

**june**  
**10-18**

**the  
nickel  
independent  
film  
festival** 



June 10  
sat

11AM - 4PM WORKSHOP  
**FILM SCHOOL  
IN A DAY**  
PRES. BY NLFDC

FREE BEGINNERS  
WORKSHOP SERIES

**REGISTRATION  
REQUIRED** AT  
NICKELFESTIVAL.COM

**WORKSHOPS BY**  
JAMIE MILLER  
HEATHER RUMANCIK  
RODRIGO INIGUEZ  
JENNIE WILLIAMS  
FRANCOIS VAN ZYL

3PM SOCIAL  
**DIY SCI-FI  
KICK-OFF** OPEN TO ALL

3:30PM  
**DIY SCI-FI  
BEGINS** 

MAKE A SHORT SCI-FI  
FILM IN A WEEK  
**BECAUSE YOU CAN!**  
FREE REGISTRATION AT  
NICKELFESTIVAL.COM

June 12  
mon

June 13  
tue

June 14  
wed

June 15  
thu

June 16  
fri

June 17  
sat

June 18  
sun

1 - 4PM DROP-IN  
**THE NICKEL  
FILM LAB** 

DROP-IN ACTIVITY /  
CO-WORKING SPACE /  
DIY FILM STUDIO

PROFESSIONAL  
FILMMAKING MENTOR  
ON HAND DAILY

1 - 4PM DROP-IN  
**THE NICKEL  
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PROFESSIONAL  
FILMMAKING MENTOR  
ON HAND DAILY

1PM SHORTS  
**QUIET  
STRENGTH**

RESTE  
ROADMARKS  
MOSAIC  
FOR ROY  
LANTERNS FLICKER  
HER HOME

FILMMAKER Q&A

3:30PM SHORTS  
**BETTER  
TOGETHER**

PRES. BY COAST 101.1

HEDGEHOG DILEMMA  
FEELING THE  
APOCALYPSE  
YOUNG PEOPLE, OLD  
PEOPLE & NOTHING ...  
A LOVE LETTER TO  
LÉOPOLD L. FOULEM

FILMMAKER Q&A

5:30PM  
**DIY SCI-FI  
SUBMISSION DEADLINE** 

3:30PM FEATURE  
**WHAT THE  
DARKNESS  
CANNOT EXTINGUISH:**  
THE STORYTELLING  
MADNESS OF CLIFFORD  
GEORGE

with  
**THE LADY AT NUMBER 16**  
FREE FALL

**LSPU HALL MAIN STAGE**  
3 VICTORIA STREET (2ND FLOOR)

**LSPU HALL SECOND SPACE**  
3 VICTORIA STREET (MAIN FLOOR)

**BANNERMAN BREWING CO.**  
90 DUCKWORTH STREET (UPSTAIRS)

**NIFCO**  
40 KING'S ROAD

6PM SOCIAL

6PM SOCIAL

6PM SOCIAL

6PM SOCIAL

6PM SOCIAL

6:30PM PANEL  
**THE BEFORE  
SHOW SHOW**

FREE LIVE TALK SHOW  
ABOUT FILMMAKING  
W/ MATT WRIGHT

6:30PM PANEL  
**THE BEFORE  
SHOW SHOW**

FREE LIVE TALK SHOW  
ABOUT FILMMAKING  
W/ GUEST HOSTS

6:30PM PANEL  
**THE BEFORE  
SHOW SHOW**

FREE LIVE TALK SHOW  
ABOUT FILMMAKING  
W/ GUEST HOSTS

6:30PM PANEL  
**THE BEFORE  
SHOW SHOW**

FREE LIVE TALK SHOW  
ABOUT FILMMAKING  
W/ GUEST HOSTS

6:30PM PANEL  
**LABRADOR  
FILM PANEL**

HOSTED BY **MARK DAVID  
TURNER**, CO-AUTHOR  
OF **LABRADOR CINEMA**

8PM SHORTS  
**MIRROR  
MIRROR**

PRES. BY CNA

TICKLE COVE POND  
DEMON BOX  
**THE DOOR**  
END OF THE LINE  
GUARDIANS  
SEPTEMBER 7, 2012  
BROTHER  
NOT FIT

RECEPTION  
& FILMMAKER Q&A

8PM SHORTS  
**TRAGEDY  
PLUS TIME**

PRES. BY NIFCO

MEET THE CREATURES  
SPIRICOM  
WATERCRAFT  
TIME TRAVELING ...  
CHIMERAS  
CAPTCHA  
**DEAD WIFE CLUB**  
STATIONHEADS

FILMMAKER Q&A

8PM SHORTS  
**ECHOES  
IN TIME**

PRES. BY ALT HOTEL

CIRCLE OF TRUTH  
NIGHT  
**ATTAR OF ROSES**  
**ELFREDA**  
CLOSED TO THE LIGHT  
**THE LITTLE CHURCH  
THAT COULD**

FILMMAKER Q&A

8PM SHORTS  
**LIFE AT A  
CROSSROADS**

ETERNAL RETURN  
NIGHT IN THE CÔSMICO  
SHARDS  
HOW SHE DIDN'T DIE

8PM FEATURE  
**WHAT THE  
DARKNESS  
CANNOT EXTINGUISH:**  
THE STORYTELLING  
MADNESS OF CLIFFORD  
GEORGE

with  
**THE LADY AT NUMBER 16**  
FREE FALL

FILMMAKER Q&A

8PM SHORTS  
**HEARTS  
ILLUMINATED**

PRES. BY CBC NL

OUR SECRET  
KISS 'N' RIDE  
**FIRST POSITION**  
TO MY NEXT LOVER  
**GROWN IN DARKNESS**  
SAMPO  
**MOTHER'S SKIN**

RECEPTION  
& FILMMAKER Q&A

8PM SHORTS  
**DIY SCI-FI  
SCREENING** 

SEE THE FILMS CREATED  
IN ONE WEEK FOR THE  
SCI-FI FILM CHALLENGE

10PM SHORTS  
**HORRORS  
UNKNOWN**

PRES. BY QUIDI VIDI  
BREWERY

THE TASTE IN YOUR  
MOUTH  
MALAKOUT  
ENTER THE ROOM  
THE BLOODY FAMILY  
ARIANE'S BABY  
STIGMATE

10PM PARTY  
**THE NICKEL  
PARTY**

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC  
BANNERMAN BREWING

MUSIC BY  
**THE TEXMESTICS**

**MOS EISLEY CANTINA**  
THEME FOR DIY SCI-FI

the  
nickel  
independent  
film  
festival 

## Box Office

### In-Person Screenings

All in-person screenings are at the LSPU Hall.

Order tickets/passes at the LSPU Hall box office, in-person, by phone, or online:

#### LSPU Hall

##### Box Office Hours

Monday to Friday, 12pm-5pm

Website: [lspuhall.ca](http://lspuhall.ca)

Phone: 709-753-4531

Location: 3 Victoria Street

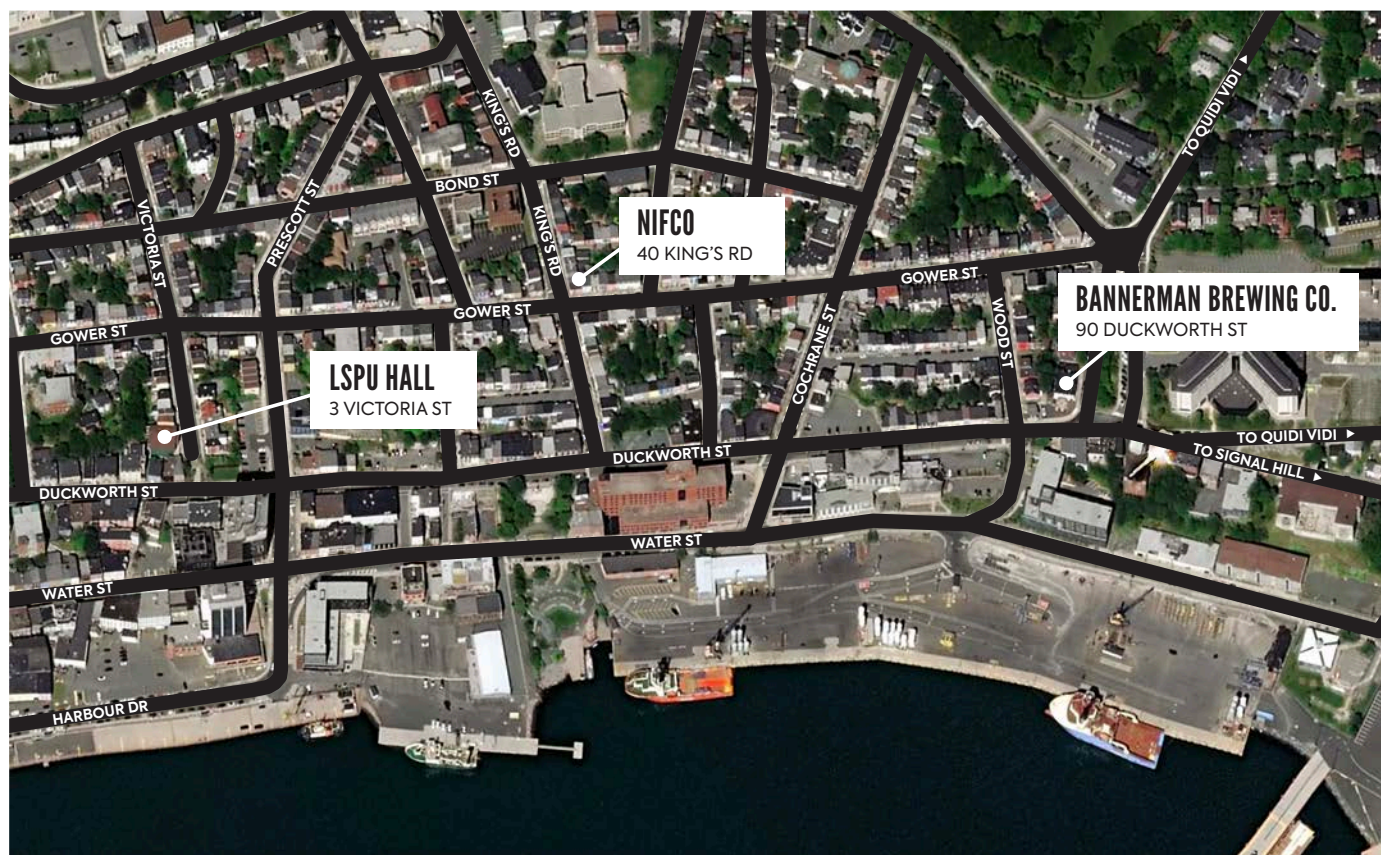
All tickets are **pay what you wish** — except "Mirror Mirror", "What the Darkness Cannot Extinguish..." and "Hearts Illuminated", which have a \$15 minimum each.

