



Hot Docs Podcast Festival Returns for Sixth Year Bringing Audiences and Creators Together on the New Frontier of Audio Storytelling

**2022 Edition comes home to Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema
January 25 – 28 with hybrid of in-person & globally streamed live events**

Festival opens with star-studded storytelling showcase hosted by *The Secret Life of Canada*; *Moneyball* author and podcaster Michael Lewis in conversation with Ira Glass; Ryan McMahon shares a sneak preview of upcoming Crave Original series *Thunder Bay*

Creators Forum welcomes *For Colored Nerds*' Eric Eddings and Brittany Luse

Toronto, November 23, 2021 – Hot Docs is thrilled to announce that its annual **Hot Docs Podcast Festival** –one of North America's premier podcasting events– will return in January 2022 for a sixth year showcasing leading storytellers and creators working on the new frontier of audio storytelling. Hot Docs Podcast Festival is presented in partnership with **CBC Podcasts** and supported by Major Partners **Acast** and **RBC Foundation**.

Following a successful all-virtual 2021 edition, the sixth edition of the Festival will run **January 25 – 28** presenting a dynamic hybrid edition of live, in-cinema and virtual primetime events streaming worldwide: with the annual Creators Forum – the country's top podcasting industry conference – offering intimate and inspiring daytime sessions exploring the art and craft of audio storytelling with those shaping the industry.

To whet the appetite of the ever-growing global community of podcast lovers, Hot Docs is excited to offer a sneak peek at four highlights from the upcoming festival:

- ***The Secret Life of Canada*** co-hosts **Falen Johnson** and **Leah Simone-Bowen** return to the Festival stage for a star-studded **Opening Night storytelling showcase** welcoming other CBC Podcasts luminaries;
- In the lead-up to the launch of a new audio series based on his bestseller *Liar's Poker*, acclaimed journalist and author **Michael Lewis** (*Liar's Poker*, *Moneyball*) is **joined by *This American Life*'s Ira Glass** for a discussion of their award-winning bodies of work;
- Award-winning Anishinaabe journalist and writer **Ryan McMahon** returns to share a sneak preview of his upcoming four-part Crave Original documentary series based on the ground-breaking CANADALAND podcast, ***Thunder Bay***
- In the Creators Forum former hosts of *The Nod*, **Eric Eddings** and **Brittany Luse**, now at the helm of Stitcher's newly rebooted *For Colored Nerds* present a masterclass discussing the art and craft of making "form-breaking" episodes.

The Creators Forum again runs for three days of the Festival, with a robust slate of hands-on skills building workshops, “Meet the Decision Maker” events with leading content executives, masterclasses with creative luminaries in the medium, and networking opportunities – all equally valuable for seasoned and aspiring podcasters. Day two of the Forum will be curated by the current global leader in independent podcast production, **Acast**. The line-up of executives attending the Festival and Creators Forum this year also include leaders from **Amazon Studios, CANADALAND, CBC Podcasts, Earwolf, NPR, Pineapple Street Studios, Pushkin Industries, Serial Productions and Stitcher**.

All Access (in-person and digital) and Digital Passes are available beginning today until January 5 at Early Bird 20% off pricing – both passes include single ticket admission to all Festival programming events including exclusive access to the Creators Forum.

The full programming line-up for Hot Docs Podcast Festival will be announced January 4, 2022. Single tickets will be made available Festival passholders and Hot Docs Members on January 4, and to the public on January 6.

For more information, visit <https://hotdocscinema.ca/c/podcast>

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About Hot Docs

Owned and operated by Hot Docs (www.hotdocs.ca), a not-for-profit organization dedicated to advancing and celebrating the art of documentary, Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema is the world’s largest documentary cinema. A historic, century-old landmark located in Toronto’s vibrant Annex neighbourhood, the Cinema is a year-round home for non-fiction film and storytelling, presenting first-run international and Canadian documentaries, curated film and speaker series, signature events including Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival and Hot Docs Podcast Festival, as well as hosting for some of the city’s premier festivals and events. Since assuming management in 2012, Hot Docs has screened over 1,425 films to audiences of more than 1.3 million. In 2016, a generous \$5-million donation from Rogers Foundation enabled Hot Docs to purchase venue.

The Hot Docs Podcast Festival is one of North America’s premier podcast festivals, presented by Hot Docs, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to advancing and celebrating the art of documentary. Featuring live performances of chart-topping Canadian and international non-fiction podcasts and the Creators Forum, an industry conference for audio insiders and emerging podcasters, the Festival celebrates the ingenuity of audio storytelling.

Hot Docs Podcast Festival is proud to include CBC Podcasts as its Lead Partner; Acast and RBC Foundation as its Major Partners; iHeartRadio Canada as its Box Office Sponsor; and The Walrus Lab as its Media Sponsor and sponsor of the Opening Act Program.