

Couch Film Festival

Fall 2025 Edition

BEST of the FESTIVAL (Judges' Favourites)

BEST FILM of the FESTIVAL: Village Mart dir Maria Zvezdina, Canada

1st RUNNER UP for BEST FILM: A.A - The Alex & Ariel Story dir Richesse
Kabongo, Canada

2nd RUNNER UP for BEST FILM: Snow Dog dir Christina Park, Marisol Salazar
Montoya, USA

HONOURABLE MENTIONS for BEST FILM:

Cuddle Buddies dir Mira Gunwant del Prado, Canada

The Bad Crow dir Busra Sena Gazioglu, USA

Planet Fitness dir Casey Schwarzschild, USA

My Fighter dir Thomas Murgatroyd, Canada

AUDIENCE CHOICE: The End dir Liv Berkowitz, Molly Cole, Canada

CATEGORY AWARD NOMINEES

1:00-5:00 MINUTES

Winners in RED, Nominees in BLACK

Nominees for Best Action

Dream Killer dir Dimitri Kanjuka, Czech Republic

The Beardfight dir Dimitri Kanjuka, Czech Republic

Sea of Lightning dir Jin Guo, USA

Hotel L'infini dir May (Hsi-Chen) Lee, Lindsay Browne, USA

Nominees for Best Adventure

Soarin' Heights dir Jack Haris, USA

The Mooning dir Mason Klesch, Vivian Osness, USA

Rock dir Shania Zhou, Julia Edwards, USA

Nominees for Best Animation Canada

Animato Anthropomorphica, the Business of Cats and Dogs dir Mike Valiquette, Canada

Flow dir Laila Blue, Canada

Single Use dir Ashley Johnsgaard, Canada

Cosmicat dir Hyeonji Oh, Canada

Nominees for Best Animation International

Entry Test dir Zhang Yaxuan, China

Bruno's Wings dir Nano Bor, Argentina

A Paper Coffee Cup Story dir Igor Gusev, Russia

The Last Memory dir Nathan Chamberlin, Lili Dropt, Pablo Vautour, Marion Zucconi, France

