

THE PEOPLE'S FESTIVAL  
C'EST VOTRE FESTIVAL  
14-22 SEP 2019

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**CINÉFEST SUDBURY ANNOUNCES FINAL SELECTIONS FOR THE 2019 SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS PROGRAM**

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SUDBURY – Cinéfest Sudbury is thrilled to announce final selections for the Special Presentations programme in the 31<sup>st</sup> edition of the festival. The Special Presentations program offers a diverse mix of high caliber comedies and dramas, and features some of the finest filmmakers from Canada and around the world.

***Antigone*** [Sophie Deraspe, Canada, 2019, Maison 4:3]

Starring: Nahéma Ricci, Nour Belkhiria, Rawad El-Zein, Rachida Oussaada, Antoine Desrochers, Paul Doucet

*Antigone* (Ricci) has adapted well to North American life and lives with her family in a working-class Montreal neighbourhood until tragedy strikes the family when her older brother is wrongfully gunned down by police during the arrest of her other brother. With one brother dead and the other in jail and threatened with expulsion to his country of origin, *Antigone* will defy the law to save what is left of her family.

***Bellbird*** [Hamish Bennett, New Zealand, 2019, LevelK]

Starring: Cohen Holloway, Rachel House, Marshall Napier, Annie Whittle

Ross (Napier) is a man of few words and when his wife Beth (Whittle) dies, so does his spirit. His son Bruce (Holloway) is reluctant to change his own life to help run the farm but can see his father struggling, both physically and emotionally. Without Beth as a buffer, the distance in their relationship is exacerbated. The presence of local boy proves useful, as does the unsolicited support from Bruce's boss at the dump, Connie (House), and the local vet.

***Clifton Hill*** [Albert Shin, Canada, 2019, Elevation Pictures]

Starring: Tuppence Middleton, Hannah Gross, Marie-Josée Croze, Eric Johnson, David Cronenberg

*Clifton Hill* centers on Abby (Middleton) who, after returning home to Niagara Falls following the death of her mother, becomes obsessed with fragmented memories of a kidnapping she claims to have witnessed as a child. Abby's tense relationship with her younger sister Laure (Gross) is put to the test as Abby's obsession grows out of control.

***Frankie*** [Ira Sachs, France/Portugal, 2019, Mongrel Media]

Starring: Isabelle Huppert, Brendan Gleeson, Marisa Tomei, Greg Kinnear]

Unfolding over the course of a late summer's day in the fabled resort town of Sintra, Portugal, *Frankie* follows three generations who have gathered for a vacation organized by the family matriarch (Huppert). In this fairy tale setting, husbands and wives, parents and children, friends and lovers—stirred by their romantic impulses—discover the cracks between them, as well as unexpected depth of feeling.

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***Hors normes (The Specials)*** [Éric Toledano & Oliver Nakache, France, 2019, MK2 MILE END]  
Starring: Vincent Cassel, Reda Kateb, Hélène Vincent, Alban Ivanov

For twenty years, Bruno (Cassel) and Malik (Kateb) have lived in a different world: the world of autistic children and teens. In charge of two separate non-profit organizations (The Hatch & The Shelter), they train young people from underprivileged areas to be caregivers for extreme cases that have been refused by all other institutions. It's an exceptional partnership, outside of traditional settings, for some quite extraordinary characters.

***James vs. His Future Self*** [Jeremy LaLonde, Canada, 2019, Northern Banner Releasing]  
Starring: Jonas Chernick, Daniel Stern, Cleopatra Coleman, Frances Conroy, Tommie-Amber Pirie

James (Chernick) is an uptight time-travelling obsessed young scientist, whose tunnel vision determination to become the world's first time traveler has taken over every aspect of his life. When James is visited by Jimmy, his nihilistic future self, he's told that he needs to give up on his dream, or else suffer the unimaginably lonely consequences. But when he won't go along with the plan, it becomes a wicked battle of man versus himself - literally.

***The Lighthouse*** [Robert Eggers, Canada/USA, 2019, VVS]  
Starring: Robert Pattinson, Willem Dafoe

Shot on 35mm black-and-white film, this psychological thriller from Robert Eggers (*The Witch*) follows the slow descent into madness of two lighthouse keepers on a remote New England island at the turn of the 19th century.

***Menteur (Compulsive Liar)*** [Émile Gaudreault, Canada, 2019, Entertainment One]  
Starring: Louis-José Houde, Antoine Bertrand, Catherine Chabot

Simon (Houde) has been a compulsive liar since childhood. When he refuses to admit to his lies at an intervention, he wakes up in a reality where all the lies he has ever told are proven facts: his car always has a flat tire, his colleague is sleeping at work, his sister-in-law has a crush on him. In the eyes of others, this reality has always been like that. Fortunately, Simon's twin brother is also aware that this reality is not their original reality and he pushes Simon to face his problem in order to get out of this bad situation.

***The Parts You Lose*** [Christopher Cantwell, Canada, 2019, Pacific Northwest Pictures]  
Starring: Aaron Paul, Mary Elizabeth Winstead, Danny Murphy, Scoot McNairy

Wesley (Murphy), a young deaf boy, befriends an injured stranger who he secretly hides away in a barn near his house. Wesley and the man develop a paternal bond as he teaches him to toughen up against bullies at school and at home. As the police presence begins to grow, Wesley sees the darker side of the man he has helped. He will have to choose between his loyalty to a dangerous stranger, and his growing understanding of right and wrong in the world.

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***Portrait de la jeune fille en feu (Portrait of a Lady on Fire)*** [Céline Sciamma, France, 2019, MK2 MILE END]

Starring: Noémie Merlant, Adèle Haenel, Luàna Bajrami

Marianne (Merlant), a painter, is commissioned to do the wedding portrait of Héloïse, without her knowing. She observes her by day and secretly paints her at night. Intimacy and attraction grow between the two women as they share Héloïse's first and last moments of freedom, all whilst Marianne paints the portrait that will end it all.

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***Sorry We Missed You*** [Ken Loach, UK/France/Belgium, Pacific Northwest Pictures, 2019]

Starring: Kris Hitchen, Debbie Honeywood, Rhys Stone, Katie Proctor

Despite working longer and harder, the Turners realize they will never have independence or their own home. It's now or never; the app revolution offers Ricky a golden opportunity. He and Abby make a bet. She sells her car so Ricky can buy a shiny new van and become a freelance driver, with his own business at last. The modern world impinges on these four souls in the privacy of their kitchen; the future beckons.

All Special Presentation screenings will take place at SilverCity Sudbury, located at 355 Barrydowne Road.

*The 31<sup>st</sup> edition of Cinéfest Sudbury International Film Festival runs from September 14th – 22nd, 2019.*

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