



Screenings | Education | Film Reference Library | West Coast Film Archives

## About Pacific Cinémathèque

Pacific Cinémathèque is a film institute and media education centre with an international reputation for organizing and presenting high-quality, innovative film programs in Vancouver and British Columbia since 1972.

Both a non-profit society and registered charity, Pacific Cinémathèque's mission is to serve as a leading cultural and educational hub for cinema, celebrating film and moving images as great art forms and important means of communication, and fostering deeper understanding of the roles movies and moving images play in our lives.

## A Year-Round Film Festival

Pacific Cinémathèque celebrates the creative art of motion pictures and moving images with an extensive year-round program of public film exhibitions that bring the wide world of cinema to Vancouver while also showcasing the very finest achievements of British Columbian and Canadian directors.

Made up of more than 500 screenings annually, our presentations include historic and contemporary international cinema, new independent Canadian works, great movie classics, visiting filmmakers and guest speakers, and much more, making for a unique and stimulating film festival environment, 7 days a week, 52 weeks per year.

## An Invaluable Centre for Film Research — Film Library and Archives

Pacific Cinémathèque's Film Reference Library and West Coast Film Archives are two unique, invaluable resources central to our role as a Cinémathèque (a French word which means, literally, "film library," but also denotes "film archive") and our mission to advance cinema and cinema education.

The Film Reference Library, open to researchers and members of the public, is one of the largest speciality collections of its kind in Western Canada, containing thousands of film-related books, periodicals, and other documents.

The West Coast Film Archives, devoted to preserving the precious heritage of independent filmmaking on the west coast, houses several thousand Canadian and international films on 16mm and 35mm reels, including animation, experimental work, documentaries and features, with a culturally- and historically-significant core collection of several hundred films dating from the first important wave of independent filmmaking in B.C. (c.1968-78).

## **An Innovative Media Education Centre for Youth**

Pacific Cinémathèque's award-winning education programs use the power of movies and moving images to engage, inspire and educate young people in Vancouver and across B.C.

Our film history and media literacy programs are designed to foster an appreciation and passion for the art of cinema as well as an understanding of the impact of visual media in the world around us. Our innovative hands-on training programs, including the Sights & Sounds Video Production Program and the TELUS Summer Visions Film Institute, provide aspiring young filmmakers with the technical, artistic, and analytical skills for effective communication and creative media expression.

### **The Sights and Sounds Video Production Program**

A travelling instructional program that brings media artists, media educators, and video production equipment to classrooms and community centres groups across B.C., teaching kids to make films and tell their stories.

### **The TELUS Summer Visions Film Institute:**

An annual summer filmmaking program for teens, developed in partnership with Dream Big Productions at Vancouver's Templeton Secondary School, and specifically targeted at low-income youths who want to learn more about media-making than the average school program can provide.

### **The Film Study Guide Program:**

A publishing program providing Canadian students and teachers with classroom-ready learning packages that explore various topics in the history of cinema and the social power of images, using classic and contemporary movies. The guides are distributed nationally and recognized as a major contribution to media education in Canada.

### **The Film Literacy Program:**

Providing critical-thinking skills for a better understanding of how moving images and other mass media influence our lives in the 21st century, this visiting-speaker and workshop program, organized around various timely topics, include sessions for students as well as media-literacy training for their teachers.

## **A Vibrant Member of the Vancouver Cultural Community since 1972**

One of Vancouver's most senior and stable arts organizations, Pacific Cinémathèque will celebrate its 40th anniversary in 2012. Over those years, in addition to our own presentations, we have built an enviable track record of collaboration with a diverse range of other B.C.-based arts, cultural, educational, multicultural, and community groups on exciting public programs of wide cultural interest.