

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL TRIBECA FILM FESTIVAL®ANNOUNCES TRIBECA TALKS® LINEUP FEATURING CONVERSATIONS WITH J.J. ABRAMS, ANDREA ARNOLD, ANTHONY BOURDAIN, FRANCIS FORD COPPOLA, KATIE COURIC, ALFONSO CUARÓN, JODIE FOSTER, RICKY GERVAIS, DONNA KARAN, BAZ LUHRMANN, PATTI SMITH, JOSS WHEDON, AND MORE

New this year: Tribeca Talks: Storytellers presents passionate creators who tell stories across various forms of media and Tribeca Talks: Daring Women Summit celebrates some of today's most influential women in arts and technology

New feature films announced with accompanying conversations

New York, NY [March 21, 2016] – The 2016 Tribeca Film Festival (TFF), presented by AT&T, today announced its lineup of panels and conversations with some of the industry's most critically and commercially successful filmmakers, artists, and executives including **J.J. Abrams, Andrea Arnold, Anthony Bourdain, Francis Ford Coppola, Katie Couric, Alfonso Cuarón, Jodie Foster, Ricky Gervais, Catherine Hardwicke, Donna Karan, Baz Luhrmann, Patti Smith, Joss Whedon, , Samantha Bee**, and more. The Tribeca Talks program will run during the 15th edition of TFF, taking place April 13–24.

Tribeca Talks: Directors Series, intimate one-on-one discussions with acclaimed directors, this year includes **Alfonso Cuarón, Jodie Foster** with **Julie Taymor, Joss Whedon** in conversation with **Mark Ruffalo, J.J. Abrams** speaking with **Chris Rock, Andrea Arnold**, and **Baz Luhrmann** with **Nelson George**. New to this year's Festival is Tribeca Talks: Storytellers, which features pioneering creators who work across mediums to tell their stories. **Francis Ford Coppola, Idina Menzel** and **Patti Smith** join previously announced participants **Tom Hanks** and **Tina Fey** for the program. Also debuting for 2016 is Tribeca Talks: Daring Women Summit Powered by the Li.st, a day of conversations with some of the most influential women in arts and technology who will share stories from their illustrious careers and unconventional paths to success, as well as their support and mentorship of other women in their respective fields. Participants include Google Entertainment Industry Educator in Chief **Julie Ann Crommett,** producer and actress **Olivia Wilde**, fashion designer **Donna Karan**, *Fresh Off the Boat* Showrunner **Nahnatchka Khan**, among others.

TFF also announced five additional feature films and two previously announced titles that will screen during the Festival as part of the Tribeca Talks: After the Movie series, which gives audiences a chance to listen to and participate in a conversation with filmmakers, actors, and influencers following screenings of their films. The program features the world premiere of *Special Correspondents* and a discussion with writer and director **Ricky Gervais**, actor **Eric Bana**, and additional cast, and the world premieres of documentaries *I Voted?* with writer/director **Jason Grant Smith** and executive producer **Katie Couric**, and *Jeremiah Tower: The Last Magnificent* with subject and chef **Jeremiah Tower** and executive producers **Anthony Bourdain** and **Lydia Tenaglia**. Also featured as part of Tribeca Talks: After the Movie series are the previously announced *Contemporary Color*, followed by a conversation with directors **Bill and Turner Ross** led by **David Byrne**, and *Starring Austin Pendleton*, featuring a panel with star and subject **Austin Pendleton** and actors from his career as an actor and director.

"Storytelling is an expansive medium with the power to advance conversations and issues long after the credits roll," said Paula Weinstein, Executive Vice President, Tribeca Enterprises. "The Tribeca Talks series gives audiences the chance to continue those conversations as well as hear from legendary figures in film, music, and more."

This year's Tribeca Talks series offers audiences the opportunity to hear from some of the top storytellers in the world about their craft, recent and upcoming projects, and innovations across mediums. Additional programs include returning favorites "Tribeca Talks: Master Class," conversations focusing on a specific sector of the filmmaking process and other special "Tribeca Talks" events including Tribeca/ESPN Sports Film Festival conversations.

