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TORONTO INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL 2026



GOLD WINNER
2026

Between
**LATE
APRIL**
and
**EARLY
MAY**

opc



A SHORT DOCU-FICTION FILM THAT CAPTURES THE ODDITIES AND ABSURDITIES OF HUMAN BEHAVIOUR DURING THE ANNUAL CHERRY BLOSSOM BLOOM IN HIGH PARK, TORONTO.

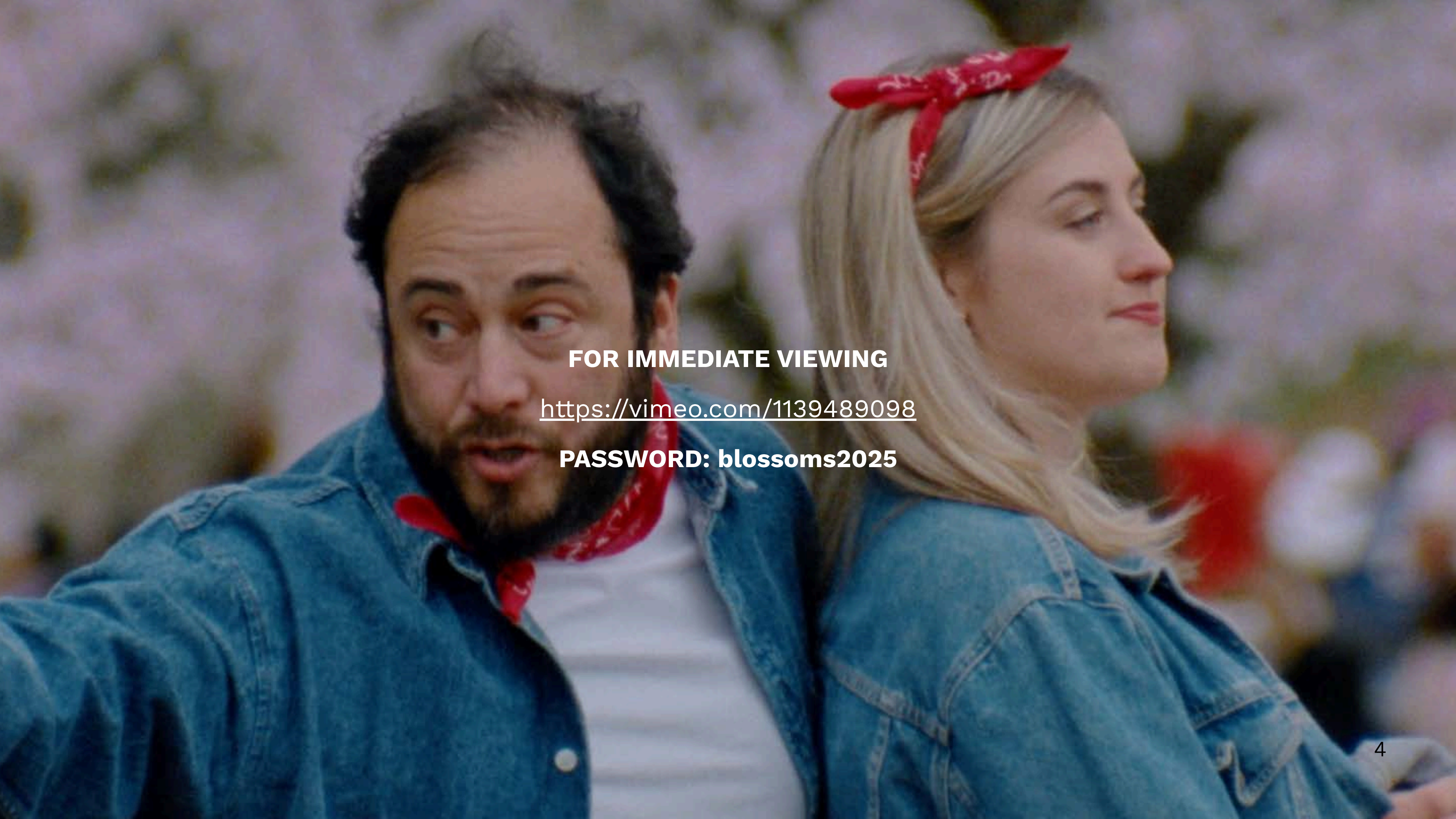
WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY SOPHIA SMITH, PRODUCED BY FRASER WOLFE, EXECUTIVE PRODUCED BY OPC FILMS, AND SHOT ON LOCATION IN TORONTO, THE FILM BLURS THE LINE BETWEEN DOCUMENTARY AND FICTION.



