

**21ST GALA SCREENING
& AWARDS PRESENTATION**

**SAT AUG 29
VANCOUVER PLAYHOUSE**



MAMM21 GALA

**MIGHTY ASIAN
MOVIEMAKING MARATHON**

Screening & Awards | 6:00 PM-9:00 PM

Vancouver Playhouse, 600 Hamilton Street, Vancouver, BC

Afterparty | 9:30 PM-2:00 AM

Library Square Pub, 300 W Georgia St, Vancouver, BC

We thank Kwitchtall Elder Dennis Joseph from the Skwxwú7mesh Nation for offering a traditional welcome blessing at the opening of this event.



Skwxwú7mesh
Úxwumixw

Ta na wa Ns7éyxnitm ta Snéwiyelh
Language & Cultural Affairs

We are grateful to live and work on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territories of the x^wməθk^wəyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Selílwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations. We thank the First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities that have cared for Turtle Island since time immemorial. With this acknowledgment, we remind ourselves of discriminatory, racist and colonial practices that have and continue to create barriers for Indigenous peoples and communities across Turtle Island.

MAMM21

IS PROUDLY HOSTED BY THE VANCOUVER ASIAN FILM FESTIVAL



VANCOUVER
ASIAN FILM
FESTIVAL

VAFF envisions a world where Asian Canadian stories are integral to Canada's cultural narrative—boldly reshaping the media landscape and redefining what it means to be Canadian.

We champion authentic Asian Canadian and global Asian diaspora representation by showcasing, mentoring, training and nurturing storytellers at every stage of their creative journey while building a vibrant, connected ecosystem of Asian voices on all storytelling platforms.



Save the Date

The 30th Annual Vancouver Asian Film Festival will take place from November 5-15, 2026



The Super Early Bird

VAFF Festival Premier Pass is on sale until Sept. 10, 2026



Join the conversation

@mamm_vaff #mamm21 @vaffvancouver #VAFF30
#VAFFIndustry #VAFFat30 www.vaff.org

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MAMM21 PRESENTING SPONSOR

TELEFILM
CANADA

MAMM21 PUBLIC FUNDER



VANCOUVER
CIVIC THEATRES

VANCOUVER
PLAYHOUSE



MAMM21 SUPERHERO SPONSORS

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LEON NG
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THANK YOU SPONSORS

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MAMM21 COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS





**The Vancouver Asian Film Festival (VAFF)'s
MIGHTY ASIAN MOVIEMAKING MARATHON**
celebrates its 21st year of supporting and
showcasing emerging local filmmakers.

Come see what the 19 teams of MAMM21 finalists made in 10 days!

Join us as we screen the MAMM21 finalists in the 10-minute Short,
1-minute Ultra Short categories, and spotlight our sophomore
Vertical Series.

Find out which teams from each category will win the Best Film and
other adjudicated awards, and help us select the People's Choice
Awards, Overall Shorts and Overall Performance!

30 VAFF

VANCOUVER
ASIAN FILM
FESTIVAL

MAMM21



MAMM21 GALA OPENING ACTS

————— *Thank you to our performers!* —————

ALYSSA AMARSHI | Choreography Director

NANDANUM SCHOOL OF BHARATNATYAM
BHARATNATYAM & MOHINIYATTAM DANCERS
LED BY **SARITHA RAJESH**

SEACHS
SOUTHEAST ASIAN CULTURAL HERITAGE SOCIETY
DANCERS LED BY **ANNIE NGOC HA**

VANCOUVER SHIN MYUNG KOREAN DRUM TEAM
LED BY **SUSAN PARK**



MAMM21 SHORT FILM COMPETITION TEAMS

(BY SCREENING ORDER)

10 MIN



THE CHICKEN & THE EGG

by Team Barong Media Inc.

A podcast host invites a self-help author to discuss mental health. With 10 minutes before they go live, what starts out as innocent small talk slowly spirals into a series of cringey comments, social faux pas, and self-destructive behaviour.

TEAM LEADERS: Ryan Lino, Louriza Tronco & Kevin Ang

DIRECTORS: Louriza Tronco & Kevin Ang

PRODUCERS: Ryan Lino, Louriza Tronco, Kevin Ang, Rachel Ambrosio

WRITERS: Kevin Ang, Louriza Tronco & Ryan Lino

CINEMATOGRAPHER: Mykyta Kutepov

EDITORS: Ryan Lino & Kevin Ang

LEAD ACTORS: Ryan Lino & Louriza Tronco

@THECHICKENANDTHEEGGSHORT

1 MIN



WHAT ARE YOU, CHICKEN?

by Team Squib Game

Dirty, thirty, and cornered in a dark room, Park Doo-man faces hard-looking gamblers you don't bluff. His life and his family's honor on the line. One 'fowl' phrase decides everything: 'What are you, chicken?'

