



Culture  
Foundation

Enriching Our  
Community

August 31st - September 3rd, 2023

17<sup>th</sup>

# MIFF

## Meaford International Film Festival



AN EXCEPTIONAL FILM FESTIVAL EXPERIENCE

4 NIGHTS 4 DINNERS 5 FILMS 4 PARTIES 4 MATINEES



**TICKETS: [meafordfilmfest.ca](http://meafordfilmfest.ca) / 877-538-0463**



# MIFF SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**Festival Tent/Bar opens daily at 4:30pm**

## THURSDAY, AUG. 31ST

1:30pm - Kubo And The Two Strings  
5:15pm - MIFF Dinner (The Kitchen)  
7:00pm - Opening Gala / The Eagle Huntress  
9:30 - 11:00pm - Afterparty \*

## FRIDAY, SEP. 1ST

1:30pm - The Eagle Huntress  
5:15pm - MIFF Dinner (Culinary Designs)  
7:00pm - Employee Of The Month  
9:30 - 11:00pm - Afterparty \*

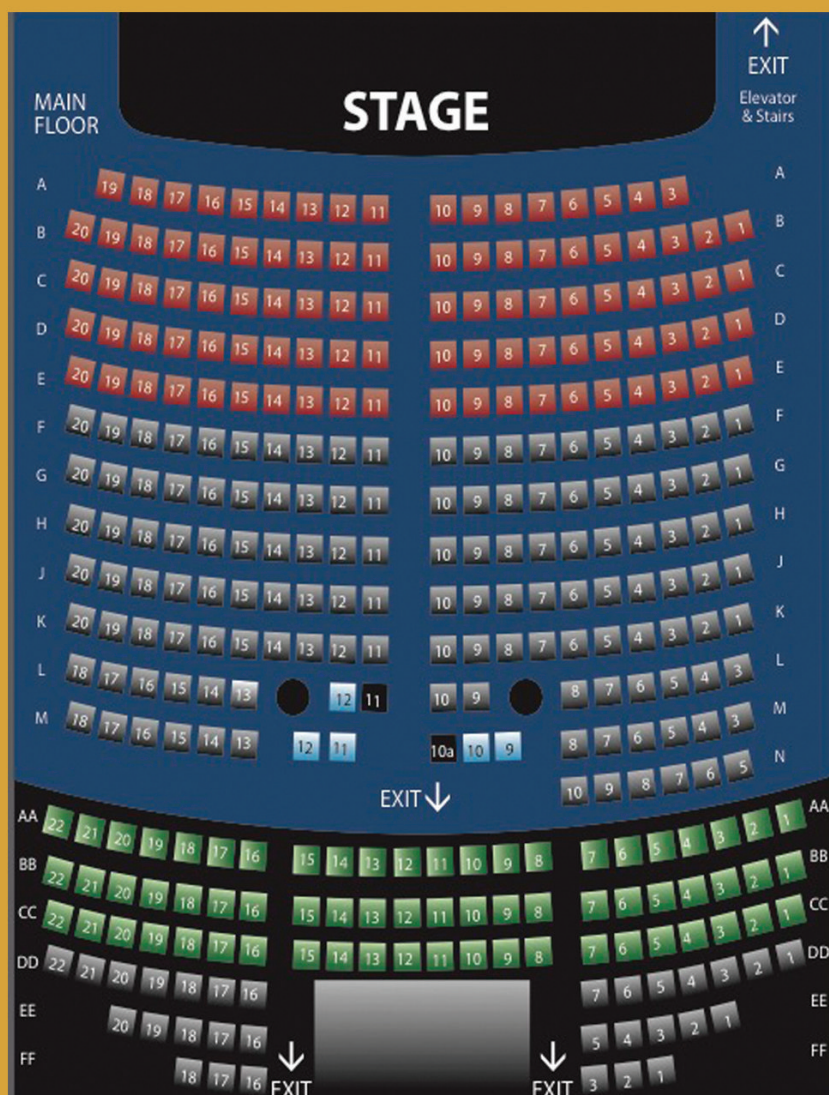
## SATURDAY, SEP. 2ND

1:30pm - Employee Of The Month  
5:15pm - MIFF Dinner (The Red Door)  
7:00pm - Joyland  
9:30 - 11:00pm - Afterparty \*

