

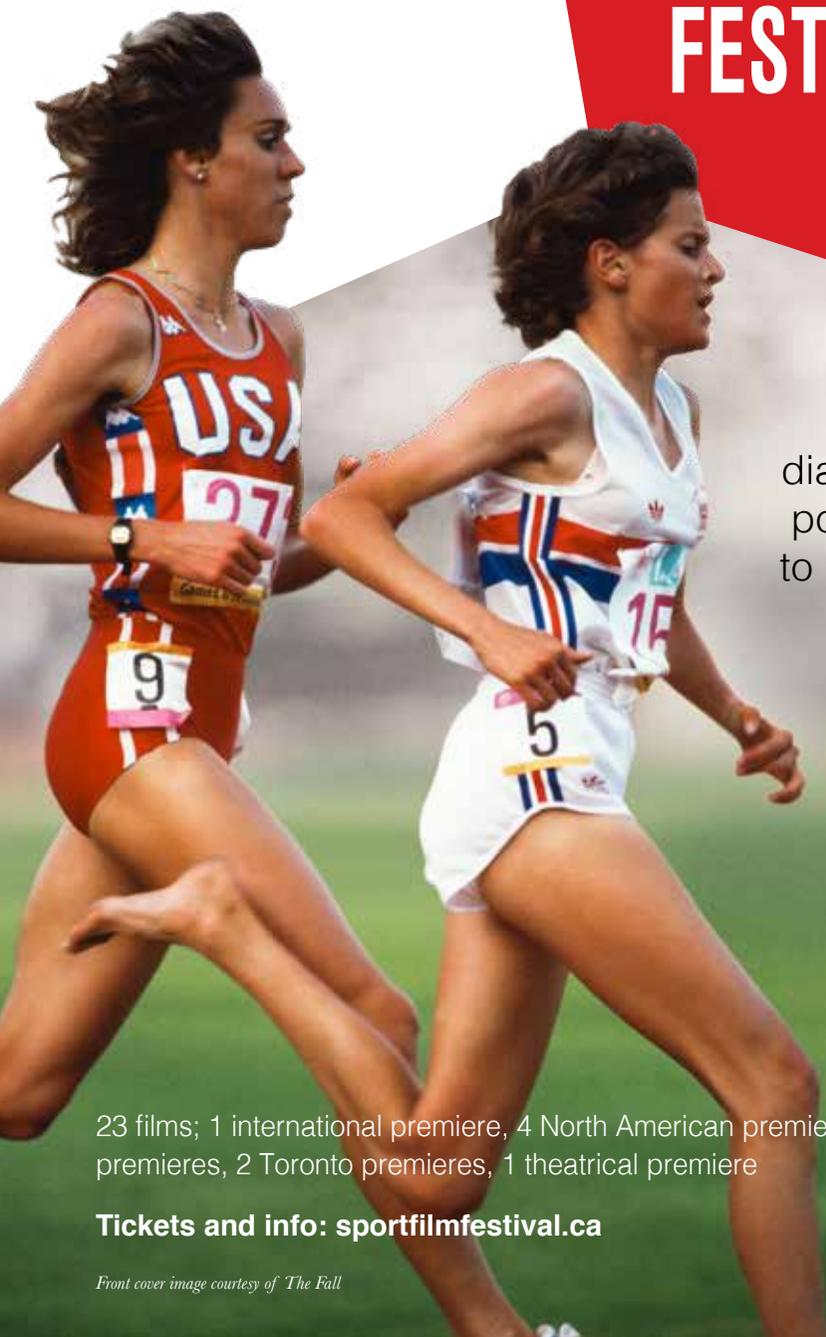


10 YEARS: 2008-2018

JUNE 8-10 2018

TIFF Bell Lightbox, Toronto

# CANADIAN SPORT FILM FESTIVAL



Provoking  
dialogue on the  
power of sport  
to inspire social  
change

23 films; 1 international premiere, 4 North American premieres, 4 Canadian premieres, 2 Toronto premieres, 1 theatrical premiere

Tickets and info: [sportfilmfestival.ca](http://sportfilmfestival.ca)



*Front cover image courtesy of The Fall*

## Message from the Executive Director

Ten years ago, late one evening in a small 18th-century apartment in the Fell's Point neighbourhood of Baltimore, the idea for what has become the Canadian Sport Film Festival came to unlikely fruition. Since then, the mission that inspires this festival – to provoke dialogue on the power of sport to inspire social change – has led numerous people (many of them listed to the right) to work hard to bring programming to the screen and outreach to the community. I am eternally thankful for their efforts and commitment.

