



THE NFB FILM CLUB

—
SPRING 2019

CONTACT

Florence François, Programming Agent
514-914-9253 | f.francois@nfb.ca

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



METAMORPHOSIS

NOVA AMI, VELCROW RIPPER | 2018 | 1 H 24 MIN

A poem for the planet, Nova Ami and Velcrow Ripper's *Metamorphosis* takes the pulse of our Earth and bears witness to a moment of profound change: the loss of one world, and the birth of another. *Metamorphosis* captures the true scale of the global environmental crisis. Forest fires consume communities, species vanish, and entire ecosystems collapse. Economic growth, tied to increased speed of resource extraction, has created a machine with the capacity to destroy all life. But

this crisis is also an opportunity for transformation. Through a tidal flow of stunning images, *Metamorphosis* carves a path from the present to the future, and offers a bold new vision for humanity and the world.



LOVE, SCOTT

LAURA MARIE WAYNE | 2018 | 1 H 16 MIN

While walking on the street one night in a small town in Canada, Scott Jones, a gay musician, is attacked and becomes paralyzed from the waist down; what follows is a brave and fragile journey of healing, and the transformation of a young man's life. From the first raw moments in the hospital to a disquieting trip back to the place he was attacked, Scott is constantly faced with the choice of losing himself in waves of grief or embracing love over fear. Throughout his journey,

Scott gives voice to the deep wound of not having his attack recognized as a hate crime by the institutions in power. Filmed over three years, *Love, Scott* offers a window into queer experience, set against a stunning score by Sigur Rós.

NEW RELEASES



PAULINE JULIEN, INTIMATE AND POLITICAL

PASCALLE FERLAND | 2018 | 1 H 17 MIN (IN FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES)

Pauline Julien would have been 90 years old in 2018. Twenty years after her death, this documentary captures the essence of the iconic Quebec singer—a passionately committed and eternally free spirit. Composed of a meticulous selection of interviews, performances and photos drawn from a vast and rich archival collection, *Pauline Julien, Intimate and Political* follows Julien on a journey from the 1950s to the 1990s. Uncompromising and at times vulnerable, the artist tells

her story through personal anecdotes, songs and excerpts from her diary. As the filmmaker sketches the arc of Julien's extraordinary life, including her relationship with poet Gérard Godin, she offers a memorable lesson in Quebec history, painting a portrait of an inspiring woman whose sovereigntist and feminist ideals continue to resonate today.



THE SONG AND THE SORROW

MILLEFIORE CLARKES | 2018 | 42

Musician Catherine MacLellan—the daughter of Canadian singer/songwriting legend Gene MacLellan—grew up surrounded by her father's music. He committed suicide when she was 14. Catherine becomes determined to lift the oppressive burden of silence that accompanies the stigma of mental illness, hoping others can take strength and solace from her story.

The Song and the Sorrow follows her as she journeys to understand her father and face her own struggles with mental illness. Through archival footage and intimate interviews with friends, family members, and musicians who knew and played with Gene—including Anne Murray, Lennie Gallant, and the late Ron Hynes—the film reveals a troubled and loving man who was never at ease with fame or money.

NEW RELEASES



THE ARTISANS

DANIEL LÉGER | 2018 | 51 MIN 27 S (IN FRENCH AND ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES)

The Artisans takes us into the rhythms of daily life at a unique organization, where the workers are as courageous as they are colourful. For more than 35 years, The Artisan Workshop in Memramcook, New Brunswick, has provided employment for people with intellectual disabilities.

Employees at The Artisan perform a range of tasks, including creating decorative objects, woodworking, preparing light

meals, shredding paper, and sorting bottles, cans, and other materials for recycling. More importantly, the centre serves a vital function, providing these adults with a valuable social setting where they can thrive and find personal fulfillment. With *The Artisans*, filmmaker Daniel Léger (*A Sunday at 105*, *Inseparable*) turns his compassionate gaze onto a little-known humanist gem of a place, tucked away in a corner of New Brunswick.



