

A strong start to the RIDM's second week!

Montreal, November 18, 2015 – The 18th annual Montreal International Documentary Festival continues its second week with numerous exclusive screenings and prominent guests. ***Olmo and the Seagull*** by **Petra Costa** and **Lea Glob** will bring the festival to a close on **Saturday, November 21**, followed by the closing party at RIDM Headquarters with live music from Gold Zebra, Hologramme and The Goods Soundsystem.

One of the week's most memorable events is sure to be the **guest lecture** by composer **Jóhann Jóhannsson** on **November 21 at 2:15 p.m.** at Concordia University's Alumni Auditorium. The winner of the Golden Globe for Best Original Score for *The Theory of Everything*, Jóhannsson is also known for his work on **Denis Villeneuve's** films. The filmmaker will also attend the presentation, where Jóhannsson and Villeneuve will discuss their unique working relationship as well as the broader issues involved in scoring films. The event is free and open to all.

Anna Roussillon (*I Am the People*), **Sara Fattahi** (*Coma*), **Abbas Fahdel** (*Homeland - Iraq Year Zero*) and **Andrew Köttling** (*By Our Selves*) will all attend to present their films, all of which are part of the **International Feature Film competition**. *I Am the People* (*Je suis le peuple*) is a human, funny and empathetic look at the Egyptian revolution as seen from a village in the Luxor Valley, 700 km from Cairo. *Coma* follows the private drama of three generations of women who are forced into seclusion in a Damascus apartment by the Syrian civil war. Both intimate and epic, *Homeland (Iraq Year Zero)* is a chronicle of daily life in Iraq before and after the U.S. invasion of 2003. *By Our Selves* invites us to discover the life and vision of John Clare, a 19th century English poet, with a hallucinatory ramble through the English countryside and mind-bending, erudite conversations about Clare's legacy.

Many directors of films in the medium-length selection will also present their works this week. **Khalik Allah** will be on hand for *Field Niggas*, a strikingly beautiful portrait of poverty in Harlem, filmed at night at the corner of 125th Street and Lexington Avenue. **Alexandra Laffin** and **Nicolas Boone** will be at the festival to present, respectively, *Au Secours*, which follows the employees of the Télé-Secours hotline who take calls from elderly people in distress, and *Psaume*, a surprising and fascinating story, somewhere between ethnography, performance and fantasy. In *Bring Me the Head of Tim Horton*, **Guy Maddin**, **Galen Johnson** and **Evan Johnson** document the filming of Paul Gross's latest film. Galen Johnson will present the film, surely the wildest making-of movie of all time.

Several makers of works in the **Panorama section** will also be at the festival this week. **Farid Eslam** will join us for the screening of his Beat Dox selection, *Yallah! Underground*, which examines the hopes, dreams and disillusionments of a generation through interviews with musicians from Lebanon, Egypt, Palestine, Jordan and Israel. **Marianne Lambert** will present her film *I Don't Belong Anywhere - Le cinéma de Chantal Akerman*, a moving tribute to the work of the recently deceased filmmaker. Presented in the Portraits section, with director **Arturo Gonzalez Villasenor** in attendance, *All of Me (Llévate mis amores)* follows the everyday lives of the Patronas, a group of Mexican women who provide meals to migrants riding the train to the U.S. border.

The festival will close with the Canadian premiere of *Olmo and the Seagull* by Brazilian director **Petra Costa** and Danish director **Lea Glob**. The screening will be the film's Canadian premiere, following a successful world premiere at the Locarno Festival. *Olmo and the Seagull* follows Olivia who, for more than ten years, has led an actress's bohemian life at the Théâtre du Soleil in Paris, where she met her boyfriend, Serge. As complex and intense emotions dominate the last six months of her pregnancy,

and the couple's love is put to the test, the two artists turn to a game combining fiction and documentary, sharing their daily lives filled with doubt, worry and joy. The film will be followed by the **closing party at the RIDM headquarters**, 3450 Saint-Urbain St., with music by Hologramme, The Goods Soundsystem and Gold Zebra, creators of the RIDM's trailer music.

The 18th edition of the RIDM will take place from November 12 to 22, 2015 at Cinéma du Parc, Cinéma Excentris, Cinémathèque québécoise, Concordia University, Pavillon Judith-Jasmin Annexe (UQAM) and RIDM Headquarters (3450 St. Urbain Street).

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

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Media are cordially invited to attend the Closing Ceremony, please RSVP to:
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