### Online On Demand

Order online tickets/passes at [nickelfestival.com](http://nickelfestival.com)

All Nickel screenings will be available on our streaming platform, and available to watch on demand.

## Venue Map



The streaming window for each show starts at the same time as the in-person screening, and ends at 11:59pm on June 18.

As with our in-person screenings, virtual screening tickets are **pay what you wish** — except "Mirror Mirror", "What the Darkness Cannot

Extinguish..." and "Hearts Illuminated", which have a \$15 minimum each.

## Venue Accessibility

#### LSPU Hall

3 Victoria Street  
[lspuhall.ca/accessibility](http://lspuhall.ca/accessibility)

Please contact the LSPU Hall via phone to reserve accessible seating.

- Assistive listening systems and an on-site wheelchair available upon request
- Designated accessible viewing areas
- Two gender neutral washrooms on the main floor
- Accepts the Access2 Program's "Attendant Pass"
- A visual guide and seat map available at the website link above.
- Lift to access screenings on second floor, with staff assistance
- Button-activated doors
- Contrast painting for low vision accessibility
- Accessible parking spot at front
- Service animals are welcome (Please advise the box office when booking your seat.)

#### Bannerman Brewing Co.

90 Duckworth St

There are 35 steps to the second floor event space. Once on the second floor, four gender neutral washrooms are available on the same level as the event space and bar.

#### NIFCO

40 King's Rd

This row-house style building has two entrances: one on King's Road with one step then three steps down. The Bond Street entrance has three steps leading up to the door. A gender neutral washroom is four steps up from the workshop area.

## Mental Health Resources

Showing films about difficult subjects is an important part of what we do at the Nickel, but we recognize that some of the material can be overwhelming and/or triggering for some.

Because the films we show are unrated, we recommend reading each synopsis to consider whether a screening is right for you.

We have also included content warnings for films or screenings where difficult content is not mentioned in the synopsis, or where we found it particularly intense. This is highly subjective however, so please use your discretion and take care of yourselves.

#### HealthLine

811

The province's 811 HealthLine is a good place to start if you're facing a health concern and not sure where to turn. It's confidential and free, and staffed by experienced registered nurses who are there to listen, provide support, and connect you to health services close to you.

#### Warmline

1-855-753-2560

Just need to talk? The Warmline is a non-emergency, non-crisis telephone support service for people needing mental health or addictions support in Newfoundland and Labrador. Operated by trained and experienced peer supporters, it's available every day from 10am - midnight.

#### Sexual Assault Crisis Line

1-800-726-2743

The NL Sexual Assault Crisis and Prevention Centre runs this 24-hour information and support line for anyone with questions or concerns related to sexual violence. It is staffed by empathetic, non-judgmental volunteers who can listen and connect you with support, help with legal system navigation, and other services based on what you need.

# the nickel independent film festival

Founded in 2001, the Nickel Independent Film Festival is a celebration of independent filmmaking in Newfoundland and Labrador. We are named after the former Nickel theatre, Newfoundland's first cinema.

At our annual summer festival we strive to create an enthusiastic and creative atmosphere that leaves audiences and filmmakers feeling a strong connection to independent film culture in the province.

Throughout the year we offer screenings, educational programs, professional workshops, creative film challenges, and mentorship programs that bring us across the province. We are an incorporated charitable, not-for-profit organization based in St John's and we happily accept donations.

**CHARITY #** 856136007 RR0001

**MAIL** PO Box 1644, Stn C, St. John's, NL A1C 5P3

**EMAIL** info@nickelfestival.com

**WEB** nickelfestival.com

## Board of Directors

Ane Christensen, Chair  
Jennifer Hawley, Vice Chair  
Jeff Lewis, Treasurer  
Timothy Conway, Secretary  
Andrea Kean  
Ashley Knight  
Cara Powell  
Justin Oakey  
Matthew Power  
Mayra Sanchez  
Shane Mills

## Nickel Staff

### FESTIVAL STAFF

Kai Bryan, Festival Coordinator  
Elaine Pond, Sponsorship Coordinator  
Ed Tanasychuk, Tech  
Mal Parrott, Event Coordinator  
Phil Winters, Tech Coordinator

### YEAR-ROUND STAFF

Elling Lien, Executive Director  
Sandy May, Outreach Coordinator  
Mike Fardy, Director of Programming and Communications

Poster design by **Noah Bender**  
Nickel 2023 theme music by **Medians**

## Major Funders

ArtsNL/Newfoundland and Labrador Arts Council  
Canada Council for the Arts  
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador: Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts and Recreation  
Government of Canada: Department of Canadian Heritage  
TELUS Community Fund  
Newfoundland and Labrador Film Development Corporation  
Canada Summer Jobs  
Telefilm Canada  
City of St. John's

## Festival Sponsors

CBC NL  
College of the North Atlantic  
Coast 101.1 FM  
Alt Hotel  
Quidi Vidi Brewery  
NL Independent Filmmaker's Co-op  
ACTRA Newfoundland  
Budden Law  
IATSE Local 709  
Pope Productions  
Bluedrop  
St. John's International Women's Film Festival  
Christina Parker Gallery  
Newfoundland Distillery  
Sheilagh O'Leary  
MusicNL  
Eastern Edge

## Land Acknowledgment

Because the Nickel will be operating from both an onsite and an online space this year, viewers will be joining us from various points around the world. We encourage you to take a moment to consider the place where you are currently located and to acknowledge the Indigenous people who are the original caretakers of the land you are on.

The Nickel would like to acknowledge the land on which we are based as the ancestral homelands of the Beothuk, whose culture is now lost forever.

We acknowledge the island of Ktaqmkuk (Newfoundland) as the unceded, traditional territory of the Beothuk and the Mi'kmaq.

We acknowledge Labrador as the traditional and ancestral homelands of the Innu of Nitassinan, the Inuit of Nunatsiavut, and the Inuit of NunatuKavut.

We are grateful to live and work on this land with all people — those Indigenous to this place and those from all over the world. We are committed to opening our hearts and minds to the past, and to working in a spirit of truth and reconciliation to make a better future for all.

# Hello!

Welcome to the 23rd annual Nickel Independent Film Festival.

Oh man, I'm so excited to share this year's festival with you! It's the end result of a lot of careful thought and hard work from staff, programming committee, and the board of directors. We tried to make it extra special this year — with more opportunities to see incredible films, more chances to take part, and more ways for local and visiting filmmakers to connect with audiences and with each other.

Seriously, though, it's gonna be *really* good.

Here's my challenge for you: pick a random screening, something you know nothing about and have no connection to — matinee, evening, whatever. Just go see it. I guarantee you'll find something there that really connects with you — whether it moves you, makes you think, or inspires you.

We'll be hosting our screenings both onsite and online again this year, but one good reason to join us in person at the LSPU Hall is to have a chance to meet the people who put these films together.

This year we're helping more filmmakers from outside the province join us than ever. To list just a few, at press time: Sean Wainstein, visiting from Toronto, is the director of the stunningly original "Demon Box", showing on Monday night. Joining us from Los Angeles is director Parida Tant, whose short film "Young People Old People and Nothing In Between" about a beautiful friendship between a young girl and an older woman is a real pleasure to watch. Coming from Vancouver we have Vivian Cheung, whose deeply personal film "For Roy" has already picked up several film festival awards since its debut late last year — including two People's Choice awards. Yoni Collins, of Toronto, is director of the powerful short documentary "Lanterns Flicker", about veteran mental health.

I'm also particularly keen on our other events, especially the subtle twists we're putting on things this year:

Each evening before most of the shows, we'll be hosting a filmmaking talk show in the LSPU Second Space, with special guest hosts in conversation with festival filmmakers. "The Before-Show Show" will be a fun excuse to hear great conversations about the art of making movies, featuring visiting and local filmmaker guests. The first one at 6:30 on Tuesday, June 13 will be hosted by comedian Matt Wright, and it's free to attend.

Another new thing this year: For the first time, a film challenge has been folded right into festival week. Our DIY Sci-Fi challenge, running from June 10 to June 17, dares anyone to write, shoot, and edit a short sci-fi film in seven days. As part of the challenge, on weekday afternoons we're turning the LSPU Hall Second Space into the Nickel Film Lab, pop-up film studio where anyone who wants to can come hang out, use a green screen and some studio lights, and learn skills guided by a new filmmaking professional.

Finally, we're excited to bring people together for another edition of the notorious Nickel Party, this year happening at Bannerman Brewing on Friday, June 16. Legendary St. John's cover band The Texmestics are on deck for the night, and like all of our events, it's open to the public.

Whether you're here to sample a few screenings or submerge yourself in the full festival experience, I hope this year's Nickel leaves you feeling inspired and connected with the amazing art of moving pictures.

