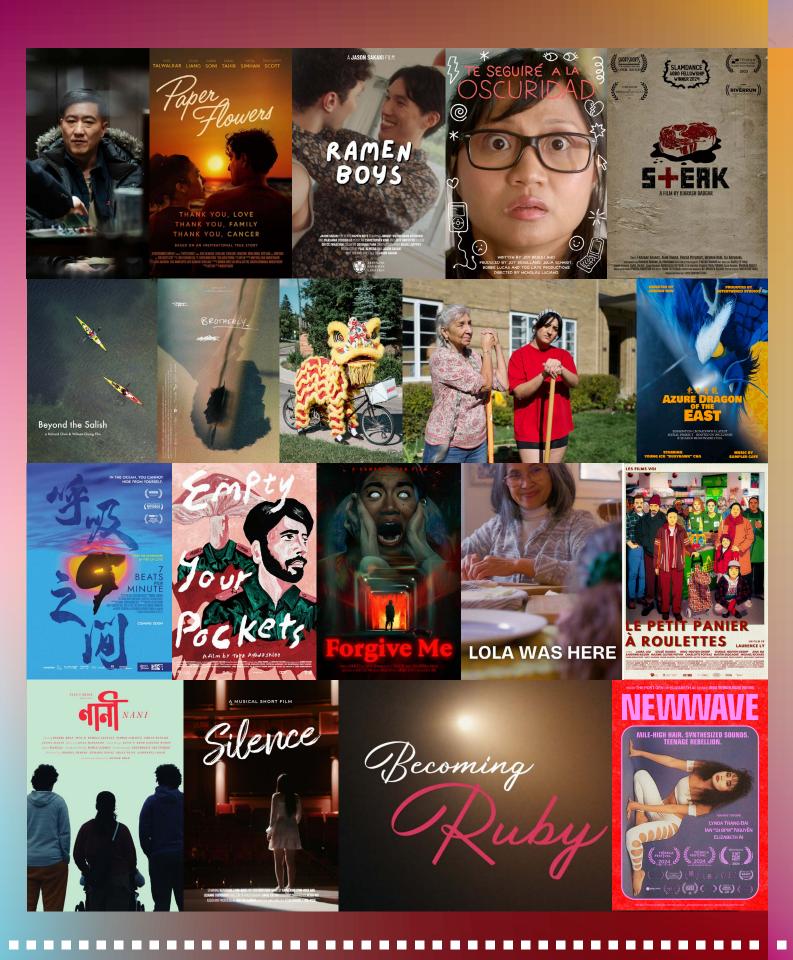




# FASCINASIAN FILM FESTIVAL

## Edmonton Program Guide, May 9–11

The organizers of FascinAsian Film Festival 2025 welcome you! This year, we're excited to have you join us in-person in Calgary, Edmonton and Winnipeg. **Enjoy the show.** 



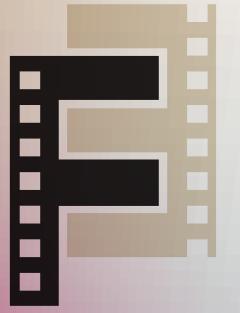
FascinAsian Film Festival envisions a world where North American Asian storytellers, performers, and other film & media creatives can have equal access to resources and opportunities to shape and enhance cultural understanding in an insightful and positive way.

#### Mission

FascinAsian is committed to promoting and celebrating Asian perspectives, culture and integrity in film and media. FascinAsian works to foster understanding and appreciation of Asian arts and culture within the Canadian mosaic.

FascinAsian aims to highlight the talent of local, national, and international Asian filmmakers, performers, and other media arts creatives.

FascinAsian strives to create programming that inspires, educates, and brings the community together in appreciation of the artform and the collective effort by its members.



#### Goals

- To share and highlight stories from the Asian diaspora and feature Asian talent from Canada and around the world.
- To educate and inform audiences about the unique Asian-Manitoban, and Asian-Canadian experience.
- To offer opportunities for education and training in film and media.
- To create an inclusive, safe and fun environment for Asian artists to share and celebrate their work.
- To create meaningful dialogue about issues of equal opportunity and equity in the media arts.
- To build bridges within the community through partnerships and collaboration.
- To facilitate a multi-day festival of events, supporting these goals.
- To operate an organization that will be fiscally and ethically responsible and sustainable.



