

HOT DOCS TED ROGERS CINEMA ANNOUNCES WIDE-RANGING FILM LINEUP FOR AUGUST

- FIRST-RUN THEATRICAL RELEASE OF HOT DOCS FESTIVAL 2022 SELECTION **RETURNING HOME**; PREMIERES OF **BLOOM UP: A SWINGER COUPLE STORY** AND **THE ART OF MAKING IT**; AND ENCORE SCREENINGS OF **HALLELUJAH: LEONARD COHEN, A JOURNEY, A SONG**
- LIMITED-RUN OF SUMMER SENSATION **MARCEL THE SHELL WITH SHOES ON**, PAIRED WITH A COMPLEMENTARY **WATCH LIST** CURATED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH DIRECTOR DEAN FLEISCHER-CAMP
- **PASTORAL FANTASIES: A COTTAGE CORE SERIES** CONTINUES WITH FOUR NEWLY ADDED FILMS; **THIS FILM SHOULD BE PLAYED LOUD** PRESENTS **OASIS: SUPERSONIC**; **QUIET TIME: MINDFULNESS AT THE MOVIES** SERIES RETURNS WITH **MANTRA: SOUNDS INTO SILENCE**; ONE-NIGHT-ONLY SCREENINGS OF **STUDIO 17: THE LOST REGGAE TAPES** AND HOT DOCS FESTIVAL 2022 SELECTION **ANONYMOUS CLUB**; AND A 50th ANNIVERSARY SCREENING OF JOHN LENNON'S 1972 **IMAGINE**
 - MORE FREE SUMMER SERIES AND EVENTS FOR MEMBERS

Toronto, July 26, 2022 – Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema's dynamic August lineup will feature Hot Docs Festival 2022 selections, first-run theatrical premieres of the buzziest new docs, and will showcase legendary music subjects Leonard Cohen, Bob Marley, Oasis, John Lennon, and Australian singer-songwriter Courtney Barnett.

Hot Docs Festival selections returning for theatrical runs include: **Returning Home** (Hot Docs Festival 2022), exploring the interwoven narratives of residential school survivors, including Orange Shirt Day founder Phyllis Jack-Webstad, and Indigenous peoples' relationship with imperiled wild Pacific salmon in Secwépemc territory; and, from the 2021 Festival, **Bloom Up: A Swinger Couple Story**, a deep plunge into the lives of middle-aged Italian couple Hermes and Betta, who live out their unbridled sexual fantasies as swingers by night.

First run films also include: **The Art of Making It**, an exploration of the elitist art-world ecosystem through the prism of young artists at pivotal moments in their careers; and **Marcel the Shell With Shoes On**, the movie hit of the summer—a delightful, awe-inspiring cinematic journey and a love letter to docs, directed by Hot Docs alum Dean Fleischer-Camp (*Fraud*, Hot Docs 2016), and featuring the voices of Jenny Slate and Isabella Rossellini, and cameos by media personalities Lesley Stahl and Brian Williams. Director Dean Fleischer-Camp will join in for a Q&A to discuss the creation of the iconic mollusk and its dazzling inventive cinematic universe after the opening night screening on Friday, August 19 at 6:30 PM. Also, returning for an encore engagement is **Hallelujah: Leonard Cohen, A Journey, A Song**, a definitive exploration of singer-songwriter Leonard Cohen as seen through the prism of his internationally renowned hymn "Hallelujah".

