

For Immediate Release: Thursday, August 31, 2023

**HOT DOCS CINEMA UNVEILS FALL DELIGHTS:
CAPTIVATING DOC PREMIERES, TRIBUTE SCREENINGS, NEW CURIOUS MINDS
COURSES, AND CONVERSATIONS WITH ICONIC AUTHORS IN SEPTEMBER**

- FEATURING THEATRICAL PREMIERES OF *AURORA'S SUNRISE*, *BAD PRESS*, *CHARLOTTE'S CASTLE*, *EXHIBITION ON SCREEN: VERMEER: THE GREATEST EXHIBITION*, *IN THE COMPANY OF ROSE*, *MR. JIMMY*, *THE PAWNSHOP*, *RADICAL WOLFE*, AND *THE YOUTUBE EFFECT*
 - *THE LAST RIDER* RETURNS FOR A SERIES OF ENCORE SCREENINGS
- SPECIAL EVENTS INCLUDE A NEW 4K RESTORATION OF THE 1984 CLASSIC CONCERT FILM *STOP MAKING SENSE*; A ONE-NIGHT-ONLY SCREENING OF *GLOW: THE GORGEOUS LADIES OF WRESTLING*; SING-ALONGS OF *PITCH PERFECT 2* AND *BURLESQUE*; AND AN INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE SCREENING OF *WITHOUT PRECEDENT: THE SUPREME LIFE OF ROSALIE ABELLA*
- SERIES INCLUDE FAMILY SCREENINGS OF *THE GOONIES*, *FROZEN*, AND *PEE-WEE'S BIG ADVENTURE*; *THIS FILM SHOULD BE PLAYED LOUD* RETURNS WITH A THEATRICAL RUN OF SCORSESE'S *THE LAST WALTZ'S* 45TH-ANNIVERSARY RESTORATION
 - TRIBUTE SCREENINGS IN HONOUR OF LEGENDARY CANADIAN MUSICIAN **ROBBIE ROBERTSON**, CZECH-FRENCH NOVELIST **MILAN KUNDERA**, AND AMERICAN ACTOR AND COMEDIAN **PAUL REUBENS**
- **CURIOUS MINDS AUTHOR TALKS** WELCOMES AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR **NAOMI KLEIN** TO INTRODUCE HER NEW BOOK *DOPPELGANGER*
- **CURIOUS MINDS COURSES** IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER EXPLORING ITALY'S CULINARY DELIGHTS, TIMELESS PARISIAN ELEGANCE, THE EPIC STORY OF THE ROLLING STONES, AND THE HIDDEN HISTORIES OF ICONIC ARTWORKS
 - A WIDE SELECTION OF FREE SCREENINGS AND EVENTS FOR HOT DOCS MEMBERS

Toronto, ON – Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema unveils an exhilarating September lineup featuring premieres of the most talked-about docs from around the world, thought-provoking author talks, enchanting family series, and free-for-members events. From the awe-inspiring story of a woman who emerges from the depths of the Armenian genocide to achieve stardom in Hollywood's silent movie era, to an eye-opening exploration of YouTube's troubling impact on society, the upcoming September program is set to engage and enthrall audiences. A number of September screenings and special events

Owned and operated by the Hot Docs International Documentary Festival, the historic Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema is one of the world's only documentary cinemas.

will feature captivating Q&As and special guest appearances, including *Without Precedent: The Supreme Life of Rosalie Abella* director **Barry Avrich** and producer **Mark Selby**, the boys from **BoylesqueTO**, Oscar-winning director **Daniel Roher**, *Aurora's Sunrise* director **Inna Sahakyan**, *Bad Press* co-director **Joe Peeler**, *Charlotte's Castle* producer **Laura Kastner** and director **Jamie Kastner**, Demand Lucha wrestlers **NOVA (Andrea Benoit)** and **Jody Threat**, best-selling author **Naomi Klein**, and journalist and theatre artist **Richard Ouzounian**.

