

For Immediate Release: Tuesday, January 30, 2024

# BUZZY PREMIERES, NEW SERIES, AUTHOR TALKS AND OSCAR®-NOMINATED DOCS AT HOT DOCS TED ROGERS CINEMA IN FEBRUARY

- EXCLUSIVE THEATRICAL PREMIERES OF THE LATEST AND MOST EXCITING DOCUMENTARIES FROM CANADA AND AROUND THE GLOBE
- SHARING BLACK NARRATIVES AND HONOURING BLACK STORYTELLERS: SPECIAL PROGRAMMING FOR BLACK HISTORY MONTH
- ALL OSCAR®-NOMINATED DOCS, SHORTS AND FEATURES, WILL SCREEN LEADING UP
   TO THE ACADEMY AWARDS
  - WELCOMING BEST-SELLING AUTHOR, SCREENWRITER AND JOURNALIST DOLLY ALDERTON; INFLUENTIAL WRITER AND SOCIAL CRITIC IJEOMA OLUO; AND AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR SHEILA HETI FOR CURIOUS MINDS AUTHOR TALKS
- POPULAR SERIES RETURN: DOC SOUP SCREENS KING COAL, THE THIRST TALKS PANEL
  IS BACK WITH AN EXPLORATION OF POWER COUPLES, FAMILY SCREENINGS SERIES
  PRESENTS MIYAZAKI'S HOWL'S MOVING CASTLE, THE TWILIGHT FANGIRL PICTURE
  SHOW CELEBRATES VALENTINE'S
- THE NEW TORONTO TRUE CRIME SERIES LAUNCHES IN FEBRUARY WITH A SCREENING
  OF THE PEZ OUTLAW
  - SPECIAL EVENTS INCLUDE: AN ABBA-CENTRIC GALENTINE'S DAY CELEBRATION,
     CANADIAN ARTIST BEGONIA'S NEW CONCERT FILM, A REVISITING OF 90s ROM-COM
     CHASING AMY, A ONE-NIGHT-ONLY SCREENING OF FREDERICK WISEMAN'S LATEST,
     AND A SPECIAL SCREENING IN RECOGNITION OF THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE
     RUSSIAN INVASION OF UKRAINE
- A NEW SLATE OF CURIOUS MINDS COURSES LAUNCHES IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH: EXPLORE THE GRAPHIC ARTS REVOLUTION, THE HISTORY OF BANNED BOOKS, ART AND ARCHITECTURE OF THE 18TH CENTURY, AND THE BRIGHTEST STARS OF THE BROADWAY STAGE
  - OFFERING A WIDE VARIETY OF FREE SCREENINGS AND EVENTS FOR HOT DOCS MEMBERS

**Toronto, ON - Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema** unveiled today an electrifying lineup featuring international premiere titles, new and returning series, special events, author talks, and more captivating programming for February. From the experiences of pioneering Black astronauts to an intimate portrait of a wildly popular author and podcaster spearheading a paradigm shift in our perception of "fat," the





Cinema's February program is curated to showcase fresh perspectives, celebrate diverse voices, and captivate audiences with exceptional storytelling.

Select screenings and events in February will include captivating Q&A sessions and special guest appearances, enhancing the cinematic experience with an extra layer of excitement. February guests include award-winning author Sheila Heti and author Claudia Dey to discuss Alphabetical Diaries; influential writer Ijeoma Oluo to introduce Be A Revolution: How Everyday People are Fighting Oppression and Changing the World—and How You Can, Too; director Sav Rogers to discuss Chasing Chasing Amy; best-selling author Dolly Alderton and writer/comedian Monica Heisey to discuss Good Material; Ukrainian film producer Anna Palenchuck, Hot Docs Senior International Programmer Myrocia Watamaniuk and director Maciek Hamela to discuss In the Rearview; producer Diane Becker to discuss King Coal; Frederick Wiseman scholar Shawn Glinis to introduce MENUS-Plaisirs Les Troisgrois; director Andrew Nisker and editor of POV Marc Glassman to discuss Nuked; directors Amy Bandlien Storkel and Bryan Storkel, film subject Steve Glew and Toronto True Crime's Lisa Gallagher to discuss The Pez Outlaw; director Ryan Steel and recording artist Begonia to discuss Powder Blue: Live at Club Regent; rapper, DJ, and producer Myst Milano to introduce Renaissance; Hot Docs Cinema programmer Michelle Boon to introduce the Thirst Talks team of Thirst Experts: Sadaf Ahsan, Stacy Lee Kong, and Meaghan Wray; comedians Carley Thorne and Meredith Mullen to introduce Twilight; and director **Jeanie Finlay** to introduce *Your Fat Friend*.

