

## **WAVELENGTHS PUSHES THE LIMITS OF CINEMATIC ART, FEATURING BOLD, ESSENTIAL WORK FROM SOME OF TODAY'S LEADING AUTEURS AND ARTISTS**

**Including new films by Miguel Gomes, Tsai Ming-liang, Chantal Akerman, Peter Tscherkassky, Sergei Loznitsa, Ben Rivers, Yto Barrada, Francis Alÿs, Evan Johnson and Guy Maddin, Pietro Marcello, Pablo Agüero, Beatrice Gibson, Mathieu Kleyebe Abonnenc, Nicolás Pereda, and a major installation by Apichatpong Weerasethakul**

**TORONTO** — The Toronto International Film Festival®'s Wavelengths programme is pleased to present 54 films, videos and installations by some of the world's most influential auteurs and artists who challenge conventional expression and seek to redefine the art of cinema. Curated by Andréa Picard, with contributions from members of TIFF's international programming team, Wavelengths comprises experimental film and video art, category-defying feature-length films — many of which flout the traditional fact-fiction boundaries and opt instead for cinema at its most expansive — and immersive, captivating installations, which redefine the potential for moving image art.

The 2015 edition features a seductive mix of master filmmakers, award-winning artists and emerging, new talent. Some of the highlights include the critical hit of this year's Cannes, Miguel Gomes' breathtakingly inventive, three-part *Arabian Nights*; disarmingly intimate dialogue-portraits by iconic and iconoclastic auteurs Chantal Akerman and Tsai Ming-liang, respectively; a major new montage film by Ukrainian master, Sergei Loznitsa; World Premieres by Nicolás Pereda, Pablo Agüero, and Mark Lewis; and two important works from a new Italian cinema, Pietro Marcello's exquisite *Bella e perduta*, and Roberto Minervini's powerful and all-too-prescient *The Other Side*.

"This year's Wavelengths is marked by a certain youthful exuberance — one that is caught up in the contradiction of exhibiting energy, inventiveness and ample daring, while taking stock of the world's various states of emergency, on large levels and intimate scales," said Picard. "With renewed faith in the image — abstract ones, even frail ones, and those stemming from reality, remembrance or imagination — the filmmakers and artists in this year's programme are actively proving cinema's singular ability to engage with collective, individual, social and political memory."

Additional highlights of this year's programme include a new short and feature-length film by British filmmaker and artist Ben Rivers; the Festival's first appearance by this year's Baloise Art Prize winners, UK artist Beatrice Gibson and French artist Mathieu Kleyebe Abonnenc; the Abraaj Art Prize winner Yto Barrada; new works by emerging filmmaking talents, Lois Patiño and Nelson Carlo de los Santos Arias; a record number of Canadian (and Toronto) contributions, including the World Premiere of a major new film by Montreal-based experimental filmmaker Daïchi Saïto and two recent discoveries presented in restored archival prints of films by Paul Sharits and by Philippe Garrel.

New to Wavelengths this year, works outside the cinema include the latest installation by Indian-American filmmaker Shambhavi Kaul; a lecture-performance by Toronto-based artist Annie MacDonell and French artist Maïder Fortuné originally commissioned by Le Centre Pompidou's Hors Pistes festival; and TIFF's first collaboration with the Art Gallery of Ontario to present lauded Thai filmmaker and artist, Apichatpong Weerasethakul's installation, *Fireworks (Archives)*, as well as a new work by Corin Sworn and Tony Romano.

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## SHORT FILM PROGRAMMES

### **Wavelengths 1: Fire in the Brain**

Like a fire in the brain that lights up perceptive powers, this programme is a seductively surreal visual exploration of the relationship between image, sound, and movement.