Have a great festival,



Elling Lien  
Executive Director, Nickel Independent Film Festival

# Nickel Screenings

ALL SCREENINGS AVAILABLE IN-PERSON AND ONLINE

**IN-PERSON LOCATION:** LSPU HALL, 3 VICTORIA ST

**STREAMING ON-DEMAND:** NICKELFESTIVAL.COM



**8PM MONDAY • JUNE 12**

SHORTS

## Mirror Mirror

Films on growth and self-reflection

**Tickle Cove Pond**

**Demon Box**

**The Door**

**End of the Line**

**Guardians**

**September 7, 2012**

**Brother**

**Not Fit**

Presented by CNA



**8PM TUESDAY • JUNE 13**

SHORTS

## Tragedy Plus Time

Comedy with a pinch of the absurd

**Meet the Creatures**

**Spiricom**

**Watercraft**

**Time Traveling Through Time**

**Chimeras**

**CAPTCHA**

**Dead Wife Club**

**Stationheads**

Presented by NIFCO



**8PM WEDNESDAY • JUNE 14**

SHORTS

## Echoes in Time

Shorts on memory and history

**Circle of Truth**

**Night**

**Attar of Roses**

**Elfreda**

**Closed to the Light**

**The Little Church That Could**

Presented by Alt Hotel



**8PM THURSDAY • JUNE 15**

SHORTS

## Life at the Crossroads

Films about choices that define us

**Eternal Return**

**Night in the Cómico**

**Shards**

**How She Didn't Die**



**10PM THURSDAY • JUNE 15**

SHORTS

## Horrors Unknown

Terrifying shorts about the darkness within and without

**The Taste in Your Mouth**

**Malakout**

**Enter the Room**

**The Bloody Family**

**Ariane's Baby**

**Stigmaté**

Presented by

**Quidi Vidi Brewery**



**8PM FRIDAY • JUNE 16**

**3:30PM SUNDAY • JUNE 18**

FEATURE

## What the Darkness

**Cannot Extinguish:**

The Storytelling

Madness of Clifford

George

w/ shorts

**The Lady at Number 16**

**Free Fall**



**1PM SATURDAY • JUNE 17**

SHORTS

## Quiet Strength

Six short films on courage

**Reste**

**Roadmarks**

**Mosaic**

**For Roy**

**Lanterns Flicker**

**Her Home**



**3:30PM SATURDAY • JUNE 17**

SHORTS

## Better Together

Films about choices that define us

**Hedgehog Dilemma**

**Feeling the Apocalypse**

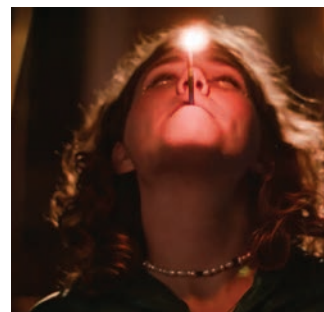
**Young People, Old People &**

**Nothing in Between**

**A Love letter to Léopold L.**

**Foulem**

Presented by Coast 101.1



**8PM SATURDAY • JUNE 17**

SHORTS

## Hearts Illuminated

Seven shorts on love and loss

**Our Secret**

**Kiss 'n' Ride**

**First Position**  
to my next lover

**Grown in Darkness**

**Sampo**

**Mother's Skin**

Presented by CBC NL



**8PM SUNDAY • JUNE 18**

SHORTS

## DIY Sci-Fi Challenge

Come see the films made for our film challenge

Make a sci-fi short film between June 10-16, just for fun. Open to anyone.

Sign up at

[nickelfestival.com/diyscifi](http://nickelfestival.com/diyscifi)



Book tickets, watch clips and find out more at [nickelfestival.com](http://nickelfestival.com)



Financé par le  
gouvernement  
du Canada

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Government  
of Canada

Canada 

**CANADIAN FILMS  
HAVE IT ALL.**

BIG HITS  
BIG HITS  
BIG HITS  
**BIG HITS**  
**BIG TALENTS**  
BIG TALENTS  
BIG TALENTS  
BIG TALENTS



**TELEFILM**  **POWERED  
BY**  
CANADA

[seeitall.telefilm.ca](http://seeitall.telefilm.ca)

**NIFCO**

  [nifco.org](http://nifco.org)



**PROUD SPONSOR OF THE  
2023 NICKEL INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL**




**Newfoundland & Labrador  
Film Development  
Corporation**

Proud sponsor  
of the 23rd Annual  
Nickel Independent  
Film Festival

Newfoundland and Labrador Film Development Corporation  
70 Portugal Cove Road, St. John's, NL, A1B 2M3  
[www.nlfdc.ca](http://www.nlfdc.ca) / [info@picturenl.ca](mailto:info@picturenl.ca)  
Tel: (709) 738-3456  
Toll Free: 1-877-738-3456



# **We all have stories worth telling**

Proud sponsor of  
The Nickel Independent  
Film Festival



# SEE YOUR NAME IN LIGHTS

Film production companies are flocking to Newfoundland and Labrador to film major motion pictures. And wildly successful shows, like Hudson & Rex and Son of a Critch, have opened the doors for more home-grown productions.

**Now's the time to make your TV & Film  
dream career a reality!**



Scan this code to see our suite of programs:



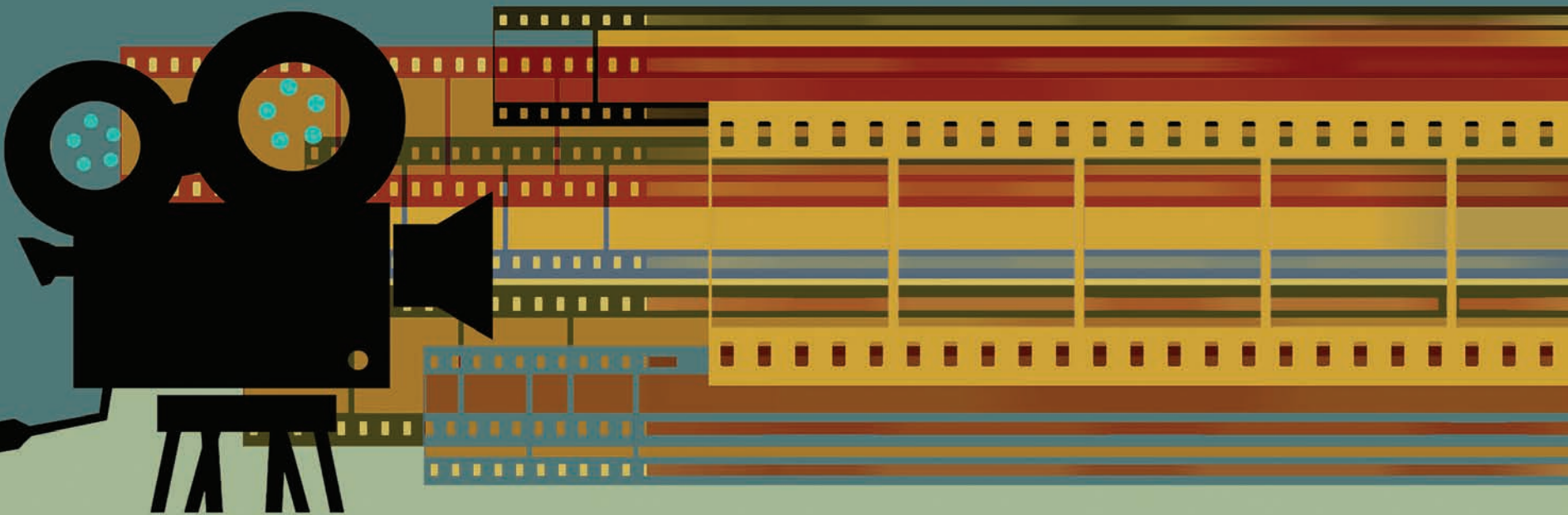
**cna**

College of the North Atlantic

# ACTRA

Newfoundland  
Labrador

We are proud to support  
**the  
nickel  
independent  
film  
festival** 



[actranewfoundland.ca](http://actranewfoundland.ca)

Bluedrop is proud to sponsor the 2023 Nickel Independent Film Festival and help celebrate independent film in Newfoundland & Labrador

Enjoy the movies!



 **HAND CRAFTED**

 **FOR YOUR**

**HAND** 



# CHRISTINA PARKER

GALLERY

50 Water Street, St. John's  
709.753.0580  
cpg@christinaparkergallery.com



Branch, the Place of Plenty  
Clifford George

Acrylic on canvas  
36 x 48"  
2021

october 17-21, 2023

# sjiwff

st. john's international  
women's film festival

[womensfilmfestival.com](http://womensfilmfestival.com)

  @sjiwff  /womensfilmfestival



Saturday • June 10, 11am–3pm

# Film School in a Day

A four-hour series of classroom workshops for beginning or emerging filmmakers

Supported by the **Newfoundland & Labrador Film Development Corporation**

**Advance registration is required.** To claim your spot visit [nickelfestival.com](http://nickelfestival.com). Attendance is free, but capacity is limited to 20.

10–11 AM

## Creating Your Film's Visual Style with Heather Rumancik and Rodrigo Iniguez

Lighting technician Heather Rumancik and director of photography Rodrigo Iniguez will join forces to talk about how to create the visual style of a film. Using budget friendly techniques, they'll show you how the look and feel of a film is achieved through framing and use of colour, and demonstrate the importance of effectively coordinating lighting and camera equipment in order to tell your story visually.

**Heather Rumancik** is an on-set swiss army knife with experience ranging from rigging studio sets for A-tier film and television to taping household lamps to walls for no-budget indie shoots. Heather currently teaches Lighting and Grip at CNA in St. John's.

**Rodrigo Iniguez** is a Mexican filmmaker who calls St. John's home. He is passionate about using cinematography and editing to bring unheard voices to the forefront.

11–12 PM

## Composition and Framing with Jennie Williams

How do filmmakers get viewers to see exactly what they want them to see? Award-winning Nalujuk Night filmmaker and photographer Jennie Williams will show you how to use composition, perspective, and movement to make your film look its best, and how to show the viewer what you want them to see. She'll explain how to carefully arrange your shots and pay close attention to what's included, where you place your subjects and objects, what happens at the edges of the frame, and what's going on in the background.

**Jennie Williams** is an Inuk visual artist and performer from Happy Valley - Goose Bay, Labrador. She is a nationally recognised photographer and an award-winning filmmaker whose short documentary *Nalujuk Night* recently earned Best Short Documentary at the Canadian Screen Awards (2022).

1–2 PM

## Directing with Jamie Miller

Join award-winning director and producer Jamie Miller for this hands-on directing workshop about the different techniques directors use for creating compelling films across genres. She'll offer insights into how to analyse a script and its needs, but also how to approach working with actors in order to get the best visual and emotional delivery of a performance for your film.

**Jamie Miller** is a director and producer from St. John's. Her first short doc *Prince's Tale*, received a Hot Docs award for Best Canadian Short, a Canadian Screen Award nomination, and numerous other festival awards. She is also the Michelle Jackson Emerging Filmmaker Award winner for her short drama, *Proximity*.

2–3 PM

## World Building in Film: The Essential Steps with Grind Mind's Francois van Zyl

You've got a great idea for your story! Now what?! Grind Mind filmmaker extraordinaire Francois van Zyl will discuss how world building makes us suspend our belief, lose ourselves in a story, and keep coming back for more even when we know the plot by heart. He'll walk you through the different steps of bringing your film's world to life like: how to find inspiration and decide on your world type; how to include this in your writing and start developing some personalised ideas; how to shape your world's appearance, culture and timeline, and how to determine your film's world building influences.

As one fourth of the horror film outfit *Grind Mind*, **Francois van Zyl** delights in bringing our deepest fears to the screen through the world of horror and gore. Van Zyl is also the recipient of the 69th the NL Arts and Letters Award for his short story, 'Grit, There Is No Final Hour'.



