

**NEW SEASON OF DOC SOUP STARTS THIS OCTOBER WITH *REBUILDING PARADISE*,
FEATURING Q&A WITH OSCAR-WINNING DIRECTOR RON HOWARD**

Toronto, October 13, 2020 – Hot Docs is pleased to announce the first four films in this year's Doc Soup subscription series, which begins its 20th edition this October on VOD platform Hot Docs at Home. The first film in the series will be Academy Award-winning director Ron Howard's *Rebuilding Paradise*. Already generating Oscar buzz, the doc relives the devastating 2018 wildfires that ignited Paradise, California, known as the Camp Fire; the deadliest blaze the country had seen in 100 years and the worst in California's history. Following the film will be a pre-recorded Q&A with director Ron Howard and Hot Docs' director of programming Shane Smith. *Rebuilding Paradise* will be available to stream on Hot Docs at Home at hotdocs.ca from October 19 to 25.

November's Doc Soup will stream *Jonathan Scott's Power Trip*, which follows celebrity contractor and *Property Brothers* star Jonathan Scott across the country as he fights an entrenched utilities system built to sustain the fossil fuel industry. Following the film will be a pre-recorded Q&A with Jonathan Scott. December's film will pay tribute to the life and work of Kenny Scharf, the famous painter, friend and contemporary of Basquiat and Haring, in *Kenny Scharf: When Worlds Collide*, featuring a pre-recorded Q&A with Kenny Scharf after the film. January will stream the revelatory *Picture a Scientist*, which exposes the workplace harassment endured by women scientists, and the work women in the field are doing to fight for diversity and equity.

This year's Doc Soup season will only be available to watch with a full series subscription; no single tickets will be sold. Every Doc Soup subscription will include seven monthly screenings and 12 tickets for the 2021 Hot Docs Festival, valid for online or in-cinema screenings. Each Doc Soup film will be available on Hot Docs at Home for two weeks to subscribers.

REBUILDING PARADISE

D: Ron Howard | USA | 2020 | 95 mins | PG-13

In 2018, a devastating firestorm engulfed the picturesque city of Paradise, California. By the time the Camp Fire was extinguished, it had killed 85 people, displaced 50,000 residents and destroyed 95 per cent of local structures. A moving story of resilience, *Rebuilding Paradise* shows how a community ravaged by disaster came together to recover what was lost and started to rebuild.

Followed by a Q&A with director Ron Howard.

Available from October 19 to 25.

JONATHAN SCOTT'S POWER TRIP

D: Jonathan Scott, Edward Osei-Gyimah | USA, Canada | 2019 | 87 mins | PG

While installing solar panels on his Nevada home, contractor Jonathan Scott—HGTV's *Property Brothers*—discovered firsthand how monopolies are stifling renewable energy. Now, taking his crusade for energy freedom on the road, he turns the camera on those responsible and those fighting back.

Followed by a Q&A with director and subject Jonathan Scott.

Available from November 9 to 15.

KENNY SCHARF: WHEN WORLDS COLLIDE

D: Max Basch and Malia Scharf | USA | 2020 | 77 mins | PG

When Kenny Scharf arrived in NYC in the early 1980's, he quickly met and befriended Keith Haring and Jean Michel Basquiat. But unlike his friends, Kenny lived through cataclysmic shifts in the East Village, as well as the ravages of AIDS and economic depression. A masterful tribute to the particular do-it-yourself, high-tone, technicolor artistic vision of Kenny Scharf.

Followed by a Q&A with subject Kenny Scharf and directors Max Basch and Malia Scharf.

Available from December 7 to 13.

PICTURE A SCIENTIST

D: Sharon Shattuck and Ian Cheney | USA | 2020 | 90 mins | PG

Chronicling the groundswell of researchers writing a new chapter for women scientists, *Picture a Scientist* follows a biologist, a chemist and a geologist on a journey deep into their own experiences, ranging from brutal harassment to years of subtle slights. Discover the scientific luminaries providing new perspectives on how to make science more diverse, equitable and open to all.

Followed by a Q&A with directors Sharon Shattuck and Ian Cheney.

Available from January 18 to 24.

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[Hot Docs](#) is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to advancing and celebrating the art of documentary and to creating production opportunities for documentary filmmakers. Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival, North America's largest documentary festival, conference and market, welcomes audiences of over 228,000 and more than 2,600 industry delegates to Toronto each year. Year-round, Hot Docs supports the Canadian and international industry with professional development programs and a multi-million-dollar production fund portfolio, and fosters education through documentaries with its popular free program Docs For Schools. Hot Docs owns and programs the Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema, a century-old landmark located in Toronto's Annex neighbourhood and the world's first and largest documentary cinema.

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