For those looking to dive deeper into the stories and themes in August's first-run films, Hot Docs programmers have curated three **Watch List** collections of fiction and non-fiction films—both classic favourites and little-seen gems—for audiences to enjoy. To accompany *Hallelujah: Leonard Cohen, A Journey, A Song* is **Watch List: Beyond Hallelujah**, featuring the 1971 Robert Altman revisionist Western *McCabe & Mrs. Miller*, starring Warren Beatty and Julie Christie, a film that perfectly exemplifies Leonard Cohen's invaluable pop culture legacy through the use of haunting folk ballads that go beyond the oft-covered soundtrack staple "Hallelujah." Complementing *The Art of Making It* is **Watch List: Artist Proof**, an exploration of young artists finding their creative voices while struggling to make it, which includes: the pseudo-documentary *Rude Boy*, the story of a roadie that drops his sex-shop job to work for The Clash, the most fiery, revolutionary rock 'n' roll band of the era; the 1974 time-capsule *A Bigger Splash*, an intimate and revealing film about English-born artist and Queer icon David Hockney as he navigates the perils of heartbreak; and *Downtown 81*, a portrait of Jean Michel Basquiat that captures the vibrant, unadulterated energy of early 1980s New York City. Lastly, curated in partnership with director Dean Fleischer-Camp is **Watch List: The World of Marcel the Shell**, a selection of films that inspired him, including: *A Ghost Story*, director David Lowery's exploration of legacy, loss, and the essential human longing for meaning and connection; Agnes Varda's acclaimed 1976 doc *Daguerréotypes*, a portrait of shopkeepers on Rue Daguerre in Paris; *Obvious Child*, the story of an aspiring comedian forced to face the realities of an unexpected pregnancy, starring actress and *Marcel the Shell* co-writer Jenny Slate; *The Company of Strangers*, a National Film Board of Canada gem of early 90s hybrid-doc-filmmaking, specially requested to be included in the Watch List by Fleischer-Camp ("Such an influence!"); and *Billy the Kid*, the award-winning 2007 coming-of-age doc that provides thoughtful insight into the soul of an American teenager.

The recently launched **Pastoral Fantasies: A Cottagecore Series** continues its celebration of idyllic summers, floral prints and dreamy landscapes that shape the social media aesthetic of-the-moment. New films in the series include the heartwarming Hayao Miyazaki animated classic *My Neighbour Totoro*, the story of two sisters who move to the Japanese countryside and discover a neighbourhood of playful woodland spirits; *The Long Weekend*, a life-affirming tribute to Algonquin Provincial Park, one of Canada's natural wonders, as seen through fresh eyes; the beloved 1987 classic *The Princess Bride*, full of swashbuckling, romance and riotous comedy; and *American Commune*, a nostalgic look at growing up in a rural Tennessee commune.

Just in time for the 25th anniversary of Oasis's historic third album *Be Here Now*, the fastest-selling album in British history, the popular music-lover series **This Film Should Be Played Loud** will screen the 2016 doc *Oasis: Supersonic*, charting the meteoric rise, and inevitable fall, of the iconic English band. Audiences will experience a sense of calm and tranquility with the return of the **Quiet Time: Mindfulness at the Movies** series, screening *Mantra: Sounds into Silence* on August 28. This film, which documents the different ways that people around the world find inner peace by singing mantras together, will play with a specially recorded guided meditation by Moustafa Abdelkrahman, a Registered Psychotherapist and Meditation Teacher who leads the Mindfulness Meditation program at the 519. In commemoration of the 50th anniversary of John Lennon and Yoko Ono's 1972 conceptual film *Imagine*, a new frame-by-frame remastered edition of the film will screen starting on August 13, featuring the

legendary couple at the height of their creative powers. A one-night-only screening of the new doc **Studio 17: The Lost Reggae Tapes**, which documents the reggae heyday that flourished from the iconic Randys Records in Kingston, Jamaica, will take place on August 15 and will feature a post-screening Q&A with director Mark James, executive producer Wael Kabbani, and music journalist and producer Reshma B. Lastly, Hot Docs Festival 2022 selection **Anonymous Club**, a raw and deeply intimate study of Grammy-nominated Australian singer-songwriter Courtney Barnett shot over three years in 16mm, will screen on August 31.

New free-for-members series and special events have been announced for August, including the August 16, 7 PM screening of **Imagine**, the **Watch List: The World of Marcel the Shell** screening of **The Company of Strangers**, the **Quiet Time: Mindfulness at the Movies** screening of **Mantras: Sounds Into Silence**, and all screenings of the **Pastoral Fantasies: A Cottagecore Series**. Bronze memberships continue to be free for doc lovers 25 and under and can be purchased [online](#).

