

ROMAN J. ISRAEL, ESQ. COMPLETES THE TORONTO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS LINEUP

Denzel Washington headed to Toronto



Courtesy of Sony Pictures Releasing

TORONTO — The Toronto International Film Festival® proudly announces the World Premiere of Academy Award® nominee **Dan Gilroy's *Roman J. Israel, Esq.***, completing the 2017 Official Programme Selection. Written and directed by Gilroy and featuring an amazing transformation by Denzel Washington, *Roman J. Israel, Esq.* is the newest and final addition to TIFF's Special Presentations programme, furthering Washington and Gilroy's collaborative relationship with the Festival.

"The Toronto International Film Festival has a wonderful history with both Dan Gilroy and Denzel Washington," said Cameron Bailey, Artistic Director of TIFF. "Three years ago TIFF had the honour of premiering Gilroy's directorial debut, *Nightcrawler*, at the Festival. In addition to previously screening *The Equalizer* and presenting the World Premiere of *Training Day*, which earned Washington an Oscar for Best Actor, the Washington-starring *The Magnificent Seven* was our Opening Night film last year. A project that teams up both of these remarkable creators is one not to be missed."

"We always hoped to premiere at Toronto and couldn't be happier that TIFF audiences will be the first to see the film," said Gilroy. "Thanks to Cameron and the entire Festival crew for embracing us and bringing Roman Israel to the world."

The project also reteams Denzel Washington with lead financiers MACRO and Bron Studios, who co-financed the actor's last film, the Oscar-nominated *Fences*.

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



Roman J. Israel, Esq. is a dramatic thriller set in the underbelly of the overburdened Los Angeles criminal court system. Denzel Washington stars as a driven, idealistic defense attorney whose life is upended when a turbulent series of events challenge the activism that has defined his career. Colin Farrell costars as the ambitious, monied lawyer who recruits Roman to his firm.

This star-led cast features Denzel Washington, Colin Farrell, Carmen Ejogo, Lynda Gravatt, Amanda Warren, Hugo Armstrong, Sam Gilroy, Tony Plana, DeRon Horton and Amari Cheatom. *Roman J. Israel, Esq.* is produced by Jennifer Fox, Todd Black, and Denzel Washington. The executive producers are Brian Oliver, Betsy Danbury, Charles D. King, Kim Roth, Poppy Hanks, Michael Bloom, Adam Pincus, Aaron L. Gilbert, Alex Lebovici, Steve Ponce, Derek Dauchy, and Ben Ross. The film is a Columbia Pictures presentation in association with MACRO / Topic / Cross Creek Pictures / Bron Studios / The Culture China – Image Nation Abu Dhabi Content Fund.

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

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

Festival tickets go on sale September 4 at 10am (TIFF Member pre-sale September 2 from 10am to 4pm). Buy tickets online at tiff.net, by phone at 416-599-TIFF or 1-888-599-8433, or in person at a box office. See box office locations and hours at tiff.net/tickets.

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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 Special Presentations programme is made possible through the generous sponsorship of Canada Goose

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