



August 1, 2017

NEWS RELEASE

THE WORLD IN BRIEF: TORONTO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES INTERNATIONAL SHORT CUTS TITLES

TORONTO — The Toronto International Film Festival® has unveiled the 35 exceptional short films that make up the International portion of this year's Short Cuts programme. A lineup that stands out for its diversity of voices and backgrounds, the International selection for 2017 includes works from over 30 countries in 16 different languages, with a strong presence from the Middle East and South America. Of the 35 selected films, 17 were directed by women.

The International lineup also includes seven stunning short animations, including Niki Lindroth von Bahr's *The Burden* (*Min börda*), winner of the Cristal for a Short Film award at the 2017 Annecy International Animation Film Festival, and *The Death, Dad & Son* by Denis Walgenwitz and Winchluss, the renowned French comic book artist whose film credits include co-writing and co-directing the Oscar-nominated *Persepolis* (07). Another well-known name featured in the lineup is Justine Bateman; the former *Family Ties* star's short film directorial debut, *Five Minutes*, will be premiering at the Festival.

Programme highlights also include Ifunanya Maduka's heartbreaking *Waiting for Hassana*, which shares a brave teenager's devastating account of the 2014 Boko Haram kidnapping; Mahdi Fleifel's *A Drowning Man*, the dramatic story of a young immigrant trying to survive in a new and strange city; and Yang Qiu's *A Gentle Night* (*Xiao Cheng Er Yue*), which will be screening fresh off its Short Film Palme d'Or win at Cannes.

Films in the Short Cuts programme are eligible for the IWC Short Cuts Award for Best Film. This year's jury includes Marit van den Elshout, Head of CineMart at the International Film Festival Rotterdam; TIFF 2016 City of Toronto Award for Best Canadian First Feature Film winner Johnny Ma (*Old Stone*); and Cannes 2017 Art Cinema Award winner Chloé Zhao (*The Rider*).

Short Cuts is programmed by Jason Anderson and Danis Goulet. The Canadian titles that are part of this year's programme will be announced on August 9, 2017.

The Short Cuts programme is made possible through the generous sponsorship of IWC Schaffhausen.

The 42nd Toronto International Film Festival runs from September 7 to 17, 2017.

International titles screening as part of the Short Cuts programme include:

Airport Michaela Müller, Switzerland/Croatia
North American Premiere

Blue Christmas Charlotte Wells, UK/USA
World Premiere

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

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Bonboné Rakan Mayasi, Palestine/Lebanon
World Premiere

The Burden (*Min börda*) Niki Lindroth von Bahr, Sweden
North American Premiere

Catastrophe Jamille van Wijngaarden, Netherlands
International Premiere

Damiana Andrés Ramírez Pulido, Colombia/Brazil
North American Premiere

The Death, Dad & Son (*La Mort, Père & Fils*) Winchluss, Denis Walgenwitz, France
International Premiere

Drop by Drop (*Água Mole*) Xá, Laura Gonçalves, Portugal
North American Premiere

A Drowning Man Mahdi Fleifel, Denmark/Greece/UK
North American Premiere

Everlasting Mom (*Ima Lanetzah*) Elinor Nechemya, Israel
International Premiere

Fifteen (*Khamastashar*) Sameh Alaa, Egypt
World Premiere

Five Minutes Justine Bateman, USA
World Premiere

A Gentle Night (*Xiao Cheng Er Yue*) Yang Qiu, China
Canadian Premiere

I Didn't Shoot Jesse James (*Je n'ai pas tué Jesse James*) Sophie Beaulieu, France
North American Premiere

Jodilerks Dela Cruz, Employee of the Month Carlo Francisco Manatad, Philippines/Singapore
North American Premiere

Long Distance Relationship (*Namoro À Distância*) Carolina Markowicz, Brazil
World Premiere

Lower Heaven Emad Aleebrahim Dehkordi, France/Iran
International Premiere

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Magic Moments Martina Buchelová, Slovakia
World Premiere

Marlon Jessica Palud, France/Belgium
North American Premiere

Möbius Sam Kuhn, Canada/USA
North American Premiere

Mon amour mon ami Adriano Valerio, Italy/France
International Premiere

Mother (Madre) Rodrigo Sorogoyen, Spain
International Premiere

Preparation (Proetimasia) Sofia Georgovassili, Greece
World Premiere

The President's Visit Cyril Aris, Lebanon/Qatar/USA
World Premiere

Push It Julia Thelin, Sweden
North American Premiere

Roadside Attraction Patrick Bresnan, Ivete Lucas, USA
World Premiere

Shinaab Lyle Mitchell Corbine Jr, USA
International Premiere

Signature Kei Chikaura, Japan
North American Premiere

Still Water Runs Deep Abbasi Akhamie, USA/Nigeria
World Premiere

Together Alone (Nosotros solos) Mateo Bendesky, Argentina
International Premiere

The Treehouse (La casa del árbol) Juan Sebastián Quebrada, Colombia/France
World Premiere

Waiting Amberley Jo Aumua, New Zealand
International Premiere

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Waiting for Hassana Ifunanya Maduka, Nigeria
Canadian Premiere

We Love Moses Dionne Edwards, UK
Canadian Premiere

Wicked Girl (KÖTÜ KIZ) Ayce Kartal, France/Turkey
North American Premiere

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

Festival ticket packages start at \$105. Purchase packages online at tiff.net/tickets, by phone (416.599.TIFF or [1.888.599.8433](tel:18885998433)), or in person at TIFF Bell Lightbox until August 13 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 programme 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 Government of Canada, the Government of Ontario, 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.

The Toronto International Film Festival 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.

The Short Cuts programme is presented by IWC Schaffhausen.

Short Cuts is generously supported by the Ontario Arts Council.

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For information on the Short Cuts programme, contact Daniela Ponce, Festival Publicist at 416 599 8433 x. 2686 or email dponce@tiff.net

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For information, contact the Communications Department at 416.934.3200 or email proffice@tiff.net.

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