

**HOT DOCS FORUM ANNOUNCES
19 CANADIAN AND INTERNATIONAL PROJECT SELECTIONS
SHAW MEDIA-HOT DOCS FUNDS TO AWARD PITCH PRIZE**

For immediate release

Toronto, March 9, 2016 – Hot Docs is pleased to announce the 19 projects that will be presented during this year's Hot Docs Forum. Recognized as North America's essential market for the international documentary community, the Hot Docs Forum will take place the mornings of Tuesday, May 3 and Wednesday, May 4, during the 2016 edition of Hot Docs, April 28 to May 8. This year's projects represent 16 different countries and were selected from over 200 submissions.

"We want to congratulate this year's incredibly diverse projects, which showcase a plethora of unique topics and extraordinary protagonists for the consideration of the community of decision makers. Further, we are so proud that the 19 projects that make up the 2016 Hot Docs Forum include representation from 16 countries, 11 female directors, and 26 female producers," says Hot Docs industry programmer and Forum producer Dorota Lech.

"The Hot Docs Forum is the keystone industry event for documentary in North America," says Hot Docs industry programs director Elizabeth Radshaw. "This year's selected projects and attendees reflect the outstanding and outspoken stories for which Hot Docs has become known for."

Attended by over 500 leading industry professionals, the Forum is focused around a schedule of pre-selected international project presentations made to a roundtable of key international commissioning editors and an observers gallery composed of fellow producers, distributors, sales agents, funders and other buyers. Participating decision makers confirmed to date include Amazon, ARTE, ARD-WDR, BBC Storyville, Discovery Communications, CANAL+, Channel 4, CNN Films, Condé Nast Entertainment Group Digital, DR Danish Broadcasting, EBS, FOX International Channels, HBO, ITVS, ARD-MDR, MTV, Netflix, NHK, NY Times Op-Docs, Participant Media, PBS-WNET, POV, Shaw Media, Showtime, Super Channel, Sundance Institute, SVT Sveriges Television, TVOntario, Vimeo, YLE, ZDF, and many more.

For the eighth consecutive year, the Shaw Media-Hot Docs Funds Hot Docs Forum Pitch Prize will be awarded to the best Canadian pitch at the event, as determined by a committee of international (non-Canadian) commissioning editors in attendance. The winner will receive a \$10,000 cash prize to be used toward the production and completion budget for their project.

The Cuban Hat Award will return to the 2016 Hot Docs Forum, continuing with their "real cash, no strings attached" prize. All the money raised over the two days of the event will be given to the observers' favourite pitch, as determined by ballot. The Entertainment One Mounties' Hat Pitch gives Hot Docs Forum observers the chance to secure a last minute presentation slot during the event. A business card will be drawn and the individual will be granted the available 2016 pitch slot.

The following projects will be presented at this year's Hot Docs Forum:

AMERICAN MONSTER

Production Company: Yellowbelly Films, LLC (USA)

Hot Docs is a charitable, not-for-profit organization committed to advancing the art of documentary and supporting opportunities for independent filmmakers.

Director: Patricia E. Gillespie

BILLY

Production Companies: Parabola Films, Little By Little Films (Canada, United Kingdom)
Director: Lindsey Dryden

DISASTER CAPITALISM

Production Company: Media Stockade Pty Ltd (Australia)
Director: Thor Neureiter

DOLPHIN MAN

Production Companies: Anemon Productions, Storyline Entertainment, Les Films du Balibari (Greece, Canada, France)
Director: Lefteris Charitos

DOZHD', IT'S RAINING ON MOSCOW

Production Company: Petit à Petit Production (France)
Director: Alexandra Sollogoub

EATING UP EASTER

Production Companies: Mara Films, LLC, Kartemquin Films (USA, Chile)
Director: Sergio Rapu

FAMILY IN THE BUBBLE

Production Companies: Documoon, Shangma Pictures, napafilms ltd. (South Korea, Finland)
Director: Minji Ma

HAPPY WINTER

Production Companies: Indyca S.n.c., Zenit Arti Audiovisive (Italy)
Director: Giovanni Totaro

MUDFLOW

Production Company: Cynthia Wade Productions, Inc. (USA)
Directors: Cynthia Wade, Sasha Friedlander

OBJECTIVE: CHANGE THE WORLD

Production Company: Structure Films (USA)
Directors: David Alvarado, Jason Sussberg

OVER THE LIMIT

Production Companies: Telemark, Ventana-Film GmbH. (Poland, Germany)
Director: Marta Prus

RULES TO LIVE BY

Production Company: Little Darkroom Films, LLC (USA)
Director: Hope Litoff

THE ACCIDENTAL KING

Production Company: Made in Copenhagen (Denmark)
Directors: Emil Langballe, Lukasz Konopa

THE JUDGE

Production Company: Idle Wild Films, Inc. (USA)
Director: Erika Cohn

THE LAST ANIMALS

Production Company: Atlas Films (USA)
Director: Kate Brooks

THE PATRIOT

Production Companies: T.T.V Productions Ltd., One Man Show (Israel)
Directors: Daniel Sivan, Alon Sahar

PROJECT LOVE - Working Title

Production Company: Pulse Films (United Kingdom)
Director: Tim Travers-Hawkins

YOGHURT UTOPIA

Production Companies: Chimerica Media, Massa D'or Produccions (United Kingdom, Spain)
Directors: David Baksh, Anna Thomson

SHOWGIRLS OF PAKISTAN

Production Company: Nomad Films Inc. (Canada, Pakistan)
Director: Saad Khan

Hot Docs will also be announcing projects selected for its one-on-one pitch program Hot Docs Deal Maker in early April, taking place May 3 to 5.

The Hot Docs Forum wishes to thank founding partner Telefilm Canada, and presenting partner Rogers Group of Funds for their generous support. The Hot Docs Forum receives additional support from the Ontario Media Development Corporation, C21 Media, Blue Ice Group, Realscreen, Bell Fund, Gardiner Roberts LLP, Shaw Media, Indiewire, A&E, Entertainment One, Shutterstock, Bell Media, Vimeo, and City of Toronto.

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Hot Docs (www.hotdocs.ca), North America's largest documentary festival, conference and market, will present its 23rd annual edition from April 28 – May 8, 2016. An outstanding selection of approximately 200 documentaries from Canada and around the world will be presented to Toronto audiences and international delegates. Hot Docs will also mount a full roster of conference sessions and market events and services for documentary practitioners, including the renowned Hot Docs Forum, Hot Docs Deal Maker and The Doc Shop. In partnership with Blue Ice Group, Hot Docs operates the Bloor Hot Docs Cinema, a century-old landmark located in Toronto's Annex neighbourhood.



PRESS RELEASE

Hot Docs is proud to include Scotiabank as its Presenting Platinum Partner, Bell Media, CBC Docs, and Rogers Group of Funds as its Presenting Partners, and Telefilm Canada and the Government of Ontario as its Major Supporters.

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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.

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