**3D Movie** Paul Sharits, USA (restored archival print courtesy of Anthology Film Archives)

**Fugue** Kerstin Schroedinger, Canada/Germany

**Prima Materia** Charlotte Pryce, USA

**The Fire in My Brain That Separates Us** Benjamin Ramírez Pérez, Germany

**Something Horizontal** Blake Williams, Canada/USA

**The Exquisite Corpus** Peter Tscherkassky, Austria

### **Wavelengths 2: YOLO**

Subjective experience is channeled through artistic collaborations in this programme, which offers YOLO-infused reflections on identity and contemporary dislocation.

**A Distant Episode** Ben Rivers, UK

**An Old Dog's Diary** Shai Heredia and Shumona Goel, India

**The Reminder** Behrouz Rae, USA

**Solo for Rich Man** Beatrice Gibson, UK

**YOLO** Ben Russell, USA/South Africa

**Analysis of Emotions and Vexations** Wojciek Bąkowski, Poland

**Bunte Kuh** Parastoo Anoushahpour, Faraz Anoushahpour and Ryan Ferko, Canada/Germany

### **Wavelengths 3: Light Space Modulator**

This programme explores ways of recording and reshaping space with light, of measuring and mapping our bodily presence and impact vis-à-vis regional, global and abstracted cartographies.

**Navigator** Björn Kämmerer, Austria/Germany

**Théodolitique** David K. Ross, Canada

**Office Space Modulation** Terrarea (Janis Demkiw, Emily Hogg, Olia Mishchenko) Canada

**Palms** Mary Helena Clark, Canada/USA

**Occidente** Ana Vaz, France/Portugal

**Terrestrial** Calum Walter, USA

**Tarlabası** Cynthia Madansky, Turkey

### **Wavelengths 4: Psychic Driving**

Is now a time for outrage? This programme of political statements and personal inquiries breathes new life into the politics of the image.

**Actua1** Philippe Garrel, France (restored archival print courtesy of La Cinémathèque française)

**Time for Outrage!** Friedl vom Gröller, Austria

**Untitled** Behrouz Rae, USA

**Many Thousands Gone** Ephraim Asili, Brazil/USA

**Neither God nor Santa Maria** Samuel M. Delgado and Helena Girón, Spain

**Psychic Driving** William E. Jones, USA

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**UNcirCling** John Creson and Adam Rosen, Canada  
**Engram of Returning** Daïchi Saïto, Canada

## PAIRINGS

***Night without distance*** (*Noite Sem Distância*) Lois Patiño, Spain/Portugal North American Premiere  
An instant in the memory of a landscape: the smuggling that for centuries crossed the line between Portugal and Galicia. The Gerês Mountains knows no borders, and rocks cross from one country to another with insolence. Smugglers also disobey this separation. The rocks, river, and trees: silent witnesses to help them to hide.

*Night without distance* precedes previously announced feature-film, *Minotaur* by Nicolás Pereda.

***Santa Teresa and Other Stories*** (*Santa Teresa y Otras Historias*) Nelson Carlo de los Santos Arias North American Premiere  
Mexico/Dominican Republic/USA  
Dominican filmmaker Nelson Carlo de los Santos Arias radically extrapolates from Roberto Bolaño's unfinished, posthumous novel *2666*, to produce a baroque fictionalized account of Ciudad Juárez. This noir-tinged tale soon begins to dovetail and intersect with a host of other stories recounted by a chorus of disembodied voices, creating a narrative palimpsest that blurs the line between factual documentation, lyrical observation, and fictional imagination.

Preceded by:

***Paradox of Praxis 5*** Francis Alÿs, Mexico International Premiere  
The latest in Belgian-born, Mexico City-based contemporary artist Francis Alÿs' series of performative videos that politicize absurd or seemingly futile gestures, *Paradox of Praxis 5* documents the artist's nocturnal perambulations through Juárez as he kicks a ball of fire along the city's desolate streets. Transcending metaphor, the eerie, mobile conflagration traces out an imaginary map of a devastated city.

