

tiff

# Annual Report

*2020*

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# Welcome

August 2021



**CAMERON BAILEY**  
Artistic Director &  
Co-head, TIFF



**JOANA VICENTE**  
Executive Director &  
Co-head, TIFF



**JENNIFER TORY**  
Chair, Board of  
Directors, TIFF

In TIFF's 45 years, we've never experienced a year like 2020. As arts and culture organizations across Canada, and the world were forced to rethink their plans, TIFF too was compelled to reimagine how audiences experience cinema. We knew we must reimagine and reconfigure our traditional functions to ensure our year-round programming and Festival continued to unite and engage audiences when they needed us most. The challenges caused by the pandemic united our team as we came together through innovation, experimentation and unprecedented collaboration to help us map our way toward a fruitful recovery.

When we temporarily shut down our offices and TIFF Bell Lightbox in March, our mission to transform the way people see the world through film remained. The health and safety of our audiences was our primary priority as we worked on ways to deliver enriching experiences to audiences now isolated at home. Our longstanding partnership with Bell Media helped us to deliver 30 social-first programmed events, bringing audiences together through a series of at-home experiences, including virtual chats and watch-along screenings with Stay-at-Home Cinema. By tapping into the digital audiences we were able to reach film lovers across Canada, US, UK, Turkey, Spain, Brazil, Mexico, India, Korea and more. This initiative garnered over 16-million impressions across TIFF social media channels and created a bridge between our physical hub, TIFF Bell Lightbox to digital at-home experiences. This helped shape the blueprint for the first hybrid-version of the Toronto International Film Festival.

Every year, the Festival brings the very best in Canadian and global filmmaking to audiences from around the world. This year, for the first time in our history, we brought the Festival to audiences' at home, through TIFF Bell Digital Cinema & TIFF Bell Digital Talks platforms. Although with a scaled down lineup, TIFF 2020 brought diverse and impactful stories that were of the moment. We recreated the nostalgic movie-going experience through three new physical venues — the RBC Lakeside Drive-

In at Ontario Place, the Visa Skyline Drive-In at CityView, and the West Island Open Air Cinema at Ontario Place — and held 199 in-person screenings. With the support of our partners, we brought the buzz of Festival back into Toronto with ten incredible days of public and industry programming, introduced over one hundred amazing guests and ambassadors to virtual audiences and broadcast our TIFF Tribute Awards across Canada in partnership with CTV, and streamed around the world in partnership with Variety. The Festival concluded with a record \$100M in reported sales with films from the official line-up continuing to be purchased by distributors. Titles sold post-Festival include; *Penguin Blooms*, *David Byrne's American Utopia*, *Concrete Cowboy*, *Violation*, *A Suitable Boy* and *Falling* to name a few.

**Going digital in 2020 meant we increased our reach across Canada; 48% of Reel Talk subscribers were new and 73% of all Secret Movie Club subscribers were new.**

Following the Festival, TIFF relaunched the popular Reel Talk: Contemporary World Cinema and Secret Movie Club subscription series in a brand new digital format. With access now available

across Canada over the course of each weekend, both series have seen considerable growth in terms of the audience tuning in each month with household subscriptions. The success of both series was driven by a marketing campaign that focused on renewing previous subscribers and re-engaging Festival audiences with a "TIFF at home" experience each month.

We remained committed to telling impactful stories and bringing meaningful films to our audiences. Enclosed within this report, we share our successes from a challenging but rewarding year. Through audience surveys and positive feedback from external stakeholders, we know our loyal audiences remain engaged with TIFF — along with newly discovered film lovers from across the country.

Thank you to all who continue to celebrate and support TIFF. We look forward to welcoming you back into our theatres.

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# Audience & Community



← Q&A GUESTS OF  
STAY-AT-HOME CINEMA

With our cinemas at TIFF Bell Lightbox temporarily closed as of March 2020, we had to reimagine how our programmes could reach audiences at home — and how we could harness the power of film to unite with one another, create connections, and combat social isolation.

In partnership with Bell Media's Crave, Stay-at-Home Cinema brought national audiences together for conversations and live-tweeting about the films we know and love, with the directors and actors behind them, before watching those films together. The series averaged over 5,000 live views each event, across 30 events between late March and late July. Among the guests were Mandy Patinkin, Guillermo del Toro, Steve McQueen, Catherine O'Hara, Ethan Hawke, Julie Delpy, Jon M. Chu, Alfre Woodard, Viggo Mortensen, and Matt Bomer.

When protests erupted in response to the death of George Floyd, our Images Matter conversations were designed to engage our community and amplify the Black Lives Matter movement. The onscreen representation of Black communities and police violence against those communities was put at the forefront of our programming, and continues to underpin TIFF's commitment to championing the voices of Black and Indigenous creators and creators of colour.

# 27,850

participants

# 88

talks, workshops, and  
meet-ups



# Community Initiatives

Despite the challenging year, TIFF embraced innovation to bring films, conversation, and education into audiences' homes.

Our Mental Health Outreach programmes aim to connect communities. The initiatives took on even more importance this year, with the pandemic causing feelings of isolation. We shifted our programming to support digital engagement but soon learned that digital literacy and digital access created barriers for some audience members to participate. We were pleased and grateful to work alongside community partners as they helped us navigate digital equity for our audiences.

We also partnered with community groups like OYA Media Group and BIPOC TV & Film on workshops to connect racialized youth with industry professionals for training and networking. These engagements included creator meet-ups with filmmaker Stella Meghie, actor Rosario Dawson, and leading astrologer Chani Nicholas; a film programming discussion with Cameron Bailey; and a training and networking session with Black leaders in the film industry.

