



RENCONTRES INTERNATIONALES
DU DOCUMENTAIRE DE MONTRÉAL
MONTREAL INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL

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RIDM announces 10 films from the 17th edition Including the new documentary by Martin Scorsese and an anniversary screening of *Stop Making Sense*

Montreal, Monday, September 22, 2014 – The **Montreal International Documentary Festival (RIDM)** is happy to announce ten titles from the festival's non-competitive sections before the announcement of the full program for the 17th edition, to be held from November 12 to 23.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

The Special Presentations section includes recent works by master filmmakers, and important films that have generated excitement throughout the year on the international festival circuit. This year's special presentations include *The 50 Year Argument* by **Martin Scorsese**, co-directed by **David Tedeschi**, presented at Sheffield Doc/Fest and TIFF. This film about the legendary *New York Review of Books* examines the ways in which the magazine's writers and editors have commented on current affairs over the years.

Canadian director **Ron Mann**'s new film is *Altman*, a biography of one of the most talented, anti-conformist American filmmakers of all time, the late Robert Altman. Thanks to his passion for art and popular culture, Mann is perfectly suited to explore Altman's life and work with a fine balance of insight, humour and affection. Working with an extraordinary trove of archival materials and interviews with Altman's family and colleagues, Mann has created a fluid, intimate portrait.

HORIZONS, TERRITORIES AND AGAINST THE GRAIN

The Horizons section, which chronicles current affairs, includes *L'Empreinte* by **Yvan Dubuc** and **Carole Poliquin**. The directors followed Roy Dupuis as he set out in search of Québécois identity and his personal influences. He talks to historians and aboriginal people about the evolution of Quebecers' historic relationship with the First Nations, and how aboriginal peoples shaped the fundamental values of the French-Canadian people, who have nevertheless denied this legacy for 150 years. One of the international entries in the section is *Moug* by **Ahmed Nour**, which premiered at the Annecy international animation festival. At once a poetic animated film and an incisive, sensitive documentary, this hybrid film looks into post-revolutionary disillusionment in the city of Suez, Egypt.

Territories is a section for films that document the human-environment relationship. This year's selection includes the first feature by **Mark Grieco**, *Marmato*. Made over a six-year period, this documentary chronicles the struggle of the residents of Marmato, Colombia – a gold-rush boomtown – against a Canadian company planning to dig an open-pit mine. The film is presented in collaboration with UQAM's Cœur des sciences. Also featured in Territories is *The Stone River* by **Giovanni Donfrancesco**, winner of the award for best documentary at the Rome Film Festival and of the youth award at Cinéma du réel. The documentary transports us to Barre, Vermont, where residents bring to life the testimonials of Italian immigrant stone workers of a century ago, who had settled there to work the granite quarries and in many cases succumbed to silicosis. A superb, haunting film.

The Against the Grain section presents bold works that shatter our preconceptions about popular and underground culture. This year, the section is more aptly named than ever thanks to the shocking *Atlas* by internationally acclaimed French photographer **Antoine d'Agata**. The film is a global tour of the world of pain and pleasure, in which the filmmaker presents the confessions of the prostitutes and addicts he spends time with on his frequent travels. Both cheered and booed when it was shown at CPH:DOX, this third film by D'Agata presents a uniquely radical vision of the dark underbelly of the human soul.

BEAT DOX

Now in its second year, Beat Dox presents the best of music documentaries. *La muse errante* by **Tamás Wormser** travels the world in search of today's most inspired and influential musicians of the Jewish diaspora. Klezmer, tango, hip-hop, jazz, flamenco, East African and Central Asian folk music: there is no musical genre that the world's Jewish communities have not adopted and contributed to, combining the sacred and the

profane, the liturgical and the popular, the traditional and the modern. Audiences will also have the chance to see a 30th anniversary screening of ***Stop Making Sense*** by **Jonathan Demme**, made in 1984 when Talking Heads were at their creative and commercial peak. It is one of the finest concert films of all time, and an essential record of the band's incredible on-stage energy, particularly that of frontman David Byrne. The perfect excuse to dig up some colourful clothes and party like it's 1984!

DOC UX (formerly DOCS 2.0)

After two years as Docs 2.0, the RIDM's interactive section is being refreshed and revitalized as Doc UX, the better to reflect the type of work featured in the section. These webdocs, installations and interactive games all put the user at the centre of the interactive experience, hence the new name. This year's works include **CLOUDS** by **James George** and **Jonathan Minard**. An immersive journey using the Oculus Rift virtual reality headset, CLOUDS is a reflection on the fluid boundaries between digital art, information technology, video games and cinema.

Quebec's only film festival dedicated to documentaries, the Montreal International Documentary Festival presents the best reality-based films, including the works of established directors and new talents.

The 17th annual RIDM will take place from November 12 to 23, 2014.

Information: www.ridm.qc.ca / info@ridm.qc.ca

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The complete RIDM program, including more than 140 documentaries from Canada and around the world, will be announced at a press conference on Tuesday, October 22 at 10 a.m. at the Cinémathèque québécoise. It will be released online the same day.

For further information please contact:

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