

2019 TIFF Industry Conference by Day

This schedule is subject to change. Please check [here](#) on August 20 for the most up-to-date information. Access to Conference sessions is on a first-come, first-served basis for registered industry delegates. Register for industry accreditation by August 23 [here](#).

Thursday, September 5

CMPA Indiescreen Awards

3:30PM–5:30PM | Industry Lounge

Recognizing the vision, entrepreneurship, and passion of Canadian independent producers, this cocktail event unveils the recipients of two awards: the Established Producer Award and the Emerging Producer Award.

Supported by: Canadian Media Producers Association

Friday, September 6

Opening Moguls

Brian Grazer & Ron Howard

The 2019 Industry Conference opens with two of the industry's most revered and successful moguls: Academy Award–winning producer and *NYT* bestselling author **Brian Grazer** and Academy Award–winning director **Ron Howard**. The duo has produced some of the most influential stories of our time, including *A Beautiful Mind*, *Apollo 13*, and *Frost/Nixon*, igniting the imaginations of audiences and storytellers alike. As co-founders of Imagine Entertainment – their decades-long enterprise dedicated to creating, cultivating, and championing important stories across film and television – they have also given rise to a wealth of new talent through new divisions and companies under their umbrella, including Imagine Documentaries, Imagine Kids+Family, and the industry-changing Imagine Impact.

Join us for an illuminating conversation with these two luminaries as they reveal what makes a strong creative partnership, why stories matter, and what continues to inspire their creative endeavours.

Dialogues

Film Festivals: New Leadership, New Horizons

Marking the first time they've converged onstage since taking on new roles, IndieWire Editor-at-Large **Anne Thompson** hosts a conversation with **Cameron Bailey** (TIFF), **Paolo Moretti** (Directors' Fortnight, Cannes), **Mariette Rissenbeek** (Berlin), and **Kim Yutani** (Sundance) to discuss how festivals are impacting the evolving business of film and media while maintaining curatorial and artistic excellence and elevating filmmakers.

Connections

Co-Productions 1

This networking session is geared towards resourceful producers who are looking for tools to navigate the elusive world of co-productions.

Space for this session is limited, with a maximum of 28 participants.

RDV Canada Panel

The Big Screen: Have Rumours of My Demise Been Greatly Exaggerated?

A panel of industry experts will debate the state of the cinematic experience, discuss industry and audience trends, and explore the new opportunities that today's marketplace offers.

Supported by: Telefilm Canada

Dialogues

Engage @ TIFF: Pan-Africanism in the Caribbean & Decolonizing the Screen

This session focuses on the overlapping yet distinct notions of post-colonialism, pan-Africanism, and the diasporas of the Caribbean, and how they can engage in and maintain a filmic conversation with the African continent. Speakers include **Jason Fitzroy Jeffers**, co-executive director of Third Horizon, and host **Claire Diao**, film critic and co-founder of the pan-African film journal Awotélé.

Presented in collaboration with Engage, a series of panels and think tanks engaged in pertinent, challenging, and multi-faceted questions facing the African film industry now.

TIFF Tech

Top of the Newsfeed: Privacy

Our esteemed panellists discuss the tech industry's response to criticisms surrounding privacy and security, which have been dominating the headlines over the past year.

Foundations

A Guide to International Funding Partnerships

Executives from international screen and funding agencies explore various co-production offerings and initiatives, in addition to the ins and outs of the current financing landscape. Speakers include **Makhosazana Khanyile**, CEO of the National Film and Video Foundation, and host **Valerie Creighton**, CEO of the Canada Media Fund.

Industry Happy Hour

Catch up on the day's events over complimentary drinks, sponsored by Shutterstock.

Saturday, September 7

Connections

Co-Productions 2

This networking session is geared towards resourceful producers who are looking for tools to navigate the elusive world of co-productions.

Space for this session is limited, with a maximum of 28 participants.

Dialogues

Diaspora: Untold Stories, Hidden Cities

International directors illustrate their journeys in bringing stories of diaspora communities to light, and how issues of race, inequality, and indiscriminate use of institutional power can be confronted and dismantled through cinema.

Connections

Primetime

In this intimate roundtable discussion, network with some of the key creative and development talent working in television and digital series.

Space for this session is limited, with a maximum of 28 participants.

Foundations

Story Incubator: How to Maximize your IP

Join **Aron Phillips**, Director of Development at Uninterrupted, and speakers from other leading companies as they discuss working with storytellers to create ambitious strategies to help develop and diversify an idea's potential.