MY WAR

JULIEN FRÉCHETTE | 2018 | 1 H 37 MIN (IN ENGLISH AND FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES)

While much is written about the young Westerners who join ISIS as jihadis, less is reported about the recruitment of combatants by the opposing camp. In recent years, the ranks of the Kurdish forces in Iraq and Syria have swelled unexpectedly with the arrival of some 100 volunteers from North America, Europe and Australia, all of them legal recruits. An intimate portrait of four Western volunteers, Julien Fréchette's *My War* sets out to

uncover their motives, which are often quite complex. Filming them in action and as close as possible to the front, steadfastly refusing to judge or champion, Fréchette brings their troubling stories to life. A compelling inquiry into what causes individuals of differing ages and backgrounds to forsake their comfortable existence for combat in a far-off war.

NEW RELEASES



WHAT IS DEMOCRACY?

ASTRA TAYLOR | 2018 | 1 H 47 MIN

Coming at a moment of profound political and social crisis, *What Is Democracy?* reflects on a word we too often take for granted. Director Astra Taylor's idiosyncratic, philosophical journey spans millennia and continents: from ancient Athens' groundbreaking experiment in self-government to capitalism's roots in medieval Italy; from modern-day Greece grappling with financial collapse and a mounting refugee crisis to the United States reckoning with its racist past and the growing

gap between rich and poor. Featuring a diverse cast—including celebrated theorists, trauma surgeons, activists, factory workers, asylum seekers, and former prime ministers—this urgent film connects the past and the present, the emotional and the intellectual, the personal and the political, in order to provoke and inspire.



THAT HIGHER LEVEL

JOHN BOLTON | 2018 | 1 H 14 MIN (ORIGINAL ENGLISH VERSION WITH FRENCH SUBTITLES)

That Higher Level follows the 100 musicians who make up the National Youth Orchestra of Canada over the course of two months of training and touring across the country. Embedded with the orchestra throughout, filmmaker John Bolton provides an insider's view of these young players as they train with some of the country's top musicians. The film weaves together footage that captures the essence of the training institute and,

eventually, the journey and performances on tour. We witness the sacrifices the students make in pursuit of excellence, as their personalities and talents fuse together to form one exceptional ensemble. Under the pressure of their own expectations, they are emotionally, mentally and physically tested by the challenge of performing some of the greatest classical music ever written.

ANIMATED FILMS TO DISCOVER



THE CIRCUS

NICOLAS BRAULT | 2010 | 7 MIN (WITHOUT WORDS)

In the vestibule of a hospital room, a young boy waits to see his dying mother. The clamour and spiralling movements of bodies around him intensify, forming a grotesque circus—a cacophonous circle that pushes the child back, depriving him of one final touch of his mother's hand.



THE TOOTH

GUY DELISLE | 2017 | 3 MIN

A little boy leaves a tooth under his pillow, but the tooth fairy is a no-show in this whimsical look at being a dad starring the “bad father” from Guy Delisle’s *Le guide du mauvais père*, a popular collection of cartoons that offers a satirical guide to neglectful parenting. A slice of everyday life, courtesy of the [Comic Strip Chronicles](#).



FREAKS OF NURTURE

ALEXANDRA LEMAY | 2018 | 6 MIN

Freaks of Nurture is an animated short about a neurotic mother-daughter relationship inspired by the filmmaker’s own unorthodox upbringing with her single-parent mom, who is also a foster parent and dog breeder. Self-deprecating and bursting with energy, the film reveals that no matter how grown-up we think we are, we never quite stop craving the love and support of a parent.



MY YIDDISH PAPI

ÉLÉONORE GOLDBERG | 2017 | 7 MIN

A young woman decides not to answer a phone call from her grandfather, unaware that it will be his last. When he dies, she is overwhelmed with guilt and regret and can’t sleep. But then she remembers a promise made long ago: to illustrate his wartime adventures as a member of the French Resistance.

ANIMATED FILMS TO DISCOVER (CONT'D)



BAM

HOWIE SHIA | 2015 | 6 MIN (WITHOUT WORDS)

A modern adaptation of the myth of Hercules, *BAM* tells the story of a young boxer struggling to negotiate between his shy, bookish nature and a divinely violent temper. Where does this rage come from? Is it psychological or environmental—or is it something altogether more primordial?



MYSTERY OF THE SECRET ROOM

WANDA NOLAN | 2016 | 5 MIN

Mystery of the Secret Room takes viewers on a spellbinding voyage between the real and the imaginary. An inspiring portrait of family, adversity, and resilience, this richly hued animated short tells the tale of 10-year-old Grace, who uses her creative superpowers to navigate the emotional landscape of her mother's depression.