# Welcome Message from the Co-Directors of FascinAsian Film Festival Edmonton

## We are incredibly proud to welcome you to the first FascinAsian Film Festival in Edmonton!

This festival began as a grassroots initiative in Winnipeg, then expanded to Calgary—and now, in 2025, here in Edmonton. We are thrilled to bring this celebration of Asian cinema, creativity, storytelling, and resilience to our vibrant city. As Co-Directors, we've both felt the deep need for a space like this—where Asian voices can take center stage, stories often left unheard are brought to light, and everyone can come together to experience the magic of film. It's about claiming space, creating community, and sparking conversations that matter.

From groundbreaking short films in *Unspoken Bonds* and *Acceptance* to thought-provoking features, from panel discussions to cultural performances—this weekend is a heartfelt offering from us to you. Whether you're a filmmaker, a film lover, or someone curious to explore new perspectives, we invite you to be part of this journey. Come celebrate the rich stories of the Asian diaspora, embrace the beauty of diversity, and connect with the incredible energy that has made this festival possible.

As co-directors, we've built this festival with care, collaboration, and community. Whether you're here for a film, a panel, or a chance encounter in the lobby, we hope you find something that resonates and stays with you.

This is the year of boldness, of courage, and of community Thank you for being here at the very beginning.

Thank you for helping us write this first chapter of FascinAsian Edmonton.



With gratitude and excitement,

#### Su and Shawn

Co-Directors, FascinAsian Film Festival Edmonton

## Message from Councillor Anne Stevenson

On behalf of City Council and the people of Edmonton, welcome to the inaugural FascinAsian Film Festival in Edmonton!

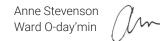
Since establishing in Winnipeg in 2021 and then expanding to Calgary the following year, the FascinAsian Film Festival has only been gaining momentum. We are delighted to now welcome it to Edmonton.

Edmonton is proud to be a diverse city, one that people from all over the world call home. We become stronger and more united with every new opportunity to learn more about the cultural makeup of our communities.

The FascinAsian Film Festival is a welcome addition to Edmonton's dynamic film and arts community. By showcasing the works of these talented artists, the festival offers Edmontonians of all backgrounds the chance to develop a deeper understanding of Asian-Canadian experiences and perspectives.

Thank you to the organizers for sharing these films with our city, and to the many volunteers working to make this festival a success.

Enjoy the shows!









CHINATOWN
TRANSFORMATION
COLLABORATIVE
愛城唐人街 發展協會

The Gateway to EDMONTON CHINATOWN.

The Chinatown Transformation Collaborative Society of Edmonton (CTC) is dedicated to establishing Chinatown as a premier cultural destination where businesses flourish, residents and visitors feel connected, and all cultures and traditions are preserved and celebrated—ensuring Chinatown remains vibrant, sustainable, and a vital part of Edmonton's evolving identity.

## Summary

## Friday, May 9

#### **Industry Sessions**

MacEwan University, Roundhouse 11110 104 Avenue NW, 11-159 Allard Hall

1:00 PM The Producer's Playbook workshop

with Gordie Lucius

3:30 PM Panel Discussion: Asian Representation in Media

with host: Alan Wong and panelists: Gillian McKercher, Martin Cochingco, Shivani Saini,

and Yuqi Kang.

#### **Opening Ceremony & Reception**

Delta Hotels Edmonton Centre Suites 10222 102 Street NW

5:45 PM Doors Open

6:00 PM Welcome and Cultural Performances 6:30 PM Reception with delicious blockbusters bites

courtesy of Fu's Repair Shop and Fortune Cookie

#### **Opening Film**

Landmark Cinemas 9, Edmonton City Centre 10200 102 Ave NW

8:00 PM Feature Film, *Lucky Star* and Q&A with Calgarian Director & Writer Gillian McKercher



