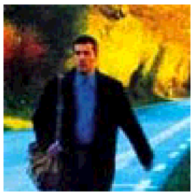
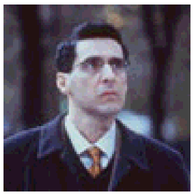
It’s film gluttony time again. The red carpets are out, the stars have arrived and the hundreds of movies are ready to roll for the 26th edition of the TIFF, which runs Sept. 6 to 15.

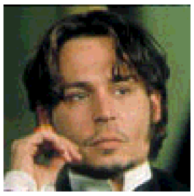
Our Reviews



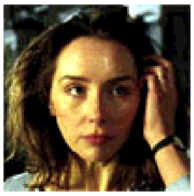
Éloge de L’Amour
★★★1/2
Directed by: Jean-Luc Godard
Old age certainly hasn’t softened Jean-Luc Godard. The septuagenarian’s filmmaking powers remain undiminished, and, if anything, his legendarily cantankerous wit is even more devastating.



Thirteen Conversations About One Thing
★★★★
Directed by: Jill Sprecher
"May you get what you want," the bitter Gene (Alan Arkin) slyly wishes adventurers and optimists in *Thirteen Conversations About One Thing*...



From Hell
★★
Directed by: Albert Hughes, Allen Hughes
Based on the graphic novel by Alan Moore and Eddie Campbell, *From Hell* takes on the most notorious unsolved mystery in the annals of crime...



Mr. In-Between
★★
Directed by: Paul Sarossy
From nouvelle vague darling Jean-Pierre Melville to nouvelle vague manqué Quentin Tarantino, hit men in the movies have always been plagued by existential crises, their torturous careers providing perfect

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- Special Prese
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- Masters
- Discovery
- Planet Africa
- Real to Reel
- Nordic Visio
- Wavelengths
- Midnight Ma
- Jean Pierre L
- Contemporar
- Spotlight

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MOVIE

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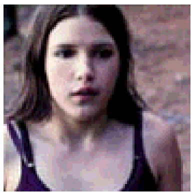
metaphysical metaphor for the morass of the human condition.

Prozac Nation
★★
Directed by: Erik Skjoldbjærg
You know you?re in Big Serious Movie territory when a female actor who has never taken her clothes off for a film before appears nude in the very first scene.



Rain
★★★
Directed by: Christine Jeffs
Janey (Alicia Fulford-Wierzbicki) has the impossible-to-please sullenness of an eldest child of parents on the verge of divorce.

Rare Birds
★1/2
Directed by: Sturla Gunnarsson
Newfoundlanders have never looked sillier than they do in *Rare Birds,* a fey, occasionally amusing romp about a middle-aged softie, his rascally best friend and their "little plan."

What Time Is It There? (Ni Neibian Jidian)
★★★★
Directed by: Tsai Ming-liang
The Taiwanese director Tsai Ming-liang *(The River, The Hole)* is one of the most exciting auteurs at work today-certainly the finest in Asia.

Novocaine
★★★
Directed by: David Atkins
In *Novocaine,* a mild-mannered suburban dentist, Frank (Steve Martin), only has to think about cheating on his fiancée, the prim, bouncy blond hygienist Jean (Laura Dern), and his life begins to fall apart.

Enigma
★★1/2
Directed by: Michael Apted
Enigma begins four years into World War II, when the code-breakers at Bletchley Park, a top-secret Allied base outside London, are challenged to crack the elusive Nazi Enigma

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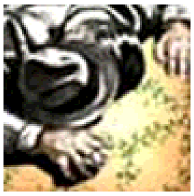
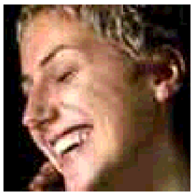
Baran
★★1/2
Directed by: Majid Majidi
Three Iranian films at this year?s festival-*Kandahar, Delbaran* and Majid Majidi?s *Baran*-concern themselves with the plight of the country?s 1.4 million Afghan refugees.

Chicken Rice War
★★★
Directed by: CheeK (Cheah Chee Kong)
Chicken Rice War, the first full-length feature from director Cheah Chee Kong (a name he condenses to CheeK), is the screwiest of screwball comedies...

Un Crabe dans la tête
★★★
Directed by: André Turpin
Shot from a number of artful angles, the opening sequence of André Turpin?s *Un Crabe dans la tête* is both mesmerizing and foreboding.



Engram Sepals (Melodramas 1994-2000)
★★1/2
Directed by: Lewis Klahr
Engram is a term used by Jung to denote a permanent memory fragment engraved in the brain that can never be completely retrieved...



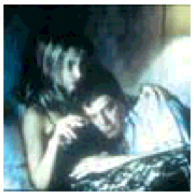
No Shame
★★★1/2
Directed by: Joaquín Oristrell
No Shame (Sin vergüenza) dives into the manic-depressive world of acting, and despite feeling at times like a dose of Almodovar lite, the film works as a shrewd and surprisingly moving screwball comedy.

Karmen
★★★
Directed by: Joseph Gaï Ramaka
Karmen, the feature-length debut from Senegalese director Joseph Gaï Ramaka, defies traditional analysis.

Snipes
★★1/2
Directed by: Richard Murray
The culture of hip hop has yielded so many flashy personalities, so much infighting and, sadly, so many deaths that it more or less cries out for cinematic interpretation.

Cyberman
★★★★1/2
Directed by: Peter Lynch
Peter Lynch's latest documentary, Cyberman, is as dazzling, complex and entertaining as its subject: Steve Mann, University of Toronto professor and self-described "cyborg."

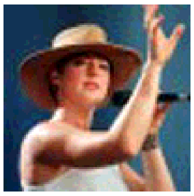
Joy Ride
★1/2
Directed by: John Dahl
There's nothing happy about Joy Ride, an earnest thriller from John Dahl. Compared with this new offering, Dahl's wily The Last Seduction was a small masterpiece.



Century Hotel
★★1/2
Directed by: David Weaver
Successfully cramming seven separate stories into just over 90 minutes, with an ensemble cast featuring more than 15 actors of varying degrees of experience and talent, would be a tall order for any filmmaker.

The Struma
★★
Directed by: Simcha Jacobovici
On February 23, 1942, the Struma, a Romanian and Russian Jew refugee ship bound for Palestine, was destroyed by a torpedo. With this documentary, Canadian director Simcha Jacobovici attempts to explain why the tragedy occurred.

Promises
★★★★
Directed by: Justine Shapiro, B.Z. Goldberg, Carlos Bolado
In the Middle East, "'normal' is always intertwined with war," says B.Z. Goldberg, Promises co-director and narrator.



Lilith on Top
★★★1/2
Directed by: Lynne Stopkewich
A documentary about Lilith Fair, could only be saved from becoming a self-congratulatory love-in by a director like Lynne Stopkewich.