

QUÉBEC CINÉMA

For immediate release

ANNOUNCING THE PROGRAM OF THE 34th ANNUAL RENDEZ-VOUS DU CINÉMA QUÉBÉCOIS

Get up close and personal with your movies!

Montreal, February 3, 2016 – Québec Cinéma is pleased to announce the program of the **34th annual Rendez-vous du cinéma québécois** (RVCQ), the only festival dedicated exclusively to films made in Quebec. With this year's spokesperson, actress **Pascale Bussièrès**, the festival will showcase our cinema's many and diverse voices with a selection as judicious as it is extensive of **330 films**, including **125 premieres**. There will be **30 free events**, providing still more opportunities for audiences and filmmakers to get together and celebrate. This year's festival, presented by the **SAQ** in collaboration with **Radio-Canada**, is a unique opportunity for audience members to rub elbows with the people behind the films, be entertained, moved, inspired to think, and celebrate all together, all at once. The festival will take place from **February 18 to 27**.

The 34th RVCQ is dedicated to **Denis Héroux** (1940-2015), a Québécois director and producer who earned many accolades in Quebec and around the world. He received numerous honours and nominations (Oscars, Golden Globes, Génie, César, Order of Canada, among others). His extensive credits include director of *Valérie* (1969) and producer of *Atlantic City* (1980) by Louis Malle, *Les Plouffe* (1981) by Gilles Carle and *Le Matou* (1985) by Jean Beaudin. More recently, he taught at the Université de Montréal before founding the Observatoire du cinéma au Québec, a university-based organization whose mission is to encourage discussion and partnerships among various players, both students and professionals.

"Following the path of pioneer director and producer Denis Héroux, who contributed enormously to the development of Quebec's film industry, we wanted the Rendez-vous du cinéma québécois' 34th edition to be the perfect occasion for the public and artists to meet, for everything to be set for in-depth discussions and for our cinema and activities to go beyond our frontiers. This is what will offer the "4 écrans" program, the Rendez-vous Pro, the round tables, the Masterclasses (*Leçons de cinéma*) and all those special meetings between the public and artists during the different screenings. In light of this, it is with great emotion that we are dedicating the next edition of the RVCQ to Mr. Denis Héroux", said Dominique Dugas, Director of the Rendez-vous du cinéma québécois.

The festival's screenings and activities will take place at the **Cinémathèque québécoise**, **Cineplex Odeon Quartier Latin**, **BANQ**, **pavillon Judith-Jasmin Annexe** at UQAM, **Cinéma Impérial** and **Théâtre Outremont**, as well as in the **Place des Festivals** and the **Espace Rendez-vous**, where interactive works will be presented. The **Bistro SAQ**, in Norman McLaren Hall at the Cinémathèque québécoise, will be the festival's hub for quiet get-togethers and lively evenings.

"If they drop by the Bistro, film buffs will have the opportunity to take part in theme evenings and to meet talented figures from the film industry," said Audrey Desbiens, Manager, Donations and Sponsorships, at the Société des alcools du Québec. "This year, makers of wines, ciders and other Quebec products will also be present to offer tastes of their wares. It will be a great way to raise a glass to Quebec artisans of every type!"

Radio-Canada is proud to co-present, for a seventh consecutive year, the Rendez-vous du cinéma québécois and to offer, with the festival, exceptional occasions for the public and our artists to meet. This celebration is an excellent showcase for our local productions", explains Marc Pichette, Director Public relations, Promotion and Partnerships.

SOIRÉES TAPIS BLEU

Presented by Bell, the **Soirées Tapis bleu** give the public privileged access to gala premieres of films, with members of the cast and crew present. Opening the festival, following a world premiere at the Berlin International Film Festival, is **Boris sans Béatrice**, the eagerly anticipated ninth feature film by Denis Côté. The film, starring James Hyndman, Simon-Élise Girard and French actor Denis Lavant, will have its Canadian première not only in Montreal, but simultaneously in Quebec City and Sherbrooke. This new feature of the festival, made possible by the support of the Société de développement des

entreprises culturelles (SODEC) and the Telefilm Canada Talent Fund as well as the participation of Bell and Livetoune, will allow film lovers at the Clap in Quebec and the Maison du Cinéma in Sherbrooke to experience all the excitement of the blue carpet, hosted by Anne-Marie Withenshaw, and to interact with the artists and professionals in attendance. Another film seen in Berlin, the first feature film by Chloé Leriche, **Avant les rues**, will close the festival with its North American première. **Copenhagen – A Love Story** by Philippe Lesage, **Cris sur le bayou** by Danic Champoux and **Montréal la Blanche** by Bachir Bensaddek complete the prestigious list of films in this year's Soirées Tapis bleu series.

