

TIFF ANNOUNCES ADDITIONAL EXCITING PROGRAMMING
Autumn Peltier, Greta Thunberg, Darren Aronofsky, Charles Officer,
and more light up Special Events, talks and Best of TIFF Film Reunions presented by Bell

TORONTO – TIFF Co-Heads Cameron Bailey and Joana Vicente announced today additional TIFF programming for audiences to enjoy as part of the Festival this year. Newly confirmed Special Events, talks and Best of TIFF Film Reunions presented by Bell enhance the audience experience for TIFF 2020.

“TIFF is often the platform for exciting conversations, new talent, and new voices,” stated Bailey and Vicente. “In the midst of a global health crisis, it is clear that stories do not stop. We are happy to be able to share these screenings and special events with audiences.”

Reflecting the diversity of TIFF’s audiences and the breadth of their interests, this year’s **Special Events** lineup focuses on a wide range of topics from around the globe. Advocacy is front and centre in 2020.

As the world faces a global climate crisis, TIFF is proud to present two new films about activism, passion, and commitment to change.

The Water Walker James Burns | United States

At 15 years old, Autumn Peltier has become a powerful advocate for clean drinking water in Indigenous communities around the world. *The Water Walker* is a short film that documents Peltier’s powerful journey from Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory to New York City as she prepares to speak in front of the United Nations with the hope of preserving the future of Indigenous communities for generations to come.

I Am Greta Nathan Grossman | Sweden

In August 2018, 15-year-old student Greta Thunberg picketed Swedish parliament calling for action on the climate crisis, eventually inspiring student strikes at schools in communities around the world. In *I Am Greta*, Nathan Grossman documents Thunberg’s meteoric one-year rise from high-school climate strike organizer to inspiration for a global movement.

Both screenings are accessible on the Festival’s online film platform, Bell Digital Cinema. *The Water Walker* will be made FREE to Canadian audiences. Both films are part of TIFF’s Official Selection.

Join us for a special live conversation with bestselling author Naomi Klein and Anishinaabe water activist Autumn Peltier as they discuss climate activism and its impact on future generations. This special talk will be made FREE to international audiences with the date announced closer to the start of the Festival.



As previously announced, **Planet Africa**, created in 1995 by Cameron Bailey, was a Festival programme dedicated to cinema from Africa and the African diaspora. The filmmakers' panel **Planet Africa 25: Black Film Now**, happening on September 16 at 3pm EDT, has been added to the **Planet Africa 25** banner. Moderated by Bailey, the discussion will feature directors Charles Officer (*Akilla's Escape*), Dieudo Hamadi (*Downstream to Kinshasa*), Tommy Oliver (*40 Years A Prisoner*), and Dawn Porter (*The Way I See It*).

This panel discussion will be available for FREE by pre-registration to international audiences on the Festival's online talks platform, Bell Digital Talks.

Marking the Festival's 45th anniversary, TIFF journeys down memory lane reuniting creators and collaborators from now-classic films that have screened at past editions of the Festival, and at TIFF Bell Lightbox year-round. To kick off the Best of TIFF Reunions presented by Bell series and gear up for the Festival, audiences are invited to join a Twitter watch party of Greta Gerwig's *Lady Bird* on September 8 at 7:30pm EDT with special appearances from surprise guests.

The Best of TIFF Reunions presented by Bell for 2020 are as follows: A 20th-anniversary commemoration of Darren Aronofsky's *Requiem for a Dream* featuring a moderated discussion between Aronofsky and star Ellen Burstyn, director of photography Matthew Libatique, composer Clint Mansell, and production designer James Chinlund will happen on September 13 at 3:30pm EDT. Stanley Kubrick's critically acclaimed *Full Metal Jacket* will be marked by a special drive-in screening of the film in 4K resolution with high dynamic range (HDR) for the first time at the RBC Lakeside Drive-In at Ontario Place. The screening will be complemented by a pre-recorded panel featuring stars Vincent D'Onofrio and Arliss Howard, casting director and dialogue coach Leon Vitali, and Stanley Kubrick's daughter Katharina Kubrick, on September 18 at 8:45pm EDT. Additionally, a celebratory look back at the legacy of Claudia Weill's *Girlfriends* (1978) — the first-ever TIFF People's Choice Award winner — with Weill and star Melanie Mayron will happen on September 11 at 1pm EDT.

The Best of TIFF Reunions presented by Bell are FREE to international audiences on Bell Digital Cinema on the Best of TIFF Reunions shelf, and will be simulcast on TIFF's Twitter and YouTube channels. See tiff.net for additional information. Canadians tuning in at home can watch *Lady Bird*, *Full Metal Jacket*, and *Requiem for a Dream* on Bell Media's Crave.

TIFF continues to work closely with the Province of Ontario, the City of Toronto, and public health officials on the safe execution of the Festival, with its number-one priority being the health and well-being of both Festival filmgoers and the residents of the entire community. The Province's Stage 3 reopening guidelines currently cap a movie theatre's occupancy at 50 guests per cinema regardless of the total capacity of the theatre. Additionally, TIFF has partnered with Medcan, a global health care leader providing medical expertise, consultation, and health inspiration to achieve its mission of helping people "Live Well for Life." Based on the pillars of evidence-based care, exceptional client service, and the latest in technology, Medcan's team of over 90 physicians and specialists support employee health care across the continuum of health, including its "Safe at Work System" helping organizations navigate the pandemic.



The 45th edition of the Toronto International Film Festival runs September 10–19, 2020.

As previously announced, tickets are available for the TIFF Member pre-sale starting August 28. Public tickets are on sale September 5, and additional ticket information is available at tiff.net.

For more information **on all events noted above**, please see tiff.net.

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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.

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

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TIFF gratefully acknowledges RBC as its Presenting Partner of the RBC Lakeside Drive-In at Ontario Place.

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