## SUNDAY, SEP. 3RD

1:30pm - Joyland  
5:15pm - MIFF Dinner (The Dam Pub)  
7:00pm - Triangle Of Sadness  
9:30 - 11:00pm - Closing Gala / Afterparty \*

\* After Guest Speaker



***Book  
Your  
Seats  
Now!***



[meafordhall.ca](http://meafordhall.ca)

# MIFF TICKET INFORMATION

**ALL MIFF Dinners & Film Tickets are HST & Gratuity Exempt**

**1** MATINEE FILM: **\$15** per person

**ALL 4** MATINEE FILMS: **\$50** per person

**1** EVENING FILM (includes \* Afterparty): **\$40** per person

**ALL 4** EVENING FILMS (and \* Afterparties): **\$140** per person

**1** MIFF DINNER: **\$55** per person

**ALL 4** MIFF DINNERS: **\$200** per person

All Film attendees have the opportunity to rate the film for the MIFF People's Choice Award, the **POMME D'OR!**



Sponsored by



All Evening Films include the After Film interviews.  
Visit [meafordfilmfest.ca](http://meafordfilmfest.ca) for updates on our guest speakers.

\* All Evening Films include the Afterparty which includes a complementary drink, Chef inspired appetizers, who's who mingling, popcorn, coffee, and a chance to win the nightly Trivia Quiz prize, all in the MIFF Festival tent!



12 Nelson Street East, Meaford N4L1N6



# MIFF DINNERS

4:30pm Cocktails, 5:15pm Dinner, Cash Bar



**THURSDAY, AUGUST 31ST**

## **THE KITCHEN**

86 N Sykes Street, Meaford, ON N4L 1N8  
519-538-1208 / thekitchen86@gmail.com  
thekitchenmeaford.com

*Salad* Mixed Green Salad with Shaved Fennel, Dried Cranberries and Shallot Vinaigrette

*Main* Herbed Stuffed Chicken Supreme, Roasted Mini Red Potatoes with Garlic and Fresh Herbs, Oil Roasted Seasonal Vegetable Medley and Fresh Dinner Rolls

*Dessert* Strawberry Shortcake

**Chef: Megan Fisher**

Coffee donated by:



**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1ST**

## **CULINARY CATERING DESIGNS**

68 Arthur Street West, Thornbury, ON N0H 2P0  
519-599-7900 / culinary designs.ca

*Salad* Late Summer Greens, Local Berries, Grilled Local Peaches, Feta, Charred Baby Tomatoes, Almonds, Mint Vinaigrette. Served with Breads and Butters and Infused Oils

*Main* Citrus and Herb Crusted Salmon, Tomato and White Wine, Caper and Green Olive Concasse, Seasonal Vegetables, Roasted Mini Local Potatoes

*Dessert* Brownies, Tarts, Cookies, Bars

**Chef: Season Leone**

Coffee donated by:





**MIFF Dinners are in the Festival Tent at Meaford Hall  
Reserve a seat in MIFF's exclusive restaurant now!**



**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND**

**THE RED DOOR RESTAURANT**

126 N Sykes Street, Meaford, ON N4L 1P3  
226-662-5899 / [thereddoormeaford@gmail.com](mailto:thereddoormeaford@gmail.com)  
[thereddoormeaford.com](http://thereddoormeaford.com)

*Salad*

Mixed Greens topped with Authentic Pico de Gallo, Homemade Ginger Vinaigrette, Balsamic Glaze and Goat Cheese

