



Canadian Heritage Film Festival

Friday Feb 18th to
Monday Feb 21st

Gibsons Heritage Playhouse
www.heritagefilmfest.ca
604.886.1579



This festival, hosted by the Sunshine Coast Film Society, is made possible by funding provided through the Department of Canadian Heritage and is produced with the assistance of the Audio-Visual Preservation Trust.



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GIBSONS

SUNSHINE COAST, BC

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CANADIAN HERITAGE FILM FESTIVAL CALENDAR

Friday February 18	Saturday February 19	Sunday February 20	Monday February 21
<p>FESTIVAL PASSES available at the usual outlets or online at www.heritagefilmfest.ca \$55 SCFS Members \$65 New SCFS Members (\$55 + \$10 membership)</p>	<p>Event 2 9am–noon (\$5)</p> <p>Antique FILMS Roadshow with film archivist Emily Staresina</p>	<p>Event 5 9am–noon (Free)</p> <p>NFB Classic Animated Shorts, suitable for the young and young at heart</p>	
<p>TICKETS for individual events are available at the door on a "rush seat" and first come basis.</p> <p>Need a lift? Free shuttle bus offered for Friday's Opening Night Gala. Pick-up from various locations departing from Halfmoon Bay. Reserve: Sunshine Coast Shuttle (a licensed passenger carrier) 604.740.0703</p>	<p>Event 3 Doors: 12:30 1pm–5:30pm (\$10)</p> <p>Keynote address: Preserving Canada's Film Heritage with Guest Speaker Colin Browne</p> <p>Film double bill: Drylanders (70 min) Intermission Goin' down the Road (87 min)</p>	<p>Event 6 Doors: 12:30 1pm–5pm (\$10)</p> <p>Homage to Claude Jutra: A Chairy Tale (10 min) Mon oncle Antoine (110 min) Intermission Claude Jutra: An Unfinished Story (82 min)</p>	<p>Event 8 Doors: 12:30 1pm–4:30pm (\$10)</p> <p>Guy Maddin double bill: Tales from the Gimli Hospital (72 min) Intermission The Saddest Music in the World (100 min)</p>
<p>Tix and passes: 6pm</p> <p>Event 1 Doors: 6:30 7:30–10:30pm (\$15)</p> <p>Opening Night Gala Glad Rags optional; music, hors d'oeuvres, beverages</p> <p>Guest Speaker: Dr. Kay Armatage</p> <p>Back to God's Country (74 min) with live soundtrack by Ken Dalgleish</p>	<p>Event 4 Doors: 7pm 7:30–11:15pm (\$10)</p> <p>Panel: Cinema as Sacred Site</p> <p>The Viking (71 min) Intermission White Thunder (52 min)</p>	<p>Event 7 Doors: 7pm 7:30–11:15pm (\$10)</p> <p>Celebrating the Artist, Joyce Wieland</p> <p>Guest Speaker: Dr. Kay Armatage</p> <p>The Far Shore (105 min) Intermission Artist on Fire (54 min)</p>	<p>Event 9 Doors: 6:30 7:30–10:15pm (\$15)</p> <p>Closing Night Gala First Nations traditional music, food, beverages</p> <p>Skana (27 min)</p> <p>Guest Speaker: Leonard Williams, Kwakiutl Nation</p> <p>In the Land of the War Canoes (47 min) Closing Ceremonies</p>

* Sorry – no admittance to the Theatre once event is in progress. Programme subject to minor changes.

Friday Feb 18

Back to God's Country

David M. Hartford (scen., star Nell Shipman), 1919, bw, 72 min., drama
An epic adventure across Canada's Great White North. Canada's first English language feature, filmed in Alberta. Nell Shipman, filmdom's original action heroine, protects her husband, avenges her father, defeats the villain, and saves the day, always with the help of a dog and her bear, and never looking more beautiful than in her pioneering nude scene.

Saturday Feb 19

Antique FILMS Roadshow

It's time to dig out your old home movies – 8 mm film, Super-8, etc. – the film that you or your grandparents shot and is now stored at the back of a cupboard or in the attic or the basement. Emily Staresina, moving images archivist, will assess its condition, advise you on how to preserve it, and explain how to transfer it to another medium. Limited individual consultations available by appointment, too.

Keynote address: Preserving Canada's Film Heritage

Colin Browne, writer and documentary filmmaker (*Linton Gamer: I Never Said Goodbye*, 2003), teaches in the School for the Contemporary Arts at SFU. He co-founded the Audio-Visual Heritage Association of BC and wrote of the first annotated catalogue of regional filmmaking in Canada, *Motion Picture Production in British Columbia, 1898-1941*.

Drylanders

Donald Haldane, 1963, bw, 70 min., drama
An intimate family saga with an epic theme. The NFB's first English-language feature is the technically flawless story of a family who leave eastern Canada to stake their future on the Saskatchewan prairie. Set between 1907 and 1938, it chronicles the opening of the West and the drought that brought the Depression in the Thirties.



Goin' down the Road

Don Shebib, 1970, col., 87 min., drama
"Rolling into Toronto from the Maritimes, Pete and Joey are ready to kick ass and get some." —C. Ramsay. An impressive piece of social realism, this timeless story gives us two archetypal Canadian males who set out from desolate Cape

Breton with thirty bucks and a battered Chevrolet to find a better and easier life in glittering Toronto.

