



THE NFB FILM CLUB PROGRAM

FALL-WINTER 2019-2020

CONTACT

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JOIN THE CLUB!

The NFB Film Club gives public libraries the opportunity to offer their patrons free screenings of films from the NFB's rich collection. In each Film Club program, you'll find films for both adults and children: new releases exploring hot topics, timely and thought-provoking documentaries, award-winning animation, and a few timeless classics as well.

The NFB Film Club offers free memberships to all Canadian public libraries.

Joining the NFB Film Club is easy; all you need to do is host one or more free screenings.

STEP 1

Decide which film(s) you're interested in from the available titles, which can be found by clicking on the [NFB Film Club page](#).

STEP 2

Send your selection(s) by e-mail to f.francois@nfb.ca and include your screening date(s), time(s), and location(s).

STEP 3

You'll receive DVDs in the mail or a link via e-mail to download the films.

To help you promote your screening, you'll have access to our [media space](#) to retrieve the files of the promotional materials available for each film (images, posters, one-sheets, etc.). As the films in our collection are bound by public-performance copyright restrictions, admission to these screenings must be free of charge, and DVDs must be returned to me by regular mail after your screening. In exchange, all we ask is that you keep us in the loop and send us the total audience attendance numbers following your event.

A collaborative initiative, the Film Club works with libraries to make the NFB's rich film collection accessible to communities across the country. Participation in the Film Club can help you connect with your community in new ways, increase your circulation, attract regular patrons and entice new members to come to film screenings.

NEW RELEASES: DOCUMENTARIES

PROGRAM A



FIRST STRIPES

JEAN-FRANÇOIS CAISSY | 2018 | 106 MIN 20 S (IN FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES)

Thrown into an intensive 12-week training program, young civilians are gradually transformed into Canadian Armed Forces soldiers. An inexperienced and diverse cohort of women and men adapts as best they can to a world governed by its own rules and values. *First Stripes* takes viewers on a nuanced and compassionate cinematic journey into the heart of military training and its necessary indoctrination

process. With mixed feelings of apprehension and eagerness, the recruits gradually join the ranks of what will become their new family. They understand that from now on, the group takes precedence over the individual, and country comes before self. With his rich and striking visual style, Jean-François Caissy takes a fascinating look at this unique career choice.

PROGRAM B



WHAT WALAA WANTS

CHRISTY GARLAND | 2018 | 89 MIN 24 S (IN ARABIC WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES)

Raised in a refugee camp in the West Bank while her mother was in prison, Walaa is determined to become one of the few women in the Palestinian Security Forces—not easy for a girl who breaks all the rules. Despite discouragement from her family, even her beloved brother Mohammed, Walaa applies and gets in. But her own rebellious behaviour and complicated relationship with her mother are challenging, as are the

circumstances under which she lives. Following Walaa from age 15 to 21, with an intimate POV, *What Walaa Wants* is the compelling story of a defiant young girl navigating formidable obstacles, learning which rules to break and follow, and disproving the negative predictions from her surroundings and the world at large.

NEW RELEASES: DOCUMENTARIES

PROGRAM C



HIGH WIRE

CLAUDE GUILMAIN | 2019 | 82 MIN 21 S (IN ENGLISH AND FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES)

In March 2003, the United States and a coalition of allies invaded Iraq, in the name of democracy and to avenge the attacks of September 11, 2001. This illegal intervention caused the downfall of Saddam Hussein, led to chaos in the region, and opened a Pandora's box of evils whose disastrous consequences are still being felt throughout the Middle East. Canada declined to follow the Bush administration into the bloody conflict. Now, providing

a much-needed historical perspective, Claude Guilmain's *High Wire* takes us behind the scenes to shine a light on this poorly understood episode, while denouncing the interventionist approach to foreign policy taken by the United States after the end of World War II. Featuring accounts from several key players, the film reminds us of the terrible price we pay when diplomacy fails.

PROGRAM D



BECOMING LABRADOR

**ROHAN FERNANDO, TAMARA SEGURA, JUSTIN SIMMS | 2018 | 70 MIN 19 S
(IN ENGLISH AND FILIPINO WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES)**

In the stark Labrador interior, a growing number of Filipino workers have recently landed in the small regional hub of Happy Valley-Goose Bay, travelling halfway around the world for jobs they hope will offer their families new opportunities and a better life. *Becoming Labrador* follows a handful of those women and men as they make a place for themselves in Labrador's profoundly foreign climate and culture, and deal with the unexpected costs of living far from parents, partners and children.

