

For Immediate Release: Tuesday, March 4, 2025

HOT DOCS TED ROGERS CINEMA: MARCH 15 TO MAY 17
MUSIC DOCS, NEW SERIES SPOTLIGHTING TORONTO DOC FILMMAKERS, SING-ALONGS AND CULT CLASSICS

- NEW RELEASE: **DIANE WARREN: RELENTLESS** HITS THE BIG SCREEN, CELEBRATED WITH A WEEKEND OF ICONIC FILMS FEATURING WARREN'S SONGS
 - **BLUE RODEO: LOST TOGETHER** RETURNS FOR AN ENCORE SCREENING
- SPECIAL EVENTS: **FLEABAG** AND **SUMMER OF SOUL** BRING ACCLAIMED THEATRE AND MUSIC DOCS TO THE CINEMA
- **DRUNK FEMINIST FILMS** TAKES ON **CHARLIE'S ANGELS** AND **EAT, PRAY, LOVE** WITH HOSTED SCREENINGS
- **IN FOCUS: TORONTO DOC FILMMAKERS** SHOWCASING ALISON DUKE'S **BAM BAM: THE SISTER NANCY STORY** AND LIZ MARSHALL'S **THE GHOSTS IN OUR MACHINE**
- **FOR VIOLA** PRESENTS A FREE COMMUNITY SCREENING OF **GOING TO MARS: THE NIKKI GIOVANNI PROJECT**
- SING-ALONGS, SHOUT-ALONGS AND MOCKUMENTARY SERIES: **TANGLED SING-ALONG**, **SHREK 2 SHOUT-ALONG**, AND **THE BLAIR WITCH PROJECT**

Toronto, ON - Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema is excited to unveil a dynamic lineup of screenings, new series and special events running from March 15 to May 17. Highlights include *Diane Warren: Relentless*, a captivating look at the legendary songwriter's four-decade career of chart-topping hits. Plus, experience the best of Toronto's documentary scene with In Focus: Toronto's Doc Filmmakers, a new monthly series celebrating the city's top documentary storytellers and their most compelling films.

To view the Hot Docs Cinema calendar, please visit www.hotdocs.ca

NEW RELEASE

- Acclaimed songwriter Diane Warren takes center stage in ***Diane Warren: Relentless***, a compelling documentary on her legendary career. Hot Docs Cinema will also host **A Weekend with Diane Warren**, celebrating the songwriter's impact on film music with screenings of

Owned and operated by the Hot Docs International Documentary Festival, the historic Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema is one of the world's only documentary cinemas.

Burlesque and *Armageddon*, featuring her Oscar-nominated song “I Don’t Want to Miss a Thing.”

- Audiences can look forward to the highly anticipated encore screening of *Blue Rodeo: Lost Together*, a heartfelt look at one of Canada’s most beloved bands.

SPECIAL EVENTS

- The Cinema’s lineup includes screenings of *Fleabag: National Theatre Live*, the award-winning play starring Phoebe Waller-Bridge that inspired the hit BBC series, and *Summer of Soul*, Questlove’s vibrant documentary on the 1969 Harlem Cultural Festival.
- Paleontologists traverse the globe to unearth dinosaur fossils that may hold the key to saving humanity from extinction in Jeremy Xido’s *The Bones*, screening on March 22 and featuring a post-screening Q&A with members of the film team.