During this year's Festival, we continued our Reel Magic partnership with Sun Life to connect 500 families and individuals from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds with access to films from around the world. This initiative connects communities that might not otherwise have the means or opportunity to attend TIFF with free tickets.

"The virtual film talks provided and facilitated by TIFF have enabled our residents to engage in creative programming that provides needed entertainment and meaningful discussion. Having the opportunity to learn from and talk to film subjects and directors is a very exciting and unique experience. The residents and staff at Homes First are extremely grateful for our ongoing partnership with TIFF."

—RYAN EVERSLED,  
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT  
SUPERVISOR AT HOMES FIRST

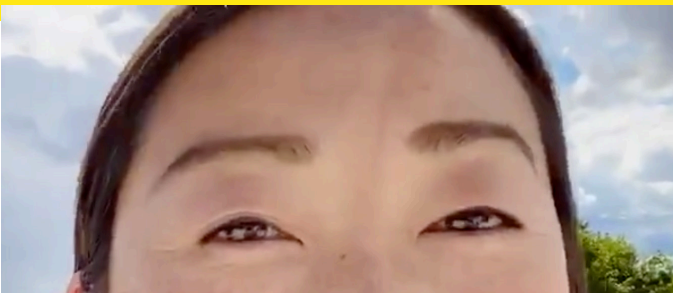


← *Ammonite* Q&A,  
TIFF 2020

**18**  
community  
partners

**500**  
digital tickets  
to community  
partners across  
the GTA





# Talks

This year's In Conversation With... events at the Festival took place digitally and were free for TIFF Members. We reached over 5,000 live attendees, and a further 23,000 on social media, through our TIFF Bell Digital Talks platform. Guests featured such luminaries as Halle Berry, Saoirse Ronan, Ava DuVernay, Denzel Washington, Barry Jenkins, and Claire Denis. Across additional Festival talks made available for free via our digital platform and social channels, we reached over 5.6 million audience members internationally.

In a year unlike any other, we knew we would need help to deliver elements of the Festival that our audiences know and love. We reached out to filmmakers and actors within our network and recruited 50 Festival Ambassadors to participate in talks, Industry sessions, and meet-and-greets as a way to connect talent with audiences and help deliver on donor and partner benefits.

In Fall 2020, we successfully launched digital versions of our two Sunday-morning subscription series, Reel Talk and Secret Movie Club. Boasting over 850 subscriber households combined — more audience members than we would traditionally reach at TIFF Bell Lightbox — these series offered audience members the chance to watch new films before their Canadian release and to interact live with filmmakers and actors.

← Festival Ambassadors (clockwise from top-right):  
Lulu Wang, Genevieve Nnaji,  
Rian Johnson, and Brie Larson



# TIFF Next Wave

Each year, the festival is programmed by the TIFF Next Wave Committee, a group of twelve socially-engaged young film enthusiasts from across the Greater Toronto Area. The Committee is passionate about making film accessible to youth and ensuring the stories and voices of under-represented communities are heard.

Over the February 2020 long weekend, 3,000 young film lovers flocked to TIFF Bell Lightbox over the February long weekend to take part in the ninth annual TIFF Next Wave Film Festival. The three-day festival featured a diverse, bold lineup of twelve new films from around the world that tackled issues and storylines relevant to young audiences, five favourite throwback films as part of the ever popular Movie Marathon, industry led workshops and talks at the Young Creators Co-Lab, original short films and music by youth at the Battle of the Scores, and the Young Creators Showcase, a lineup of 14 shorts made by emerging Canadian filmmakers.

THE TIFF NEXT WAVE COMMITTEE IS SUPPORTED BY THE SLAIGHT FAMILY FOUNDATION LEARNING FUND.

*In Passing* →



## 58%

women directors

## 14

countries represented

*Wash Day* →







3,282

free under-25 tickets issued

67%

first feature or first narrative feature



A new partnership was established this year with the Shawn Mendes Foundation to elevate young voices in film. The TIFF Next Wave Committee selected the recipient of the inaugural Changemaker Award at the 2020 Toronto International Film Festival. The award’s purpose was to recognize an emerging filmmaker whose work focuses on creating universal change. The committee selected *Black Bodies*, directed by Kelly Fyffe-Marshall to receive the 2020 Changemaker Award, presented by the Shawn Mendes Foundation.

Highlighting youth-centred conversation on the social impact and transformational power of film, in December two TIFF Next Wave Committee members hosted a digital talk with Kelly Fyffe-Marshall about her award-winning short *Black Bodies*, Black Lives Matter, and the role art plays in the fight for racial equity.

← *Black Bodies*

“TIFF does a great job of programming content for young people and for marginalized communities, as well as including a wealth of local Canadian content!”

—PARTICIPANT,  
TIFF NEXT WAVE FILM FESTIVAL

“Our In Conversation With... Kelvin Harrison Jr. inspired me beyond words. That event changed how I perceive myself as a young Black actor”

—ALEXANDER GALLIMORE,  
TIFF NEXT WAVE COMMITTEE

“I attended the Next Wave conferences this year and absolutely loved it! I found all the interviews to really inspire the creator in me as well to keep pressing on and finding small ways to keep the creative spirit alive.”

—PARTICIPANT,  
YOUNG CREATORS CO-LAB



# Film Reference Library

The Film Reference Library continues to be a free destination for cinema lovers, despite being closed to walk-in visitors in support of public health efforts. Working from home, we continued to fulfill our mandate to collect, preserve, and provide access to film resources.

THE FILM REFERENCE LIBRARY IS SUPPORTED BY MAJOR SUPPORTER ONTARIO CREATES.