Combining documentary footage with interpretive animation, and bringing together the vision of three of Canada's best young directors, *Becoming Labrador* is a remarkable feat of collaborative authorship. It offers an intimate account of the radical mobility and displacement of the modern world, and of how tenaciously people hold to their roots in the midst of fundamental change.

NEW RELEASES: DOCUMENTARIES

PROGRAM E



THE DEVIL'S SHARE

LUC BOURDON | 2017 | 102 MIN (IN ENGLISH AND FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES)

Quebec, on the cusp of the 1960s. The province is on the brink of momentous change. In the latest film by the director of *The Memories of Angels*, Luc Bourdon offers us yet another tapestry woven from Quebec's collective memory. Deftly selecting clips from nearly 200 films from the National Film Board of Canada archives, Bourdon crafts a new and distinctive

perspective on the Quiet Revolution. He worked closely with editor Michel Giroux to reinterpret archival footage in his unique, lyrical portrait of a period when the pace of change in the province suddenly accelerated and Quebec society was profoundly transformed.

PROGRAM F



WALL

CAM CHRISTIANSEN | 2017 | 79 MIN 5 S

WALL is a feature-length animated film written by and starring preeminent British playwright and two-time Academy Award® nominee (*The Hours*, *The Reader*) David Hare, whom *The Washington Post* referred to as “the premiere political dramatist writing in English.” The film follows the writer on a trip to the Middle East to explore the impact the wall separating Israel and Palestine has had on the people of the region. Using

advanced animation tools and 3D motion-capture footage, filmmaker Cam Christiansen employs a distinctive handcrafted approach that conveys the reality of the 708-kilometre barrier as no film has before. Rich with rhythmic, raw imagery, the film is framed by Hare's journey, as both his heart and mind are shaken by the incongruities and contradictions of life in the shadow of the wall.

NEW RELEASES: DOCUMENTARIES

PROGRAM G



TRUE NORTH

EPISODES 1, 2, 3

THE ROOTS & THE RISE | RYAN SIDHOO | 2018 | 23 MIN 40 S

ELIJAH I: JUST A KID | RYAN SIDHOO | 2018 | 15 MIN 37 S

KING NATION I: PLAY SMALL, WIN BIG | RYAN SIDHOO | 2018 | 23 MIN 44 S

True North provides an intimate look at the rise of the Toronto hoop dream through the stories of five young athletes inspired by the wave of NBA talent coming from their city. In this nine-part docu-series, director Ryan Sidhoo captures the raw emotion of navigating today's youth basketball machine through the eyes of the city's players, coaches and families at the centre of it.

Elijah Fisher is the top-ranked 12-year-old in the world. We go beyond the rankings and social media clout to see how a family manages the expectations that come with raising a child in the spotlight. King Nation AAU are on the rise but need a floor general. The responsibility falls on the shoulders of five-foot-nine point guard Keone Davis, 15.

PROGRAM H



TRUE NORTH

EPISODES 4, 5, 6

CORDELL I: TRUST THE PROCESS | RYAN SIDHOO | 2018 | 15 MIN 44 S

KING NATION II: THE NORTH'S AMERICAN DREAM | RYAN SIDHOO | 2018 | 15 MIN 44 S

ELIJAH II: DEFEND YOUR CROWN | RYAN SIDHOO | 2018 | 15 MIN 43 S

True North provides an intimate look at the rise of the Toronto hoop dream through the stories of five young athletes inspired by the wave of NBA talent coming from their city. In this nine-part docu-series, director Ryan Sidhoo captures the raw emotion of navigating today's youth basketball machine through the eyes of the city's players, coaches and families at the centre of it.

Cordell Veira enters his senior year playing for an underdog program. Inspired by his father and the NBA players from his suburb, Jalen Celestine, 15, knows the NBA is within reach. Along with the legendary coach, Ro Russell, Elijah heads to the Fab 48 Tournament in Vegas and a middle-school ranking camp in D.C.