Some of you in the cinema will have been with us for a decade; others are learning of CSFF for the first time. We are grateful to audiences both loyal and new – and dedicated to continuing to screen films from around the world and enable conversations about the issues they raise.

There will be people, young people, sitting in a theatre for the first time, or making stop-motion animations in one of our filmmaking and physical activity workshops. Ensuring that they have opportunities to engage their creative minds and explore their physical selves is what will keep us motivated for the next ten years.



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "R. Field".

Russell Field  
Executive Director

## The CSFF Team

### **Executive Director**

Russell Field

### **Advisory Board**

Alana Nugent  
Sabrina Razack  
Ben Rosenblum  
Jaymie Sampa  
David Vella  
Glenn Wells  
Neil Wright

### **Programming Committee**

Shireen Ahmed  
Anastasia Akulinina  
Cathy van Ingen  
Ben Rosenblum  
Reza Sameni  
Samantha Tator  
David Vella  
David Wells  
Glenn Wells  
Janette Yee

### **Festival Assistants**

Sueanne Balgobin  
Keiron Cobban  
Mahal De La  
Durantaye  
Sonia Leung

### **Partnerships**

Brad McCabe



## Festival schedule

**Friday, June 8**

**Cinema 3**

**6:30pm**

**Opening night**

Lane 0

Screening with  
Ride for Promise

**Saturday, June 9**

**Cinema 4**

**9:30am Kids workshop**

**11:15am**

**Kids screening**

**1:30pm**

Stranger

Screening with Mama Agatha

**3:45pm**

Football for Better  
or Worse

Screening with Run 4 All Women

**6:30pm**

Time Trial

Screening with  
Real Men Don't Cry

**9:15pm**

Minding the Gap

Screening with Meke

**Sunday, June 10**

**Cinema 4**

**1:00pm**

Killer Bees

Screening with

The Language of Ball

**4:00pm**

Ultra

Screening with Iron Hands

**7:00pm**

**Closing night**

The Fall

Screening with  
Little Hard Knox  
and McKayla

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### Tickets

TIFF Bell Lightbox  
box office  
1 888 599 8433  
sportfilmfestival.ca

Minister  
of Canadian Heritage



Ministre  
du Patrimoine canadien

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0M5



**W**elcome to the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Canadian Sport Film Festival!

**A**rts and culture, including film, have a lasting power to enrich our lives and bring us together. The art of filmmaking gives us direct access to the diversity of human experience and exposes us to a wide range of voices. It tells our stories and reflects our culture.

**A**s a vital and treasured part of that culture, sport is a fascinating theme for our artists and creators to explore. For the past decade, the Canadian Sport Film Festival has been enriching the lives of audiences with presentations of some amazing works—from across Canada and around the world—that delve into the world of sport.

**A**s Minister of Canadian Heritage, I would like to congratulate the organizers and volunteers who have brought this year's festival to life, as well as the filmmakers who enlighten and inspire us. I wish everyone an exciting and rewarding festival.

**E**njoy the films!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Mélanie Joly".

The Honourable Mélanie Joly

Canada 

Minister of Sport  
and Persons with Disabilities



Ministre des Sports  
et des Personnes handicapées

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0M5



Greetings to everyone taking part in the 2018 Canadian Sport Film Festival.