PANORAMIC CHRONICLE

JEAN-MATTHIEU TANGUY AND LEWIS TRONDHEIM
2017 | 3 MIN

All those silent people on the train. Who are they, anyway? And what are they thinking about? French visual artists and co-directors Lewis Trondheim and Jean-Matthieu Tanguy take great delight in speculating on the above, with style, aplomb, and a little help from singer/musician Thomas Fersen, whose narration amusingly adopts the tone of an ad man.



DEYZANGEROO

EH SAN GHARIB | 2017 | 4 MIN (WITHOUT WORDS)

Many cultures have viewed the lunar eclipse as a powerful reminder of the Day of Judgment. People chant prayers, sing songs and recite poetry, all in an effort to communicate with nature and the cosmic forces in the sky. They ask for forgiveness or understanding, as they yearn for what they fear is lost. This animated short is the embodiment of this ritual.

ANIMATED FILMS TO DISCOVER (CONT'D)



SKIN FOR SKIN

CAROL BEECHER AND KEVIN D.A. KURYTNIK | 2017 | 15 MIN (WITHOUT WORDS)

Skin for Skin is a dark allegory of greed and spiritual reckoning set during the early days of the fur trade. In 1823, the Governor of the largest fur-trading company in the world travels across his Dominion, extracting ever-greater riches from the winter bounty of animal furs. In his brutal world of profit and loss, animals are slaughtered to the brink of extinction until the balance of power shifts, and the forces of nature exact their own terrible price. Directors Carol Beecher and Kevin D.A.

Kurytnik have been exploring the art and craft of animation for 30 years. With nods to Melville and Coleridge, they've created a visually stunning contemporary myth about the cost of arrogance and greed.

ASIAN HERITAGE MONTH (MAY)



UP THE YANGTZE

YUNG CHANG | 2007 | 1 H 33 MIN

A luxury cruise boat motors up the Yangtze—the mythic waterway known in China simply as “the river.” See it while you can. The Yangtze is about to be transformed by the biggest hydroelectric dam in history. At the river's edge, a young woman says goodbye to her family as the floodwaters rise towards their small homestead. The Three Gorges Dam—contested symbol of the Chinese economic miracle—provides the epic backdrop for

Up the Yangtze, a dramatic feature documentary on life inside the 21st-century Chinese dream. Chinese-Canadian filmmaker Yung Chang crafts a moving depiction of peasant life, a powerful narrative of contemporary China, and a disquieting glimpse into a future that awaits us all.

ASIAN HERITAGE MONTH (MAY)



THE BOXING GIRLS OF KABUL

ARIEL NASR | 2011 | 52 MIN (IN PASHTO WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES)

A group of young Afghan women strive to become world-class boxers, training without the benefit of even the most basic facilities at the national stadium, where only recently women were executed by the Taliban. They are loyal to their country, yet dare to defy its traditions. Inspired by their tenacious coach, these courageous boxers openly dream of their future, and even a shot at the 2012 Olympics. Committed to a

challenging regime, and enduring family and societal pressures to abandon their training, the women are determined to fight their way onto an international stage. *The Boxing Girls of Kabul* reveals a compelling journey of both personal and political transformation, and illustrates the power of fighting for what you believe in.



MY SON SHALL BE ARMENIAN

HAGOP GOUDSOUZIAN | 2004 | 1 H 20 MIN (IN FRENCH AND ARMENIAN WITH FRENCH SUBTITLES)

What does it mean to be Armenian? An emotional journey, *My Son Shall Be Armenian* follows filmmaker Hagop Goudsouzian and five other Canadians of Armenian descent as they return to the land of their ancestors in search of survivors of the 1915 genocide that saw one and a half million Armenians massacred by the Turkish army. "I made this film so my son could grow up happy and proud about his origins," says Hagop Goudsouzian,

who has dedicated this documentary to his father and young son. The filmmaker weaves moving accounts of spirited centenarians with the comical and touching reactions of the New World travellers, such as Patrick Masbourian. The result is a dignified and poignant film about the need to make peace with the past in order to move into the future.