Members of **Hot Docs at Home** will have access to **Hottest Shorts of Hot Docs 2022**, an annual showcase of the Hot Docs Festival's best, most crowd-pleasing short films, featuring a specially curated selection of five films from around the world that showcase the incredible range and diversity of shorts presented during the 2022 festival. In response to the recent U.S. Supreme Court overturning of *Roe v. Wade*, which for almost 50 years had protected the right to abortion in the United States, the new streaming collection **On Abortion Rights** presents three films that stand up for women's reproductive rights, including the powerful short doc **Abortion Helpline, This is Lisa**, an infuriating exposé on the economic stigma and cruel legislation that determine who in America has access to abortion; **America's War on Abortion**, the BAFTA award-winning film by Deeya Khan that examines the erosion of reproductive rights in the United States, foregrounding the reversal decision on *Roe v. Wade*; and **Jackson**, a film about the fight to close the last abortion clinic in Mississippi.

Cinema Ticket \$15 (Members tickets from \$10)

FILM PREMIERES AND WATCH LIST COLLECTIONS

Premiere

THE ART OF MAKING IT

D: Kelcey Edwards | USA | 94 min | 2021

Who makes the rules in the art world, and who is that art for? In *The Art of Making It*, a diverse group of young artists sets out to expose the contemporary art world as a well-oiled elitist machine, closely guarded by the ultra-rich. As they challenge systems and break barriers, they open a fascinating window into a seductive, secretive and unregulated industry.

Opens Friday, August 5

Watch List: Artist Proof

DOWNTOWN 81

D: Edo Bertoglio | France, West Germany | 75 min | 1981

A young Jean-Michel Basquiat hawks one of his own paintings while searching for a place to sleep in this gritty glimpse into 1980s Manhattan.

Friday, August 5 / 8:45 PM

Sunday, August 7 / 4:00 PM

Watch List: Artist Proof

A BIGGER SPLASH

D: Jack Hazan | UK | 106 min | 1974

Jack Hazan's intimate and innovative film about English-born, often California-based artist David Hockney and his work honours its subject through creative risk-taking. The improvisatory narrative-nonfiction hybrid features Hockney and his circle of friends, and captures the agonized end of the lingering affair between Hockney and his muse, an American named Peter Schlesinger.

Saturday, August 6 / 3:30 PM

Sunday, August 7 / 1:30 PM

Wednesday, August 10 / 1:30 PM

Watch List: Artist Proof

RUDE BOY

D: Jack Hazan, David Mingay | UK | 133 min | 1980

Merging documentary and fiction, Jack Hazan and David Mingay's *Rude Boy* follows roughneck Ray Gange as he drops his Soho sex-shop job to roadie for The Clash—the most fiery, revolutionary rock 'n' roll band of the era, seen in this film at the dizzying peak of their powers.

Saturday, August 6 / 8:30 PM

Tuesday, August 9 / 7:00 PM

Premiere

BLOOM UP: A SWINGER COUPLE STORY

D: Mauro Russo Rouge | Italy | 88 min | 2021

An average middle-aged Italian couple by day, Hermes and Betta live out their unbridled sexual fantasies as swingers by night. With an unfiltered lens, this cinematic beauty plunges you deep into their world and the most intimate spaces of sex and love.

Opens Friday, August 12

Premiere

RETURNING HOME

D: Sean Stiller | Canada | 72 min | 2022

Intertwining narratives of residential school survivors, including Orange Shirt Day founder Phyllis Jack-Webstad, and Indigenous peoples' relationship with imperiled wild Pacific salmon in Secwépemc

territory, this testament to resilience reveals how healing people and healing the natural world are synonymous.

