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North Toronto Soccer Club is a community-based, not-for-profit organization with 4,500 youth players



A screen at the Bloor-Yonge subway station displays a thank you ad from the organizers of the Toronto Urban Film Festival which runs Sept. 9-18.

Silent films on display at subway stations during TIFF

BY JEFFREY THOMPSON
EPOCH TIMES STAFF

As the city revels with all the buzz around the Toronto International Film Festival, another film festival is treating subway commuters to short films on TTC subway platform screens.

The Toronto Urban Film Festival, or TUFF, features urban-themed films from across Canada and around the world, playing every 10 minutes at 60 subway stations across the city on their more than 300 subway platform screens. All films are exactly 1 minute in length and are all silent.

The annual public festival is now in its fifth year. Sixty-one films were chosen for screening



This year we got a lot of experimental films and animations.

SHARON SWITZER

from 370 works submitted from 32 countries.

Sharon Switzer, executive director of TUFF, says the big-

gest change in the festival this year is how the films were chosen.

"This year we opened it up and just asked for anything that would be of interest to an urban public, so we got a big range of things," says Switzer.

"In fact this year we got a lot of experimental films and animations."

In addition to the subway system that sees 1.3 million commuters daily, the films are also shown in a screening room at the Drake Hotel in downtown Toronto as well as online where viewers can vote for their favourite films.

A guest jury selects the TUFF films each year, then a special guest judge chooses the winners of the festival's top awards.

There will also be a Viewers' Choice Award.

Some of the highlights of this year's selection include "a minute," a silent film with a visual beat; "Courtship," a watercolour animation based on family photographs; and "Hang Tough," a snapshot of Queen Street West filmed on a 1960s 16mm Bell & Howell motion picture camera.

The festival started on Friday, Sept. 9, and will run through Sunday, Sept. 18, when it will conclude with the awards ceremony. Three winners will be selected by the guest judge and another award will go to the film voted by viewers.

This year's guest judge is critically acclaimed director Atom Egoyan who will be giving out the awards.

Romanian Festival at Mel Lastman Square

BY MADALINA HUBERT
EPOCH TIMES STAFF

Last Saturday, North York's Mel Lastman Square was decked in red, yellow, and blue as Romanians from across southern Ontario came to celebrate and share their rich cultural traditions with Torontonians at the annual Romanian Festival Toronto.

This year, the Romanian-Canadian community celebrated 57 years since its establishment in the city

with a spectacle of song, dance, arts and crafts, and traditional food.

The theme of the festival is "unity in diversity," explained Reverend Father Ioan Bunea, who has organized the event for the past seven years on behalf of the Saint George Romanian Orthodox Church of Toronto.

"It's an opportunity for us to get to know each other as Romanians, and also to give Canadians an opportunity to get to know us as well," Father Bunea said.



The theme of the festival is "unity in diversity."

The Romanian Festival has been held at Mel Lastman Square for the past four years, filling the hearts of visitors with a sense of joy.

"The music is very lively, you just want to dance," said Malaysian-born Howie who came to enjoy the Romanian folk dances with her two-year-old son.

MADALINA HUBERT/THE EPOCH TIMES



A woman and a child dressed in traditional Romanian costumes pose for a picture at the Romanian Festival Toronto on Saturday, Sept. 10.

WHAT'S ON

CONTACT
TORONTOEVENTS@EPOCHTIMES.COM
FOR EVENT REQUESTS

The Epoch Times



World-renowned cellist returns to the stage September 25
COURTESY OF MOOREDALE CONCERTS

PERFORMING ARTS

PRIVATE LIVES

MIRVISH
Starring Kim Cattrall in a new production of Noel Coward's classic comedy
Royal Alexandra Theatre
Sept 16 - Oct 30
mirvish.com

A GRAND EXPERIENCE - THE FUTURE OF PIANO

Featuring award-winning pianists Charles Richard-Hamelin and Bernie Senensky
Roy Thomson Hall
Sept 20 • 8pm
roythomsonhall.com