***Sector IX B*** (*Secteur IX B*) Mathieu Kleyebe Abonnenc, France/Senegal North American Premiere  
Taking inspiration from *L'Afrique fantôme* — the controversial diary by surrealist writer Michel Leiris recounting his participation in the ambitious French ethnographic expedition of the 1930s to Dakar and Djibouti — Mathieu Kleyebe Abonnenc's arresting first feature reflects on identity, cultural appropriation, and the transference of memory through objects.

Preceded by:

***Faux Départ*** (*False Start*) Yto Barrada, Morocco/USA North American Premiere  
The latest film by French-Moroccan artist Yto Barrada observes the elaborate fossil industry in Morocco. Paying homage to the "preparators" in the arid region between the Atlas Mountains and the Sahara Desert, whose intrepid work is fuelling a thriving trade in artifacts real, faux and hybrid, *False Start* is a rebuke to the fetishistic thirst for foreign objects, a sly meditation on authenticity, and a paean to creativity.

Previously announced was the pairing of Isiah Medina's *88:88* preceded by Denis Côté's short film *May We Sleep Soundly*.

## FEATURES

***Afternoon*** (*Na ri xia wu*) Tsai Ming-liang, Taiwan North American Premiere  
A disarmingly candid, insightful and ultimately very moving conversation between Taiwanese auteur Tsai Ming-liang and his muse, actor Lee Kang-sheng, whose storied relationship represents one of the great collaborations in cinema history.

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**Arabian Nights: Volume 1, The Restless One** Miguel Gomes, Portugal/France/Germany/Switzerland North American Premiere  
A major hit at this year's Cannes, this epic, three-part contemporary fable by Portuguese auteur Miguel Gomes (*Tabu*) adopts the structure from the *Arabian Nights* texts in order to explore Portugal's plunge into austerity. The first volume of this thrillingly inventive and wildly ambitious triptych includes appearances by cunning wasps, virgin mermaids, an exploding whale, erection-inducing potions and a talking rooster.

**Arabian Nights: Volume 2, The Desolate One** Miguel Gomes, Portugal/France/Germany/Switzerland North American Premiere  
Part Two of Portuguese auteur Miguel Gomes' majestic, mutating modern-day folk tale relates how desolation has invaded humanity through stories involving a distressed judge on a night of three moons, a runaway, a teleporting murderer, a wounded cow, a sad, chain-smoking couple in a concrete apartment block, and a ghost dog named Dixie.

**Arabian Nights: Volume 3, The Enchanted One** Miguel Gomes, Portugal/France/Germany/Switzerland North American Premiere  
The third and concluding volume of Portuguese auteur Miguel Gomes' Scheherazadean triptych brings this epic to a close with the sound of birdsong and the promise of the ineffable.

**Eva Doesn't Sleep** Pablo Agüero, France/Argentina/Spain World Premiere  
One of Argentina's most visionary and politically engaged cinematic voices, director Pablo Agüero takes the unbelievable story of the transport of the embalmed body of beloved First Lady Eva Perón, and transforms it into a strangely riveting cinema experience, with a supremely creepy performance from Gael García Bernal.

**The Event** Sergei Loznitsa, Netherlands/Belgium North American Premiere  
Ukrainian filmmaker Sergei Loznitsa follows his monumental documentary *Maïdan* with this found-footage epic about the failed coup of August 1991 that signaled the fall of the Soviet Union.

**Lost and Beautiful (Bella e perduta)** Pietro Marcello, Italy North American Premiere  
Part fable, part documentary, part film poem, the latest exquisite feature by Pietro Marcello (*La bocca del lupo*) pays homage to a humble shepherd who became a symbol of hope and generosity for a struggling and conflicted Italy.

