



August 17, 2017

**NEWS RELEASE**

## CREATIVE LUMINARIES AND INDUSTRY TRAILBLAZERS CHAMPION WHY STORYTELLING MATTERS AT TIFF INDUSTRY CONFERENCE

Speakers include **Glenn Close, Larry Wilmore, Armando Iannucci, Graham Taylor, Denis Côté, Luca Guadagnino, Morgan Spurlock, Tim Bevan, Eric Fellner and Mary Harron**

**TORONTO** — The Toronto International Film Festival® continued today to roll out its bold and ambitious **2017 TIFF Industry Conference** programme. This year's lineup will explore the power of storytelling along with themes and challenges that have made a global impact on the film industry. The six-day conference, which runs September 8–13, will incite provocative discussions and inspire innovative strategies for creative and business leadership.

"The importance of compelling, original storytelling lies at the heart of our programming, and we are privileged to have some of the most renowned artists and practitioners in the business, onstage at the Conference," said Kathleen Drumm, Director, TIFF Industry. "Cinema is a powerful medium. Witnessing other realities opens borders and exposes truths, leading to transformative experiences for audiences. We also want to unpack a film's traverse from script to audience, wherein industry veterans candidly address inequality in decision-making, and discuss solutions for change."

More than 150 guest speakers will take the stage including **Tim Bevan, Timothée Chalamet, Glenn Close, Denis Côté, Cassian Elwes, Heidi Ewing, Eric Fellner, Rachel Grady, Luca Guadagnino, Armie Hammer, Mary Harron, Armando Iannucci, Franklin Leonard, Brett Morgen, Sam Pollard, Anna Serner, Morgan Spurlock, Synchronia Studer, Graham Taylor and Larry Wilmore.**

The Conference features a range of curated programmes, which brings emphasis to different elements of industry debate.

### MASTER CLASSES and MOGULS

Storytelling, satire, authenticity and equality are at the forefront of this year's Master Class conversations, led by some of the industry's creative luminaries: Emmy and Peabody Award-winning producer, actor, comedian and writer **Larry Wilmore** (*Black on the Air, Black-ish*) keeps it "100" with **Jesse Wente**, Director of TIFF Cinematheque and **Armando Iannucci** director, writer, creator (*The Death Of Stalin, VEEP*) on the Art of Political Satire. The Conference closes with renowned homegrown director and writer **Mary Harron** (*Alias Grace, I Shot Andy Warhol*) on her distinguished career in film and television, interviewed by celebrated Canadian filmmaker **Patricia Rozema** (*I've Heard the Mermaids Singing*). Moguls previously announced: **Anna Serner** (CEO of the Swedish Film Institute) and veteran producer **Cassian Elwes** (*Mudbound, Dallas Buyers' Club*), joined by IndieWire's Editor-in-Chief, **Dana Harris**.

### GUARDIAN TIFF TALKS

Three intimate onstage talks and Q&As will be hosted by Benjamin Lee and Peter Bradshaw of *The Guardian*: **Luca Guadagnino, Armie Hammer** and **Timothée Chalamet** discuss one of the year's most acclaimed films, *Call Me by My Name*; **Tim Bevan** and **Eric Fellner** discuss decades of remarkable Working Title Films productions include their fast-paced indie hit *Baby Driver*, and upcoming

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



Festival films *Darkest Hour* and *Victoria and Abdul*. Legendary actor of stage and screen **Glenn Close** talks about her career, notable for challenging performances and iconic roles, and about her latest Festival film, *The Wife*.

## DIALOGUES

TIFF's Dialogues presents innovative and informative discussions on business and creative topics with notable industry experts.

**At the Table**, presented in collaboration with the African American Film Critics Association, unpacks a film's journey through candid examination of the importance of bringing more diverse perspectives to key decision-making roles, where objectivity is professed but subjectivity practiced.

Speakers:

**Graham Taylor** Partner and Head of WME Global,  
**Syrinthia Studer** Worldwide Acquisitions, EVP, Paramount Pictures,  
**Franklin Leonard**, CEO & Founder, The Black List,  
**Tre'vell Anderson** Film Reporter, *LA Times*,  
**Gaylene Gould** Head of Cinemas and Events, BFI Southbank,  
and chaired by **Gil Robertson** Co-Founder & President, AAFCA.