TEAM LEADER: Kevin Cho

DIRECTOR: Kevin Cho

PRODUCERS: Ryan Anthony Kwok, Sherry Zhuo

WRITER(S): Anthony Poon

CINEMATOGRAPHER: Ryan Nguyen

LEAD ACTORS: Ryan Jinn & Wooah Wi

@ITSKCHO

10 MIN



CROOKED WINGS

by Team Domi Domi Productions

An origami teacher who was raised to believe love must be earned through perfection, learns from a carefree student that beauty lives in imperfection.

TEAM LEADER: Sonia Chou

DIRECTOR: Sonia Chou

PRODUCER(S): Juan Carlos Zarco Gonzalez, Huibin Tan

WRITER(S): Sonia Chou

CINEMATOGRAPHER: Thomas Mai

EDITOR: Phong Duy Do

LEAD ACTORS: Yuting Yao & Evelyn Wang

@SONIACHOU

1 MIN



WHYs
by Team WHYs
the Short

A woman is interrogated by her Diary, which exposes the lies behind her lifelong struggle with weight and approval, revealing a hidden desire for power, admiration, and control.

TEAM LEADER: Wen-chieh Chi
DIRECTOR: Wen-chieh Chi
PRODUCERS: Wen-chieh Chi, Beau Han Bridge
WRITER: Wen-chieh Chi
CINEMATOGRAPHY: Carlo Marchet
EDITOR: Waldo Tam
LEAD ACTOR: Wen-chieh Chi
@WHYSTHESHORTFILM

1 MIN



BOOGIE FEVER
by Team Meat Cookie

In *Boogie Fever*, a surreal dark comedy, a young Chinese-Canadian girl just can't stop dancing, and her friends are starting to worry that it's contagious.

TEAM LEADER: Emma Eng
DIRECTOR: Emma Eng
PRODUCERS: Emma Eng, Brennen Little
WRITER: Emma Eng
CINEMATOGRAPHER: Ian Mrożewski
EDITOR: Emma Eng
LEAD ACTOR: Kingston Chan
@EMMAENG44

10 MIN



FLOURISH
by Team Lóng 🐉

Will Anna make her mark and surpass her sister's legacy? The closing chapter of an ambitious cadet drum major hinges on a specific make-or-break moment - the Provincial Band Competition.

TEAM LEADER: Lianne Guo
DIRECTOR: Lianne Guo
PRODUCER: Chloris Au
WRITER: Lianne Guo
CINEMATOGRAPHER: Soléne Pango Salas
EDITOR: Reiyo Hung
LEAD ACTOR: Madison Lee
@L_GUO.ON.SET

1 MIN



PAPER

by Team Wingrove

When his classmates assume he's a math genius, a 12-year-old Asian turns discrimination into monetization.

TEAM LEADER: Ethan Wingrove
 DIRECTOR: Ethan Wingrove
 PRODUCERS: Mae Belen, Allen Xu, Adamas Kou
 WRITER: Ethan Wingrove
 CINEMATOGRAPHER: Richard Tran
 EDITOR: Ethan Wingrove
 LEAD ACTOR: Joon Leewood
 @ETHANWINGROVETV

10 MIN



INFINITE MIRROR

by Team Infinity

A struggling screenwriter discovers that every word she writes becomes reality when the protagonist of her screenplay appears at her door, begging her to rewrite her fate.

TEAM LEADER: Amir Arab
 DIRECTOR: Amir Arab
 PRODUCERS: Maddy Ginn, Tyler Banich
 WRITER: Amir Arab
 CINEMATOGRAPHER: Mélusine Yerna
 EDITOR: Utku Banci
 LEAD ACTOR: Suani Rincon
 @AMIRLOVE4CINEMA

INTERMISSION

10 MIN



YOUTOPIA

by Team YOUTOPIA

A struggling immigrant actress accepts a high-stakes role with no script—only the "settings" of a socialite's deceased daughter. As she reconstructs the dead girl from her own flesh and blood, she discovers that a paradise built on someone else's parameters is a utopia where her own soul is the first thing to be deleted.

