



## Indigenous Cinema

This guide is designed to assist our patrons in understanding Indigenous Cinema created in colonial North America by providing key resources to use as a starting point in their research. Use this information to refine your search, and contact library staff with any follow-up questions or for further research assistance.

### Subject Headings

Selecting a subject can help refine your search by narrowing the search field. Find various subjects on the advanced search page of our catalogue.

To find books on Indigenous cinema available in the Film Reference Library, use the following subject headings:

Subject

- INDIGENOUS ARTS - POLITICAL ASPECTS - CANADA
- INDIGENOUS ARTS - SOCIAL ASPECTS - CANADA**
- INDIGENOUS FILMS - BRITISH COLUMBIA - VANCOUVER
- INDIGENOUS FILMS - HISTORY AND CRITICISM
- INDIGENOUS FILMS - UNITED STATES
- INDIGENOUS IN ART - EXHIBITIONS
- INDIGENOUS OF NORTH AMERICA - ETHNIC IDENTITY
- INDIGENOUS PEOPLES - AUSTRALIA
- INDIGENOUS PEOPLES - CANADA - CULTURE
- INDIGENOUS PEOPLES - CANADA - FILM CATALOGS
- INDIGENOUS PEOPLES - CANADA - VIDEO CATALOGS
- INDIGENOUS PEOPLES - ETHNIC IDENTITY
- INDIGENOUS PEOPLES - PRESS COVERAGE - CANADA
- INDIGENOUS PEOPLES - RESEARCH
- INDIGENOUS PEOPLES - SOUTH AMERICA - MISSIONS - PARAGUAY - HISTORY
- INDIGENOUS PEOPLES - STUDY AND TEACHING
- INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND MASS MEDIA
- INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN MASS MEDIA
- INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN MOTION PICTURES
- INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN MOTION PICTURES - HANDBOOKS, MANUALS, ETC.

SEARCH      RESET FORM

The following headings are examples of several of the subjects TIFF has in its catalogue.

- [Indigenous art – Canada](#)
- [Indigenous films history and criticism](#)
- [Indigenous people – Canada culture](#)
- [Indigenous peoples research](#)
- [Indigenous peoples – Canada – Film catalogs](#)
- [Indigenous peoples – Study and teaching](#)
- [Indigenous peoples in mass media](#)
- [Indigenous people in motion pictures](#)

## Recommended Books

Books provide a comprehensive overview of a larger topic, making them an excellent resource to use when starting research.

## Indigenous Cinema Commentary

[\*Reverse Shots: Indigenous Film and Media in an International Context\*](#) by Susan Knabe and Wendy Gay Pearson

Publisher: Wilfrid Laurier University Press, 2014

[\*Indigenous Screen Cultures in Canada\*](#) by Marian Bredin and Sigurjón Baldur Hafsteinsson

Publisher: University of Manitoba Press, 2010

[\*Native Apparitions: Critical Perspectives on Hollywood's Indians\*](#) edited by Steve Pavlik, M. Elise Marubbio, and Tom Holm

Publisher: University of Arizona Press, 2017

[\*'Injuns!': Native Americans in the Movies\*](#) by Edward Buscombe

Publisher: Reaktion Books, 2006

[\*Native Americans on Film: Conversations, Teaching, and Theory\*](#) by M. Elise Marubbio and Eric L. Buffalohead

Publisher: University Press of Kentucky, 2013

[\*Reservation Reelism: Redfacing, Visual Sovereignty, and Representations of Native Americans in Film\*](#) by Michelle H. Raheja

Publisher: University of Nebraska Press, 2010

[\*Smoke Signals: Native Cinema Rising\*](#) by Joanna Hearne

Publisher: University of Nebraska Press, 2012

[\*Native Features: Indigenous Films From Around the World\*](#) by Houston Wood

Publisher: Continuum, 2008

*Inuit TakugatsaliuKatiget : On Inuit Cinema* edited by Mark David Turner

## Articles

Articles are usually shorter in length and focus on a unique argument.