Official Selection – Hot Docs 2022

Opens Friday, August 12

Premiere

MARCEL THE SHELL WITH SHOES ON

D: Dean Fleischer-Camp | USA | 89 min | 2021

Adapted from a series of beloved stop-motion animations and children's books created by Camp, whose brilliant film *Fraud* was the toast of our 2016 Hot Docs Festival, and Jenny Slate, *Marcel the Shell with Shoes On* is a mouthwatering feast of documentary technique, a grab bag of hilarious media cameos (Lesley Stahl, Brian Williams, the voice of Nathan Fielder) and an uplifting tonic for these trying and troubled times. It's a hilarious, heartwarming story about finding connection in the smallest corners.

Join director Dean Fleischer-Camp for a special post-screening virtual Q&A after the opening night screening on Friday August 19th at 6: 30 PM

Opens Friday, August 19

Watch List: The World of Marcel the Shell

A GHOST STORY

D: David Lowery | USA | 92 min | 2017

With *A Ghost Story*, acclaimed director David Lowery (*Ain't Them Bodies Saints*, *Pete's Dragon*) returns with a singular exploration of legacy, loss, and the essential human longing for meaning and connection. A white-sheeted ghost (Casey Affleck) returns to console his grieving wife (Rooney Mara) but is drawn into a cosmic confrontation with his own memory and the meaning of life.

Friday, August 19 / 9:00 PM

Watch List: The World of Marcel the Shell

DAGUERRÉOTYPES

D: Agnès Varda | France, West Germany | 78 min | 1975

Agnès Varda turns her camera on the business owners on Paris's Rue Daguerre whose shops are the street's lifeblood: bakers, tailors, butchers, perfumers, music-store clerks, driving instructors, and others, who, between the everyday rituals of their work, talk of their lives, relationships, and dreams.

Saturday, August 20 / 1:00 PM

Watch List: The World of Marcel the Shell

OBVIOUS CHILD

D: Gillian Robespierre | USA | 84 min | 2014

When aspiring comedian Donna winds up unexpectedly pregnant after a one-night stand, she is forced to face the uncomfortable realities of independent womanhood for the first time. Donna's drunken hookup – and epic lapse in prophylactic judgment – turns out to be the beginning of a hilarious and totally unplanned journey of self-discovery and empowerment.

WINNER - Red Crown Producer's Award, Sundance Film Festival 2014

Saturday, August 20 / 8:30 PM

Watch List: The World of Marcel the Shell

THE COMPANY OF STRANGERS

D: Cynthia Scott | Canada | 101 min | 1990

An all-time favourite of *Marcel* director Dean Fleischer Camp, this heartwarming hybrid doc follows seven elderly women who find themselves stranded in the wilderness. With only their wits, memories and some roasted frogs' legs to sustain them, this remarkable group of strangers share their life stories and turn a potential crisis into a magical time of humour, spirit and camaraderie.

Sunday, August 21 / 1:00 PM

*Free for Hot Docs Members

Watch List: The World of Marcel the Shell

BILLY THE KID

D: Jennifer Venditti | USA | 84 min | 2007

A provocative coming-of-age story set in small-town Maine, Jennifer Venditti's debut follows teenaged Billy as he navigates small town Maine, grappling with isolation and first-time love, and traversing the frustrating gap between imagination and reality.

WINNER - Best Documentary, SXSW 2007

Wednesday, August 24 / 7:00 PM

Encore

HALLELUJAH: LEONARD COHEN, A JOURNEY, A SONG

D: Daniel Geller, Dayna Goldfine | USA | 115 min | 2021

Hallelujah: Leonard Cohen, A Journey, A Song is a definitive exploration of singer-songwriter Leonard Cohen as seen through the prism of his internationally renowned hymn, "Hallelujah." This feature-length documentary weaves together three creative strands: The songwriter and his times; the song's dramatic journey from record label reject to chart-topping hit; and moving testimonies from major recording artists for whom "Hallelujah" has become a personal touchstone.

Opens Friday, August 26

Watch List: Beyond Hallelujah

MC CABE & MRS. MILLER

D: Robert Altman | USA | 120 min | 1971

Warren Beatty and Julie Christie star in this critically acclaimed masterpiece of the Western genre, hauntingly scored by three Leonard Cohen ballads. In a seedy American mining town at the turn of the century, a gambler and a sex worker become unlikely business partners, opening a bathhouse and brothel for the simple-minded town residents. But when their small-town success catches the attention of a ruthless mining corporation, they may be up against more than they can handle.

