

REGINA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL & AWARDS

HIGHLIGHTS

MISSION

To inspire and motivate people to discover the world through the art of motion pictures. RIFFA presents the best of international and Canadian cinema and is dedicated to promoting Saskatchewan talent.



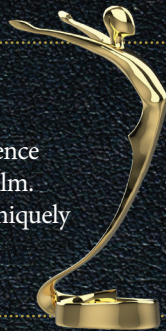
An integral part of RIFFA's mission is to support, nurture and promote **Saskatchewan talent**

Canadian, International and Indigenous cinema

4 days, 12 hours, 3 auditoriums of screening enjoyment

RIFFA Classics Award Ceremony

The Award Ceremony celebrates excellence in multiple categories of international film. Winners receive the RIFFA Statuette, uniquely designed for RIFFA.



Our aim is to:

1. Showcase stories that encourage inclusion, human connection, innovation, and self-expression.
2. Empower and amplify marginalized voices through film education and production.
3. Evaluate film festival submissions by way of an independent jury and rewarding those of highest merit through an annual awards ceremony.
4. Build community engagement and provide forums for the discussion and dissemination of information in the cinematic arts.
5. Provide local access to film-related recreational, educational and social programs.
6. Promote Regina and Saskatchewan as a desired festival destination for Canadian and International filmmakers and audiences.

VISION

To build a sustainable internationally recognized film arts organization that entertains and educates diverse audiences. RIFFA provides a platform that empowers and amplifies marginalized voices. RIFFA seeks to build capacity in the cinematic arts that encourages inclusion, human connection, innovation, and self-expression through storytelling.

2015
2017
2018
2019

Created in 2014, RIFFA has successfully organized four high profile and exceptionally produced events that showcase International and Canadian talent.

Red Carpet Event

The closing event of a 5-day film festival hosted in the beautiful Casino Regina Show Lounge

- Showcasing local fashion designers
- Making a strong statement in support of mental health



The LOOK Film and Fine Arts Program

is an essential part of the RIFFA Academy, which is the educational arm of the Regina International Film Festival and Awards Foundation Inc.

We believe filmmaking is a powerful tool for creating connections and getting conversations started around the complex topic of mental illness

LOOK is supported by partnerships with the Saskatchewan Health Authority, the Canadian Mental Health Association -Saskatchewan Division, The School of Journalism-University of Regina, SaskTel Pioneers, Scotiabank (2018)

BOARD of DIRECTORS

John Timothy

Founder, President and CEO

Dr. Philip Charrier

Vice President, Outreach
Historian, Head of History department,
University of Regina

Anjana Kaushal

Treasurer
Former Director of Finance and Material
Management, Health Canada

Dr. Renatta Varma

Extensive Non-Profit Board Volunteering
Experience, Ocular/Ophthalmic Surgeon

Ravida Din

Vice president, Programming
Canadian Academy winning producer,
Former Executive Producer and Director General,
National Film Board of Canada

Vaughn Solomon Schofield

Patron
Former Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

Wendy Dixon

Author, Registered Nurse,
Mental health Researcher and Advocate

Trevor Grant

Canadian Academy winning filmmaker,
Lecturer-Journalism Department,
University of Regina

Tom Cadwell

Secretary
Movie Critic, former CTV Producer/Writer

Rachel Haack

Associate, Miller Thomson Law Firm

Dilani Rabindran

Senior Account Manager - Brand Partnerships,
Cineplex Entertainment
Founder, Viewfinder Film Consulting

AUDIENCES

Our audience base is culturally diverse and solidly rooted in the community. **More than seventy percent of RIFFA attendees are from the Regina area**



Our film program is diverse in terms of genre, thematic content, and approach. It has broad appeal across the age spectrum