about the film

Born from the seed of Sophia's own time spent in the park during cherry blossom season, the film places actors amongst bona fide park-goers, watching them with the same unfiltered monotony. Between dog moms posing with twin Pom-Chis, older Japanese couples visiting to honour the cultural significance of the bloom, Instagram boyfriends, and groups of circus performers exists a cast of fictional people who are just as ridiculous, unique, and content-obsessed as their real counterparts.

Through Sophia's lens, there are no heroes or villains, despite how nefarious some of the conscious or subconscious motivations behind these photoshoots may be. Fascinated by small, honest, and strange human interactions, her work avoids cliché by lingering on people in their most unguarded moments, without judgement.



FOR IMMEDIATE VIEWING

<https://vimeo.com/1139489098>

PASSWORD: blossoms2025

film info

Country:	CANADA
Runtime:	7:20 MINS
Year of production:	2025
Language:	ENGLISH
Shooting format:	FILM (16 MM)
Aspect ratio:	1.66:1





starring

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| FROSINA PEJCINOVSKA | MICHAEL SCOTT |
| JULIETTE KER | ZACHARY BOROWETS |
| MIRANDA WEST | GOSHTA SEP |
| TERRY BATEMAN | ALEX ATEAH |
| JESS RAHMAN-GONZALEZ | SAMUEL FORSYTH |
| AYSHA RAZA | BASIA WYSZYNSKI |
| JULIA D'ANGELO | ANDREAS MIEKE |
| KELLY STEINHOFF | LAUREN ANDREWS |

key crew

Writer/Director:	SOPHIA SMITH
Producer:	FRASER WOLFE
Director of Photography:	JOHN KER
Editor:	CAM ANDERSON
Sound Designer:	JOAQUIN CLUNIE
Composer:	ELIZA NIEMI
Executive Producers:	HARLAND WEISS
	DONOVAN M. BODEN
	ISIL GILDERDALE
	EMILY HARRIS





sophia smith

is a Toronto based writer and director whose work explores the theatre of everyday life and the absurdities that come with being human. Rooted in observation, her work finds humour in contradiction, intimacy, and human performance, using comedy to reveal the strange, tender ways people communicate, connect, and misunderstand one another. Her work has been shown at festivals like TIFF, Vienna Shorts, The Smalls and more; garnered Nowness and Vimeo Staff Picks; and has won her Gold at The Young Director Awards in the Narrative category.

Sophia is currently in development with her first feature and is represented globally by OPC Films.

opc films

Founded in 2006, OPC is an award winning production company based in Toronto. Narratively, recent credits include *Daughters* (2024), directed by Natalie Rae and Angela Patton, which premiered at Sundance, winning the Festival Favorite Award and Audience Award: U.S. Documentary; *Are You Scared to Be Yourself Because You Think That You Might Fail?* (2024), directed by Bec Pecaut, which won the Short Cuts Award for Best Canadian Film at TIFF; *Darkest Miriam* (2024), directed by Naomi Jaye which premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival; *The Maiden* (2022), the debut feature from director Graham Foy, which premiered at the Venice Film Festival; *Benjamin Benny Ben* (2020), directed by Paul Shkordoff, which premiered in-competition at the Cannes Film Festival; and *August 22, This Year* (2020), from director Graham Foy which premiered at the Cannes 59th Semaine de la Critique.





related links

Sophia Smith – <http://www.sophiasmith.tv>

OPC Films – <http://www.opc.tv>

press contact

Sophia Smith / (647) 527.7891 / sophia@opc.tv

Emily Harris / (514) 867.1983 / emily@opc.tv