NEW RELEASES: DOCUMENTARIES

PROGRAM I



TRUE NORTH

EPISODES 7, 8, 9

KING NATION III: BRIGHT LIGHTS | RYAN SIDHOO | 2018 | 23 MIN 45 S

CORDELL II: FOR MY FAMILY | RYAN SIDHOO | 2018 | 15 MIN 46 S

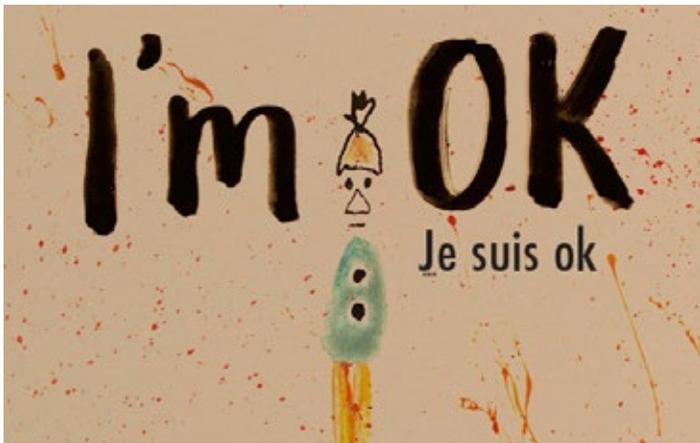
TRUE NORTH FINALE: MAKING IT | RYAN SIDHOO | 2018 | 15 MIN 43 S

True North provides an intimate look at the rise of the Toronto hoop dream through the stories of five young athletes inspired by the wave of NBA talent coming from their city. In this nine-part docu-series, director Ryan Sidhoo captures the raw emotion of navigating today's youth basketball machine through the eyes of the city's players, coaches and families at the centre of it.

The King Nation trilogy closes with Malachi Ndur, 15, who has gone from small-town kid to major prospect. Without an offer, Cordell's season is winding down. A slate of big games offers him one last chance to catch the eye of a Division 1 coach. We catch up with each player in the midst of their journey as they reflect on their road ahead.

NEW RELEASES: ANIMATION

PROGRAM J



I'M OK

ELIZABETH HOBBS | 2018 | 6 MIN (NO DIALOGUE)

It's 1915, and when Expressionist artist Oskar Kokoschka's tempestuous love affair with Alma Mahler ends dramatically, he volunteers to fight in the First World War. This animated film explores Kokoschka's frame of mind following his heartbreak and the traumatic experience of war, by reflecting on the artist's prints and paintings.



A SHORT FILM ABOUT TEGAN & SARA

ANN MARIE FLEMING | 2018 | 4 MIN 46 S

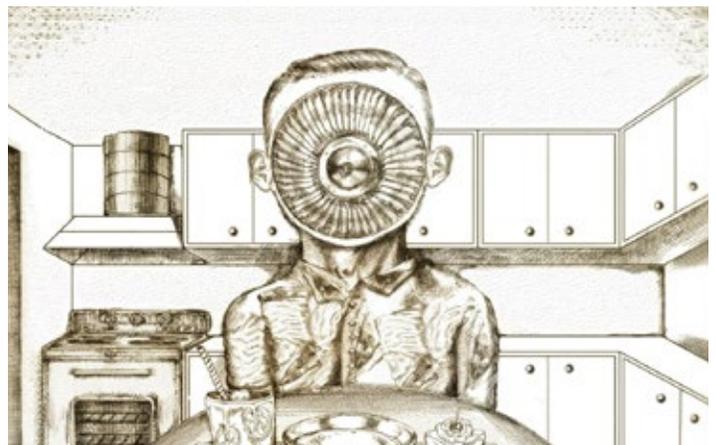
In this joyful portrait, filmmaker Ann Marie Fleming animates the formative days and musical career of Calgary-born identical twins Tegan and Sara Quin. Their remarkable journey over the past 20 years has often intersected with notions of identity—as artists, as individuals, as sisters, as queer women, and as leading activists in the LGBTQ community.



ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR

ALISON SNOWDEN, DAVID FINE | 2018 | 14 MIN 24 S

Dealing with what comes naturally isn't easy, especially for animals. In the latest animated short from the Oscar®-winning team of Alison Snowden and David Fine (*Bob's Birthday*), five animals meet regularly to discuss their inner angst in a group therapy session led by Dr. Clement, a canine psychotherapist.



TURBINE

ALEX BOYA | 2018 | 8 MIN 19 S (NO DIALOGUE)

A war pilot crash-lands through his apartment window. When his wife returns from work, she discovers that her husband's face has been replaced by an airplane turbine. He's also fallen in love with their kitchen ceiling fan. To save their faltering marriage, his wife decides she will no longer let her humanity get in the way of love.