Supporting patrons' access was the library's top priority even while working remotely. In March, we established virtual reference procedures, answering hundreds of questions digitally over the course of the year. We refreshed the library website to make navigation easier, and supported TIFF programming and external borrowers with loans of 250 scanned high-resolution images from our Special Collections.

Also this year, the Film Reference Library completed archiving five new Special Collections, which have now been added to our online catalogue: the Richard Nielsen Collection, the Reg Hartt Collection, the John Candy Collection, the Tantoo Cardinal Collection, and the Monique Prudhomme Collection.

Finally, the library continued provenance research on the films inspected during 2019's OFI Film Inspection project funded by Library and Archives Canada's DHCP grant, allowing us to determine the rarity and history behind roughly 200 of the 600 inspected prints.







# Media Inclusion Initiative

In its third year, the Media Inclusion Initiative expanded its initial mandate to achieve a more equitable and diverse press corps at the Festival. In 2020 the programme focused on providing access for underserved, under-represented members of the media and empowered these new members of TIFF's accredited press with tools to get the most out of their Festival experience.

Press from all over the world were able to engage with TIFF programming digitally, including Media Inclusion Initiative participants who may have been otherwise unable to travel to Toronto. To be eligible, participants had to be attending the Festival for the first time and identify as Black, Indigenous, and/or a person of colour; or Identify as LGBTQ+; or identify as a woman, trans, non-binary, and/or two-spirited; or have a disability.

Thanks to an eager and supportive film community, TIFF offered participants exclusive sessions with film-industry experts, leveraged social media and other digital platforms to foster an environment of community within the program, and facilitated networking. We also provided guidance and support to help participants navigate an international film festival for the first time.

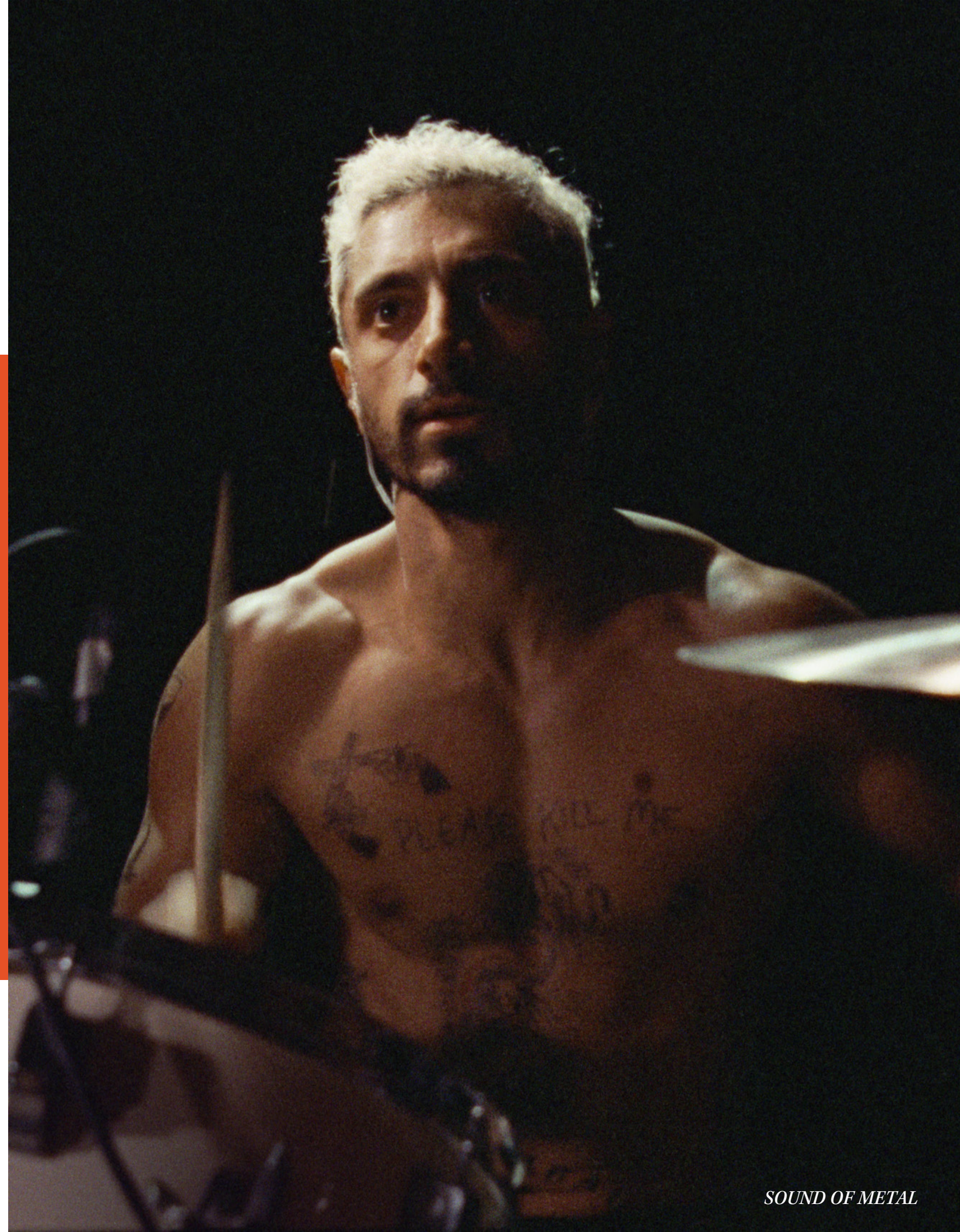


# Theatrical Programming

Prior to the first COVID-19 lockdown in Ontario, the Theatrical Programming team presented 14 New Releases in cinema. Highlights included *Cunningham* in 3D; *Clemency*, featuring a Q&A with Alfre Woodard; and *Portrait of a Lady on Fire*. With the theatrical openings for *Les Misérables* and *Corpus Christi*, we opened all 2020 Best International Academy Award Film nominees.