SERIES

- **For Viola:** On April 4, Hot Docs Cinema proudly presents a free screening of *Going to Mars: The Nikki Giovanni Project*, a lyrical documentary celebrating the late poet and activist. A post-screening Q&A with filmmakers Joe Brewster and Michèle Stephenson will be moderated by Toronto-based critic and curator Sarah-Tai Black.
- **Spotlight on ImagineNATIVE:** Hot Docs continues its partnership with ImagineNATIVE to showcase Indigenous storytelling, featuring *Atanarjuat: The Fast Runner* (April 19) and Taika Waititi’s *Boy* (May 17).
- **In Focus: Toronto’s Doc Filmmakers**, the new monthly screening series spotlighting the city’s top filmmakers and their most compelling stories, presents *Bam Bam: The Sister Nancy Story* on March 23, with a special Q&A featuring director Alison Duke, and *The Ghosts in our Machine* on March 30, with a special Q&A featuring director Liz Marshall.
- **Drunk Feminist Films** presenting lively screenings of *Charlie’s Angels* on March 27, hosted by Natalie Norman and Sima Sepehri, and *Eat, Pray, Love* on March 28, hosted by Scaachi Koul.
- Families can enjoy a *Tangled Sing-Along*, with little ones invited to dress up and sing their hearts out.
- Experience one of the best sequels ever as ogres intended: with drinks flowing and an unhinged shout-along game—*Shrek 2 Shout-Along* screens on April 12.
- The Mockumentary series invites film enthusiasts to revisit cult classic *The Blair Witch Project*.

Cinema Ticket: \$15 (Members: \$10, \$8, FREE) *

* Unless otherwise specified.

NEW RELEASES

Encore Screening

BLUE RODEO: LOST TOGETHER

D: Dale Heslip | Canada | 88 min | 2024

Owned and operated by the Hot Docs International Documentary Festival, the historic Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema is one of the world’s only documentary cinemas.

Blue Rodeo: Lost Together is an engaging dive into the world of one of Canada's most beloved bands. With the unmistakable voices of Jim Cuddy and Greg Keelor guiding the way, this documentary blends humour, honesty and heart to tell the story of their incredible 40-year journey.

Sunday, March 16 / 3:15 PM

New Release

DIANE WARREN: RELENTLESS

D: Bess Kargman | USA | 91 min | 2024

Songwriter Diane Warren emerges as a force to be reckoned with in this look at her four decades of writing mega-hits.

Friday, March 21 / 6:00 PM

Saturday, March 22 / 1:00 PM

Sunday, March 23 / 1:00 PM

SERIES & SPECIAL EVENTS

Special Screening

FLEABAG: NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE

D: Vicky Jones | UK | 67 min | 2023

The hilarious, award-winning play that inspired the BBC's hit series, written and performed by Phoebe Waller-Bridge.

Saturday, March 15 / 12:30 PM

Sunday, March 16 / 6:30 PM

Special Screening

SUMMER OF SOUL

D: Questlove | USA | 118 min | 2021

Questlove's debut film revisits the 1969 Harlem Cultural Festival, a long-lost celebration of music, culture and soul.

Sunday, March 16 / 12:00 PM

A Weekend with Diane Warren

BURLESQUE

D: Steven Antin | USA | 119 min | 2010

Celebrate the release of the documentary *Diane Warren: Relentless* with this campy musical starring Cher and Christina Aguilera and featuring Warren's music.

Friday, March 21 / 9:15 PM

Special Event

THE BONES

D: Jeremy Xido | Canada, Germany | 98 min | 2024

Paleontologists traverse the globe to unearth dinosaur fossils that may hold the key to saving humanity from extinction.

The screening will be followed by a Q&A with members of the film team.

Saturday, March 22 / 4:00 PM

A Weekend with Diane Warren

ARMAGEDDON

D: Michael Bay | USA | 150 min | 1998

Celebrate *Diane Warren: Relentless* with this disaster classic, featuring her Oscar-nominated hit "I Don't Want to Miss a Thing."

Saturday, March 22 / 8:00 PM

In Focus: Toronto's Doc Filmmakers

BAM BAM: THE SISTER NANCY STORY

D: Alison Duke | Canada | 98 min | 2024

Sister Nancy's iconic "Bam Bam" shaped music for 40 years—discover her story in Alison Duke's inspiring doc.

Join director Alison Duke for a special post-screening Q&A.

