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VIFF 2009 – Fact Sheet

Event 28th Vancouver International Film Festival (inaugural year was 1982)
Dates October 1 – 16, 2009 [2010 dates: September 30 – October 15]
Slogan Same Planet. Different Worlds.

2009 stats

- 379 films
- 232 feature-length¹ films, 27 mid-length, 120 shorts (70 international shorts, 50 Canadian shorts)
- 75 countries
- 659 screenings
- 89 Canadian films:
 - 33 features (20 dramatic features, 13 nonfiction features), six mid-lengths, 50 shorts
 - Selected from 641 submissions
- 104 nonfiction (92 feature-length, 11 mid-length, 1 short)
- 149,135 admissions (increased from 142,425 in 2008)
- 750 volunteers
- 10 screens at four theatres:
 - Empire Granville 7 Cinemas
 - Pacific Cinémathèque
 - Ridge Theatre
 - Vancity Theatre at the Vancouver International Film Centre
- 650 accredited industry guests
- 1,200 Film and Television Forum delegates

Gala Films

Opening Gala, October 1: **A SHINE OF RAINBOWS** – Vic Sarin, Dir (Canada/Ireland)
Canadian Images Gala, October 2: **EXCITED** – Bruce Sweeney, Dir (Canada)
Dragons & Tigers Awards Gala, October 8: **TOAD'S OIL** – Yakusho Koji, Dir (Japan)
Anniversary Gala, October 10: **AN EDUCATION** - Lone Scherfig, Dir (UK)
Closing Gala, October 16: **QUEEN TO PLAY** – October 16 Caroline Bottaro, Dir (France)

Programming Strands

- Galas and Special Presentations
- The Way of Nature: Ecological films
- Follow the Money (new in 2009)
- Nonfiction Features of 2009
- Nonfiction Features: Arts and Letters
- Dragons and Tigers: The Cinemas of East Asia
- Canadian Images
- Cinema of Our Time
- Spotlight on France
- Festival Favourites (new in 2009)

¹ **Film lengths:** Features = over 60 minutes long; mid-lengths = between 20 and 60 minutes; shorts = under 20 minutes

Premieres 154

- 20 World Premieres
- 25 International Premieres
- 34 North American Premieres
- 54 Canadian Premieres
- 21 English-Canadian Premieres

2009 Awards

Adjudicated Awards

- Dragons and Tigers Award for Young Cinema, presented by **Brad Birarda & Robert Sali** (\$10,000 prize)
- **Canwest** Award for Best Canadian Feature Film (\$20,000 prize)
- Most Promising Director of a Canadian Short Film Award (\$2,000 prize)
- **Women in Film and Television Vancouver** Artistic Merit Award

Audience Awards

- **Rogers** People's Choice Award
- VIFF Most Popular Canadian Film Award
- **documentary** Audience Award for Most Popular Nonfiction Film
- **NFB** Most Popular Canadian Documentary Award (\$2500 in technical services)
- VIFF Environmental Film Award

2010 dates

- September 30 – October 15

Mandate

The Vancouver International Film Festival's mandate is to encourage the understanding of other nations through the art of cinema, to foster the art of cinema, to facilitate the meeting in British Columbia of cinema professionals from around the world, and to stimulate the motion picture industry in British Columbia and Canada.