To view the full September 2023 calendar, visit <https://hotdocs.ca/whats-on/watch-cinema>.

PREMIERES

- The hottest new docs from across the globe premiering at Hot Docs Cinema in September: ***Aurora's Sunrise***—Armenia's submission to the 95th Academy Awards for Best International Film—the story of a genocide survivor who becomes a silent movie star in Hollywood; ***In the Company of Rose***, Tony-winning playwright and director James Lepine's touching portrait of Rose Styron, the widow of the great American novelist William Styron (*Sophie's Choice*); ***The Pawnshop***, a darkly funny doc about Europe's biggest pawnshop as it finds itself on the brink of bankruptcy; ***Mr. Jimmy***, about Japanese guitarist Akio Sakurai, who has dedicated his life to emulating iconic Led Zeppelin guitarist Jimmy Page; ***The YouTube Effect***, an eye-opening documentary that presents a troubling look at the popular video platform; and ***Radical Wolfe***, a personal and illuminating look at American novelist, journalist, and social commentator Tom Wolfe's life and work.
- Hot Docs Cinema celebrates important local stories: In ***Charlotte's Castle***, a quirky cast of Annex neighbours become unlikely activists when they wage a war with a foreign-owned developer seeking to destroy the cultural landmark of which they consider themselves the caretakers.
- The Cinema commemorates National Day for Truth and Reconciliation with a theatrical run of ***Bad Press***, an enthralling nail biter that chronicles the long fight for free press on the Muscogee Nation reservation in Oklahoma. The September 30, 2:30 p.m. screening will be FREE and will feature an introduction by imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival and post-screening virtual Q&A with co-director Joe Peeler in recognition of National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.
- Art aficionados will get the chance to experience the sold-out exhibition of the century in ***Exhibition on Screen: Vermeer: The Greatest Exhibition***.
- ***The Last Rider***—the incredible story of the greatest cycling race in history, in which American Greg LeMond vanquished his demons in one of the most inspiring comebacks in sporting history—returns for a series of Encore screenings in September.

SPECIAL EVENTS

- ***Stop Making Sense***, one of the most original and enduring concert films of all time, and a favorite of the Bloor/Hot Docs Cinema community, finally returns to the Cinema in a new 4K restoration on its 40th anniversary.

- On September 25, the Cinema will welcome NOVA (Andrea Benoit) and Jody Threat from local wrestling company Demand Lucha for a screening of ***GLOW: The Story of the Gorgeous Ladies of Wrestling***, the glitter-fueled doc that inspired the hit Netflix series *GLOW*, chronicling the rise and fall of the iconic show.
- Sing your heart out at special sing-along screenings: ***Pitch Perfect 2*** on September 16, and ***Burlesque*** on September 23, featuring a live performance from BoylesqueTO, Canada's premiere boy burlesque troupe.
- On September 21, join Hot Docs Cinema's celebration of International Day of Peace with a screening of ***Without Precedent: The Supreme Life of Rosalie Abella***, an intimate portrait of the human rights champion and former Supreme Court Justice of Canada.

SERIES

- **Curious Minds Author Talks** welcomes award-winning author **Naomi Klein** (*No Logo, The Shock Doctrine, This Changes Everything*) to discuss her new book ***Doppelganger***, an essential analysis of our political and cultural moment and the distorted 'Mirror World' of identity on the internet.
- Now on sale: **Curious Minds Courses** in September and October exploring Italy's culinary delights, timeless Parisian elegance, the epic story of The Rolling Stones, and the hidden histories of iconic artworks.
- In tribute to the late great Robbie Robertson, **This Film Should Be Played Loud** will present a theatrical run of Scorsese's ***The Last Waltz***'s 45th-Anniversary Restoration, often referred to as "the greatest rock doc ever made," capturing what was advertised as The Band's final farewell concert appearance. The celebration of the legendary Canadian musician's life continues with special screenings of Daniel Roher's (*Navalny*) award-winning ***Once We Were Brothers: Robbie Robertson and The Band***, featuring a pre-recorded introduction by the Oscar-winning director.
- Additional tribute screenings: ***Milan Kundera: From the Joke to Insignificance*** in honour of the enigmatic Czech-French novelist, and ***Pee-wee's Big Adventure*** in honour of American actor and comedian Paul Reubens.
- **Family Screenings** in September to feature the 1985 family favourite ***The Goonies***, the wildly original ***Pee-wee's Big Adventure***, and a ***Frozen*** princess sing-along.