When we temporarily closed our cinemas in March, we shifted our focus to digital TIFF Bell Lightbox. Following the platform's launch in July, we presented 43 titles in 2020 — including 20 New Releases and 23 Catalogue titles, with 13 from Canadian directors, nine from Black directors, and 17 from directors who are women.

Our digital theatrical highlights included *Ammonite*, *Another Round*, *Possessor Uncut*, *Sound of Metal*, *Martin Eden*, *Proxima*, and *Rocks*. Our in-house technical team created a digital print with open captions to enhance accessibility options for *Sound of Metal*.



SOUND OF METAL





ONE DAY IN THE LIFE OF  
NOAH PIUGATTUK

# Film Circuit

Working in partnership with local organizers, TIFF Film Circuit brings the best in Canadian and international film to over 150 communities across Canada. From January to March 2020, Film Circuit held 560 screenings — 21% of which were Canadian titles, such as *And the Birds Rained Down*, *One Day in the Life of Noah Piugattuk*, *The Body Remembers When the World Broke Open*, and *It Must Be Heaven*. Screenings were temporarily suspended in mid-March, but select locations were able to host reduced-capacity and outdoor physical screenings in the summer. In the fall, we invited organizers to attend Festival 2020 as industry delegates to preview films, and we organized a Town Hall to discuss the unique challenges facing the network at this time.

FILM CIRCUIT IS SUPPORTED BY ONTARIO CREATES.



THE BODY REMEMBERS WHEN  
THE WORLD BROKE OPEN



# For the Love of Film Campaign



With our cinemas temporarily closed for year-round programming and our Festival pivoting to a reduced-capacity, hybrid digital/in-person model, ensuring our financial stability was paramount. To support our recovery and ensure the sustainability of our mission to transform the way people see the world through film, we launched the For the Love of Film Fund.

The fundraising initiative served three critically important goals:

- Reimagining the audience experience
- Investing in TIFF's recovery and the future of film
- Unleashing the power of under-represented storytellers and social change through film

Thanks to our community of supporters and a generous match from the Koolum Foundation, the initiative raised over \$1 million. We are incredibly grateful to our community for their belief in creating a more engaged, informed, and connected world through film. This year, we were reminded of the power of film to provide hope, build connection, and open minds. In the face of great adversity, film continued to bring us all together.

Thank you to the Koolum Foundation, the thousands of supporters who donated, and our For the Love of Film Fund Leaders:\*

W. Geoffrey Beattie  
Diane Blake & Stephen Smith  
Anne-Marie Canning  
The Daniels Corporation  
Myrna & John Daniels  
Hudson's Bay Foundation  
Steve & Rashmi Gupta  
Nadir & Shabin Mohamed

Nütrl™ Vodka  
David Perlmutter, in memory of Renee Perlmutter  
The Shen Family Charitable Foundation  
The Tory Family  
Carla & Michael Worb  
Anonymous

*\*For the Love of Film Leadership gifts (\$25,000+)*



# Canadian Film

This year, TIFF worked diligently and creatively to showcase Canadian films and filmmakers while encouraging and highlighting greater diversity and broader representation.

Through the Festival and TIFF's annual list of the best Canadian features and shorts, we created greater awareness of numerous Canadian titles — some of which culminated in international sales and inclusion at key international film festivals. Among these titles were Dusty Mancinelli and Madeleine Sims-Fewer's *Violation*, Charles Officer's *Akilla's Escape*, and Joel Bakan and Jennifer Abbott's *The New Corporation: The Unfortunately Necessary Sequel*.

*Violation* →

The Canada's Top Ten lists for 2020 were extraordinarily diverse and showcased filmmakers from the Indigenous, Latinx, transgender, and Black communities with Tracey Deer's *Beans*, Nicolás Pereda's *Fauna*, *No Ordinary Man*, co-directed by Chase Joynt, and Kelly-Fyffe Marshall's *Black Bodies*. The list was similarly wide-ranging in terms of approach and genre, including larger-budget, star-laden co-productions, documentaries, experimental titles, comedies, and horror films.

At the same time, when the Festival's Official Selection was reduced due to COVID restrictions, TIFF responded with a virtual market titled TIFF Industry Selects — resulting in international sales of Evan Morgan's Top Ten selection *The Kid Detective* — and a streaming platform, bringing titles like Loretta Todd's *Monkey Beach*, Morgan's *The Kid Detective*, Sean Durkin's *The Nest*, and Brandon Cronenberg's *Possessor Uncut* to broader audiences.