Make a sci-fi short film in a week because you can

## DIY SCI-FI GUIDE

**START:** Saturday, June 10 at 3:30pm

**END:** Saturday, June 17 at 5:30pm

Gather your friends, grab a camera, grab some tinfoil and get it done.

In a Nickel first, we're hosting a film challenge at the same time as festival week. DIY Sci-Fi is a free, non-competitive, challenge where anyone, regardless of experience, is invited to create a sci-fi short film.

This is a self-directed challenge where participants have just seven days — from Saturday, June 10 to Saturday, June 17 — to write, shoot and edit a short sci-fi film of five minutes or less.

Each team will be given two unique prompts, and they must select one to include in their film.

Finished films must be uploaded by 5:30pm on Saturday, June 17 to qualify for the public screening, which will take place at the LSPU Hall main stage on Sunday, June 18.

Sign up at [nickelfestival.com/diyscifi](http://nickelfestival.com/diyscifi) to receive your prompt.

### Sample Prompts

To give you an idea what style of prompts we'll be sending to film challenge teams this year.

#### Dream Control

*Characters discover they can interact with each other in their dreams*

#### Invisible Threat

*A mysterious unseen force causes chaos*

#### Memories for Sale

*Characters live in a world where memories can be exchanged*

#### Virtual Prison

*Characters are trapped in a digital world*

#### Last One

*A character wakes up to find that they're the only human left ... or are they?*

#### Time Dilation

*The closer characters get to a certain object or location, time speeds up or slows down*

#### Cosmic Signal

*A character receives an encrypted message from outer space and works to decipher it.*

#### Mutation

*A character wakes up with heightened senses or abilities*

#### Glitches

*Characters notice things that suggests reality is glitching*

### Related Events

#### Film School in a Day

June 10th from 11am to 3pm. A full day of in-person filmmaking workshops, geared toward beginning and emerging filmmakers. 20 free seats available, advance registration required at [nickelfestival.com/fsiad](http://nickelfestival.com/fsiad)

#### DIY Sci-Fi Kick-Off

June 10th at 3pm. A drop-in social event at NIFCO (40 King's Rd) to meet other participants and receive your challenge prompt in person. Prompts will be given out at 3:30pm.

Attendance isn't required. All registered challengers will receive their prompt by email at the same time.

#### Nickel Film Lab

Free and open to the public, this recurring pop-up event will be part studio, part co-working space, and part drop-in workshop. Operating at the LSPU Hall Second Space from 1-4pm, Tuesday through Friday (June 12-16) during the festival week, with professional filmmaking mentors on hand to offer support.

#### DIY Sci-Fi Screening

Come celebrate the end of the festival by watching all of the films created as part of this year's DIY Sci-Fi. Tickets pay what you wish, advance booking recommended. Sunday, June 18 at the LSPU Hall.



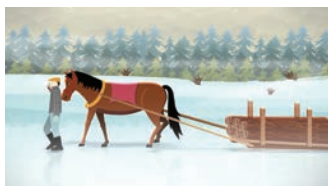
Monday • June 12, 8pm

# Mirror Mirror

Short films on growth and self-reflection

Presented by *College of the North Atlantic*

SEPTEMBER 7, 2012



## Tickle Cove Pond

DIRECTOR: IAN FOSTER • MUSIC: KEVIN BLACKMORE • PRODUCER: ERIC WEST • NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR • 4 MINS

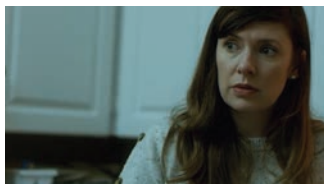
A short animated film featuring a log hauler and his beloved horse based on the song by Mark Walker (1846–1924), with gorgeous animation from local animator Khamadi Ojiambo.



## Demon Box

DIRECTOR: SEAN WAINSTEIM • ONTARIO • 14 MINS

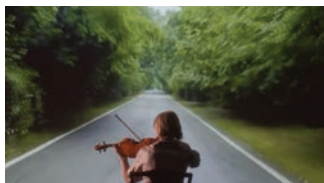
After multiple festival rejections, a director revises his intensely personal short film about generational trauma, the Holocaust, and suicide, transforming it into a painful, blunt and funny analysis of the both the film and of his life.



## The Door

DIRECTOR / WRITER: PETER COLLINS • NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR • 5 MINS

Struggling to deal with the loss of her husband, Mary, played by the talented Kimberley Drake, has not yet been able to enter the room in which he took his own life. After hearing tormenting voices and strange noises coming from inside, Mary must confront reality and open The Door.



## End of the Line

DIRECTOR: NICOLA HEIDI HAWKINS • NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR • 5 MINS

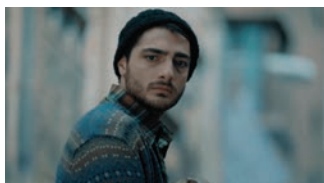
End of the Line features music by Jessie Montgomery performed by Duo Concertante paired with visuals depicting one person's journey from lockdown in a city to finding solace in natural landscapes.



## Guardians

DIRECTOR: MINERVA MARIE NAVASCA • ONTARIO • 6 MINS

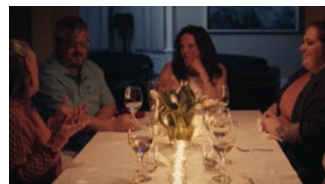
On a dark walk home, a young woman calls her loved ones to protect her from the threat of violence. This doc from Sheridan student Minerva Marie Navasca is a meditation on fear, and on the burden of responsibility placed on women and girls to protect themselves against unseen threats at all times, from all places, and especially at night.



## Brother

DIRECTOR: MAHDIE MOHAMMADI • IRAN • 8 MINS

During the last months of the Iranian revolution in 1978, escaping opposition soldiers were hunted, but one soldier finds support in a chance meeting.



## September 7, 2012

DIRECTORS / WRITERS: ASHLEY AMMINSON MACDONALD & DOMINIQUE JEAN • NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR • 13 MINS

On September 7, 2012, Ashley MacDonald was sexually assaulted. In this powerful first time film, she talks to strangers about what that same day looked like in their own lives. What were they doing? What happened to them? The result is a documentary about processing trauma, and the power of openness and connection to help us heal. [cw](#) discussion of sexual assault/cancer

"If this resonates for just one person in the audience, I'll be happy."

— Ashley Macdonald  
September 7, 2012



## Not Fit

DIRECTOR: PAUL COLBOURNE • PRODUCERS: PAUL COLBOURNE AND DARRELL SIMMS • NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR • 26 MINS

Darrell Simms is a wise and eloquent gay man in his mid-50s, but for more than 30 years his life has been dominated by an addiction to cocaine. In this documentary he gives director Paul Colbourne unfiltered access to his experience as an addict living on the margins in St. John's. [cw](#) graphic drug use

"Making my short film over the course of ten years, not only changed the film, but it changed me. The film evolved as I evolved— with the birth of my son, passing of my grandfather and other details. Spending that amount of time with a film this personal and trying to honestly and actively engage with who I am as a filmmaker, father and storyteller really took me to new places."

— Sean Wainsteim  
Demon Box

Tuesday • June 13, 8pm

# Tragedy Plus Time

Eight short comedies with a pinch of the absurd

Presented by the *Newfoundland Independent Filmmakers Co-op (NIFCO)*

TIME TRAVELING THROUGH TIME



## Meet the Creatures

DIRECTOR / WRITER / PRODUCER: VERONICA DYMOND • NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR • 4 MINS

A mother isn't sure she can accept her daughter's new paramour in this animated short originally created for last year's Nickel Sci-Fi Challenge. St. John's comedian Veronica Dymond made this one, so you know it's funny and a little bit weird.



## Watercraft

ORIG TITLE: MOTOMARINE • DIRECTOR / WRITER / PRODUCER: GABRIEL AUCLAIR-DOUCET • QUÉBEC • 4 MINS

Elsa is looking to hire a realtor and pits two potential agents against one another in a series of challenges. Montreal director Auclair-Doucet's motto is "stay weird" and you'll see here he's doubled down on his mission.



## Chimeras

DIRECTOR: JEAN-PHILIPPE DAGENAIS • QUÉBEC • 9 MINS

A germaphobe struggling with obsessive-compulsive disorder attempts to manage his fears, but things get complicated when a new virus comes to town.



## CAPTCHA

DIRECTOR / WRITER / PRODUCER: DAVID FEEHAN • ALBERTA/NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR • 9 MINS

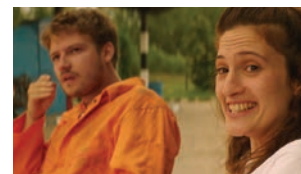
A young man struggles to prove his own humanity after he finds himself unable to tick the "I'm not a robot" box in an online CAPTCHA test. A hilarious short that drives home the mystery of what makes us human.



## Dead Wife Club

DIRECTOR: SHARA DESIREE KING • WRITER: AMANDA BULMAN • PRODUCER: ASHLEY KNIGHT • NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR • 14 MINS

A funny and moving short about a man attending a bereavement counseling meeting who says he's angry with his dead wife — sparking a debate and a series of flashbacks that looks at the complexities of love. Featuring great performances from an ensemble cast, including the legendary Andy Jones, this film was created through NIFCO's Picture Start program. And an early version of this script was made as part of our 2021 Nickel Script Writing Challenge!



## Stationheads

DIRECTOR / WRITER: STU GAMBLE • HUNGARY • 18 MINS

A stylish short comedy about three overeducated twenty-somethings working a dead-end job at a gas station whose futures are grim. But when a group of bank robbers turn up fresh from a heist and fresh out of fuel, things suddenly get interesting.



## Spiricom

DIRECTORS / WRITERS: RUBÉN H. PÉREZ & CARMEN NOGUEROLES • SPAIN • 14 MINS

After a woman loses her husband to a heart attack she begins to suspect his death may not have been from natural causes. With the help of a device that allows the dead to answer yes or no questions, Violetta interrogates her husband for the truth.



## Time Traveling Through Time

DIRECTOR / WRITER: RYAN WARD • MANITOBA • 14 MINS

A wannabe film director becomes embroiled in a battle against the laws of time and space when his attempt to recreate the iconic photograph-only time travel film, *La Jetée*, spirals out of control. A wonderfully weird film.

