

# **A Return to Memory: Film screening + Q&A**

This is an in-person event

Date March 5, 2025

Time 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Location Third floor program room

Event type [General](#)

Registration is closed.

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## Event overview

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In celebration of International Women's Day, join us for a screening of the new documentary *A Return to Memory* (2024, 118 minutes). This film highlights the role of women in establishing the National Film Board and creating Canadian cinema as we know it.

After the screening we'll host a Q&A with Michelle van Beusekom, who had the original idea for the film and was a consultant. Michelle previously served as the NFB's Executive Director of English language production studios, and is the current CEO of the Knowledge Network.

About the film:

"We learned to work with chaos."

The intrepid women who helped create Canadian cinema come to vibrant life in *A Return to Memory*, a documentary masterwork illuminating their vital but little-known role in establishing Canada's National Film Board.

Juxtaposing a dazzling array of archival material with dynamic animation by NFB infographics artist Mélanie Bouchard, director Donald McWilliams evokes the heady wartime years, when women played a key part in transforming the NFB into a major international studio.

With men engaged elsewhere in the war effort, hundreds of women pursued careers at the newly formed public producer — and pioneering figures like Evelyn Spice Cherry, Red Burns and Jane Marsh Beveridge made movie history, creating work that spoke to the world with a distinctive

Canadian voice.

*Registration is requested, but drop-ins may be allowed if space permits.*

Questions? Email [info@nvcl.ca](mailto:info@nvcl.ca) or call [604-998-3450](tel:604-998-3450).

Registration is closed.

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