**Building Canada's Indigenous Screen Office**, featuring **Marcia Nickerson**, Chair of imagineNATIVE, **Valerie Creighton**, President & CEO Canada Media Fund, and **Danis Goulet**, filmmaker, unveils the unique and vertical approach employed to create Canada's newest film sector designed to support the wealth of Indigenous talent.

**Eve of Disruption** features venture capitalists and industry disruptors discussing emerging trends and technologies that will shape the future of the entertainment industry.

**3 For 30 – From Words to Screen**, hosted by The Black List's **Franklin Leonard** and **Kate Hagen**, this session illuminates the creative process and the choices filmmakers have to make to transform an ordinary script into a masterpiece.

**2001: An Immersive Odyssey** explores how science fiction films and immersive technologies inform how we consume the stories we love.

## DOC CONFERENCE TIFF

Now in its ninth edition, the Doc Conference is back to showcase a dynamic slate of filmmakers and industry experts. Featured filmmakers include directing duo **Heidi Ewing** and **Rachel Grady** (*Jesus Camp*, *One of Us*), **Brett Morgen** (*Cobain: Montage of Heck*, *Jane*), **Sam Pollard** (*Slavery by Another Name*, *Sammy Davis, Jr.: I've Gotta Be Me*), and **Denis Côté** (*Curling*, *Ta peau si lisse*). **Morgan Spurlock** (*Super Size Me*, *Super Size Me 2: Holy Chicken!*) and **Brent Hodge** will present *Culture Shock*, a new comedy series, previewing its first episode, *Freaks & Geeks*.

**Geralyn Dreyfous**, co-founder of Impact Partners Film Fund and Gamechanger Films, will talk about private investment; director **Anjali Nayar** (*Gun Runners*, *Silas*) will speak on cultural appropriation and access in the Global South; and **Peter Broderick** will provide sustainable career strategies for filmmakers.

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



## CONNECTIONS

TIFF's Connections provides networking opportunities by bringing together leading international film professionals and experts. Connections networking strands: Co-Productions, Documentary, Primetime (TV), Shorts and New Technologies & Immersive Storytelling. Executives include: **Mo Abudu**, **Julie Goldman**, **Katriel Schory**, **Steven Markovitz**, **Jennifer Jonas**, **Landon Zakheim**, **Brad Pelman** and **Sarah Lash**. Signups will open late August.

## SHORT CUTS DIALOGUES

TIFF Short Cuts programming includes **Directing Actors and Actors Directing** focusing on excellence in directing performance, with **Yassmina Karajah** (*Rupture*), TIFF Rising Stars Alumnus **Connor Jessup** (*Lira's Forest*); while **Maximizing Your Short's Impact** provides strategies and tips to get short films seen and heard.

## FOUNDATIONS

TIFF's Foundations programme explores cinematography, editing, story development, music licensing, US/Canadian legal co-ventures and collaborative teams. The 2017 lineup features: **Pat Mills**, **Tiffany Beaudin** (*Don't Talk To Irene*); **Caroline Habib**, Mongrel International; **Kisha Imani Cameron**, Ghetto Film School; **Lorraine D'Alessio**, D'Alessio Law Group; **Evelyn Ackah**, Ackah Business Immigration Law; **Elliott Anderson** (ACTRA); **Michael Perlmutter**, President of CDN Guild of Music Supervisors; and script consultant **Corey Mandell**.

## THE INDUSTRY LOUNGE

The Industry Lounge is the business and networking centre for industry professionals with free WiFi. It will be open on September 8 to 13, from 9:00am to 6:30pm, and is located in the Glenn Gould Studio Lobby at the Canadian Broadcasting Centre, 250 Front St. West.

## INDUSTRY HAPPY HOURS

Connect with filmmakers, producers, and potential business partners from around the globe. Industry Happy Hours are held in the Glenn Gould Studio Lobby at the Canadian Broadcasting Centre, 250 Front St. West, September 8–12 from 5:30pm to 6:30pm. The Industry Cocktail, on September 13 from 5:30pm to 7:00pm, will celebrate another year of ambitious industry events.