The full schedule for the 2016 Tribeca Talks series follows:

Tribeca Talks: Directors Series, sponsored by Amazon Studios with media support from Entertainment Weekly

Some of the most distinctive directors discuss their careers and highlights, from Jodie Foster discussing her TV endeavors and the upcoming *Money Monster*, to Joss Whedon's cult hits "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" to the *Avengers* series, J.J. Abrams on *Star Trek* and *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*, Andrea Arnold's *Red Road* and *Fish Tank*, Alfonso Cuarón's *Y Tu Mamá También* and *Gravity*, and Baz Luhrmann's upcoming TV show "The Get Down" and stylistic *Moulin Rouge*.

I.J. Abrams with Chris Rock

Multi-faceted filmmaker J.J. Abrams (*Star Trek*, "Felicity", "Lost") will discuss the turns and triumphs of his career with comic actor and fellow filmmaker Chris Rock.

DATE: Friday, April 15

TIME: 6:00PM

LOCATION: John Zuccotti Theater @ BMCC Tribeca Performing Arts Center

Andrea Arnold

One of the freshest voices in cinema today, British filmmaker Andrea Arnold sits down sits down with fellow filmmaker Ira Sachs for a conversation about her work from her debut feature *Red Road* to the highly acclaimed *Fish Tank*.

DATE: Monday, April 18

TIME: 2:00PM LOCATION: SVA 2

Joss Whedon with Mark Ruffalo

Joss Whedon, director of *The Avenger* films and creator of cult classics "Angel" and "Buffy: The Vampire Slayer," will talk to esteemed actor and collaborator Mark Ruffalo about his distinguished career.

DATE: Monday, April 18

TIME: 6:00PM LOCATION: SVA 1

<u>Iodie Foster with Julie Taymor</u>

Jodie Foster has culminated her experience as an actress into directing and will explore how she has forged a position as an esteemed filmmaker in both film and television through a conversation with filmmaker Julie Taymor

DATE: Wednesday, April 20

TIME: 5:30PM

LOCATION: Festival Hub

Baz Luhrmann with Nelson George

Australian filmmaker Baz Luhrmann has one of the most distinctly recognizable visual styles in cinema today and discusses creating work which merges both classic and modern worlds through films from *The Great Gatsby* to *Moulin Rouge*.

DATE: Saturday, April 23

TIME: 6:00PM LOCATION: SVA 1

Alfonso Cuarón with Emmanuel Lubezki

From the indie hit *Y Tu Mamá También* to *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* and *Gravity* Alfonso Cuaron and will discuss his ability to create truly unique cinematic worlds.

DATE: Wednesday, April 20th

TIME: 6:00PM LOCATION: SVA 1

Tribeca Talks: Storytellers, sponsored by *Dean & DeLuca* with media support from Entertainment Weekly

Celebrating passionate creators with a desire to tell stories in a multitude of ways - these pioneers never stay in just one lane. From Patti Smith turning songwriting into novel writing; to Tom Hanks acting, producing and directing; Tina Fey, writing, acting, producing and creating shows, Idina Menzel performing in TV, film and originating roles in theaters as well as songwriting; and Francis Ford Coppola discussing his passion for food and wine in addition to filmmaking.

Patti Smith with Ethan Hawke

From cultural music icon to novelist Patti Smith has always been ahead of the curve and never afraid to pull punches, she will converse on her career and force field of creativity.

DATE: Thursday, April 14

TIME: 3:00PM LOCATION: SVA 2

Idina Menzel

Idina Menzel has trail blazed a career in film, television and theater not only being there for the inception of stage shows and the roles she has made iconic, but also performed in a variety of mediums and showcased her abilities as a songwriter. She discusses her career with esteemed film, broadway and theater producer **Marc Platt**.

DATE: Monday, April 18

TIME: 4:00PM LOCATION: SVA 1

Tina Fey with Damian Holbrook

Known for developing smart comedy through her writing and performances in film and television, the former head writer of SNL has also created fan and critic favorite TV shows "30 Rock" and "The Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt."

DATE: Tuesday, April 19

TIME: 6:00PM

LOCATION: John Zuccotti Theater @ BMCC Tribeca Performing Arts Center

Francis Ford Coppola with Jay McInerney

Francis Ford Coppola has given us some of the most memorable films on the big screen but is also a food and wine aficionado with a lifestyle brand. Francis Ford Coppola Presents encompasses a series of cafes as well as his winery in Sonoma County, CA.

