

DOC SOUP REVEALS TWO EXCITING DOCUMENTARY PREMIERES FOR ITS 22ND SEASON AT HOT DOCS TED ROGERS CINEMA

POPULAR SUBSCRIPTION SCREENING SERIES WILL SCREEN *PATH OF THE PANTHER* IN NOVEMBER AND *OMARA* IN DECEMBER

Toronto, September 21, 2022 – Hot Docs is pleased to announce two new documentaries to premiere in November and December 2022 as part of the 22nd season of its Doc Soup monthly subscription screening series, featuring some of this year’s most captivating docs, followed by insightful Q&As with filmmakers and special guests. The 2022-23 season will open on October 5 at 6:30 PM at Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema, 506 Bloor Street West, with a screening of investigative reporter Michelle Shephard’s gripping new documentary *The Perfect Story* (D: Michelle Shephard | Canada | 2021 | 74 mins), a riveting, intimate look at the ethical and moral challenges sparked by the relationship between a foreign correspondent and a young Somali refugee. The screening will be followed by a live specially-curated panel led by guest host **Adrienne Arseneault**, CBC News’ chief correspondent and host of *The National*, and featuring filmmaker/journalist **Michelle Shephard**, writer and director of *The Perfect Story*; Associate Producer **Sahal Abdulle**, veteran Somali-Canadian photojournalist, reporter, and documentary filmmaker; and immigration lawyer **Hadayt Nazami**.

Doc Soup November will screen the Canadian premiere of *Path of the Panther* (D: Eric Bendick | USA | 2022 | 88 mins), an epic tale of nature and humanity at a crossroads, on November 2 at 6:30 PM at Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema. Through powerful and poignant storytelling, *Path of the Panther* highlights the perils facing the Florida panther, the last big cat surviving in the eastern United States and the state animal of Florida, as it nears extinction. The film looks to inspire the conservation of the land the panther needs to survive—the Florida Wildlife Corridor. The screening will be followed by a live Q&A with director **Eric Bendick**. Doc Soup subscribers can view online November 3 to November 6 on the watch.hotdocs.ca portal.

Doc Soup December will screen the Ontario premiere of *Omara* (D: Hugo Perez | USA, Cuba | 2021 | 76 mins), an uplifting and moving portrait of Omara Portuondo, the grande dame of Cuban music, on December 7 at 6:30 PM at Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema. Filled with her beloved hits and new compositions, the film pulls back the curtain on Portuondo’s private life. Exploring the Cuban revolution, her meteoric rise to fame, and life as a single mother in Communist Cuba, this film serves both as a history of the Latin music revival and a testament to this amazing woman’s resiliency and talent. The screening will be followed by a live Q&A with director **Hugo Perez**. Doc Soup subscribers can view online December 8 to December 11 on the watch.hotdocs.ca portal.

Doc Soup subscriptions are available at a price of \$229 (\$219 for Hot Docs Members) at hotdocs.ca. Doc Soup subscriptions include admission to each of the seven in-cinema monthly screenings, running October 2022 to April 2023, exclusive access to stream the films on Hot Docs at Home for a limited time window, and 12 tickets for the 2023 Hot Docs Festival.

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Owned and operated by [Hot Docs](https://hotdocs.ca), 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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