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MEDIA RELEASE

2019 TORONTO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES FIRST SELECTIONS IN GALA AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS PROGRAMMES

Films by Taika Waititi, Marielle Heller, James Mangold, Rian Johnson, Marjane Satrapi, John Crowley, Alejandro Amenábar, Thom Zimny & Bruce Springsteen, Atom Egoyan, Chinonye Chukwu, Kasi Lemmons, Noah Baumbach, Craig Brewer, Gabriela Cowperthwaite, Destin Daniel Cretton, Michael Winterbottom, Armando Iannucci, Steven Soderbergh, Todd Phillips, Lorene Scafaria, Fernando Meirelles, and Roger Michell spotlighted in Toronto

TORONTO – TIFF Co-Heads Cameron Bailey and Joana Vicente today announced the first round of titles selected for the Gala and Special Presentations programmes at the 44th Toronto International Film Festival. This first batch of films from the 2019 Official Selection features 19 Galas and 37 Special Presentations.

“Some of the year’s biggest films will land in Toronto this September,” said Bailey, Co-Head and Artistic Director of TIFF. “We’re thrilled to unveil Galas and Special Presentations that bring the brightest lights in film to our Festival audience. Our new programming team has been hard at work for months to deliver the compelling stories, acclaimed filmmakers, and top onscreen talent that mark our two highest-profile sections.”

“I’m delighted to step into my first Festival as TIFF Co-Head to such a powerful slate of films,” said Vicente, Co-Head and Executive Director of TIFF. “Fast-paced, boundary-pushing, satirical – this lineup has films representing every corner of the cinematic landscape on top of a strong number of World Premieres. It’s a pleasure to be able to share these films with audiences for the first time.”

Of the Gala films announced today, 50% of titles are directed or co-directed by women – a record number for the programme. This year’s selection also includes 29 World Premieres, seven International Premieres, 13 North American Premieres, and seven Canadian Premieres.

The 44th Toronto International Film Festival runs September 5–15, 2019.



GALAS 2019

A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood Marielle Heller | USA
World Premiere

Abominable Jill Culton | USA
World Premiere

American Woman Semi Chellas | Canada
Canadian Premiere

Blackbird Roger Michell | United Kingdom
World Premiere

Clemency Chinonye Chukwu | USA
International Premiere

Ford v Ferrari James Mangold | USA
International Premiere

The Goldfinch John Crowley | USA
World Premiere

Harriet Kasi Lemmons | USA
World Premiere

Honey Boy Alma Har'el | USA
International Premiere

Hustlers Lorene Scafaria | USA
World Premiere

Joker Todd Phillips | USA
North American Premiere

Just Mercy Destin Daniel Cretton | USA
World Premiere

Opening Night Film

Once Were Brothers: Robbie Robertson and The Band Daniel Roher | Canada
World Premiere

Ordinary Love Lisa Barros D'Sa, Glenn Leyburn | United Kingdom



World Premiere

Closing Night Film

Radioactive Marjane Satrapi | United Kingdom
World Premiere

The Sky Is Pink Shonali Bose | India
World Premiere

The Song of Names François Girard | Canada
World Premiere

True History of the Kelly Gang Justin Kurzel | Australia
World Premiere

Western Stars Thom Zimny, Bruce Springsteen | USA
World Premiere

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS 2019

A Herdade Tiago Guedes | Portugal
North American Premiere

Bad Education Cory Finley | USA
World Premiere

Coming Home Again Wayne Wang | USA/South Korea
World Premiere

Dolemite Is My Name Craig Brewer | USA
World Premiere

Emilia Pérez Pablo Larraín | Chile
North American Premiere

Endings, Beginnings Drake Doremus | USA
World Premiere

Frankie Ira Sachs | France/Portugal
North American Premiere

The Friend Gabriela Cowperthwaite | USA



World Premiere

Greed Michael Winterbottom | United Kingdom
World Premiere

Guest of Honour Atom Egoyan | Canada
North American Premiere

Heroic Losers (*La odisea de los giles*) Sebastian Borensztein | Argentina/Spain
International Premiere

Hope Gap William Nicholson | United Kingdom
World Premiere

How to Build a Girl Coky Giedroyc | United Kingdom
World Premiere

Opening Special Presentations Film

I Am Woman Unjoo Moon | Australia
World Premiere

Jojo Rabbit Taika Waititi | USA
World Premiere

Judy Rupert Goold | United Kingdom
Canadian Premiere

Knives Out Rian Johnson | USA
World Premiere

La Belle Époque Nicolas Bedos | France
North American Premiere

The Laundromat Steven Soderbergh | USA
North American Premiere

The Lighthouse Robert Eggers | USA
North American Premiere

Marriage Story Noah Baumbach | USA
Canadian Premiere

Military Wives Peter Cattaneo | United Kingdom
World Premiere



Motherless Brooklyn Edward Norton | USA
International Premiere

No.7 Cherry Lane (*Ji Yuan Tai Qi Hao*) Yonfan | Hong Kong
North American Premiere

The Other Lamb Malgorzata Szumowska | Belgium/Ireland/USA
World Premiere

Pain and Glory Pedro Almodóvar | Spain
Canadian Premiere

The Painted Bird Václav Marhouf | Czech Republic/Ukraine/Slovakia
North American Premiere

Parasite (*Gisaengchung*) Bong Joon-ho | South Korea
Canadian Premiere

Pelican Blood (*Pelikanblut*) Katrin Gebbe | Germany/Bulgaria
North American Premiere

The Personal History of David Copperfield Armando Iannucci | United Kingdom
World Premiere

Portrait of a Lady on Fire (*Portrait de la jeune fille en feu*) Céline Sciamma | France
Canadian Premiere

The Report Scott Z. Burns | USA
International Premiere

Saturday Fiction (*Lan Xin Da Ju Yuan*) Lou Ye | China
North American Premiere

The Two Popes Fernando Meirelles | USA/United Kingdom/Italy/Argentina
Canadian Premiere

Uncut Gems Benny Safdie, Josh Safdie | USA
International Premiere

Weathering With You (*Tenki no Ko*) Makoto Shinkai | Japan
North American Premiere

While at War (*Mientras Dure La Guerra*) Alejandro Amenábar | Spain/Argentina



World Premiere

For film synopses, cast lists, images, and more information see tiff.net/galas and tiff.net/specialpresentations.

Festival ticket packages start at \$110. Purchase packages online at tiff.net/tickets, by phone (416.599.2033 or 1.888.258.8433), or in person at TIFF Bell Lightbox until August 11 while quantities last.

TIFF prefers Visa.

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About TIFF

TIFF is a charitable 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.

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The Gala programme is made possible through the generous sponsorship of Fairmont.

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