MARKUS GROH, PIANIST

Performing works by Chopin, Schumann, & Brahms
St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts
Sept 20 • 8pm
stlc.com

IPHIGENIA IN TAURIS

CANADIAN OPERA COMPANY
Gluck's greatest opera captures the emotions of this Greek tragedy
Four Seasons Centre
Sept 22 - Oct 15
coc.ca

THE ODD COUPLE

SOULPEPPER THEATRE
A comic look at the relationship between two opposite roommates
Marilyn & Charles Baillie Theatre
Sept 22 - Nov 19
soulpepper.ca

OPENING WEEKEND

TORONTO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Christopher Plummer in Henry V
Roy Thomson Hall
Sept 22 & 24
tso.ca

KATHY GRIFFIN

Visiting Toronto for one evening
Sony Centre for the Performing Arts
Sept 25 • 8pm
sonycentre.ca

RIGOLETTO

CANADIAN OPERA COMPANY
Verdi's celebrated opera tells the story of a reckless duke
Four Seasons Centre
Sept 29 - Oct 22
coc.ca

THE PRICE

SOULPEPPER THEATRE
Arthur Miller's drama examines the consequences of a family's mistakes
Michael Young Theatre
Aug 29 - Oct 06
soulpepper.ca



Mid-Autumn Celebration will be held at Harbourfront Centre on Sept 17
COURTESY OF THE VIETNAMESE WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF TORONTO

OFRA HARNOY

MOOREDALE CONCERTS
World-renowned cellist returns to the stage
Walter Hall
September 25 • 3:15 p.m.
mooredaleconcerts.com

FESTIVALS

TET TRUNG THU: A MID-AUTUMN CELEBRATION

Celebrate the Moon Festival with lanterns & moon cakes
Harbourfront Centre
Sept 17
harbourfrontcentre.com

RONCESVALLES POLISH FESTIVAL

Celebrate Polish heritage with polka bands, dance troupes & more!
Roncesvalles Avenue from Queen St W to Dundas St W
Sept 16 - 18
polishfestival.ca

UKRAINIAN FESTIVAL

Featuring traditional folk dance, music & perogies
Bloor West Village
Sept 16 - 18
ukrainianfestival.com

TORONTO URBAN FILM FESTIVAL

Silent one-minute films played along select TTC subway screens
Sept 09 - 18
torontourbanfilmfestival.com

CONSUMER & TRADE SHOWS

WIRELESS TRADE SHOW

An exhibition of the latest wireless products & services
Toronto Congress Centre
Sept 15 & 16
cwts.ca

FALL HOME SHOW

Featuring the latest fall home decor
Better Living Centre, Exhibition Place
Sept 22 - 25
fallhomeshow.com

EXHIBITIONS

GO GLOBAL EXPO

Learn about studying abroad opportunities
Westin Harbour Castle Conference Centre
Sept 24 & 25
letsglobal.ca

FUNDRAISERS

WALK FOR FREEDOM

A 3 km walk to end the global human trafficking trade
77 Adelaide Street West
Sept 18 • 10am - 1pm
(Registration at 8am)
freethem.ca

SUMMER MUSIC IN THE PARK

Stroll by the village to tune in to some jazz, flamenco & Celtic soul
The Village of Yorkville Park
Jun 04 - Sept 18 • 2pm - 5pm
bloor-yorkville.com/Events.aspx

COMMUNITY

TORONTO GARLIC FESTIVAL

Learn garlic recipes from farmers and chefs
Evergreen Brick Works
Sept 25 • 9am - 4pm
torontogarlicfestival.ca



Kathy Griffin visits Toronto on Sept 25
COURTESY OF LIVE NATION

TORONTO JEWISH FOLK CHOIR

Open rehearsal with music by Yiddish songwriter Mordechai Gebirtig
Sept 21 • 7:30pm - 10pm
Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave.
winchevskycentre.org

ROSEDALE VALLEY ANTIQUE MARKET

Visit the market to discover one-of-a-kind treasures
Evergreen Brick Works, 555 Bayview Ave
Jun 12 - Sept 25 (Every Sunday)
info.evergreen.ca