



Lindsay MacKay

Lindsay MacKay is a writer and director. Her debut feature, *Wet Bum* (14), premiered at TIFF and was a finalist in the American Zoetrope Screenplay Contest. She is a graduate of the directing program at the American Film Institute, where she won the Franklin J. Schaffner and Richard P. Rogers Spirit of Excellence Awards for her thesis film, *Clear Blue*, which also won the College Television Award. Her work has screened worldwide, including at TIFF, SXSW, AFI FEST, and Camerimage.

Mersea

Meredith, a mythical siren, was condemned to live in a rapidly aging human body after breaking the rules of the ocean by saving the life of a drowning child. When the boy returns 15 years later, the two are irresistibly drawn into a dangerous relationship.



Lina Roessler

Lina Roessler is a writer, director, and actor. She recently completed an MFA in film production at York University. Her short-film credits include *The Vow* (14), *Winter* (15), *Mustard Seed* (17), and *Shell of a Dead One*, which is currently in development. She is an alum of the 2017 TIFF Talent Lab and the 2018 edition of Berlinale Talents. Her feature screenplay, *The Rescuer*, was a quarterfinalist in the 2018 Slamdance Screenplay Competition. Roessler is now in pre-production for her first feature film, *Best Sellers*, starring Michael Caine and produced by Cassian Elwes.

The Rescuer

When her father and sister are killed by a drunk driver, nine-year-old Meredith thinks she caused their deaths via a magic spell. Seeking redemption, she “rescues” her next-door neighbour, who has epilepsy, and they head out of town on an adventure, trying to find a place for themselves in the world.



Katie McMillan

Katie McMillan is a Toronto-based screenwriter and director with an interest in social justice and the politics of representation. Her writing is informed by years of advocacy for female artists and artists with disabilities through her work with Women in View and Tangled Art + Disability. Her writing credits include the short films *Imposter* (16), *Worst. Day. EVER.* (16), and *Easy Girl* (16), which she co-directed. She is the winner of the 2017 Telefilm Canada's PITCH THIS! competition and is currently in development on three feature films.

You Are Here

When she discovers her fiancé cheating on her only weeks before their wedding, 30-year-old Kristin Kellerman makes the first spontaneous decision of her life and embarks on a 2,000-mile cycling odyssey to Tijuana to prove her independence.



Sharon Lewis

Sharon Lewis is a director working across television, film, and theatre. She is currently adapting her 1994 play *sistahs* into a feature film. Her first feature was the award-winning afrofuturist film *Brown Girl Begins* (17), which has been broadcast on HBO Canada and won awards internationally. Her short films *Ritch* (06) and *Chains* (09) have been sold and broadcast on such networks as BET, HBO, and CBC. She has directed over 100 hours of popular television, and is currently completing her feature doc for the CBC on the first Black gay conductor in Canada.

Sistahs

A woman dying from cancer tells her feuding sister, lover, and best friend to bring a special ingredient to a ceremonial meal that will either cure her or decide the future of her 12-year-old daughter.



Sophie Goyette

Sophie Goyette is a writer and filmmaker. Her films have screened in competition at Sundance, Locarno, and TIFF and have earned a total of 13 prizes. Her credits include the short films *La ronde* (11) and *Le futur proche* (12), and the feature *Mes nuits feront écho* (17), which won the Bright Future Award at Rotterdam.

Les Lauréats

Shaken by her mother's recent death, high-achieving cello student Marie Léveillé-Wawrzyn looks back at her family line, marked by a violent past. At the crossroads of her destructive impulses and her artistic passion, Marie must learn to open up and fight to see human nature as it can be.



Melanie Jones

Melanie Jones is the writer and director of over a dozen award-winning short films that have played at festivals around the world. Her first feature, *FSM* (15), premiered at the Whistler Film Festival and had a theatrical release in Vancouver. She is an alum of Women in the Director's Chair, the From Our Dark Side incubator program, Crazy 8s, and the Reykjavik Talent Lab. Her most recent short film, *Shuttlecock* (18), won a Golden Sheaf Award and continues to garner nominations and awards on the festival circuit.

Switchback

A woman must tap her most primal instincts to keep herself and her boyfriend alive after he is seriously injured during an off-season hike. As difficult terrain, bad weather, and a persistent and menacing wolf continue to threaten their survival, she is forced to make a terrible choice that will change her forever.



Maria Camila Arias

Maria Camila Arias is a Colombian Canadian screenwriter. She wrote *Birds of Passage* (18), which played at TIFF and was shortlisted for Best Foreign Language Film at the 91st Academy Awards. She was the main writer and executive producer of the feature film *Candelaria* (17), which was awarded the GdA Director's Award at Venice Days. She also works as a story editor for several production companies and was part of the writing team for a Netflix fiction series. She teaches screenwriting at a university in Colombia.

Magnificent Desolation

In the 1970s, after the Apollo missions, a depressed astronaut goes to Bolivia's salt desert to search for a blinding light he saw from space. Instead, he meets a shaman. Their unlikely friendship allows the tormented man to finally let go of his anguish.



Geoff Redknap

Geoff Redknap's special makeup effects artistry has spanned projects from *The X-Files* (93–18) to *Deadpool* (16) and *Deadpool 2* (18). He attended the NSI's Drama Prize program, where he wrote and directed the award-winning short film *The Auburn Hills Breakdown* (08). He also attended the NSI's Features First program with *Hangfire* (then known as *Heaven's Door*), which was a finalist in the 2012 Austin Film Festival Screenplay Competition. He wrote and directed the feature film *The Unseen* (16), which premiered at Fantasia in Montreal. He is represented by Zero Gravity Management.

Extraction

A company creates a technology that allows the rich to have traumatic experiences, extracted and processed by contracted surrogates. When one Ingester takes on a "bad" job, troubling visions drive him on a dangerous journey to rescue a mysterious woman and ultimately confront the company — which is known for making problems disappear.



Connor Gaston

Connor Gaston is an award-winning filmmaker from Victoria, BC. His work has screened at top film festivals, including TIFF. His first feature film, *The Devout* (15), earned him five Leo Awards, took home the BC Emerging Filmmaker Award at the Vancouver International Film Festival, and was nominated for the 2017 John Dunning Discovery Award at the Canadian Screen Awards. His screenplays have trended on the Black List and earned finalist spots at the Nicholl Fellowship, which landed him American representation. He is a recent alumnus of the Canadian Film Centre and the TIFF Talent Lab.

Alice in the Wall

A grief-stricken filmmaker, obsessed with capturing truth on camera, constructs a small room inside her home in order to film the couple that's moving in — all in the hope of making a “real” movie.



Faisal Lutchmedial

Faisal Lutchmedial is currently a writer on the third season of the TV drama *Ransom* (17–). He began his professional writing career in 2012 when he won the Writers Guild of Canada Bell Media Diverse Screenwriters Program. He also served as a story editor for the fourth season of *The Listener* (09–14). He wrote, directed, and acted in the short *Useless Things* (09), which won the WGC English Script Prize at the Festival du nouveau cinéma in Montreal. He also wrote and directed the short drama *Mr. Crab* (12), which aired nationally on CBC's Short Film Faceoff.

The Voices Inside

A young woman who suffers from multiple personality disorder witnesses a brutal murder. The detective investigating begins to question his own sanity as he wonders if the woman is actually communicating with the spirits of the dead victims.