NEW RELEASES: ANIMATION

PROGRAM J (CONTINUED)



BONE MOTHER

DALE HAYWARD, SYLVIE TROUVÉ | 2018 | 8 MIN 21 S

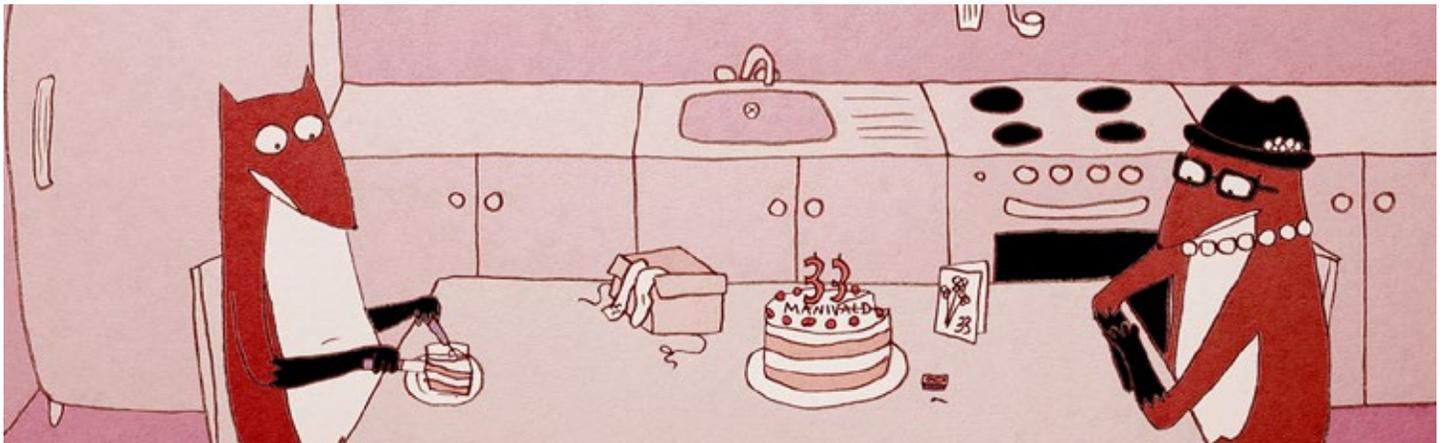
Who dares to disturb the devil's grandmother and enter her slumbering house of bones? Who is foolish enough to betray this immortal nature-spirit? Baba Yaga holds the answers you need, but are they the answers you seek? Tread carefully, for your ambitious schemes could come back to haunt you...



THE ZOO

JULIA KWAN | 2018 | 11 MIN 48 S (NO DIALOGUE)

Inspired by a real bear that once lived in Vancouver's Stanley Park, *The Zoo* tells the story of a polar bear and a Chinese boy who visits him until they're both in their twilight years. Acclaimed filmmaker Julia Kwan adeptly makes a poignant statement about gentrification and abandonment of the elderly, and leaves us with the notion that perhaps home can be found within.



MANIVALD

CHINTIS LUNDGREN | 2017 | 12 MIN 54 S

Manivald, a fox, is turning 33. Overeducated, unemployed and generally uninspired, he lives with his overbearing, retired mother and spends his days learning piano while she makes his coffee and washes his socks. It is an easy life, but not a good one. Their unhealthy co-dependence is about to collapse when the washing machine breaks down and in comes Toomas, a sexy and adventurous wolf repairman, to fix it, and them. Tinged with typically absurdist Estonian humour, and featuring animator Chintis Lundgren's faulty

but loveable anthropomorphic characters, *Manivald* mixes the surreal and the heartfelt in its timely tale of an emotionally un nourished generation. The film pokes fun at the loving but sometimes unhealthy ties that bind parents and children, while celebrating the liberties of independence, self-discovery and growth.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

FOR OTHER FILMS DEALING WITH THE SUBJECT OF WAR, SEE ALSO *HIGH WIRE* AND *FIRST STRIPES* IN THE NEW RELEASES SECTION.