*Main*

Slow Cooked and Grilled Barbeque Ribs slathered with Homemade BBQ Sauce, Roasted Baby Potatoes, Steamed Broccoli, Red Peppers and Zucchini in a Garlic Butter Sauce

*Dessert*

Homemade Apple Crumble

**Chef: Nathan Gowan**

Coffee donated by:



**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD**

**THE DAM PUB**

72 N Sykes Street, Meaford, ON N4L 1R2  
226-662-2110 / [stephanie@thedampub.ca](mailto:stephanie@thedampub.ca)  
[thedampub.ca](http://thedampub.ca)

*Salad*

Spring Mix, Cherry Tomatoes, Red Onion, Crimini Mushrooms and Cucumbers served with House Red Wine Vinaigrette

*Main*

Carved Prime Rib with Mini Red Roasted Potatoes, Yorkshire Pudding, Vegetables Beef Jus, Horse Radish, Dinner Rolls and Butter

*Dessert*

Carrot Cake with Whiskey Cream Cheese Icing

**Chef: Edward Sleep**

Coffee donated by:





# MIFF FILMS

## KUBO AND THE TWO STRINGS

- Thursday, August 31st  
1:30pm Matinee Only

**Year:** 2016

**Awards:** 67 nominations / 33 wins / 2 Oscars

**Directed by:** Travis Knight

**Language:** English

**Country:** United Kingdom / United States

**Rating:** PG

**Running Time:** 1 hour 41 minutes

**Stars:** Charlize Theron / Matthew McConaughey

**Category:** Animation / Action / Adventure



Kubo lives a quiet, normal life in a small shoreside village until a spirit from the past turns his life upside down by re-igniting an age-old vendetta. This causes all sorts of havoc as gods and monsters chase Kubo who, in order to survive, must locate a magical suit of armor once worn by his late father, a legendary Samurai warrior.

*"...a film that's as poignant for adults as it is entertaining for children is nothing short of magical."* - Roger Ebert

*"This latest stop-motion picture from Laika (The Boxtrolls, Coraline) stands out for its complexity, seductively dark themes and the extraordinary beauty of its animation."*  
- Wendy Ide, *The Guardian*

Artistic Director note: I chose this film because it uses stop motion animation to beautifully tell a fantastic story. The style of the film accentuates the location and time: feudal Japan.

**A special thank you to our MIFF Festival Co-Sponsors:**





# MIFF FILMS

## THE EAGLE HUNTRESS

- Thursday, August 31st  
7:00 pm Evening Film
- Friday, September 1st  
1:30pm Matinee

A locally produced student film will be shown prior to the feature film.

**Year:** 2016

**Awards:** 22 nominations / 9 wins

**Directed by:** Otto Bell

**Languages:** Kazakh / English

**Country:** Mongolia / United Kingdom / United States

**Rating:** G

**Running Time:** 87 minutes

**Stars:** Aisholpan Norgaiv / Daisy Ridley

**Category:** Documentary / Adventure / Sport

**Guest:** TBA on [meafordfilmfest.ca](http://meafordfilmfest.ca)

Thirteen-year-old Aisholpan trains to become the first female in twelve generations of her nomad family to become an eagle huntress.

Wins include the Denver International Film Festival's People's Choice Award and the Palm Springs International Film Festival's Directors To Watch Award.

Nominations include the BAFTA Best Documentary Award.

*"...a sky-high documentary salute to girl power, is at its best when it soars with a purity of purpose..." - Roger Ebert*

*"...one of the most magical stretches of nonfiction filmmaking in recent years." - Joey Nolfi, Entertainment Weekly*



Artistic Director note: I chose this film because it shows a culture so different from our own, a lifestyle that's hard to imagine for most, and how a young girl can push society's norms to pursue her passion in a field controlled by men

**Thank you to our Thursday Night MIFF Sponsor:**





# MIFF FILMS

## EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

- Friday, September 1st  
7:00 pm Evening Film
- Saturday, September 2nd  
1:30pm Matinee

A locally produced student film will be shown prior to the feature film.