## Saturday, May 10

Landmark Cinemas 9, Edmonton City Centre 10200 102 Ave NW

2:00 PM Feature Film, Paper Flowers and Q&A with

Producer Asit Vyas

4:30 PM Shorts Programming Unspoken Bonds and

Filmmakers Q&A

7:00 PM Feature Film, 7 Beats Per Minute and Q&A

with Director Yuqi Kang

#### **Reception Mixer**

Dagu Rice Noodle Restaurant 10408 Jasper Ave

10:00 PM Reception Mixer featuring DJ Noodle Soup

#### Sunday, May 11

Landmark Cinemas Edmonton City Centre 10200 102 Ave NW

2:00 PM Shorts Program *Acceptance* and

Filmmakers Q&A

4:30 PM Feature Documentary New Wave and Q&A

with Director Elizabeth Ai

#### **Closing Banquet and Awards Night**

Dynasty Century Palace, Pacific Mall #206, 9700 105 Avenue NW

Closing celebration and remarks

7:45 PM Awards Presentation

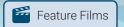
8:00 PM Dinner

# FASCINASIAN FILM FESTIVAL

## Schedule







Friday May 9	Saturday May 10	Sunday May 11
● 1:00 PM	1:00 PM: Box Office Opens	1:00 PM: Box Office Opens
The Producer's Playbook		
M MacEwan University	⊙ 2:00 PM	© 2:00 PM
11110 104 Avenue NW, 11-159 Allard Hall	Feature Film  Paper Flowers	Short Film Program 2 Acceptance
	• Landmark Cinemas 10200 102 Ave NW	• Landmark Cinemas 10200 102 Ave NW
★ FREE Industry Panel		
Asian Representation In Media		
11110 104 Avenue NW,	<ul><li>4:30 PM</li><li>Short Film Program 1</li></ul>	© 4:30 PM  Closing Night Film
	Unspoken Bonds	New Wave  ◆ Landmark Cinemas
M	10200 102 Ave NW	10200 102 Ave NW
<ul> <li>Delta Hotels         Edmonton City Centre         10222 102 Street NW     </li> </ul>		
6:30 PM: Box Office Opens		
М	⊙ 7:00 PM	
	Feature Film 7 Beats Per Minute	⊙ 7:30 PM
M ⊚ 8:00 PM	• Landmark Cinemas 10200 102 Ave NW	★ Closing Banquet & Awards Presentation
Lucky Star		Oynasty Century Palace #206, 9700 105 Avenue NW
• Landmark Cinemas 10200 102 Ave NW		
PM	⊙ 10:00 PM	
	<ul><li>★ Reception Mixer</li><li>♥ Dagu Rice Noodle</li></ul>	
PM	10408 Jasper Ave	
	M • 1:00 PM  * FREE Industry Workshop The Producer's Playbook With Gordie Lucius  • MacEwan University 11110 104 Avenue NW, 11-159 Allard Hall  M • 3:30 PM  * FREE Industry Panel Asian Representation In Media  • MacEwan University 11110 104 Avenue NW, 11-159 Allard Hall  M • 6:00 PM  * FREE Opening Ceremony  • Delta Hotels Edmonton City Centre 10222 102 Street NW  6:30 PM: Box Office Opens  M • 8:00 PM  © Opening Night Feature Lucky Star  • Landmark Cinemas 10200 102 Ave NW	M

## Friday, May 9

◆ MacEwan University, Roundhouse
11110 104 Avenue NW, 11-159 Allard Hall

# **Industry Sessions**

In collaboration with Soni Dasmohapatra,
Assistant Professor, Arts and Cultural Management,
Faculty of Fine Arts and Communication





#### 1:00 PM

# ★ The Producer's Playbook workshop with Gordie Lucius

Join us for a free, hands-on workshop with acclaimed producer, Gordie Lucius, as he shares his journey in media production. In this interactive session, Gordie will demo how to craft compelling one-sheets — the essential pitch tool every producer and creator needs to communicate their vision. Whether you're a filmmaker, writer, content creator, or just curious about producing, this is your chance to build the tools that help turn creative ideas into industry-ready pitches.

Co-presented with Alberta Media Production Industries Association





## \_ г

3:30 PM

## Panel Discussion:

## Asian Representation in Media

Join us for an informative discussion on what the media landscape looks like for Asian representation now. With Asian perspectives and stories breaking into the mainstream like never before, are the institutional efforts to create more diversity in media working? Hear what Asian professionals working in media have to say and how we as a community can advocate for more equity in creative industries.

Event sponsored by ACTRA Alberta



Moderated by Alan Wong
President & Winnipeg Festival Director of
FascinAsian Film Festival, President of ACTRA Winnipeg



## **Panelists**

#### Gillian McKercher

#### Director/Writer of Lucky Star, Calgary

Gillian McKercher is a Canadian writer, director, producer, and co-founder of Kino Sum Productions. Gillian's first feature film as writer/director, Circle of Steel, won an Audience Award at the 2018 Calgary International Film Festival. She developed her sophomore feature film, *Lucky Star*, while a director resident at the Canadian Film Centre and with the additional support of the CFC/Netflix Project Development Accelerator and Harold Greenberg Fund. Orphaned, a documentary on oil well cleanup which she wrote, directed, and stars in, is streaming on CBC Gem.



