

SECOND EDITION OF HOT DOCS AT HOME PROVINCIAL SPOTLIGHT SERIES TO FEATURE FILMS FROM QUÉBEC

Toronto, February 25, 2021 – Hot Docs is pleased to announce that the next edition of its provincial Spotlight series will feature five documentaries highlighting stories and filmmakers from Québec. Curated in partnership with the Montréal International Documentary Festival (RIDM), this streaming collection will showcase the richness of diverse stories and the distinct artistic sensibility coming out of the province today, one that has earned it the reputation of being one of the most vibrant cinematic regions in Canada. Spotlight on Québec is available exclusively for free to Hot Docs members until April 29 on the Hot Docs at Home streaming platform, available at hotdocscinema.ca. To become a Hot Docs member, please visit hotdocscinema.ca/membership.

Spotlight on Québec will include the following feature films: the RIDM 2019 People's Choice Award winner *Kenbe La, jusqu'à la victoire* (*Kenbe La, Until We Win*), about a Haitian artist and activist who settled in Québec who visits his homeland before beginning cancer treatment; *Sisters: Dream & Variations* (*Sœurs : rêve et variations*), about two artist sisters who channel their Icelandic roots and wild imaginations during their creative process; *Jongué, carnet nomade* (*Jongué, A Nomad's Journey*), a beautiful portrait of photographer-writer Serge Emmanuel Jongué, who emigrated to Montréal in the 1970s; *Nin E Tepueian, Mon cri* (*Nin E Tepueian, My Cry*), the fascinating story of Innu poet, actress and activist Natasha Kanapé Fontaine, who takes back her power by using native language; and Claude Demers' touching exploration of family, memory and maternal love, *Une femme, ma mère*, which won the RIDM 2019 Grand Prize for Best National Feature.

"We're so pleased to shine a light on the extraordinary filmmaking coming out of Québec for the next installment of this new series," said **Alan Black**, managing director of Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema. "This selection of feature films reflects the nuanced stories and perspectives coming out of the province, and we're looking forward to highlighting these on our platform for the rest of Canada to watch and understand."

This program is presented by Société de développement des entreprises culturelles (SODEC), in collaboration with the Montréal International Documentary Festival (RIDM).

Films featured in the Spotlight on Québec series are:

JONGUÉ, CARNET NOMADE (JONGUÉ, A NOMAD'S JOURNEY)

D: Carlos Ferrand | Canada | 2019 | 81 mins

A beautiful portrait of photographer-writer Serge Emmanuel Jongué, who emigrated to Québec to escape the shadows and wounds of his family. In this captivating doc, Jongué's life is told through his own texts, images and talismans from his birth in Aix-en-Provence until his untimely death in Montréal.

KENBE LA, JUSQU'À LA VICTOIRE (KENBE LA, UNTIL WE WIN)

D: Will Prosper | Canada | 2019 | 84 mins

Alain Philoctète, a Haitian artist and activist who settled in Québec, returns to the country of his birth to develop a permaculture project with local farmers. After an emotional reunion with family members and his former comrades in arms, he returns to Montréal to undergo cancer treatment. A moving film that will inspire viewers to ponder the importance of embracing ideals and passing them on.

Hot Docs is a charitable, not-for-profit organization committed to advancing the art of documentary and supporting opportunities for independent filmmakers.

NIN E TEPUEIAN, MON CRI (NIN E TEPUEIAN, MY CRY)

D: Santiago Bertolino | Canada | 2019 | 82 mins

Discover the journey of Innu poet, actress and activist Natasha Kanapé Fontaine, at a pivotal time in her career. To heal the wounds of racism, Natasha has re-appropriated her Innu language and become a media spokesperson, using the power of words to rediscover her roots and empower her.

SISTERS: DREAM & VARIATIONS (SŒURS : RÊVE ET VARIATIONS)

D: Catherine Legault | Canada | 2019 | 85 mins

A musician and an interdisciplinary artist, respectively, sisters Tyr and Jasa have always been artists at heart. With Icelandic roots, they journey to Iceland from Montréal to collaborate on a project that brings together their artistic disciplines and cultural heritage. Presenting an oneiric world made up of animation, performances and cinema vérité, this film is an inspiring look at the artistic approach.

UNE FEMME, MA MÈRE (A WOMAN, MY MOTHER)

D: Claude Demers | Canada | 2019 | 75 mins

Shot in gorgeous black and white, with clear nods to French New Wave cinema, filmmaker Claude Demers skilfully reconstructs his mother's history by blending archival footage with re-enactments and fiction with documentary. Balancing documentary and poetry, this touching exploration of family, memory and maternal love finds Demers retracing his biological mother's footsteps in a struggle to find her.

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[Hot Docs](#), North America's largest documentary festival, conference and market, is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to advancing and celebrating the art of documentary and to creating production opportunities for documentary filmmakers. Hot Docs will present its 28th annual edition online from April 29-May 9, 2021, during which a full roster of industry conference sessions, market programs and networking events will be held for Canadian and international delegates, including the renowned Hot Docs Forum, Hot Docs Deal Maker, Distribution Rendezvous and The Doc Shop. Year-round, Hot Docs supports the Canadian and international industry with professional development programs and a multi-million-dollar production fund portfolio, and fosters education through documentaries with its popular free program Docs For Schools. Hot Docs owns and programs Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema, a century-old landmark located in Toronto's Annex neighbourhood and the world's first and largest documentary cinema, and operates Hot Docs at Home streaming platform.

Media Contact:

Andrea Smitko

Media Relations Manager, Hot Docs

Telephone: 416-2032155 x292

Email: asmitko@hotdocs.ca