"Stationheads comes from a thought of what all the 24/7 stores, gas stations go through in the dead hours of the day and night. The different characters and the stories those characters have to tell."

— Stu Gamble (Stationheads)

"My co-star and Associate Producer, Catherine Vielguth, is also my real-life wife. When we shot the film she was about five months pregnant with our son, Jack, so he's kind of an Easter Egg in the film. Also, I just want to say how happy I am to be showing the film in St. John's, my hometown."

— David Feehan (CAPTCHA)



Wednesday • June 14, 8pm

# Echoes in Time

Films on memory and history

Presented by *Alt Hotel*

CLOSED TO THE LIGHT



## Circle of Truth

DIRECTOR / WRITER / PRODUCER: NICOLA HAWKINS • NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR • 13 MINS

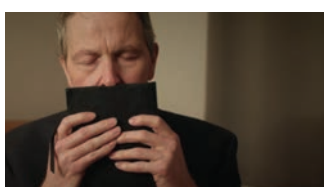
Snapshots in time show a lone man — Hawkins' husband — as he builds, tends and harvests a circular garden enriched by the bounty of seaweed and fish that he gathers from the shore. "The interplay of one man and the plants and animals around him is my story and my metaphor for the inescapable circles that direct our lives," says Hawkins.



## Night

DIRECTOR / WRITER: AHMAD SALEH • PALESTINE/GERMANY • 16 MINS

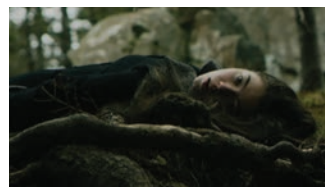
A hooded figure looks down on a city ravaged by war, granting peace and sleep to frightened people living in hiding. But a mother searching for her daughter refuses to rest until her child is found. Gorgeous animation and story that, while heartbreaking, fills you with a unique stillness. **cw** child death



## Attar of Roses

DIRECTOR / WRITER: BRIDGET A. RICKETTS • NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR • 8 MINS

A man returns home to attend the funeral of a past love. When he receives a package she left for him, it takes him down a road of long-forgotten memories and a classic haunting romance. Made through the First Time Filmmaker Program from NIFCO.



## Elfreda

DIRECTOR / WRITER / PRODUCER: RHONDA BUCKLEY • NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR • 17 MINS

Nora, originally from of Harbour Grace, is consumed with solving the murder of Elfreda Pike, a young woman brutally killed in 1870 in her hometown. She returns to Newfoundland on the hunt for clues that will solve Elfreda's murder — and finally give her a voice 150 years later.



## Closed to the Light

DIRECTOR / WRITER / PRODUCER: NICOLA PIOVESAN • ITALY • 10 MINS

This powerful short freezes time just before an firing squad execution in Italy in the summer of 1944. An impressively-choreographed long-shot takes us through the story of the day, revealing moments of violence, fear, and regret.



## The Little Church That Could

DIRECTOR: JAMES NEWHOOK • PRODUCERS: PETER BUCKLE & KEITH BONNELL • NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR • 13 MINS

In the largely Catholic town of Placentia, St. Luke's Anglican Church is a survivor. A look at how the church and town has changed over the years, and the timeless importance of community spaces in Newfoundland.

"A photo of my Aunt in the 1950's, inspired my mother and I to write a short story in 2004, which Michelle loved so much she convinced me to turn it into a film."

— Bridgett Ricketts  
Attar of Roses

"At 44 I'm a rather old film director, especially short films, since they're often seen as a way for youngsters to make a feature film. But I think that short films are amazing on their own. They have their own language. As some writers never wrote a long novel, just write poems or short stories, I think short films are way more than a first step for making movies."

— Nicola Piovesan  
Closed to the Light

"I'm very proud to have The Little Church That Could be screened in Newfoundland especially, and I hope that it helps promote St. Luke's even more with its new life as a community centre, and helps preserve the history and passion behind the little building that was saved from inactivity or possibly even demolition."

— James Newhook  
The Little Church that Could

Thursday • June 15, 8pm

# Life at the Crossroads

Short films about choices that define

HOW SHE DIDN'T DIE



## Eternal Return

DIRECTOR: NICOLA HEIDI HAWKINS • NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR • 8 MINS

Newfoundland violin and piano classical team Duo Concertante perform a moving piece by Dawn Avery, and director Nicola Hawkins accompanies with striking mixed media imagery.



## A Night in the Cómico

DIRECTORS: LUIS DE VAL & DIEGO HERRERO • SPAIN • 18 MINS

A law student is in his room, unable to study for an exam he knows he's going to fail. So? He heads to a bar with a plan to drink a coffee to double down and focus. Great performances and dialogue here make for a delightful film that explores instant gratification and the liberating feeling of letting go.



## Shards

DIRECTOR / WRITER / PRODUCER: HENRIK DAHLBRING • SWEDEN • 12 MINS

After their father's suicide attempt, adult siblings Maja and Maximilian meet to clean their father's house before his discharge from hospital. A deeply personal film by Swedish filmmaker Henrik Dahlbring that blends live action and animation, and shows the different reactions to trauma and the rifts that can happen because of it. We're proud to host the international debut of this moving, understated short. [cw discussion of suicide](#)



## How She Didn't Die

DIRECTOR: ANTONIO TIBALDI • SWITZERLAND • 27 MINS

This is one powerful, beautiful, complicated film. A mysterious woman has set a life-changing plan in motion — but she needs a stranger's help to make it happen. She meets a young man and makes him a disturbing offer. Can she convince him to accept? Making this was a labour of love for Swiss director Antonio Tibaldi, and it's sure to be one of the most-talked-about films at this year's festival. [cw graphic violence/suicide](#)

"When I was fourteen, I lost my father to suicide. In the last period of his life, I distanced myself from him because of his escalating alcoholism. It was my way of dealing with all the emotions: running away. My sister was always there for our father and helped the best way she could, while also being a teenager. Our different relationships to him and ways of dealing with him became the inspiration for the film."

— Henrik Dahlbring  
Shards

Thursday • June 15, 10pm

# Horrors Unknown

Terrifying shorts about the darkness within and without

Presented by *Quidi Vidi Brewery*

**VIEWER DISCRETION ADVISED** THIS COLLECTION INCLUDES FILMS WITH DISTURBING CONTENT INCLUDING SCENES OF VIOLENCE, CHILD ABDUCTION AND DEATH



## The Taste In Your Mouth

DIRECTOR / WRITER: JAKE DELANEY • PRODUCER: ROBERT GAINS • NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR • 5 MINS

A suspect in a child abduction case is questioned by a cop, and when things take an unexpected turn it becomes clear that the next victim could be minutes away. This film doesn't use creatures or the fantastic to terrify you, just the suggestion of an all-too-human darkness.



## Malakout

DIRECTOR / WRITER: FARNOOSH ABEDI • IRAN • 11 MINS

After the death of his wife a musician makes a dark deal, trading away his hands and his ability to play the piano to bring her back to life. But the hands he receives as replacement, they have a mind of their own. Fantastic animation and detailed, expressive models make this film a riveting retelling of the 1924 silent horror classic *The Hands of Orlac*.



## Enter the Room

DIRECTOR / WRITER: HARRY WALDMAN • USA • 15 MINS

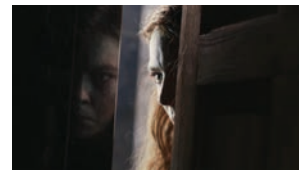
Jeremy is brand new to the city, so his brother agrees to give him a place to stay as he settles in. Their different personalities stir up conflict and tension, and an unresolved past trauma reveals itself. Suddenly the line between Brian's reality and his worst fears aren't so clear. A claustrophobic psychological drama with tension that ratchets up scene by scene.



## The Bloody Family

DIRECTOR / WRITER: AMIR KARAMI • IRAN • 14 MINS

In a mysterious old house, a young girl has not left her dark room for years. When a social worker enters the house to save the girl's life it suddenly becomes clear why she's been locked away. A wonderfully creepy film from Iranian filmmaker Amir Karami with excellent set design and makeup effects.



## Ariane's Baby

DIRECTOR / WRITER: MAHÉE MERICA • UNITED KINGDOM • 23 MINUTES

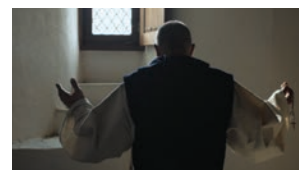
Ariane is a lonely woman who craves love after a history of abusive relationships. The birth of her child represents a chance to start everything anew and form her own happy family — but she worries about not being up to the task.

"More than trying to make a statement about societal perception of motherhood, I aim to sparkle conversations with *Ariane's Baby*. I love how horror films are open to multiple layers of interpretations so that they can be watched either as pure horrific entertainment or as a comment on current social issues."

— Mahée Merica  
*Ariane's Baby*

"Tyranny and dictatorship have always been my concern. In this film, I tried to critique the authoritarian atmosphere with cinematic language."

— Amir Karami  
*The Bloody Family*



## Stigmaté

DIRECTORS: SÉLIM ATMANE, HUGO BARRAL • FRANCE • 30 MINS

France, 1350. In the midst of the Black Plague, a monk returns to a monastery after a long pilgrimage. As he struggles to readjust and find his place, an intruder breaks into the monastery, and he discovers — all too late — that a new evil has followed him back.



Friday • June 16, 8pm + Sunday • June 18, 3:30pm

# What the Darkness Cannot Extinguish:

The Storytelling Madness of Clifford George

DIRECTOR: KENNETH J. HARVEY • NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR • ~75 MINS

A feature-length documentary celebrating the life and work of Trinity Bay artist and storyteller Clifford George. As a visual artist, George's work ranges from painting signs to his signature colourful coastal paintings, and his beloved work eventually led to him becoming a medical artist with the Health Science Centres. As a storyteller, he's widely renowned as a true Newfoundland original and a wealth of folklore knowledge — casting a spell on you with every word he speaks. Director Kenneth J. Harvey is a master of the Newfoundland biographical documentary, so you know this one is essential viewing.

## Also screening:



### The Lady at Number 16

DIRECTOR: JAMES NEWHOOK • WRITERS: JAMES NEWHOOK, DALE JARVIS • PRODUCERS: PETER BUCKLE, KEITH BONNELL

Two sailors help a lady in need get back into her house, but when they return later they discover things were not quite what they seemed. Based on a story by Dale Jarvis, this film has a charming ghost story style.