## Martin Cochingco

#### Emmy winning stunt actor, Edmonton

Martin Cochingco is a distinguished actor and stunt performer renowned for his dynamic contributions to film and television. Martin's versatility is evident in his expansive filmography. He has contributed to notable productions such as: *The Last of Us* (2023), *Shōgun* (2024), and *Deadpool & Wolverine*. Just to name a few. In 2024, Martin's exceptional stunt work on the series *Shōgun* earned him the Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Stunt Performance. This accolade underscores his commitment to excellence and his significant impact on the field of stunt performance.



#### Shivani Saini

#### Award-winning Producer and Consultant, Edmonton

Shivani Saini is an award-winning Producer and Consultant, whose passion is to create and support works that positively transform the human condition. A Radio & Television arts graduate from Toronto Metropolitan University, Shivani has over 30 years of industry experience, and as a Producer has contributed to over 1000 episodes of broadcast television and film - including the award-winning and critically acclaimed one-hour dramatic television series Blackstone, now streaming on Amazon Prime Video.



## Yuqi Kang

#### Director of 7 Beats Per Minute, Vancouver

Yuqi Kang is a Mongol Chinese Canadian filmmaker. She is driven by a passion for crafting psychological profiles set in extreme circumstances. Her directorial feature debut, *A Little Wisdom*, premiered at Busan, SXSW, Karlovy Vary and Hot Docs, where it won Best Canadian Feature. It was released by Amazon Prime worldwide. Yuqi was nominated for the Asia Pacific Screen Awards and the Directors Guild of Canada's Discovery Award and was awarded 40 Under 40 by DOC NYC.

## **Box Office**



## ★ Opening Ceremony & Reception

Join us for Opening Night, co-hosted by MLA Nathan Ip and Linda Hoang.





## Opening Blessings by Elder Marilyn Buffalo

As we gather to celebrate the power of storytelling through film, we acknowledge that we are on the traditional, ancestral territory of Treaty 6 and homeland of Métis. We honour the stewards of this land-past, present, and future-and their enduring connection to it.



#### 6:15 PM

## ★ Cultural Performances

The festival roars to life with the spirited rhythm of the lion dance by Yuet Wan, a traditional performance from Chinese culture known for bold movements, vibrant costumes, and powerful drumming. Often performed to bring luck and mark special occasions, this is a lively way to welcome our guests and set the tone for a weekend of film, culture, and celebration.

Yuet Wan Cultural Association is a new not-for-profit association with Master Lee as president and comprises of friends who share a passion for Chinese culture and arts. Yuet Wan aims to spread culture and awareness through traditional teachings with modern practices to the youth of Edmonton.







Food generously provided by Fortune Cookie & Fu's Repair Shop



Event sponsored by Chinatown Transformation Collaborative



Hospitality Partner Delta Hotels by Marriott **Edmonton Centre Suites** 

## FascinAsian Film Festival is held at the **Landmark Cinemas 9, Edmonton City Centre Mall** • 10200 102 Ave NW

The Box Office will open an hour before each film screening.

Use the Delta Hotel entrance for access to the theatre after 6:00PM.

#### Hours

- Friday, May 9 at 6:30 PM
- · Saturday, May 10 at 1:00 PM
- Sunday, May 11 at 1:00 PM



#### How to Buy Passes and Tickets

- Purchase online at
- fascinasian.ca/edmonton-2025
- In person at the FascinAsian Box Office

#### Festival Pass

- \$35 Seniors/Youth Festival
- •\$45 Regular Pass
- •\$90 All Access Pass includes Closing Banquet and Awards Night

Note: Pass holders will need to reserve a spot for each film screening.

#### Tickets per screening

- ·\$10 Seniors/Youth
- •\$12 Regular

## Public Transportation and Biking

Valley Line LRT stop is on the south side of the City Centre Mall. Public bike racks are located on a few sides of each building.

## Movie Lover Parking

Movie Lovers have access to \$5.00 parking from noon on weekdays and from 5:00 pm on weekends via a payment machine at the theatre lobby. Parking is valid for 4 hours from the time of purchase. Rates available for West Parkade only.













Opening Night Film is sponsored by Chinatown Transformation Collaborative



8:00 – 10:00 PM FEATURE FILM Box office will open at 6:30 PM Doors open at 7:30 PM

## Lucky Star

In this film by Calgary filmmaker Gillian McKercher, a reformed gambler Lucky falls victim to a tax scam, he returns to playing poker to make the money back. Meanwhile, his family tries to make ends meet by resorting to their own morally dubious strategies. Lucky Star is a family drama about fatherly love, deceit, and redemption, and a slice of life from the Chinese-Prairie diaspora.

