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PRESS RELEASE

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HOT DOCS CINEMA PROGRAMMING HEATS UP FOR AUGUST WITH THE RETURN OF FESTIVAL TOP AUDIENCE FAVOURITES, A SUMMER TRIP TO EUROPE, AND ESSENTIAL CINEMA CLASSICS WORTHY OF A REUNION WITH THE BIG SCREEN

THREE TOP TEN AUDIENCE FAVOURITES FROM HOT DOCS FESTIVAL 2026 RETURN, INCLUDING TOP AUDIENCE AWARD WINNER ***AMERICAN DOCTOR***, ROGERS AUDIENCE AWARD FOR BEST CANADIAN DOCUMENTARY WINNER ***NEKAI WALKS***, AND TOP TEN AUDIENCE FAVOURITE ***ANTIDIVA: THE CAROLE POPE CONFESSIONS***

EUROPEAN VACATION SHIPS IN THREE CLASSIC CINEMA TITLES SPANNING DECADES OF FILM HISTORY, ALL SET AGAINST A STUNNING EUROPEAN BACKDROP: ***THE TALENTED MR. RIPLEY*** (1999), ***SUMMERTIME*** (1955), ***A SUMMER'S TALE*** (1996)

FILMMAKERS INCLUDING **RICO KING** (***NEKAI WALKS***) AND **MICHELLE MAMA** (***ANTIDIVA: THE CAROLE POPE CONFESSIONS***) IN ATTENDANCE FOR POST-SCREENING DISCUSSIONS

Toronto, Canada – Escape to Europe without renewing your passport, catch some of Hot Docs audiences' favourite films from the recent 2026 Festival, and discover or rediscover some essential cinema classics – all this and more is waiting for you as part of Hot Docs Cinema's August programming lineup! Catch special guests, new release documentaries, cinema classics and Festival favourites all on offer at one of Toronto's most historic movie theatres, located in the Annex neighbourhood at 506 Bloor Street West.

August welcomes the return of three recent Top 10 Audience Favourite official selections from the 2026 Hot Docs Festival, works that showcase the intriguing range of the documentary medium and non-fiction filmmaking, including the top two Canadian favourites as voted by Hot Docs audiences. Winner of the Rogers Audience Award for Best Canadian Documentary, ***Nekai Walks*** shares the story of 16-year-old Nekai Foster, who defies all medical odds as he relearns to walk and exposes how gun violence shapes bodies, families and communities. Join director **Rico King** and film subject **Nekai Foster** for a special post-screening Q&A. The celebrated Hot Docs 2026 Opening Night Film and number six Audience Favourite, ***Antidiva: The Carole Pope Confessions***, returns to Hot Docs Cinema after screening at several Canadian and international festivals, and having won Best Canadian Feature at May's Inside Out Festival in Toronto. In Toronto's vibrant music, art and fashion scene of the 1970s and 1980s, Carole Pope made her mark with the new wave band Rough Trade, which produced bold, boundary-breaking music delivered with a sexy punk edge. Join director **Michelle Mama** for a special post-screening Q&A. Voted by Hot Docs audiences at their top Audience Favourite, ***American Doctor*** sees three American physicians: Palestinian, Jewish and Zoroastrian risk everything to save lives in besieged Gaza and expose political truths while navigating a collapsing medical infrastructure.

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Air travel is so pricy these days, why not travel to Europe from the comfort of a plush seat, inside an historic air-conditioned cinema, with popcorn in hand! Throughout August, Hot Docs Cinema is bringing you **European Vacation**: three classic cinema titles spanning decades of film history, all set against a stunning European backdrop. Indulge in the richness of the continent while getting a rare chance to see these cinematic gems on the big screen. No flight nightmares, currency exchange or power adapters required! A beloved 1999 classic that showcases huge Hollywood stars at the height of their powers, ***The Talented Mr. Ripley*** sees Tom Ripley (Matt Damon) worm his way into the idyllic lives of Dickie (Jude Law) and his girlfriend (Gwenyth Paltrow), plunging into a daring scheme of duplicity, lies and murder. Also starring Cate Blanchett and Philip Seymour Hoffman. Experience the 1955 Technicolor classic ***Summertime*** on the big screen! An American spinster's dream of romance finally becomes a bittersweet reality when she meets a handsome—but married—Italian man while vacationing in Venice. Katharine Hepburn's sensitive portrayal of the lonely heroine and Jack Hildyard's glorious Technicolor photography make *Summertime* an endearing and visually enchanting film. Travel back 30 years to the picturesque French seaside of 1996 with director Eric Rohmer and a talented young cast in ***A Summer's Tale***, the third film of the "Tales of the Four Seasons" and is his "most personal vehicle." Based on events from Rohmer's youth, *A Summer's Tale* follows amateur musician Gaspard (Melvil Poupard) to a seaside resort in Dinard, on the coast of Brittany. There three women (Amanda Langlet, Gwenaëlle Simon, Aurelia Nolin) each offer the possibility of romance, but Gaspard's inability to commit to just one places all of his chances at love in jeopardy.

The above films join the full line-up of screenings and events taking place in August at Hot Docs Cinema. For more of what's on at Hot Docs Cinema, visit hotdocs.ca

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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, as well as hosting for some of the city's premier festivals and events.

Hot Docs (www.hotdocs.ca), North America's leading 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 presented its 33rd Hot Docs Festival April 23 to May 3, 2026, in Toronto. Since its inception in 1993, Hot Docs has supported the Canadian and international industry with professional development programs and production fund portfolio, including the Hot Docs Ted Rogers Fund, CrossCurrents Doc Funds, Hot Docs-Slaight Family Fund, Hot Docs-Blue Ice Docs Fund and Hot Docs Partners, and valuable professional development programs, including Doc Ignite and Hot Docs Incubator.

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