PROGRAM K



ROSIES OF THE NORTH

KELLY SAXBERG | 1999 | 46 MIN 40 S

They raised children, baked cakes... and built world-class fighter planes. Sixty years ago, thousands of women from Thunder Bay and the Prairies donned trousers, packed lunch pails and took up rivet guns to participate in the greatest industrial war effort in Canadian history. Like many other factories across the country from 1939 to 1945, the shop floor at Fort William's Canadian Car and Foundry was transformed

from an all-male workforce to one with 40 percent female workers. *Rosies of the North* traces the story of those women whose lives were changed by their experiences. They describe with wit and humour their role in the production of the Hurricane and Helldiver fighter planes. The film also tells the remarkable story of Elsie MacGill, the first woman in the world to design an airplane.

PROGRAM L



WAR IS NOT A GAME

LODE DESMET | 2010 | 86 MIN 48 S

(IN ENGLISH AND OTHER LANGUAGES WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES)

A documentary based on the experiences of eight soldiers at war on several continents. Lode Desmet reveals their helplessness in regard to the many international agreements aimed at regulating armed conflict, which they have been supposed to apply on the battlefield since the first Geneva Convention was signed in 1864. Some of them feel like scapegoats, while others feel no qualms about war and simply

follow orders. The film looks at the international treaties ratified up to the present by our governments and assesses what these choices imply for the human race. By juxtaposing testimony on a planetary scale with war archives, film clips and video games, Desmet challenges our attitudes to war and its consequences for all the world's citizens and for the combatants.

HOCKEY STORIES

PROGRAM M



JUNIOR

ISABELLE LAVIGNE, STÉPHANE THIBAUT | 2007 | 95 MIN 58 S (IN FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES)

Reflecting our society, the world of junior hockey seems more and more obsessed with competition. Without making any judgments, *Junior* gives us a fascinating behind-the-scenes look at our national sport. Taking in one complete season with the Baie-Comeau Drakkar, this film reveals the daily lives of managers and players on this Quebec Major Junior Hockey League team. Admired and treated like professionals, junior hockey players are already stars whose lives have very little

margin of error. They are also teenagers as young as 16, who are already gambling with their future. Trainers, shareholders, agents, scouts and parents: all eyes are fixed on these elite young players, even though only a tiny number of them will succeed in playing at the highest level. *Junior* offers a real-life portrait of an environment that engenders deep emotions.

PROGRAM N



WHEN HOCKEY CAME TO BELFAST

LINDA CONWAY | 2004 | 50 MIN

The striking story of how Canadian ice hockey is transcending religious lines. Paul and Andrew are friends who met through their shared love of ice hockey. Like other 15-year-olds, they hang out, listen to music and play sports. However, Belfast is a city steeped in decades of religious violence. Paul is Catholic and Andrew is Protestant, and being friends means risking their safety in a divided city. Bringing Northern Irish youth

together in a shared love of the game, the rink gives boys and girls a haven from the turf warfare that pervades their lives. "When you're on the ice, you don't really think about Protestants and Catholics," says Andrew. "You just get on to play the sport with whoever's there."

HOCKEY FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION

PROGRAM 0



THE RINK

GILLES CARLE | 1963 | 10 MIN (NO DIALOGUE)

A Sunday afternoon at a community skating rink. Music urges everyone to strike out boldly, even toddlers who've only recently learned to walk. Unstaged and unrehearsed, this film has the zest of a bright winter's day.



HERE'S HOCKEY!

LESLIE MCFARLANE | 1953 | 10 MIN 40 S

Hockey from the inside out, showing why it's Canada's most popular sport. From the Pee-Wee division to the Bantam league, from the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association to the professional stars, the film reveals what it takes to make a hockey player.



SHINNY: THE HOCKEY IN ALL OF US

DAVID BATTISTELLA | 2001 | 72 MIN 51 S

Whether on a spectacular lake set amidst the Rocky Mountains or a frozen patch of the Arctic Ocean, a 200-year-old pond in Nova Scotia or a slew in southern Saskatchewan, Canadians take to the ice to play hockey in all its winter splendour. Men and women, boys and girls, retirees and up-and-comers, prime ministers and plumbers—all are equal on the rink. Director David Battistella

presents the unwritten codes learned on ponds and backyard rinks and passed down from generation to generation. Capturing the nation's favourite game in its purest form, *Shinny: The Hockey in All of Us* focuses on a few of the millions in Canada who have written their own rules of the game.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

THE NFB'S 80TH ANNIVERSARY

AT NFB.CA/80YEARS, DISCOVER 80 FILMS FOR THE NFB'S 80TH ANNIVERSARY. THE SELECTION BELOW IS TAKEN FROM THAT LIST.



