

2022 imagineNATIVE Tour

Bookings: February 14 - May 24, 2022

The imagineNATIVE Tour programs are one of imagineNATIVE's largest initiatives outside our annual Festival. The imagineNATIVE Tour brings Indigenous-made film and video works and community engagement activities to communities across Turtle Island (Canada).

The **2022 imagineNATIVE Tour** programs are a selection of Indigenous works from across Canada that were presented as part of the 2021 Festival. This year we are proud to present two **Short Films Focus**, a **Documentary Film Focus** and a **Dramatic Film Focus**; you can find more information about the program selections below.

Our preferred presentation method for Screenings has been impacted by COVID-19 restrictions and our inability to accommodate in-person screenings at this time. imagineNATIVE utilizes Elevent for an online ticketing system and our online platform, watch.imagineNATIVE.org, to facilitate the imagineNATIVE Tour stops.

Please fill out a booking form on the imagineNATIVE website to begin the process for a 2022 imagineNATIVE Tour Screening in your community, school or workplace. This Booking Form should be completed two weeks before your desired event. If you have additional questions or concerns, please contact tour@imagineNATIVE.org. You can find additional information at imagineNATIVE.org/tour.

Please note that as proud supporters of Indigenous artists, we charge screening fees that go directly to the artist for their work. However, we are happy to negotiate screening fees with Indigenous communities, organizations, institutions, and youth programs.

DRAMATIC FILM FOCUS

Run Woman Run

Director: Zoe Hopkins (Heiltsuk/Mohawk)

Producer: Laura Milliken (Ojibway)

Canada | 2020 | 100 min

English/Kanyen'kéha w English Subtitles | Dramatic Feature

Content Warnings: Suicide, Substance use

Intended Audience: 16+

After a health scare, Beck, a single mom, sees visions of a ghost, runner Tom Longboat, who works to inspire her to get healthy. We follow Beck, as she takes a journey to reclaim her health, family, and language, all centred around her goal to run a marathon dedicated to the love of her family, herself, and her culture. This journey is emotional and powerful. Beck is a character who is easy to root for.

Zoe Hopkins is a Heiltsuk and Mohawk woman born in Bella Bella, British Columbia. She is raising her son in her father's community of Six Nations, where she learned to speak and teach Kanyen'kéha.

DOCUMENTARY FILM FOCUS

Kímmapiiyipitssini: The Meaning of Empathy

Director/Writer: Elle-Máijá Tailfeathers (Blackfoot/Sámi)

Producers: Lori Lozinski, Elle-Máijá Tailfeathers (Blackfoot/Sámi), David Christensen

Canada | 2021 | 125 min

English/Blackfoot w English Subtitles | Documentary Feature

Content Warnings: Use of Illegal Substances, Triggering Historical Trauma

Intended Audience: 18+

The urgent, astounding, much-lauded new film by Elle-Máijá Tailfeathers imbues the act of witnessing her community's response to the opioid crisis with an ethic of empathy, love, and great care.

Framed within the ongoing and historical impacts of settler colonialism in Blackfoot territory, this intimate portrait illuminates the beauty, strength, and core spirit of Kainai First Nation as they implement harm reduction and healing based on the value of compassion. The crucial, collective work of medical professionals, first responders, and community members in active addiction and recovery is brought to light with full dignity, love, and respect as the community implements their own life-saving solutions. *Kímmapiiyipitssini* also affirms Kainai's origin as a powerful and thriving people — countering not only the settler, colonial view that blames Indigenous peoples for our own state of crisis, but also attributing the crisis as a direct and devastating impact of settler colonialism itself.

Elle-Máijá Tailfeathers is a highly accomplished writer, director, producer, and actor. She is a member of Kainai First Nation (Blood Tribe, Blackfoot Confederacy) as well as Sámi from Norway.

SHORT FILM FOCUS - Animation Program

A dynamic selection of 7 animated short films created by Indigenous filmmakers, presented at the 2021 imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival. This program is geared towards diversity, inclusion, reconciliation and learning about the land and its people.

