



CTFF ANNOUNCES HISPANIC PROGRAMMING

The 10TH Annual CaribbeanTales International Film Festival

<http://www.caribbeantaes.ca/ctff/>

September 9 - 19, 2015

[Schedule at a glance](#)

<http://www.caribbeantaes.ca/CTFF/schedule-2-2/>

CaribbeanTales International Film Festival (CTFF) is proud to bring to this year's programming a number of notable films representing the Hispanic community. "CaribbeanTales continues to have its finger on the pulse of a dynamic movement of evolving film expression across the region and its Diaspora," says founder and filmmaker **Frances-Anne Solomon**. "In just ten years, a very short period of time, our film stories have matured to become stunningly assured, explosive, transgressive, probing, beautiful and urgent. And this is what we see represented on screen in this year's selections."

CTFF 2015 kicks off its 10th Anniversary with a Gala Caribbean Reception and Celebration on Wednesday September 9, in association with the **Consulate General of the Republic of Trinidad & Tobago in Toronto**, at the Royal Cinema, 608 College Street in Toronto.

Festival screenings will continue at The Royal Cinema, Sunday - Friday, **September 13 - 18** at 6:30 p.m. and 9:15 p.m. daily. On Closing Night, **Saturday September 19**, there will be three screenings at 3:50 p.m., 6:30 p.m. & 9:30 p.m.

SCHEDULE:

Images can be found at <http://www.caribbeantaes.ca/CTFF/media/>

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13

8:30 p.m.

THEME: "#ALLBLACKLIVESMATTER - CARIBBEAN 1"

f. ***Christo Rey***

Leticia Tonos, Dominican Republic, 2013, 90 min, English, Rating PG

Set against the backdrop of tensions between local Dominicans and immigrant Haitians in the barrios of Santo Domingo, *Christo Rey* is a modern-day Caribbean Romeo and Juliet that explores its characters' struggles amid a complex and explosive social and political context.

Janvier, a Haitian, through lack of better options, joins the local drug gang. His job is to guard Jocelyn, the young sister of El Baca, the gang's kingpin. But Janvier and Jocelyn fall in love with each other and not having any foreseeable future in a neighborhood like Cristo Rey, they devise a plan to leave the barrio forever.

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 14

6:30 p.m.

THEME: "VANISHING LEGACIES 1"

s. *Midnight Serenade*

Nicolás Sáenz Galvis, Colombia, 2015, 21 mins, Spanish, PG

"Papa Kiké", a pleasant and gentle old man in the twilight of his life is mentally and physically weakened by old age and health problems. His only way out is to return to his past in his own mind, where he can find solace and memories of a better time; where he can live again with his departed wife, Sofía. But outside his inner world, nothing is looking good for him; even his family's support sometimes seems more like another burden on his life.

Followed by

f. *The Lara Brothers*

Janine Fung, Canada/Trinidad & Tobago, 2013, 56 min, English, PG

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 15

9:15 p.m.

THEME: "CARIBBEAN MASCULINITIES"

f. *Pelo Malo*

Mariana Rondón, Venezuela, 2013, 93 min, Spanish, R

Turmoil is created when a nine-year old boy's obsession with straightening his "bad hair" for his school picture causes his single widowed mother to worry about the boy's identity.

Junior is a nine-year-old boy who has stubbornly curly hair, or "bad hair" that he wants to have straightened for his school picture, like a fashionable pop singer. This puts him at odds with his mother Marta, a young, unemployed widow. Overwhelmed by what it takes to survive in the chaotic city of Caracas, Marta finds it increasingly difficult to tolerate Junior's



fixation with his looks, fearing that it also means that her son is homosexual. This film tackles issues of race and sexual identity through external appearances in the Venezuelan society.

AWARDS: *Bronze Alexander, Thessaloniki 2013; Fipresci Award, International Film Critics, Thessaloniki 2013; Best Director, Best Screenplay, Mar del Plata Film Festival, 2013; Best Screenplay, Best Actress, Torino Film Festival 2013; Best Caribbean Film, Puerto Rico Film Festival 2013; Best Director, Vina del Mar Film Festival 2013; Best Performance, Festival du Nouveau Cinema Montreal 2013.*

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 16

9:15 p.m.

THEME: "BORDERS OF LOVE"

f. ***Sand Dollars***

Israel Cárdenas, Laura Amelia Guzmán, Dominican Republic/Mexico, 2014, 83 min, Spanish/English, R

Sand Dollars is a delicate examination of the relationship between a local woman, her wealthy, ex-patriate lover and her boyfriend. This film is a nuanced portrait of an older, well to do European woman, Anne (Geraldine Chaplin) who is in love with Noeli (Yanet Mojica) in the idyllic seaside town, Samana, in the Dominican Republic. Their relationship is complex, a mixture of real affection also tainted by the money that Anne gives Noeli regularly, which makes Noeli's boyfriend encourage the relationship. In this complex inter-web Anne (sensitively played by Chaplin) falls hopelessly in love with Noeli (who lives with her boyfriend), even as Noeli is torn between leaving with Anne and staying with her man. Love brings a flow of entanglements in a drama which unfolds like palm trees in an irresistible storm.

AWARDS: *Cairo International Film Festival, FIPRESCI Prize; Chicago International Film Festival Silver Hugo Best Actress Geraldine Chaplin Cine Cearo - National Cinema Festival - Feature Film Trophy Best Sound; Havana Film Festival, Best Actress Geraldine Chaplin; Nashville Film Festival Best Actress Geraldine Chaplin.*

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 17

6:30 p.m.

