



For immediate release
Contact: Harris Dew
harris.dew@ifccenter.com

**DOC NYC ANNOUNCES U.S. PREMIERE OF
CITIZEN JANE: BATTLE FOR THE CITY FOR OPENING NIGHT
OF FESTIVAL'S SEVENTH EDITION, NOVEMBER 10-17**

**JONATHAN DEMME & STANLEY NELSON
TO RECEIVE LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**

August 25, 2016 – DOC NYC, America's largest documentary festival, announced it will open its seventh annual edition with the U.S. premiere of *Citizen Jane: Battle for the City*, directed by Matt Tyrnauer (*Valentino: The Last Emperor*) on Thursday, November 10 at the SVA Theatre. The film documents the historic conflict in the 1960s between the writer and activist Jane Jacobs and the legendary power broker/urban-renewal tsar Robert Moses over plans to tear down much of New York City and replace it with highways and austere housing projects. (The film is co-produced by High Line co-founder Robert Hammond.)

"We couldn't pick a more fitting film for New York City," said DOC NYC artistic director Thom Powers. "We take inspiration from Jane Jacobs' belief in the power of culture to enrich a community."

DOC NYC also revealed details of its Visionaries Tribute and this year's roster of sponsors.

VISIONARIES TRIBUTE

The festival announced key honorees for the third annual Visionaries Tribute lunch, taking place Nov. 10 at City Winery.

Lifetime Achievement Awards are given for a distinguished output of documentaries. This year's two recipients are:

- **Jonathan Demme** has consistently interspersed his acclaimed fiction films with a remarkable body of nonfiction work. His documentaries split between performance films such as *Stop Making Sense*, *Swimming to Cambodia*, *Neil Young: Heart of Gold*, and his latest work, *Justin Timberlake + The Tennessee*

Kids; and profiles such as *Cousin Bobby*, *The Agronomist*, *Jimmy Carter: Man From Plains*, and *I'm Carolyn Parker*.

- **Stanley Nelson** has distinguished himself both as a filmmaker and as a champion of nurturing new voices through his organization Firelight Media. His directing credits include *Black Panthers: Vanguard of the Revolution*, *Freedom Summer*, *Freedom Riders*, *Wounded Knee*, *Jonestown: The Life and Death of Peoples Temple*, *A Place of Our Own*, *The Murder of Emmett Till*, and *Marcus Garvey: Look for Me in the Whirlwind*.

Past Lifetime Achievement recipients are Jon Alpert, Chris Hegedus, Barbara Kopple, Albert Maysles, DA Pennebaker and Fred Wiseman.

The **Leading Light Award** is given to a mid-career professional who has served documentary in a role outside of filmmaking. This year's recipient:

- **Molly Thompson** is the founder and head of A&E IndieFilms, the feature documentary division of A+E Studios. Her credits as an executive producer include the Academy Award® nominated films, *Cartel Land*, *Jesus Camp*, and *Murderball*, as well as *American Teen*, *The September Issue*, *The Tillman Story*, *Cave of Forgotten Dreams*, *Client 9: The Rise and Fall of Eliot Spitzer*, *Under African Skies*, *The Imposter*, *No Place on Earth*, *The Unknown Known*, and two films this year, *Author: The JT Leroy Story* and *Life, Animated*.

Past recipients of the Leading Light Award are Dan Cogan and Tom Quinn.

The honorees are selected by the festival programming team, based on recommendations from members of the Visionaries Host Committee.

The 2016 Visionaries Host Committee includes Amir Bar-Lev, Joslyn Barnes, Rachel Boynton, Nanette Burstein, Christine Choy, Marshall Curry, Kate Davis, Carl Deal, Nicholas Doob, Susan Froemke, Thomas Allen Harris, Chris Hegedus, Judith Helfand, Amy Hobby, Gary Hustwit, Ross Kauffman, Tia Lessin, Marc Levin, D.A. Pennebaker, Frazer Pennebaker, Laura Poitras, Sam Pollard, Bob Richman, Robert Richter, Richard Rowley, Deborah Shaffer, Kirk Simon, Ricki Stern, Annie Sundberg, Jean Tsien, Elizabeth Chai Vasarhelyi, Pamela Yates.

SPONSORS

DOC NYC welcomes back several returning sponsors, joined by first timers.

Leadership Sponsor HBO Documentary Films returns for its third year to co-present the Visionaries Tribute.

Leading Media sponsor WNET returns for its fourth year.

Major Sponsor A&E IndieFilms returns for its seventh year.

Major Sponsor History Films returns for its sixth year.

Major Sponsor Netflix returns for its third year.

Major Sponsor Amazon Studios joins for its first year.

Supporting Sponsor ImageNation Abu Dhabi returns for its second year.

Signature Sponsor Technicolor-PostWorks New York returns for its seventh year.

Signature Sponsor SundanceNow Doc Club returns for its third year.

Signature Sponsor Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment returns for its second year.

Signature Sponsor National Geographic joins the festival for the first time.

Event sponsors returning include Cowan, DeBaets, Abrahams & Sheppard LLP, Impact Partners, SVA MFA Social Documentary Film.

Event sponsors joining for the first time are Discovery, FUSION and Vulcan Productions.

FESTIVAL PASSES NOW ON SALE, WITH EARLY BIRD DISCOUNTS THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30

DOC NYC PRO PASS

(Early bird \$350; normally \$399). A limited quantity of DOC NYC PRO passes are on sale at Early Bird rates until September 30. Grants access to the eight day lineup of DOC NYC PRO panels and events Nov 10-17 at IFC Center and Bow Tie Chelsea Cinemas, including breakfasts and happy hours, access to the PRO Lounge, and rush access to matinee film screenings. Does not include Visionaries Tribute. Requires upgrade to attend "Only in New York Meetings."

ONLY IN NEW YORK upgrade (\$75) addition to DOC NYC PRO badge that grants access to four days of roundtable meetings with industry guests.

ALL ACCESS PASS (Early bird \$675; normally \$750). Only a limited number available. Binge on everything at DOC NYC and skip the box office lines! The All Access Pass has all the perks of the PRO badge, plus gets you access to all festival films and Only in New York Meetings. A dedicated concierge at each festival venue will speed All Access badge holders into screenings and events so that their DOC NYC experience is wait-free. Does not include Visionaries Tribute.

VISIONARIES TRIBUTE TABLES

Tables for the November 10 luncheon are now on sale. Each table gains admission for 8 guests who will be seated along with 2 members of Visionaries Host Committee of established documentary filmmakers. Past table hosts include HBO, Netflix, A24, IFC, and Magnolia. Supply is limited and consistently sells out in advance. [Contact tribute@docnyc.net](mailto:tribute@docnyc.net)

ONLINE PRESS OFFICE:

Downloadable images and other press materials can be found at <http://bit.ly/2bCtL97>