

2023 FILM JURY Peruzzo de Andrade



Cáa-Poré/Cafuzo filmmaker, photographer and rock-climber based in Canada and Brazil. From the Cerrado of Brazil, Peruzzo is dedicated to critical and intersectional practices of film-based storytelling and land-based knowledge mobilization. His Master's work in Social Dimensions of Health examined the interconnectivity between identity, land and wellbeing. Grounded in community-led engagement, place-based protocols Peruzzo uses his work to inspire critical consciousness, inter-cultural sharing across themes of identity, relationship, and wellness.

Peruzzo has worked in across Cinematography, Photography and Editorial roles with collaboration with: APTN/CBC Indigenous (Editor: Cowichan Knitters [In Production]), CBC Originals (Editor: OKPIK: Little Village in the Arctic), VICE TV Viceland: RISE (On Site Liaison and Still Photographer: Krenak Nation, Brazil Episode), Telus: STORYHIVE (Dance Like Everybody's Watching (2020), TEMOSEN (2021), Cacao Road: Rain Own Productions (Cinematographer for Brazil, Guatemala and Belize [In Production]), The University of Victoria (SSHRC, Indigenous Language Revitalization, School of Child and Youth Care) and others. He is the co-owner of UATÊ STORIED LEARNING and is also producing films featuring athletes across land-based sports.

Nandini Purandare



Educator. Hiker. Traveler. Writer. Mother of two. Nandini has worked with an all-woman team to develop a value-based curriculum for underprivileged children aged between 9 and 13 in



Mumbai where she lives. The program is conducted in over 900 public schools. For over 35 years she has hiked and travelled in the Himalaya and has been editor of The Himalayan Journal for several years. Since 2012, a colleague and she have collected oral histories of the climbing Sherpas of Darjeeling, culminating in a book which is under publication. She has been a jury member for the Banff and the Kekoo Naoroji book competitions as well as on children's film festival selection panels and juries.

Tina Qian



Founder of Banff China

PADI Ambassador

One of The Top Ten Outdoor People, by CCTV-5 and Outside magazine

Awarded the Medal of Canada Governor General

Founder and organiser of Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour in China, Ocean Film Festival China Tour, ReelRock Film Tour China Tour, European Outdoor Film Tour, Sunshine Running Film Festival, Hot Snow Film Festival, China Outdoor Film Festival, Banff China Outdoor Carnival, Banff China Adventure Filmmaker's Workshop.

In 2019, brought Free Solo into Chinese cinemas and hit the record for an imported documentary in Chinese cinema history.

Mission: Using films to promote outdoor sports and lifestyle.

Main character of documentary film, Go with Your Gut.

Featured Reported by Vague, Cosmopolitan, Elle, Trends Health, Marie Claire, Rayli, South China Morning Post, CCTV-1, CCTV-6, CCTV-13, China Daily, Beijing Youth, etc.

Personal hobbies: Sky Diving, Scuba Diving, Snowboarding, Running (marathon, 100K), and Mountaineering.



Mark Sedon



Mark is a Kiwi adventurer, mountain guide, author and the founder and director of the NZ Mountain Film and Book Festival. He's been the chief film judge since its competition inception 21 years ago. He worked behind the lens in the most remote corners of Antarctica and specializes in exploring the world's remote regions. His guiding career is spread two decades on all continents of the earth from the high Himalaya to the most remote corners of Antarctica. From guiding on Mt Everest, to the first ski descents in NZ. Last year he published a popular book called What Could Possibly Go Wrong? His adventures form the basis of his creative life, documenting expeditions and storytelling in various forms.

Sarah Steele



Sarah grew up on the move between France, Switzerland and the Western US. The bulk of her career has been spent at the intersection of Tech and Impact pioneering creator programs to elevate historically underrepresented voices and introduce new storytelling formats. Most recently Sarah's work has been focused on building YouTube's Racial Justice and Human Rights strategies to tackle the evolving challenges that arise on tech platforms.

In parallel, as an adventure athlete and content creator, Sarah cofounded Well Travelled Collective, a female led production company focused on increasing female representation and committed to treading lightly on the environment. She has produced a number of award-winning short films and documentaries aiming to change the narrative in adventure filmmaking.

When she's not adventuring off the beaten path on rock and ice, Sarah lives in South Lake Tahoe California with her husband Timmy O'Neill and their son, Cody River.