



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*** Abbesi Akhamie, USA/Nigeria  
World Premiere

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

***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](http://tiff.net/sc)

Festival ticket packages start at \$105. Purchase packages online at [tiff.net/tickets](http://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](http://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](mailto:dponce@tiff.net).

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