

[www.sundarprize.com](http://www.sundarprize.com)



**SUNDAR PRIZE**  
FILM FESTIVAL



AT CENTRE STAGE,  
SURREY CITY HALL

**JUNE**  
**15 16**

**PROGRAMME**

Where Cinema Meets  
Social Change

**2024**



**CELEBRATING  
HUMAN  
RESILIENCE**

**Where Cinema Meets Social Change**



**SUNDAR PRIZE**  
FILM FESTIVAL

## **Celebrating Human Resilience**

As we embark on the inaugural Sundar Prize, we find inspiration in the enduring trait of humanity that is its unwavering spirit of resilience.

In times of adversity, whether it be during war, facing injustice, or grappling with climate catastrophes, humans have consistently demonstrated remarkable courage and determination. Our award-winning films encapsulate this essence, portraying narratives where hope triumphs over adversity.



# Indigenous Land Acknowledgement

We humbly acknowledge that we come together in gratitude and celebration on the timeless lands of the Coast Salish Peoples. In particular, Sher Vancouver and the Sundar Prize Film Festival honor the stewardship of the Semiahmoo, Musqueam, Katzie, Kwikwetlem, Kwantlen, Qayqayt, and Tsawwassen nations, whose ancestral and unceded territories we are privileged to inhabit.



# Meet the Team



**ALEX SANGHA**

Co-Founder, Finalist Juror, Film Producer and Sponsorships



**VINAY GIRIDHAR**

Co-Founder, Finalist Juror, Multi-Media Coordinator, Filmmaker and Video Editor



**SIDARTHA MURJANI**

Executive Director, Finalist Juror, Senior Programmer and Filmmaker



**SUSAN RUZIC**

Finalist Juror, Social Justice Advisor and Volunteer Coordinator



**JAGREET DHADLI**

Marketing Coordinator, Website, and Newsletter



**GREG CHAN**

KDocsFF Emerging Filmmaker Residency Juror and KPU Professor



**RAMI KAHLON**

Shortlist Juror, Actress, and Filmmaker



**NIC ALTOBELLI**

Shortlist Juror, Independent Producer, and Actress



**BHAVESH CHAUHAN**

Festival Advisor, Social Media Manager, and Cinematographer



**JOSHNA HIRANI**

Manager of Community Engagement



**VARNNITHA VENUGOPAL**

IT Support



**CHARLIE BEERLING**

Official Festival Photographer



**IAN FRAYNE**

Festival Assistant, Actor, Writer



# Filmmakers in Attendance



**GAIL MAURICE**

Director/Writer  
ROSIE - Best Feature Film



**MÉLANIE BRAY**

Lead Actor, Co-producer  
ROSIE - Best Feature Film



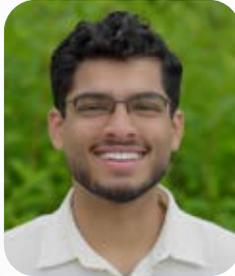
**JAMIE MANNING**

Producer  
ROSIE - Best Feature Film



**JASON LOFTUS**

Director/Writer, Eternal Spring  
Rogers Group of Funds Best  
Canadian Documentary



**SHUBHAM CHHABRA**

Director/Writer, CASH COWS  
KDocsff Best Emerging Filmmaker  
Residency Prize



**KAILEIGH COLES**

Producer, CASH COWS  
KDocsff Best Emerging Filmmaker  
Residency Prize



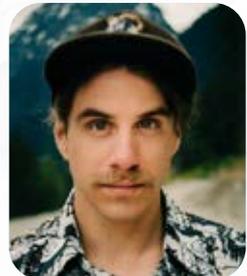
**DALJ BRAR**

Actor/Producer/Director/Writer,  
DIL RAKH: GLOVES OF KIN  
Best BC Film



**AMIR ZARGARA**

Director/Writer,  
A GOOD DAY WILL COME  
Best Short Film



**ALEXI LIOTTI**

Director,  
REMARIATION  
Best Environmental Film

# The Programme

Day 1 - Saturday, June 15, 2024

## SECTION 1



12:00 PM

### Doors Open

Centre Stage at Surrey City Hall - 13450 104 Avenue Surrey, BC V3T 1V8

01:00 PM

### Event Starts

Opening remarks, Indigenous Acknowledgment, Presentation of awards for Best Animation and Best BC Film.

