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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# The 2018 Vermont International Film Festival- Special events and screenings, Guests

Burlington, VT: (Oct 5): VTIFF is pleased to announce the 2018 Vermont International Film Festival, October 18th to October 28<sup>th</sup> in Downtown Burlington. This year marks the 33rd anniversary of VTIFF and we will be presenting close to 80 films of all genres and styles from around the world and the USA, special guests, events, receptions and more. The festival has added one day to the festival in order to accommodate the expanded Regional Film Showcase now called NEQ (North East & Quebec), previously know as the Vermont Filmmakers Showcase.

This 11-day celebration of cinema and community takes place at the Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center with screenings in both the Black Box Theater and the Film House and events in the Lobby and Atrium on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of Main Street Landing. Other locations include The BCA Center on Church Street with Lunchtime Shorts screenings during the weekdays at noon and two special screenings of water-related films at ECHO Lakeside Hall. The full schedule is now available online for viewing and ticket purchase. The printed festival program will be inserted in every issue of Seven Days on Wednesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, and in the Burlington Free Press Thursday, Oct 17, then available at the Festival Office at 156 College Street in Burlington. The Printed program will be available on site during the festival. Visit http://www.vtiff.org/festival for more information.

# Highest guest count ever

VTIFF is excited to welcome over 28 filmmakers who will attend their screenings and the post-screening Q&As. For a full list of guests visit https://vtiff.org/festival/attending-filmmakers-2018/

## **Opening Night Film**

VTIFF is proud to announce that *Woman at War* by veteran Icelandic filmmaker Benedikt Erlingsson (who made the BVTIFF 2016 hit film *Of Horses and Men*) has been selected to open the 2018 Vermont



International Film Festival. The film will be screened Friday, Oct 19 at 7pm at Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center – Film House, and will be its New England Premiere. For more information about the film visit <a href="https://vtiff.org/events/woman-at-war/">https://vtiff.org/events/woman-at-war/</a>

#### **Environmental Justice strand**

This year, VTIFF is taking a deep and wide look at films relating to the environment. There will be 9 films in all and 7 of the filmmakers will attend. Two of the films, focusing on water issues, are a partnership with ECHO, Leahy Center for Lake Champlain. This strand is competitive and is eligible for the Audience Favorite Award. Among the filmmakers are the intrepid Jon Bowermaster with his *Hudson Trilogy* and, hailing from Hollywood, Ashley Bell with *Love and Bananas*.

# **NEQ - Regional Film Showcase**

VTIFF is proud to announce the NEQ Regional Film Showcase. For the first time, VTIFF has opened its competitive submission process to filmmakers from the North East and Québec. Over 156 films were submitted and 22 were selected by the jury. NEQ films are eligible for a range of cash awards. Filmmakers from all regions will be attending the festival.

VTIFF 2017 sponsors include Northfield Savings Bank, Wake Robin, Zero Gravity Brewery, Green Valley Media, Vermont Arts Council, Grace Jones Richardson Trust, PCC (Physicians Computer Company), UVM, Northfield Savings Bank.

The Vermont International Film Foundation (VTIFF) is a cultural non-profit organization whose mission is to enrich the community and bring the world to Vermont through film. VTIFF operates year-round with monthly screenings on the last Thursday of each month, a Global Roots Film Festival in the spring as well as supporting Vermont filmmakers. VTIFF celebrates its 33nd anniversary in 2018. The largest program of VTIFF is the annual Vermont International Film Festival, best known for featuring groundbreaking and independent films from around the world and Vermont. The 2018 festival runs October 18th -October 28, at Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center, The BCA Center and ECHO Leahy Center for Lake Champlain. More information at www.vtiff.org.