# Festival

50

Official Selection  
films

11

Special Event  
films

46%

of all titles  
were directed,  
co-directed  
or created by  
women

46%

of all titles  
were directed,  
co-directed  
or created  
by Black,  
Indigenous or  
filmmakers of  
colour

5

Best of TIFF  
Reunions  
presented  
by Bell

6

Planet  
Africa 25th  
anniversary  
reunion films  
and events



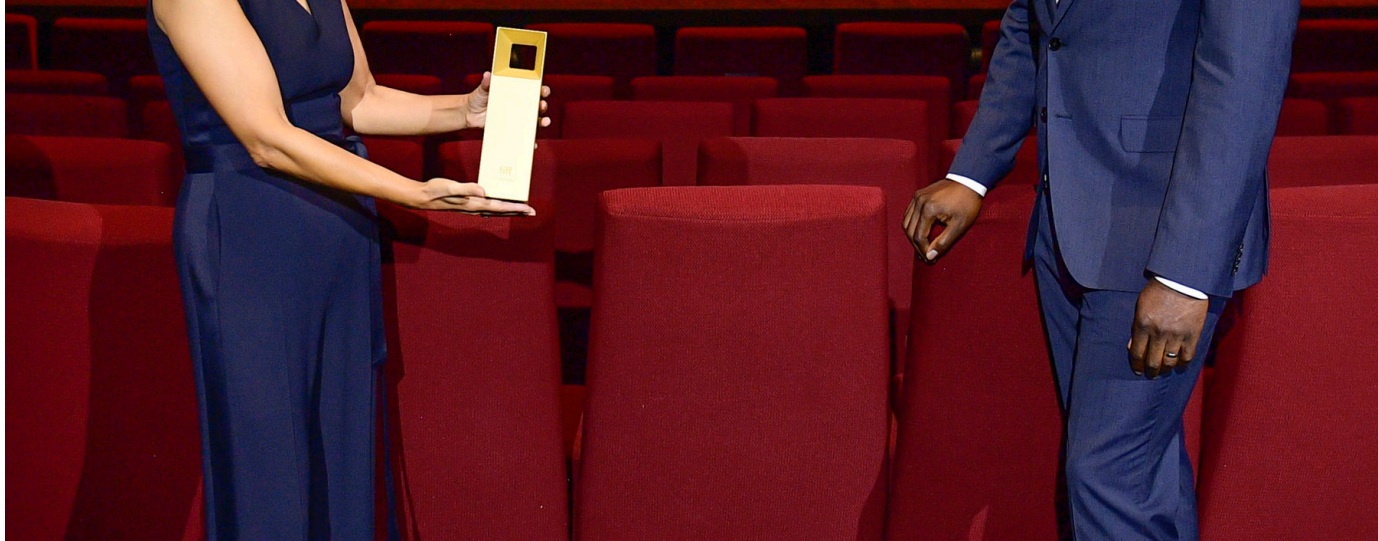
In the midst of a pandemic, TIFF maintained its commitment to putting audiences first, discovering emerging talent, and championing established filmmakers. This past year saw us redefine what a traditional venue was, as regular programming shifted largely to the digital space. The hybrid online and in-person Festival format transformed the viewer experience and increased accessibility to national audiences for the first time.

We presented the best in international and Canadian cinema in a reduced Official Selection of 50 features, 11 Special Event films, and 36 shorts. In the spirit of collaboration with other festivals to continue supporting creators during an uncertain year, TIFF and the Venice Film Festival co-premiered Chloe Zhao's *Nomadland*, which won the TIFF People's Choice Award and the Academy Awards for Best Picture and Best Director. Zhao was the first woman of colour, and the second woman overall, to win Best Director.

By asking filmmakers to self-record introductions to their films remotely, we connected talent with audiences and recreated an intimate front-row experience. TIFF's programming continues to be in the vanguard of major festivals for diversity of storytelling: within the lineup, 46% of films were directed or co-directed by women — and a strong 46% of titles were directed, co-directed, or created by Black or Indigenous filmmakers, or filmmakers of colour.







# TIFF Tribute Awards

## TIFF Tribute Awards



While our annual awards fundraiser was offered in a virtual format this year, it continued to elevate TIFF's year-round programmes and our core mission to transform the way people see the world through film. For the first time ever, the TIFF Tribute Awards was broadcast across Canada on CTV and ctv.ca, and streamed internationally to the rest of the world by *Variety*. During the one-hour broadcast, Academy Award-winning actress Kate Winslet and Academy Award-winning actor Sir Anthony Hopkins each received a TIFF Tribute Actor Award; *Nomadland* director Chloé Zhao was awarded the TIFF Ebert Director Award; Academy Award-nominated filmmaker Mira Nair was honoured

with the Jeff Skoll Award in Impact Media supported by Participant Media; Grammy Award-winning composer Terence Blanchard, whose work was featured in the 2020 Festival selections *Bruised* and *One Night In Miami...*, received the TIFF *Variety* Artisan Award; and *Beans* director Tracey Deer was awarded the TIFF Emerging Talent Award Presented by L'Oréal Paris and supported by MGM.

The Awards raised funds and awareness for our For the Love of Film Fund, an initiative that raised over \$1 million to support TIFF's sustainability; our efforts to reimagine the film audience experience; and investment in under-represented filmmakers.

## TIFF Tribute Awards



# Industry

The pandemic forced the film industry to transform at an unbelievable pace. In 2020, TIFF Industry dove headfirst into the digital world, welcoming 3,926 professionals to the 45th Toronto International Film Festival — including 1,208 buyers, 306 sales agents, 1,038 producers, and 111 Industry Conference speakers — to experience the Festival from their home, wherever in the world that may be. The objective was to continue to provide professionals the sustainable business opportunities, meaningful connections, and new skills for growing their toolkits through the TIFF Digital Cinema Pro interactive screening platform.

Industry offerings included easy access to 50 Official Selection screenings, 34 impactful Conference sessions, two intimate development programmes across seven days, and the introduction of TIFF Industry Selects, which showcased 30 much-anticipated sales titles from all over the world. Bringing films and business tools to professionals digitally this year led to over \$100 million in reported film sales — the highest industry sales in TIFF's history.