01:30 PM

### Best Animation

**Unstoppable Beat** (UK, 2023)

Luke Dye-Montefiore and Rufus Dye-Montefiore

Duration: 5 mins 36 seconds

01:36 PM

### Best BC Film

**Dil Rakh; Gloves of Kin** (British Columbia, Canada, 2023)

Dalj Brar | Duration: 1 hr 39 mins and 23 seconds

03:20 PM

### Panel Discussion

**Building Empathy through Film: Fostering Understanding and Connection**

Filmmakers in attendance. Funded by the Government of Canada and Creative BC

Community Partner: Punjabi Market Collective

04:20 PM

### Break

# The Programme

Day 1 - Saturday, June 15, 2024

## SECTION 2



05:00 PM

### Opening Remarks

Presentation of awards for KDocsFF Best Emerging Filmmaker and Rogers Group of Funds Best Canadian Documentary

05:15 PM

### KDocsFF Best Emerging Filmmaker Residency Prize

Cash Cows (British Columbia, Canada, 2023)

Shubham Chhabra | Duration: 10 mins 20 seconds

05:21 PM

### Rogers Group of Funds Best Canadian Documentary

Eternal Spring (Canada, 2023)

Jason Loftus | Duration: 1 hour 25 mins 23 seconds

07:00 PM

### Panel Discussion

Empowerment through Art: The Resilience of Creative Expression

Filmmakers in attendance. Funded by Government of Canada, Creative BC and Knowledge Network.

08:00 PM -  
11:00 PM

### Filmmaker Reception

Fusion Indian and Western Appetizers and Snacks

Entertainment by: हज़ार Hazar (indie-pop band with Indian roots and American influence) - 9 to 9.30 PM

# The Programme

Day 2 - Sunday, June 16, 2024

## SECTION 3



12:00 PM

### Doors Open

Centre Stage at Surrey City Hall - 13450 104 Avenue Surrey, BC V3T 1V8

01:00 PM

### Event Starts

Opening remarks, Indigenous Acknowledgment and presentation of awards for Best Short film, Best International Documentary and Best Environmental Film

01:30 PM

### Best Short Film

*A Good Day Will Come* (Canada, 2023)

Amir Zargara | Duration: 29 mins 59 seconds

02:00 PM

### Best International Documentary

*Swallow Flying to the South* (USA, 2023)

Mochi Lin | Duration: 17 mins 38 seconds

02:18 PM

### Break

02:45 PM

### Best Environmental Film

*Rematriation* (British Columbia, Canada, 2023)

Alexi Liotti | Duration: 1 hour 7 mins

03:55 PM

### Panel Discussion

*Hope in Times of Crisis: Finding Resilience Amidst Adversity*

Filmmakers in attendance. Funded by the Government of Canada and Creative BC.

Community Partner: Vancouver Asian Film Festival

04:55 PM

### Break

# The Programme

Day 2 - Sunday, June 16, 2024

## SECTION 4



05:30 PM

### Opening Remarks

Opening remarks and presentation of awards for Best Student Film and Best Feature Film

05:45 PM

### Best Student Film

*Dosh* (United States, 2023)  
Radha Mehta | Duration: 16 mins and 8 seconds

06:02 PM

### Best Feature Film

*Rosie* (Canada, 2022)  
Gail Maurice | Duration: 1 hour and 30 mins

07:34 PM

### Panel Discussion

**Celebrating Human resilience: How do we build strong genuine communities?**  
Filmmakers in attendance.

Funded by: Canadian Race Relations Foundation and Creative BC  
Community Partner: Sher Vancouver

08:30 PM -  
11:30 PM

### Community Reception

Fusion Indian and Western Appetizers and Snacks

Entertainment by: Carolina Silva accompanied by Alex Martinez and Nadim Woolgar (Latin American music with contemporary influences) - 8.30 to 9.15 PM



# Panel Discussions

## SECTION 1: Building Empathy through Film: Fostering Understanding and Connection

Funded by the Government of Canada and Creative BC | Community Partner: Punjabi Market Collective



**DALJ BRAR**  
Actor, Director, Producer  
Dil Rakh: Gloves of Kin



**UMAR FAROOQ KHAN**  
Actor,  
Dil Rakh: Gloves of Kin



**RAMI KAHLON**  
Actor,  
Dil Rakh: Gloves of Kin



**DAVE MANN**  
Executive Producer,  
Dil Rakh: Gloves of Kin



**AMIT DHUGA**  
Moderator,  
Actor & Filmmaker

## SECTION 2: Empowerment through Art - The Resilience of Creative Expression

Funded by Government of Canada, Creative BC and Knowledge Network



**JASON LOFTUS**  
Director, Producer, Writer  
Eternal Spring



**ZHANG ZHONGYU**  
Film subject  
Eternal Spring



**SHUBHAM CHHABRA**  
Director/Writer  
Cash Cows



**KAILEIGH COLES**  
Producer  
Cash Cows



**GREG CHAN**  
Moderator,  
KPU Professor

## SECTION 3: Hope in Times of Crisis - Finding Resilience Amidst Adversity

Funded by the Government of Canada and Creative BC | Community Partner: Vancouver Asian Film Festival



