

# Cinéfest SUDBURY

INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL  
FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL DU FILM

THE PEOPLE'S FESTIVAL  
C'EST VOTRE FESTIVAL  
18-26 SEP 2021

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: AUGUST 26, 2021**

## **Cinéfest Sudbury announces new 2021 programming**

**SUDBURY** – Cinéfest Sudbury is thrilled to announce selections for the In Full View: Crisis, Conflict, Conscience, Festival Favourites from Canada and Around the World, and Stir Crazy Frights and Fantasies programmes for the 33rd edition of the festival. This year, Cinéfest's Festival Favourites from Canada and Around the World program highlights audience favourites from Canadian and International film festivals.

### **IN FULL VIEW: CRISIS, CONFLICT, CONSCIENCE**

#### ***Mass* [Fran Kranz]**

Years after an unspeakable tragedy tore their lives apart, Richard (Reed Birney), Linda (Ann Dowd), Jay (Jason Isaacs) and Gail (Martha Plimpton), the parents of both the victim and the perpetrator of a deadly shooting, agree to talk privately in an attempt to move forward. In Fran Kranz' writing and directing debut, he thoughtfully examines their journey of grief, anger and acceptance by coming face-to-face with the ones who have been left behind.

#### ***Memoria* [Apichatpong Weerasethakul]**

An orchid farmer visits her ill sister in Bogota. While there, she befriends a French archaeologist in charge of monitoring the construction project and a young musician. Each night, she is bothered by increasingly loud bangs which prevent her from getting any sleep.

### **STIR CRAZY FRIGHTS AND FANTASIES**

#### ***Cyst* [Tyler Russel]**

Paying homage to the B movies and exploitation films of the 1980s, Tyler Russel's *Cyst* follows nurse Patricia (Eva Habermann) on her final day on the job in December 1960. With a steady stream of patients in and out of the office, an intern in training, and her boss, Dr. Guy (George Hardy), awaiting a visit from patent examiners for his newest invention: a machine that uses laser technology to remove skin abnormalities, Patricia is left with a lot to worry about. While Dr. Guy tries to find the perfect patient for his upcoming demonstration of the cyst-pulverizing device called the Get-Gone, nurse Patricia, scarred from a previous trial of the machine, grows increasingly nervous that machine is dangerous and not ready for use. Her fears quickly prove well-founded when Dr. Guy accidentally creates a giant man-eating cyst that begins to tear its way through the office.

#### ***Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>* [Sean S. Cunningham]**

In 1957, a young boy named Jason Voorhees (Ari Lehman) drowned after two camp counsellors chose not to pay any attention to him. The following year, the two camp counsellors responsible for his death are

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brutally murdered, causing Camp Crystal Lake to shutdown indefinitely. Several years later, a descendant of the original camp owners decides to reopen Camp Crystal Lake with the help of a group of teenagers. Having ignored several warnings from local townsfolk not to reopen the summer camp, the group quickly realize that they should have listened as they begin to be stalked and murdered one by one. Sean S. Cunningham's *Friday the 13th* is a classic horror film that helped shape and define the genre for well-over a decade.

### ***Kicking Blood*** [Blaine Thurier]

It's Anna's (Alanna Bale) 24th birthday and the elderly staff at the library where she works quietly mark the occasion with carrot cake and song. Anna, a centuries old vampire, celebrates in style that night by feeding on a co-worker. In a haze of psychedelic blood fueled bliss, Anna fully indulges her addiction. Meanwhile, Robbie (Luke Bilyk), an alcoholic party boy, wakes up in the aftermath of a bender where he blacked out and made out with his pregnant sister's fiancé. After becoming homeless and unemployed, he stands on a bridge contemplating his fate, and meets Anna. A drunk looking for a drink and a vampire looking for a feed, they bond. *Kicking Blood* was filmed in Sudbury and explores the journey out of addiction using the metaphor of vampirism.

### ***Titane*** [Julia Ducournau]

As a child, Alexia (Agathe Rousselle) flees from her family following a severe car crash that resulted in a titanium plate being fitted into her head. As an adult, Alexia is enamoured with cars, performing as a sexed-up showgirl at a motor show—displaying her head scar and profane chest tattoo for all to see. As the motor show's most sexual showgirl, she is highly sought after by both men and women, though her sexual tastes and fantasies lie within the cars themselves. After brutalizing a male fan, Alexia goes on the run and adopts a male identity—changing her name to Adrien, cutting off her hair, binding her breasts, and breaking her nose to appear more masculine. Now, Adrien, who has been missing from her family for nearly ten years, re-introduces herself to her father, Vincent (Vincent Lindon), following a series of bizarre and unexplained crimes.

## **FESTIVAL FAVOURITES FROM CANADA AND AROUND THE WORLD**

### ***Brain Freeze*** [Julien Knafo]

A fertilizer used in a rich gated community becomes the source of a genetic mutation that transforms its residents into zombies. Can a teenager and his baby sister break free from the quarantined island before turning into grass?

### ***Drunk Bus*** [John Carlucci & Brandon LaGnake]

A directionless, young campus bus driver (Tahan) and a punk rock, Samoan security guard named Pineapple (Tangaroa) form an unlikely kinship as they navigate the unpredictable late shift shit show known as



the "drunk bus." Together, they break out of their endless loop and into a world of uncertainty, excitement and incredibly poor decision-making.

### ***El Father Plays Himself*** [Mo Scarpelli]

A young film director returns to Venezuela, inspired to make a film based on his father's life in the Amazon jungle. He casts Father to play himself. What starts as an act of love and ambition—filmmaking to more deeply understand the self, and the other—spirals into a process which confronts Father's struggles with addiction and his life devoid of his son. *El Father Plays Himself* holds a steady lens to the way the act of cinema unearths, binds, heals and destroys.

### ***Fanny: The Right to Rock*** [Bobbie Jo Hart]

Sometime in the 1960s, two Filipina-American sisters got together with other teenage girls to play music. Little did they know their garage band would evolve into the legendary rock group Fanny, the first all-women band to release an LP with a major record label. Despite releasing five critically-acclaimed albums, touring with bands from Slade to Chicago and amassing a dedicated fan base of music legends including David Bowie, Fanny's groundbreaking impact in music was written out of history... until bandmates reunite 50 years later with a new rock record deal. Fighting early barriers of race, gender and sexuality in the music industry, and now ageism, the incredible women of Fanny are ready to claim their hallowed place in the halls of rock 'n' roll fame.

### ***Kímmapiiyipitssini: The Meaning of Empathy*** [Elle- Máijá Tailfeathers]

Follow filmmaker Elle-Máijá Tailfeathers as she creates an intimate portrait of her community and the impacts of the substance use and overdose epidemic. Witness the change brought by community members with substance-use disorder, first responders and medical professionals as they strive for harm reduction in the Kainai First Nation. The community's initial concerns about the harm reduction approach are dispelled as lives are saved and a path to healing becomes clear. In 2019, Elle-Máijá Tailfeathers was a guest at Cinéfest Sudbury for her acclaimed film *The Body Remembers When the World Broke Open*.

### ***Listen*** [Ana Rocha de Sousa]

In the outskirts of London, Portuguese couple and parents of three, Bela (Moniz) and Jota (Garcia), struggle to make ends meet. When a misunderstanding arises at school with their deaf daughter, the British social services grow concerned for the safety of their children. *Listen* portrays the tireless battle of these immigrant parents against the law to keep their family together.

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