

**HOT DOCS TED ROGERS CINEMA TO REOPEN ITS DOORS SEPTEMBER 10**

- Film premieres of *Roadrunner: A Film About Anthony Bourdain*; *The Human Factor*; *Summer of Soul*; *Last Man Standing: Suge Knight and the Murders of Biggie & Tupac*, and more
- Signature Hot Docs film series **Music on Film**, **This Film Should Be Played Loud**, **High Minded** and **Films Changing the World** return
  - Delightful and adorable **CatVideoFest** to screen for one night only!

Toronto, ON, August 31, 2021—Hot Docs is pleased to announce that Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema will reopen its doors to the public on Friday, September 10, with a full program of first run films, signature doc series and events. Launching with Morgan Neville’s acclaimed new documentary *Roadrunner: A Film About Anthony Bourdain*, the opening program will welcome viewers back to the Cinema and into the world with inspirational, illuminating and life-affirming documentaries, plus a range of specially curated series and events that Hot Docs audiences have grown to know and love. For tickets and information about screening dates and times, please visit the Hot Docs website at [hotdocs.ca](http://hotdocs.ca).

In accordance with current health and safety guidelines, the Cinema will be open to 50 per cent capacity, and will implement physically distanced seating, advanced online seat selection, and mandatory mask-wearing for all staff and visitors. Hot Docs will also require all patrons, staff and volunteers to show proof of full vaccination against COVID-19, or proof of a negative COVID test result received within 48 hours of their visit, in order to enter the Cinema. Please visit the Hot Docs website to view all [health and safety measures](#).

“We’re very excited to open our doors and welcome our audiences back to the Cinema for live screenings again,” said Hot Docs managing director **Alan Black**. “We’ve put together a program we know our audiences will love. So many great films came out this year that we’ve wanted to show but they really deserve to be seen on a big screen, so we’ve been waiting until our reopening. We’re so looking forward to welcoming our community back to share in the collective experience of watching a really powerful film together.”

New documentaries screening as part of the opening program include: *Roadrunner: A Film About Anthony Bourdain*, which dives into the life and legacy of the beloved chef and world traveller to reveal how he became the cultural icon he is remembered as; Sundance festival hits *Summer of Soul (...Or, When the Revolution Could Not Be Televised)*, musician Questlove’s directorial debut recounting the legendary 1969 Harlem Cultural Festival that celebrated African American music and culture; *The Truffle Hunters*, which travels to a remote town in Italy in search of a prized and rare mushroom. *The Human Factor*, a gripping doc that takes you inside the negotiations for peace in the Middle East, revealing the complex strategies and tactics used in the region over the past 30 years; *The Lost Leonardo*, the inside story behind the \$450 million painting Salvator Mundi, the most expensive ever sold; and Hot Docs Audience Award winner *FANNY: The Right to Rock*, an epic rock doc about fierce female 1970s rockers who reunite 50-years later with a new record deal and a chance to rewrite history.

The biggest hits from Hot Docs at Home this year will also screen, including ***Gunda***, ***Street Gang: How We Got to Sesame Street***, ***Stray*** and ***Truman & Tennessee: An Intimate Conversation***, giving people a chance to catch these acclaimed films on the big screen with a collective audience.

The Cinema will also see the return of four of its most popular signature film series. **Music on Film** is back with a screening of ***Best Worst Thing That Ever Could Have Happened***, which draws back the curtain on the drama behind the opening and sudden closure of the Broadway show *Merrily We Roll Along*; and ***Strings Attached***, which delves into the lives, on and off stage, of four musicians who abandon the prospect of solo careers to form The Dover Quartet. **This Film Should Be Played Loud** will present Jonathan Demme's crowd-pleasing Talking Heads concert doc ***Stop Making Sense***; the mind-expanding series **High Minded** returns with the visually stimulating, cinematic masterpiece *Samsara*; and screening on World Food Day, a day meant to increase awareness of world hunger and poverty and to inspire solutions for world change, **Films Changing the World** will present ***Food for the Rest of Us***, an eye-opening examination of how the back to the land food movement is tied to others, such as Black Lives Matter, Idle No More and Times Up. The Cinema will also present one-night-only screenings of ***CatVideoFest***, the adorable, heartwarming compilation of cat videos; Nick Broomfield's latest film, ***Last Man Standing: Suge Knight and the Murders of Biggie & Tupac***, which goes inside L.A.'s Death Row Records to reveal how gang culture, along with crooked LAPD officers, came to dominate its business; and ***Fire Music***, the riveting story behind the free jazz movement, a new form of the genre that began in the late 1950s.

Programming on the VOD service Hot Docs at Home will continue, with Hot Docs endeavouring to bring a range of programming shown at the Cinema to at-home audiences. Hot Docs at Home will continue to feature new, specially curated content each month, free films and themed collections for members and Curious Minds courses, plus special series complementing films screened at Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema.