#### **PREMIERES**

- Hot Docs Cinema is your one-stop destination to catch all of this year's Oscar-nominated documentaries. In anticipation of the Academy Awards, Hot Docs Cinema will also feature screenings of the five Oscar-Nominated Documentary Features: Four Daughters, 20 Days in Mariupol, To Kill a Tiger, The Eternal Memory and Bobi Wine: The People's President. Dive into the Oscar Nominees: Best Documentary Shorts split into two programs for audiences' viewing pleasure. Each program ticket is priced at \$7.50, ensuring audiences can experience all the nominees for the regular ticket price of \$15.
- Celebrate Black History Month with the premieres of Max Roach: The Drum Also Waltzes, an immersive journey into the ground-breaking sounds of bebop pioneer Max Roach, whose revolutionary music was both inspired by and challenged the social inequities of his time; Renaissance: A Film by Beyoncé, the electrifying new concert doc charting the journey of Beyoncé's Renaissance world tour, from its inception to the opening in Stockholm, Sweden, and the finale in Kansas City, Missouri; and The Space Race, delving into the experiences of pioneering Black astronauts, turning science fiction into reality and reshaping our understanding of "the right stuff." The Space Race also has a relaxed screening on Sunday, February 4. 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.
- This year's most acclaimed docs come to Hot Docs: winner of Sheffield Documentary Festival's 2023 Audience Award, *Your Fat Friend*, following fat activist Aubrey Gordon's journey over six years, from anonymous blogger to NY Times bestseller, as she strives to change perceptions about body size and promote body positivity; and winner of IDFA 2022 Best Feature-Length Documentary, *Apolonia*, *Apolonia*, a captivating portrait of a talented young woman navigating



the complexities of breaking into the art world, spanning 13 remarkable years of her unconventional life.

# **SPECIAL EVENTS**

- Canadian recording artist Begonia presents her new concert film *Powder Blue: Live at Club Regent*, showcasing her hometown casino residency show in support of her Polaris Prizeshortlisted album *Powder Blue*.
- Hot Docs recognizes the second anniversary of Russia's invasion and ongoing assault of Ukraine
  with this special screening of the powerfully personal new documentary *In the Rearview*.
- One-Night-Only! Prolific 93-year-old director Frederick Wiseman provides an exclusive, behind-the-scenes glimpse into the inner workings of a legendary three Michelin star French restaurant in *MENUS-Plaisirs Les Troisgrois*. Canadian director Andrew Nisker will screen his latest film, *Nuked*, a timely new feature documentary focusing on the human victims of the Cold War era nuclear arms race, tracing the displaced Bikinians' ongoing struggle for justice and survival even as climate change poses a new existential threat. Filmmaker Sav Rodgers takes us on a quest to understand how the divisive 90's rom-com *Chasing Amy* saved his life in *Chasing Chasing Amy*.
- Hot Docs Cinema welcomes lovebirds on Valentine's Day for a screening of *Marianne & Leonard: Words of Love*, the story of the enduring love between Leonard Cohen and his Norwegian muse Marianne Ihlen. Later in the month, in celebration of Galentine's Day, the Cinema will screen the fantABBAlous *Mamma Mia*.
- Hot Docs Cinema favourite **Stop Making Sense**—the "greatest concert film of all time"—returns, featuring some of Talking Head's most memorable songs.