SOCIAL MEDIA



riffa.ca

6000+ Followers



@ReginaFilmFest

1200+ Followers



@riffa.ca

500+ Followers

18-24 years 38%

25-35 years 28%

35-44 years 13%

55+ 12%

45-54 years 9%

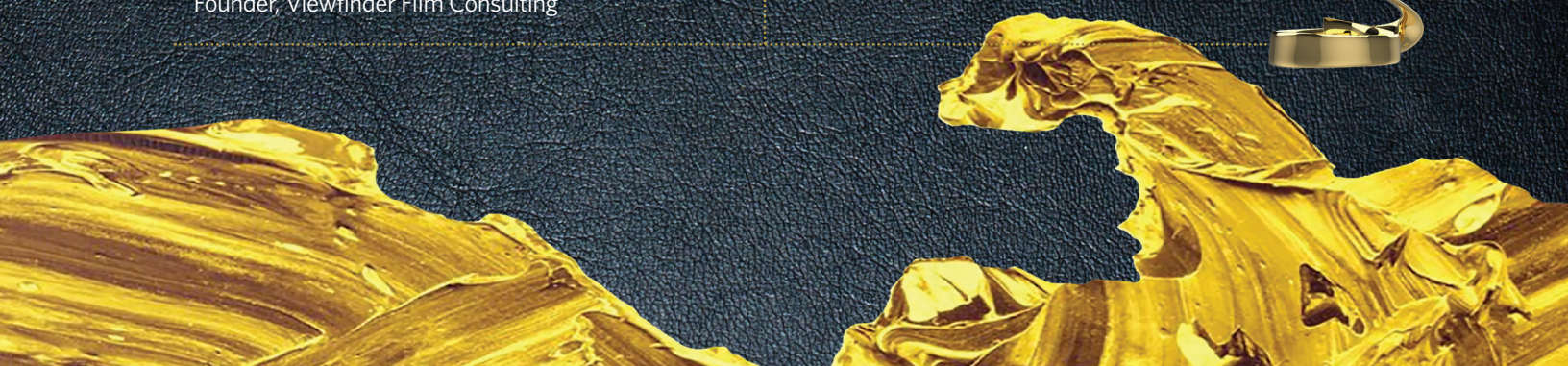
The Regina International Film Festival, though young, has the maturity, heart and brains of a well-established film festival. The programmers curated a deep, provocative and diverse group of films and the industry events were timely, informative and well organized. Plus, it was fun!

Jennifer Baichwal, Mercury Films Inc.

RIFFA

REGINA
INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL & AWARDS

riffa.ca



RIFFA 2019

142
FILMS

32
COUNTRIES

23
LANGUAGES

45
CANADIAN
FILMS

70
FEMALE
DIRECTORS

13 WORLD PREMIERES **74** CANADIAN PREMIERES **47** SASKATCHEWAN PREMIERES **32** FIRST TIME FILMMAKERS

AUGUST 13 -17, 2019

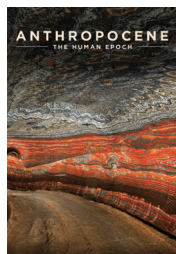
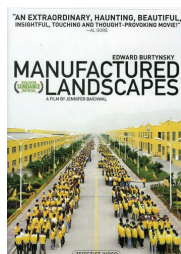
Opening Night

Spotlight on Saskatchewan

Special Presentation

A Planet in Peril

**Manufactured Landscapes, Watermark,
Anthropocene: The Human Epoch**



Three remarkable feature-length documentaries by the award-winning team of Jennifer Baichwal and Nick de Pencier.

Presented as a TRILOGY for the first time in Canada, these three films are a provocative and cinematic exploration of the complex and indelible human influence on the state, dynamic, and future of the Earth.

Panel: Art, Film and Meaningful Social Change:
The transformative ways we are inspired to act for a healthier planet

Partner: MacKenzie Art Gallery

MASTER CLASS

**The Future is Indigenous - A Master Class with
Skawennati on the Indigital Revolution**

Born in Kahnawà:ke Mohawk Territory, Skawennati is Kanien'kehá:ka of the turtle clan. She is the Co-Director of Aboriginal Territories in Cyberspace (AbTeC)

What Are Film Critics Good For?

A Master Class with Klaus Eder, General Secretary of the International Federation of Film Critics (FIPRESCI), Germany

Industry Panel - Meet the Funders

How to connect with funders, make meaningful partnerships and finance your stories

Mike DeLuca, Media & Entertainment, RBC
Valerie Creighton, President & CEO, Canada Media Fund
Robin Mirsky, Executive Director, Roger Group of Funds
Christa Dickenson, Executive Director, Telefilm Canada
Greg Magirescu, CEO, Creative Saskatchewan

Indigenous Film Showcase: 12 films, Canada, USA

German Language Shorts Showcase: 16 films, Germany

French Language Shorts Showcase: 8 films, Canada, Belgium, France

Spanish Language Shorts Showcase: 6 films, USA, Spain, Cuba, Mexico

2019 RED CARPET

Live performances from Carmelle Pretzlau, professional violinist; Regina Salseros, salsa dance group; Marcus Geiger, young fiddler; the formidable voice of Medjina Wallis, and a unique performance by the Philippine Artists Circle.