Supported by: The Consulate General of the United States

Foundations

Cinematography Workflows on the Big and Small Screens

Notable cinematographers and guest speakers from Technicolor and Panavision will provide a step-by-step guide to all the choices cinematographers must make for studio and indie productions – whether for the small or large screen – from set design through to post-production.

Foundations

Authentic Casting: The Real World On Screen

As the industry moves towards authentic, inclusive, and representative casting, our leading panel of actors and advocates will dive into best practices to dissolve old tropes and cultivate just representation on screen. Guests include **Russell Boast**, Casting Director and President of the Casting Society of America, and **Phil Yu**, founder and editor of Angry Asian Man.

Co-presented by TIFF Rising Stars.

Microsessions

A Fusion of Movies and Music

This music-inspired panel discussion will explore licensing and strategies for how filmmakers can collaborate with music supervisors and songwriters. This event will feature a special performance. Speakers include: composer, songwriter, and producer **Erick Alcock**; songwriter **Liz Rodrigues**; and **Amy Eligh**, Director, Publishing & Licensing, Arts & Crafts Music Publishing.

Supported by: Canadian Music Publishers Association

Foundations

All About Directing TV

Join us for a dynamic conversation between leading TV directors about what it takes to cultivate a career in directing television, whether it's for streaming platforms or network and cable television, series or one-off episodes.

Industry Happy Hour

Catch up on the day's events over complimentary drinks, sponsored by Cultural Industries Ontario North.

Sunday, September 8

RDV Canada Panel

De-mystifying Platforms: Getting Shelf Space

Experts from content aggregators discuss the ins and outs of getting your productions on the major platforms, how to optimize audience reach, and more. Guests include speakers from Highball.TV, Juice Worldwide, H264 Distribution, and Veria.ca.

TIFF Tech

Inside Deepfakes & Video Tampering

Focusing on the convergence of the computer-technology and media industries, this session explores the growing phenomenon of deepfakes, their technology, and the entertainment behind and ethics of video tampering.

Connections

TIFF Tech

An intimate roundtable networking opportunity providing direct access to leading professionals from the tech industry.

Space for this session is limited, with a maximum of 28 participants.

Master Class

Lulu Wang

Born in Beijing and raised in Miami, writer-director **Lulu Wang** has emerged as one of the eminent new voices in cinema. Join us for a Master Class with the filmmaker, fresh off the success of her sophomore feature *The Farewell*, which won the Sundance Institute Vanguard Award.

Presented in collaboration with TIFF Filmmaker Lab.

Supported by: Betty-Ann Speaker Series

Dialogues

Olsberg•SPI presents: TIFF Impact Report

In collaboration with Ontario Creates, **Andrew Barnes**, Associate Director of Olsberg•SPI – a leading creative industries strategy consultant – will present the results of its evaluation of TIFF, including key findings on how people are using the Festival and the organization’s impact on the Canadian and Ontario production sectors.

Dialogues

Redefining Quality for Gender Equality

Anna Serner, a leading advocate for the 50/50 by 2020 gender-parity movement and CEO of the Swedish Film Institute, hosts a provocative conversation with filmmakers and advocates to examine the ways in which unconscious bias around “quality” has been used as a tool for discrimination against women, people of colour, and members of the LGBTQIA and other marginalized communities – and what we risk overlooking because of that bias. Featured speakers include **Cassian Elwes**, producer and CEO at Elevated Entertainment, and **Alex Schmider**, Associate Director of Transgender Representation at GLAAD.

Supported by: Betty-Ann Heggie Speaker Series

Dialogues

3 for 30: The Opening Scene

Hosted by The Black List's **Franklin Leonard** and **Kate Hagen**, 3 for 30 returns with three screenwriter-directors. Each will examine the opening scene of their latest film, the process of writing, and the impacts of the creative choices made along the way.

Co-presented with TIFF Writers' Studio.

Telefilm Canada's PITCH THIS!

Six filmmaking teams have six minutes to pitch their feature-film idea to an industry audience and jury. The winning team takes home \$15,000 to develop their project.

Pitch Teams:

Blue Flower (Fleur bleue) – Geneviève Dulude-De Celles, Sarah Mannering, Fanny Drew

Epochal – Rodrigo Barriuso, Kyah Green

La Cercanía – Jorge Thielen Armand, Rodrigo Michelangeli

Paying For It – Kristy Neville, Natalie Urquhart, Sook-yin Lee

What Night Taught Her – Lauren Grant, Lisa Rideout, Ashley Cooper

Worst Team Ever – Kathleen Jayme, Michael Grand, James Brown

Industry Happy Hour

Connect with filmmakers, producers, and potential business partners from around the world – and don't miss the announcement revealing this year's Telefilm Canada's PITCH THIS! winners.