FREE FOR MEMBERS

Visit <https://hotdocs.ca/join/memberships> for more information on memberships. Hot Docs offers free Bronze memberships to those 25 and under.

- This September, Hot Docs Members can enjoy an exciting lineup of free screenings and events, including: *The Goonies*, *The Last Waltz*, *Milan Kundera: From the Joke to Insignificance*, *Pitch Perfect 2* sing-along, *Pee-wee's Big Adventure*, and *Burlesque* sing-along.

Cinema Ticket: \$15 (Members tickets from \$10) *

*Unless otherwise specified

PREMIERES

Premiere

AURORA'S SUNRISE

D: Inna Sahakyan | Armenia, Germany, Lithuania | 96 min | 2022

A genocide survivor becomes a silent movie star: Aurora Mardiganian's odyssey is close to unreal. After losing her family, escaping slavery, and enduring Hollywood greed. She journeys far to tell the world of the Armenian Genocide.

Join director Inna Sahakyan for a Q&A after the September 3 screening.

Opens Friday, September 1

Premiere

IN THE COMPANY OF ROSE

D: James Lapine | USA | 85 min | 2023

Tony-winning playwright and director James Lapine (*Into the Woods, Sunday in the Park with George*) befriends Rose Styron, the widow of the great American novelist William Styron (*Sophie's Choice*). Rose shares the fascinating story of her complex life as a poet, journalist, human rights activist, life partner to William, and friend of luminaries of her time.

Opens Friday, September 1

Premiere

THE PAWNSHOP

D: Lukasz Kowalski | Poland | 81 min | 2022

A moving story, full of wacky humour, about people who struggle to survive while helping those in greater need.

Opens Friday, September 1

Premiere

MR. JIMMY

D: Peter Michael Dowd | USA, Japan | 113 min | 2019

A Japanese guitarist dreams of escaping his life as a "salary man", dedicating himself to honouring rock musician Jimmy Page, recreating vintage Led Zeppelin concerts note-for-note in small Tokyo clubs and eventually moving his family to Los Angeles, where his version of the American Dream clashes with reality.

Opens Friday, September 8

Premiere

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THE YOUTUBE EFFECT

D: Alex Winter | USA | 95 min | 2022

In this eye-opening documentary, Alex Winter presents a thoughtful, troubling look at YouTube, a site with humble origins that has gone on to change how we experience the world.

The YouTube Effect also has a relaxed screening on Sunday, September 10. Relaxed screenings offer a sensory friendly environment for those in the neuro-diverse community or for anyone who may benefit from a more informal viewing atmosphere.

Opens Friday, September 8

Premiere

EXHIBITION ON SCREEN: VERMEER: THE GREATEST EXHIBITION

D: David Bickerstaff | UK | 90 min | 2023

Experience the exhibition of the century on the big screen in this truly once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to discover the genius of Vermeer and his fascinating and mysterious life.

Opens Friday, September 8

Encore

THE LAST RIDER

D: Alex Holmes | UK | 96 min | 2022

The incredible story of the greatest cycling race in history, the 1989 Tour De France, and how American Greg LeMond vanquished betrayal, childhood sexual abuse and even death in one of the most inspiring comebacks in sporting history.

Presented in partnership with Ontario Cycling.

Opens Saturday, September 16

Premiere

RADICAL WOLFE

D: Richard Downey | USA | 76 min | 2023

Writer Tom Wolfe's body of work includes some of the most memorable and culturally impactful stories of the 20th century. Take a deeply personal and illuminating look at the man inside the famous white suit, featuring conversations and interviews with those who knew him best.

