



**DOC NYC FESTIVAL, NOV. 8-15, DOUBLES THE SIZE OF 8-DAY
CONFERENCE FOR DOCUMENTARY PROFESSIONALS, DOC NYC PRO**

**DOC NYC PRO KEYNOTE SPEAKERS WILL INCLUDE
ABIGAIL DISNEY, NELSON GEORGE, AMY HOBBY,
OPEYEMI OLUKEMI, JEFF ORLOWSKI AND DAWN PORTER**

NEW YORK, August 6, 2018 – **DOC NYC**, America’s largest documentary festival, announced initial plans for **DOC NYC PRO**, its acclaimed 8-day conference of panels and case studies for documentary professionals, for the festival's ninth edition, November 8-15. **DOC NYC PRO**, which is co-presented by Amazon Studios, doubles in size in 2018, incorporating two simultaneous daily programming tracks, expanding its “Only in New York” meetings and launching the new “40 Under 40” initiative. The Festival revealed an initial list of participants for the expanded conference, as well as new themed tracks, and has made discounted Festival Passes available for a limited time.

Confirmed to take part in the 2018 **DOC NYC PRO** conference are Abigail Disney (Fork Films), Nelson George (*A Ballerina’s Tale*), Amy Hobby (Tribeca Film Institute), Opeyemi Olukemi (POV), Jeff Orlowski (*Chasing Coral*) and Dawn Porter (*Bobby Kennedy for President*), who will each give one of the daily keynote Morning Manifesto talks. Over 200 filmmakers and industry professionals are expected as panelists and speakers during the conference, including Amir Bar-Lev (*Long Strange Trip*), Carla Gutierrez (*RBG*), Penny Lane (*Nuts!*), Darius Clark Monroe (*Random Acts of Flyness*), Marilyn Ness (*Charm City*), Kimberly Reed (*Dark Money*), Ricki Stern and Annie Sundberg (*Joan Rivers: A Piece of Work*), Clay Tweel (*Gleason*) and Nanfu Wang (*I Am Another You*). Additional participants will be announced in the coming weeks.

DOC NYC also announced the return of its program to support documentary feature and series works-in-progress, “**Only In New York**,” co-presented by Showtime Documentary Films. Returning for the third year, “Only In New York” provides an opportunity for participating filmmakers to connect with industry leaders during four days of meetings. Organizations participating in the “Only In New York” meetings include A&E IndieFilms, Amazon Studios, HBO Documentary Films, Impact Partners, Showtime Documentary Films and more.

Additionally, **DOC NYC PRO** unveiled the previously announced “**40 Under 40**,” a new **initiative spotlighting emerging talent in the nonfiction world**. The day-long event, on Tuesday, November 13, celebrates documentary directors, producers, cinematographers and editors born in 1979 or later and who are based in the US or Canada. “40 Under 40” is co-presented by Topic Studios, the new entertainment studio from First Look Media, joining the Festival as a first-time sponsor.

“DOC NYC PRO gives established filmmakers the opportunity to hone their craft in all aspects of the industry and provides insider access to new filmmakers to take the next step in their careers,” said DOC NYC Artistic Director Thom Powers. “With this year's expansion, we're committing more resources to focus not only on where nonfiction is today, but where it will be in the future.”

Industry programming has been part of the Festival since its beginning and was branded as DOC NYC PRO starting in 2015. The program has grown each year, including the notable additions of tracks devoted to DOC NYC's celebrated Short List, a festival programming strand honoring the best nonfiction of the year, and “Pitch Perfect,” co-presented by A&E IndieFilms, a professional pitching forum; as well as “Only in New York” meetings that were piloted in 2016 and expanded significantly in 2017. The 2018 edition of DOC NYC PRO will include new tracks focused on first-time filmmakers, short filmmakers, and unscripted content, among other topics.

DOC NYC has partnered with Tribeca Film Institute (TFI) for the IF/Then Shorts pitch on “Pitch Perfect” day. The pitch calls for original stand-alone commissions of short documentaries that explore a range of socially, politically and culturally relevant topics about the American Northeast. One project, selected by the jury, will receive up to \$20,000 in project funding and will have the opportunity to participate in TFI's IF/Then Shorts Program, which provides year-round mentorship and career development opportunities.

DOC NYC PRO will take place concurrently with the Festival, November 8-15. The Festival once again offers First Half (November 8-11) and Second Half (November 12-15) DOC NYC PRO passes that present economical options to access the conference, in addition to the Full (November 8-15) pass.

FESTIVAL PASSES NOW ON SALE, WITH EARLY BIRD DISCOUNTS IN EFFECT THROUGH SEPTEMBER 4

Festival passes are now on sale at www.DOCNYC.net, with early bird discounts available through September 4, and a smaller pre-festival discount for select passes available September 5-October 14.

ALL ACCESS passes (Early Bird discount: \$699 through September 4; \$995 after September 4) provide admission to all festival films, panels, parties and events, plus use of the PRO Lounge at the Cinopolis Chelsea. All Access Pass holders can pre-select screening and panel tickets to bypass box office lines so that their DOC NYC experience is wait-free. All Access Pass holders have access to a personally curated lineup from the

DOC NYC Artistic Director and also receive exclusive invitations to Festival parties. Pass does not grant access to Visionaries Tribute event.

DOC NYC PRO passes (Early Bird discount: \$349 until September 4; pre-festival discount: \$399 September 5-October 14; \$450 after October 14) grant access to the eight day lineup of DOC NYC PRO panels and events Thursday, November 8–Thursday, November 15 at Cinopolis Chelsea, as well as free rush admission to weekday matinee screenings at all festival venues; use of the PRO Lounge, a networking and meeting space; and additional free screenings announced during the festival.

DOC NYC PRO: FIRST HALF or SECOND HALF passes (Early Bird discount: \$199 through September 4; pre-festival discount: \$225 September 5-October 14; \$250 after October 14) offer access to four days of the DOC NYC PRO lineup, November 8-11 or November 12-15, respectively, at Cinopolis Chelsea, as well as free rush admission to weekday matinee screenings at all festival venues and use of the PRO Lounge, a networking and meeting space, during that period.

ABOUT DOC NYC

DOC NYC, America's largest documentary festival, takes place over 8 days in November; the ninth edition will be held November 8-15, 2018 at New York's IFC Center, SVA Theatre and Cinopolis Chelsea. The 2017 festival showcased over 250 films and events with more than 350 filmmakers and special guests appearing in person. In addition to premiering feature-length and short documentaries, the festival's highlights also include DOC NYC PRO—an eight-day series of in-depth panels and case studies—and the Visionaries Tribute awards ceremony that honors major figures in the field of nonfiction film. DOC NYC is produced and presented by IFC Center.

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