DOC CONFERENCE: Monday, September 9

Maverick Conversation

A Conversation with Alan Berliner

Alan Berliner, a master of the personal essay film, blends humour and profundity in works like *Nobody's Business*, *Wide Awake*, and *First Cousin Once Removed*. In his first TIFF appearance, he'll discuss how his latest film, *Letter to the Editor*, is the culmination of 40 years of experience.

Industry Talks

What's New at Kickstarter?

Elise McCave, Director of Narrative Film at Kickstarter, will take us on a whirlwind tour of 365 days at her company – from the \$11-million animation project *Critical Role* to achieving critical success and a \$10-million Netflix deal for *Knock Down the House* – pausing only to let you know what works, what doesn't, and what's new on the platform.

Maverick Conversation

A Conversation with Robert Fisk & Yung Chang

Robert Fisk has spent four decades writing about the Middle East, both as a reporter and in books like *The Great War for Civilisation*. He's also the subject of the new film *This Is Not a Movie*, directed by **Yung Chang** (*Up the Yangtze*). The two will discuss the role of journalism as the first draft of history.

Connections

Documentary A&B

Delegates will have the opportunity to network with eight leading funders, producers, sales agents, distributors, and film programmers working in documentary.

Space for this session is limited, with a maximum of 44 participants.

Industry Talks

The New York Times and the Evolution of Shorts

The New York Times has established itself as a leading purveyor of short-form documentaries through its acclaimed content series *Op-Docs*. **Kathleen Lingo**, previously the Executive Producer for *Op-Docs* and now the *Times*' first Editorial Director for Film and TV, walks us through the company's evolving strategy for elevating the short form – and how they plan to translate *Op-Docs* success into feature and television content.

Industry Talks

Funding Under-represented Doc-Makers

In this conversation, we'll hone in on the structural and cultural barriers that prevent doc-makers from under-represented communities from accessing the funding they need to bring their perspectives to the screen. **Heidi Tao Yang** (Hot Docs), **Claire Aguilar** (International Documentary Association), and **Jesse Wente** (Indigenous Screen Office) will discuss their own efforts to reduce these funding hurdles and address the growing funding opportunities for these communities in the documentary space.

Industry Talks

Rising Voices in Documentary Curation

The industry has ushered in a new guard of contemporary documentary curators like **Abby Sun** (Hot Springs Documentary Film Festival) and **Ashley Clark** (Brooklyn Academy of Music). Together they'll discuss how they've honed their personal and institutional programmatic visions, what they look for in a film, and the urgent statements they are making through the content they support.

Connections

Short Cuts

Network with experts in this intimate roundtable presentation and discussion, geared towards short-film creators.

Space for this session is limited, with a maximum of 28 participants.

Industry Talks

Spotlight on SHOWTIME

With two films in the TIFF Docs programme this year – *The Kingmaker* and *Ready for War* – SHOWTIME continues to solidify its role as a home for captivating, true stories. In this conversation, **Vinnie Malhotra**, executive vice-president of non-fiction programming, will discuss SHOWTIME's strategy for unscripted content.

Maverick Conversation

A Conversation with Barbara Kopple

Oscar-winning director **Barbara Kopple** is acclaimed for her observational storytelling in films from *Harlan County, USA* (1976) to *Miss Sharon Jones!* (2015). Her newest work, *Desert One*, relies on different storytelling techniques of interview, archives, and animation. She'll discuss the process of learning that happens over decades of working in documentary film.

Industry Happy Hour

Connect with filmmakers, producers, and potential business partners from around the world, sponsored by SHOWTIME Films.

Tuesday, September 10

Foundations

The Truth About Directing

Director, producer, and writer **Edward Burns** joins a roster of six independent filmmakers from around the world to share candid stories about lessons learned, risks taken, and more. Hosted by **Michael Lerman**, TIFF's Co-Lead Programmer for the Special Presentations programme.

Foundations

Going Green: Sustainable Practices in Film & TV

Zena Harris, President at Green Spark Group, leads a conversation with **David Hardy** (Vice President, Stakeholder Affairs & Sustainability, William F. White International Inc.) and other industry leaders to identify what steps can be taken to develop and integrate environmentally sustainable practices into film, TV, and online media production.

Closing Master Class

Fernando Meirelles

Renowned Academy Award–nominated Brazilian director **Fernando Meirelles** (*City of God*, *The Two Popes*) joins **Diana Sanchez**, TIFF’s Senior Director of Film, for a gripping conversation addressing the realities of making a film under a dictatorship, and the important role of filmmakers and artists in politically volatile times.

Industry Happy Hour

Cap off five days of discussion with complimentary drinks, sponsored by Ontario Creates.