# **SERIES**

- Introducing Toronto True Crime, a new series exploring the world of true crime film with screenings, talks, and special events. To launch the series, the Cinema will screen The Pez Outlaw, the unforgettable underdog story following the adventures of a small-town Michigan man who embarks on a risky and lucrative venture: smuggling rare European Pez dispensers into the United States by the thousands and making millions in the process.
- The Twilight Fangirl Picture Show returns with a special Valentine's screening of the OG Twilight.
- A new slate of **Curious Minds Courses** launches in February and March, exploring the graphic arts revolution, the history of banned books, art and architecture of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, and the brightest stars of the Broadway stage.
- Curious Minds Author Talks welcomes best-selling author, screenwriter and journalist Dolly
  Alderton to introduce her latest novel Good Material to Canadian audiences; influential writer
  and social critic Ijeoma Oluo to discuss her anticipated new book Be A Revolution: How Everyday
  People are Fighting Oppression and Changing the World—and How You Can, Too; and awardwinning author Sheila Heti to discuss her decades-in-the-making book Alphabetical Diaries.



- The Family Screening series celebrates the magic of Hayao Miyazaki with a screening of Howl's
   Moving Castle, the enchanting tale of a young hat-maker cursed to look like an old woman.
- The popular Doc Soup subscription screening series returns with King Coal, a meditation on on the complex history and future of the coal industry, the communities it has shaped, and the myths it has created.
- The Thirst Experts™ return to the Hot Docs Cinema stage for **Thirst Talks: Power Couples**, a multimedia evening filled with unhinged memes, games, vision boards, and plenty of visual aids of hot people on the big screen. They'll dissect the allure of power couples, what makes them so hot, and what our love for them says about our collective culture.

#### **FREE FOR MEMBERS**

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

 In February, Hot Docs members can enjoy a variety of free screenings and events, including Thirst Talks: Power Couples, Marianne & Leonard: Words of Love, Chasing Amy, and In the Rearview.

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

\*Unless otherwise specified

## **PREMIERES**

Premiere / Black History Month

#### THE SPACE RACE

D: Lisa Cortes, Diego Hurtado de Mendoza | USA | 91 min | 2023

Turning science fiction into science fact and forever redefining what "the right stuff" looks like, this exploration of the experiences of the first Black astronauts through decades is a reflective illumination on the burden of breaking barriers.

WINNER - Audience Choice Award, Best Documentary Feature, Chicago International Film Festival 2023

The Space Race also has a relaxed screening on Sunday, February 4. 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, February 2

## Premiere

# YOUR FAT FRIEND

D: Jeanie Finlay | UK, USA | 96 min | 2023

Follow fat activist Aubrey Gordon over six years as she goes from anonymous blogger to NYTimes bestseller in her effort to lead a paradigm shift in the way that we think about "fat".





Join director Jeanie Finlay for a special Valentine's Day Q&A (via Zoom) on February 14.

Opens Friday, February 9

Premiere / Black History Month

# MAX ROACH: THE DRUM ALSO WALTZES

D: Sam Pollard, Ben Shapiro | USA | 82 min | 2023

Experience the ground-breaking sounds of bebop pioneer, virtuoso percussionist and bandleader Max Roach, whose far-reaching ambitions were inspired and challenged by the inequities of the society around him.

Opens Friday, February 9

Premiere/ Black History Month

# **RENAISSANCE: A FILM BY BEYONCÉ**

D: Beyoncé Knowles | USA | 168 min | 2023

Renaissance: A Film by Beyoncé accentuates the journey of the Renaissance World Tour, from its inception to the opening in Stockholm, Sweden, to the finale in Kansas City, Missouri. Received with extraordinary acclaim, Beyoncé's Renaissance World Tour created a sanctuary for freedom, and shared joy, for more than 2.7 million fans.

Join us on February 17 for a special screening featuring disco decor, specialty cocktails, and live performance by rapper, DJ, and producer Myst Milano.

Opens Saturday, February 10 \*Member Tickets: \$13.50

#### Premiere

# OSCAR®-NOMINEES: BEST DOCUMENTARY SHORTS PROGRAM 1

Discover this year's Best Documentary Short Film nominees. This is your annual chance to predict the winners—and have the edge in your Oscar pool. Please note, we have split the Oscar Nominated Documentary Shorts into two programs due to duration.

#### **Featuring**

# The ABCs of Book Banning

D: Trish Adlesic, Nazenet Habtezghi, Sheila Nevins | USA | 27 min

Revealing the voices of the impacted parties of books banned from school districts, inspiring hope for the future through the profound insights of inquisitive youthful minds.