Director(s)

Runtime

Language

Country of Origin

Completion Year

Rating

Gillian McKercher

85 minutes

English

Canada

2024

14A





In person Q&A to follow with Director **Gillian McKercher** and Cast and Executive Producer **Olivia Cheng** 









Co-presented with Edmonton International Film Festival (EIFF)



2:00 – 4:00 PM FEATURE FILM Box Office will open at 1:00 PM Doors open at 1:30 PM

## Paper Flowers

Inspired by a true story, Paper Flowers is a heartfelt tale of love, resilience, and the search for purpose. The film follows Shalin, a vibrant USC graduate who joins the Peace Corps in Peru, only to have his journey cut short by a cancer diagnosis. Returning home, Shalin finds strength in his family and his steadfast college love, Fiona, as he crafts a viral manifesto urging others to cherish every moment. With stunning performances, poignant storytelling, and powerful metaphors like the titular paper flowers, this moving film explores themes of legacy, love, and the beauty of life in the face of adversity.



Director(s) Mahesh Pailoor
Runtime 101 minutes
Language English
Country of Origin United States
Completion Year 2024
Rating 14A



In person Q&A to follow with Producer **Asit Vyas** 



## Saturday, May 10

Landmark Cinemas 9, Edmonton City Centre 10200 102 Ave NW

4:30 – 6:30 PM Box Office will open at 1:00 PM Doors Open at 4:00 PM



## Unspoken Bonds SHORTS PROGRAM 1

This program is a captivating journey through the hidden threads that connect us all, *Unspoken Bonds* is a collection of eight compelling short films that explore the quiet yet powerful relationships that shape our lives. From the complexities of family ties to the unacknowledged connections between strangers, each story reveals the profound impact of what is left unsaid. These films delve into the spaces where words fall short, yet emotions run deep offering a cinematic reflection on the invisible forces that bind us. Prepare for a thought-provoking experience, where silence speaks volumes.

Sponsored by Station Lands



Co-presented with Canada Media Fund



#### Hybrid Q&A to follow with Filmmakers



## Ramen Boys

Kevin finally takes a chance to connect with James, the lifeguard he's admired from afar, leading to an extremely expected first kiss and a summer of love and laughter.

Director(s)	Jason Sakaki	Country of Origin	Canada
Runtime	13 minutes 20 seconds	Completion Year	2024
Language	English	Rating	14A



## Te Seguiré a la Oscuridad

A driven high school sophomore obsessively studies Spanish all year so she can test up a level into her crush's class in this stylized coming of age comedy set in 2005.

Director(s)	Nicholas Luciano	Country of Origin	United States
Runtime	10 minutes 19 seconds	Completion Year	2024
Language	English, Spanish	Rating	G



## The Steak

On an ordinary day, a mother prepares a cake and food for her daughter's birthday.

Director(s)	Kiarash Dadgar	Country of Origin	Canada, Islamic Republic of Iran
Runtime	8 minutes	Completion Year	2024
Language	No Language	Rating	14A



## Beyond the Salish

Two kayakers take on a once-in-a-lifetime journey off the Pacific Coast of Vancouver Island, breaching into relentless waves, unpredictable weather, and the uncharted depths of their own fears.

The duo finds themselves in a life-altering struggle against the elements. As their journey unfolds, a near-death experience forces them to confront the raw power of the open ocean, pushing the boundaries of their friendship, endurance, and luck.

Director(s)	Richard Chen, William Chong	Country of Origin	Canada
Runtime	17 minutes 57 seconds	Completion Year	2023
_anguage	English	Rating	14A



## **Brotherly**

A deeply personal film inspired by true events, "Brotherly" follows two brothers grappling with mental illness and the complexities of euthanasia. When one brother makes a life-altering decision, the other must confront his own beliefs and navigate the emotional turmoil of their shared journey.

Adapted from a screenplay that won the Writers Guild of Canada prize at SODEC's Cours Écrire ton Court (Sprint for your Script) competition, this powerful drama offers a nuanced exploration of a timely and challenging subjects through the unique lens of South Asian Canadian brothers in middle age.

Director(s)	Gavin Seal	Country of Origin	Canada
Runtime	8 minutes 43 seconds	Completion Year	2024
Language	English	Rating	14A



## **Takeout**

A strange new immigrant searches for community in his strange new home.

