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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Vermont International Film Festival - March Monthly Screening**

Burlington, VT: (March 14, 2018): VTIFF is pleased to announce the January film in its Monthly Screenings series.

Thursday, April 26th at 7pm, Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center - Film House:  
**THE DEATH OF STALIN**

Directed by Armando Iannucci  
UK | 2018 | Fiction | 107 min  
Major festivals | TIFF/Sundance

The internal political landscape of 1950's Soviet Russia takes on darkly comic form in a new film by Emmy award-winning and Oscar-nominated writer/director Armando Iannucci. In the days following Stalin's collapse, his core team of ministers tussle for control; some want positive change in the Soviet Union, others have more sinister motives. Their one common trait? They're all just desperately trying to remain alive. With Steve Buscemi, Michael Palin, Simon Russell Beale and more.

*"The Death of Stalin* may be set over 60 years ago", says Armando Iannucci, "but it offers some sobering lessons about today's political landscape: I had the first conversations about the film two or three years ago when no one knew about Brexit or Trump," he says. "At the time I was consciously looking to do something about dictatorship, about authoritarianism, about how a country can be terrorised by a personality even though that character might not be charismatic, exploring concepts such as groupthink. There was no attempt to echo what ended up happening outside the film with Trump's election and Brexit, but there are weird echoes in the film.

**Links to High res stills:** [vtiff.org/press](http://vtiff.org/press)