Saturday, August 27 / 4:00 PM

SERIES & SPECIAL EVENTS

Special Event

IMAGINE – 50th anniversary screening

D: John Lennon, Yoko Ono | USA | 83 mins | 1972

A stirring time capsule, *Imagine* captures the legendary couple at the height of their artistic powers— with their love and creativity in full bloom. Remastered frame by frame from the original film negative and completely remixed from the original audio multi-tracks, this special 50th anniversary edition of the film is a stunning collage of colour, sound, dream and reality.

Saturday, August 13 / 4 PM

Tuesday, August 16 / 7 PM *Free for Hot Docs Members

Wednesday, August 17 / 7 PM

Pastoral Fantasies: A Cottagecore Series

MY NEIGHBOR TOTORO

D: Hayao Miyazaki | Japan | 86 mins | 1988

Nobody does cottagecore like Hayao Miyazaki. Often inspired by the English and European countryside, he is one of the greatest influencers of the pastoral trend. In one of the acclaimed director's most beloved anime classics, adorable sisters Satsuki and Mei, voiced by Dakota and Elle Fanning, move to the Japanese countryside and discover a neighbourhood of playful woodland spirits.

Sunday, August 14 / 1 PM

*Free for Hot Docs Members

Pastoral Fantasies: A Cottagecore Series

AMERICAN COMMUNE

D: Nadine Mundo, Rena Mundo Croshere | USA | 90 mins | 2013

Raised on The Farm—one of the largest and longest-standing communes in the US born out of the 1970s hippie movement—two sister documentarians confront their unconventional upbringing for the first time since they left the commune in 1985.

Sunday, August 14 / 4 PM

*Free for Hot Docs Members

Special Event

STUDIO 17: THE LOST REGGAE TAPES

D: Mark James | UK | 86 min | 2019

A newly discovered treasure trove of tapes from Studio 17, or Randy's located in downtown Kingston Jamaica, is the starting point for this remarkable story about a Chinese Jamaican family who helped create the music we now know as reggae.

Join Director Mark James, Executive Producer Wael Kabbani, and music journalist and producer Reshma B for a special post-screening Q&A.

Monday, August 15 / 7:00 PM

Pastoral Fantasies: A Cottagecore Series

THE PRINCESS BRIDE

D: Rob Reiner | USA | 98 mins | 1987

Director Rob Reiner's wicked parody of the age-old damsel-in-distress story turned Robin Wright and Cary Elwes into stars with their portrayal of star-crossed lovers Buttercup and Westley. They are joined by a powerhouse ensemble cast of unforgettable characters, including the gentle giant Fezzik (André the Giant), the sultry Inigo Montoya (Mandy Patinkin) and the coldly villainous six-fingered man (Christopher Guest).

WINNER – People's Choice Award, TIFF 1987

Thursday, August 18 / 7 PM

*Free for Hot Docs Members

Quiet Time: Mindfulness at the Movies

MANTRA: SOUNDS INTO SILENCE

D: Georgia Wyss | USA | 85 mins | 2018

Mantra: Sounds into Silence shares the stories of people around the world who are finding a sense of inner peace by singing mantras together. From Indian yogis to Tibetan monks to American neuroscientists, musicians and prisoners, it's a story about people from many different walks of life, bound by the simple, transformative power of the human voice.

Each Quiet Time session features a Guided Meditation from Toronto Mindfulness teacher Moustafa Abdelrahman.

Sunday, August 28, 1:45 PM

*Free for Hot Docs Members

Pastoral Fantasies: A Cottagecore Series

THE LONG WEEKEND

D: Catie Lamer | Canada | 87 mins | 2022

This life-affirming tribute to Algonquin, one of Canada's oldest and most storied provincial parks, celebrates the joys of nature and the deep bonds of family and friendship. Filmed over Labour Day Weekend 2021, the film explores this stunning landscape of fresh eyes: Zimbabwean-Canadian Gladys and her two children, and Luis and Shaun, two queer immigrants from Toronto.