Gail Maurice at the premiere of *Trickster*







TIFF knows that behind every great film, there are creative talents providing their ideas, voices and perspectives. As an organization, we are committed to nurturing and championing the next generation of creators who are women, Black, Indigenous, and people of colour in order to bring their stories to the screen. The TIFF Filmmaker Lab and Rising Stars initiatives provided 24 top emerging artists an immersive learning experience, consisting of intimate conversations with leading industry professionals such as Nadine Labaki, Rian Johnson, Eliza Hittman, and David Oyelowo. Delegates from around the world joined the conversations taking place at the 2020 Conference, where audience engagement was doubled because of the digital presentation format.

← Filmmaker Lab and Rising Stars speakers (clockwise from top-left): Rian Johnson, Nadine Labaki, David Oyelowo, Eliza Hittman

With the goal of moving the needle on matters of gender and racial equity, Conference sessions gave viewers front-row seats, allowing them to engage with speakers including Viola Davis, Ted Hope, Cord Jefferson, and Nina Jacobson. Panels highlighted the importance of narrative sovereignty, the need for women to be both in front of and behind the camera, and the value of harnessing media to influence positive change in our industry.



# Programme Spotlight

A Share Her Journey initiative, TIFF's Talent Accelerator — now in its second year — is a one-year development programme designed to support the careers and professional development of six emerging female writers, producers, and directors through customized programming, mentorship, and experience.

Participants are identified and expedited through to one of our touchstone development programmes, or given the opportunity to network with professionals in the international marketplace throughout the year. This year's participants were Lindsay Blair Goeldner, Asia Youngman, Priscilla Galvez, Luis De Filippis, Adrianna DiLonardo, and Sasha Leigh Henry. TIFF Talent Accelerator is generously supported by the RBC Female Creator Initiative, and participants each receive fellowship funding to support their involvement courtesy of Netflix.

From left:  
Shasha Nakhai,  
Joanne Sarazen,  
Jasmin Mozaffari,  
Karen Chapman





# Cinema - theque

TIFF CINEMATHEQUE IS SUPPORTED BY ONTARIO CREATES AND  
THE CANADA COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS





## The Best of the Decade: An Alternative View

In keeping with tradition, TIFF Cinematheque revived its Best of the Decade poll for the third time, surveying film curators, historians, and archivists from Canada and around the world to choose the best films of the 2010s. The 19 films comprising the list — the top two of which were directed by women — were presented at TIFF Bell Lightbox at the top of the year, dually marking the 30th anniversary of TIFF Cinematheque.



*Moonlight*



*I Was at Home, But...*

## Let's Dance: The Films of Angela Schanelec

Angela Schanelec, a defining artist of modern German cinema, joined TIFF Cinematheque for her first-ever North American retrospective, programmed by Andréa Picard. This complete survey of Schanelec's filmography included introductions and post-screening Q&As with the filmmaker in person, as well as a screening of her 2019 Festival selection *I Was at Home, But...*, for which she became only the fourth woman to win a Silver Bear for Best Director at the Berlin International Film Festival.





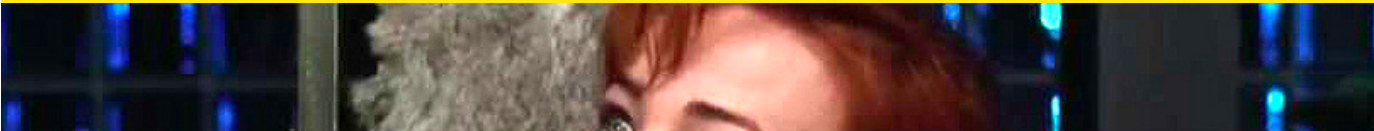
*Beetlejuice*

## Catherine the Great: In Praise of Catherine O'Hara

Ahead of the sixth and final season of cult-hit CBC show *Schitt's Creek*, TIFF Cinematheque presented a tribute to character-comedy goddess Catherine O'Hara with four of her most memorable big-screen outings: a trio of hilarious mockumentaries directed by Christopher Guest starring O'Hara and fellow SCTV alumnus Eugene Levy, alongside Tim Burton's iconic *Beetlejuice*.

## TIFF x DriveInTO

Several months into the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting cinema closures, TIFF was pleased to take part in the City of Toronto-sponsored DriveInTO initiative, joining Hot Docs and imagineNATIVE in presenting a late-summer series of free drive-in screenings hosted at Ontario Place. For its contribution, TIFF presented Zoya Akhtar's award-winning *Gully Boy*, preceded by a recorded video introduction from the director herself.



## TIFF Cinematheque Presents on digital TIFF Bell Lightbox

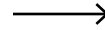
In Fall 2020, TIFF Cinematheque was thrilled to launch the TIFF Cinematheque Presents shelf on digital TIFF Bell Lightbox, TIFF's online film platform. Representing the premiere Canadian digital theatrical destination for stunning restorations of repertory art-house and archival cinema, the shelf also boasts exclusive releases and bonus content. National digital premieres of Béla Tarr's newly restored 1988 art-house noir *Damnation* and the long-awaited World of Wong Kar Wai series — including seven titles revived under the supervision of the Hong Kong master himself — were early highlights.

*Happy Together*



# Share Her Journey

Tracey Deer (left) and  
Kiawentiio (right) at the  
premiere of *Beans*



As we entered into our fourth year of TIFF's Share Her Journey campaign, we continued to build on its success in championing women in front of and behind the camera. We recognized not only the importance of sustaining our support for women in the industry, but also that 2020 presented a critical moment to ensure the cycle of impact from the campaign continued.

We identified key stages where women are directly supported by Share Her Journey, TIFF, and our supporters. We traced their creative journey from inspiration and ideation to the finished work that is shared with audiences, ensuring more women-led films are created, seen, and celebrated.