DOCUMENTARY PREMIERES

This year's Rendez-vous boasts **31 documentary premieres** – including short, medium-length and feature films – presented by Télé-Québec. Among the films are **Montréal New Wave** by Érik Cimon and **Du hockey propre, la petite histoire d'un film culte** by Sarah Fortin and Christian Laurence, which will both be accompanied by special events, as well as **Capitaines des hauts-fonds** by Cédric Landry, **Le chant des étoiles** by Nadine Beaudet, **The India Space Opera** by Korbett Matthews, **Semeurs d'espoir en terres arides** by Helene Klodawsky, **Un américain, Portrait de Raymond Luc Levasseur** by Pierre Marier, **51 Malecón** by Jean-Guillaume Caplain and Francis Delfour, **Acadie Black & blanc** by Monique LeBlanc, **Le ballet de Philémon et Baucis** by Andrés Livov, **Cafétéria** by Francine Hébert, **Carol Prieur danseuse/ Dancer** **Compagnie Marie Chouinard** by Isabelle Hébert, **Cricket à Parc-Ex – Une histoire d'amour** by Garry Beitel, **Derome ou les turbulences musicales** by Richard Jutras, **Diane, Jacques, Raymonde** by Hubert Fiasse and Yannick Nolin, **Le goût des Belvas** by Stéphanie David, **Importation suks** by Guinness Rider, **Les Indiens, l'aigle et le dindon** by Iphigénie Marcoux-Fortier and Karine van Ameringen, **Je me souviens** by the De la rue à votre écran collective, **Marguerita** by Paul Tana, **Old Processes Forgotten** by Sonya Stefan, **La petite acadienne** by Gabrielle Provost, **Quand ferme l'usine** by Simon Rodrigue, **Les sucriers** by Nicolas Paquet, **Un homme et son violon** by Guy St-Pierre, **Un pont entre deux mondes** by Pascal Gélinas, **La visite** by Pier-Philippe Chevigny, **Vita Activa : L'esprit de Hannah Arendt** by Ada Ushpiz and **Where the River Widens** by Zach Greenleaf.

SHORTS...

The RVCQ is also synonymous with short films. With 236 films in 30 programs presented by **Unis TV**, the festival is the world's biggest showcase for Quebec-made shorts. Premieres include **Caméra chaos** by Rémi Fréchette, **Chérie (quand je pense à toi)** by Daniel Karolewicz, **Ships** by Alexandre Auger and **La magnifique machine** by Luc Chamberland. Also screening are shorts in the running for the 18th annual Jutra Awards: **Bleu Tonnerre** by Jean-Marc E. Roy and Philippe David Gagné, **Star** by Émilie Mannering, **Sonámbulo** by Theodore Ushev, **Ma crise cardiaque** by Sheldon Cohen and **Squame** by Nicolas Brault. The importance given to short films at the festival also makes it possible to get a preview of the talents of tomorrow with **27 student films** presented by **La Fabrique culturelle** and **Métro** newspaper. Recognizing the vitality of the short film in Quebec, the RVCQ will present a new official competition that will recognize the year's best works in several categories. 47 films are in the running, and the winners will be announced at the *Prends ça court!* gala on February 24.

AWARDS AND NEW TROPHY

The awards presented by the RVCQ are cherished by professionals as a form of recognition and encouragement that can have a real impact on a career. Nine awards will be presented this year by the festival, including the prestigious Prix Gilles-Carle, presented by Bell, and the Prix Pierre et Yolande Perrault, presented for the first time by the ARRQ. For this 34th RVCQ, a new trophy was designed by the Montreal-based multidisciplinary firm **Nouveau Studio**. The work combines different types of wood representing diversity, vitality and richness, while stone evokes the steadiness, strength, pride and enduring quality of our cinema. The trophy is emblematic of our artists' intense pride in their work.