**Year:** 2021

**Awards:** 1 nomination

**Directed by:** Veronique Jadin

**Languages:** French

**Country:** Belgium

**Rating:** Not Rated (recommended 14+)

**Running Time:** 1 hour 18 minutes

**Stars:** Jasmina Douieb / Laetitia Mampaka

**Category:** Comedy / Crime

**Guest:** TBA on [meafordfilmfest.ca](http://meafordfilmfest.ca)

After working for EcoClean, an industrial cleaning supplies company, for nearly 17 years, model employee Inès believes it's time for a raise. Despite daily jibes from her incompetent and misogynistic co-workers (including Patrick, EcoClean's ineffectual owner), she remains professional and dedicated to the company's brand, until things spiral out of control.

Nominated for the Audience Award at the Fantasy Filmfest.

"Employee Of The Month sets its farcical tone during the opening and never misses a beat until the closing credits stop rolling." - Bobby LePire, Film Threat

Artistic Director note: While gender inequality is at the root of this film, it's really a story for anyone who understands how it feels to be frustrated. This film takes that frustration to a whole new level, but makes it entertaining rather than depressing through the use of comedy.

Thank you to our Friday Night MIFF Sponsor:

DAVID & SONJA GLASS

The logo for David & Sonja Glass features a stylized blue wave or leaf-like graphic below the company name.



# MIFF FILMS

## JOYLAND

- Saturday, September 2nd  
7:00pm Evening Film
- Sunday, September 3rd  
1:30 pm Matinee

A locally produced student film will be shown prior to the feature film.

**Year:** 2022

**Awards:** 17 nominations / 15 wins

**Directed by:** Sam Sadiq

**Language:** Punjabi / Urdu

**Country:** Pakistan / United States

**Rating:** Not Rated (recommend 14+)

**Running Time:** 2 hours 6 minutes

**Stars:** Ali Junejo / Rasti Farooq / Alina Khan

**Category:** Drama

**Guest:** TBA on [meafordfilmfest.ca](http://meafordfilmfest.ca)

The youngest son in a traditional Pakistani family takes a job as a backup dancer in a Bollywood-style burlesque and quickly becomes infatuated with the strong-willed trans woman who runs the show.

Wins include Queer Palm at Cannes and the Best International Film at the Film Independent Spirit Awards. Nominations include the Aurora Award at TIFF and the Sutherland Award at the London Film Festival.

*"...a picture of considerable integrity, passion, and bravery."*

- Roger Ebert

*"This sensuous film mounts an indictment of misogyny and transphobia without ever lecturing us."*

- Anthony Lane, *The New Yorker*

Artistic Director note: I chose this film because it looks at the universal theme of being true to oneself and what that can mean in a completely different culture. It was also interesting to see a side of Pakistani culture that I didn't even imagine existed.



**Thank you to our Saturday Night MIFF Sponsors:**



**BRUCE STREET**  
Technologies Limited  
YOUR LOCAL INTERNET PROVIDER





# MIFF FILMS

## TRIANGLE OF SADNESS

- Sunday, September 3rd  
7:00pm Evening Film Only

A locally produced student film will be shown prior to the feature film.

**Year:** 2022

**Awards:** 71 nominations / 21 wins

**Directed by:** Ruben Ostlund

**Languages:** English / Swedish / German  
French / Greek / Tagalog / Akan

**Country:** Sweden / Germany / France / United Kingdom

**Rating:** R

**Running Time:** 2 hours 27 minutes

**Stars:** Harris Dickinson / Charlbi Dean

**Category:** Drama / Comedy

**Guest:** TBA on [meafordfilmfest.ca](https://meafordfilmfest.ca)



Carl and Yaya, a couple of influencers, are invited to a luxury cruise ship alongside a group of out of touch wealthy people. The situation takes an unexpected turn when a brutal storm hits the ship.