Note: All articles listed can be found in the Film Reference Library's print and/or electronic periodical collection. You can access these articles by visiting the Library in person.

- Dudemaine, André, Gabrielle Marcoux, and Isabelle St-Amand. "Indigenous Cinema and Media in the Americas: Storytelling, Communities, and Sovereignties." *Canadian Journal of Film Studies* 29, no. 1 (2020): 27–51. <https://doi.org/10.3138/cjfs.29.1.02>.
- Shelley Angelie Saggat (2022) "*A dangerous tool in the wrong hands*": *Sovereign technologies in Alanis Obomsawin's Is the Crown at War with Us? and Barry Barclay's The Kaipara Affair*, *Journal of Postcolonial Writing*, 58:4, 439-452, <https://doi.org/10.1080/17449855.2022.2063998>
- Burelle, Julie. "Inuit Visual and Sensate Sovereignty in Alethea Arnaquq-Baril's *Angry Inuk*." *Canadian Journal of Film Studies* 29, no. 1 (2020): 145–62. <https://doi.org/10.3138/cjfs.29.1.08>.
- Stewart, T. (2021). *Truth and reconciliation cinema: an ethico-political study of residential school imagery in contemporary Indigenous film*. *AlterNative: An International Journal of Indigenous Peoples*, 17(2), 165-174. <https://doi.org/10.1177/11771801211012450>
- Hogg, Trevor. (2021). *Daniel Grant CSC & Danis Goulet Explore Colonial History Through Dystopian Lens Night Raiders*. *Canadian Cinematographer* November 2021. 10-20. [https://issuu.com/thecsc/docs/cc\\_november\\_2021\\_issue](https://issuu.com/thecsc/docs/cc_november_2021_issue) (available in physical holdings)
- Horton, J. L. (2012). *Alone on the Snow, Alone on the Beach: "A Global Sense of Place" in Atanarjuat and Fountain*. *Journal of Transnational American Studies*, 4(1). <http://dx.doi.org/10.5070/T841007102> Retrieved from <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/54p2f9pq>
- Sanader, Daniella. (2022). *Soft Shapes and Hard Mattresses: Sex and Desire in Contemporary Inuit Graphic Art and Film*. *Inuit Art Quarterly*, Summer 2018. <https://www.inuitartfoundation.org/iaq-online/erotic-inuit-art>
- Dowell, Kristen L. (2023). *Lindsay McIntyre: Indigenous Handmade Cinema*. *Journal of Cinema and Media Studies*, vol. 62 no. 2. 183-188. [https://quod.lib.umich.edu/j/jcms/images/18\\_62.2dowell.pdf](https://quod.lib.umich.edu/j/jcms/images/18_62.2dowell.pdf)
- Carlson, Elizabeth, Gladys Rowe, Teddy Zegeye-Gebrehiwot, and Sarah Story. "Decolonization through Collaborative Filmmaking: Sharing Stories from the Heart." *Journal*

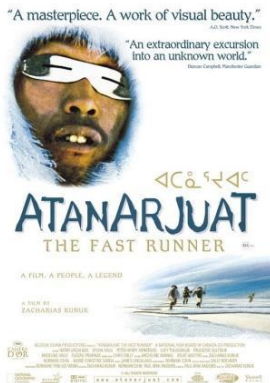
of Indigenous Social Development 6, no. 2 (2017).

<https://journalhosting.ucalgary.ca/index.php/jisd/article/view/58458>.