Director(s)	Warren Tse	Country of Origin	Canada
Runtime	5 minutes 42 seconds	Completion Year	2024
Language	No Dialogue	Rating	G



## Mawtini (My Homeland)

Together, Nawal, a young Palestinian woman, and Tanya, an older Indigenous woman, start a guerrilla garden on the lawn of their apartment building and battle middle management to make it to harvest.

Director(s)	Fateema Al-Hamaydeh Miller	Country of Origin	Canada
Runtime	18 minutes 46 seconds	Completion Year	2023
Language	English	Rating	14A



## The Azure Dragon of the East

The film chronicles the creation of BusyRawk's second piece in his Four Guardians of Chinatown mural series. Dive into the creative and collaborative process behind the new mural in Edmonton's Heritage Chinatown and engage with the big question: How can we honour our ancestors and the struggles they endured while also upholding our treaty responsibilities? Is there a way to do both?

Director(s)	Jordon Hon	Country of Origin	Canada
Runtime	7 minutes 11 seconds	Completion Year	2025
Language	English, Yue Chinese (Cantonese)	Rating	G







#### 7:00 PM **FEATURE DOCUMENTARY** Doors open at 6:30 PM



## 7 Beats Per Minute

In the world of competitive freediving, Jessea Lu (Lu Wenjie) is a legendary figure. The Chinese freediving champion came late to the sport, vaulting into the top tier of talent with remarkable ability and a compulsive drive to challenge her limitations. But in the ocean, you cannot hide from yourself.

During a world-record attempt in 2018, Jessea blacked out and was lifeless for four minutes.

Award-winning director Yugi Kang's feature documentary 7 Beats Per Minute parallels Jessea's physical and mental journey back from the depths, with intimate cinéma vérité camerawork, astonishing underwater imagery and raw personal interviews.

Director Yuqi Kang Runtime 100 minutes Language English, Mandarin

Country of Origin Canada 2024 Completion Year PG Rating



In-person Q&A to follow with Director Yuqi Kang

Sponsored by Canada Media Fund





10:00 - 11:00 PM

## ★ Reception Mixer at Dagu Rice Noodle

## Featuring DJ Noodle Soup Marcus Fung

After the screening, join us for a relaxed and fun gathering set with chill music vibe curated by our DJ. It's the perfect opportunity to unwind, meet and mingle with filmmakers, community members, and festival organizers. Whether you're loohe atmosphere, this is the place to be!





## Sunday, May 11

Q Landmark Cinemas 9, Edmonton City Centre 10200 102 Ave NW

2:00 – 4:00 PM Box Office will open at 1:00 PM Doors Open at 1:30 PM



## Acceptance SHORTS PROGRAM 2

This is a thought-provoking collection of seven short films that explore the journey of embracing our true selves and the diverse world around us. In this carefully curated lineup, each story delves into the struggles, triumphs, and quiet moments of reconciliation as characters navigate the complex terrain of self-identity, culture, and belonging. These films challenge perceptions, break boundaries, and celebrate the beauty of embracing difference. Join us for a cinematic exploration of acceptance—where understanding begins, and hearts open wide.

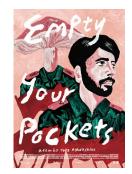
Sponsored by Station Lands



Co-presented with Canada Media Fund



## Hybrid Q&A to follow with Filmmakers



## دىنك علاخ ار ناتىاه بىج/Empty Your Pockets

Hassan is a young airport customs officer who must secure an advance on his salary to afford his mother's medication. As the dark side of his job becomes clearer, Hassan must decide what matters to him the most, and what cost he is willing to pay.

Director(s)	Tara Aghdashloo	Country of Origin	Canad
Runtime	19 minutes 56 seconds	Completion Year	2024
Language	Persian	Rating	14A



## Forgive Me

Jessica is the only Asian girl in her American suburb. While navigating cultural expectations and casual racism, she is stalked by a menacing shadow with a tragic past.

Director(s)	Cameron Fei Sun	Country of Origin	Canada
Runtime	19 minutes	Completion Year	2024
Language	English	Rating	14A



## Lola Was Here

Lumpia was Lola's specialty, and making lumpia with Lola was a cherished family tradition. But what happens when Lola is gone? Weeks go by, the last lumpia is pulled from the freezer, and store bought spring rolls are worse than no spring rolls. Who can carry on the tradition when it brings the grief pouring back?

