

[Small File Media Festival announcement](#)

Announcement published by Radek Przedpelski on Thursday, August 6, 2020

Type:

Event

Date:

August 10, 2020 to August 20, 2020

Location:

British Columbia, Canada

Subject Fields:

Art, Art History & Visual Studies, Film and Film History

[The First Annual Small File Media Festival](#)

August 10-20, 2020

Vancouver, Canada, and streaming at low bandwidth worldwide \$1 membership, and by donation

Trailer at <https://vimeo.com/smallfile>

The First Annual Small File Media Festival celebrates low-bandwidth movies that stream with no damage to the planet! Streaming video has an alarmingly high carbon footprint: it's the cause of about 1% of global greenhouse gas emissions.* But these movies at under 5 megabytes each—about the size of a small PDF file—show that great cinema doesn't have to mean great big files.

We received over 100 submissions from around the world. Artists found many ways to work with the small-file constraint. Animation! GIFs! Low frame rates! Datamoshing! Still images with sound! Movies made with “obsolete” technologies! Websites! Executable files! Very short movies! And movies creatively compressed into small files. We've got narrative, documentary, and experimental movies. We've got cat videos! We've got porn—because streaming porn is responsible for 0.3% of greenhouse gas emissions!

Festival co-organizer Sophia Biedka says, “As an independent filmmaker, I really respect the inventiveness and ingenuity of these makers.” “Small-file movies can be a little hard to see,” admits festival founder Laura Marks, “but you can feel them!” Media activist and festival co-organizer Joey Malbon says, “It's five megabytes of fun!”

Our programming committee, which also includes artist Faune Ybarra, media scholar Radek Przedpelski, and IT engineer Alejandro Rodriguez-Silva, is curating all these tiny movies into aesthetically satisfying thematic programs.

Programs will be hosted on our Vimeo platform August 10-20, by paying a \$1 membership and optional donation. Donations will support the Second Annual Small File Media Festival. All

artists receive a rental fee.

Live-streaming events:

Opening festivities, August 10, 2 p.m. PDT

Awards ceremony, August 20, 2 p.m. PDT

Small-file production round-table, time and date TBA

Contact: info@smallfile.ca

The Small File Media Festival grows out of the School for the Contemporary Arts at Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada, on unceded Coast Salish territory of the -Sḵwxw̱ ú7mesh (Squamish), Stó:lō and Səlíl̓wətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tseil-Waututh) and xwməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam) nations. We are grateful for funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

Contact Info:

Contact Email:

info@smallfile.ca

URL:

<https://smallfile.ca/>