## Stage 1: Inspiration

Inspiring women and girls to pursue roles in the film industry

## Stage 2: Skills and Network Development

Giving women creators the skills and support they need to accelerate their careers

## Stage 3: Project Development

Creating customized opportunities to incubate and advance film projects for women creators

## Stage 4: Programming and Amplification

Building the audiences and community to celebrate and explore works by women creators

# \$2.7M

raised to support  
women in front of and  
behind the camera

"As a director, you are very rarely with other directors, so for TIFF to bring us all together and allow us to grapple with all those issues together and to be vulnerable — unlike on set — is very reassuring and very freeing. The Filmmaker Lab in 2018 helped me through a very difficult period and is the reason I'm here talking about my film now."

—SHARE HER JOURNEY FELLOW AND  
FILMMAKER LAB ALUMNA TRACEY DEER  
ACCEPTING THE 2020 TIFF EMERGING TALENT  
AWARD AT THE TIFF TRIBUTE AWARDS



THANK YOU TO ANTHROPOCENE FILMS INC., CANADA GOOSE®, ANNE-MARIE CANNING, BETTY-ANN HEGGIE, MICKI MOORE SIMPSON, THE RBC FEMALE CREATOR INITIATIVE, SARA & GRAEME THOMSON, JENNIFER A. TORY, AND 1,996 FILM LOVERS WHO HAVE SHOWN THEIR SUPPORT FOR WOMEN WORKING IN THE FILM INDUSTRY.

**46%** of all the titles in this year's lineup were directed, co-directed, or created by women, including six titles by five emerging filmmakers who previously participated in TIFF Talent Development programs: Aisling Chin-Yee, Tracey Deer, Madeleine Sims-Fewer, Dea Kulumbegashvili, and Emma Seligman.

The overall number of speakers at this year's Industry Conference represented a **50/50** gender split, as did TIFF Talent Development initiatives such as TIFF Studio and Filmmaker Lab. And for the first time, all TIFF Rising Stars presented by OLG were women.



EMMA SELIGMAN



MADELEINE SIMS-FEWER

**285** women were provided with barrier-free access to skill-building opportunities via year-round TIFF Industry programmes and initiatives, most of which were transitioned to the online space to ensure safe and equitable access.

We brought our Share Her Journey community together in new ways online, from candid talks with Hollywood trailblazers such as Halle Berry and Rachel Brosnahan (attended by thousands of our supporters) to a focus-group session with Share Her Journey beneficiaries.





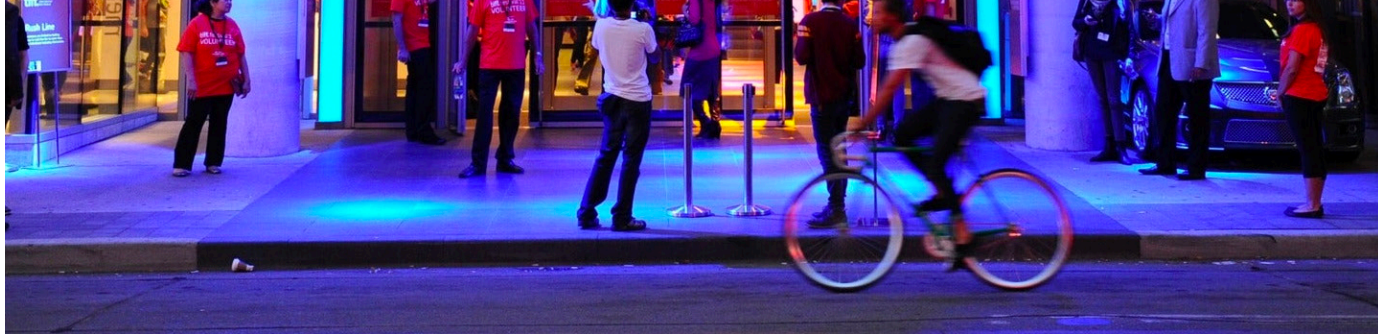
# Talent Spotlight

Montreal-born writer, director, and Share Her Journey Ambassador Molly McGlynn was named the third recipient of the TIFF Micki Moore Residency. McGlynn used her time as our 2020 Writer-in-Residence to develop *Bloody Hell*, her second feature screenplay. Her self-directed first feature, *Mary Goes Round*, premiered at TIFF in 2017. The Residency programme — awarded yearly to a woman who is an outstanding feature-film screenwriter — is made possible by Toronto-based broadcaster, journalist, and actor Micki Moore, in tandem with TIFF's Share Her Journey campaign.



MOLLY McGLYNN





# TIFF Bell Lightbox Anniversary

In 2020, TIFF Bell Lightbox celebrated 10 years as the home of Canadian and international cinema in Toronto. Since our doors opened in 2010, the building has become a hub for one of the largest film festivals in the world, a launching pad for groundbreaking cinema, and a meeting place for a community of film lovers of all ages and backgrounds. The passionate film community that has helped sustain us — even while our doors have been temporarily closed.

As we celebrate this milestone, we thank and recognize the TIFF Bell Lightbox Campaign Supporters who made it all possible.