The Feral Bird dir Maxime Le Toullec, France

Nominees for Best Animation USA

What If? dir Bradley Bothwell, USA

Turduck-In dir Sydney Christensen, USA

Express Photo dir Dashun Zhou, Kiki Jiang, USA

Music of Love dir Melissa Glasscock, USA

What We Imagined dir Shubhavi Arya, USA

Nominees for Best Art Film

The Caterwoman - The Movie dir Signe Søjberg Højlt, Denmark

Home dir Grant Hunter, UK

Sculptural Fabrications dir Ebba Jahn, Dwayne Jahn, Germany

Torn dir Anna Gawriltschuk, Germany

Envisioning dir Tian Yuan Zheng, Canada

Nominees for Best Comedy International

The Cent dir Marc Pejó Forés, Spain

The Modern Woman dir Madeline Watkins, Spain

Spooky Scotland: Slains Castle dir Uisdean Murray, UK

Nominees for Best Comedy North America

Sepurration dir Greg Tindale, Austin Boggs, USA

Stakeout Siblings dir Ethan Wingrove, Canada

Sum Guy Goes to a Party dir Ian Johnston, Canada

Breathe dir Mikaela Duffy, USA

Nominees for Best Crime/Mystery/Suspense/Thriller

Waterlogged dir Kent Lloyd, USA

Sheepskin dir Ethan Wingrove, Canada

Medieval Maze dir Nina Romain, UK

Becoming Forensics dir Dana Liu, Canada

Nominees for Best Drama

Pinky Promise dir Megan Gray, Canada

Broken dir Jannah Yasser Aly, Egypt

True Harmony Cleaning dir Konrad Kultys, UK

Brownie dir Chantal Imerti, USA

Nominees for Best Experimental Canada

Fast Fwd dir Ethan Wingrove, Canada

Invoca dir Basile Buisson, Canada

Birth dir Harman Saini, Canada

Nominees for Best Experimental International

Identity dir Andy Winward, UK

Vigilante dir Nicholas Grant, UK

Creep dir Rob Winward, UK

Shadows Before Dawn dir Rob Winward, UK

Nominees for Best Experimental USA

Spatial Neglect dir Jacob Anthony Benedetti, USA

I'm Sorry Frankie dir Tatiana Charlise Dominguez, USA

Migraine dir John Maslowski, USA

No Discharge in the War dir John Maslowski, USA

Nominees for Best Horror

The Other dir Cyril Emmanuel Ferment, France

Spooky Scotland: Slains Castle dir Uisdean Murray, UK

Mystic Shadows dir Rob Winward, UK

Pixel Rot dir Rob Winward, UK

Leshy dir Julia Bui Ngoc, Poland

Doomscroll dir Andrea D'Amario, Canada

Nominees for Best Music Video

Every Pebble dir E. Lockleis, USA

The Caterwoman - The Movie dir Signe Søjberg Højlt, Denmark

Labyrinth Of Love dir Armen Pogosyan, USA

Nominees for Best One-Minute Film

Cleaning dir Jérémy Ates, France

Portrait dir Ignacio Rodó, Spain

Dreamclock: A Life I Almost Lived dir Jacek Redzko, Poland

Nominees for Best One-Person Show

Sunday dir Eva Weitzman-Stangel, USA
Leshy dir Julia Bui Ngoc, Poland
Picnic of Death dir **Josh Cooper, Canada**
Look At Me dir Cameron Morin, Canada

Nominees for Best Original Story

Cue Juliet dir Tyler Townsend, USA
Contracting the Cooties dir **Skylar Levine, Maya Bayewitch, USA**
Mantaur dir Sophia "Roo" Bakken, USA
The Observed dir Zhivko Zidarov, Bulgaria

Nominees for Best Romance

Foil dir Sue Suhy, USA
Take-out dir **Poramet Ariyakusonsuthi, Australia**
Bloom dir Tim Klooster, Netherlands
Asymptote dir Aybuke Yilmazer, USA

Nominees for Best Sci-Fi/Fantasy/Supernatural

Space Rock dir Ben Taman, USA
The Singularity dir **Noah Seta, USA**
Starlight Cantina dir Monica Lagrange, USA
Oracle Stone dir Michael Kibambi, France
What's Next dir Glen L. Wolfe, USA

Nominees for Best Student Film

Butterfly Business dir **Amanda Mai, USA**
Don't Feed the Unicorn dir Kimberly Peh, Katherine Hogan, USA
Things I Never Said dir Eden Quan, USA
Trash Cat dir Reiley Farley, USA

Nominees for Best First-Time Filmmaker

Plamena Petrova - Rear Windows, Bulgaria
Rohan Gnaniah - Croaked!, USA
Fatemeh Zare - Human Layers, Netherlands
Alexandria Wang - Sinmates, USA

Nominees for Best Actor

Andre Rodrigues - Take-Out, Australia
Dalibor Belfin - Dream Killer, Czech Republic
David Dryden - Sheepskin, Canada