# The Barber of Little Rock

D: John Hoffman and Christine Turner | USA | 35 min

Barber Arlo Washington forms a nonprofit community bank, with a visionary approach to a just economy that could reshape the future of banking. The People Trust fosters economic progress for underserved residents in Little Rock, Arkansas.





Opens Friday, February 16

\*Tickets: \$7.50

# Premiere

## OSCAR®-NOMINEES: BEST DOCUMENTARY SHORTS PROGRAM 2

Discover this year's Best Documentary Short Film nominees. This is your annual chance to predict the winners—and have the edge in your Oscar pool. Please note, we have split the Oscar Nominated Documentary Shorts into two programs due to duration.

Featuring

# Island in Between

D: S. Leo Chiang | 20 min | Taiwan

Filmmaker S. Leo Chiang reflects on his relationship with Taiwan, the United States and China from the islands of Kinmen, just a few miles from mainland China.

# The Last Repair Shop

D: Kris Bowers and Ben Proudfoot | USA | 39 min

Tells the story of four unassuming heroes who ensure no student is deprived of the joy of music. It is also a reminder of how music can be the best medicine, stress reliever and even an escape from poverty.

# Nai Nai & Wài Pó

D: Sean Wang | USA | 17 min

A personal love letter from director Sean Wang to his Nai Nai and Wài Pó, a grandma super team that dances, stretches, and farts their sorrows away.

Opens Monday, February 19

\*Tickets: \$7.50

# Premiere

# APOLONIA, APOLONIA

D: Lea Glob | Denmark, France, Poland | 116 min | 2022

A portrait of the artist as a young woman. Apolonia is talented, but is that enough to break into the art world? An impressive film that covers 13 years in an anything-but-average life.

WINNER - Best Feature-Length Documentary, International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam, 2022

Opens Friday, February 23

## **SERIES & SPECIAL EVENTS**

## Special Event

# TWILIGHT FANGIRL PICTURE SHOW: MY BLOODY VALENTINE

D: Catherine Hardwicke | USA | 122 min | 2008

What better way to celebrate than reliving the romance that sparked a generation of fangirls, the original Twilight? Because every girl dreams of falling in love with a hundred-year-old vampire who's inexplicably still in high school and kind of mean to you.



Hosted by Carley Thorne and Meredith Mullen.

Saturday, February 3 / 9:00 PM \*Tickets: \$20 / Members: \$15

\*Arrive early to learn about the importance of blood donation with Canadian Blood Services.

# Special Event

#### **MENUS-PLAISIRS LES TROISGROIS**

D: Frederick Wiseman | France, USA | 240 min | 2023

93-year-old director Frederick Wiseman embeds inside a French restaurant that's held three Michelin stars for more than 50 years in this immersive and mouth-watering film feast.

Featuring a pre-recorded introduction by Frederick Wiseman scholar Shawn Glinis.

Sunday, February 4 / 4:00 PM

Curious Minds Author Talks/ Black History Month

# IJEOMA OLUO ON BE A REVOLUTION

Ijeoma Oluo is one of the most influential writers in North America, an incisive thinker and social critic. In this exclusive Canadian debut, Oluo takes the Hot Docs stage to discuss her eagerly anticipated new book, Be A Revolution: How Everyday People are Fighting Oppression and Changing the World—and How You Can, Too.

Monday, February 5 / 7:00 PM

**Curious Minds Author Talks** 

#### SHEILA HETI ON ALPHABETICAL DIARIES

The award-winning author of a string of modern classics, including *How Should a Person Be?*, *Motherhood* and *Pure Colour*, Sheila Heti takes the Hot Docs stage with host Claudia Dey (author of the acclaimed novel *Daughter*) for the exclusive launch of her hotly anticipated new book, an enthralling, decade-in-the making diary project.

Moderated by author Claudia Dey.

Tuesday, February 6 / 7:00 PM

Doc Soup

# KING COAL

D: Elaine McMillion Sheldon | USA | 80 min | 2023

A lyrical tapestry of a place and people, *King Coal* meditates on the complex history and future of the coal industry, the communities it has shaped, and the myths it has created.