Adding to an ever-growing library of documentary classics and hidden gems, this month, Hot Docs at Home will feature **A Tribute to Anthony Bourdain**, a compilation of films featuring cultural provocateurs that have inspired Bourdain and embody his same punk rock spirit, including ***Vivienne Westwood: Punk, Icon, Activist***; ***William S. Burroughs: A Man Within***; and ***Gimme Danger***. The tribute series will also include a special Curious Minds Author Talk, **The Many Sides of Tony**, with Anthony Bourdain's long-time assistant and co-author Laurie Woolever, who will discuss her new book ***Bourdain: The Definitive Oral Biography***.

FILM PREMIERES

(\$10, \$8, Free members; \$15 non-members)

**ROADRUNNER: A FILM ABOUT ANTHONY BOURDAIN**

D: Morgan Neville | USA | 119 mins | PG | 2021

With intimate, behind-the-scenes access, Oscar-winning director Morgan Neville takes an unflinching look at how an anonymous chef in New York City became a reluctant cultural icon—and transformed the lives of everyone around him in the process. Reverberating with Bourdain’s unabashed spirit and voice, *Roadrunner* shows that it’s not about where you go, it’s what you leave behind.

Opens Friday, September 10

**GUNDA**

D: Viktor Kosakovskiy | Norway, USA | 93 min | 2020

Experiential cinema in its purest form, *Gunda* chronicles the daily lives of a mother pig, a flock of chickens and a herd of cows with masterful intimacy. A meditation on the mystery of animal consciousness and the role humanity plays in it, executive produced by Joaquin Phoenix.

Opens Friday, September 10

**STREET GANG: HOW WE GOT TO SESAME STREET**

D: Marilyn Agrelo | USA | 107 mins | 2021

An exclusive behind-the-scenes look at the first two decades of *Sesame Street*, one of the most popular children’s programs ever to air. Featuring over 20 original cast and creator interviews, *Street Gang* introduces us to the people (and Muppets!) who entertained and educated children like never before.

Opens Saturday, September 11

**STRAY**

D: Elizabeth Lo | USA | 72 min | 2020

Wander the bustling streets of Istanbul through the perspectives of three charismatic stray dogs—Zeytin, Nazar and Kartal—as they embark on inconspicuous journeys through Turkish life. A beautiful sensory voyage into new ways of seeing, and a tender love letter to the animals we share our lives with.

Opens Sunday, September 12

**TRUMAN & TENNESSEE: AN INTIMATE CONVERSATION**

D: Lisa Immordino Vreeland | USA | 86 min | 2020

An innovative dual-portrait documentary about the work, lives and personal journeys of iconic American artists Truman Capote and Tennessee Williams. Celebrating the sometimes-tumultuous friendship of the titular writers through the ages, this film honours how their queer identity informed their world-renowned works and relationships with their family, confidants, and — most significantly — each other.

Opens Tuesday, September 14

**SUMMER OF SOUL (...OR, WHEN THE REVOLUTION COULD NOT BE TELEVISED)**

D: Ahmir "Questlove" Thompson | USA | 117 mins | 2021

Over the course of six weeks in the summer of 1969, just one hundred miles south of Woodstock, The Harlem Cultural Festival, a celebration of Black music and culture, was filmed in Mount Morris Park. The footage was never seen and largely forgotten—until now. In his acclaimed debut as a filmmaker, Ahmir "Questlove" Thompson presents a powerful and transporting record of the legendary festival, featuring never-before-seen concert performances by Stevie Wonder, Nina Simone, Sly & the Family Stone, Gladys Knight & the Pips and more.

Opens Friday, September 17

**THE TRUFFLE HUNTERS**

D: Michael Dweck, Gregory Kershaw | Italy, Greece, USA | 84 mins | 2020

Travel into the depths of the forests of Northern Italy in a search for the prized white Alba truffle. A rare delicacy desired by the world's wealthiest, it cannot be cultivated or found except by a small circle of Italian elders and their canine companions, who hunt for the coveted truffle in secret at night.

Opens Friday, September 24

Now available on Hot Docs at Home

**THE HUMAN FACTOR**

D: Dror Moreh | UK, Israel | 108 mins | 2019

A tense politically thrilling film that chronicles the ups and downs of peace negotiations in the Middle East over the last thirty years, revealing how the US came within reach of pulling off the impossible—brokering an accord between Israel and its neighbours.

Opens Friday, October 1

**THE LOST LEONARDO**

D: Andreas Koefoed | Denmark, France | 96 mins | 2021

The fascinating story behind the Salvator Mundi, the most expensive painting ever sold at \$450 million. After being purchased for a mere \$1,175 from a New Orleans auction house, its value is discovered, setting into motion the hidden agendas of the richest men and the most powerful art institutions in the world, revealing their insatiable quest for fame, money and power.