Sport and physical activity bring together people of all backgrounds and abilities, and help create healthier, more dynamic communities. Fostering a more active and inclusive Canada will make for a stronger Canada. Our government is committed to promoting sport and making it more accessible and welcoming for all Canadians. This is why I am delighted that the CSFF is giving filmmakers the chance to share their sport stories, and allowing audiences to explore the world of athletes through the medium of film.

As Minister of Science and Minister of Sport and Persons with Disabilities, I would like to thank the entire team who helped make this event possible. Congratulations on the festival's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kirsty Duncan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

The Honourable Kirsty Duncan

Canada



### **Message from the Mayor**

It is my pleasure to extend greetings and a warm welcome to everyone attending the Canadian Sport Film Festival's 10<sup>th</sup> Canadian Sport Film Festival.

This festival will screen 23 feature-length and short films from around the world in the spirit of educating, informing, engaging, and entertaining audiences about the power of sport. I am delighted that wonderful events like yours are taking place in Toronto.

On behalf of Toronto City Council, I wish everyone an enjoyable and memorable event. Please accept my best wishes for continued success.

Yours truly,

John Tory  
Mayor of Toronto



**Michael  
Thompson**

Chair, Economic Development  
and Culture Committee

Toronto City Councillor  
Scarborough Centre, Ward 37

May 9, 2018

Dear Friends:

It is with great interest and anticipation that I await the 10th annual Canadian Sport Film Festival at the TIFF Bell Lightbox in Toronto.

As a former athlete, and the father of teenagers involved in sport, I am endlessly fascinated by the role sports play in shaping lives, uniting communities and offering hope where challenges are deep and daunting. By presenting unique, provocative and passionate human stories from around the world through the medium of film, the Festival will turn a critical eye to unique and profound narratives beyond the scoreboard and away from the crowds – the stories behind the stories.

I wish Canadian Sport Film Festival organizers the greatest success with this year's event, and offer a warm welcome to the many visitors who will be drawn to our city to attend.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael Thompson", with a long, sweeping underline.

Michael Thompson  
Chair, Economic Development and Culture Committee  
Councillor, Scarborough Centre  
Ward 37

Making Toronto the Greatest City in the World!



# Joe Cressy 周凱捷

City Councillor | Ward 20, Trinity-Spadina

Canadian Sport Film Festival  
402-736 Dundas Street East  
Toronto, ON, M5A 2C5

May 10, 2018

**Re: 10th Annual Canadian Sport Film Festival**

I am writing this letter to express my support for the 10th annual Canadian Sport Film Festival at the TIFF Bell Lightbox in Toronto.

Founded in 2008, the Canadian Sport Film Festival brings together the theatre of sport and the medium of film to tell unique, provocative and passionate personal and political stories from around the world. The three day festival will screen local and international films and aims to educate, inform, engage, and entertain the community. CSFF provides a safe environment for critical analysis and discussion about social issues and themes presented in the films. In addition, the festival will host local and international filmmakers and engage youth by using film and sport in innovative and collaborate workshops.

I am proud to have seen this event be successfully held in past years at TIFF Bell Lightbox. Since 2008, CSFF continues to enrich our local and international film community and industry. It is truly an honour for our city to host such extraordinary work of among the most provocative films from around the world.

I would like to thank the dedicated artists, organizers, sponsors and volunteer for their hard work to make this festival possible, and congratulate them on ten very successful years.

Sincerely,

Joe Cressy  
City Councillor  
Ward 20, Trinity-Spadina

Opening night  
Friday, June 8, 6:30pm

## Lane 0

North American premiere

2017, documentary, Spain, 71 min, dir: Manuel Tera

Swimmers from developing nations, looking to be the first from their country to qualify for the Olympics, train at a state-of-the-art sports centre in Thailand. Accustomed to training in oceans or lakes, they struggle every day to break boundaries and overcome many hurdles to achieve their dreams. But with the guidance of a world-class coach, they have one year left to improve on their personal bests and achieve their dreams.



Screening with:

Toronto premiere

## Ride for Promise

2018, documentary, Canada, 23 min,  
dir: Sherien Barsoum

A young man embarks on a nation-wide adventure – cycling from Vancouver to Halifax – challenging Canadians about their perceptions of racialized youth living in marginalized communities.

