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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### **The 2019 Vermont International Film Festival– Special events and screenings, Guests**

Burlington, VT: (Oct 2): VTIFF is pleased to announce the 2019 Vermont International Film Festival, October 17<sup>th</sup> to October 27<sup>th</sup>. Now in its 34<sup>th</sup> year, the largest film festival in Vermont takes place in Downtown Burlington, with select films screened again around the state.

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 Made Here Showcase, including films from Northern New England and Québec.

This 12-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 a special screening 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 9<sup>th</sup>, 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 32 filmmakers who will attend their screenings and the post-screening Q&As. For a full list of guests visit <https://vtiff.org/2019-filmmakers-and-panelists/>

### **Opening Night Film**

VTIFF is proud to announce that *Non Fiction* by veteran French filmmaker Olivier Assayas (*Clouds of Sils Maria*), starring Juliette Binoche, has been selected to open the 2019 Vermont International Film Festival. The film will be screened Friday, Oct 18 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 <https://vtiff.org/events/non-fiction/>

### **Environmental Justice strand**

For a second year in a row, VTIFF is taking a deep and wide look at films relating to the environment, with 5 films showing over the first weekend. Among the most challenging is Jon Kasbe's *When Lambs Become Lions*, questioning our preconceptions about the villains in the poaching industry; a film of immediate relevance in Vermont is *The Milk System* which will be followed by a Q&A with Roger Allbee, for secretary of Agriculture for the state. The Nature Conservancy of Vermont is the sponsor of the breath-taking and heart-breaking *The River and the Wall*.

### **Film Premieres**

We are very proud to be premiering 4 films from Neon, the distribution company co-founded by Tim League - Alamo Drafthouse founder: *Parasite*, *Portrait of a Lady on Fire*, *Clemency* and *Monos* are all opening commercially this month and next.

Vermont without a food film? No way. One of the most inspiring films to be presented this year is *Nothing Fancy*: Diana Kennedy. Kennedy was hugely influential on a whole generation of Vermont chefs who have cherished her cook books and learned from her approach to cooking. Farm to table could have been invented by her. A coalition of local chefs, food writerx and foodies have banded together to sponsor this film.



The Festival line up includes films and events from more than 20 countries - fiction films, documentaries, animation and installations and workshops.

### **Made Here Showcase**

VTIFF is proud to announce the Made Here Showcase, a partnership with Vermont PBS in collaboration with White River Indie Festival. For the second year in a row, VTIFF has opened its competitive submission process to filmmakers from the North East and Québec. Over 60 films were submitted and 27 were selected by the jury. MHS films are eligible for a range of cash awards. Filmmakers from all regions will be attending the festival.

VTIFF 2019 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 Regional filmmakers. VTIFF celebrates its 34th anniversary in 2019. 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 2019 festival runs October 16th -October 27, at Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center, The BCA Center and ECHO Leahy Center for Lake Champlain. More information at [VTIFF.ORG](https://vtiff.org)

High-res film stills at [VTIFF.ORG/PRESS](https://vtiff.org/press)

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