

FESTIVALS STRATEGY

Developed by Cecilia Araneda

Toronto Festivals

Neither TIFF nor HotDocs will screen short films that have already shown in Toronto, and TIFF will not screen features that have previously screened in Canada.

- **TIFF** (fall) – all forms / genres ([BIPOC festival director](#))
- **ImagineNATIVE** (Indigenous filmmakers) (fall) – all forms / genres ([BIPOC festival director](#))
- **HotDocs** (spring) – documentaries (prefers industry / mainstream forms)
- **Images** (spring) – experimental works

Quebec Festivals

- **Festival du Nouveau Cinéma** (fall) – all forms / genres (not receptive to political subjects)
- **RIDM: Montreal International Documentary Film Festival** (fall) – documentaries (open to a wide range of styles)
- **Regard (Saguenay)** – shorts, all forms / genres
- **FIFA: International Festival of Films on Art** (spring) – all forms / genres

None of the above festivals will screen a film that has already screened in Quebec.

Other Canadian Festivals

- **Vancouver International Film Festival** (fall) – more mainstream forms
- **Antimatter [Media Art]** (fall) – experimental
- **WNDX** (fall) – experimental only, with a focus on prairie films ([BIPOC festival director](#))
- **DOXA** (spring) – documentary
- **Dawson City International Short Film Festival** (spring) – all forms / genres
- **St. John's International Women's Film Festival** (spring) – more mainstream forms
- **Ottawa International Animation Festival** (summer) – all animation forms

International Festivals

- **Berlin** – all forms / genres
- **Sundance** - all forms / genres – pays special attention to Indigenous filmmakers
- **International Film Festival Rotterdam** – all forms / genres

- **Hamburg International Short Film Festival** – all forms / genres
- **Ann Arbor** – all forms / genres; more experimental focus
- **Athens International Film and Video Festival** – all forms / genres
- **Visions du Réel** – documentary (open to a wide range of styles)
- **L'Alternativa Barcelona** – all forms / genres; independent works
- **Jihlava** – documentary (very broad interpretation of documentary)
- **Festival du Cinémas Différents et Expérimentaux** – experimental only
- **Winterthur** – shorts (all forms / genres)

Other Festivals Friendly to Short Dramas (Live Action Works)

- **Clermont-Ferrand** (spring)
- **SXSW** (spring)
- **Aspen Shorts** (spring)
- **VIS Vienna Shorts** (spring)
- **Huesca** (spring)
- **Drama** (fall)
- **Calgary Underground Film Festival** (spring) ** in spite of the “underground” name, it is actually focused on independent dramas (live action works)
- **Female Eye Film Festival** (spring) ** formidably expensive submission fee – only submit early-bird!