Sunday, March 23 / 7:30 PM

Drunk Feminist Films

CHARLIE'S ANGELS

D: MCG | USA | 98 min | 2000

Join Lucy Liu, my girl Drew, Cameron D and Destiny for some martial arts mayhem and approximately 69,420 wardrobe changes.

Hosted by Natalie Norman and Sima Sepehri.

Thursday, March 27 / 8:00 PM

*General: \$25 / Students and Seniors: \$20

Drunk Feminist Films

EAT, PRAY, LOVE

D: Ryan Murphy | USA | 133 min | 2010

Join Drunk Feminist Films for a romp through countries that start with “i” in search of self-actualization and healing.

Hosted by Scaachi Koul.

Friday, March 28 / 8:00 PM

*General: \$25 / Students and Seniors: \$20

Family Screening

TANGLED SING-ALONG

D: Nathan Greno, Byron Howard | USA | 100 min | 2010

Little royals, dress up and sing your heart out at a magical *Tangled* sing-along! Costumes of all kinds are welcome!

Sunday, March 30 / 12:00 PM

*General & Members: \$15 / 12 and under: \$7.50

In Focus: Toronto’s Doc Filmmakers

THE GHOSTS IN OUR MACHINE

D: Liz Marshall | Canada | 92 min | 2013

A feature doc by Toronto’s Liz Marshall revealing the lives of individual animals within the machine of our modern world.

Join director Liz Marshall for a virtual post-screening Q&A.

Sunday, March 30 / 3:00 PM

Mockumentary

THE BLAIR WITCH PROJECT

D: Daniel Myrick, Eduardo Sánchez | USA | 81 min | 1999

Three students enter the Maryland woods to film the Blair Witch—what they capture convinced millions it was real.

Presented with Community Partner Collective Arts.

Sunday, March 30 / 6:00 PM

For Viola

GOING TO MARS: THE NIKKI GIOVANNI PROJECT *FREE SCREENING*

D: Joe Brewster, Michèle Stephenson | USA | 102 min | 2023

In celebration of revered poet Nikki Giovanni, who passed late last year at the age of 81, For Viola proudly presents a community screening of a rich and lyrical documentary portrait, crafted by veteran filmmakers Joe Brewster and Michèle Stephenson. Winner of the 2023 Sundance Grand Jury Prize for

U.S. documentary, *Going to Mars: The Nikki Giovanni Project* is a vibrant late-life tribute to the legendary author and activist.

This screening will be followed by an in-person Q&A with filmmakers Joe Brewster and Michèle Stephenson, moderated by Toronto-based critic and curator Sarah-Tai Black.

For Viola is supported by the Donner Canadian Foundation and the Ontario Arts Council.

Friday, April 4 / 7:00 PM

*While this screening is presented free of charge, please consider a donation of \$10 in recognition of the value of the work presented, and in honour of Viola Desmond, featured on the \$10 banknote, at checkout. Half the proceeds will be shared directly with the filmmakers, who also receive screening fees.

Let's Sing-Along & Shout-Along

SHREK 2 SHOUT-ALONG

D: Andrew Adamson, Conrad Vernon, Kelly Asbury | USA | 90 min | 2004

Experience one of the best sequels ever as ogres intended: with drinks flowing and an unhinged shout-along game.

Featuring a drag performance by Andy Fetamean, a shout-along game and themed drink special, this event has many layers to enjoy.

Saturday, April 12 / 8:00 PM

Spotlight on ImagineNATIVE

ATANARJUAT: THE FAST RUNNER

D: Zacharias Kunuk | Canada | 161 min | 2000

Filmed in Inuktitut and made by Inuit filmmakers, this adaptation of an Inuit legend is the first feature of its kind.

Saturday, April 19 / 3:30 PM

*Free for members

Spotlight on ImagineNATIVE

BOY

D: Taika Waititi | New Zealand | 88 min | 2010

In Taika Waititi's *Boy*, a young Māori kid idolizes Michael Jackson—until his estranged father returns home.

Saturday, May 17 / 3:30 PM

*Free for members

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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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