Nominees for Best Actress

Jemima Bewa - Oracle Stone, France

Rhiana Eastlant - Cue Juliet, USA

Rayla Jae - Waterlogged, USA

Nominees for Best Cast

I See You dir Jane Fleiss, USA

Portrait dir Ignacio Rodó, Spain

What About You? dir Chiara Gheller, USA

Nominees for Best Cinematography

Poramet Ariyakusonsuthi - Take-Out, Australia

Austin Boggs - The Singularity, USA

Pascal Sid - The Other, France

Nominees for Best Writer

Brandon Richard Hobson - Blue Door, UK

Greg Tindale - Sepurration, USA

Chonnajun Waitayawinyoo - Killa Maid, USA

Nominees for Best Director

Zekai Wang - 1 Minute 54 Seconds, China

Jodi Pavlock - Abusive, USA

Tyler Hodkinson - #GloryForGary, Canada

5:01-20:00 MINUTES

Winners in RED, Nominees in BLACK

Nominees for Best Animation

Becky and the 4th Wall dir Jack Clifford Parnell, Canada

2392 Miles dir Kai Ho, USA

Celebrations Around the World dir Melissa Glasscock, USA

Nominees for Best Artistic Film

My Art is My Adversary dir Christarn Thorg, Canada

Daze of an Empire Stay dir Matthew Mirowski, Canada

Ella Camina dir Luke Sobota, Canada

Nominees for Best Comedy Canada

The Shop dir Justin Godlien, Canada

The Waheela dir Evan Polisen, Canada
Elmo Is Dead dir Luis Armando Pacheco Larrea, Canada
Escape The Friendzone dir Connor McLellan, Canada

Nominees for Best Comedy International

The Queen of Pop dir David Goñi, Spain
A Spoon for Grandpa dir Suzie Cahn, France
Monstera dir Diego R. Aballe, Spain

Nominees for Best Comedy USA

Hot Tub Horror Story dir Lily Andrews, USA
Wheel of Grief dir Carolina Liz, USA
Vapor Trails dir Matt Jenkins, USA
Bitches of Baker Street dir Tyler Townsend, USA

Nominees for Best Crime/Mystery/Suspense/Thriller International

24 Hours of Trust dir Filmon Kiros, Eritrea
Monstera dir Diego R. Aballe, Spain
The Last Passenger dir Subhankar Ghatak, India
Tony dir Baptist Agostini-Croce, France

Nominees for Best Crime/Mystery/Suspense/Thriller North America

The Girl dir Mandy Kowalski, USA
New Blood dir Ethan Wingrove, Canada
Finger Guns dir Kyle Wilton, Canada
Countdown to Midnight dir Saif Mir, Canada
The Girl in the Basement dir Isaac Platizky, USA

Nominees for Best Dark Comedy

Cookie Demon dir Darren Haskins, USA
Couples Therapy dir Roxane Dupont, USA
Cringe dir Mevlüt Şahin, Berk Ergün, Turkey

Nominees for Best Documentary

Whispers of the Blue Hole dir Jannah Aly, Canada
Suicide in Denver dir Brandon Thomas Serneck, USA
Moomtaz Khatoon: A Gender Fluid Queer Muslim dir Imtiaz Popat, Canada
The White Gold of Anchialo dir Zhivko Zidarov, Bulgaria

Nominees for Best Drama Canada

The Field dir Davis Homenuck, Canada
The Hermit dir Leopoldo Vieytes, Isadora Vieytes, Canada
Rose dir Philippe Turcotte, Canada
Worth Dying For dir Cameron Morin, Canada

Local Wildlife dir Chris Porteous, Canada

Nominees for Best Drama International

The Loneliness of the Moon dir Pezhan Ziaian, Iran

[The Exchange](#) dir Amaia Yoldi, Spain

Oz dir Bétina Flender, France

Angelic Light dir Alastair Romãno, Greece

The Life dir Timo Stump, Switzerland

Nominees for Best Drama USA

Everlee dir Jeremy Carr, USA

[The Train I'm On](#) dir Seth Darwin Nestorowicz, USA

I Thought Tomorrow We'd Go for a Walk dir Eddy Wang, USA

When I Run dir Mauricio Momo Meneses, USA

Nominees for Best Experimental

[Prayer of the Sea](#) dir Martin Gerigk, Germany

Cat Call dir Kim Best, USA

Stray Signals dir Rob Winward, UK

Commenced dir Cade J. Alexander, USA

Nominees for Best Horror

The Taste of Greed dir Senthoran Ramanathan, Canada

Who Said Anything About Ghosts dir Karthic Janarth, Canada

Tuatha Dé Danann dir Mikaela Orford, Canada

[Eyes Down](#) dir John Strahl, Canada

Really, Really, Dead dir Jeffrey Ashkin, USA

Nominees for Best Music Video

[Smoke Of Vengeance](#) dir Luke Sydney, India

Around You dir Luke Sydney, India

Coercive Measures dir Logan Jones, Canada

Nominees for Best Original Story

I Owe You One dir Santi Capuz, Diego Jiménez, Spain

The Case of the Missing Platypus dir Bryce Mackie, USA

[Imperfect Cadence](#) dir Ewan S. Henry, UK

Nominees for Best Romance

Today of All Days dir Ben Frondorf, USA

Calaverita A La Muerte (A Death Poem Dedicated to Death) dir Luis Armando Pacheco Larrea, Canada