Screening sponsor

**KÜHL WINE Pictures Inc.**

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**Kids screening**  
**Saturday, June 9, 11:15am**



### The Elephant and the Bicycle

2014, animation, France, 9 min  
When an elephant sees a billboard advertising a bicycle, his life changes: he has to have that bicycle.

### Gnarly in Pink

2014, documentary, US, 8 min  
The "Pink Helmet Posse" are three 6-year-old girls who share their passion for skateboarding in pink tutus and helmets.

### Harry Jerome: The Fastest Man on Earth

2010, documentary, Canada, 10 min  
Canadian sprinter Harry Jerome faced racism and a career-threatening injury on his way to achieving track-and-field success.

### Faith's Goal

2013, documentary, Canada, 5 min  
Facing discrimination on an all-boys team, Faith remains optimistic about the future of girls in hockey.

### The Boy Who Learned to Fly

2016, animation, US, 7 min  
Usain Bolt overcame pressure, discovered the joy of running, and became the fastest man alive.

### Play Lunch

2010, fiction, Australia, 10 min  
Molly can't play until she's finished her lunch. Sam needs someone to play football with.

### Little Hard Knox

2017, documentary, Canada, 12 min  
"Tugar," a 10-year-old from the Mohawk community of Kahnawake, dreams of becoming a professional boxer.

## FREE kids workshop

### Saturday, June 9, 9:30am

The CSFF youth workshop returns offering kids aged 8-12 the chance to watch sport films for young people, make their own stop-motion animation films, and get active! Participation in the workshop includes free entry to the Kids screening (11:15am) – guardians are welcome free of charge – which will be followed by an interactive panel. To learn more, email: [info@sportfilmfestival.ca](mailto:info@sportfilmfestival.ca)

Co-presented by



Community partner



Saturday, June 9, 1:30pm



## Stranger

North American premiere

2017, documentary, Belgium, 54 min, dir: Kenneth Michiels

An immigrant from Senegal, Moussa volunteers to coach BX Brussels' 12- and 13-year-old team. The players are themselves immigrants, dealing with the challenges of a new country, pressures at home, and life in the Belgian capital's more troubling neighbourhoods, where one child in three lives at the poverty line. Through all this, and lopsided losses, Moussa tries to forge a community based on sportsmanship on the field and respect for cultural differences off of it.



Screening with:

Toronto premiere

## Mama Agatha

2015, documentary, Netherlands, 16 min,  
dir: Fadi Hindash

Once a week, Mama Agatha, a fixture in Amsterdam's Ghanaian community, teaches a group of immigrant women how to ride a bicycle.

Screening sponsor



Co-presented by



Community partners



Saturday, June 9, 3:45pm



## Football for Better or Worse

Canadian premiere

2017, documentary, Sweden, 72 min, dir: Inger Molin

FC Rosengård is one of the best soccer teams in the world. But as Therese Sjögran, an 18-year-veteran of the Swedish national team, ends her playing career and moves into management, she discovers the enormous economic disparity between men's and women's soccer. The club struggles to advance in the UEFA Champions League, while at the same time trying to stay financially viable. Featuring Brazilian superstar Marta and Canadian national team goalkeeper Erin McLeod.



Screening with:

International premiere

## Run 4 All Women

2017, documentary, US, 17 min,  
dir: Jeffrey Restrepo

Four women set out to run the 252 miles from New York to Washington, DC, arrive in time for the 2017 Women's March, and raise money and awareness for Planned Parenthood.

Screening sponsor

Saturday, June 9, 6:30pm



## Time Trial

Canadian premiere

2017, documentary, UK, 82 min, dir: Finlay Pretsell

Professional cyclist David Millar is trying to find one more moment of glory. The only British rider to have won all of the Tour de France jerseys, Millar is attempting to return to the famed race late in his career following suspension for using performance-enhancing drugs. This insider's view follows the peloton up impossible climbs, down rapid descents, and through the tedium of the daily grind of elite cycling.