NATIONAL INDIGENOUS HISTORY MONTH (JUNE) PROGRAM 1



CHILDREN OF THE NOMAD

EVELYNE PAPATIE | 2018 | 2 MIN
(IN FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES)

Hailing from a family of nomads, the filmmaker writes a magnificent, poetic letter to her children in which the bicycle becomes a powerful symbol of heritage, transference, and coming together. Kitcisakik filmmaker and producer Evelyne Papatie is actively involved in the Wapikoni Mobile travelling studio initiative.



SHAMAN

ECHO HENOCHÉ | 2017 | 5 MIN (WITHOUT WORDS)

Growing up, Echo Henoche loved hearing her grandfather, renowned Inuk artist Gilbert Hay, recount stories and legends passed down through countless generations. Her favourite story was about the white stone atop Mount Sophie, just across the harbour from her home of Nain, Nunatsiavut, on the North Coast of Labrador.



TSHITASHUN (NUMBER) – WAPIKONI MOBILE 2008

JAMES PICARD | 2009 | 3 MIN (IN INNU WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES)

In Betsiamites, everyone uses French instead of Innu for numbers. A charming film that will help you see why! Made with the guidance of the [Wapikoni Mobile](#) travelling studio, launched in 2004 to give Indigenous youth the opportunity to speak out using video and music.



QALLUNAAT! WHY WHITE PEOPLE ARE FUNNY

MARK SANDIFORD | 2006 | 52 MIN

This documentary pokes fun at the ways in which Inuit have been treated as “exotic” documentary subjects by turning the lens onto the strange behaviours of *Qallunaat* (the Inuit word for white people), a term that refers less to skin colour than to a certain state of mind.

NATIONAL INDIGENOUS HISTORY MONTH (JUNE) PROGRAM 2



WRITING THE LAND

KEVIN LEE BURTON | 2007 | 7 MIN 47 S

The Musqueam people have lived for thousands of years in and around what is now the city of Vancouver. *Writing the Land* combines film language with Hunkamenum words to recreate Musqueam elder Larry Grant's experience of rediscovering his language and cultural traditions. The enduring power of language to shape perception and create memory is etched onto the wind and water.



TO WAKE UP THE NAKOTA LANGUAGE

LOUISE BIGEAGLE | 2017 | 6 MIN

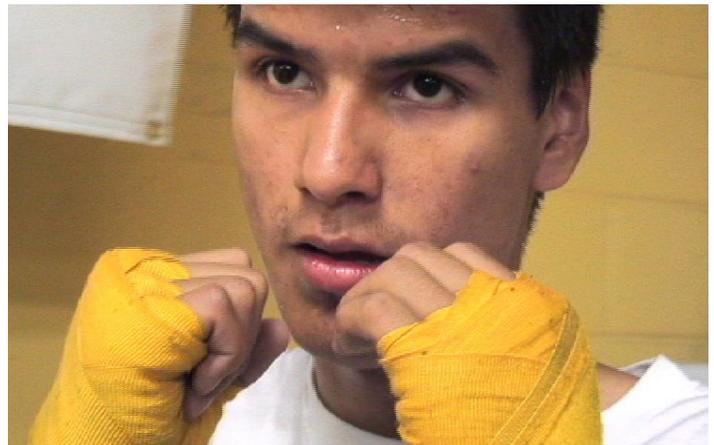
There are only a handful of Nakota speakers left in Saskatchewan. Armand McArthur is the last fluent Nakota speaker in Pheasant Rump First Nation, and is working to teach Nakota to the community and preserve it for generations to come.



ETLINISIGU'NIET (BLEED DOWN)

JEFF BARNABY | 2015 | 5 MIN (WITHOUT WORDS)

Jeff Barnaby's *Etlinisigu'niet* destroys any remaining shreds of the mythology of a fair and just Canada. His message is clear: we are still here. Attempts to "get rid of the Indian problem" have failed. The future is coming. Tanya Tagaq's "Tulugak" carries the voice of the land through Barnaby's poem of rage.



FIGHT

ERVIN CHARTRAND | 2012 | 44 MIN

In *Fight*, we meet Rene Catcheway and Melvin Delorme, two Indigenous youths with troubled backgrounds who are at risk of not graduating from high school. Enter teacher Randy Baleski, a former boxer who believes in the power of the sport to turn young men's lives around. But will it be enough to overcome a lifetime of hard knocks?

