

## WAVELENGTHS CELEBRATES EXPERIMENTATION WITH A SELECTION OF VISIONARY FILMS BY ACCLAIMED AUTEURS, LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL ARTISTS

Including films by **Véréna Paravel & Lucien Castaing-Taylor**, **Wang Bing**, **Ben Russell**, **Bruno Dumont**, **Neil Beloufa**, **Sara Cwynar**, **Luis López Carrasco**, **Rosa Barba**, **Narimane Mari**, **Laura Huertas Millán**, **Michael Robinson** and **Xu Bing**

**TORONTO** — The Toronto International Film Festival® proudly presents the 17th edition of Wavelengths — its uncompromising, carefully curated, avant-garde showcase — representing 40 films, which unite internationally celebrated and emerging artists with some of today's most important, influential and risk-taking filmmakers. Wavelengths is comprised of four programmes of experimental short films and videos, three resonant pairings, and nine stand-alone features — each displaying its own radical approach to the art of cinema. This year's selection is curated and overseen by Andréa Picard, with contributions from members of TIFF's international programming team (namely, Giovanna Fulvi, Kiva Reardon and Diana Sanchez). All screenings take place at TIFF Bell Lightbox and at the Art Gallery of Ontario's Jackman Hall.

"This year's edition demonstrates an impressive diversity of forms, voices and subjects, which nevertheless collectively and individually offer rebukes to the grand declarative statements we are continuously confronted with today," said Andréa Picard, Wavelengths Programmer. "Many films in Wavelengths are focused on proximity, intimacy, testimony, bodies, agency and listening as a fundamental task in an increasingly noisy world. The ethnographic meets the performative, even the musical, as many of the films subversively tap into the surrealism of our times."

A reflection of today's passionate experimentation with the filmic image and urgent explorations of humanist themes, this year's programme features a diverse and exciting mix of master and award-winning filmmakers, leading contemporary artists and new talent across a wide range of genres, styles and cinematic language. Some of the highlights include **Véréna Paravel and Lucien Castaing-Taylor's** gripping and unsettling work of sensory ethnography, ***Caniba***, about the notorious Japanese cannibal Issei Sagawa and his remarkable relationship with his brother; **Narimane Mari's** category-defying follow-up to her debut feature, ***Bloody Beans***, ***Le Fort des fous***, a scathing, subversive and shape-shifting indictment of European colonialism, past and present; **Ben Russell's** exquisite, intercontinental mining documentary ***Good Luck***, shot in Super 16mm in Serbia and Suriname; and Pedro Pinho's FIPRESCI-winning, left-leaning ***The Nothing Factory***, which premiered at this year's Quinzaine des réalisateurs.

Wavelengths is also thrilled to present the innovative 3D feature ***PROTOTYPE*** by Toronto-based Wavelengths alumnus **Blake Williams**; ***Occidental***, the neo(n)-noir second feature by acclaimed contemporary artist-filmmaker **Neil Beloufa**; and ***Dragonfly Eyes*** (**蜻蜓之眼**), the CCTV-sourced feature debut by leading Chinese artist **Xu Bing**. Other highlights include the World Premiere of **Anna Marziano's** deeply moving and mysterious essay-film ***Beyond the One*** (***Al di là dell'uno***), as well as new films by master filmmakers **Bruno Dumont** and **Denis Côté**.

The programme also features **Wang Bing's** powerful, sobering and intimate ***Mrs. Fang***, about a woman with Alzheimer's dying days in a southern village in China, and **Nelson Carlo de los Santos Arias'** astonishing ***Cocote***, which follows an evangelical gardener's eye-opening homecoming as he attends his father's funeral and grapples with religious belief and ritual. Both were recent winners at

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the 70th Locarno International Film Festival, where they received the Golden Leopard for Best Film and the Signs of Life Award, respectively.

Short-film highlights include terrific new films and videos by **Michael Robinson**, **Rosa Barba**, **Fern Silva**, **Wojciech Bąkowski**, **Jodie Mack**, **Laura Huertas Millán**, Baloise Art Prize-winner **Sara Cwynar**, local performance artist **Francesco Gagliardi**, **Dan Browne**, **Yoni Brook** and **Pacho Velez**, **Luis López Carrasco**, **Helga Fanderl**, **Friedl vom Gröller**, **Dane Komljen**, **André Lehmann**, **Kazik Radwanski** and more.

As always, Wavelengths is pleased to include historical work; this year's archival selections are **Florence** (1970), by the late Finnish computer-art maverick and electronic musician **Erkki Kurenniemi**, and disarming diarist **Anne Charlotte Robertson's Pixillation** (1976), which was recently restored by the Harvard Film Archive. A number of filmmakers included in this year's Whitney Biennial will also present films at Wavelengths, including Dani Leventhal and Sheilah Wilson, Kevin Jerome Everson and Sky Hopinka.

## SHORT FILM PROGRAMMES

### Wavelengths 1: Appetite for Destruction

As pessimistic prognoses flood in during our age of decline, dictatorships and devastation, this sweeping appetite for destruction also fuels rebellious — even mischievous — forms of resistance and necessary counter-investigation.

