

FILM FESTIVAL

2:00 PM

A Place Called Shandro (60 min)

"An impressionistic documentary that chronicles the settlement of east central Alberta by Ukrainian immigrants at the turn of the 20th century. Narrated by the voices of actual pioneers and their descendants, their stories of struggle and celebration brought to life through spectacular cinematography that captures the majesty and the beauty of the prairie landscape they helped to tame. The film examines our conflicted relationship with the past and ends as a spiritual reflection on the meaning of life, death and the idea of resurrection through remembrance. Written and directed by James Motluk Guerrilla Films.

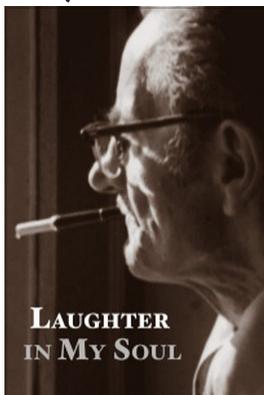


3:15PM

A series of short films entered on famous Ukrainian Canadian artists

Laughter in My Soul (28 min)

This short documentary profiles cartoonist, painter, humorist, publisher, iconographer and teacher Jacob Maydanyk. Part of the first wave of Ukrainian immigrants who arrived in Canada between 1896-1914, Maydanyk was an imaginative artist who created the beloved comic strip character Shteeff Tabachniuk, a hapless and endearing galoot who became a folk hero to Ukrainian immigrants. *Laughter in My Soul* is a tribute to the dignity and heroism of those early pioneers and to those whose spirit lives on, to those who had laughter in their souls.



Leo Mol in Light and Shadow (49 min)

For almost 50 years, sculptor Leo Mol hid his past behind a veil of half-truth and deliberate misdirection. Torn from home and family by Hitler's invasion of the Soviet Union, Mol found himself adrift with only his art to save him. This emotional documentary sets the public story of his artistic success against a private drama of loss, exile and guilt.



Kurelek (10min)

A documentary about the self-taught painter William Kurelek, told through his paintings. There are scenes of village life in the Ukraine and the early days of struggle on a prairie homestead and the growing comfort of family life. In Ontario, Kurelek paints the present life of Canada with the same pleasure he painted the old.



Art Gallery of Alberta Theatre May 28, 2017

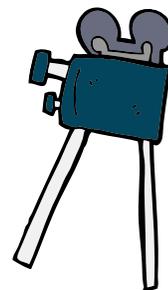
Half Day Pass \$15

All Day Pass \$25

5:00PM

Folk! (73min)

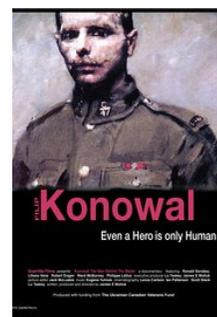
Folk! opens the door to the underground world of Ukrainian dancing in present day New York City. Filmmaker Roxy Toporovych guides the audience through a fun-filled whirlwind of Ukrainian culture, Ukrainian-American life, and her one true obsession of folk-dancing. After a journey through folk dance history, Roxy meets legendary choreographer Roma Pryma Bohachevska, and joins her dance company as they prepare for a sold-out performance in New York City as tragedy strikes the company struggles to pull the show together. With tensions high and bodies out of shape, we follow the dancers through an uphill battle of body and mind, as everyone pursues the passion to *Folk!*



6:30PM

Konowal (46min)

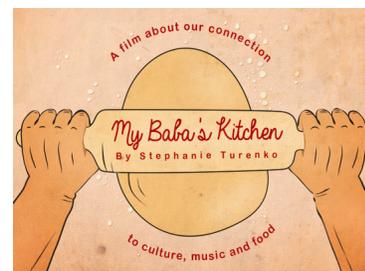
The heroic story of Victoria Cross recipient Filip Konowal at the Battle of Hill 70 and the struggles he and other Veterans faced while returning from the Great War in 1919. Directed by James Motluck.



7:30PM

My Baba's Kitchen

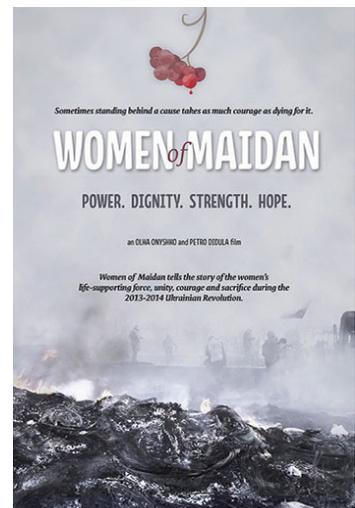
An animated short that tells the story of two young people who fell in love under extraordinary circumstances. Taking place in the past and present as a conversation between a grandmother and granddaughter, the film explores the binding forces of culture, music and food. Written and produced by Stephanie Turenko.



8:00PM

Women of Maidan (62 min)

On November, 2013, students peacefully gathered on Maidan Square in Kyiv, Ukraine. Through joyful singing they celebrated their common goal of an economic treaty to bring Ukraine closer to the European Union. Peaceful demonstration came to an end when government special police forces broke into the square and beat the student demonstrators. Women courageously filled the streets, energized the nation, and sustained the protestors for over two months. The women became the heart of this spontaneous revolution, now known as "The Revolution of Dignity." These Women of Maidan join history's female revolutionaries who selflessly sustained political movements by providing love, nourishment, and care during desperate times. Maidan is a call for women to awaken, to see the power in their collective wisdom and strength: a power strong enough to overcome oppression from any ruthless regime. May the sacrifices and achievements of the Women of Maidan inspire us to build a new world providing dignity and prosperity for all.



For more information contact

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