Panel: Cinema as Sacred Site

An eclectic mixture of ideas on the topic of "Cinema As Sacred Site." Please check the web site www.heritagefilmfest.ca for information.

The Viking

Varick Frissell, George Melford, 1931, 71 min., bw, drama
"Shots that make your hair stand on end." This extraordinary portrait of a people's "dramatic struggle for existence" is set against the backdrop of the icy, oceanic dangers of the Newfoundland seal hunt—and cost 26 lives in the making. Woven into the story is extensive actuality footage, never before recorded on film, of shipboard life and the hunt itself.

White Thunder

Victoria King, 2002, 52 min., col., documentary
What lured the dashing young New York filmmaker onto the undulating ice floes? An absorbing account of V. Frissell's perilous quest to capture a "struggle for existence against an overwhelmingly cruel environment." His pursuit of authenticity would prove fatally treacherous, but *The Viking* was a remarkable testament to the people of Newfoundland, as King's film is to the courage and integrity of Frissell.



Sunday Feb 20

NFB Classic Animated Shorts

A free event, suitable for the young and young at heart. A Sunday morning sampling of animation to entertain the entire family. Check www.heritagefilmfest.ca for more info.

The Chairy Tale

Norman McLaren, Evelyn Lambart, Claude Jutra, 1957, 10 min., experimental short
A surrealist fable in pixillation. Jutra tries to sit on a chair that declines to be sat upon, until... A collaboration with the brilliant McLaren, this fable-without-words shows the daring and originality already present in Jutra's work by the late '50s. Music by Ravi Shankar and Chatur Lal.



Mon oncle Antoine

Claude Jutra, 1971, col., 110 min., drama
"Greatest Canadian film of all time." Jutra's masterwork is a perceptive, subtle, and emotionally devastating portrait of pre-Quiet Revolution Québec. On Christmas Eve in the eastern townships, the villagers converge on the general store. In



the midst of it all is Uncle Antoine, and always somewhere in the background is 15-year-old Benoît, observing.... An unforgettable portrait of a sad, wintry town and the end of innocence.

Claude Jutra: An Unfinished Story

Paule Baillargeon, 2002, col. and bw, 82 min., documentary
A search into the heart of the Jutra mystery. An intimate portrait of the real Claude Jutra, legendary filmmaker and friend. Interviews with greats such as Michel Brault, Bernardo Bertolucci, Genevieve Bujold, and Saul Rubinek shed new light on the complexities of Jutra's character.

The Far Shore

Joyce Wieland, 1976, 105 min., drama
A speculation on the mystery of Tom Thomson's drowning. A gorgeous painterly film, exuding romantic naturalism, this northern love story, rooted in the landscape of the Group of Seven and the realities of the Canadian experience, is a tale of passion both carnal and artistic.

Artist on Fire: The Work of Joyce Wieland

Kay Armatage, 1987, 54 min., documentary
"An astoundingly dynamic piece of filmmaking—an intense marriage between Armatage and Wieland's art." —C. Corbeil, *Globe and Mail*. A richly suggestive portrait of artist Joyce Wieland, pioneer of feminist avant-garde cinema, who explored the crux of nationalism, feminine sexuality, and ecology for more than 30 years in a variety of media.

Monday Feb 21 (Heritage Day)

Tales from the Gimli Hospital

Guy Maddin, 1988, 72 min., bw, drama
"A fascinating portrait of a major filmmaker's first rustlings of genius." Maddin's eccentric, hilarious first feature film still plays the midnight movie circuit. Through an exchange of increasingly bizarre tales told by two patients competing for the nurses' attention, with surreal digressions into puppet

shows, necrophilia, and synchronized swimming, the film eventually reveals the men's intertwined fates.

The Saddest Music in the World

Guy Maddin, 2003, 100 min., col/bw, drama
Set in cold, dark, Depression-era Winnipeg, where a glamorous beer baroness (Isabella Rossellini) organizes a contest to find the saddest music in the world, this film is drenched in the delights of cinema's early days. In Maddin's hilariously infectious fever dream, Winnipeg's winter wonderland emerges in tantalizing Super 8 and 16 mm black and white, punctuated by scenes of saturated colour.

Closing Night Gala

Sunshine Coast Museum and Archives co-present this evening's event. First Nations traditional music will be performed & finger food served. Shendra Hanney will introduce and contextualize her husband's film *Skana*. Leonard Williams, artist, member of the Kwakiutl First Nation, and resident of the Sunshine Coast, will be joined by members of the Kwakiutl Nation from Vancouver Island to describe the present-day world of the Kwakiutls.

Skana

Collin Hanney, 1971, 27 min., col., documentary
We learn about whale behaviour—and our own—from what has gone before. In 1968, the first pod of killer whales was captured and held in net pens on the Sunshine Coast. One was kept for study and training. The only record of that early training, this film traces her initial care, her transfer to the Vancouver Aquarium, and her public performances.

In the Land of the War Canoes

Edward S. Curtis, 1914, bw, 47 min, drama
Magnificent images of a lost world. Photographer Edward S. Curtis spent three years with the Kwakiutl people of Vancouver Island meticulously recreating their way of life before contact with the white man. This story of love and revenge documents magnificent painted war canoes, wonderful native costumes, dancing, and rituals—including a powerful scene of a vision quest.