Opens Friday, September 22

Premiere

BAD PRESS

D: Rebecca Landsberry-Baker, Joe Peeler | USA | 98 min | 2022

When the Muscogee Nation suddenly begins censoring its free press, a rogue reporter fights to expose her government's corruption in a historic battle that will have ramifications for all of Indian country.

The September 30, 2:30 p.m. screening will be FREE and will feature an introduction by imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival and post-screening virtual Q&A with co-director Joe Peeler in recognition of National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Presented in partnership with imagineNATIVE.

Opens Friday, September 22

*Free screening on September 30 / 2:15 PM

Premiere

CHARLOTTE'S CASTLE

D: Jamie Kastner | Canada | 84 min | 2022

Getting squeezed out by the skyrocketing housing market, a quirky cast of residents in Toronto's Annex neighbourhood become unlikely activists when they wage war with a foreign-owned developer seeking to destroy the cultural landmark of which they consider themselves the caretakers.

Join producer Laura Kastner and director Jamie Kastner for a Q&A after the September 24 screening.

Opens Sunday, September 24

SERIES & SPECIAL EVENTS

Family Screening

THE GOONIES

D: Richard Donner | USA | 114 min | 1985

Gather the family for one last adventure before school kicks off with one of the most beloved films of all time. School may be just around the corner, but Goonies never say die!

Saturday, September 2 / 1:30 PM

*Free for members

This Film Should Be Played Loud

THE LAST WALTZ 45TH-ANNIVERSARY RESTORATION

D: Martin Scorsese | USA | 117 min | 1978

Perhaps the greatest rock documentary ever made, Martin Scorsese's *The Last Waltz* captures what was advertised as legendary rock group The Band's final farewell concert appearance. Joined on stage by more than a dozen special guests, including Eric Clapton, Bob Dylan, Neil Young, Muddy Waters and Joni Mitchell, *The Last Waltz* started as a concert, but it became a celebration.

Opens Saturday, September 9

*Free for members

Special Event

GLOW: THE STORY OF THE GORGEOUS LADIES OF WRESTLING

D: Brett Whitcomb | USA | 77 min | 2012

You know *GLOW* but do you really know GLOW? This glitter-fueled bodyslam of a documentary, which inspired the hit Netflix series *GLOW*, chronicles the rise and fall of the iconic show through the stories of those who lived it.

NOVA (Andrea Benoit) and Jody Threat from local wrestling company Demand Lucha will be in attendance for an intro and photo ops after the screening.

Presented in partnership with Demand Lucha.

Friday, September 15 / 9:15 PM

Milan Kundera Tribute

MILAN KUNDERA: FROM THE JOKE TO INSIGNIFICANCE

D: Miloslav Šmídmajer | Czech Republic | 95 min | 2021

Unravel the mystery of the enigmatic author behind literary classics such as *The Joke*, *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*, and *Ignorance*, who passed away this July.

Saturday, September 16 / 3:45 PM

*Free for members

Special Event

PITCH PERFECT 2 SING-ALONG

D: Elizabeth Banks | USA | 115 min | 2015

Celebrate back-to-school with a pitchin' sing-along. Gather your friends, grab a few drinks, and sing along to all the acapella 2010s throwbacks you know and love.

Saturday, September 16 / 9:30 PM

*Free for members

Special Event

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE: WITHOUT PRECEDENT: THE SUPREME LIFE OF ROSALIE ABELLA

D: Barry Avrich | Canada | 84 min | 2023

Join us in recognizing International Day of Peace with this portrait of human rights champion and former Supreme Court Justice of Canada Rosalie Abella.

Join director Barry Avrich and producer Mark Selby for a post-screening Q&A, moderated by arts professional Richard Ouzounian.