Screening with:

## Real Men Don't Cry

2017, fiction, Spain, 19 min, dir: Lucas Castán

While working for the local hockey team, Basilio has to find a way to help his son, Iván, overcome a rare illness so that he can celebrate his love for the game.

Screening sponsor



Co-presented by



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Saturday, June 9, 9:15pm



## Minding the Gap

2018, documentary, US, 93 min, dir: Bing Liu

In an Illinois town suffering through hard economic times, three young men bond over skateboarding as a way to escape volatile families. But as adolescence gives way to adulthood, the challenges of work and family and the residue of domestic abuse threaten to transform their decade-long friendship. Skateboarding wanes in importance as one of the trio, now a filmmaker, tries to come to terms with his past and the realities of growing up.



Screening with:

### Meke

2017, fiction, New Zealand, 8 min,  
dir: Tim Worrall

The arrival of a trainer's daughter into the midst of backstage preparations for an important boxing match threatens the relationship between coach and fighter.

Screening sponsors

Co-presented by

Restaurants of Harbord Street



Sunday, June 10, 1:00pm

## Killer Bees

Canadian premiere

2018, documentary, US, 82 min, dirs: Benjamin Cummings & Orson Cummings

The Bees basketball team from Bridgehampton High School defies stereotypes of The Hamptons, the seaside playground for New York's well-to-do. Preparing to defend their state championship, the Bees are a symbol of hope for an historic African-American community that is struggling to survive racial discrimination and absurd income inequality in one of the wealthiest districts in the country.



Screening with:

## The Language of Ball

2017, fiction, US, 9 min, dir: Ramón Rodríguez

Ahmed, a teenager from Yemen, meets Justin on a basketball court. Their journey through New York's neighbourhoods and cultures is a tale of hope, compassion, and chance meetings.

Screening sponsor

Co-presented by

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Sunday, June 10, 4:00pm



## Ultra

North American premiere

2017, documentary, Hungary/Greece, 84 min, dir: Balazs Simonyi

The famed run between Athens and Sparta by Athenian messenger Pheidippides is the apocryphal basis of the modern marathon. Today the route is home to the Spartathlon, a gruelling 246 km ultramarathon. The event challenges runners to confront extreme hardship and surpass the limits of both their body and mind, all within prescribed times. As four competitors confront this challenge, they are forced to answer the question: why do we do this to ourselves?



Screening with:

## Iron Hands

2017, fiction, US/China, 11 min,  
dir: Johnson Cheng

As a 12-year-old prepares to try out for the traditionally all-boys Chinese youth Olympic weightlifting team, she makes an unlikely connection with the gym's reclusive groundskeeper.

Screening sponsor



Co-presented by





**Closing night**  
**Sunday, June 10, 7:00pm**

## The Fall

North American premiere

2016, documentary, UK, 96 min, dir: Daniel Gordon

Two women just wanted to run. In Los Angeles in 1984, American star Mary Decker went head-to-head with young Zola Budd, a barefoot runner from South Africa who had to claim British citizenship to escape the ban against her country's Apartheid system. The dramatic and unexpected conclusion to the 3000m race overshadowed the social and political unrest, corruption, and exploitation that were the sub-text for one of the most remarkable moments in Olympic history.

Screening with:

Theatrical premiere

Canadian premiere

## Little Hard Knox

2017, documentary, Canada, 12 min,  
dir: Roxann Whitebean

"Tugar," a 10-year-old from the Mohawk community of Kahnawake, dreams of becoming a professional boxer.



## McKayla

2017, documentary, US, 13 min,  
dir: Madeleine Hunt-Ehrlich

McKayla survived a rare form of cancer, losing one of her legs. Told she would neither run nor cycle again, McKayla is competing in triathlons.



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# A huge thank you to our sponsors

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**KÜHL WINE Pictures Inc.**

## Closing night sponsor



Euphoria Interactive

## Screening sponsors



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## Community screening sponsors



## Community screening partners



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