Artists: Zacharius Kunuk (Inuk), Lindsay McIntyre (Inuit/Scottish), Lyana Patrick (Stellat'en), Kay Chan (Métis), Christopher Grant (Mi'kmaq), Barry Bilinsky (Cree/Métis), Victoria Anderson-Gardner (Anishinaabe)

Canada | 53 min

All Ages

Angakusajaujuq (The Shaman's Apprentice)

Director/Writer: Zacharius Kunuk (Inuk)

Producers: Zacharius Kunuk (Inuk), Nadia Mike (Inuk)

Canada | 2021 | 21 min

Inuktitut w English Subtitles | Dramatic Short

Content Warning: Content Warning

A potent, mysterious glimpse into a young shaman's journey as she travels to the underworld to find the answer to healing an ill community member. Facing dark spirits and physical challenges, she must trust her grandmother's teachings and learn to control her fear.

Zacharias Kunuk is a highly acclaimed director of more than 30 Inuit documentaries and feature films, including Atanarjuat: The Fast Runner (2001 Cannes Camera d'Or). Angakusajaujuq is his first stop motion animation film.

Ajigiingiluktaqtugut (We Are All Different)

Director/Producer: Lindsay McIntyre (Inuit/Scottish)

Canada | 2020 | 18 min

French w English subtitles | Documentary Short

Content Warning: None

What does it mean to be Inuk? Historically depicted as welcoming and friendly people in remote, snowy landscapes, in reality, Inuit live across the globe. McIntyre asks what it means to belong in a changing world when our ideas of Inuk-ness are so tied to particular representations.

Lindsay McIntyre is a filmmaker and multidisciplinary artist of Inuit and settler Scottish descent. Working with 16mm film using experimental and handmade techniques, her short films circle themes of portraiture, place, form, and personal histories.

The Train Station

Director: Lyana Patrick (Stellat'en)

Canada | 2020 | 2 min

English | Animated Documentary Short

Content Warning: Triggering Historical Trauma

A heartfelt animation of the love of family despite colonial impacts, *The Train Station* filmmaker Lyana Patrick narrates her family's powerful story at Lejac Indian Residential School.

Lyana Patrick is a member of the Stellat'en First Nation (Carrier Nation) on her father's side and Acadian/Scottish on her mother's side. She has worked in communications and education for 17 years, including as a journalist, communications officer, and documentary filmmaker.

Will Flowers?

Director/Producer: Kay Chan (Métis)

Canada | 2021 | 1 min

English | Animated Short Experimental

Content Warning: None

Based on a text message from their Kokum, the artist imagines planting the seeds for future generations.

Kay Chan(They/He/She) is a Two-Spirit/non-binary, Tkaronto-based artist. With a mixed Métis/Chinese heritage, Kay transforms their experiences, passions, and identities into art through traditional and digital mediums.

Tussle

Director/Producer: Christopher Grant (Mi'kmaq)

Canada | 2021 | 2 min

Without Dialogue | Experimental Short

Content Warning: None

Playful forms attempt to merge together in an anxious wrestle for unified harmony in this strangely wonderful animation by emerging director Christopher Grant. Commissioned by Netflix and REEL CANADA for National Canadian Film Day 2021.

Christopher Grant is a Mi'gmaq filmmaker from Pabineau First Nation, New Brunswick. Inspired by life and death, Chris animates to express the humour and terror of existence.

Premonition: on the eve of signing Treaty 6

Director: Barry Bilinsky (Cree/Métis)

Canada | 2021 | 4 min

English/Cree w English Subtitles| Short Animated Narrative

Content Warning: Triggering Historical Trauma

The voice of an Elder shares his premonitions of the future after the signing of Treaty 6. We hear these premonitions first in Cree with English following. The premonitions of the Elder are represented visually through animated images of the lands being changed.

Barry Bilinsky is a professional theatre creator and filmmaker of Cree, Métis, and Ukrainian heritage. Based in Alberta, he has worked across Canada on projects centred primarily around the proliferation of Indigenous arts.

Namid

Directors: Victoria Anderson-Gardner (Anishinaabe), Sagi Kahane-Rapport

Producers: Victoria Anderson-Gardner (Anishinaabe), Morningstar Derosier (Nehiyawak/Anishinaabe)

Canada | 2021 | 5 min

English | Dramatic Short
Content Warning: Triggering Historical Trauma

An Ojibwe fancy shawl dancer finds strength amidst loss as her spirit is ignited by a warrior story shared by her Mishomis and she finds her place within the generational line. With music composition by Melody McKiver (Anishinaabe).

