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


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
**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

*Ema* 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 Marhoul | 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.

Social Media: @TIFF_NET #TIFF19 Facebook.com/TIFF

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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