TEAM LEADER: Jun Lee
 DIRECTOR: Jun Lee
 PRODUCER: Eunhae Lee
 WRITER: Jun Lee
 CINEMATOGRAPHER: Yunu Jegal
 EDITOR: Gabriel Najera
 LEAD ACTOR: Boram Song
 @ITS_JUN

1 MIN



A PERFECT DAUGHTER
by Team Wuwick

During a seemingly ordinary tea with her mother, a Chinese woman reflects on the contradictory life she led in defiance of everything she was taught — though her mother may not be as different as she claimed.

TEAM LEADER: Lindsay Wu & Kyle Kotowick
DIRECTORS: Lindsay Wu, Kyle Kotowick
PRODUCER: Lindsay Wu
WRITERS: Lindsay Wu, Kyle Kotowick
CINEMATOGRAPHER: Suraj Kha
EDITOR: Suraj Kha
LEAD ACTOR: Lindsay Wu
@SONOTLINDSAY

10 MIN



KAIPPAKKA
by Team Movie Mafia

A young immigrant in Canada confronts memory, loss, and belonging through a food he once rejected.

TEAM LEADER: G Amarnath Sankar
DIRECTOR: G Amarnath Sankar
PRODUCERS: Swarndeeep Gill, Shanthanu Venugopal, G Amarnath Sankar, Arushi Gupta
WRITER: G Amarnath Sankar
CINEMATOGRAPHER: Rashi Sethi
EDITOR: José Vidal Hernández
LEAD ACTOR: Syam Venugopal
@KAIPPAKKAFILM

1 MIN



THE RECIPE
by Team The Recipe

Some recipes are passed down. Some memories are held on to.

TEAM LEADER: Son Vu (Sammy)
DIRECTOR: Son Vu (Sammy)
PRODUCER: Jelian Quincina
WRITER: Son Vu (Sammy)
CINEMATOGRAPHER: Ryan Nguyen
EDITOR: Gustavo Dias
LEAD ACTORS: Joo Kyeong Lee (Judy) & Thomas Beag
@I.A.M.S.A.M.M.Y

1 MIN



THE TEETHING HOUR
by Team MAMMolars

As the tooth fairy (now a mouse) comes to collect a child's lost tooth, it is unexpectedly captured by a mysterious aswang, the true figure behind whose really taking our teeth.

TEAM LEADER: Xelena Clarisse Ilon
DIRECTOR: Xelena Clarisse Ilon
PRODUCER: Xelena Clarisse Ilon
WRITER: Xelena Clarisse Ilon
CINEMATOGRAPHER: Riley Berger-Tse
EDITOR: Dimitri Katsionis
LEAD ACTOR: Dwayne "The Rat" Johnson
@TEETHINGHOURFILM

10 MIN



OKAY? ALRIGHT.
by The ManimTeam

A 30 year old Filipino man, Elliot, travels back in time to kill his pregnant mother in hopes of ceasing to exist. But in doing so, he obtains a certain hope that his life will turn out okay.

TEAM LEADER: Ayush Senanayake, Jonah Manimtim & Angelo Jordan
DIRECTOR: Jonah Manimtim
PRODUCERS: Ayush Senanayake, Jonah Manimtim, Angelo Jordan
WRITER: Jonah Manimtim
CINEMATOGRAPHER: Ava Emperador
EDITORS: Mya Desousa & Jonah Manimtim
LEAD ACTOR: Angelo Jordan
@OKAYALRIGHTFILM

1 MIN



CHAPPAL
by Team Vaanar Sena

A mother takes the help of her friend to get her young adult son in line.

TEAM LEADER: Yash Ahuja
DIRECTOR: Yash Ahuja
PRODUCERS: Siddharth Ganesh, Jason Joung, Vrinda Dimri
WRITER: Yash Ahuja
CINEMATOGRAPHER: Lava Sood
EDITOR: Darian Lung
LEAD ACTOR: Aman Mann
@BULLDOZER003



10 MIN



**500 WORDS FOR
YEOREUM**

*by Team Young Castle
Productions*

In this kinetic romantic comedy, an earnest guy pushes through an agonizing language barrier to connect with his dream girl, reaching a 500-word milestone just in time for his new skills to become tragically obsolete.