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM 1 (8+)



WAPOS BAY: LONG GOODBYES

DENNIS JACKSON | 2011 | 1 H 12 MIN

Talon and Raven learn that their dad, Alphonse, has taken a job in the big city, and their family will have to move away from Wapos Bay. This news takes Talon on a journey of self-discovery as he sets off to complete his bucket list with his friends before they leave. Raven, on the other hand, decides to take matters into her own hands with the clear goal of keeping the family in Wapos Bay. With their whole world being turned upside down,

Talon and Raven must join forces to keep the family together before it's too late. An animated feature based on the popular *Wapos Bay* TV series, which offers a fascinating and often humorous portrait of a northern Indigenous community from the perspective of its children.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM 2 (5+)



BIG MOUTH

ANDREA DORFMAN | 2012 | 8 MIN

This animated short tells the story of Trudy, a little girl who is equal parts truthful and rude. A bright-minded and quick-witted child, Trudy has an unfiltered and deeply curious way of looking at the world. Here, events force her to question what it means to speak the truth, and she comes to understand how our differences make us unique.



MOLLY IN SPRINGTIME

PIERRE-LUC GRANJON | 2009 | 27 MIN

This puppet animated short tells a medieval tale of treachery and love. It's carnival time in Balthasarville, and the scoundrel Bonifacio is scheming to overthrow Léon and become King Quack. But he's outsmarted by Molly Gingerbread and her friend Hedgehog, who manage to save the townspeople Bonifacio has poisoned.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM 2 (CONT'D) (5+)



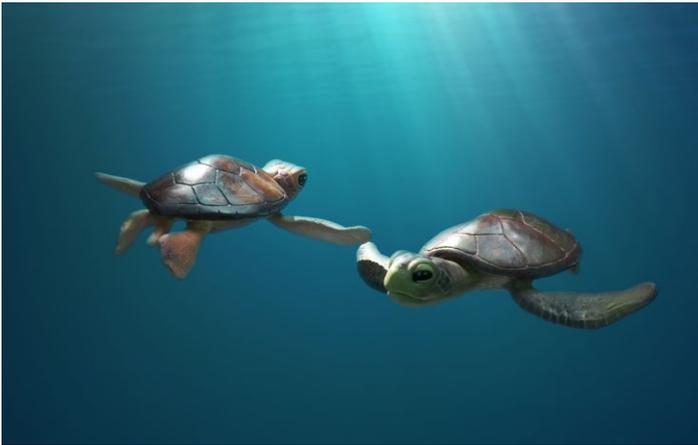
BONIFACIO IN SUMMERTIME

PIERRE-LUC GRANJON AND ANTOINE LANCIAUX | 2011 | 26 MIN

Bonifacio in Summertime continues the adventures of Princess Molly and her three best friends. The queen of the Kingdom of Skedaddle has fallen under the influence of the strange but sweet-talking Bonifacio, a teller of tall tales in whom she sees a new husband. While visiting her mother, Princess Molly discovers the hoax: the swindler is really only interested in the famous Skedaddle apples that would endow whoever possessed

them with the power to control everything. Will Molly and her friends be able to stop the crafty liar from skedaddling with the magic fruit? *Bonifacio in Summertime* is a colourful animated film that is sure to delight children of all ages, whether they're 7 or 77.

TD SUMMER READING CLUB: NATURAL WORLD (6+)



A SEA TURTLE STORY

KATHY SHULTZ | 2012 | 9 MIN 51 S (WITHOUT WORDS)

A Sea Turtle Story is a moving and exquisite stop-motion animated film that chronicles the life cycle of this critically endangered species. Capturing the beauty of the ecosystems that sea turtles inhabit, the film is ideal for all audiences, and for teaching young and old alike about these fascinating creatures of the sea.



LIGHTNING

SYLVAIN CHARBONNEAU | 2000 | 1 MIN 15 S

This video from the *Science Please!* collection uses archival footage, animated illustrations and amusing narration to explain what causes the electrical discharge we see as lightning. Got a science question? Got a minute? The video clips in the *Science Please!* collection offer humorous but rigorously accurate explanations of scientific discoveries and phenomena we encounter in our daily lives.



