WFG Distribution Department was invited by the National Screen Institute to speak with the 2024 CBC New Indigenous Voices cohort. The discussion focused on sharing knowledge on independent distribution organizations across Canada, the benefits of distributor support, and the challenges of the film festival industrial complex.

Training and Professional Development:

In January 2024, the WFG obtained a Lasergraphics film scanner. Able to digitize 8mm, Super 8mm, 16mm, and Super 16mm, the film scanner is an integral element in the WFG Distribution Department's ability to operate as a steward of unique 16mm and Super 8mm film materials. Members of the WFG Distribution Department received Lasergraphics training in January and February 2024.

In April 2024, the WFG Distribution Department attended the Crossing Fonds: Digital Archives Symposium at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, BC. The four-day event was a crash course in digital collections management, ethical archival policy generation, and accessible archival interfaces as well as copyright and digital archives. The trip also allowed the WFG to visit and connect with filmmakers and scholars across Canada working with digital archives and collections management.

In June 2024, the WFG Distribution Department attended the Independent Media Arts Alliance (IMAA) Temporal Anchorings: A National Media Arts Gathering in Halifax, Nova Scotia. The three-day event was a generative opportunity to meet with fellow Canadian film and media arts distributors and to tour film production and management centres such as AFSCOOP (Atlantic Film Co-Op). The WFG was fortunate to co-chair the Distribution Caucus which was a productive meeting of sister organizations.

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.

In the winter of 2022, the WFG Online Catalogue was made public on the VUCAVU platform.



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 2023 MFM Marketing Fund

MC de Natividad - *Bumalik* (\$600)

Karen Tusa - *A Birthday Tale* (\$600)

Heidi Phillips - *Valley of Light* (\$400)

Greg Hanec - *Think at Night* (\$400)

Thank you to the selection committee of Chris Sharpe and Abby Falvo. The discussion was facilitated by Jillian Groening.

Spring 2024 MFM Marketing Fund

Alain Delannoy - *The Snip* (\$750)

Aaron Zeghers - *Possible Worlds* (\$750)

Cory Wojcik - *Subs* (\$300)

Angeline Javier - *Please Handle With Care* (\$200)

Thank you to the selection committee of Marc Greene and Farrah Murdock. The discussion was facilitated by Jillian Groening.



STAFF

Management & Administration

Leslie Supnet, Executive Director

Jill Voth, Contract Bookkeeper

Dave Barber Cinematheque

Olivia Norquay, Film Programmer

Eric Peterson, Head Projectionist

Julianne Taron, Box Office Manager

Box Office Staff: Dina Hamid, Nic Kaneski, Saleena Zeru

Projectionists: Eric Peterson (Head Projectionist),

Nic Kaneski, Jonathan Lee-Wing

Distribution

Jillian Groening, Distribution Director

Skye Callow, Distribution and Collections Coordinator

Production and Training

Dylan Baillie, Production Programs Manager

Luke Roach, Technical Coordinator

John Seymour, Technical Coordinator

We would like to thank staff members for their time with the organization:

Alireza Bayat , Collections Assistant

Nic Kaneski, Box Office Manager

Karen Remoto, Contract Project Coordinator

Mulikat Sanni, Box Office Staff

Ryan Steel, Distribution Digital Catalogue Assistant

Mandy Szwaluk, Training and Marketing Coordinator