DATE: Wednesday, April 20

TIME: 4:00PM LOCATION: SVA 1

Tom Hanks with John Oliver

In addition to being one of the most beloved actors, Tom Hanks has also produced and directed an astounding number of films and will discuss his passion for great stories. Political commentator and television host John Oliver leads a conversation with Hanks discussing his prolific career

DATE: Friday, April 22

TIME: 6:00PM

LOCATION: John Zuccotti Theater @ BMCC Tribeca Performing Arts Center

Tribeca Talks: After the Movie

Contemporary Color

In the summer of 2015, legendary musician David Byrne staged an unprecedented event at Brooklyn's Barclays Center to celebrate the art of color guard—synchronized dance involving flags, rifles, and sabers—by pairing regional color guard teams with performers, including St Vincent, Nelly Furtado, and Ad-Rock. More than a concert film, Contemporary Color is a cinematic interpretation of this one of a kind live event, courtesy of visionary filmmakers Bill and Turner Ross.

After the movie: A conversation led by **David Byrne** with **Bill and Turner Ross**, with special appearances by color guarders Kristin Thayer, Marissa Backus, Brian Rosa, Christian Orr, Emily Harrington, Marcus Henry and Mimi Ward.

DATE: Thursday, April 14

TIME: 9:00PM

LOCATION: John Zuccotti Theater @ BMCC Tribeca Performing Arts Center

<u>Ieremiah Tower: The Last Magnificen</u>t (sponsored by CNN Films)

The Last Magnificent explores the exceptional, adventurous life of Jeremiah Tower, one of the most controversial, outrageous, and influential figures in the history of American gastronomy. Yet his name has largely been obliterated from history. Featuring interviews by Mario Batali, Anthony Bourdain, Martha Stewart, and Ruth Reichl, this delicious documentary for the culinary set tells the story of the rise and fall of America's first celebrity chef.

After the movie: Subject and Chef Jeremiah Tower and Executive Producers Anthony

Bourdain and **Lydia Tenaglia** Moderated by **Charlie Rose**. **DATE: Saturday, April 16**

TIME: 3:00PM

LOCATION: John Zuccotti Theater @ BMCC Tribeca Performing Arts Center

I Voted?

How do you know that your vote is recorded as intended in an election? After South Carolina candidate Alvin Greene overwhelmingly won the Senate Primary despite having not campaigned, a pandora's box of questions opened regarding the voting process - particularly in a digital age where we rely on computer systems to act with integrity despite the use outdated and unregulated technology.

After the movie on Thursday, April 21: A Conversation with Writer Director Jason Grant Smith, Executive Producer Katie Couric, Chief Legal Affairs Correspondent of ABC News Dan Abrams,

Lawrence Norden of NYU's Brennan Center for Justice, Former Chair & Commissioner of the federal Election Assistance Commission, Dr. DeForest Soaries, Penny Venetis, Rutger Law Professor,

and Douglas A. Kellner, Co-Chair, New York State Board of Elections

DATE: Thursday, April 21st

TIME: 5:30PM LOCATION: SVA 2

Equity

High-powered Wall Street banker Naomi Bishop (Anna Gunn) has been passed over for a promotion again. If she can successfully launch her next high profile IPO, she'll be back on top. To get the job done, she must bypass her ambitious assistant (Sarah Megan Thomas) and an aggressive US prosecutor (Alysia Reiner) watching her every move, in TFF Nora Ephron Prize winner and alumnus Meera Menon's financial thriller. *A Sony Pictures Classic release.*

After the movie: Director **Meera Menon**, and other female directors discuss their experience in the industry.

DATE: Tuesday, April 19

TIME: 6:00PM LOCATION: SVA 2

Starring Austin Pendleton

Austin Pendleton is that quintessential character actor you might recognize. We follow Austin as he reflects on his life and craft, while his A-list peers discuss his vast influence, dogged determination, and what it means to be an original in today's celebrity-obsessed world.

After the movie: Star and subject **Austin Pendleton** discusses his career with fellow actors, including **Olympia Dukakis**, **Peter Saarsgaard**, **George Morfogen**, and **Denis O'Hare**. Moderated by Variety's Gordon Cox.

