

## **PRESERVING YESTERDAY FOR TOMORROW, CINEMATHEQUE PROGRAMME SAFEGUARDS CANADA'S LEGACY ON SCREEN**

### **Free Canadian programme to feature new restorations and a BIG look at a Canadian classic**

**TORONTO** — The Toronto International Film Festival® is pleased to announce the crop of films slated for the 2017 TIFF Cinematheque programme. In light of Canada's sesquicentennial, this year's programme celebrates homegrown filmmakers and their works by revisiting and restoring landmarks of Canada's cinematic history. This all-Canadian lineup consists of titles culled from TIFF's Canada on Screen list of essential Canadian moving-image works.

TIFF Cinematheque will be a FREE programme for all to enjoy as part of Canada on Screen.

Highlights include the debuts of three new digital restorations done under the supervision of the films' directors. Featured titles are Clement Virgo's *Rude* (95), the first Canadian dramatic feature to be written, directed and produced by an all-black team; Patricia Rozema's Cannes Prix de la jeunesse-winning *I've Heard the Mermaids Singing* (87); and Peter Mettler's poetic essay film *Picture of Light* (94). Showcasing iconic films dealing with themes still relevant and prevalent today, this year's programme underscores the endurance of Canada's legacy on screen.

"At TIFF we're proud to continue our commitment to the preservation and restoration of Canada's filmic history," said Jesse Wentz, Head, TIFF Cinematheque. "These groundbreaking works from the 1980s and 1990s demonstrate our country's long history of celebrating directors who push boundaries with their personal visions. We look forward to bringing them back to audiences via these beautiful digital restorations."

"I am delighted that this year's Toronto International Film Festival will showcase several digitally restored classics of Canadian cinema," said the Honorable Mélanie Joly, Minister of Canadian Heritage. "As we celebrate Canada 150, I invite you all to participate, and to experience these films that reveal the richness of our cinematic heritage."

Also featured as part of the Cinematheque lineup are larger-than-life screenings of Graeme Ferguson's *North of Superior* (71), at Cinesphere, the world's first permanent IMAX cinema, presented in collaboration with Ontario Place. As the first film commissioned for and screened at Cinesphere at its 1971 grand opening, *North of Superior* is the film that helped put the IMAX format on the map. This September, audiences will have the opportunity to experience the film as intended — on the IMAX screen — and round out the day with an afternoon of music, entertainment and food on the Ontario Place grounds. Free transportation will be provided to Ontario Place from TIFF Bell Lightbox. For film lovers across the country and around the world, a free live webcast of the introduction, film and Q&A will be available online during a select screening.

The 42nd Toronto International Film Festival runs from September 7 to 17, 2017.

#### **Films screening as part of the TIFF Cinematheque programme include:**

*I've Heard the Mermaids Singing* Patricia Rozema, Canada, 1987

\*New digital restoration: Work carried out at Technicolor, Toronto and Montreal under the supervision of Director Patricia Rozema.

TIFF is a charitable organization with a mission to transform the way people see the world, through film.



**Picture of Light** Peter Mettler, Canada, 1994

\*New digital restoration: Work carried out at Technicolor, Toronto and Montreal, with soundtrack restoration by Lou Solakofski of Tattersall Sound and Picture, and Peter Bräker sound design, Switzerland, under the supervision of Director Peter Mettler.

**Rude** Clement Virgo, Canada, 1995

\*New digital restoration: Work carried out at Technicolor, Toronto and Montreal under the supervision of Director Clement Virgo and Producer Damon D'Oliveira.

**North of Superior** Graeme Ferguson, Canada, 1971

\*Special IMAX screening at Cinesphere

For film synopses, cast lists, images and more information visit [tiff.net/press](http://tiff.net/press).

**Social Media:**

@TIFF\_NET

#TIFF17

Facebook.com/TIFF

**About TIFF**

TIFF is a charitable cultural organization whose mission is to transform the way people see the world, through film. An international leader in film culture, TIFF projects include the annual Toronto International Film Festival in September; TIFF Bell Lightbox, which features five cinemas, major exhibitions, and learning and entertainment facilities; and innovative national distribution programme Film Circuit. The organization generates an annual economic impact of \$189 million CAD. TIFF Bell Lightbox is generously supported by contributors including Founding Sponsor Bell, the Government of Canada, the Government of Ontario, the City of Toronto, the Reitman family (Ivan Reitman, Agi Mandel and Susan Michaels), The Daniels Corporation and RBC. For more information, visit [tiff.net](http://tiff.net).

**About Canada on Screen**

Canada on Screen is a Canada 150 Signature Project and co-production between TIFF and three core project partners — Library and Archives Canada, the Cinémathèque québécoise, and The Cinematheque in Vancouver — for Canada's sesquicentennial in 2017. Throughout 2017 this free programme will present moving-image installations, special events and guests, an extensive online catalogue and screenings across the country, all based on a list of 150 essential moving-image works from Canada's history, and compiled through a national poll of industry professionals.

**The Toronto International Film Festival is generously supported by Lead Sponsor Bell, Major Sponsors RBC, L'Oréal Paris and Visa, and Major Supporters the Government of Ontario, The Government of Canada and the City of Toronto.**

**The Government of Canada, the Royal Bank of Canada and The Government of Ontario are Presenting Partners of Canada on Screen.**

**Telefilm Canada and Fairmont Hotels & Resorts are Supporting Partners of Canada on Screen**

**Canada on Screen is co-produced by Library and Archives Canada, Cinematheque Québécoise and The Cinematheque in Vancouver**

TIFF is a charitable organization with a mission to transform the way people see the world, through film.



**Special thanks to Ontario Place Corporation and IMAX**

**TIFF Cinematheque is supported by the Ontario Media Development Corporation and the Canada Council for the Arts**

**-30-**

For information, contact Kali Hopkins-Allen at 416.599.8433 x 3306 or [khopkinsallen@tiff.net](mailto:khopkinsallen@tiff.net) or contact the Communications Department at 416.934.3200 or email [proffice@tiff.net](mailto:proffice@tiff.net).

TIFF is a charitable organization with a mission to transform the way people see the world, through film.

---

**TIFF Bell Lightbox**, Reitman Square, 350 King Street West, Toronto ON Canada M5V 3X5 416-599-TIFF / 1-888-599-8433

tiff.net

\*Toronto International Film Festival Inc. Charitable Registration # 11930 4541 RR0001