The imagineNATIVE Tour brings Indigenous-made film and video works and community engagement activities to communities across Turtle Island (Canada).

This year we are proud to present a Short Films Focus, a Documentary Film Focus, and a Dramatic Film Focus. Learn more about the program selections below. This year we are proud to present a Short Films Focus, a Documentary Film Focus and a Dramatic Film Focus; you can find more information about the program selections below.

This year, you can book screenings to be in-person or online! For in-person screenings, imagineNATIVE will work with you and your viewing method to help accommodate the delivery of your screening. For online screenings, imagineNATIVE utilizes Elevent, an online ticketing system and Cinesend, a video-on-demand platform to facilitate the imagineNATIVE Tour stops.

To enhance the screenings, organizations can request an Artist Talk to accompany their booking (in-person or online), for an additional fee. Please include the artist you would like to have in attendance at the screening in the Booking Form and we will do our best to coordinate schedules.

Please fill out a booking form on the imagineNATIVE website to begin the process for a 2023 imagineNATIVE Tour Screening in your community, school, or workplace. This Booking Form should be completed at least 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/year-round/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.

Bookings: February 3 - May 31, 2023
FOCUS

DRAMATIC FILM

Broken Angel
Director/Writer/Producer: Dr. Jules Arita Koostachin (Cree)
Co-producer: Patti Poskitt
Canada | 2022 | 96 min
English | Dramatic Feature
Content Warnings: Adult Themes, Physical Abuse, Historical Trauma
Intended Audience: 14+

Angel, the mother to Tanis, escapes into the night from her abusive partner Earl to a women’s shelter on the reservation. As the prospect of a new beginning comes to light, he tracks her down, and she is forced to flee or fight.

Dr. Jules Arita Koostachin is Cree and a band member of Attawapiskat First Nation. She is a graduate of Concordia University’s Theatre program and Ryerson University’s Documentary Media Master’s program. Jules was awarded an Award of Distinction and an Academic Gold Medal for her thesis documentary film Remembering Inninimowin. She is a published writer, performance artist, academic, and award-winning filmmaker.
FOCUS

DOCUMENTARY FILM

Kaatohkitopii: The Horse He Never Rode
Director/Producer: Trevor Solway (Blackfoot) Writer/Producer: Colin Van Loon (Blackfoot)
Canada | 2022 | 68 min English | Documentary Feature
Content Warnings: Use of Illegal Substances, Historical Trauma
Intended Audience: All Ages

This POV documentary narrated by director Trevor Solway begins with his earliest memories of his grandfather Sonny Solway, a lifelong rancher and “Indian Cowboy.” Whether these memories are doing chores around the ranch or sipping coffee in the early hours of the morning, these memories show how “work” shaped Trevor’s relationship with his grandfather. Brought to life by present-day footage of Trevor as he reflects on his Grandpa’s ranch, archival photos and videotapes shot both by Trevor and Grandpa Sonny.

Filmmaker Colin Van Loon is Blackfoot and Dutch, originally hailing from The Piikani Nation. Currently, Ahnahktipiita is the Operations Manager for the Indigenous Matriarchs 4 AR/VR media lab (IM4-Lab).
This program features a dynamic selection of six short films created by Indigenous filmmakers, all of which were presented at the 2022 imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival. This short film program reflects on the passing of knowledge from one generation to the next and honouring where you and your ancestors have come from.

Artists: Ritchie Hemphill (‘Nakwaxda’xw), Siku Allooloo (Inuit/Taíno), Roxann Karonhiarokwas Whitebean (Kanienkeh’a’ka), Sarah Houle-Lowry (Métis), Barry Bilinsky (Métis/Cree), Eric Janvier (Dene)

Canada | 2021-2022 | 79 min
English, Kwa’kwala, Hiwatahia, Mohawk | Documentary, Animation, Dramatic

Content Warnings: Historical Trauma
Intended Audience: All Ages
The story of a sixteen-year-old, pregnant Indigenous girl pulled from her community and placed in a church to be overseen in her last weeks of pregnancy. When she delivers her child, it will be taken from her and put into a Canadian home by decree of an Indian Agent.