DATE: Thursday, April 21

TIME: 2:30PM LOCATION: SVA 2

Special Correspondents

American politics and media are aptly satirized in this feature by firebrand comedian Ricky Gervais. A pretentious radio journalist and his ineffectual technician botch an assignment in South America, and decide to fabricate an on-the-scene report while hiding out in a New York City apartment. This scheme spirals out of their control when their escalating story becomes a national headline. *A Netflix Original Film.*

After the movie: A conversation with writer/director **Ricky Gervais**, actor **Eric Bana**, and additional

Moderated by Vulture's Stacey Wilson Hunt.

DATE: Friday, April 22

TIME: 8:00PM

LOCATION: John Zuccotti Theater @ BMCC Tribeca Performing Arts Center

By Sidney Lumet Film legend Sidney Lumet (1924-2011) tells his own story in a never-before-seen interview shot in 2008. With candor, humor and grace, Lumet reveals what matters to him as an artist and as a human being. The documentary features clips from Lumet's films – 44 films made in 50 years – including Serpico, Dog Day Afternoon, 12 Angry Men, Network and Before the Devil Knows You're Dead. Peabody and Emmy Award-winning filmmaker Nancy Buirski (Afternoon of a Faun, The Loving Story) combines these elements to create a portrait of one of the most accomplished, influential and socially conscious directors in the history of cinema. By Sydney Lumet reveals the spiritual and ethical lessons at the core of his work. First and foremost a storyteller, Lumet's strongly moral tales capture the dilemmas and concerns of a society struggling with essentials: how does one behave to others and to oneself?

After the movie: A conversation with actors **Bob Balaban**, **Treat Williams**, **Jenny Lumet** and director **Nancy Buirski**.

DATE: Friday, April 22

TIME: 2:30PM LOCATION: SVA

The Man Who Knew Infinity

In 1913, a self-taught mathematics prodigy Ramanujan (Dev Patel) traveled from his home in India to Trinity College in Cambridge to study with the esteemed professor GH Hardy (Jeremy Irons). Hardy fights for Ramanujan to be recognized as the two struggle with prejudice, illness, and culture on the road to perfecting the theorems that changed the course of history of math.

After the movie on Friday, April 15: A conversation with filmmaker Matt Brown actors Dev Patel and Devika Bhise, mathematicians Ina Petkova and Manjul Bhargava. Moderated by journalist Faith Salie.

DATE: Friday, April 15

TIME: 6:00PM

LOCATION: Regal Battery Park

Tribeca Talks: Daring Women Summit Powered by the Li.st

DATE: Wednesday, April 20 **TIME:** 10:30AM - 5PM **LOCATION:** Festival Hub

This day of first-hand storytelling celebrates today's most influential women in arts and technology who have risen to the top of their respective fields by eschewing traditional career trajectories in creating their own paths. Not only have these women broken ceilings to succeed for themselves, but most importantly they have created opportunities for other women along the way through direct support and mentorship, forging job opportunities for others and creating content where women can see themselves and the possibilities of what they themselves could become.

These creative minds refused to take no for an answer, taking on outsized risks, despite the conventional wisdom. These women in tech and entertainment are bold, they are driven by innovation, and they have reservoirs of expertise and life lessons to share.

Speakers include Producer and Fashion Designer **Donna Karan**, *Full Frontal's* **Samantha Bee** and Producer Allana Harkin, The Li.st founder **Rachel Sklar** actress & activist **Rosie Perez**, The Li.st founder **Rachel Sklar**, HelloGiggles co-founder **Sophia Rossi**, Google Entertainment Industry Educator in Chief **Julie Ann Crommett**, 'Fresh off the Boat' Showrunner **Nahnatchka Khan**, actress **Mya Taylor**, PYPO Creator **Stephanie Laing**, Chief Content Officer for Refinery 29 **Amy Emmerich**, New York Public radio's President & CEO **Laura Walker**, WNYC's Death, Sex & Money **Anna Sale**, actress **LaLa Anthony**, Chief Creative Officer at New Form Digital **Kathleen Grace**, stand-up comedian **Phoebe Robinson** and many more.