### Free Fall

DIRECTOR: NICOLA HEIDI HAWKINS • PRODUCERS: NANCY DAHN, TIMOTHY STEEVES • NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR • 14 MINS

Newfoundland's Duo Concertante perform the Juno-nominated classical composition "Coeur À Coeur" by Canada's Alice Ping Yee Ho. This piece is conceived as an imaginary conversation between two voices: exchanging inner thoughts, and it pairs beautifully with the footage of northern gannets at Cape St. Mary's.

"I love the history of Newfoundland, and I love promoting the many stories it has, so adapting an already existing story from Dale Jarvis was a great opportunity that I don't take for granted."

— James Newhook  
The Lady at Number 16

Saturday • June 17, 1pm

# Quiet Strength

Six short films on courage

FOR ROY

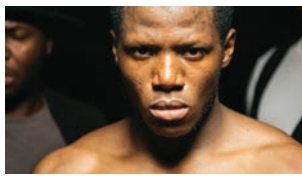


## Reste

DIRECTOR / WRITER: GINGER LE PÊCHEUR • QUÉBEC • 7 MINS

On a summer morning, 6-year-old Chichou plays by herself in an apartment filled with remnants of violence. *Reste* shows the resilience of Chichou's imagination despite being surrounded by a complicated reality. The film is powerful and restrained, and features an excellent performance from the young lead, Maëlysa Gauvin.

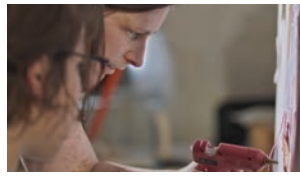
**cw** evidence of violence



## Roadmarks

DIRECTOR: BRANDON MCKNIGHT • ONTARIO • 15 MINS

Against his better judgment and the wishes of his partner, Kory returns to street-fighting to raise money for his daughter's music school. The combination of expertly-choreographed fight sequences and great character work helps make this short from Toronto director Brandon McKnight a special one.



## Mosaic

DIRECTOR / WRITER: MYRIAM VAUDRY • NEW BRUNSWICK • 8 MINS

Director Myriam Vaudry of New Brunswick was born with a rare genetic condition that affects her bones and weakens her skin. It also affects her self esteem. In this short film she joins forces with a visual artist to help her not only come to accept the body she has, but to celebrate its unique beauty.



## For Roy

DIRECTOR / WRITER: VIVIAN CHEUNG • BRITISH COLUMBIA • 12 MINS

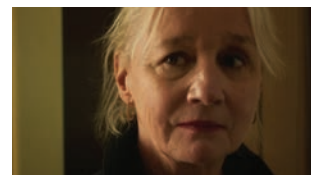
This story, inspired by Vancouver director Vivian Cheung's own experience of losing her father at a young age, features an imaginative young girl who sets out to fold a thousand cranes while her father is in hospice. Although the film revolves around dying, it's really a film about growing up in a hospital or hospice setting — including the joys and oddities. **cw** end-of-life/cancer



## Lanterns Flicker

DIRECTOR / WRITER / PRODUCER: YONI COLLINS • ONTARIO • 14 MINS

A Canadian veteran who served in Afghanistan turns to music to help him in his battle with PTSD and to raise awareness of veteran suicide and mental health. A deeply important conversation, expertly navigated by emerging director Yoni Collins. **cw** disc. of suicide/PTSD



## Her Home

DIRECTOR / WRITER: JULIEN HARDY-CARDINAL • QUÉBEC • 27 MINS

An unexpected friendship blossoms when a 65-year-old woman moves in with a younger man. When she confesses she is recently widowed, her roommate helps her process her grief. A beautiful short, told with humour and warmth, about the power of unexpected friendships.

"For Roy was my first film and first time on any film set let alone writing and directing it in 10 days for the Mighty Asian Moviemaking Marathon with the Vancouver Asian Film Festival. It is inspired by my personal experiences of folding a thousand cranes while losing my dad in the hospice. My hope is that through this film, people in similar situations will see themselves on screen, something I longed to see as a kid."

— Vivien Cheung  
For Roy

"This film was made with my own money. There's always a way to make your project come to life, even when it seems impossible. Find that way and make it happen. Don't leave your project unrealized. People are generous of their time and talent, just ask around and find the right people to help you!"

— Julien Hardy-Cardinal  
Her Home

"I connected to Dennis's story because I come from a music and military background. Veteran mental health is something deeply important and personal to me so to be to raise awareness through directing this film, and especially through an angle of music and healing, has been an honour."

— Yoni Collins  
Lanterns Flicker



Saturday • June 17, 3:30pm

# Better Together

Beautiful human connections

Presented by Classic Hits Coast 101.1FM

YOUNG PEOPLE, OLD PEOPLE, AND NOTHING IN BETWEEN



## Hedgehog Dilemma

DIRECTOR / WRITER / PRODUCER: SHAN LEIGH POMEROY • NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR • 2 MINS

Poor hedgehogs! In cold weather they huddle together for warmth but their pointy spines prevent them from getting too close. A quick animated collage music video from talented local animator and musician Shan Pomeroy.



## Feeling the Apocalypse

DIRECTOR: CHEN SING YAP • ONTARIO • 7 MINS

Struggling with his own climate anxiety and grief, psychotherapist Anderson Todd thinks about what it means to live in a world that's dying.



## Young People, Old People & Nothing in Between

DIRECTOR / WRITER / PRODUCER: PARIDA TANTIWASADAKRAN • USA • 20 MINS

7-year-old Juice has one mission: to help Grandma Lovely retain as many memories as possible to halt her early-onset dementia. A heartwarming film about a beautiful intergenerational friendship.



## A Love Letter to Léopold L. Foulem

DIRECTOR / WRITER / PRODUCER: RENÉE BLANCHAR • NEW BRUNSWICK • 52 MINS

Filmmaker Renée Blanchar writes a cinematic love letter to ceramist Léopold L. Foulem, an extraordinary artist and a figure intimately linked to her own childhood and artistic awakening. This film is a lovely representation of how dearly artists treasure those who inspire them.

"The cows came out on their own in the last scene. We didn't have an animal wrangler, but they were curious and wanted to see what these odd people with cameras were doing. At some point, they were feet away from the crew. It made it easy and lovely to shoot."

— Parida Tanti  
Young People, Old People & Nothing In Between

Saturday • June 17, 8pm

# Hearts Illuminated

Seven short films featuring love and loss

Presented by **CBC NL**

FIRST POSITION



## Our Secret

DIRECTOR / WRITER: RYAN WARD • USA • 8 MINS

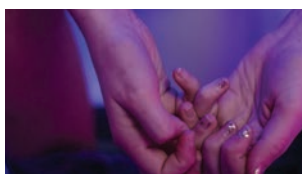
As a young girl dreams about life, the universe and everything, she discovers the power of connection and the potential of the human mind.



## Kiss 'n' Ride

DIRECTOR / WRITER / PRODUCER: OLIVIA JENSEN • USA • 8 MINS

An animated film that will give you butterflies! On her way home from a lovely café date, a woman finds reminders of her date in every little thing. She falls in love with the Chicago winter night around her, and dreams of the date ending differently.



## First Position

DIRECTOR / WRITER / PRODUCER: MALLORY CLARKE • NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR • 5 MINS

A person who hates all their clothes struggles to decide what to wear to a house party. When later they see their ex—it's-complicated with a new partner, it triggers a nascent lifestyle change. Director Mallory Clarke used their experience telling great stories on stage to inform this strong debut film through the First Time Filmmaker Program by NIFCO.

"Kiss 'n' Ride is about my first date with my partner, and it took me about a year to make. We got engaged during the process!"

— Olivia Jensen  
Kiss 'n' Ride



## to my next lover

DIRECTOR / PRODUCER: KIERAN CHARNOCK • NEW ZEALAND • 4 MINS

Based on a poem by the same name by New Zealand writer Paula Harris, this four minute film is blocked with powerful images depicting a whirlwind romance that has yet to happen and is destined to not end well.



## Grown in Darkness

DIRECTOR / WRITER: DEVIN SHEARS • PRODUCER: ANNA WHEELER • NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR • 17 MINS

Henry lives alone on his farm growing rhubarb in a dark cellar. "Rhubarb grows better in the dark," he says. "It reaches up, looking for the light that isn't there, and so the stalks grow longer, and sweeter." When his friend Emmanuel arrives to collect the harvest, together they spend the days exploring the limits of their relationship. Featuring impressive, understated performances from Andy Jones and Lawrence Barry, this short is simply beautiful.



## Sampo

DIRECTOR: MARZIYEH RIAHI • IRAN • 13 MINS

Struggling to make ends meet, a single mother caters the funerals and weddings of the rich. But her daughter has different ideas about her mother's job.



## Mother's Skin

DIRECTOR / WRITER / PRODUCER: LEAH JOHNSTON • NOVA SCOTIA • 20 MINS

A neglected six-year-old girl struggles to cope with her mother's depression and her father's alcoholic rage. At night, violence erupts around her and threatens to tear her family apart. But when the girl discovers a hidden secret in their home, her dysfunctional world takes on a strange new meaning. A haunting and darkly poetic film. **cw** domestic abuse / attempted suicide



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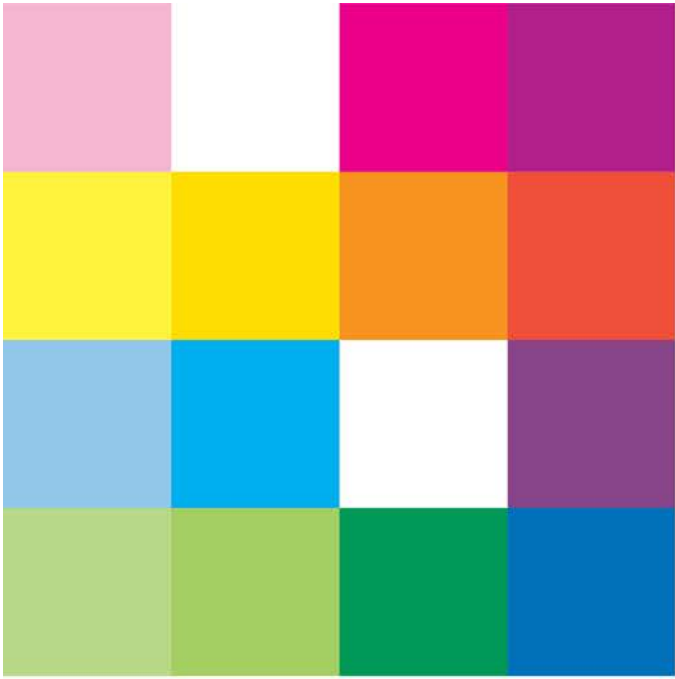
Amelia Harris