GRAVITY

SYLVAIN CHARBONNEAU | 2000 | 1 MIN 15 S

This video from the *Science Please!* collection uses archival footage, animated illustrations and amusing narration to explain what keeps us down to Earth. Got a science question? Got a minute? The video clips in the *Science Please!* collection offer humorous but rigorously accurate explanations of scientific discoveries and phenomena we encounter in our daily lives.



THE MOON CHANGES

SYLVAIN CHARBONNEAU | 2000 | 1 MIN 15 S

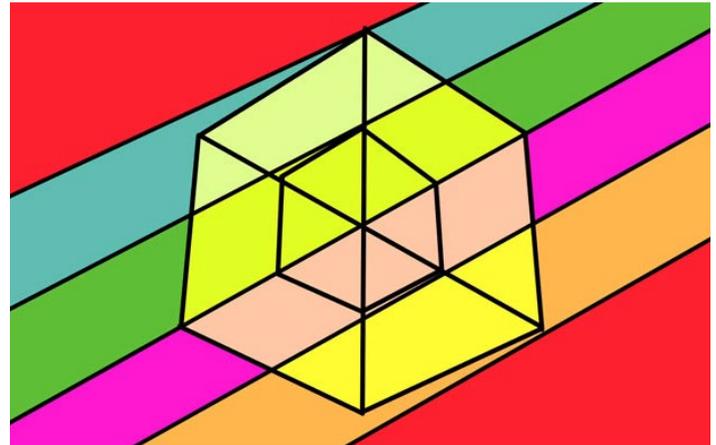
This video from the *Science Please!* collection uses archival footage, animated illustrations and amusing narration to explain what causes the different phases of the moon. Got a science question? Got a minute? The video clips in the *Science Please!* collection offer humorous but rigorously accurate explanations of scientific discoveries and phenomena we encounter in our daily lives.



RUZZ AND BENN

PHILIPPE JULIEN | 2005 | 24 MIN 46 S
(WITHOUT WORDS)

Two inner-city kids attempt to fly a kite amid the skyscrapers and apartment blocks. One fateful day, their toy breaks free. In searching for it, the youngsters stumble upon a fabulous realm: a glorious jumble of odds and ends hidden away among the dreary grey buildings.



SCIENTIFIQ PIQNIQ

PALOMA DAWKINS | 2013 | 1 MIN 28 S
(WITHOUT WORDS)

An adventure through the cosmic unveiling of the beautiful and strange macro/micro structures that unite us with the Universe. This short was made for the ninth edition of the NFB's apprenticeship program for emerging Canadian animators, [Hothouse](#).



MAQ AND THE SPIRIT OF THE WOODS

PHYLLIS GRANT | 2006 | 8 MIN 29 S

This animated short tells the story of Maq, a Mi'kmaq boy who realizes his potential with the help of inconspicuous mentors. When an elder in the community offers him a small piece of pipestone, Maq carves a little person out of it. Proud of his work, the boy wants to impress his grandfather and journeys through the woods to find him. Along the path Maq meets a curious traveller named Mi'gmwesu. Together they share

stories, medicine, laughter, and song. Maq begins to care less about making a good impression and more about sharing the knowledge and spirit he's found through his creation. Part of the [Talespinners collection](#), which uses vibrant animation to bring popular children's stories from a wide range of cultural communities to the screen.



A CLOUD'S DREAM

ANDREW HICKS | 2011 | 1 MIN 26 S (WITHOUT WORDS)

Watch as one cloud's imagination soars from the familiar to the unknown on a captivating journey from dusk until dawn. Animated using partial audio waveform data, *A Cloud's Dream* is a stereoscopic particle simulation that explores various cloud formations. This film was made as part of the seventh edition of the NFB's [Hothouse](#) apprenticeship program. Key aspects of Hothouse include the active participation of an experienced mentoring director, a team of NFB technical and

post-production experts who support the filmmakers, and emphasis on the role of the producers and associate producers as creative partners, all of which highlight the collaborative process of NFB filmmaking. [Hothouse](#) takes place over 12 consecutive weeks in the NFB's Montreal Animation Studio. Not merely funding nor school: Hothouse is instead a paid apprenticeship in real-world animation filmmaking.