Tribeca Talks: Master Class (Free event)

Dolby Master Class

Glenn Kiser, Director of the Dolby Institute, discusses the complexities of creating sound and music for film with filmmakers and sound pioneers whose work is featured in this year's festival, including Justin Tipping, director of *Kicks* and Jeff Grace, director of *Folk Hero & Funny Guy* Please check the website for more speakers.

DATE: Friday, April 15

TIME: 3:00PM LOCATION: SVA 2

Prepping to Shoot with Catherine Hardwicke (sponsored by Nexxus New York Salon Care)

Twilight, Lords of Dogtown and Thirteen Director **Catherine Hardwicke** takes you inside preproduction - from creating a workable shot list to constructing lookbooks, shaping locations and building relationships with cast and crew alike - she offers tips and tricks as well as showcasing her personal work materials.

DATE: Sunday, April 17

TIME: 3:00PM LOCATION: SVA 2

Inside Casting

Esteemed Casting Director **Ellen Lewis and Ellen Chenoweth** have worked with some of the greatest directors including Martin Scorsese, Mike Nichols, Jim Jarmusch, the Coen Brothers, George Clooney and Stephen Spielberg. They will divulge the process of casting and discovering some of today's most recognizable faces. Moderated by **Bernard Telsey**.

DATE: Saturday, April 23

TIME: 2:30PM LOCATION: SVA 2

Tribeca Talks - Tribeca/ESPN Sports Film Festival Conversations, sponsored by Mohegan Sun Elections and "Scandal"

Debuting their latest Elections short documentary *A More Perfect Union*, **Nate Silver** (FiveThirtyEight editor-in-chief), **Micah Cohen** (FiveThirtyEight politics editor) and guests discuss how the Rev. Wright revelations affected the 2008 Democratic primary between Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton, how the media handled the story, and what lessons the episode holds for the 2016 election.

DATE: Wednesday, April 20

TIME: 2:30PM LOCATION: SVA2

• **A More Perfect Union,** directed by Eric Drath. (USA) – World Premiere. From the discovery of Reverend Jeremiah Wright's inciting sermons to Obama's 'A More Perfect Union' speech, this short film uses interviews, archives, and a timeline to illustrate the behind-the-scenes drama during a make-or-break moment in the 2008 presidential campaign.

O.L.: Made in America with Ezra Edelman and TheUndefeated.com

O.J. Simpson remains one of the most resonant figures in American history. Undefeated.com editor in chief **Kevin Merida** moderates a discussion with the film's director **Ezra Edelman**, managing editor **Raina Kelley** and senior culture writer **Kelley Carter** about ESPN Films' *O.J.: Made in America* and its attempt to make sense of both the racial context surrounding the trial 20 years ago, and a life and career still being debated today.

DATE: Sunday, April 24

TIME: 5:30PM LOCATION: SVA 2

Special "Tribeca Talks" Event

Free Like the Birds

Sophie Cruz, a six year old girl fights to keep her family together as the threat of deporting her parents looms over her. Determined to keep her family together she travels to Washington DC, breaks through police barricades, and talks to the Pope. A girl on a mission.

After the short film: An in depth conversation with director Paola Medoza, producers Grace LaMorte and Joseph LaMorte, and prominent activists about immigration.

DATE: Thursday, April 21

TIME: 8:30PM LOCATION: SVA 2

From Film to Game

In the entertainment industry's constantly changing landscape, the lines between mediums are starting to blur. We are witnessing the intersection of gaming and filmmaking to create a new form of storytelling that revitalizes traditional narratives.

Join BioShock's **Ken Levine**, Her Story creator **Sam Barlow**, and filmmaker **Will Gluck** in a discussion about how content creators are bridging the gap between video games and TV to generate compelling experiences that put the viewer in the driver's seat.

Moderated by Wired's Jason Tanz.