BEST MADE-IN-QUEBEC INTERACTIVE WORKS

The Rendez-vous du cinéma québécois also takes an interest in interactive productions made here. Four works will be presented by their creators: **Life on Hold** by Ralph Fayad, **Minotaur** by Munro Ferguson, **Necropolis : La ville des fantômes** by Olivier Asselin and **Le photographe inconnu** by Loïc Suty. And RVCQ festivalgoers will be the world's first audience to experience the immersive virtual reality project **Fated : The Silent Oath** by **Frima Studio**.

... AND FEATURES!

From box office hits to underground gems, the RVCQ presents a superb overview of the year in feature films with 46 fictional features. There are also 34 documentaries, presented by Télé-Québec. Together, they represent a great chance to see or get a second look at the best movies of 2015 on the big screen. Movie lovers will also have the chance to meet and discuss with the people who make the films.

RENDEZ-VOUS AVEC LES JUTRA

Hosted by Pénélope McQuade, Stéphane Bellavance and cultural commentator Stéphane Leclair, and presented by Cineplex and Radio-Canada, the **Rendez-vous avec les Jutra** series gives audiences the chance to see the five finalists for the Jutra for best feature film and to meet the filmmakers. The awards ceremony will be held on March 20.

A CONCERT-SCREENING NOT TO BE MISSED

Lost Soul, the movie by Anik Jean and Jean-François Bergeron, will be presented in grand premier in a concert-screening event on February 24 at the Théâtre Outremont. Joined by her five musicians, Anik Jean will launch her new album, which has the same title, and the movie simultaneously, offering the unique experience of hearing live the movie's soundtrack.

FESTIVAL 4 ÉCRANS: THE RVCQ ACROSS QUEBEC

The 4 écrans program, the RVCQ's digital section, gives people everywhere in Quebec the opportunity to enjoy the festival. It includes some of the year's best films available on television, computers, smartphones and tablets, along with live webcasts of the festival's big events. New this year: internet users will have access to exclusive live interviews with the makers of films being shown at the RVCQ. The 4 écrans initiative, launched to extend the reach of the RVCQ, is made possible by the support of the Telefilm Canada Talent Fund and by partnerships with Bell, ICI Tou.tv and Livetoune. Complete program: rvcq.quebeccinema.ca/4ecrans

GET CLOSER TO THE ARTISTS

The 34th Rendez-vous du cinéma québécois includes several series of activities that will allow the public to get close to the people behind our films. Several **master classes (Leçons de cinéma)** will give festivalgoers an in-depth look at the creative process as seen by some of the film community's most inspiring people. These privileged sessions with exceptional artists include a master class by festival spokesperson **Pascale Bussières**, a towering figure in today's Quebec cinema. The Association des réalisateurs et réalisatrices du Québec (ARRQ) will present master classes by **Jean-François Rivard** and **François Létourneau**, the creators of two famously innovative series, *Les invincibles* and *Série noire*, and by **Philippe Falardeau**, the director of *Congorama*, *Monsieur Lazhar* and most recently *Guibord s'en va-t-en guerre*. Note that Mr. Rivard and Mr. Létourneau's master class will be available online on February 24 at ICI.Radio-Canada.ca/serienoire. Lastly, the UQAM media school will present a master class by **André Turpin**, an immensely talented cinematographer and director who will give a hands-on session focused on cinematography, taking a detailed step-by-step look at the making of a shot.

The **Rencontres avec les créateurs** series invites the public to meet the people behind the tremendous vitality of our film industry. The series includes several activities that take a closer look at cinema to help clarify the issues involved. First up is the **Prix collégial du cinéma québécois (PCCQ)**, the big annual gathering of the makers of five films and students representing 45 participating cegeps across Quebec. Two **Préludes**, hosted by Marie-Louise Arseneault and featuring directors and actors, will also be open to the curious: **Embrasse-moi comme tu m'aimes** by André Forcier and **Nelly** by Anne Émond.

