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MEDIA RELEASE

ICONS OF STAGE AND SCREEN MARK THIS YEAR'S TORONTO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL SPECIAL EVENTS LINEUP

TIFF slate showcases music and celebrates an icon of cinema

TORONTO – Rounding out this year's 2019 Toronto International Film Festival lineup are five unique and inspiring Special Events. Packed with emotion and cultural significance, this programme will offer audiences a wide range of experiences, including an irreplaceable filmmaker's final feature, a look at the future of our seas, and a retelling of an important Inuk story.

"Each year this section comes to life with unexpected surprises and moments," said Jennifer Barkin, Senior Manager of Festival Programming. "Those who attend Special Events are always left with a truly unforgettable memory."

/// featuring a live performance by The Lumineers

This September, triple-platinum artists The Lumineers bring their talents to Toronto with *///*, a visual companion to their upcoming third record of the same name. Split into three chapters, the visual album follows three generations of a working-class family in the American Northeast.

Following the screening, fans will have the opportunity to experience some of The Lumineers' upcoming release early. The band will hit the stage for a live performance, followed by a Q&A with the band and director Kevin Phillips.

One Day in the Life of Noah Piugattuk with Zacharias Kunuk

One of Canada's most essential filmmakers, Zacharias Kunuk, is coming to TIFF with his latest work: *One Day in the Life of Noah Piugattuk*, a powerful tale about colonialism and Inuit-settler relations. Kunuk is known for his groundbreaking films, which include the award-winning epic *Atanarjuat: The Fast Runner* – the first feature made in Inuktitut.

One Day in the Life of Noah Piugattuk takes place on North Baffin Island in 1961. It is a fictionalized account of an encounter between respected Inuk elder Noah Piugattuk and a government emissary, who tries to enforce a policy that will create a fundamental rupture in the lives of Inuit. There will be a Q&A following the screening.

Varda by Agnès

To celebrate the incredible career of the late Agnès Varda, TIFF will present a Special Event screening of her final work, *Varda by Agnès*. An unpredictable documentary from a fascinating storyteller, the self-reflective film

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sheds light on Varda’s experience as a director, bringing a personal insight from the “Mother of the French New Wave” to what she calls “cine-writing.”

Following the screening, female filmmakers inspired by Varda will be on stage for a post-screening discussion.

Sanctuary with Javier Bardem

Tackling the environmental and conservation crisis, *Sanctuary* is the story of a scientific, political, and media campaign to preserve the Antarctic Ocean. Actor Carlos Bardem and Oscar winner Javier Bardem, brothers and Antarctic Ambassadors for Greenpeace, star in the film, which they also produced. *Sanctuary* follows the Bardems’ submarine journey to explore the coldest sea on earth and their attempt to raise awareness of Greenpeace conservation initiatives.

Following the film’s world premiere, director Álvaro Longoria will take the stage with Javier Bardem for an extended conversation about the film and how we can protect the Antarctic Ocean’s invaluable resources.

Barry Avrich’s *David Foster: Off the Record* was previously announced as part of the Special Events programme.

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

Festival tickets go on sale September 2 at 10am (TIFF Member pre-sale August 31, 10am–4pm). Buy tickets online at tiff.net, by phone at 416.599.2033 or 1.888.258.8433, or in person at a box office. See box office locations and hours at tiff.net/tickets.

TIFF prefers Visa.

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About TIFF

TIFF is a not-for-profit 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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