[Seeing Each Other, Seeing Things](#) dir Ben Taman (USA)

I Thought Tomorrow We'd Go for a Walk dir Eddy Wang, USA

Trace dir Da'Nae Pinder, Canada

Nominees for Best Sci-Fi/Fantasy/Supernatural

Read-Only Memory (Mémoire Morte) dir Catherine Côté-Moïse, Jonathan Asselin, Le Zoo Cinema, Canada

Card Game dir Isaac Middleton, USA

Ghost Light dir Tyler Townsend, USA

Escape The Friendzone dir Connor McLellan, Canada

Nominees for Best Student Film

What We Owe to Ourselves dir Christarn Thorg, Canada

Stuck dir Josie Harrison, USA

Liminal dir Julien Amodéo, Tech in Caraïbes, Guadeloupe

Don't Diss My Ability dir Arpad Bakaity, Canada

Nominees for Best First-Time Filmmaker

Qianyunuo Qiu - The Bell Rings, China

Andrew Wakeman Proctor - Lost Dreams, USA

Hamed Pouresfandyani - The Guard Tower, Iran

Roxane Dupont - Couples Therapy, USA

Nominees for Best Actor

Jamon Holmes - Hitman Ex, USA

Nathan Simmons - Trace, Canada

Valentin Toribio - Bioreset, Bolivia

Zhoue Bingkun - Life in Ten Minutes, China

Nominees for Best Actress

Shelby Hunstad - The Crow, USA

Caroline Digan - Immortal Ron, UK

Ruby Romero - Unlucky Penny, Canada

Marion Maclou - Couples Therapy, USA

Nominees for Best Cast

A Twist In The Night dir Emma Harkin, Nicole Dane, Canada

Blind Date dir Joey Mosca, USA

The Same Family dir Omar Aufi, Norway

Nothing Without You (Nada Sin Ti) dir Miguel Garcia Bernal, Spain

Nominees for Best Cinematography

Edd Lukas - The Girl, USA

Subhankar Ghatak - The Last Passenger, India

Bisan Byadsi - Immortal Ron, UK

Lily Andrews - Hot Tub Horror Story, USA

Nominees for Best Writer

Cameron Moon, Dominic Mason - The Yard, UK

Da'Nae Pinder - Trace, Canada

Lily Andrews - Hot Tub Horror Story, USA

Kai Ho, Caira Afong - 2392 Miles, USA

Nominees for Best Director

Emir Batuş - Andersen Impasse, Turkey

Valdis Pelenitsyn - The Briefcase, USA

Miguel Garcia Bernal - Nothing Without You (Nada Sin Ti), Spain

Jeremy Carr - Everlee, USA

20:01-45:00 MINUTES**Winners in RED, Nominees in BLACK****Nominees for Best Long Short Documentary**

90 Days Til Snow dir Eli James Gore, USA

Better Up There dir Mathis Dumas, France

Roots: The Day Awaits dir Adán Ávalos, USA

Nominees for Best Long Short Narrative

A Few Good Men From The North dir Onni Vesa, Finland

The Afters dir Cristobal Ayala, Canada

The Experiment dir Pedro Esteves, Brazil

King Björn dir Maxwell Couture, Canada

Nominees for Best Actor

Eero Vesa - A Few Good Men From The North, Finland

Aires Blair - King Björn, Canada

Yang Wenjie - Urdo on the Dead Wood, China

Nominees for Best Actress

Nicola Bresciani - The Mine, Italy

Maris Jors - A Few Good Men From The North, Finland

Corinna Escobar - Infidelity, Canada

Nominees for Best Cast

The Mine dir Alessandro Sivieri, Daniel Lama, Italy
The Boy and the Dragon dir Ha-joo Jang, Korea
The Afters dir Cristobal Ayala, Canada

