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MEDIA RELEASE

TORONTO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL UNVEILS LINEUP FOR 2018 PLATFORM PROGRAMME

The Festival's juried programme features films from Emir Baigazin, Ho Wi Ding, Simon Jaquemet, Karyn Kusama, Alejandra Márquez Abella, Emmanuel Mouret, Carol Morley, Benjamín Naishtat, Alex Ross Perry, Caroline Poggi & Jonathan Vinel, Markus Schleinzer, and Tim Sutton

TORONTO – The Toronto International Film Festival® unveiled today the 12 feature films that comprise the Platform lineup for 2018, marking a year rich in distinct voices and assured directorial efforts that address difficult subject matters unflinchingly. Ranging from period pieces to police dramas, and even incorporating elements of sci-fi, the films in this year's lineup also stand out for the variety of genres they explore and the number of complex contemporary anxieties they consider.

"This year's Platform selection stands out for the assured and precise directing on display," said TIFF Director & CEO Piers Handling. "We are thrilled to present a slate that perfectly embodies the essence of the programme with so many risk-taking, challenging, and, at times, formally inventive titles that are the result of audacious directors making bold choices."

The programme's lineup for 2018 includes four features (30%) directed or co-directed by women, and seven titles that feature strong women in leading roles. Hailing from the Americas, Europe, and Asia, all but two of the titles will be making their World Premiere at the Festival. Caroline Poggi & Jonathan Vinel's **Jessica Forever** is the standout feature directorial debut in the programme.

Now in its fourth year, Platform is the Toronto International Film Festival's juried programme that champions risk-taking, with a lineup of up to 12 works with high artistic merit and a bold directorial vision. A three-person jury selects the winner of the Toronto Platform Prize, an award of \$25,000 CAD made possible by Air France, which will be presented to the best film in the lineup at the Awards Ceremony on the last day of the Festival.

Previous titles that have screened as part of the programme include Armando Iannucci's *The Death of Stalin* (2017), Warwick Thornton's *Sweet Country* (2017), Pablo Larraín's *Jackie* (2016), Barry Jenkins' *Moonlight* (2016), and Eva Husson's *Bang Gang* (2015).

The Platform programme is made possible through the generous sponsorship of Air France.

Films screening as part of the Platform programme include:

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Angelo Markus Schleinzer | Austria/Luxembourg
World Premiere

Cities of Last Things Ho Wi Ding | Taiwan/China/USA/France
World Premiere

Destroyer Karyn Kusama | USA
International Premiere

Platform Opening Film

Donnybrook Tim Sutton | USA
World Premiere

The Good Girls (*Las niñas bien*) Alejandra Márquez Abella | Mexico
World Premiere

Her Smell Alex Ross Perry | USA
World Premiere

The Innocent Simon Jaquemet | Switzerland/Germany
World Premiere

Platform Closing Film

Jessica Forever Caroline Poggi, Jonathan Vinel | France
World Premiere

Mademoiselle de Joncquières Emmanuel Mouret | France
World Premiere

Out of Blue Carol Morley | UK
World Premiere

The River Emir Baigazin | Kazakhstan/Poland/Norway
North American Premiere

Rojo Benjamín Naishtat | Argentina/Brazil/France/Netherlands/Germany
World Premiere

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

Festival ticket packages start at \$105. Purchase packages online at tiff.net/tickets, by phone (416.599.TIFF or 1.888.599.8433), or in person at TIFF Bell Lightbox until August 13 while quantities last.

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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 Platform programme is made possible through the generous sponsorship of Air France.

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For images visit the media site at tiff.net/press.

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