This year, the **Grand rendez-vous télé Radio-Canada** will be a big-screen showing of the seventh episode of the network's flagship series **Les pays d'en haut**, followed by a Q&A with principal cast and crew including Vincent Leclerc, Sarah-Jeanne Labrosse, Julie Le Breton, Madeleine Péloquin, Sylvain Archambault, François Rozon, Anne-Elisabeth Bossé and Sophie Deschênes.

For the 11th year in a row, the RVCQ presents the **Grand rendez-vous avec la francophonie canadienne**. This series of activities is designed to highlight the best films and artists from francophone communities across Canada, and it also gives Franco-Canadian artists the opportunity to network with their peers in Quebec through the *Fauteuil réservé* initiative organized by the Front des réalisateurs indépendants du Canada (FRIC). This part of the program will culminate in the award for best Franco-Canadian work, presented by Unis TV. The event will also include a salute, with special guests and popping corks, to Winnipeg's **Cinémental** festival, celebrating its 25th anniversary this year.

The Fonds indépendant de production (FIP) invites festivalgoers to the third annual **Grande fête des webséries**, to celebrate and watch, with the creators, the series **Switch & Bitch**, **L'écrivain public**, **Les millionnaires**, **Marc-en-peluche**, and **Mouvement deluxe**.

Lastly, UQAM's DESS in film music program and the RVCQ present the end of the second edition of the **Concours international de composition de musique de film de Montréal** with the winner of the 2010 Grand Prix TD Jazz at the Festival International de Jazz de Montréal, **Parc X Trio**.

SOCIALLY RELEVANT EVENTS

The festival is also a space for pondering the issues facing our society. The program includes a pair of **round tables** exploring different aspects of Quebec's film industry. The first will look into **film education**, discussing the importance of cinematic education and the role of cinema in Quebec's primary and secondary schools. The second round table will discuss **diversity on screen**, delving into the controversial issue of cultural diversity in film and television. The RVCQ will also present a free screening of *Guibord s'en va-t-en guerre* by Philippe Falardeau at the **Maison du Père**, presented in collaboration with the Ville de Montréal and Culture Montréal.

Sustainability and the reduction of the festival's environmental footprint are important to the RVCQ. In order to remain a zero-emitter of greenhouse gases, guests will be transported by **Communauto**, official carrier, and by **VIA Rail**, a new festival partner. Again this year, festivalgoers who are Communauto car-sharing members or those who have an STM OPUS card can enjoy 2-for-1 tickets for regular festival screenings. In addition to transportation, the SAQ's bistro will serve drinks in glass rather than plastic and offer a selection of local products. Reusable Ecocup glasses (deposit applies) will also be available at the bar.

RENDEZ-VOUS POPCORN: ACTIVITIES FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

The RVCQ's Rendez-vous Popcorn is back for a second year with a **ton of free activities** for kids and parents. This is a big party for the whole family, and a chance to make your own cinema, presented by the Régie du cinéma in collaboration with INIS, Montréal pour Enfants and La Marelle. Activities include **screenings for all ages** and unique exploration workshops where children will, among other things, be invited to make a **stop-motion** film or learn about **on-screen fighting techniques**. The *Apprentis réalisateurs* competition will give kids a chance to visit the studios at the INIS and to write, shoot and edit a short film.

CELEBRATIONS AT THE RVCQ

The **Toronto International Film Festival** (TIFF) is North America's biggest film festival, and it's turning 40 this year. The Rendez-vous wanted to highlight TIFF's special connection with films from Quebec, and the artists and industry behind them. Among the activities will be an interview with **Piers Handling**, the festival's director since 1994, who has overseen the event's emergence as one of the world's most important cinematic events. The RVCQ has also given **carte blanche** to its Toronto colleagues to program a special series of five Quebec films that have made their mark at TIFF: *Continental, un film sans fusil* by Stéphane Lafleur, *Le Déclin de l'empire américain* by Denys Arcand, *La femme de l'hôtel* by Léa Pool, *Maelström* by Denis Villeneuve and *La neuvaïne* by Bernard Émond will be screened from February 21 to 25.