Community Outreach and Partners

Shoppes, District Brewing Co, The Hotel Saskatchewan, knightarcher, Normanview Crossing, Mercedes-Benz Regina, Ola Social Marketing, AdSpark, Pattison Outdoor Advertising, Pro AV, Mister WEBGUY, Refined, Citizen Design Co., Edge Agency, Signature Print It, Mackenzie Art Gallery, Saskatchewan Science Centre, First Nations University of Canada

Sponsors

Dr. Renatta Varma - Regina Retina Centre, CTV, Affinity Credit Union, Casino Regina, RBC, CNT Management Group, Canada Media Fund, Access Communications Cooperative, graffiti TV

RIFFA 2018

130
FILMS

39
COUNTRIES

31
LANGUAGES

47
CANADIAN
FILMS

31
FEMALE
DIRECTORS

20 WORLD PREMIERES 45 CANADIAN PREMIERES 33 FIRST TIME FILMMAKERS

AUGUST 14 -18, 2018

Opening Film - Saskatchewan Premiere

Clearing the Way: Combat Engineers in Kandahar

Director: Paul Culliton, Canada

MASTER CLASS

Welcome to the World of Indie Animation –

Bill Plympton, USA

Indigenous Filmmaking – Alanis Obomsawin, Canada

Panel Presentation

Speaking the Truth: Power Balance, Sexual Abuse and Gender Discrimination in the Entertainment Industry

Zarqa Nawaz, Nadia Zouaoui, Janine Windolph, Jackie

English, Ravida Din

2018 RED CARPET

Live performances: Marie-Véronique Bourque, professional flutist; Family Business Hip Hop Dance Group; Saskatchewan vocalist, Milissa Grande; the formidable voice of Belle Plaine and a unique performance by the Philippine Artists Circle

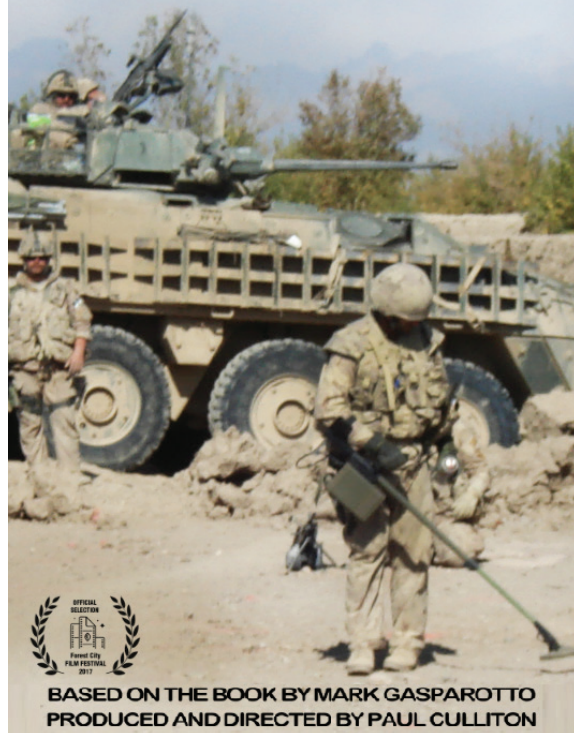
Community Outreach and Partners

Wascana Rehabilitation Centre - private screening for the WRC residents inside the facility.

Sponsors

Regina Retina Clinic, Horizon Lacer Vision Centre, The Hotel Saskatchewan, Dilawri BMW, SMPIA, Scotiabank, Royal Bank of Canada, Regina Leader-Post, Global, City, Regina Hotel Association, Casino Regina, Tourism Saskatchewan

**Clearing the Way:
Combat Engineers in Kandahar**



BASED ON THE BOOK BY MARK GASPAROTTO
PRODUCED AND DIRECTED BY PAUL CULLITON

What a great film festival held in the heart of the Canadian Prairies. The promotion of the 4-day event was top-notch & communication was excellent. A world-class film festival.