Opens Friday, October 8

**FANNY: THE RIGHT TO ROCK**

D: Bobbi Jo Hart | Canada | 92 min Minutes | 2021

Ferocious female rockers Fanny shattered glass ceilings in the '70s, collecting fans like David Bowie before being buried in retro record bins. Fifty years later, they reunite with a new record deal and a chance to rewrite history.

Opens Friday, October 15

SPECIAL SERIES & EVENTS

Special Event

**CATVIDEOFEST 2021**

D: Various | USA | 72 mins | 2020

Celebrate the irresistible cuteness of our feline friends with this special event screening featuring a compilation of the latest and best cat videos.

Sunday, September 12                      5:00 PM

Special Event

**FIRE MUSIC**

D: Tom Surgal | USA | 71 mins | 2018

A dazzling account of the rise of free jazz, a new form of jazz music that began in the 1950s in response to the turbulent times. Shunned from the mainstream for being too emotional and angry, we discover how free jazz came to be one of the most popular jazz music styles today.

Wednesday, September 29              7:30 PM

Available on Hot Docs at Home on September 30

Special Event

**LAST MAN STANDING: SUGE KNIGHT AND THE MURDERS OF BIGGIE & TUPAC**

D: Nick Broomfield | UK | 104 mins | 2021

A chilling look inside L.A.'s Death Row Records and its CEO Suge Knight, and how the city's gang culture, along with corrupt LAPD officers, came to dominate its business workings. It was this rivalry that took the lives of rap's biggest stars, Tupac Shakur and Biggie Smalls.

Friday, October 1                      8:30 PM

Films Changing the World

**FOOD FOR THE REST OF US**

D: Caroline Cox | Canada | 83 Minutes | 2021

Meet the inspiring young people leading today's food revolution. From an Indigenous-owned, youth-run organic farm in Hawaii to a Black urban grower in Kansas City, this film shows us four food activists who are using new ways of farming and living to fight back against oppressive systems and carve a new path for the future of food.

Saturday, October 16                  2:00 PM

This Film Should Be Played Loud

**STOP MAKING SENSE**

D: Jonathan Demme | USA | 88 minutes | 1984

An exhilarating masterpiece, *Stop Making Sense* captures the catchy energy, daring theatrics and pure euphoria of the Talking Heads performing at the top of their game.

Wednesday, October 27              8:30 PM

Music on Film

**BEST WORST THING THAT EVER COULD HAVE HAPPENED**

D: Lonny Price | USA | 95 mins | 2016

Stephen Sondheim's *Merrily We Roll Along* opened to enormous fanfare in November 1981—only to close after sixteen performances. This exuberant backstage documentary draws back the curtain on the drama behind the production and its creation, while also telling the stories of the hopeful young performers whose lives were transformed by it.

Featuring live music and a post-screening discussion with Dora Award-winning actor and singer Charlotte Moore and *Follies* director Richard Ouzounian, former theatre critic for *The Toronto Star*, moderated by The Royal Conservatory's Mervon Mehta.

Tuesday, September 28              7:30 PM

Available on Hot Docs at Home on September 30

Music on Film

**STRINGS ATTACHED**

D: Bruce Broder | USA | 83 mins | 2020

A backstage look at the meteoric rise of The Dover Quartet who, after their breakthrough performance at the Banff International String Quartet Competition, abandon their solo careers to realize their dreams.

Featuring live music and a post-screening discussion with members of The Dover Quartet, and director Bruce Broder, hosted by The Royal Conservatory's Mervon Mehta.

Tuesday, October 19

7:30 PM

Music on Film

**MY DARLING VIVIAN**

D: Matt Riddlehoover | USA | 90 min | 2020 |

Discover the little-known story of Johnny Cash's first wife, Vivian Liberto, whose 13-year marriage to the country star was eclipsed by the myth of "Johnny and June" Carter.

Featuring live music and a post-screening discussion with director Matt Riddlehoover, hosted by The Royal Conservatory's Mervon Mehta.

Tuesday, November 30

7:30 PM

High Minded

**SAMSARA**

D: Ron Fricke | USA | 82 mins | 2011

Filmed over a period of almost five years and in 25 countries, this unparalleled sensory experience transports us to sacred grounds, disaster zones, industrial sites, and natural wonders, illuminating the links between humanity and the rest of nature.

Wednesday, October 13

7:30 PM

All tickets are \$15 (Hot Docs Member pricing starting at \$10); seating is by reservation only and Hot Docs encourages patrons to purchase tickets in advance through the website at [hotdocscinema.ca](http://hotdocscinema.ca).

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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