TEAM LEADER: Marc Yungco

DIRECTOR: Marc Yungco

PRODUCER: Zed Zeng, Carlo Fortin

WRITER: Marc Yungco

CINEMATOGRAPHER: Krystal Chan

LEAD ACTOR: Lou Ticzon

EDITOR: Jeremy Chen

@YOUNGCASTLEPRODUCTIONS

**MAMM21
GALA**

MAMM21 VERTICAL SERIES FINALISTS

| WATCH THE FULL SERIES ON INSTAGRAM

VERTICAL



THE GLOW UP
by Team Glowmaxxing

Two college roommates swap lives to chase the version of themselves they think will finally be accepted—only to learn that the roles they've been performing were never the ones that mattered.

TEAM LEADERS: Sher Bloom
& Kelso Lenz
DIRECTOR: Sher Bloom
PRODUCER: Kelso Lenz
WRITER: Sher Bloom
CINEMATOGRAPHER: Kelso Lenz
EDITOR: Kelso Lenz
LEAD ACTORS: Jodie Soo & Annie Lo
[@THEGLOWUPFILM](#)



VERTICAL



YEAR AFTER YEAR
by Team MEE-lo

When a magical red envelope reveals alternate versions of herself and her family, a Taiwanese Canadian writer must confront the lives she could have lived and learn to embrace the one she has.

TEAM LEADER: Apple Chang
DIRECTOR: Apple (Yu Jou) Chang
PRODUCERS: Apple (Yu Jou) Chang
& Lampo Zeng
WRITER: Apple (Yu Jou) Chang
CINEMATOGRAPHER: Dan Barham
EDITOR: Ian Tan
LEAD ACTOR: Alison Chan
[@YEARAFTER_YEAR](#)



VERTICAL



OUR SIDE OF THE WORLD
by Team Yalla Habib

Two travellers from opposite cultures fall in love while meeting abroad, but everyday life keeps them apart until bold choices reunite them.

TEAM LEADER: Noah Penner
DIRECTOR: Noah Penner
PRODUCERS: Noah Penner
& Elnaz Khanverdi
WRITER: Noah Penner
CINEMATOGRAPHER: Anton Seaman
EDITOR: Noah Penner
LEAD ACTORS: Ava Maria Safai
& Jacob Hall
[@OURSIDEOFTHWORLD_](#)



MAMM21 GALA SCREENING SCHEDULE

6PM | PROGRAM STARTS

THE CHICKEN & THE EGG

by Team Barong Media Inc.

(Ryan Lino, Louriza Tronco & Kevin Ang)

10 MIN

WHAT ARE YOU, CHICKEN?

by Team Squib Game (Kevin Cho)

1 MIN

CROOKED WINGS

by Team Domi Domi Productions (Sonia Chou)

10 MIN

WHYs

by Team WHYs the Short (Wen-chieh Chi)

1 MIN

BOOGIE FEVER

by Team Meat Cookie (Emma Eng)

1 MIN

FLOURISH

by Team LóngS (Lianne Guo)

10 MIN

PAPER

by Team Wingrove (Ethan Wingrove)

1 MIN

INFINITE MIRROR

by Team Infinity (Amir Arab)

10 MIN

(Team leads noted in brackets)

INTERMISSION (15 MINS)

10 MIN

YOUTOPIA

by Team YOUTOPIA (Jun Lee)

1 MIN

A PERFECT DAUGHTER

by Team Wuwick (Lindsay Wu & Kyle Kotowick)

10 MIN

KAIPPAKKA

by Team Movie Mafia (G Amarnath Sankar)

1 MIN

THE RECIPE

by Team THE RECIPE (Sammy Vu)

1 MIN

THE TEETHING HOUR

by Team MAMMolars (Xelena Clarisse Ilon)

10 MIN

OKAY? ALRIGHT.

by The ManimTeam

(Ayush Senanayake, Jonah Manimtim & Angelo Jordan)

1 MIN

CHAPPAL

by Team Vaanar Sena (Yash Ahuja)

10 MIN

500 WORDS FOR YEOREUM

by Team Young Castle Productions (Marc Yungco)

2ND INTERMISSION (5 MINS)

AWARDS PRESENTATION

9:30PM | MAMM21 GALA AFTER PARTY

LIBRARY SQUARE PUB (300 W GEORGIA ST., VANCOUVER, BC)