Wins include the Palme D'Or at the Cannes Film Festival and the European Film Award.

Nominations Include the Oscar for Best Picture, Best Original Screenplay, and Best Achievement in Directing.

*"...a frontal assault on the super-rich, and on the capitalist system in general, which has enough rage and riotous abandon to compensate for its lack of subtlety." - Nicholas Barber, BBC Culture*

Artistic Director note: I chose this film because it's outrageous and profound, hilarious and horrifying, and cinematic to enjoy on the big screen, while also exploring the important themes of class, inequality and excessive wealth.

Thank you to our Sunday Night MIFF Sponsor:

**RBA FINANCIAL GROUP**



# WHAT IS MCF!



*The Meaford Hall & Culture Foundation was created in 2006 as a vehicle to raise the outstanding funds required for the completion of the Meaford Hall renovation. In 2018, the organization rebranded as the Meaford Culture Foundation to reduce public confusion between our Foundation and the Meaford Hall Arts and Cultural Centre. MCF is a vibrant not-for-profit, independent, charitable organization dedicated to the preservation and advancement of arts and culture in our community. Staffed entirely by volunteers, it raises funds for capital projects for The Meaford Hall Arts and Cultural Centre and to our Community Outreach programs which support a wide range of local arts and culture activities. Since its inception, MCF has donated over \$654K to Meaford Hall improvements, and over \$300K towards local arts and cultural initiatives!*



*MCF's annual fundraising efforts rely almost exclusively on the generous support of our patrons, our donors, and those who simply embrace and support our community arts and culture. In addition to the tax receipt, for the community minded, there are some intangible benefits from donating to the Foundation. A vibrant arts and culture community instills community pride, attracts tourists and hence tourist dollars, and makes Meaford a potentially attractive destination for people looking to relocate.*

**Donate, volunteer or find more information at:**  
***[meafordculture.ca](http://meafordculture.ca)***



## A MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDATION

The  
Meaford  
International  
Film Festival is  
the Meaford Culture  
Foundation's flagship  
cultural event, held  
annually on the Labour Day  
Weekend at the premier arts  
venue in Southern Georgian Bay,  
the Meaford Hall & Cultural Centre.

The 17th annual festival will again offer a unique cultural experience featuring award winning films while promoting local restaurants and caterers. Funds generated from MIFF help support a variety of local arts and culture initiatives. Through its Community Outreach programs, MCF has allocated over **\$300K** to art, music, literacy, film, theatre and cultural awareness focusing on child and youth activities. More than 1,000 students benefit from its funding and bursaries each year. Additionally, MCF supports capital improvements for Meaford Hall and to date has donated over **\$654K** toward this beautiful historical landmark that contributes so much to our community. Please visit [meafordculture.ca](http://meafordculture.ca) for more information on MCF and [meafordfilmfest.ca](http://meafordfilmfest.ca) for MIFF news, and watch for details on our annual Christmas auction.

### A MESSAGE FROM MIFF ARTISTIC DIRECTOR ANNA DEN HENGST



Each year I watch around 40 films in my quest to build the perfect MIFF line-up, and while I know there is no such thing as perfect, I still try. Some of the films I watch are awful, and rejection is the easy part of the selection process. The difficult part is finding five films that are interesting, thought provoking, eye-opening, different, while also universal and entertaining (or simply put, good). I hope that I have succeeded in picking at least a few titles that will pique your interest.

The theme of inequality is prominent in the current zeitgeist, so it's not surprising that multiple films in this year's MIFF lineup explore that topic. However, I always want to provide an evening of entertainment, so while the films may be thought provoking or even controversial, each still has some comic relief for us to enjoy.

Each night's screening is also accompanied by a film from the Grey Bruce Youth Film Festival, and a special guest who will discuss the film with me.

And don't forget the afterparties!  
Looking forward to seeing you there.