Director(s)	Cynthia Jimenez-Hicks, Janice Saxon	Country of Origin Completion Year	Canada 2025
Runtime	2 minutes 30 seconds	Rating	PG
Language	English, Tagalog	3	



## The Little Shopping Trolley/ Le petit panier à roulettes

Living on a shoestring in Montreal, a Vietnamese mother must act in bad faith to assert her right to buy 12 discount laundry detergents that she's been refused at a grocery store. A little Christmas story of family and capitalism.

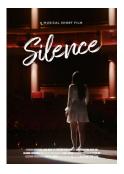
Director(s)	Laurence Ly	Country of Origin	Canada
Runtime	19 minutes	Completion Year	2024
Language	French, Vietnamese	Rating	14A



## NANI

As Ramadan draws to a close, a young woman returns home, stirring up buried tensions and unspoken truths that refuse to stay in the past.

Director(s)	Mainak Dhar	Country of Origin	United State
Runtime	9 minutes 44 seconds	Completion Year	2024
₋anguage	Bengali, English, Spanish	Rating	PG



## Silence

A high school senior and her mother navigate cultural barriers during their nightly routine of watching TV. As college dreams clash with familial expectations, unspoken tensions rise, and music becomes the language of their hidden desires and unexpressed love.

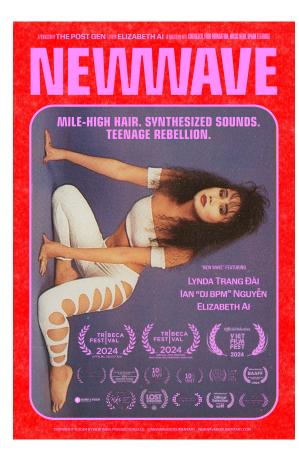
Director(s)	Katherine Lynn-Rose	Country of Origin	Canada, United States
Runtime	9 minutes 56 seconds	Completion Year	2024
Language	English, Cantonese	Rating	PG



## Becoming Ruby

Becoming Ruby is a short documentary that follows Ruby Chopstix, Canada's first drag artist-in-residence, as they navigate the complexity of being an underrepresented drag performer while creating a capstone project to celebrate the art form and connect with their Vietnamese heritage.

Director(s)	Quan Luong	Country of Origin	Canada
Runtime	10 minutes 02 seconds	Completion Year	2025
Language	English	Rating	PG



#### 4:30 - 6:30 PM FEATURE DOCUMENTARY Box Office will open at 3:30 PM Doors open at 4:00 PM



## New Wave

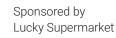
Mile-high hair. Synthesized sounds. Teenage rebellion. Elizabeth Ai was on a mission to excavate an untold story of rebellious punks in the chaotic world of 80s Vietnamese New Wave until she uncovers a hidden past.

Elizabeth Ai Director(s) Runtime 88 minutes Language English Country of Origin **United States** Completion Year 2023 G Rating



Virtual Q&A to follow with Director Elizabeth Ai









7:30 - 10:00 PM

## ★ Closing Banquet & **Awards Reception**

Enjoy a lavish 10-course banquet while celebrating the extraordinary excellence of pan Asian cinema that graced this year's festival. This is your exclusive opportunity to connect with filmmakers, industry professionals, artists, and fellow film lovers in a night filled with inspiration and excitement. Experience the thrill of seeing the top awards being presented and raise a glass to the FascinAsian Film Festival in Edmonton, a landmark moment. Don't miss your chance to be part of a historic evening where creativity, culture, and connection take center stage.

7:30 PM Welcome

7:45 PM Awards Presentation 8:00 PM Banguet Dinner



#### Festival Awards - Edmonton

At FascinAsian Edmonton, we are proud to celebrate outstanding talent and storytelling through annual awards. Our distinguished jury will present the Best Short Film and Building Bridges Awards. Best Short recognizes exceptional storytelling with a blend of vision and technique, and the Building Bridges Award celebrates a film that fosters cultural understanding and offers a powerful reminder of our shared humanity.

Audience Choice Award - Festivalgoers will have the chance to make their voices heard by voting for the Audience Choice Award.