**ALEXI LIOTTI**  
Director, Writer  
Rematriation



**GRANDMA LOSAH**  
Film subject  
Rematriation



**AMIR ZARGARA**  
Director,  
A Good Day Will Come



**RAMI KAHLON**  
Moderator,  
Actor & Filmmaker

## SECTION 4: Celebrating Human resilience: How do we build genuinely strong communities?

Funded by: Canadian Race Relations Foundation and Creative BC | Community Partner: Sher Vancouver



**GAIL MAURICE**  
Director, Writer  
Rosie



**JAMIE MANNING**  
Producer,  
Rosie



**MÉLANIE BRAY**  
Actor, Co-Producer  
Rosie



**ALEX SANGHA**  
Social Worker, Filmmaker,  
Founder of Sher Vancouver



**DAVID C JONES**  
Moderator,  
Filmmaker

# AWARD WINNERS

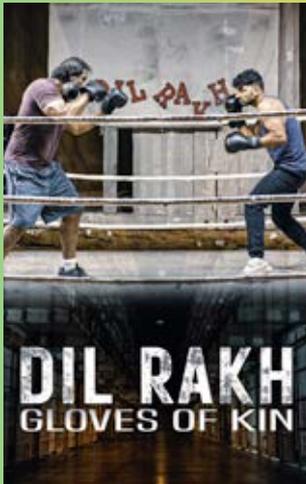


## BEST ANIMATION

### Unstoppable Beat

DIRECTED BY: LUKE DYE-MONTEFIORE  
& RUFUS DYE-MONTEFIORE  
DURATION: 5 MINS 36 SECONDS  
UK, 2023

The animated film tells the story of a Haitian migrant in Brazil fighting for his rights to work, buy a house and most importantly, reunite with his family from Haiti.



## BEST BC FILM

### Dil Rakh: Gloves of Kin

DIRECTED BY: DALJ BRAR  
DURATION: 1 HR 39 MINS AND 23 SECONDS  
BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA, 2023

After spending 20 years in prison, an Indian father attempts to reconcile with his estranged son while they battle racism in a small town.

# AWARD WINNERS



**KDocsFF BEST EMERGING  
FILMMAKER RESIDENCY PRIZE**

## Cash Cows

**DIRECTED BY: SHUBHAM CHHABRA  
DURATION: 10 MINS 20 SECONDS  
BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA, 2023**

Cash Cows follow the journey of an immigrant who falls victim to an employment scam. Desperate to secure a permanent residency and a better life, he must confront the true cost of the sacrifices he's made.



**ROGERS GROUP OF FUNDS  
BEST CANADIAN DOCUMENTARY**

## Eternal Spring

**DIRECTED BY: JASON LOFTUS  
DURATION: 1 HOUR 25 MINS 23 SECONDS  
CANADA, 2023**

Confronted with government denunciations and human rights violations against their spiritual practice, a group of Chinese activists executes a bold and perilous plan to hack into state television.

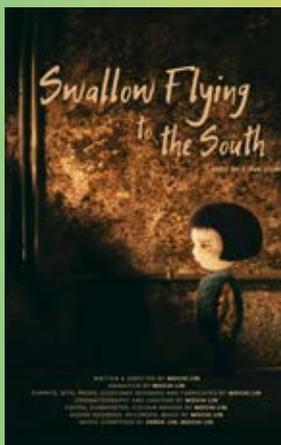


**BEST SHORT FILM**

**A Good Day Will Come**

DIRECTED BY: AMIR ZARGARA  
 DURATION: 29 MINS 59 SECONDS  
 CANADA, 2023

Arash is a professional wrestler with dreams of representing his country and winning gold medals. The country is in turmoil and its people are suffering. Arash must decide between using his platform to stand up to tyranny, or put his head down and remain silent.