Victoria Anderson-Gardner is an award-winning, queer Ojibwe filmmaker and activist from Eagle Lake First Nation, Ontario.

SHORT FILM FOCUS - RECLAIMING

A dynamic selection of 5 short films created by Indigenous filmmakers, presented at the 2021 imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival. This program narrates the transfer of knowledge, reclaiming identity, and embracing the strength in spirit!

Artists: Terril Calder (Orkney Cree Métis), Shaunoh (Mohawk), Ossie Michelin (Labrador Inuk), Dana Solomon (Anishinaabe/Afro-Guyanese)

Canada | 43 min

All Ages

Meneath: The Hidden Island of Ethics

Director/Writer: Terril Calder (Orkney Cree Métis)

Canada | 2021 | 19 min

English | Dramatic Short

Content Warnings: Triggering Historical Trauma

The inner turmoil of a girl with mixed Indigenous/European ancestry is laid bare as she struggles to reclaim herself from the Seven Deadly Sins through the power of the Seven Sacred Teachings in this fearless, defiant affirmation of healing identity and self.

Terril Calder is a highly acclaimed Orkney Cree Métis artist who writes, directs, crafts, and animates her own stop motion films. Her films have screened nationally and internationally and won several Best Animation awards.

Honour to Senator Murray Sinclair

Honour to Senator Murray Sinclair

Director: Alanis Obomsawin (Abenaki)

Canada | 2021 | 30 min

English | Documentary Medium

Content Warnings: Triggering Historical Trauma

As the Chair of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Senator Murray Sinclair was a key figure in raising global awareness of the atrocities of Canada's residential school system. With determination, wisdom, and kindness, Senator Sinclair remains steadfast in his belief that the path to actual reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples requires understanding and accepting the often difficult truths about Canada's past and present. Alanis Obomsawin shares the Senator's powerful speech from when he received the WFM-Canada World Peace Award, interspersing the heartbreaking testimonies of former students imprisoned at residential schools. *Honour to Senator Murray Sinclair* reminds us to honour the lives and legacies of the tens of thousands of Indigenous children taken from their homes and cultures and — with hope — points us to a better future.

Renowned internationally as one of the matriarchs of Indigenous Cinema, Alanis Obomsawin is a storyteller with an extraordinary body of work and breadth of practice. Initially hired as a consultant for the National Film Board, she advocated for Indigenous representation and voice, grounded in education and honouring future generations, through her filmmaking. The Abenaki director has received numerous international honours and in 2019, was named a Companion of the Order of Canada —

its highest distinction. Her work continues to inspire and connect Indigenous communities.

Yéil (Raven)

Director: Shaunoh (Mohawk)

Canada | 2021 | 5 min

Tlingit w English Subtitles | Documentary Short

Content Warnings: None

On a walk through the dark landscape, Mohawk film director Shaunoh and Tlingit formline artist Guna Megan Jensen set out to visually tell the story of how Raven brought light to the world.

Shaunoh is a Mohawk visual artist and character-driven storyteller. His practice is grounded in authenticity and respect — for the land, its people, and their stories. connected to her community.

Evan's Drum

Director: Ossie Michelin (Labrador Inuk)

Canada | 2021 | 14 min

English | Documentary Short

Content Warnings: None

A heartfelt portrait of reclaiming traditional Labrador Inuit drum dancing told through the eyes of seven-year-old Evan Winters and his mother, Amy. Through making and sharing stories, we witness the continuums and strength of Inuit family culture.

Coming from a long line of storytellers, Ossie Michelin is a Labrador Inuk journalist from North West River, Newfoundland. He is a multimedia artist focusing on exploring the North and sharing stories of the Indigenous World.

The Strength of My Spirit

Director: Dana Solomon (Anishinaabe/Afro-Guyanese)

Canada | 2021 | 5 min

English | Documentary Short

Content Warnings: Triggering Historical Trauma

An Anishinaabe man reflects on his father's teachings, culture, and identity, recognizing the strength of these three attributes braided together.

Dana Solomon is an emerging Afro-Indigenous filmmaker, actor, and screenwriter from Sagkeeng First Nation. As a graduate of York University, her passion for performance has led her down the path of working in the Film & TV industry in various roles.