## Short Films Awards Jury

Edmon Rotea, Neil Parmar, Soni Dasmohapatra







## Curtain Call: Beyond the Festival



# TSG THE STUNT GARAGE



**JOHN HUMPHREY CENTRE** for **PEACE** and **HUMAN RIGHTS** 

#### MONDAY, MAY 12, 5:00-7:30 PM, Doors open at 4:30

Petty Andrews Recital Hall, MacEwan University, Room 11-150, 11110 104 Avenue NW



## Big Fight in Little Chinatown

#### **Free Community Screening & Discussion Panel**

#### In Partnership with MacEwan University for C2U Expo 2025: Partners in Place

Big Fight in Little Chinatown is a story of community resistance and resilience. Set against the backdrop of the COVID pandemic and an unprecedented rise in anti-Asian racism, the documentary takes us into the lives of residents, businesses and community organizers whose neighborhoods are facing active erasure.

Coast to Coast the film follows Chinatown communities resisting the pressures around them and reveals how they are a stand-in for other communities who've been wiped off the city map, and a blueprint for inclusive and resilient neighbourhoods of the future.

In Person Discussion with Edmonton Chinatown Panelists: Sarah Dotimas, William Lau. Jessica Mah, and Yihua Zhang.

Director(s)	Karen Cho	Country of	Canada, United States
D 1:	00 ' '	0 1 1:	0000

Runtime 88 minutes Completion 2022 PG Language English, French, Mandarin Rating

#### **SUNDAY. MAY 18**

◆ Phoenix Gymnastics Centre, 9704 12 Ave SW

## **\*** FREE Stunt Workshop: **Action Acrobatics**

Calling all future action heroes! The award-winning Stunt Garage is offering a Free workshop! Open to kids 8+, teens, and adults, learn what it takes to fly, flip, and fall! Action Acrobatics is the perfect place to develop your skills in a fun, safe, and supportive environment. For more information, check out: www.thestuntgarage.ca

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 25, CONCERT FUNDRAISER

## **FascinAsian Edmonton Spotlight**

## In the Mood for Film

We are deeply grateful to everyone who joined us for an intimate night of music at ArtsHub Ortona, celebrating the evocative and soul-stirring sounds of Asian cinema. We are honoured to thank the incredibly talented Nicholas Yee (cello), Joselito De Los Angeles (piano), and Shawn Gan (guitar). The live concert was a beautiful expression of culture, artistry, and community. Thank you for supporting FascinAsian Edmonton by striking a poignant chord that will resonate with us for a long time.

Special thanks to FascinAsian Fundraising Partner, John Humphrey Centre for Peace & Human Rights, Ocha & Boba for the delightful bubble tea bar, and door prizes from Long & McQuade, Listen Records, Caramunchies, and Chinatown Greetings.

## Thank You

## Behind Every Scene, a Heartfelt Thank You

The launch of the FascinAsian Film Festival in Edmonton is made possible through the guidance from the FascinAsian Board, the incredible support of our sponsors, community partners, local businesses, filmmakers, artists, and dedicated volunteers. As a volunteer run organization, we are deeply grateful for everyone who contributes their time, talent, expertise, and resources to help us celebrate Asian stories on screen. Your support brings our vision to life and creates space for connection, creativity, and conversations.

#### To Our Amazing Edmonton Team

From the first coffee chat planning to the final moments of the festival, your dedication has been nothing short of inspiring. thank you for the countless hours, thoughtful coordination, and unwavering passion you poured into every step of this journey.

#### To Our Incredible Volunteers

Our volunteers—what can we say? You showed up with heart, energy, and a commitment that made everything feel effortless. Your hard work didn't just support the festival—it made it shine.

#### **Board Members**

Alan Wong, President Judy Eng-Hum, Vice President

Shawn Tse, Edmonton Festival Co-Director

Jié Yang, Secretary/Communications

Ray Gee

Iris Yudai

Justin Sugita

Jessica Gibson Max Hum

Yenny Trinh

Sean Nguyen

#### **Edmonton Team**

Su Chau, Festival Co-Director

Laura Li

Linda Hoang

Gabby Moukhaiber

Joselito De Los Angeles

Jessica Truong

Wen Chan

Michelle Truong

Suzuanne Burwash

Edmon Rotea

#### **Festival Services**

Web Design: Adnan Faroug

Graphic Design: Alex Wong

Photographer/Videographer: Joselito De Los Angeles

Photographer: Nancy Hoang

Opening Night Food & Beverage Sponsor:

Fu's Repair Shop and Fortune Cookie

Volunteer Meals Sponsor: A Cappella Catering Co.

Media Partners:

Intertwined Studio and Linda Hoang Digital

Hospitality Partner:

Delta Hotels by Marriott Edmonton Centre Suites



## Thank you to all of our Funders, Sponsors and Partners!



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## We hope to see you all next year!