Pennan Brae

RIFFA 2017

99
FILMS

38
COUNTRIES

31
LANGUAGES

27
CANADIAN
FILMS

14
FEMALE
DIRECTORS

10 WORLD PREMIERES 68 CANADIAN PREMIERES 28 FIRST TIME FILMMAKERS

AUGUST 16 -19, 2017

Panel: Women in Film

Kolbie Nettet, Joanne McDonald, Dana Lesiuk,
Mandy Pavlovsky, Jodi Sadowsky
Moderator: Crystal Van Pelt

Panel: Crossing Borders: Whose Story Is It?

Roberta Staley, Nadia Zouaoui, Janine Windolph,
Ken Dalgarno. Moderator: Meralda Fiddler-Potter

Workshop: The Action Starts at Cut: A Humorous
Look at the Film Industry
Speaker: Lee Chambers

2017 RED CARPET

Live performances: Bev Zizzy's, Brian Baggett, Patricia
Gabrielle Abdon

Sponsors

Regina Retina Centre, Spice Bazaar, RBC, Scotia
Bank, knight archer, Westridge construction, Access
communications, Crushed Rockets, CNT Management
group, City TV, Capital Cardiac, the wireless age,
Ruggieri productions, Evolution presentation
technologies, Western litho, O2xy

Community Supporters:

SMPIA, SASK interactive, RQHR, University of Regina,
Art vest, Tourism Regina, CMHA



RIFFA was extremely well organized! Just the transportation they provided by knowledgeable and helpful volunteers, puts this festival on my top 3! Every effort was made to encourage industry people to mingle and learn more about the business. One seminar in particular, "Meet the Funders," was a goldmine of information by some of the top people in the field of film in Canada.

Chris Carpenter

RIFFA knows how to treat and entreat a filmmaker. They pick you up at the airport, they taxi you around to events, their catalog is first rate, the people are kind and truly interested in your welfare, the red carpet and awards ceremony was first class (worth getting dressed up for) and the trophy was stunning - so worth a go at winning! AND the real treat was that the festival provided all of the events at no cost to the filmmakers - what a difference from some of the festivals!! We appreciate the way you appreciate us.

Lee Ryan Coston

An incredible film festival ever. The programming was outstanding, the parties, the filmmakers were wonderful. The invited speakers have come from all over the world which I learned from them at the master classes that RIFFA provided for participants. The staff and volunteers did a great job. So powerful films were shown during five days in three big theaters. I was so impressed with every aspect of the festival and had so much fun.

Maryam Zahirimerh

RIFFA 2015

30
FILMS

14
COUNTRIES

8
LANGUAGES

9
CANADIAN
FILMS

3
FEMALE
DIRECTORS

13 CANADIAN PREMIERES **9** FIRST TIME FILMMAKERS

OCTOBER 2 - 3, 2015

Awards Ceremony

Live performances: Sharon Gudereit & Brain Dead Romeo, Tyler Gilbert, Only Human, Tonya Warren, EXQUISITE MELODIES, Continual Surrender, Joel Henderson/Poor Nameless Boy, Haris Khan, Ramses Calderon, Rory Allen, My Life in a Doghouse

Sponsors

Regina Acura (Dilawri Group), City TV, Rawlco Radio, Knight Archer, Spice Bazaar, The Lobby, Westridge Construction, City of Regina, London Drugs, O2XY, Evolution presentation technology, st johns music, GV audio, the wireless age, Sask Energy, Tramps,

Community Supporters:

Regina International airport, Ramada, Conexus arts centre, Student union university of Regina, western litho, Tourism Regina, CMHA, Mitchell law firm, IMAX theatre, SASK interactive



Riffa was quick to respond to emails and was accommodating. They also had spectacular opening and closing events. And they even sent me a certificate for our awards nomination. One of the best organized events I've been to.

Kristen Anderson-Sauve

Having experience of over 250 festival, till now i this is the best festival experience i have, there growth is tremendous, these kind of festival you want to be associated, there approach towards growth is tremendous, very good communication, Hospitality, invitation for visa letter, passes everything was provided, jury is world class, worth your submission fee, networking opportunity is huge

Ajitesh Shukla

Thank you, Team RIFFA, for a World Class festival experience and for the inspired, international programming of high-quality films and festival events. The featuring of social and environmental content reflects the heart and spirit of the festival and is much appreciated in these challenging times.

Katharina Stieffenhofer

Amazing festival, venues and films. The communication was excellent and the press announcement of Official Selections was classy and rivals big awards announcements like the Oscars and Sag-Afta awards. I was honored to make our Canadian Premiere at RIFFA. I highly recommend submitting to this great festival!

WOW Films, USA