Producer Diane Becker will be in attendance for a post-screening Q&A.

Wednesday, February 7 / 6:30 PM

- \*Subscribers and Founders Circle Members can now claim their tickets for the February 7 screening.
- \*Tickets on sale to the public starting Thursday, January 18.
- \* Subscribers can view online from Thursday, February 8 to Sunday, February 11. During this time, the film will be available on the <u>watch.hotdocs.ca</u> portal. Please sign in with your email and password.

# Special Event

#### NUKED

D: Andrew Nisker | Canada | 92 min | 2023

The human story of the nuclear arms race, tracing a people's 74-year struggle to survive from the first detonation in 1946 to the present day, their quest for justice takes on urgency with climate change posing an imminent threat.

Join director Andrew Nisker for a post-screening Q&A. Moderated by Marc Glassman, film writer, adjunct professor at Toronto Metropolitan University and editor of POV Magazine.

Saturday, February 10 / 6:30 PM

Oscar®-Nominees: Best Documentary Feature Film

## **FOUR DAUGHTERS**

D: Kaouther Ben Hania | France, Tunisia, Germany, Saudi Arabia, Cyprus | 110 min | 2023 Between light and darkness stands Olfa, a Tunisian woman and the mother of four daughters. One day, her two older daughters disappear. Filmmaker Kaouther Ben Hania invites professional actresses to fill in their absence.

Sunday, February 11 / 4:30 PM Thursday, February 15 / 6:45 PM

## Thirst Talks

#### THIRST TALKS: POWER COUPLES

Join an esteemed panel of Thirst Experts<sup>™</sup> for a multimedia evening filled with unhinged memes, games, vision boards, and plenty of visual aids of hot people on the big screen. They'll dissect the allure of power couples, what makes them so hot, and what our love for them says about our collective culture. They'll answer all your burning questions from why we're all so obsessed with Taylor Swift and Travis Kelce, why Barack and Michelle are marriage goals, and the complete torrid saga of Bennifer from Gigli to the altar.

Moderated by Michelle Boon and featuring Thirst Experts™ Sadaf Ahsan, co-host of The Reheat podcast; Stacy Lee Kong, writer, editor, cultural critic and the founder of the Friday Things newsletter; and





Meaghan Wray, writer and editor featured in Chatelaine, FASHION, and Refinery29, and author of forthcoming book of essays, With the Lights On.

Tuesday, February 13 / 6:30 PM \*Free for members

# Special Event

#### **MARIANNE & LEONARD: WORDS OF LOVE**

D: Nick Broomfield | Canada, UK | 102 min | 2019 Celebrate Valentine's Day with the story of the enduring love between Leonard Cohen and his Norwegian muse, Marianne Ihlen, beautifully captured by filmmaker Nick Broomfield. Wednesday, February 14 / 4:00 PM \*Free for members

# Special Event

# **CHASING CHASING AMY**

D: Sav Rodgers | USA | 95 min | 2023

On a quest to understand how a divisive LGBTQ+ '90s rom-com saved his life, a filmmaker is confronted with truths that will ultimately shape who he becomes.

Featuring a post-screening Zoom Q&A with director Sav Rogers.

Friday, February 16 / 6:30 PM

# Special Event

# **CHASING AMY**

D: Kevin Smith | USA | 113 min | 1997

Discover (or revisit) this iconic rom-com cult classic on the big screen! *Chasing Amy* is the third instalment in the "New Jersey Trilogy" from award-winning writer-director Kevin Smith (*Clerks, Mallrats, Dogma*).

Friday, February 16 / 9:30 PM \*Free for members

# **Family Screenings**

# **HOWL'S MOVING CASTLE**

D: Hayao Miyazaki | Japan | 119 min | 2005

With rich animation and Joe Hisaishi's whimsical score, immerse yourself in the enchanting tale of a young hat-maker cursed to look like an old woman. As she seeks to break the spell, she becomes entangled with the wizard Howl and the quirky inhabitants of his mysterious moving castle. Equally epic and cozy, you're never too young or old to witness the magic of Miyazaki.

