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**MEDIA RELEASE**

## MARGARET ATWOOD DOCUMENTARY HAS ITS WORLD PREMIERE AT TIFF BELL LIGHTBOX

***Margaret Atwood: A Word after a Word after a Word is Power* will screen on November 7, 2019**

**TORONTO** – TIFF announced today that the new feature-length documentary on the life and literary career of world-renowned author Margaret Atwood will have its world premiere at TIFF Bell Lightbox. Co-hosted by TIFF, producers White Pine Pictures, and the Toronto International Festival of Authors, the screening of ***Margaret Atwood: A Word after a Word after a Word is Power*** will be followed by a Q&A session.

“It is an honour to have the world premiere of *Margaret Atwood: A Word after a Word after a Word is Power* screen at TIFF’s state of the art cinemas,” said Cameron Bailey, TIFF Co-Head and Artistic Director.

“Screenings and conversations are at the forefront of TIFF’s mission to change the way people see the world through film. What better way to unpack the iconic writer of our age than to experience her career on screen and then discuss it with fellow film and literature lovers.”

With exclusive access, filmmakers Nancy Lang and Peter Raymont try and keep up with Margaret Atwood in her 80th year as she jets to speaking engagements around the world, visits the set of *The Handmaid’s Tale*, spends time with family and partner Graeme Gibson, and visits Iceland and the bird observatory they established on Pelee Island, Ontario. The film also delves into Atwood’s early years growing up in the Canadian wilderness, her days as a poet at Harvard, meeting Gibson, and writing *The Handmaid’s Tale*.

Atwood’s major works are explored by friends, family, colleagues, and Atwood herself, from *The Circle Game* (1964) – her first book of poetry, written at Harvard and awarded the Governor General’s Award – to *The Handmaid’s Tale* (1985), adapted for the big screen in 1990 by Volker Schlöndorff and into an Emmy-winning series in 2018. Her other major works include *The Edible Woman* (1969), *Surfacing* (1972), and *Alias Grace* (1996).

Lang and Raymont’s camera captures Atwood as she settles in to write the final chapters of her latest novel, *The Testaments*, the much-anticipated sequel to *The Handmaid’s Tale*. The film offers a rare glimpse into the writer’s practice, as Atwood writes on planes, boats, or on the road – whenever she can grab a moment in her busy life.

*Margaret Atwood: A Word after a Word after a Word is Power* is produced by White Pine Pictures in association with documentary Channel and CBC Documentaries, and with the participation of the Canada Media Fund, Ontario Creates, Rogers Documentary Fund, National Film Board of Canada, and Telefilm Canada. It was made possible with the support of The Canadian Film or Video Production Tax Credit, with executive producers Peter Pearson and Steve Ord; producers Nancy Lang and Peter Raymont; supervising producer

TIFF is a charitable organization with a mission to transform the way people see the world through film.



Stephen Panicia; editors Cathy Gulkin and Kathryn Lyons; and director of photography John Westheuser.

Tickets for the event are available for \$17 for the public, \$12 for Members, and \$14 for seniors and students with valid ID. For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit [tiff.net](http://tiff.net) or call 416-599-2033 or 1-888-258-8433.

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**About TIFF**

TIFF is a not-for-profit cultural organization whose mission is to transform the way people see the world through film. An international leader in film culture, TIFF projects include the annual Toronto International Film Festival in September; TIFF Bell Lightbox, which features five cinemas, major exhibitions, and learning and entertainment facilities; and innovative national distribution program Film Circuit. The organization generates an annual economic impact of \$189 million CAD. TIFF Bell Lightbox is generously supported by contributors including Founding Sponsor Bell, the Province of Ontario, the Government of Canada, the City of Toronto, the Reitman family (Ivan Reitman, Agi Mandel and Susan Michaels), The Daniels Corporation and RBC. For more information, visit [tiff.net](http://tiff.net).

**TIFF is generously supported by Lead Sponsor Bell, Major Sponsors RBC, L'Oréal Paris, and Visa, and Major Supporters Government of Ontario, Telefilm Canada, and the City of Toronto.**

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For more information, please contact Director, TIFF Communications Alejandra Sosa at [masosa@tiff.net](mailto:masosa@tiff.net), or the Communications Department at 416.934.3200, or email [proffice@tiff.net](mailto:proffice@tiff.net).

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