The RVCQ will also mark the **20th anniversary** of the opening of **INIS** and the **20th anniversary** of the **Regard sur le court** festival with an evening event presented by the Caisse de la culture. The festival is also celebrating **independent cinema in remote regions** with a cocktail reception presented by **Spira Film** and, preceding the screening of the feature film *Scratch*, a party (presented in collaboration with Filmoption International) celebrating cultural diversity with Samian, Wahlee Sparks, Dice B & Friends, Full Course, NARRA, Uni-verse-soul, Karma Atchykah, Dominique Laguë, DJ Horg, M-Mo, Amélie Prévost and Lights & Shadows.

EVENINGS AT BISTRO SAQ

This year, **Bistro SAQ** will have an all-new look! Festival headquarters have never been more inviting, thanks to the new design by **La Camaraderie**. The bar-lounge space is the perfect spot for festivalgoers to relax while waiting for a screening while **tasting** food and wine. Quebec's terroir will be front and centre, with products from La Face cachée de la pomme, Fou du Cochon, Sortilège, Porkshop, Domaine Labranche, Le Vignoble Cep d'Argent, Les Frères Miel and many more. Also new: the festival's **mixology** section sponsored by **Invasion Cocktail**, will bring together stars like Patrice Plante, Pierre Gadouas and Maxime Boivin. Get ready for plenty of delights in the festive atmosphere the RVCQ is famous for.

Movie lovers can also extend the fun with ten thrilling **nights** at the Bistro SAQ. The opening-night party, **Boris et Béatrice ont vu une soirée d'ouverture**, kicks off the 34th RVCQ with Eman & Vlooper, Poirier, Robert Nelson and Maybe Watson. **Uubbuurruu, Beechwood Park** and **Voyage Funktastique VS Canicule Tropicale** will get the crowd up and dancing (in collaboration with M pour Montréal). Following the premiere screening of *Montréal New Wave* by Érik Cimon, travel back to the golden years of a music trend that took Montreal by storm. On Sunday, there will be a party dedicated to our national sport with **Du hockey comme dans l'temps!**, starting with a game of street hockey, followed by the documentary *Du hockey propre : La petite histoire d'un film culte* and a screening of the Quebec version of *Slap Shot*. Discover the new instrumental project by Simon Trottier and Olivier Fairfield (Timber Timbre) with **Last Ex + guests** (in

collaboration with Suoni Per Il Popolo). Cajun culture will be in the spotlight during **Nuits sur le bayou** with **Barry Jean Ancelet** and **Sunny Duval** (presented by Canal D in collaboration with Urbania). The **13th Prends ça court! gala** will be hosted, once again, by Léane Labrèche-Dor and Pier-Luc Funk, to be followed by an underground-music show. CISM and the Rendez-vous will join forces for the **CISM's 25th anniversary party** with psychedelic and garage music by the great **Ponctuation, Paupière** and **Vulgaire**. It's all capped off with DJ sets by Sara + Sandrine of *Rave prémonitoire*, Romanne Blouin of *Nous sommes les rockers* and Étienne of *Rythmologie*. Kicking off the festival's final weekend is an event bringing together the Montreal and Toronto underground scenes with mesmerizing dance music from **Monolite** with **Jef Barbara, Gayance** and **Cousins** spinning soul, disco, glam, R'n'B and much more (in collaboration with Cult MTL). Lastly, the closing festivities of the RVCQ will kick-off at the Bistro SAQ with a special cocktail in presence of the artisans of *Avant les rues* by Chloé Leriche after the screening.

When **Nuit Blanche** enters the singular world of **Série noire**, you should expect to be amazed. Trivia, DJ set, surprise guests, spag' sauce... we won't tell all, but fans will love being transported into the wacky world of their heroes, Denis and Patrick, during this closing party of the RVCQ. The evening is presented by Radio-Canada in collaboration with Les Productions Casablanca, and hosted by **Sébastien Diaz** with the participation of the series' cast and crew: **François Létourneau, Jean-François Rivard, Vincent-Guillaume Otis, Marc Beaupré, Anne-Élisabeth Bossé, Hugo Dubé, Michel Laperrière, Élisabeth Locas, Olivier Morin** and **Martin-David Peters**

RETURN OF THE ELVIS GRATTON PICTURE SHOW

You don't mess with success! For this year's edition, the **Elvis Gratton Picture Show** movie event is going full Elvis-scale, moving to the **Place des Festivals**, on February 27 starting at 8 p.m., during **Nuit Blanche**. Wearing their finest Elvis (Gratton or Wong) costumes, audience members can swear loyalty to Augusto Ricochet, set their inner Linda free, and of course deliver the cult film's lines in unison. And don't forget your dancing boots – there's going to be a live set from **Misteur Valaire**. The event is directed by Louis Tremblay, presented by the Casino de Montréal and co-presented by Bell.