# The English dubbed version of the film will be presented.





Monday, February 19 / 1:00 PM \*Tickets: \$15 (\$7.50 for 12 and under)

# **Special Event**

## **POWDER BLUE: LIVE AT CLUB REGENT**

D: Ryan Steel | Canada | 106 min | 2023

Immerse yourself in celebrated Canadian recording artist Begonia's hometown casino residency show supporting her Polaris Prize shortlisted album *Powder Blue*.

Director Ryan Steel will be joined by Begonia herself onstage for a post-screening Q&A.

Friday, February 23 / 6:00 PM

Oscar®-Nominees: Best Documentary Feature Film

## **20 DAYS IN MARIUPOL**

D: Mstyslav Chernov | USA | 94 min | 2022

After nearly a decade covering international conflicts, including the Russia-Ukraine war for the AP, 20 Days in Mariupol is Mstyslav Chernov's first feature length film. Drawing on Chernov's daily news dispatches and personal footage of his own country at war, 20 Days in Mariupol is a vivid, harrowing account of civilians caught in the siege, as well as a window into what it's like to report from a conflict zone, and the impact of such journalism around the globe.

WINNER- Sundance Audience Award for World Cinema Documentary OFFICIAL SELECTION – Hot Docs Festival 2023

Saturday, February 24 / 12:00 PM

#### Special Event

# **STOP MAKING SENSE**

D: Jonathan Demme | USA | 88 min | 1984

Newly restored in 4K to coincide with its 40th anniversary, this 1984 film is considered by many critics to be the greatest concert film of all time and is a long-held institution at the Hot Docs/Bloor Cinema. Shot over the course of three nights at Hollywood's Pantages Theater in December of 1983, *Stop Making Sense* also features some of Talking Heads' most memorable songs.

Saturday, February 24 / 2:30 PM

# Special Event

# MAMMA MIA GALENTINE'S DAY SING-ALONG

D: Phyllida Lloyd | UK | 108 min | 2008





Our annual Galentine's Day sing-along is back by popular demand celebrating the core of all relationships between women: ABBA. Gather the Dynamos to your Donna to split a bottle of wine, dance in your seat, and sing all night long.

Saturday, February 24 / 5:00 PM

## **Curious Minds Author Talks**

# AN EVENING WITH DOLLY ALDERTON

Spend a heartwarming evening in the company of award-winning author, screenwriter and journalist Dolly Alderton to celebrate the release of her much-anticipated new novel *Good Material*.

Dolly will be in conversation with writer and comedian Monica Heisey (Really Good, Actually; Smothered).

Saturday, February 24 / 8:00 PM \*Tickets: \$25 (Members: \$22)

## Special Event

# IN THE REARVIEW

D: Maciek Hamela | Poland, France, Ukraine | 84 min | 2023

Join us in helping to bring continued attention to the ongoing Russian assault on Ukraine with this screening of award-winning *In the Rearview*, followed by a post-screening conversation with the filmmakers.

WINNER - Grand Jury Award - Best Documentary, Sheffield International Documentary Festival, 2023 WINNER - Pare Lorentz Award - Best Film, International Documentary Association, 2024

Ukranian film producer Anna Palenchuk will be joined by Hot Docs Senior International Programmer Myrocia Watamaniuk for a post-screening conversation with the film's director Maciek Hamela.

Sunday, February 25 / 3:00 PM \*Free for members

Oscar®-Nominees: Best Documentary Feature Film

# **TO KILL A TIGER**

D: Nisha Pahuja | Canada | 125 min | 2022

Don't miss this Canadian Oscar-nominated documentary by Toronto-based filmmaker Nisha Pahuja. A cinematic documentary, *To Kill a Tiger* follows Ranjit's uphill battle to find justice for his child.

To Kill A Tiger is a Hot Docs Ted Rogers Fund and Corus-Hot Docs Fund recipient.

