



PRESS RELEASE  
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## Forum RIDM is heading to Cannes virtually!

For a third year Docs-in-Progress - Canadian Showcase  
is featured at Cannes Docs - Marché du Film de Cannes 2021



*From left to right and top to bottom : Félix Dufour-Laperrière, Miryam Charles, Rosalie Chicoine Perreault, Jacquelyn Mills, Lesley Johnson, Fazila Amiri, Heather Hatch, Ava Karvonen.*

**Montreal, Wednesday, June 9, 2021** – For the third year in a row, **Telefilm Canada**, in partnership with **Forum RIDM** and in collaboration with the **Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival** (Toronto), is proud to announce the venue of Docs-in-Progress – Canadian Showcase.

This year's [Marché du Film at the Cannes Festival](#) will take place in a hybrid format **from July 6 to 15, 2021**. The 2021 online edition of [Cannes Docs](#) will include 8 showcases from different countries, each composed of four docs-in-progress, presented in a pitch format followed by a 10-minute excerpt from the film. The Canadian Showcase will virtually take place on Tuesday, July 6 from 4:15 to 5:30 p.m. (France time) and on site on Friday July 9 starting 11:45 a.m. (France time). The event will allow the producers and directors of the four Canadian works to pitch their films to an audience of buyers, distributors, festival programmers and international sales agents.

Leading up to the event, Forum RIDM will provide pitch training to each project's representatives and provide personalized guidance for their online presentations. It will be an excellent opportunity for the producers and filmmakers to present an excerpt, give a presentation and launch their films on the international market.

## Here are the projects selected for Docs-in-Progress – Canadian Showcase 2021:

### ***This House***

Director: Miryam Charles

Producer: Félix Dufour-Laperrière ([EmbuscadeFilms](#))

**Miryam Charles** is a director, producer, and director of photography living in Montreal. She has produced and photographed several short fiction films as well as feature films. She is also the director of several short films which have been presented in various festivals in Quebec and internationally. She is currently working on her first feature-length documentary *This House* (Talents en vue, SODEC) on short fiction film *Au crépuscule* (SODEC créateurs émergents), a fantastic series *X* (Banff/Netflix Diversity of Voices + Trio Orange) as well as a feature-length fiction film *Le Marabout* (La Forge Québec Cinéma/Netflix + Voyelles Films).

Born in 1981, in Chicoutimi, Quebec, **Félix Dufour-Laperrière** is a director, screenwriter and producer. His work, which shows a constant tension between narrative and formal exploration, maintains a close connection with the visual and contemporary arts. His films, including the documentary *Transatlantic* (2014), have been screened in numerous major national and international festivals, museums, and events, where they have won several awards. He is now starting the production of his third animated feature film, *Death Does Not Exist*.

### ***Geographies of Solitude***

Director and producer: Jacquelyn Mills

Producer: Rosalie Chicoine Perreault

**Jacquelyn Mills'** work explores the healing and transformative qualities of the natural world. Her current feature-length documentary *Geographies of Solitude* is supported by Sundance Documentary Fund. This film was created with a scope of immersive and innovative eco-friendly filmmaking techniques. Her first documentary *In the Waves* premiered at Visions du Réel, was awarded Grand Jury Prize (NHIFF), Best Medium-Length Documentary (RIDM), Best Documentary and Best Edit (FIN), and released at TIFF's Lightbox Series.

After studying cultural production at UQAM and finishing a specialized graduate diploma in management at HEC, **Rosalie Chicoine Perreault** begins her career in cinema by accumulating various experiences in production. In 2019, she starts working at Metafilms as a producers' assistant. As of last year, she began developing projects as an emerging producer and now count 7 films to her credits.

### ***Song She Sings In Shadows***

Director and producer: Fazila Amiri ([www.fazilaamiri.ca](http://www.fazilaamiri.ca))

Producer: Lesley Johnson

**Fazila Amiri** is an Afghan-Canadian director and producer based in Toronto. She holds an MFA degree in Film Production from York University (2019) and a BFA in Film Studies from NSCAD University (2012). As an independent filmmaker, her short films *The Red Bicycle* (2020), *Unknown Artist* (2018), and *The Photograph* (2017) have been shown in the 2020 Canadian Film Fest, 2018 Hot Docs International Canadian Documentary Festival, and Atlantic Film Festival. Currently, Fazila is in post-production of her feature documentary film *Songs She Sings In Shadows* through the Telefilm Canada's Talent to Watch program.