RENDEZ-VOUS PRO DU CINÉMA QUÉBÉCOIS

The 4th annual Rendez-vous Pro will take place from February 24 to 26. With the mission of facilitating meetings and discussion among local and foreign professionals, the Rendez-vous Pro supports the promotion of Quebec films to international programmers. As well as popular returning activities (Écrans du Québec, Grand Flirt, Speed Dating for directors and composers), the new **Interactive co-production sessions** will give members of the digital creation industry in Quebec and Europe the chance to network, discuss the issues and pitch their interactive projects to potential partners. Presented in collaboration with the Société de développement des entreprises culturelles (SODEC), Téléfilm Canada, the City of Montreal, the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications du Québec, the Secrétariat à la région métropolitaine, Frima, the Association Québécois de Production Médiatique (AQPM), Tourism Montreal, the Consultate General of France in Quebec, Goethe Institut, Wallimage, Wallonie-Bruxelles International, Solotech, the Saint-Sulpice Hôtel Montréal and Le Devoir.

NEW ADAPTIVE WEBSITE FOR EXPLORING THE PROGRAM AND BUYING TICKETS!

The Rendez-vous du cinéma québécois invites movie lovers to start purchasing tickets today **with no service charge** via the festival's online box office at rvcq.quebeccinema.ca. It is now possible to put together a **custom schedule** online. The **printed schedule** is also available at SAQ outlets in Montreal and via the Publicité Sauvage network.

BY THE NUMBERS

34th edition | February 18 to 27 (**10 days**) | **400** guests (Quebec/international) | **330** films (fictional features, documentaries, fictional shorts, art and experimental films, animated films, student films) | **125** premieres | **1** outdoor screening event | **1** concert-screening | **30** free events

Keep informed about upcoming Québec Cinéma activities by following us on social media or visiting our website:

www.facebook.com/QcCinema / www.twitter.com/Qc_Cinema / www.quebeccinema.ca

New RVCQ info-line: 514-688-2064

Essential partnerships

The Rendez-vous du cinéma québécois extends warm thanks to the SAQ, presenting partner, Radio-Canada, co-presenting partner, Bell, Starring Role partner, and our Leading Role partners, Casino de Montréal, MELS, Cineplex and the Cinémathèque québécoise, and to Akufen and Ig2. The Rendez-vous du cinéma québécois also wishes to thank its public and government partners, the Société de développement des entreprises culturelles (SODEC), the Ministère du Tourisme, the Secrétariat aux affaires intergouvernementales canadiennes (SAIC), Secrétariat à la région métropolitaine (SRM), Régie du cinéma, Telefilm Canada, the Canada Council for the Arts, the Ville de Montréal, the Conseil des arts de Montréal and Tourisme Montréal.

About the Rendez-vous du cinéma québécois

By offering the most diverse possible selection of cinematic genres and approaches, for 33 years the Rendez-vous du cinéma québécois has been a unique talent incubator and meeting place. For ten days, some 400 artists and industry professionals join movie lovers and the general public to celebrate the Quebec films of today and tomorrow. With nearly 330 films, including 125 premieres, and 30 free activities from the cerebral to the celebratory, the Rendez-vous is an essential event on Quebec's film and festival calendars.

About Québec Cinéma

Québec Cinéma's mission is to promote Quebec's cinema and its artists and professionals, and to contribute to the advancement of our film industry. The organization is focused on improving access, education and awareness, reaching more than one million people in Quebec and around the world every year. Québec Cinéma produces the Jutra Awards, the Tournée du cinéma québécois and the Rendez-vous du cinéma québécois, and has an extensive educational outreach program.

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