THEME: "MOVEMENT OF THE PEOPLE"

f. ***Lubaraun***

María José Álvarez and Martha Clarissa Hernández, Nicaragua, 2014, 65 min, Garifuna, Spanish and English, PG

Lubaraun is an ethnographic film with road movie elements filmed on the Caribbean coast of Nicaragua and Honduras; where endearing characters reveal the cosmo-vision of the Garifuna nation.

The film gives voice to a people who have lived in resistance to colonialism, and now struggle to maintain their identity, as well as their humanist and environmentally friendly way of living. The poignant journey of an elder from the Orinoco Garifuna community back to the land of his ancestors on the mainland highlights the heritage of the Garifuna people in their similar way of living, respect for each other and the love of family.

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 18

6:30 p.m.

THEME: "CARIBBEAN BOHEMIA"

f. ***Cows Wearing Glasses***

Alex Santiago Perez, Puerto Rico, 2014, 93 min, Spanish, PG

Cows Wearing Glasses is a film about the emotional awakening of a man who is facing the end of his lifelong passion.

This is the reflective tale of Marso, a lonely, eccentric painter and art professor, facing an unavoidable illness that will lead to blindness. Marso is forced to re-examine his emotional world as he realizes that although he has had a series of professional successes, his personal relationships are empty.

This bittersweet film uses humour to explore Marso's daily routines, challenges and self exploration, creating an intimacy between him and the viewer as he seeks to find ways to reach the family he abandoned and to face the biggest obstacle of his life.

AWARD: *Yellow Robin Award for Best Emerging Filmmaker*

s. ***Debajo Mi Piel/Under my skin***

Nele Goutier, Cuba, 2014, 12 min, Spanish, PG

Debajo De Mi Piel is a documentary following Ivan, a Cuban tattoo-artist who has to hide his activities for the Cuban regime. Interviews with



his clients provide an interesting and timely insight into a society that remains a mystery to many of us.

North American Premiere

9:15 p.m.

THEME: "ART|CONNECTIONS"

f. ***Art Connect***

Miguel Galofré, Trinidad & Tobago/Spain, 2014, 74 min, English, PG

Art Connect vividly illustrates how creative intervention changed the lives of a group of young people in Laventille, a disenfranchised and volatile community in T&T, even as it allows them to document their own lives.

This film began by documenting Trinidad and Tobago students' collaboration with visiting artist Wendell McShine, as they embarked on a series of dynamic community murals in an ongoing visual dialogue on the walls of Laventille. Then it concentrated on the powerful process of creative intervention on a group of students -- aged from 13-17 who live in communities that are considered to be the most marred by violence in Trinidad and Tobago. These students were given *Gopro* video cameras to take home during the workshops. The young people narrate their stories documenting the highs and lows of their lives and introducing us to their mentors and communities. The film captures their moments of struggle, vulnerability and overcoming obstacles, as their confidence grows.

AWARD: *Best Local Feature & People's Choice Award for Best Documentary in Trinidad and Tobago Film Festival 2014*

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 19

CLOSING NIGHT & AWARDS

THEME: "QUEER CARIBBEAN"

f. ***Mala Mala***

Antonio Santini & Dan Sickles, Puerto Rico, 2014, 89 min, Spanish, R

Mala Mala is a feature length documentary exploring the lives of Puerto Ricans in the trans-community. It is an evocative examination of the transgender world in Puerto Rico; from the glam and glitter of the drag queens to the strong desire to be accepted as part of the mainstream

community in Puerto Rico, as themselves. The oldest member of the cast of characters, Soraya Santiago Solla, is a pioneer of the sex change movement in Puerto Rico and makes the distinction that people do not have to be dolls to be women, while Sophia Voines simply wants to be accepted as herself, a woman. This film is at times graphic in its presentation to a general audience but leaves no doubt that in the end, that there is a human rights issue at stake when it comes to the transgender community being a welcome and legal part of the wider society, in the supermarket, on the street and especially in the workplace.

9:15 p.m.

s. ***You, Me, Bathroom Sex, Now***

Francisco Lupini Basagoiti, USA, 2012, 17 min, Spanish, R

Three days before Christmas, Antonio finds out that his boyfriend of 8 years is cheating on him. Heartbroken, he looks for solace in his favorite dive bar where a mysterious visitor has a keen interest in him. A comedy about a man who tries to forget about love, in all the wrong places.

Canadian Premiere

Tickets can be purchased online at <http://www.caribbeantales.ca/CTFF/events/> and may be purchased on-site one hour before each screening at The Royal Cinema.

- Sept 9: Opening Night Gala - \$50
- Sept 9-19: Platinum 10 Festival pass -\$159.99
- Sept 9-18: Gold 10 Festival pass + Gala - \$145
- Sept 13 - 18: All Access Festival Pass - \$99.99
- Sept 13 - 18: Single Ticket - \$15 & Student - \$12
- Sept 19: Closing Night - \$25

PUBLIC INFORMATION:

For more information about the festival, the public may visit <http://caribbeantales-events.com>, email festival.carribeantales@gmail.com or call the CaribbeanTales International Film Festival Office line at 647-303-7343.

[Follow @CaribbeanTales](#)

<https://www.facebook.com/CaribbeanTalesInternationalFilmFestival>

Vimeo sites and password are for journalists' use only - we are currently confirming interviews - thank you!



For further CaribbeanTales International Film Festival information
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