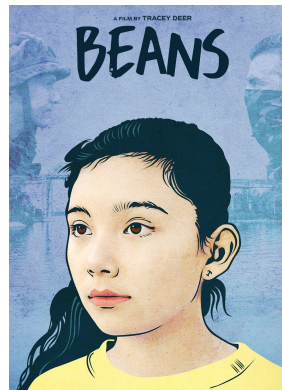
- Floyd, Jacob. "Negotiating Publicity and Persona: The Work of Native Actors in Studio Hollywood." *American Indian Culture and Research Journal* 42, no. 3 (July 1, 2018): 119–35. <https://doi.org/10.17953/AICRJ.42.3.FLOYD>.

## Films

A collection of Indigenous-made films from nations across Canada and the United States.



*Atanarjuat: The Fast Runner* (2001), dir. Zacharias Kunuk  
[\[AV\]](#) [\[Film file\]](#)



*Beans* (2020), dir. Tracey Deer  
[\[AV\]](#) [\[Film File\]](#)



*Wildhood* (2021), dir. Bretten Hannam  
[\[Film File\]](#)



*Four Sheets to the Wind* (2007), dir. Sterlin Harjo  
[\[AV\]](#)



*Kanehsatake: 270 Years of Resistance* (1993), dir. Alanis Obomsawin  
[\[AV\]](#) [\[Film File\]](#)



*Rhymes for Young Ghouls* (2013), dir. Jeff Barnaby  
[\[AV\]](#) [\[Film File\]](#)

 <p><i>Angry Inuk</i> (2016), dir. Alethea Arnaquq-Baril <a href="#">[AV]</a></p>	 <p><i>Smoke Signals</i> (1998), dir. Chris Eyre <a href="#">[Film File]</a></p>	 <p><i>Night Raiders</i> (2021), dir. Danis Goulet <a href="#">[Film File]</a></p>
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## External Sources

Links to resources and institutions that have more information on Indigenous Films and the industry.

- [Indigenous Cinema, National Film Board](#) — The National Film Board of Canada is a free streaming source that offers over 3,000 films that showcase many different genres of Canadian films, with collections of Indigenous films available for viewing.
- [Indigenous Film Programme, Reel Canada](#) — Reel Canada’s curation of Indigenous film programming, focused on providing resources for students.
- [The ImagineNATIVE Institute](#) — “The imagineNATIVE Institute is a department within imagineNATIVE that hosts year-round professional development programs, events, talks and Indigenous-led professional development opportunities that address gaps within the industry and build capacity for Indigenous creatives.”
- [On-Screen protocols & Pathways: A Media Production Guide](#) — “Commissioned by imagineNATIVE, this highly-anticipated guide provides cultural principles, key findings from a national consultation process, and best practices for filmmakers, production companies, and funders who are telling Indigenous stories onscreen.”
- [IsumaTV](#) — a multimedia platform for Indigenous creatives to host their work, in order to share with communities worldwide.
- [Unreserved, CBC](#) — The homepage of CBC Radio’s show *Unreserved*,
- [APTN Media Centre](#) — Press releases, media assets, and feature stories from Indigenous television broadcast service APTN.
- [Reconciliation on Film](#) — a series of Indigenous youth-produced short films on the theme of reconciliation, commissioned by Reconciliation Canada.
- [Digitizing the Inuit and Aboriginal Media Archive \(DIAMA\)](#) — “DIAMA preserves irreplaceable Inuit and Aboriginal media archives at risk of being lost. IsumaTV cleans, reformats, digitizes and uploads priceless audio-visual materials collected since the 1970s.”



### **Teaching Aid**

For teachers seeking to incorporate Indigenous cinema into their classroom, TIFF has [Finding Focus: Framing Canadian Métis and First Nations on film](#) to use as a reference.

[Finding focus : framing Canadian Métis and First Nations on film](#), by  
Kevin Nikkel, Publisher: Winnipeg Film Group – resource for educators – DVD and Teacher guide

Website for resource

<https://www.winnipegfilmgroup.com/distribution/special-projects/educational-resources-finding-focus-framing-canadian-metis-and-first-nations-on-film/>

This is a teachable resource, teachers can bring into their classrooms to educate students.