Join Director Catie Lamer and Producer Stuart Henderson for a post-screening Q&A.

Tuesday, August 30 / 7 PM

*Free for Hot Docs Members

Special Event

ANONYMOUS CLUB

D: Danny Cohen | Australia | 83 min | 2021

At the height of her success, Grammy-nominated Australian singer-songwriter Courtney Barnett is ready to walk away. With raw honesty, the reclusive anti-influencer shares her struggle with fame as she grows to discover her greatest power lies with sharing her deepest vulnerabilities.

Official Selection – Hot Docs 2022

Wednesday, August 31 / 7:30 PM

This Film Should Be Played Loud

OASIS: SUPERSONIC

D: Mat Whitecross | UK | 122 mins | 2016

Director Mat Whitecross charts the band's meteoric rise out of total obscurity to mega-stardom, as well as their eventual fall. Brothers and bandmates Liam and Noel Gallagher's volatile rivalry and frequent clashes are world famous and here provide ample fodder for dynamic cinema.

Thursday, September 1 / 7 PM

HOT DOCS AT HOME

FREE PROGRAMMING FOR MEMBERS

Available now at hotdocs.ca

Hot Docs 2022

THE HOTTEST SHORTS OF HOT DOCS 2022

D: Various | Various | 86 mins | 2022

An annual showcase of the Hot Docs Festival's best, most crowd-pleasing short films, featuring a specially curated selection of five films from around the world that showcase the incredible range and diversity of shorts presented during the 2022 festival:

Bad At This (Jessie Posthumus | Canada | 2021 | 6 min)

BBQ at Josée and Serge's (Alexandre Sarkis | Canada | 2022 | 7 min)

The Communion of My Cousin Andrea (Brandán Cerviño | Spain | 2021 | 13 min)

Her Scents of Pu Er (Anna-Claria Ostasenko Bogdanoff | France | 2021 | 17 min)

I Am Trying to Remember (Pegah Ahangarani | Czech Republic, Iran | 2021 | 15 min)

On Abortion Rights

ABORTION HELPLINE, THIS IS LISA

D: Barbara Attie, Janet Goldwater, Mike Attie | USA | 13 mins | 2019

At the Philadelphia abortion helpline, counselors field nonstop calls from women and teens who can't afford to end their pregnancies, illustrating the brutal legacy of the discriminatory Hyde Amendment.

WINNER – Grand Jury Prize – Docs, AFI Docs 2020

On Abortion Rights

JACKSON

D: Maisie Crow | USA | 92 mins | 2016

In Jackson, Mississippi, ground zero for the Supreme Court's recent Dobbs decision, director Maisie Crow weaves together the lives of three women on either side of the abortion debate.

WINNER - Best Social Issue Documentary, Emmys 2018

On Abortion Rights

AMERICA'S WAR ON ABORTION

D: Deeyah Khan | USA | 65 mins | 2020

Two years before the overturning of Roe v. Wade, award-winning filmmaker Deeyah Khan examines the frightening erosion of reproductive rights in Trump's America.

WINNER – Best Current Affairs Programme, BAFTA Awards 2021

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Owned and operated by [Hot Docs](#), a not-for-profit organization dedicated to advancing and celebrating the art of documentary, Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema is the world's largest documentary cinema. A historic, century-old landmark located in Toronto's vibrant Annex neighbourhood, the Cinema is a year-round home for non-fiction film and storytelling, presenting first-run international and Canadian documentaries, curated film and speakers series, signature events including Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival, Hot Docs Podcast Festival and Curious Minds Weekend, as well as hosting for some of the city's premier festivals and events. Since assuming management in 2012, Hot Docs has screened over 1,425 films to audiences of more than 1.3 million. In 2016, a generous \$5-million donation from Rogers Foundation enabled Hot Docs to purchase venue.

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Hot Docs is a charitable, not-for-profit organization committed to advancing the art of documentary and supporting opportunities for independent filmmakers.