**No Home Movie** Chantal Akerman, Belgium North American Premiere  
Shuttling between fiction, adaptation, documentary and essay film, Belgian filmmaker Chantal Akerman has created one of the most original, daring and influential oeuvres in film history. *No Home Movie* is a sober, profoundly moving portrait of Akerman's mother in the months leading up to her death, when she was mostly confined to her Brussels apartment. A Polish Jew who survived Auschwitz, her mother suffered from chronic anxiety, an affliction that shaped Akerman's thematic preoccupations with gender, sex, cultural identity, existential ennui, solitude and mania.

**The Other Side** Roberto Minervini, France/Italy North American Premiere  
In turns tender and disturbing, Italian filmmaker Roberto Minervini produces a powerful hybrid docu-fiction film, profiling drug addicts and private militia in Louisiana, who live on the fringes of society.

**The Sky Trembles and the Earth is Afraid and the Two Eyes Are Not Brothers**  
Ben Rivers, United Kingdom North American Premiere  
Partially inspired by Paul Bowles' short story *A Distant Episode*, the latest feature by British filmmaker Ben Rivers (*Two Years at Sea, A Spell to Ward Off the Darkness*) charts a mysterious transformation from observational making-of to inventive adaptation shot against a staggering Moroccan landscape.

Previously announced feature films include Mark Lewis' *Invention*, and Evan Johnson and Guy Maddin's *The Forbidden Room*.

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## INSTALLATIONS

**Fallen Objects** Shambhavi Kaul, USA/India

World Premiere

Presented in partnership with Scrap Metal Gallery from September 10-20, this new installation by Indian-American artist-filmmaker Shambhavi Kaul is comprised of a large projected video loop composed of seven shots that continuously rearrange themselves based on an internal code, and floorbound sculptures in the form of scraps of cloth — the “fallen objects” of the title. Stripping away the narrative potential of its genre cinema-derived source material, *Fallen Objects* considers cinematic space outside the cinema and imagines humans inside it.

**Fireworks (Archives)** Apichatpong Weerasethakul, Thailand/Mexico

Canadian Premiere

Presented in partnership with the Art Gallery of Ontario from September 10-27 (Closed on Mondays), the new installation from Palme d'Or-winning Thai filmmaker and contemporary artist Apichatpong Weerasethakul fuses the artist's exploration of memory, ephemeral elements like light and phantoms, and the malleable nature of history and storytelling while exhuming Thailand's political legacy through an ingenious use of pyrotechnics.

Previously announced programming includes the lecture-performance, *Stories Are Meaning-Making Machines* by Annie MacDonell and Maider Fortuné; and film installations *La Giubba* by Corin Sworn and Tony Romano; *The Forbidden Room – A Living Poster* by Galen Johnson; and *Bring me the Head of Tim Horton* by Guy Maddin, Evan Johnson and Galen Johnson.

The 40th Toronto International Film Festival runs September 10 to 20, 2015.

The Wavelengths Package is now on sale and includes 7 screenings (4 shorts programmes and 3 features) for \$100, or \$85 for students and seniors. Purchase Festival ticket packages online 24 hours a day at [tiff.net/festival](http://tiff.net/festival), by phone from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. ET daily at **416.599.TIFF** or **1.888.599.8433**, or visit the Gupta Box Office at TIFF Bell Lightbox in person from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. ET daily at TIFF Bell Lightbox, Reitman Square, 350 King Street West, until August 26 while quantities last.

TIFF prefers Visa.

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### About TIFF

TIFF is a charitable cultural organization whose mission is to transform the way people see the world, through film. An international leader in film culture, TIFF projects include the annual Toronto International Film Festival in September; TIFF Bell Lightbox, which features five cinemas, major exhibitions, and learning and entertainment facilities; and innovative national distribution program Film Circuit. The organization generates an annual economic impact of \$189 million CAD. TIFF Bell Lightbox is generously supported by contributors including Founding Sponsor Bell, the Province of Ontario, the Government of Canada, the City of Toronto, the Reitman family (Ivan Reitman, Agi Mandel and Susan Michaels), The Daniels Corporation and RBC. For more information, visit [tiff.net](http://tiff.net).

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