

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Toronto Queer Film Festival would like to thank the following community sponsors and individuals who helped make this year's festival a reality: Brenda Longfellow, the CaribbeanTales Film Festival, the Canadian Filmmakers Distribution Centre (CFMDC), Cinema Politica, and all of our volunteers.

Thank you also to CinecCycle for hosting us!

Kami Chisholm, Aimee Mitchell, Renata Mohamed, Jaime Nash, and Christina Rousseau
Programming Committee



TQFF

TQFF 2016

TORONTO QUEER FILM FESTIVAL



June 22-24, 2016
@ CineCycle
129 Spadina Ave, Toronto

www.torontoqueerfilmfestival.com

June 22, 2016

Queer/Trans/Activism

Co-Presented with CaribbeanTales Film Festival

HOT BITCH – Electra (3:08)

A transwoman sex worker from Saskatoon tells her story.

LET ME BE ME, NOT A MAN, NOT A WOMAN, BUT A HIJRA -

Matteo Vegetti (13:38) – *WORLD PREMIERE*

From the impossibility of practicing religion outside the accepted definition of man and woman, to the struggle of being accepted by society or having access to fundamental rights, Katha, a hijra activist, fights against the hurdles she and her community have to fight on a daily basis. * Presented with subtitles

PHORIA - Forrest Lotterhos (8:36)

Shot entirely on black and white 16mm film and hand processed, Phoria is an intimate view of five AFAB (assigned female at birth) trans* people with dysphoria, re: chest.

COMING OUT - Vijay Patel (1:23)

The artist merges an audio recording of when he “came out” to his parents with a self-recorded sexually explicit video.

JIZZ ENVY - James Diamond (1:59)

An adult oriented mock fairy tale where (“female”) ejaculation combined with true love brings a happy ending to a trans-male narrative.

BULLDOZER BRONFMAN - John Greyson (5:15) – *WORLD PREMIERE*

Legendary queer filmmaker brings his trademark mix of musical parody and satire to challenge anti-Palestinian campaigns

directed towards a mural hanging in the student centre at York University. * Presented with subtitles.

WHEN AIDS WAS FUNNY - Scott Calonico (7:30)

Recordings of press conferences at the Reagan White House reveal the shocking indifference, and sometimes outright derision, with which the administration dealt with the growing AIDS epidemic.

2 SPIRIT INTRODUCTORY SPECIAL \$19.99 –Thirza Cuthand (4:47)

Don’t worry if you are just coming out as a 2 Spirited person, we have just the introductory special for you!

GUYANESE TRANSGENDER VISIBILITY - Society Against Sexual Orientation Discrimination (4:22)

A montage of portraits taken by photo/video artist Ulelli Verbeke as part of the “Stand Against Transphobia” Photo-Exhibition 2014 held to commemorate International Transgender Day of Visibility.

TRANS LIVES MATTER! JUSTICE FOR ISLAN NETTLES - Seyi Adebajo (6:17)

A powerful and intensely moving document of a community vigil for Islan Nettles, a transgender Womyn of Colour, concerning her spirit and life.

RED LIPS [CAGES FOR BLACK GIRLS] - kyisha williams (17:47)

Red Lips explores black/racialized/criminalized/queer/trans/identity and its relationship to the prison industrial complex, articulating links between interpersonal and systemic violence while celebrating the (sexy) ways in which we survive and celebrate ourselves.

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June 23, 2016

Queer Bodies, Queer Modernities

Total program runtime: 76 min

**Co-Presented with the Canadian Filmmakers
Distribution Centre**

METUBE2 - dir. Daniel Moshel (5 min)

After Elfie and her nerdy son August successfully proved themselves on their home webcam in MeTube 1, the odd pair venture onto the street to present the biggest, boldest, and sexiest operatic flash mob the internet has ever witnessed!

YOU ARE BORING! - dir. Vika Kirchenbauer (14 min)

YOU ARE BORING! discusses the troublesome nature of “looking” and “being looked at” in larger contexts including labour within the new economy, performer/spectator relations, participatory culture, contemporary art display and queer representational politics.

WHITE FUR - dirs. Nikki Silver and Neve Be (3 min)

Heralded on by the playful and sometimes unsettling improvisations of a saxophone, this short is a romp in the lives of one wolf mother/puppy trainer and their wolf pups/sled dogs.

THERE ARE VULVAE AROUND YOU IF YOU CHOOSE TO SEE - dir. Ann Antidote (8 min)

A queer art collective – the strange life of the savages - has been installing rope bondage sculptures shaped as vulvae in urban environments, as a way to confront by-passers with representations of femininity, body, and sexuality.

SOAK - dir. Alysha Seriani (5 min)

A woman attempts to pull herself out of her sinking mood by taking a bath.

FLUFF FILM - dir. Mée Rose (5 min)

This video work is an experiment in self-love. BDSM and sex as a solo venture towards healing, growth, and transformation.

WHITE WASHED - dir. Julius Manapul (5 min)

This work talks about the process of white washing from a diasporic perspective of a queer Filipino man trying to find myself within the Homonormative representations that upholds the masculine queer white male to be valued as seen on gay dating apps, gay magazines to gay media and club scenes.

MORE OR LESS - dir. Andrew Paterson (3 min)

A three-minute video consisting of two layers of non-camera colour gelled images and processed texts. Does modernist art address audiences and, if so, then how? Is minimalism necessarily slow in its editing rhythms? What are the relationships between pictures, images, and concrete poetry? More or Less pits minimalism and maximalism, speed and slowness against each other. Do they crash and explode, or do they blend into an explosive cocktail?

THE SOURCE IS A HOLE - dir. Madsen Minax (28 min)

a video about love.

and mythology and fucking and death and dads and moms and dogs and gods.

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June 24, 2016
Closing Night

Total program runtime: 68 minutes

Co-Presented with Cinema Politica.

Tonight's program features two films by local filmmakers that highlight issues affecting Toronto's queer and trans communities today, including: the impact of gentrification and policing on sex workers in the downtown eastside, the commodification and corporatization of Toronto's mainstream LGBT cultural events and organizations, the co-opting of LGBT identity politics through pinkwashing and same-sex marriage campaigns, and more.

The films will be followed by a panel discussion with activists who appear in the films as well as the filmmakers themselves.

Please also stay and join us at the close of the discussion for the after-party!

GENTRIFICATION OF DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE –

dir. Monica Forrester (7:00)

This short doc by local activist Monica Forrester showcases the gentrification of Toronto's downtown eastside where sex workers and low income people live.

PRIDE DENIED: HOMONATIONALISM & THE FUTURE OF QUEER POLITICS - dir. Kami Chisholm (61:00)

Many North American LGBTQ pride events initially emerged out of sites of revolt and resistance— such as the anti-police riots at the Stonewall Inn in NYC in 1969 and the protests that began after police bathhouse raids in Toronto 1981. Today, however, PRIDE™ is big business. Non-profits formed for the purpose of hosting pride events in cities such as Toronto, San Francisco, and New York sport multinational corporations as sponsors alongside multi-million dollar budgets. But where and how is this money spent? And to what ends?

In Pride Denied, Toronto activists and artists call for a return to prioritizing political activism and community support that characterized the emergence of the contemporary LGBT rights movement more than 40 years ago. For more info visit www.altcinema.com.