709.576.0077 • 1.844.647.0077 (toll free)  
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HOTELS

BY LE GERMAIN

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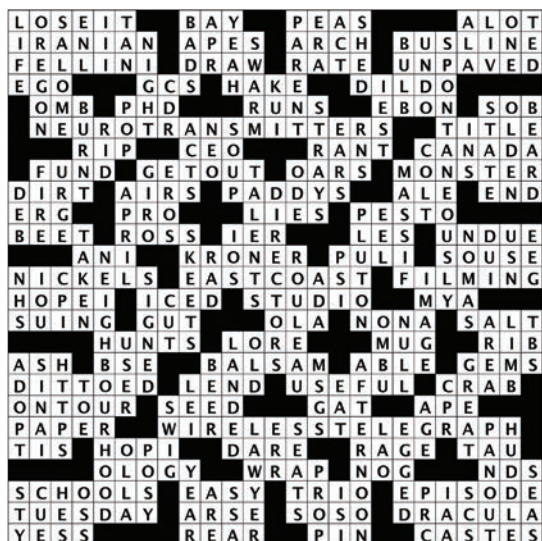
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Nickel Crossword Solution



Veronica Dymond - veronica.dymond.com

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ST. JOHN'S, NL / KTAQMKUK AUGUST 21-26, 2023

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# Coast

101.1 fm

classic hits



[coast1011.com](http://coast1011.com)

A man with curly hair and a beard, wearing an orange button-down shirt, is laughing heartily. He is pointing his right index finger towards the camera. In the background, another man in a grey t-shirt and white shorts is visible, looking towards the camera. The setting appears to be an outdoor film set with wooden scaffolding and greenery.

# On Making Movies

"What's the best filmmaking advice you've ever received?"

STATIONHEADS (BEHIND THE SCENES)

Just make it. If it breaks, make it again. It's easy to get caught up in theoretical what-ifs. With film especially, you really, truly learn by doing. Make the mistakes. Make crappy work. Then figure out how to fix it. Being hyper precious usually isn't that helpful.

**Sean Wainstein**  
DEMON BOX

Just shoot something, don't be afraid to fail.

**Stu Gamble**  
STATIONHEADS

I don't know about advice, but there's one credo I carry with me, a quote from Roger Ebert: "Movies are the most powerful aid to empathy, and good ones make us into better people."

**Parida Tanti**  
YOUNG PEOPLE, OLD PEOPLE & NOTHING IN BETWEEN

Don't try and do it all yourself.

**Nicola Hawkins**  
FREE FALL • END OF THE LINE • ETERNAL RETURN

Be sure to live life outside of making art — you never know where your next film idea will come from.

**Olivia Jensen**  
KISS 'N' RIDE

Over the years I've heard many times to just do it. Even if you make a film and it doesn't work out the way you wanted, at least you learned something that you can take with you onto your next film.

**David Feehan**  
CAPTCHA

If you're expecting vulnerability from your actors, you have to give that same vulnerability back.

**Minerva Navasca**  
GUARDIANS

Shorter is usually better.

**Chen Sing Yap**  
FEELING THE APOCALYPSE

That the story will take as long to tell as it takes, don't worry about how many minutes it is.

**Ashley MacDonald**  
SEPTEMBER 7, 2012

You're not making a movie, you're telling a story. Use whatever technique you want to tell the story you want to tell

**Veronica Dymond**  
MEET THE CREATURES

It might sound cheesy but the best advice I've ever received is "never give-up." Especially at an indie level, after all the struggles that short budgets will cause. Just never give up.

**Nicola Piovesan**  
CLOSED TO THE LIGHT

Manage your expectations to avoid disappointments.

**Jake Delaney**  
THE TASTE IN YOUR MOUTH

Make films.

**Gabriel Auclair-Doucet**  
WATERCRAFT

Although we want to make our films perfect, we have to take care of ourselves and each other in the process — which is as important if not more than the final product.

**Vivian Cheung**  
FOR ROY

I once attended a masterclass by Celine Sciamma where she said when she has to write a scene necessary to just move the story forward but isn't exciting, she finds some other way to make it exciting — by integrating a shot she'd been dreaming of, or by revealing some new interesting thing about the character, something like that.

**Mahée Merica**  
ARIANE'S BABY

Write what you know and connect to, not what you think you should feel connected to.

**Yoni Collins**  
LANTERNS FLICKER

Do what only you can do, and follow your intuition.

**Henrik Dahlbring**  
SHARDS

Passion is all you need to be a filmmaker, equipment and budget comes second to creativity and a love for film.

**James Newhook**  
THE LADY AT NUMBER 16

Cinema is a powerful tool for improving society.

**Hossein Kakavand**  
SAMPO

Be prepared.

**Myriam Vaudry**  
MOSAIC

If you're just starting to just get out there and make something. Don't care if it isn't all that good, because it probably won't be. But at least you made something, and you can take what you learned from that experience and apply it moving forward — because that's how you're going to learn and grow as a filmmaker.

**Peter Collins**  
THE DOOR

To be authentic towards yourself, your project, and the people working with you. Also, listen to the people around you. Listen as much as possible. Once you have heard everybody, make a decision. Not the other way around.

**Julien Hardy-Cardinal**  
HER HOME

From Ruth Lawrence: "Sometimes you have to let go of your little darlings."

**Bridget Ricketts**  
ATTAR OF ROSES


Your work can always be better and improve, but at some point, you have to let it go.


**Angelie Thouin**  
CHIMERA




# Nickel Horoscopes


NIGHT • WED JUNE 14, 8PM


 **GEMINI** (MAY 21 – JUN 20)  
The sweet film “Young People, Old People & Nothing in Between” [Sat 3:30pm] by Parida Tantiwasadakran mirrors your dual nature and your ability to connect with people of any age, dear Gemini. And just like the film’s young protagonist, you could be soon faced with a challenge to help someone in need; something that requires communication, understanding, and empathy. Embrace this challenge, Gemini! The world will be better for it.

 **CANCER** (JUN 21 – JUL 22)  
Created by hand using the painstaking process of stop motion, the wordless short film “Night” [Wed 8pm] resonates with your caring and nurturing nature, Cancer, as you might be asked to offer support for someone in need. Let this film be a reminder of two things: 1) there should always be limits to the amount you are willing to give, and 2) that even when things are at their darkest, you will always find some small measure of light.


 **LEO** (JUL 23 – AUG 22)  
The documentary “Mosaic” [Sat 1pm] reflects your path toward personal growth and acceptance, Leo. As the director learns to view her body dysmorphia differently,


over the coming weeks I remind you to see yourself through more appreciative eyes. Embrace all aspects of your being and grow towards self-acceptance — because your spirit is not defined by what is outside.

 **VIRGO** (AUG 23 – SEP 22)  
In a world so determined to box and label you, strive to maintain your composure and stay true to who you are, dear Virgo. This is no simple feat, but as you encounter new tests in the upcoming weeks, don’t let your performance — success or failure — determine your sense of value in yourself. Just as the leading character in the short film “CAPTCHA” [Tue 8pm] shows, letting this shape your self-worth leads to self-destruction. By all means, listen to the world and be open to learning its lessons, but only you are allowed to tell yourself who you really are.

 **LIBRA** (SEP 23 – OCT 22)  
In a way, the short film “Roadmarks” [Sat 1pm] reflects your own complicated striving for balance, Libra. Like the protagonist Kory, you might find yourself torn between the desires of your heart and the expectations of others. When you face a similar pivotal moment, Libra, remember that love — for others and


for yourself — will guide you towards the best path for you.


 **SCORPIO** (OCT 23 – NOV 21)  
Shan Pomeroy’s animated short “Hedgehog Dilemma” [Sat 3:30pm] is a poignant reminder of your deep desire for connection and intimacy, as well as your struggles with vulnerability, Scorpio. As you navigate the complexities of human connection, allow yourself to draw closer to others without fear of getting hurt. Embrace the beautiful, prickly aspects of life! You just might find warmth in the connections you make.

 **SAGITTARIUS** (NOV 22 – DEC 21)  
“Circle of Truth” [Wed 8pm] speaks to you, Sagittarius, as you find yourself caught in cycles of growth and introspection. This wordless short film reminds you of the power of quiet observation and the importance of connecting with the natural world. As you tend your own metaphorical garden this week, nourish your soul with the richness of your environment and the wisdom of those around you. May your harvest be bountiful.


 **CAPRICORN** (DEC 22 – JAN 19)  
Kenneth J. Harvey’s documentary film about Clifford George [Fri 8pm] is a testament to the winding path


of life. Clifford, much like you, followed his passions and talents into unexpected places. And this is a good time for you, Capricorn, to remember that the most fulfilling journeys in life are often the most unpredictable. Could it be that the cosmos is encouraging you to embrace the uncertainties, continue honing your skills? Trust that the path you’re on will lead to fulfillment.