Roxann Whitebean is a formidable media artist who hails from the Mohawk Territories of Kahnawà:ke and Akwesasne. She made her directorial debut in 2014 and is represented by Vanguarde Artists Management LTD.

Sarah Houle-Lowry is a Métis multidisciplinary artist and performer originally from the Paddle Prairie Métis Settlement in Northern Alberta and currently based in Mohkinsis (Calgary), Alberta.

**Maca**
Director: Ritchie Hemphill (‘Nakwaxda’xw)
Writer: Ida Smith (‘Nakwaxda’xw)
Canada | 2021 | 8 min
English & Kwak’wala | Dramatic Short

A stop motion representation of the late Elder Ida Smith telling her grandson the legend of the Mink.

**Spirit Emulsion**
Director/Writer/Producer: Siku Allooloo (Inuit/Taíno)
Co-producer: Jessica Hallenbeck
Canada | 2022 | 7 min
English & Hiwataha | Documentary Short

An Indigenous woman’s connection to the spirit world activates Taíno culture and presence, revealing a realm unseen. Super 8 film, developed with plant medicines, connects the earth to the cosmos as flowers portray family love and ancestral sovereignty extending into the future.

**Rose**
Director/Writer: Roxann Karonhiaokwas Whitebean (Kanikehaka)
Producer: Jason Brennan (Anishinaabe)
Canada | 2022 | 25 min
English & Mohawk | Dramatic Short

The story of a sixteen-year-old, pregnant Indigenous girl pulled from her community and placed in a church to be overseen in her last weeks of pregnancy. When she delivers her child, it will be taken from her and put into a Canadian home by decree of an Indian Agent.

**This Is How I Know You**
Director/Producer: Sarah Houle-Lowry (Métis)
Canada | 2022 | 5 min
English | Music Video

A prayer for our missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls... and a prayer for Truth and Reconciliation.

Ritchie Hemphill grew up on Tsulquate reserve and was raised by his community, the Gwa’sala-‘Nakwaxda’xw people. Ritchie’s goal is to create art that honours his identity as a modern Indigenous individual.

Siku Allooloo is an award-winning filmmaker and an interdisciplinary artist, writer, decolonial advocate, and community builder. She comes from Denendeh (Northwest Territories), by way of Haiti and Mittimatalik, Nunavut.

Roxann Whitebean is a formidable media artist who hails from the Mohawk Territories of Kahnawà:ke and Akwesasne. She made her directorial debut in 2014 and is represented by Vanguarde Artists Management LTD.

Sarah Houle-Lowry is a Métis multidisciplinary artist and performer originally from the Paddle Prairie Métis Settlement in Northern Alberta and currently based in Mohkinsis (Calgary), Alberta.
From the imagination of Kikino youth in Kikino Métis Settlement follows the story of rebellious friends, star-crossed lovers, and brave explorers coming together to discover how connected they truly are.

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

Heartbeat of a Nation
Director/Writer: Eric Janvier (Dene)
Producer: Coty Savard (Métis)
Canada | 2022 | 20 min
English | Documentary Short

In the Northern Alberta community of Chipewyan Prairie Dene First Nation, a father teaches his son how to create a caribou drum.

Eric Janvier is a multi-hyphenate filmmaker who has found space in both the narrative and documentary fields. He trained at the New York Film Academy in Los Angeles, California.

Kikino Kids
Director/Writer: Barry Bilinsky (Métis/Cree)
Canada | 2022 | 14 min
English | Dramatic Short

From the imagination of Kikino youth in Kikino Métis Settlement follows the story of rebellious friends, star-crossed lovers, and brave explorers coming together to discover how connected they truly are.

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