BLACK SOUL

MARTINE CHARTRAND | 2000 | 9 MIN 47 S
(NO DIALOGUE)

Martine Chartrand's animated short dives into the heart of Black culture with an exhilarating trip through history. Watch as a young boy traces his roots through the stories his grandmother shares with him about events that shaped their cultural heritage.



THE DANISH POET

TORILL KOVE | 2006 | 14 MIN 26 S
(ENGLISH VERSION)

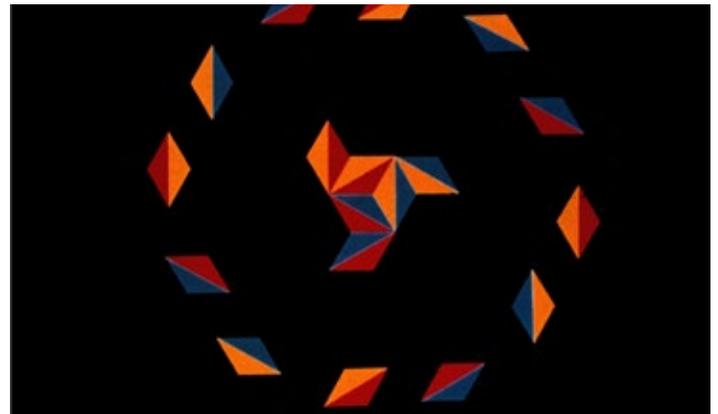
This Oscar®-winning animated short follows Kasper, a poet whose creative well has run dry, on a holiday to Norway to meet the famous writer Sigrid Undset. Kasper attempts to answer some pretty big questions: Can we trace the chain of events that leads to our own birth?



JUKE-BAR

MARTIN BARRY | 1989 | 10 MIN 25 S
(NO DIALOGUE)

This animated short introduces a juke box into a greasy spoon diner overrun with cockroaches. The cockroaches get caught up in the music as their lives are transformed by the arrival of this new machine. But the restaurant's owner has a plan: Will he be able to outsmart his uninvited guests?



NOTES ON A TRIANGLE

RENÉ JODOIN | 1966 | 4 MIN 57 S
(NO DIALOGUE)

In this animated short, the triangle achieves the distinction of principal dancer in a geometric ballet. The instrument is shown splitting into some three hundred transformations, dividing and sub-dividing with grace and symmetry to the music of a waltz. Directed by acclaimed animator René Jodoin, whose credits include *Dance Squared* and several collaborations with Norman McLaren.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

THE NFB'S 80TH ANNIVERSARY (CONTINUED)

AT NFB.CA/80YEARS, DISCOVER 80 FILMS FOR THE NFB'S 80TH ANNIVERSARY. THE SELECTION BELOW IS TAKEN FROM THAT LIST.



MONSIEUR POINTU

ANDRÉ LEDUC | 1975 | 12 MIN 34 S
(NO DIALOGUE)

This animated short about virtuoso stage entertainer *Monsieur Pointu* (Paul Cormier) is screen magic at its best. Here, the man and his violin are literally taken apart—head, feet, limbs, various items of stage attire, bow, strings, and box all go into their own separate acts, with strange and amusing results.



THE SAND CASTLE

CO HOEDEMAN | 1977 | 13 MIN 12 S
(NO DIALOGUE)

This animated short features the sandman and the creatures he sculpts out of sand. These lively creatures build a castle and celebrate the completion of their new home, only to be interrupted by an uninvited guest. Cleverly constructed with nuance, the film leaves interpretation open to the viewer. The film took home an Oscar® for Best Animated Short Film.

CONNECTIONS PROGRAM



PRIVATE EYES

NICOLA LEMAY | 2011 | 14 MIN 22 S
(ENGLISH VERSION)

This 3D stereoscopic animation tells the story of Matthew, a boy who's not afraid of the dark. Since he's been in darkness all his life, Matthew has eyes where other people only have hands, feet or ears. It's Matthew's birthday this week, and he's very curious about the surprise his parents are preparing for him. Will he be able to find it?