## ADDITIONAL INDUSTRY PROGRAMMING AND INITIATIVES

**CMPA Feature Film Producer's Award** recognizes the entrepreneurship, vision, and passion of Canadian independent producers. The event will take place on Thursday, September 7, 3:30pm–5:30pm.

### Telefilm Canada Talent to Watch

Presented by Telefilm Canada, this series highlights the hottest homegrown directors who are the buzz of 2017. Topics include:

- In the Director's Chair: Lady Boss
- Going International: What to Know Before You Go!
- Canada's Class of 2017: Powered by Creativity

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



Additional companies presenting at the Conference include **Amazon Video Direct**, and Micro Sessions: **Adobe Systems®**, and **Ontario College of Trades**.

### Telefilm Canada's PITCH THIS!

Six filmmaking teams have six minutes to pitch their feature film idea to an international industry audience and jury. The winning team will take home \$15,000 to help bring their film project to life.

- **12 Days** – Tracey Deer, Jennifer Mesich
- **Boring Girls** – Coral Aiken, Hannah Cheesman
- **Fall from the sky** – Deragh Campbell, Dan Montgomery, Kaz Radwanski
- **Imposter** – Adam Goldhammer, Evan Landry, Katie McMillan
- **Nadia, Butterfly** – Dominique Dussault, Pascal Plante
- **We Will Not Be Defeated** – Andrew Nicholas McCann Smith, Dylan Reibling, Brian Robertson

### BREAKFAST AT TIFF

TIFF will present curated networking opportunities via an expanded Breakfast at TIFF series, with events hosted by agencies from around the world, including Telefilm Canada, South Africa's NFVF, German Films, New Zealand Film Commission, Finnish Films, Caribbean Tales and CinemaChile. Access will be determined by the focus of each event. Signups open late August.

**Online industry registration** for the Toronto International Film Festival® is now open. There are five pass types, each offering access to the industry Conference and Doc Conference. Online registration closes on August 25, 2017. To learn more about passes and price points visit: [tiff.net/industry](http://tiff.net/industry)

The Toronto International Film Festival's industry programming runs September 8 to 13, featuring the TIFF Doc Conference on September 12, 2017.

### Social Media:

[@TIFF\\_NET](https://twitter.com/TIFF_NET)

[#TIFF17](https://twitter.com/TIFF17)

[Facebook.com/TIFF](https://www.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).

**The Toronto International Film Festival Industry Programming is generously supported by Lead Sponsor Bell, Major Sponsors RBC, L'Oréal Paris and Visa, and Major Supporters Telefilm Canada and the Ontario Media Development Corporation.**

**Industry Happy Hour on September 8 is generously sponsored by Adobe Systems®**  
**Industry Happy Hour on September 9 is co-presented by D'Alessio Law Group**

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



**Industry Happy Hour on September 10 is generously presented by Telefilm Canada  
Industry Happy Hour on September 11 is generously sponsored by Amazon Video Direct  
Industry Happy Hour on September 12 is generously sponsored by SHOWTIME® DOCUMENTARY FILMS  
Industry Happy Hour on September 13 is generously sponsored by Ontario Media Development Corporation**

**Special thanks to DGC Ontario for their support**

**TIFF Industry Conference Dialogues programme is generously supported by the OMDC**

**Doc Conference is presented by SHOWTIME® DOCUMENTARY FILMS**

**The Short Cuts programme is presented by IWC Schaffhausen**

**Breakfast with TIFF events are variously hosted by Canada Media Fund, Caribbean Tales, CinemaChile, German Films, National Film & Video Foundation South Africa, Finnish Film Foundation, NZ Film Commission and Telefilm Canada.**

**-30-**

For information, contact Karina Thevenin, Festival Publicist, at 416.599.8433 ext 2688 or email [kthevenin@tiff.net](mailto:kthevenin@tiff.net).

For information, contact the Communications Department at 416.934.3200 or email [proffice@tiff.net](mailto:proffice@tiff.net).

For images visit the media site at [tiff.net/press](http://tiff.net/press).

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