Thursday, September 21 / 6:30 PM

Paul Reubens Tribute

PEE-WEE'S BIG ADVENTURE

D: Tim Burton | USA | 91 min | 1985

Help us celebrate the life and work of Paul Reubens, aka Pee-wee Herman, by revisiting the wildly original not-quite-for-children's classic that launched not only his career but also those of director Tim Burton and composer Danny Elfman.

Friday, September 22 / 9:15 PM

Sunday, September 24 / 1:30 PM*

*Family screening on Sunday, September 24. \$7.50 for 12 and under.

*Free for members

Special Event

BURLESQUE SING-ALONG

D: Steve Antin | USA | 85 min | 2010

Hot Docs Cinema transforms into a burlesque club for the camp classic film that should have earned Cher her second Academy Award. Grab a drink and kick off the night with a live performance from BoylesqueTO, Canada's premiere boy burlesque troupe.

Hosted by and featuring a live performance from BoylesqueTO.

Saturday, September 23 / 9:00 PM

*Free for members

Robbie Robertson Tribute

ONCE WE WERE BROTHERS: ROBBIE ROBERTSON AND THE BAND

D: Daniel Roher | Canada | 100 min | 2019

Celebrate the life and music of Toronto's own Robbie Robertson with fellow Torontonians Daniel Roher's 2019 award-winning documentary on the Canadian music icon.

Featuring a pre-recorded intro by director Daniel Roher.

Sunday, September 24 / 4:00 PM

Sunday, October 1 / 1:00 PM

*Pay what you can (\$10 minimum)

Special Run

STOP MAKING SENSE

D: Jonathan Demme | USA | 88 min | 1984

One of the most original and enduring concert films of all time, and a favorite of the Bloor/Hot Docs Cinema community, finally returns to cinema in a new 4K restoration on its 40th anniversary.

Opens Friday, September 29

Family Screening

FROZEN

D: Jennifer Lee, Chris Buck | USA | 102 min | 2013

All little royals are cordially invited to Hot Docs Cinema for a *Frozen* princess sing-along! Don your finest princess gowns and tiaras to sing along to the songs you know by heart.

Sunday, October 1 / 2:00 PM

*Tickets: \$15 (\$7.50 for 12 and under)

Curious Minds Author Talks

NAOMI KLEIN ON DOPPELGANGER

In this exclusive Toronto premiere, the award-winning author of *No Logo*, *The Shock Doctrine*, and *This Changes Everything* takes the Hot Docs stage to discuss her new book, *Doppelganger*, an essential analysis of our political and cultural moment and the distorted 'Mirror World' of identity on the internet.

Monday, October 2 / 7:00 PM

*Tickets: \$21 ground floor - stage view, \$18 balcony - screen view

CURIOS MINDS IN-CINEMA COURSES

Course registration: \$69 (Hot Docs Members: \$60, \$48, Free)

Single tickets will be available at box office and online following the second class of each course.

To register visit <https://hotdocs.ca/whats-on/curious-minds/curious-minds-cinema>.

PARIS STYLE

Paris-based Curious Minds favourite Lisa Pasold leads this exploration of how Parisians created their see-and-be-seen city, from iconic fashion to innovative urban planning.

Tuesdays, September 26 - November 7, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

SATISFACTION: THE STORY OF THE ROLLING STONES

Explore the thrilling rise—and enduring legacy—of one of the world's most exciting and influential bands with Curious Minds favourite music historian Mike Daley.

Wednesdays, September 27 – November 8, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

FAMOUS PAINTING AND THEIR STORIES

From the Mona Lisa to The Scream, art historian Barbara Isherwood examines some of history's most iconic paintings and explores how each fit into their context at the time.

Thursdays, September 28 – November 9, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

A CULTURAL HISTORY OF ITALIAN FOOD

Dr. Teresa Lobalsamo leads this virtual journey across the Italian peninsula, surveying the distinct regional food traditions that have made the country a culinary mecca.

Fridays, October 27 - December 1, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

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Owned and operated by [Hot Docs](#), 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 speakers series, signature events including Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival, Hot Docs Podcast Festival and Curious Minds Weekend, 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.

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