



RENCONTRES INTERNATIONALES
DU DOCUMENTAIRE DE MONTRÉAL
MONTREAL INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL

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**November 12 to 22, the RIDM presents
two major retrospectives:
Thom Andersen and “A Photographer’s Eye”**

Montreal, Wednesday, August 5, 2015 – During the 18th annual **Montreal International Documentary Festival (RIDM)**, to be held from November 12 to 22, two major retrospectives will highlight acclaimed filmmakers and photographers.

THOM ANDERSEN

This year, the RIDM wanted to salute an essential figure in contemporary documentary cinema: the filmmaker, critic and educator **Thom Andersen**. Often compared to such directors as Chris Marker, Harun Farocki and Jean-Luc Godard, his approach is grounded in the expert and distinctive use of archival stills and film excerpts. Driven by an inquisitive, independent spirit, Andersen’s films explore numerous topics, such as the sad legacy of the artists blacklisted during the McCarthy era, Deleuze’s philosophy of cinema, or the on-screen representation of his beloved Los Angeles, a city he knows better than anyone. In Andersen’s work, each image carries political weight, and cinema becomes a prime vantage point for improving our understanding of the world.

A PHOTOGRAPHER’S EYE

The RIDM will also present, in collaboration with the Cinémathèque québécoise, a program titled “**A Photographer’s Eye**,” a series of films built on the theme of the photographic image. The festival has invited the filmmaking and photography team of Melanie Shatzky and Brian M. Cassidy (*The Patron Saints, Francine*) to select documentary films directed by great photographers, as well as films with an aesthetic influenced by still photography. In all, around 20 titles of various lengths, from several countries and eras, will illustrate the fascinating relationship between still and moving images. The line-up will include top filmmakers and photographers such as Helen Levitt, Ed van der Elsken, William Klein, Agnès Varda, Johan van der Keuken, JH Engström, Roger Ballen and Jem Cohen, as well as Canadian artists including Arthur Lipsett, Guy Borremans, Michel Lamothe and Donigan Cumming.

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 18th annual RIDM will take place from November 12 to 22, 2015.

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

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