Nominees for Best Cinematography

Onni Vesa - A Few Good Men From The North, Finland
Daniel Lama - The Mine, Italy
Maclnnes Boyle - King Björn, Canada

Nominees for Best Writer

Maxwell Couture - King Björn, Canada
Ha-joo Jang - The Boy and the Dragon, Korea
Pedro Esteves - The Experiment, Brazil

Nominees for Best Director

Adán Ávalos - Roots: The Day Awaits, USA
Eli James Gore - 90 Days Til Snow, USA
Pedro Esteves - The Experiment, Brazil

45:01-120:00 MINUTES

Winners in RED, Nominees in BLACK

Nominees for Best Comedy

Dead, White and Blue dir Mike Davis, USA
The Devil Returns To Monolith dir William Stancik, USA
Wallie's Gals dir Mary C. Ferrara, USA

Nominees for Best Crime/Mystery/Suspense/Thriller

Pegasus dir Hermes Cavagnini, Italy
Howl Of The Blue Moon dir Marie France Louis, USA
The Ploy dir Octavio Reyes, Mexico
Already Dead dir Adam Michael, USA
The Hanged Man dir Korab Uka, Kosovo, USA

Nominees for Best Documentary

Skin On Skin: The Rise & Fall of the World's Largest Furrier (Part 1 of 3) dir Scott Hunter, USA
Alpine Quest 2025 dir Aurélie Gonin, Switzerland

No Sleep Til Kyiv dir Eric Liebmann, Estonia, Ukraine, USA

Nominees for Best Drama

Incident dir **Samiel Rezene, Eritrea**

Howl Of The Blue Moon dir Marie France Louis, USA

The Devil Returns To Monolith dir William Stancik, USA

Masters and Vices dir Gregory Mallard, UK

Nominees for Best Sci-Fi/Fantasy/Supernatural

Dead, White and Blue dir Mike Davis, USA

The Devil Returns To Monolith dir William Stancik, USA

The Ploy dir **Octavio Reyes, Mexico**

Nominees for Best Actor

Ali Merchant - Adhura Khvab (An Incomplete Dream), India

Perry Dell'Aquilla - The Hanged Man, Kosovo, USA

Mackintosh Muggleton - Masters and Vices, UK

Nominees for Best Actress

Roe Pacheco - Wallie's Gals, USA

Sonia Sharmai - Adhura Khvab (An Incomplete Dream), India

Natalie Anson-Wright - Masters and Vices, UK

Nominees for Best Cast

The Hanged Man dir **Korab Uka, Kosovo, USA**

Already Dead dir Adam Michael, USA

The Ploy dir Octavio Reyes, Mexico

Nominees for Best Cinematography

Eric Liebmann, Christopher Walters - No Sleep Til Kyiv, Estonia, Ukraine, USA

Busola Adeboyejo - Howl Of The Blue Moon, USA

Donte Underwood - The Hanged Man, Kosovo, USA

Nominees for Best Writer

Taeyang Park, Taekyung Geum - Cool Up, Cool Down, Korea

Faizuddin Siddiqui - Adhura Khvab (An Incomplete Dream) India

Samuel Rezene - Incident, Eritrea

Nominees for Best Director

Taekyung Geum - Film Gifted Child Mr.Geum, Korea

Paolo Pier Luigi Guglielmetti - COLOMBANO & LA 21ESIMA FETTA, Italy

Marie France Louis - Howl Of The Blue Moon, USA

15-SECOND STORY

Winners in RED, Nominees in BLACK

Best 15-Second Story: *While The Cameras Were Rolling* dir Kevin Lucero Less, USA

Nominees for Best 15-Second Story

I Hear a Monster Under the Bed dir Lucas Subirats, Argentina

Stop dir Surapong Wetsuwanmanee, Thailand