# Corporate Partners

This year we were challenged to rethink not only the traditional format of the Festival, but also our partners’ integrations. While we were able to welcome audiences back to TIFF Bell Lightbox for Festival screenings in September — the first time we opened our doors since temporarily closing due to the pandemic — our partners also embraced physically-distanced experiences like drive-in theatres and moved into digital spaces with virtual screenings and VIP talent engagements, including:

The TIFF Bell Digital Cinema platform and TIFF Bell Digital Talks, which attracted over 105,000 digital attendees

Two nostalgic drive-in experiences brought to life by Major Partners: the Visa Skyline Drive-in at CityView and the RBC Lakeside Drive-in at Ontario Place, which hosted close to 3,000 Festival goers over 10 days

A nod to hometown heroes and frontline workers with recognition at the RBC Lakeside Drive-in at Ontario Place and through a dedicated frontline workers digital screening sponsored by Fasken

TIFF’s Reel Magic programme sponsored by Sun Life, went completely digital, offering community groups across the GTA, free access to digital Festival film screenings

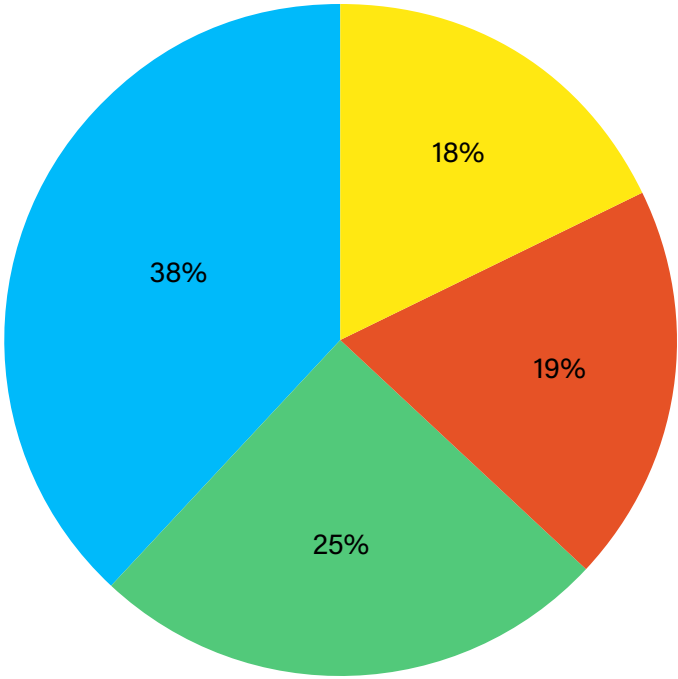
Several collaborations with Bell Media, including the first-ever broadcast of the TIFF Tribute Awards; TIFF’s Stay-at-Home Cinema initiatives in the spring and summer, via Crave, in response to the initial lock-down and the closure of cinemas; and five Best of TIFF Reunions during the 2020 Festival

A strong focus on supporting, lifting, and promoting under-represented voices in film through the L’Oréal Paris Women Make Cinema campaign, the TIFF Tribute Emerging Talent Award presented by L’Oréal Paris and supported by MGM, and Canada Goose’s Amplify Voices Awards

B.L.A.C.K supported the return of the Planet Africa party, with a livestreamed a dance party with DJ Dave Campbell and Mr. Akil D

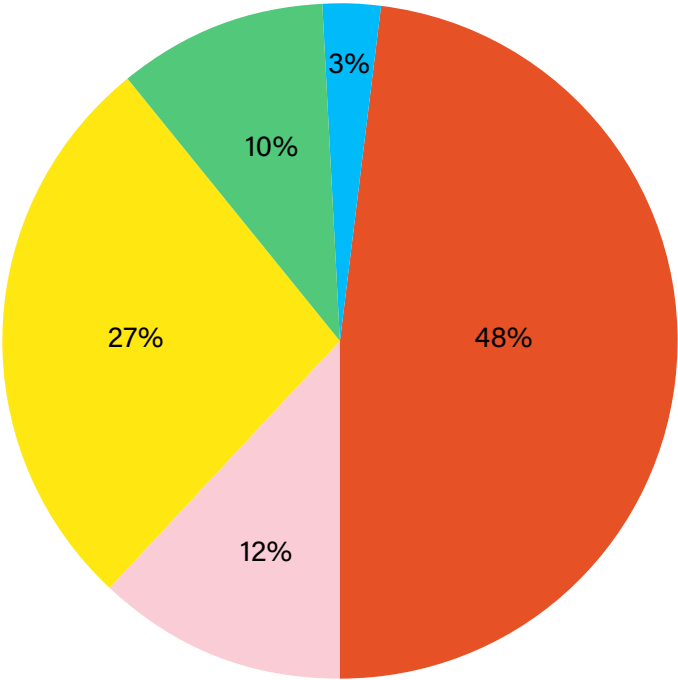


# Finance



## Revenue

<div></div> Earned revenue	\$4,873,764
Contributed revenue (fundraising):	
<div></div> Sponsorship	\$6,675,250
<div></div> Government grants	\$10,000,669
<div></div> Philanthropic donations	\$4,586,276
Subtotal	\$21,262,195
Total revenue	\$26,135,959



## Expenses

<div></div> Programming and Operation of TIFF Bell Lightbox	\$11,307,555
<div></div> Marketing and communications	\$2,969,341
<div></div> General and administrative	\$6,325,159
<div></div> Sponsorship, philanthropic and government fundraising	\$2,275,807
<div></div> Amortization	\$780,334
Total expenses	\$23,658,196
Excess of revenue over expenses	\$2,477,763

*The excess of revenue over expenses is used to fund the scheduled annual interest and principal payments of the long term debt of the Toronto International Film Festival Inc.*



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Thomas Zimmermann  
Anonymous (2)

**LIFETIME HONORARY PATRONS**  
George & Gail Anthony  
Dusty & Joan Cohl  
William Marshall & Sari Ruda Marshall  
Henk & Yanka Van der Kolk

\*Supporters of 10 years  
\*\*Supporters of 15 years or more  
\*\*\*Supporters of 20 years or more





**tiff**