**Lesley Johnson** is a producer based in Toronto whose work focuses on intimate stories that connect personal transformation with environment and culture. She holds an MFA in Film Production from York University, is an alumnus of RIDM's Talent Lab, Breakthrough Program and Sundance's Documentary Collab program. As a producer, her projects have appeared on CBC, APTN, and been selected for TIFF and Canada's Top Ten. Her films have won awards and screened at international festivals.

## ***Wochiigii lo, End of the Peace***

Director: Heather Hatch

Producer: Ava Karvonen (Della & Goliath Productions)

**Heather Hatch** is a mixed-race filmmaker whose focus is on writing and directing films that explore female and Indigenous stories. Her first documentary, *Woman Who Returns*, explores themes of re-matriation and identity - premiering at the Edmonton International Film Festival and seven international festivals.. Heather is the first recipient from the Gil Cardinal Legacy Fund and was a top six selection to the Whistler Film Festival's 2018 Indigenous Accelerator film program for her short film, *Wrecked*. She was accepted to the 2019 Hot Docs Accelerator and the Netflix Diversity Banff Fellowship for the feature length documentary, *Wochiigii lo, End of the Peace*.

**Ava Karvonen** is the founder of Reel Girls Media and has been internationally recognized for 35 years with over 100 films screened worldwide and more than 50 awards and nominations to her credit. So far, her society has produced 7 series. She recently produced the critically acclaimed documentary, *Finding Bobbi*, a story of a woman who returns to stage 20 years after last performing as a man. She directed seasons 1 & 2 of *Chaos and Courage* for APTN, the CBC special, *Keeping Canada Alive, Homefront* (with media embedded in Afghanistan) and *Seeds of Change* (taking her to China). Ava has mentored 35 filmmakers with the National Screen Institute.

### **About [Telefilm Canada](#)**

Telefilm is dedicated to the cultural, commercial and industrial success of Canada's audiovisual industry. Through funding and promotion programs, Telefilm supports dynamic companies and creative talent at home and around the world. Telefilm also makes recommendations regarding the certification of audiovisual coproduction treaties to the Minister of Canadian Heritage, and administers the programs of the Canada Media Fund. Launched in 2012, the Talent Fund accepts private donations which principally support emerging talent. Visit [telefilm.ca](http://telefilm.ca) and follow us on Twitter at [twitter.com/telefilm\\_canada](https://twitter.com/telefilm_canada) and on Facebook at [facebook.com/TelefilmCanada](https://facebook.com/TelefilmCanada).

### **About [Hot Docs](#)**

Hot Docs, North America's largest documentary festival, conference and market, is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to advancing and celebrating the art of documentary and to creating production opportunities for documentary filmmakers. Year-round, Hot Docs supports the Canadian and international industry with professional development programs and a multi-million-dollar production fund portfolio, and fosters education through documentaries with its popular free program Docs For Schools. Hot Docs owns and programs Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema, a century-old landmark located in Toronto's Annex neighbourhood and the world's first and largest documentary cinema, and operates Hot Docs at Home streaming platform.

### **About [Forum RIDM](#)**

Since 2004, Forum RIDM, Quebec's documentary forum co-founded with Doc Québec, has supported and stimulated independent documentary production, enabling discussions among professionals, artists, producers, distributors and exhibitors of every stripe. Now taking place over five days, Forum RIDM has enhanced its program with mentorship initiatives (Talent Lab) and professional sessions that take an active role in the creation of new documentaries and the training of new talent.

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### **Information:**

Caroline Rompré | Publicist | RIDM | 514-778-9294

[caroline@pixellex.ca](mailto:caroline@pixellex.ca)

Andréane Leblanc | Public Relations Advisor – marché francophone | Téléfilm Canada | 438-469-1204

[andreane.leblanc@telefilm.ca](mailto:andreane.leblanc@telefilm.ca)

Andrea Smitko | Media Relations Manager | Hot Docs | | 416-203-2155 ext. 292

[asmitko@hotdocs.ca](mailto:asmitko@hotdocs.ca)