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<https://bit.ly/mamm21pca>

MAMM21

**PEOPLE'S CHOICE
AWARD**

MAMMENTORSHIP

BEHIND THE SCENES









Thank you, MAMM JUDGES
FOR 1 MIN AND 10 MIN FILMS



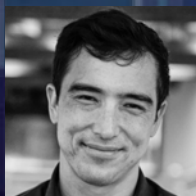
Patrice Leung



Arnold Lim



Nimisha Mukerji



Stirling Bancroft

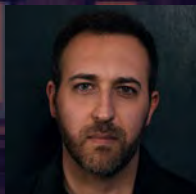


Dylan St. Aubin

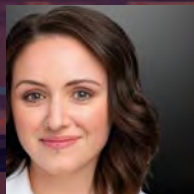
Thank you, MAMM JUDGES
FOR VERTICAL SERIES



Andy Chu

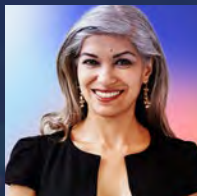


Dom Cutrupi



Monika Dalman

Thank you, **MAMM LECTURERS**



Leena Munro



Rachel Rose



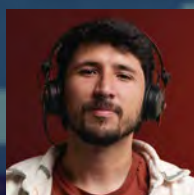
Jason Karman



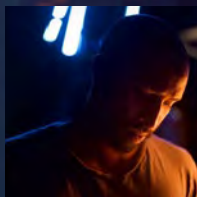
Steven Hu



Josh Aires



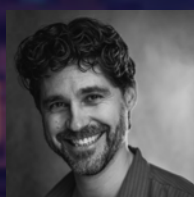
Andrés Valero



Chris Joys



James Brooks



Nathanael Vass

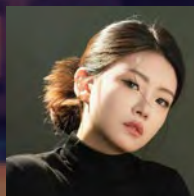
Thank you, **MAMM MENTORS** **FOR VERTICAL SERIES**



Steven Hu



Justin Lee

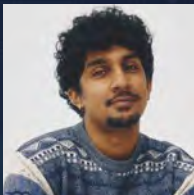


Emily Ai

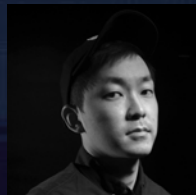
Thank you, **MAMM MENTORS** FOR 1 MIN AND 10 MIN FILMS



Rami Kahlon



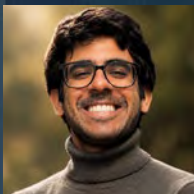
Shakil Jessa



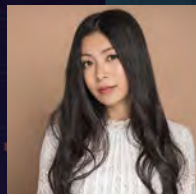
Hiromu Yamawaki



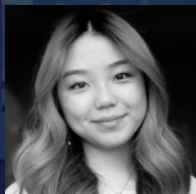
Willan Leung



Prakrit Kamra



Nightingale



Hannah Yang



Athena Han

Thank you, **CO-FOUNDERS**



Barbara Lee
MAMM Co-Founder &
VAFF Founder &
President



Peter Leung
MAMM Co-Founder

Thank you, **BOARD DIRECTORS**

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Clement Lau | Vice-President

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Jason Ding | Treasurer

Emily Kwan | Member at Large

David Wong | Member at Large

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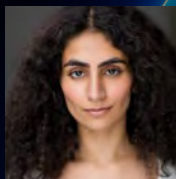
MAMM21 PRODUCTION TEAM



Lynne Lee
MAMM Director
& Producer



**Shanthini
Balasubramanian**
Creative
Producer



Ritisha Jhamb
Creative
Producer



Tammy Tsang
Creative
Producer



Regina Leung
Director of
VAFF Industry /
Producer



Justin Lee
Vertical
Producer



Steven Hu
Vertical
Producer



Amit Dhuga
Equipment
Liaison



Eunice Kang
Equipment
Liaison



Vincent Wong
Creative
Director



Rachel Tao
Marketing
Manager

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Benji | BTS Editor

Nada Hamam | Awards Editor

Ilian Mandev | Sponsor Video Editor

Althea Alabat | MAMM Events Manager

Dominic Kwok | Tech/Live Streaming Manager

Louis Poulain | VAFF Event Operations Manager

Josephine Ryu | VAFF Volunteer Managers

Khanh Nguyen | VAFF Industry Program Lead

Anqi Ye | VAFF Event Coordinator

Keyur Soyantar | Box Office Lead

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Cristina Yao | Photographer

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Joyce Lam | VAFF Social Media Manager

Ray Ho | VAFF Web Design / Admin

Luis Baptista | VAFF Web Design / Admin

Abhinandan Murali | Green Screen Photographer

Rachel Kim | Graphic Designer

Rachel Tao | Social Media Manager

Shanthini Balasubramanian | Social Media Manager



MAMM21



Thanks for a
MAMM21
-umental
Summer!