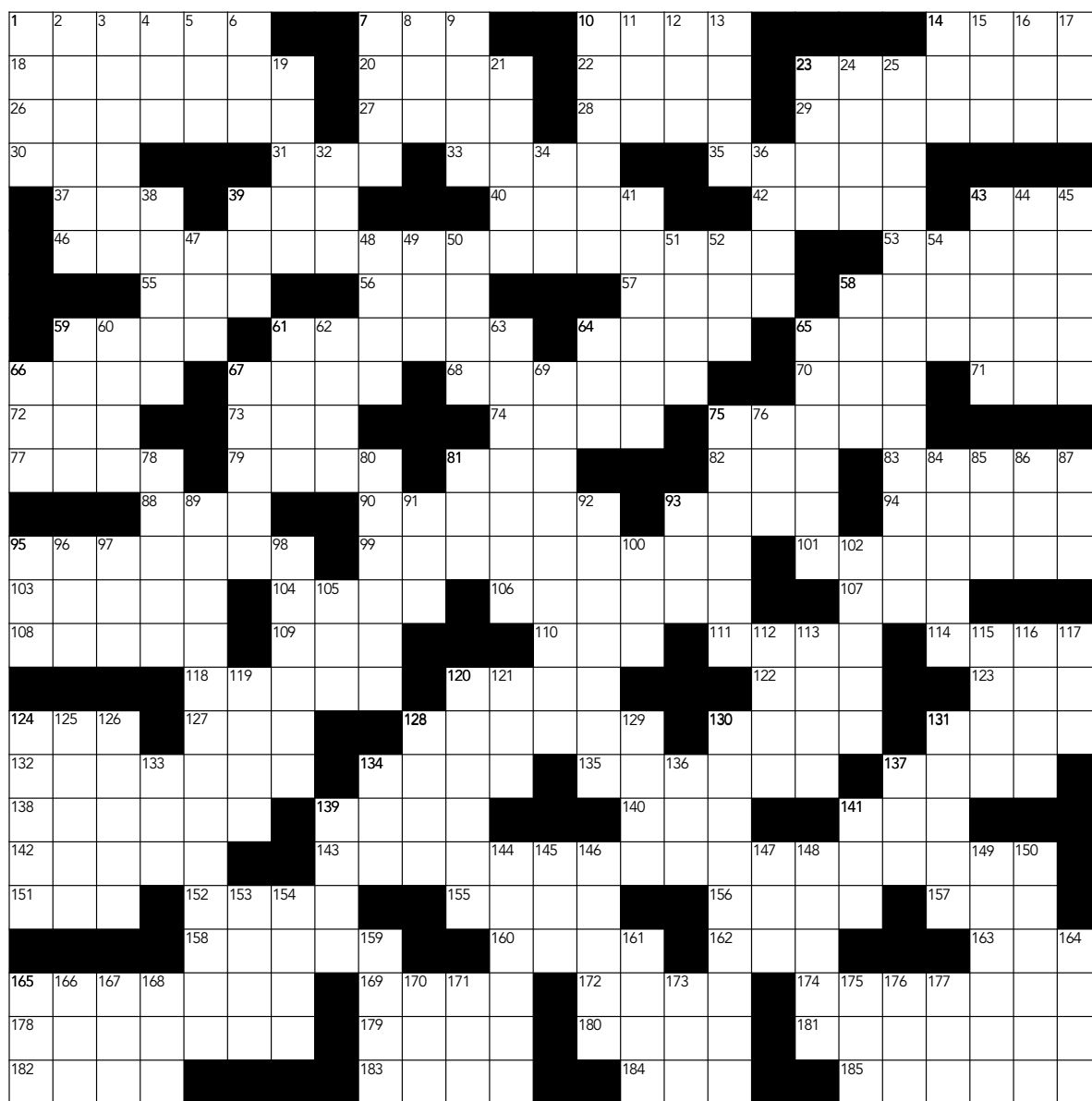
 **AQUARIUS** (Jan 20 – Feb 18)  
Aquarius, the beautiful animated short “Kiss n’ Ride” [Sat 8pm] serves as a reminder to appreciate the beauty around you. Like the woman who finds reminders of a date in every little thing as she heads home, I encourage you to look around to find joy and inspiration in your everyday surroundings. Let this time occupy the space between mindfulness and hopefulness and let yourself fall in love with the world around you, because the details that go unnoticed, are often the things that make all of the difference.

 **PISCES** (FEB 19 – MAR 20)  
The poetic film “to my next lover” [Sat 8pm] resonates deeply with your emotional landscape these days, Pisces. Much like the narrator who anticipates both joy and pain in a future relationship,

you too are navigating a time where you’re balancing the dual aspects of progress. By acknowledging the challenges and rewards simultaneously and with equanimity, you can’t help but set the stage for strength. Let this be a time of heightened self-awareness and emotional honesty for you.

 **ARIES** (MAR 21 – APR 19)  
“A Night in the Cósmico” [Thu 8pm] resonates with your energetic and ambitious nature, Aries. It’s crucial to remember that success is not a straight path, it’s a journey with ups and downs, and when things look down, perhaps it’s time to go find your own Cósmico bar — a place or activity where you can reconnect with yourself and the world around you, cherish the raw, unfiltered self that emerges, and just be yourself for a while.

 **TAURUS** (Apr 20 – May 20)  
You may find yourself navigating a tense situation over the next few weeks, and when you do, Taurus, remember that your warmth and openness can bridge gaps and create lasting connections. Just like the characters eventually do in “Meet the Creatures”, [Tue 8pm] embrace the unknown. Let your inner alien be guided by kindness and understanding.



- 15 Actress Tyler  
16 "Let the Right \_\_\_ In"  
17 Thanks for coming to my \_\_\_ talk  
19 Ahmad Saleh animation on Wednesday  
21 Bee bunch  
23 Future tulip  
24 Take back  
25 Common "combust" adverb  
32 Burnable medium, briefly  
34 South-Eastern Dravidian language  
36 -y to the max  
38 Local "wild!" alternative  
39 "Wobbly", sometimes  
41 Doesn't keep to the straight and narrow  
43 "Last night I was in some \_\_\_\_\_"  
44 Bygone  
45 It might start as a shadow  
47 Free (of)  
48 Performs in a film  
49 "I know Kung-Fu" speaker  
50 Thick fog  
51 AirPods holders  
52 ICU personnel  
54 \_\_\_ and outs  
58 Male foal  
59 A total disaster is a dumpster one
- 105 Director's command  
112 Evergreen from Pampas region of South America  
113 \_\_\_ and void  
115 Field of study  
116 Tree part  
117 "Full Frontal With Samantha Bee" network, previously  
119 One logging in  
120 Made a touchdown  
121 Antique  
124 Start a pet project?  
125 Egyptian peninsula  
126 Start of an encrypted web address  
128 "Hold my \_\_\_" (said before a dumb act)  
129 Sometimes mxcd ones are sent  
130 Day time  
131 \_\_\_ Big Sea  
133 Nursery rhyme piggy  
134 Hawaiian chain  
136 Do this to a "feed"  
137 E.R. act that can be done to the beat of "Stayin' Alive"  
139 Done before a "swally"  
141 \_\_\_ before beauty  
144 Mason, Matlock or Budden

# Nickel Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Snap  
7 You can take the man out of the \_\_\_, but...  
10 \_\_\_ pudding  
14 Loads  
18 Farsi speaker  
20 "Planet of the \_\_\_"  
22 Can happen when two sea caves love each other very much  
23 DRL, eg  
26 Filmmaker Federico  
27 Smokers, please save us one  
28 A dime a dozen, say?  
29 Just dirt, say  
30 "Me" problem  
31 Level of consciousness assessment, abbr  
33 Cod cousin  
35 Home of "Dickie Berg" photographer  
37 Govt complaints pro, abbr  
39 Advanced degree  
40 Marathoner's illness?  
42 Ink color, to Shakespeare  
43 Cry convulsively  
46 Glutamate and GABA, eg
- 53 Film's name  
55 Let 'er \_\_\_!  
56 J Williams' title at NL Hydro  
57 Segment on the Rick Mercer Report  
58 With 32, our top place for films  
59 F in Canadian Heritage's CAPF  
61 Peele's directorial debut  
64 Dory implements  
65 Rodan or Godzilla  
66 Spilled tea with earthy notes?  
67 Is shown on TV  
68 Patrick's alt  
70 Lager's cousin  
71 Fin on screen  
72 Part of a joule  
73 Paid expert  
74 Polygraph blips, maybe  
75 Marinara alternative  
77 Root often pickled  
79 Popular garden expert Traverse  
81 Comparative suffix  
82 "\_\_\_ Miz"  
83 Not warranted  
88 Young Skywalker's nickname  
90 Norwegian change  
93 Long-haired sheepdog
- 94 Heavy drinker  
95 Our favourite change  
99 Trail with 270 kilometres of hiking paths  
101 Making a movie of  
103 Chinese province, previously Chihli  
104 Bumped off  
106 The S in ASCO  
107 "Lady Marmalade"  
108 Grammy winner of 2001  
108 Taking to court  
109 Quidi Vidi nickname  
110 Greeting in Portuguese  
111 Prefix meaning nine  
114 St. John's uses around 28,000 tonnes of it each year  
118 Ketchup brand  
120 Mythology  
122 \_\_\_ Up (tea and a biscuit)  
123 One of a human's 24  
124 Firewood, after the fire  
127 Mad cow disease, for short  
128 Tree resin used in fragrances
- 130 Ready, willing and \_\_\_  
131 Safdie film, "Uncut \_\_\_"  
132 Made copies, old-style  
134 Give, for a while  
135 Handy-dandy  
137 Recent fishers protest was about the price of this  
138 Playing road shows  
139 Plant-to-be  
140 B-movie lead-pumper  
141 Donkey Kong, eg  
142 It beats rock  
143 Marconi sent one to Signal Hill  
151 "\_\_\_ but a scratch." - The Black Knight  
152 Arizona language  
155 Playground challenge, maybe  
156 Explosive emotion  
157 Greek T  
158 Science suffix  
160 That's a \_\_\_  
162 Goes with "egg-" or "-gin"  
163 Endings with 22, 32, etc  
165 Northern Lights and Bishop White are two we visited  
169 A piece of cake  
172 The Once is one
- 174 Installment, as of Hudson & Rex  
178 First night for Clifford George doc  
179 For an insult, add "juice"  
180 Could be worse  
181 Blood Count?  
182 \_\_\_ b'yy  
183 Back end (as in 179A)  
184 ATM ID  
185 Social divisions
- DOWN**
- 1 Biography's story  
2 Where to find Eugene  
3 1953 title role for Rita Hayworth  
4 Photo resizing request, abbr  
5 Sequel sequel  
6 Catch some rays  
7 GDP measures goods, but not these?  
8 Fools' Day mo  
9 Informal assent  
10 When's a joke a dad joke? When it becomes a \_\_\_\_\_  
11 Period of the past  
12 Be in a film  
13 Man-cave alternative  
14 Pie-mode connector
- 145 To \_\_\_ is human  
146 LSPU has about 200  
147 Philosopher \_\_\_ - tzu  
148 Incited, at breakfast?  
149 Ultimately succeed  
150 Hedgehogs do this when it's cold, painfully  
153 Spanish cooking pot  
154 One in a pocketful  
159 This is the Nickel's 23rd  
161 Item used on screen  
164 They'll float your boat  
165 Babe's place?  
166 Actor's prompt  
167 "\_\_\_ Just Not That Into You"  
168 CIA forerunner  
170 My lips \_\_\_ sealed  
171 US equivalent of the CPP  
173 "It \_\_\_" (Answer to "Who's there?")  
175 Xi Jinping's country, abbr  
176 Indoleacetic acid, abbr  
177 Chem., geol., etc
- Solution at [nickelfestival.com/crossword](http://nickelfestival.com/crossword)



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