

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: AUGUST 21, 2019

CINÉFEST SUDBURY ANNOUNCES CINEMA 9 PRIME TIME FILM SELECTIONS

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SUDBURY – Cinéfest Sudbury is excited to announce the selections of the Cinema 9 Prime Time programme that will screen at the 31st edition of Cinéfest Sudbury International Film Festival. This programme will provide more screening opportunities for Cinéfest’s avid filmgoers, while also showcasing a variety of highly sought-after films, including documentaries, thrillers, locally produced films and more!

Assholes: A Theory [John Walker, Canada, National Film Board of Canada, 2019]

With rampant narcissism threatening to trash civilization as we know it, the time has come for *Assholes: A Theory*, an entertaining and oh-so-timely new doc from acclaimed director John Walker. Built around a lively conversation with philosopher Aaron James, author of the New York Times bestseller of the same name, *Assholes: A Theory* investigates the breeding grounds of contemporary “asshole culture”—and locates a few hopeful signs of civility in an otherwise rude-’n-nasty universe.

Cunningham [Alla Kovgan, Germany/France/USA, ???, 2019]

2019 marks the centenary of legendary American choreographer Merce Cunningham. This poetic film traces Merce’s artistic evolution over three decades of risk and discovery (1944–1972), from his early years as a struggling dancer in postwar New York to his emergence as one of the most visionary and influential choreographers worldwide. The 3D technology weaves together Merce’s philosophies and stories, creating a visceral journey into the choreographer’s world.

Lepage au Soleil: À l’origine de Kanata [Hélène Choquette, Canada, Filmoption International, 2019]

In the spring of 2016, for the first time in 54 years, Ariane Mnouchkine entrusts her troupe, the Théâtre du Soleil, to another director: Robert Lepage. He embarks on the creation of *Kanata*, a work that imagines the meeting of Europeans with First Nations people of Canada over a period of two centuries. After more than two years of work, the rumor of a show about First Nations people without their direct involvement sparks debates in the Canadian media, and soon in Europe and the United States. Its creators are accused of cultural appropriation, while no one has even seen the show.

Mr. Toilet: The World’s #2 Man [Lily Zepeda, USA, The Film Collaborative, 2019]

What do you get when you cross an eccentric self-made man with a load of crap? Jack Sim. To a stranger, he’s a guy obsessed with toilets, but to those who know him, he’s “Mr. Toilet,” a crusader for global sanitation. Not having a place “to go” isn’t just an inconvenience; it’s a problem that impacts 2.4 billion people worldwide. In India alone, 200,000 children die each year from lack of safe sanitation. Jack’s kids describe him as a 12-year old trapped in a 60-year old’s body. He’s full of jokes and it can be hard to take him seriously. But, he uses humor as his weapon to fight an uphill battle against bathroom taboos.

She Never Died [Audrey Cummings, Canada, A71 Productions, 2019]

Starring: Olunike Adeliyi, Peter MacNeil, Michelle Nolden, Noah Danby, Lawrence Gowan

Lacey (Adeliyi) is a socially detached cannibal cursed with immortality. Being a biblical character, Lacey is not only burdened with everlasting life, but with the haunting memories of thousands of years of monstrous violence. After saving her estranged daughter from her criminal past, Lacey is now a wandering vagabond attempting to keep her supernatural compulsion in check. Confronting depraved sadists that reflect the similarities of her long life of destruction, Lacey must now defy her inner demons and strike a balance of revenge, responsibility, and her ability to wipe out the earth's most deplorable psychopaths.

The Weight of Water [Michael Brown, USA, 2018, Serac Films]

Having been the first blind person to reach the summit of Mount Everest in 2001, Erik Weihenmayer is no stranger to hard-earned success. In *The Weight of Water*, Erik tackles his next challenge, kayaking the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon. Filmmaker Michael Brown captures Erik's increasingly difficult fight through turbulent and dangerous rapids, while taking audiences on an emotional journey through struggle, despair, determination, and achievement.

All Cinema 9 Prime Time screenings will take place at SilverCity Sudbury Cinemas, located at 355 Barrydowne Rd.

The 31st edition of Cinéfest Sudbury International Film Festival runs from September 14 – 22, 2019.

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