WINNER - Ted Rogers Best Feature Length Documentary, Canadian Screen Awards, 2023

WINNER - Amplify Voices Award, Toronto International Film Festival, 2022 WINNER - Best Documentary, Palm Springs International Film Festival, 2023

Wednesday, February 28 / 4:00 PM





**Toronto True Crime Series** 

# THE PEZ OUTLAW

D: Amy Storkel, Bryan Storkel | USA | 85 min | 2022

Hot Docs welcomes Toronto True Crime as they drop the 'Film Festival' from their name and kick off a new series exploring the world of true crime film with screenings, talks, and special events. This unforgettable underdog story follows the adventures of Steve Glew, a small-town Michigan man who embarks on a risky and lucrative venture: smuggling rare European Pez dispensers into the United States by the thousands and making millions in the process.

Join directors Amy Bandlien Storkel and Bryan Storkel for a post-screening Q&A (via Zoom). Moderated by Lisa Gallagher of Toronto True Crime.

Thursday, February 29 / 7:00 PM

\*10% of the ticket proceeds will be donated to Parkinson Canada.

Oscar®-Nominees: Best Documentary Feature Film

## THE ETERNAL MEMORY

D: Maite Alberdi | Chile | 85 min | 2023

Director Maite Alberdi (*The Mole Agent*) tells an uplifting yet heartbreaking love story that balances vibrant individual and collective remembrance with the longevity of an unbreakable human bond. *WINNER - Grand Jury Prize, World Cinema Documentary, Sundance Film Festival, 2023* 

Friday, March 1 / 4:00 PM

Oscar®-Nominees: Best Documentary Feature Film

**BOBI WINE: THE PEOPLE'S PRESIDENT** 

D: Moses Bwayo, Christopher Sharp | UK, Uganda, USA | 110 min | 2023

Running in Uganda's 2021 presidential elections, activist and superstar musician Bobi Wine uses his music to denounce the dictatorial regime and support his life mission to defend the oppressed and the voiceless people of Uganda. In this fight, he must also take on the country's police and military, which are not afraid to use violence and torture in a vain attempt to intimidate and silence him and his supporters.

Saturday, March 2 / 3:30 PM

#### **CURIOUS MINDS COURSES**

Registration is limited. To register visit <a href="https://hotdocs.ca/whats-on/curious-minds/curious-minds-cinema">https://hotdocs.ca/whats-on/curious-minds/curious-minds-cinema</a>.

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

**Curious Minds Courses** 

# THE GRAPHIC ARTS REVOLUTION





From Rosie the Riveter to Uncle Sam, immerse yourself in a colourful journey through history and witness the emergence of art posters with Curious Minds favourite instructor Peter Harris.

This course is led by Peter Harris, the former Assistant Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science of the University of Toronto

Wednesdays, February 7 – March 13, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

#### **Curious Minds Courses**

# BANNED BOOKS AND THE BRILLIANT AUTHORS WHO WRITE THEM

In this new series from University of Toronto literature professor Ira Wells, we'll take a lively romp through the colourful and sometimes downright hilarious history of book censorship.

This series is led by Ira Wells, an assistant professor of literature at Victoria College in the University of Toronto. Wells is a contributing writer for publications such as The Guardian, The New Republic and The Walrus.

Tuesdays, March 5 - April 16, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM \*Please note, there is no lecture on March 26

#### **Curious Minds Courses**

# FROM ROCOCO TO REVOLUTION: ART AND ARCHITECTURE OF THE 18TH

In this new series from art historian and Curious Minds favourite Barbara Isherwood, we'll take a dazzling tour of one of the most fertile periods in the history of Western art.

This series is led by art writer and art historian Barbara Isherwood, the former host of ArtSync TV and a frequent lecturer at the School of Continuing Studies, University of Toronto.

Thursdays, March 14 – April 18, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

# **Curious Minds Courses**

# THE STARS OF THE BROADWAY STAGE

Theatrical producer Michael Rubinoff, the originating producer of hit musical *Come From Away*, presents this lively celebration of the careers of Broadway's brightest stars.

This series is led by producer Michael Rubinoff (*The Magic of Musicals: Broadway's Biggest Hits*), the founder of the Canadian Music Theatre Project (CMTP). Based on an idea of his, the CMTP originally developed the hit global musical *Come From Away*, for which he serves as a producer and creative consultant. He was awarded the Meritorious Service Cross by the Governor General of Canada for his role in creating *Come From Away*.

Mondays, March 4 – April 15, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM \*Please note, there is no lecture on March 25





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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.

# **Media Contact:**

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