

What's Out There – September 25, 2020: RBG, Thai takeout, Undersea Gardens

Hello. This is Diane Urbani de la Paz with What's Out There, ways to connect with arts and culture while staying close to home, for the weekend of Sept. 25th, 2020.

I remember clearly the afternoon in May 2018 when I settled into my seat at the completely full Rose Theatre. I was surrounded by people who care about the same things I do. Together we watched the documentary RBG. The movie is an inspiration, it's funny, and it's a love story about Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Now, as of today, RBG is back at the Rose. It's one of the films available for streaming, in fact. [RoseTheatre.com](https://www.rosetheatre.com) is the place. And here's the thing: proceeds from RBG will benefit the ACLU Women's Rights Project, which Ruth Bader Ginsburg founded 48 years ago.

Also on the streaming cinema front is the 10-day cavalcade known as the Port Townsend Virtual Film Festival, which has 80 movies to choose from, along with conversations with the filmmakers. This is weekend No. 1 of the fest, which continues through October 4th. There are documentaries, dramas and shorts, and you can watch them when you want to, and more than once if you feel like it. There are unlimited passes, six packs, single tickets — and online voting for the Audience Choice Award. The gateway to it all is [PTFilmFest.com](https://www.ptfilmfest.com).

In her introduction to the festival, executive director Janette Force encourages us to support local restaurants, wherever you are in the world. I'm all for that as well. This week I ordered sweet basil and the king's bowl from the Banana Leaf Thai Bistro, on Washington Street in downtown Port Townsend. From pickup at the window to the last kernel of rice, this was a nourishing experience. For one thing the Banana Leaf Thai crew know what to do with tofu. It was silky and light, as were the vegetables. The king's bowl, on the "vegan glory" section of the menu, features pineapple, spinach and other goodies while the sweet basil dish has green beans and peppers, garlic and mushrooms. The portions are big, so we stretched them from dinner to lunch the next day. Banana Leaf Thai has landed on my long list of local faves.

Artists from Port Townsend and environs have collaborated in a new and unusual show at the Port Angeles Fine Arts Center. It's called "Undersea Garden: A Voyage of Wonder and Imagination, and it's like going snorkeling without getting wet. You do need to wear a face mask at the fine arts center, where the gallery allows up to 10 people to enter at a time.

Flora, the octopus, is a kind of greeter at the front door. Then you can wander among the coral, the nudibranchs, the sea stars and seahorse and the many fish, including salmon. All of these marine creatures were made by Tangled Fibers, a group of artists. This public art show is up through November 15th at the fine arts center, on East Lauridsen Blvd. in Port Angeles. The gallery is open Thursdays through Sundays, from 11 to 5 o'clock — or you might visit the Port Angeles Fine Arts Center online and take the virtual tour at [PAFAC.org](https://www.pafac.org).

And that is What's Out There for this week. I'm Diane Urbani de la Paz, here for you on KPTZ. Thanks for listening.