LE MERLE

NORMAN MCLAREN | 1958 | 4 MIN
(NO DIALOGUE)

In this animated film, Norman McLaren imparts unusual activity to an old French-Canadian nonsense song. Simple white cut-outs on pastel backgrounds, many by Evelyn Lambart, provide lively illustrations. The folksong "Mon Merle" is sung in French by the Trio Lyrique of Montreal.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

CONNECTIONS PROGRAM (CONTINUED)



JOHN AND MICHAEL

SHIRA AVNI | 2006 | 10 MIN 28 S
(NO DIALOGUE)

John and Michael pays homage to two men with Down syndrome who shared an intimate and profoundly loving relationship that deeply affected the filmmaker. Animated with clay backlit on glass, the film shimmers like stained glass in motion. Narrator Brian Davis, also intellectually challenged, brings the men alive with great sensitivity. The audience shares in the various emotions that infuse their everyday living.



ASTHMA TECH

JONATHAN NG | 2006 | 7 MIN 9 S
(ENGLISH VERSION)

Young Winston is burdened by the hardships of chronic asthma and isn't able to participate in the everyday activities of his peers and classmates. He copes with this predicament through his vivid imagination and with paper and crayons, and on one particularly rainy afternoon his talents and skills save the day.



BULLY DANCE

JANET PERLMAN | 2000 | 10 MIN 14 S
(NO DIALOGUE)

The "stick people" in *Bully Dance* are imaginary, but this gritty tale is all too familiar. Like the dance beat pulsating throughout the film, the bully's intimidation of a smaller victim is unrelenting; no one stops the dance until serious harm is inflicted.



MATRIOSKA

CO HOEDEMAN | 1970 | 4 MIN 46 S
(NO DIALOGUE)

This is a dance of Russian dolls, as lively in its way as any performance of the Moiseyev Company. But these are painted wooden dolls, hollow inside and of graded sizes so that the largest holds all the rest. What the animator does with them makes for a charming film fantasy.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

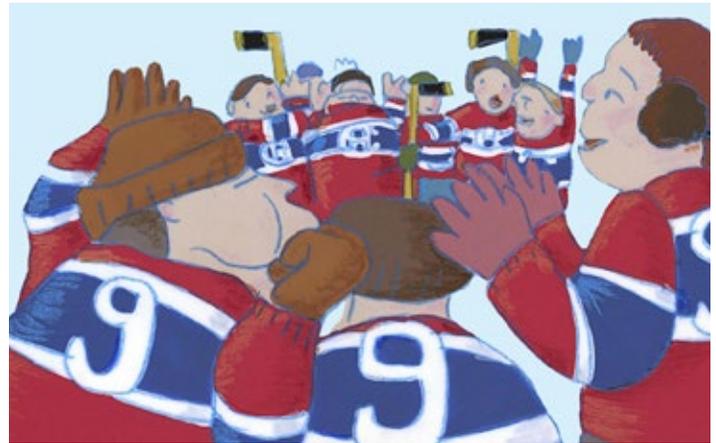
HOCKEY PROGRAM



WAPOS BAY: THERE'S NO I IN HOCKEY

DENNIS JACKSON | 2005 | 24 MIN
(ENGLISH VERSION)

Talon and his cousin T-Bear play on the same hockey team, but their relationship becomes strained when they both try to win the attention of Melanie, a girl on an opposing team. All three are playing in a hockey tournament at the Wapos Bay Winter Festival.



THE SWEATER

SHELDON COHEN | 1980 | 10 MIN 21 S
(ENGLISH VERSION)

In this classic animated short, Roch Carrier recounts the most mortifying moment of his childhood. At a time when all his friends worshipped Maurice "Rocket" Richard and wore his number 9 Canadiens hockey jersey, the boy was mistakenly sent a Toronto Maple Leafs jersey from Eaton's.



GASTON'S RECITAL

ANDRÉ MELANÇON | 1974 | 21 MIN 47 S (IN FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES)

Sunday, 2 p.m., is zero hour for Gaston. He must be in two places at once: performing at his music recital and playing hockey with his teammates. What's Gaston to do? With the help of an understanding grandfather and his anxious team-mates, Gaston manages to both save the game and play his violin.

With their endearing characters and simple, funny stories firmly rooted in the everyday lives of young people, André Melançon's films about childhood were beloved by an entire generation. A recipient of the Prix Hommage at the Gala du cinéma Québécois in 2015, Melançon was also appointed to the National Order of Quebec in 2013 for his outstanding contribution to Quebec cinema. He wrote and directed more than 30 documentary and fiction films.