**Onward Lossless Follows** Michael Robinson, USA

**some cities** Francesco Gagliardi, Canada

**The Watchmen** Fern Silva, USA

**Wasteland No.1 - Ardent, Verdant** Jodie Mack, USA

**Phantasiesätze (Fantasy Sentences)** Dane Komljen, Germany/Denmark

**Dislocation Blues** Sky Hopinka, Ho-Chunk Nation/USA

### Wavelengths 2: Fluid Frontiers

A newly restored and astonishing short by film diarist Anne Charlotte Robertson launches this programme of portraits and homages, with links to notions of home and heritage.

**Pixillation** Anne Charlotte Robertson, USA (Restoration courtesy of Harvard Film Archive)

**Ticino** Friedl vom Gröller, Austria/Italy

**Brown And Clear** Kevin Jerome Everson, USA

**Turtles Are Always Home (Sokun Al Sulhufat)** Rawane Nassif, Canada/Lebanon/Qatar

**Configuration in Black and White** Helga Fanderl, Germany

**Fire** Lucy Parker, United Kingdom

**From Source to Poem** Rosa Barba, Germany

**Fluid Frontiers** Ephraim Asili, USA/Canada

### Wavelengths 3: Figures in the Landscape

There is much to manoeuvre in the world. When quotidian objects seemingly conspire against and constrict our movement, inevitably slowing us down in an over-accelerated world, attendant shifts in meaning and interventions can propose unforeseen detours.

**Mr. Yellow Sweatshirt** Pacho Velez, Yoni Brook, USA

**Yeti** Wojciech Bąkowski, Poland

**(100ft)** Minjung Kim, South Korea/USA

**Heart of a Mountain** Parastoo Anoushahpour, Ryan Ferko, Faraz Anoushahpour, Taiwan/Canada

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**Rose Gold** Sara Cwynar, USA

**Division Movement to Vungtau** Benjamin Crotty, Bertrand Dezoteux, France

**Flores** Jorge Jácome, Portugal

**Wavelengths 4: As Above, So Below**

Four exceedingly different films, each with its own documentary impulse, suggest rich interplay between metaphoric and physical horizon lines and amid shifting scales: of thread, of light and shadow, of environmental elements, of existential contemplation and of memory.

**La Libertad** Laura Huertas Millán, Colombia/France/USA

**Palmerston Blvd.** Dan Browne, Canada

**below-above** André Lehmann, Switzerland

**Aliens** Luis López Carrasco, Spain

**PAIRINGS**

**Beyond the One (Al di là dell'uno)** Anna Marziano, France/Italy/Germany  
World Premiere

Preceded by

**Strangely Ordinary This Devotion** Dani Leventhal, Sheilah Wilson, USA  
International Premiere

**PROTOTYPE** Blake Williams, Canada  
North American Premiere

Preceded by

**Florence (Firenze)** Erkki Kurenniemi, Finland  
North American Premiere

**Ta peau si lisse (A Skin so Soft)** Denis Côté, Canada/Switzerland  
North American Premiere

Preceded by

**Scaffold** Kazik Radwanski, Canada  
North American Premiere

**FEATURES**

**Caniba** Véréna Paravel, Lucien Castaing-Taylor, France  
North American Premiere

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**Cocote** Nelson Carlo de los Santos Arias, Dominican Republic  
North American Premiere

**Dragonfly Eyes (蜻蜓之眼)** Xu Bing, China/USA  
North American Premiere

**Good Luck** Ben Russell, France/Germany  
North American Premiere

**Jeannette, the Childhood of Joan of Arc** Bruno Dumont, France  
North American Premiere

**Le fort des fous** Narimane Mari, France/Algeria/Switzerland/Germany/Greece/Qatar  
North American Premiere

**Mrs. Fang** Wang Bing, France/China/Germany  
North American Premiere

**Occidental** Neïl Beloufa, France  
North American Premiere

**The Nothing Factory (A Fábrica De Nada)** Pedro Pinho, Portugal  
North American Premiere

Previously announced Wavelengths titles at the Festival include Blake Williams's **PROTOTYPE** and Denis Côté's **Ta peau si lisse (A Skin so Soft)**.

Festival ticket packages start at \$105. See all the Wavelengths films using your 10-ticket Regular Flex Pack. Purchase packages online at [tiff.net/tickets](http://tiff.net/tickets), by phone (416.599.TIFF or 1.888.599.8433), or in person at TIFF Bell Lightbox until August 13 while quantities last.

TIFF prefers Visa.

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#### **About TIFF**

TIFF is a charitable cultural organization whose mission is to transform the way people see the world, through film. An international leader in film culture, TIFF projects include the annual Toronto International Film Festival in September; TIFF Bell Lightbox, which features five cinemas, major exhibitions, and learning and entertainment facilities; and innovative national distribution programme Film Circuit. The organization generates an annual economic impact of \$189 million CAD. TIFF Bell Lightbox is generously supported by contributors including Founding Sponsor Bell, the Government of Canada, the Government of Ontario, the City of Toronto, the

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For more information on the Wavelengths programme, please contact Ashley Belmer, Festival Publicist, at 416.599.8433 x2687 or email [abelmer@tiff.net](mailto:abelmer@tiff.net).

For information, contact the Communications Department at 416.934.3200 or email [proffice@tiff.net](mailto:proffice@tiff.net).

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