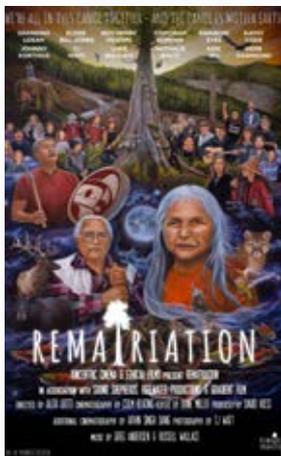


**BEST INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY**

**Swallow Flying to The South**

DIRECTED BY: MOCHI LIN  
 DURATION: 17 MINS 38 SECONDS  
 UNITED STATES, 2023

Spring 1976, 5-year-old Swallow is abandoned at a public boarding preschool in central Beijing. When the persimmons are ripe, Swallow masters how to cry, but doesn't forget how to fly.



**BEST ENVIRONMENTAL FILM**

**Rematriation**

DIRECTED BY: ALEXI LIOTTI  
 DURATION: 1 HOUR AND 7 MINS  
 BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA, 2023

Rematriation explores scientific, cultural, economic and sociopolitical perspectives, as citizens fight to protect the last big trees in British Columbia from being felled. The lessons we take away permeate the fabric of Canadian identity.

# AWARD WINNERS



## BEST STUDENT FILM

### Dosh

**DIRECTED BY:** RADHA MEHTA  
**DURATION:** 16 MINS AND 8 SECONDS  
**UNITED STATES, 2023**

When her son's life is put at risk at their family's pre-wedding ritual, a hard-of-hearing mother must decide how to seek help for her husband in order to keep her family safe.



## BEST FEATURE FILM

### Rosie

**DIRECTED BY:** GAIL MAURICE  
**DURATION:** 1 HOUR 30 MINS  
**CANADA, 2022**

An orphaned Indigenous girl is forced to live with her reluctant, street-smart, francophone aunty and her two gender-bending best friends in 80's Montreal.

# THANK YOU FOR MAKING IT POSSIBLE

## Founding Sponsors

Funded by the Government of Canada  
Financé par le gouvernement du Canada



Fondation  
canadienne des  
relations raciales



BRITISH COLUMBIA'S  
Knowledge  
Network:

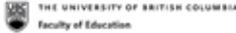


## Founding Festival Partners



THANK YOU FOR MAKING IT POSSIBLE

## Founding Community Partners



## Founding Media Partners





# Entertainment



JUNE 15 | 9 - 9.30 PM

## हज़ार Hazar

Hazar (pronounced ha-za-ar) is an experimental indie-pop band with Indian roots and American influence, exploring and mixing the sounds and instruments of the world with poetry from desi writers both in English and regional Indian languages. The band draws influences from folk music, pop rock, sufism, romance & revolutionary themes. Hazar which means thousand in Hindi, Punjabi and Urdu, signifies a mindset - of being complete within this life, this universe. It encapsulates the perpetual need for creativity, courage & perseverance.

JUNE 16 | 8:45 - 9:30 PM

## Caro Silva

Caro Silva is a musician, singer, and songwriter from Colombia who specializes in Alterlatino music. She uses her voice and ukulele to create a unique fusion of commercial music and traditional genres from Latin America. Her repertoire includes music from renowned artists like Natalia Lafourcade, Silvana Estrada, and Monsieur Perine. Caro has studied music and has participated in various interdisciplinary projects that involved music, dance, and theater. Her goal is to share the essence of Latin American music with the Canadian audience.





# CELEBRATING HUMAN RESILIENCE

AT CENTRE STAGE,  
SURREY CITY HALL

JUNE  
15 16  
20  
24



BEST ANIMATION FILM



BEST BC FILM



KDCCSFF BEST EMERGING  
FILMMAKER RESIDENCY PRIZE



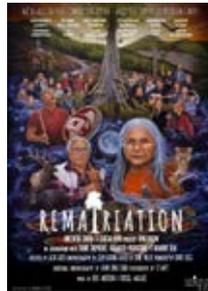
ROGERS GROUP OF FUNDS BEST  
CANADIAN DOCUMENTARY



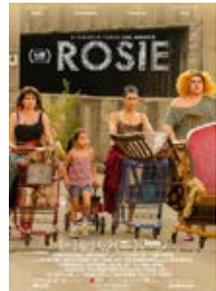
BEST SHORT FILM



BEST INTERNATIONAL  
DOCUMENTARY



BEST ENVIRONMENTAL FILM



BEST FEATURE FILM



BEST STUDENT FILM

CASH PRIZES | PANEL DISCUSSIONS |  
COMMUNITY RECEPTION

Over \$17,000 CAD in cash  
prizes for the top films in  
the 9 categories.

Get Tickets!





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HUMAN  
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