DATE: Monday, April 18

TIME: 8:00PM

LOCATION: Festival Hub

Panelists and moderators are subject to change. For the most updated schedule, visit <u>www.tribecafilm.com</u>

About the Tribeca Festival Hub

The Tribeca Festival Hub is located at 50 Varick Street. For 10 days, the Festival Hub is abuzz with activity that engages the senses, providing a hands-on opportunity to experience the best in storytelling and what happens when it collides with the latest technology. From groundbreaking virtual reality to inspiring films, tv and talks with the best storytellers in the world and can't-be-missed interactive installations, festival goers converge on the hub to be inspired. The Festival Hub Pass is currently on sale, tribecafilm.com/festival/tickets

Passes and tickets for the 2016 Festival

Passes, including the Hudson and Festival Hub Passes, are on sale now at tribecafilm.com/festival/tickets. The Festival Hub Pass provides access for one to all public events at the Festival Hub at Spring Studios throughout the Festival, including interactive and virtual reality installations, the Virtual Arcade, Tribeca Storyscapes and DEFCON exhibits, Interactive Day and Imagination Day, select Tribeca Talks events, special screenings, live music and performances, as well as Pass Holder Lounges with food and drinks. It also provides access to the Disruptive Innovation Awards, two screening vouchers redeemable for evening/weekend or matinee-priced tickets, discounted rates on festival screening tickets, and an invitation to a Tribeca Film Festival Filmmaker Party. The Festival Hub Pass costs \$550.

The Hudson Pass provides access for one to all public events at the Festival Hub, as well as Pass Holder Lounges with food, and drinks. It also provides access to all evening/weekend and matinee screenings, all Tribeca Talks, the Disruptive Innovation Awards, and a Tribeca Film Festival Filmmaker Party. The Hudson Pass costs \$1,250.

Single ticket sales begin Tuesday, March 29 and can be purchased at tribecafilm.com/festival/tickets, by telephone at (646) 502-5296 or toll free at (866) 941-FEST (3378), or at one of the Ticket Outlets, located at Bow Tie Cinemas Chelsea (260 W. 23rd Street), and Brookfield Place (250 Vesey Street). Single tickets cost \$20.00 for evening and weekend screenings, \$10.00 for weekday matinee screenings, \$30 for Tribeca Tune In series and \$40.00 for Tribeca Talks panels and special screenings. The 2016 Festival will offer ticket discounts on general screenings and Tribeca Talks panels for students, seniors and select downtown Manhattan residents. Discounted tickets are available at Ticket Outlet locations only.

About the Tribeca Film Festival

The Tribeca Film Festival, now in its 15th year, brings together visionaries across industries and diverse audiences to celebrate the power of storytelling. A platform for independent filmmaking, creative expression and immersive entertainment, Tribeca supports emerging and established voices, discovers

award-winning filmmakers, curates innovative and interactive experiences, and introduces new technology and ideas through panels, premieres, exhibitions, and live performance.

Founded by Robert De Niro, Jane Rosenthal and Craig Hatkoff in 2001, following the attacks on the World Trade Center, Tribeca has evolved from an annual event to spur the economic and cultural revitalization of lower Manhattan to a gathering place for filmmakers, artists, innovators, and the global creative community. Through programs that embrace storytelling in all of its expansive forms – from film and music to video games and online work, TFF reimagines the cinematic experience and explores how art can unite communities.

About the 2016 Tribeca Film Festival Sponsors

As Presenting Sponsor of the Tribeca Film Festival, AT&T is committed to supporting the Festival and the art of filmmaking through access and innovation – aiming to make this the most interactive film and storytelling festival in the country, where visitors experience the Festival in ways they never imagined. As one of the largest communications and entertainment companies, AT&T helps millions connect with entertainment, mobile, high speed Internet and voice services – virtually everywhere.

The Tribeca Film Festival is pleased to announce its Signature Sponsors: #ActuallySheCan by Allergan, Accenture, Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, Bai Beverages, Bira 91, Bloomberg Philanthropies, Borough of Manhattan Community College (BMCC), CHANEL, DEAN & DELUCA, EFFEN® Vodka, ESPN, Hendrick's Gin, IBM, Infor, IWC Schaffhausen, The Lincoln Motor Company, NBC 4 New York, National CineMedia, *New York* Magazine, Nexxus New York Salon, Samsung, Spring Studios New York, Thompson Hotels, and United Airlines.

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IMAGES FOR PRESS: Film stills for the 2016 Tribeca Film Festival are available at www.image.net. If you are not an image.net media user yet, please register using referral code **2604.** If you have any issues or your need is time sensitive please contact blin@TribecaFilmFestival.org

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