

**DOCS FOR MUSIC LOVERS:
HOT DOCS FESTIVAL INTRODUCES POP/LIFE STRAND**

Toronto, March 26, 2024 – Hot Docs is pleased to announce that six feature docs will premiere at this year's Festival as part of **Pop/Life**, a new Festival strand featuring docs about music and musical creators. The 2024 Hot Docs Festival will take place April 25 to May 5 in Toronto.

The exploration of music and musicians has consistently brought about some of the documentary movement's most popular works. Films in the Pop/Life program share the artistry of impactful musical visionaries, and events in music history that changed the artform forever.

World premieres include ***Beethoven's Nine***, directed by Larry Weinstein and exploring how Beethoven's final completed symphony continues to resonate 200 years later; and ***Disco's Revenge***, the true story of disco music and the communities who hustled for their freedom on the dance floor.

International premieres include ***Swamp Dogg Gets His Pool Painted***, following legendary cult musician Swamp Dogg, alongside housemates Moogstar and Guitar Shorty, who have transformed their home into an artistic playground; and ***Luther: Never Too Much***, previously announced as Hot Docs Opening Night Film, the latest doc from award-winning director Dawn Porter exploring the life and legacy of music icon Luther Vandross.

Pop/Life will also include the North Americans premiere of ***Teaches of Peaches***, in which boundary-pushing electro musician Peaches (aka Toronto's own Merrill Nisker) flashes her fearless talents and provocative performance energy in this record of her 2022 Anniversary Tour, and the Canadian premiere of ***Eno***, a "generative" AI-created documentary that is different every time it is shown, and in which visionary British musician and artist Brian Eno reveals his creative processes.

The full lineup of Pop/Life films appear below with screening information. In many cases, filmmakers will be in attendance for post-screening discussions. For more information on the program please visit www.hotdocs.ca/whats-on.

BEETHOVEN'S NINE

D: Larry Weinstein | P: Jason Charters, Bernhard von Hülsen, Liam Romalis, Maria Willer | Germany, Canada | 2024 | 90 min | World Premiere

On the 200th anniversary of Beethoven's final completed symphony, does it still inspire as a symbol of joy and hope during tumultuous times? From Peanuts to Leonard Bernstein, see how this masterpiece continues to resonate around the world.

Sunday, April 28, 5:15 PM - TLB2

Tuesday, April 30, 11:30 AM - TLB3

DISCO'S REVENGE

D: Omar Majeed, Peter Mishara | P: Noah Segal, Sam Sutherland, Christina Piovesan, Dave Harris | Canada | 2024 | 100 min | World Premiere

Born underground and taken on a wild ride into the mainstream, disco was co-opted, exploited and then tossed aside to the fringes. This is the true story of disco music and the communities who hustled for their freedom on the dance floor.

Thursday, May 2, 8:30 PM - Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema

Friday, May 3, 8:00 PM - TLB2

ENO

D: Gary Hustwit | P: Gary Hustwit, Jessica Edwards | USA, UK | 2024 | 90 min | Canadian Premiere
Visionary British musician and artist Brian Eno reveals his creative processes in this groundbreaking, generative documentary. Created using AI, this documentary is different every time it's shown. Eno poetically resonates with the artist's endless deep dive into the nature of creativity.

Saturday, April 27, 2:30 PM - Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema

Monday, April 29, 6:30 PM - Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema

LUTHER: NEVER TOO MUCH

D: Dawn Porter | P: Trish Chetty, Ged Doherty, Jamie Foxx, Datari Turner, Leah Smith | USA | 2024 | 101 min | International Premiere

Singer/songwriter Luther Vandross was always meant to be a star. Award-winning director Dawn Porter delivers a stirring portrait of an icon, as the film charts Vandross's creative journey, his larger-than-life path to stardom, and the creation of his most memorable songs.

Thursday, April 25, 6:30 PM - Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema (Opening Night Industry Screening)

Thursday, April 25, 9:30 PM - Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema (Opening Night Public Screening)

Saturday, April 27, 9:15 PM - Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema

SWAMP DOGG GETS HIS POOL PAINTED

D: Isaac Gale, Ryan Olson | P: Paul Lovelace, Ryan Olson, David McMurry, Isaac Gale, Ben Wu, Townson Wells | USA | 2024 | 97 min | International Premiere

If you were to swap The Golden Girls' quartet of white women sharing a house in Miami for a trio of Black men jamming, tripping and co-habiting in the San Fernando Valley, you would get Swamp Dogg Gets His Pool Painted!

Wednesday, May 1, 8:15 PM - Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema

Friday, May 3, 5:15 PM - Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema

TEACHES OF PEACHES

D: Philipp Fussenegger, Judy Landkammer | P: Cordula Kablitz-Post, Robert Kreuzaler | Germany | 2024 | 102 min | North American Premiere

Brash, boundary-pushing electro musician Peaches (aka Toronto's own Merrill Nisker) flashes her fearless talents and provocative performance energy in this record of her 2022 Anniversary Tour. Watch the unapologetic, genderfuck feminist and queer icon as she comes into her prime.

Friday, April 26, 9:15 PM - Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema

Saturday, April 27, 1:45 PM - TLB2

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[Hot Docs \(www.hotdocs.ca\)](http://www.hotdocs.ca), North America's largest documentary festival, conference and market, 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 will present its 31st annual edition from April 25 to May 5, 2024, in cinemas across Toronto. Hot Docs will also mount a dynamic series of knowledge sessions, networking opportunities and market programs for documentary practitioners and industry delegates, including the renowned Hot Docs Forum and Hot Docs Deal Maker. Year-round, Hot Docs supports the Canadian and international industry with professional development programs and a multi-million-dollar film 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.

Starting Tuesday, March 26, Festival ticket package holders, including Doc Soup subscribers, can redeem their ticket packages, and Hot Docs Members can purchase single tickets. Starting Tuesday, April 2, single tickets will be available to the public. Tickets and ticket packages can be purchased and/or redeemed [online](http://www.hotdocs.ca) at www.hotdocs.ca or in person at Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema Box Office, located at 506 Bloor Street West (hours vary daily in accordance with cinema screenings). Single tickets are \$20 to regular Festival screenings and \$23 to Special Presentations screenings (\$18-\$20 members). Special events vary in price. A Festival 12-Pack is \$209 and a Festival 20-Pack is \$299. Hot Docs offers free tickets for all screenings before 5:00 p.m. to seniors and students with valid photo I.D., available online the day of the screening, subject to availability. Free screenings for students courtesy of CBC and CBC Gem.

Hot Docs is proud to include Scotia Wealth Management as its Presenting Platinum Partner; Rogers as its Founding Partner; CBC as its Signature Partner; Netflix as its Presenting Partner; and Telefilm Canada, the Government of Ontario, and the Canada Media Fund as its Major Supporters.

FILM STILLS AVAILABLE

Media Download Site: <https://downloads.hotdocs.ca/downloads>

Password: media2024

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PRESS RELEASE

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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.