



DOC NYC Announces New Screening Series, DOC NYC SELECTS, at IFC Center, Beginning March 21

Inaugural Spring 2023 Season Features Sneak Previews of Six Noted New Documentaries, with Filmmakers in Person

NEW YORK, February 28, 2023 - **DOC NYC**, America's largest documentary film festival, today announced the debut of a new in-person, ongoing screening series, **DOC NYC Selects**, as an extension of its annual fall event. The Spring 2023 edition of the new series will run Tuesday evenings for six consecutive weeks, March 21 - April 25, 2023, at New York's **IFC Center**, with filmmakers in person for all shows.

"The alchemy of audiences and artists connecting in person over vital nonfiction cinematic stories at DOC NYC is so wonderful that we feel compelled to extend that experience beyond our traditional dates," said DOC NYC Artistic Director Jaie Laplante.

DOC NYC Selects will offer audiences a variety of advance premieres of highly anticipated documentary features and series, many of them screening in New York City for the first time, and include on-stage post-screening conversations with creators and subjects. Each screening will extend beyond the theater with a DOC NYC-themed, after-screening \$10 Selects cocktail at the West Village's new social outpost, 9 Jones. The Spring 2023 edition of DOC NYC Selects is co-presented by

Pure Nonfiction, the documentary podcast hosted by DOC NYC's Director of Special Projects (and founding Artistic Director) Thom Powers.

Portraits of key cultural figures and their legacies are a key theme of this inaugural edition of DOC NYC Selects. The series kicks off on March 21 with ***Judy Blume Forever*** from Emmy-winning filmmakers Davina Pardo and Leah Wolchok, fresh off its recent Sundance world premiere. Pardo and Wolchok's film celebrates the trailblazing author of such classics as *Are You There God? It's Me Margaret* and *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing*, books that gave millions of adolescent readers a new way of understanding themselves. Blume's radical honesty also waded directly into the troubled waters of culture wars, and heated battles against book banning and censorship.

The New York City premiere of Nancy Buirski's ***Desperate Souls, Dark City and the Legend of Midnight Cowboy*** will close Selects on April 25. Buirski's film, which premiered at the Venice Film Festival, looks at how John Schlesinger's 1969 Oscar-winning landmark film *Midnight Cowboy* became a cultural phenomenon and changed forever the way New York City would be portrayed and perceived in cinema.

Other highlights of the series include the SXSW-premiering ***Being Mary Tyler Moore***, from filmmaker James Adolphus, a dress-to-impress screening of Lisa Cortés' joyous Sundance-premiering ***Little Richard: I Am Everything*** and a re-launch of Alan Berliner's 2019 profound and playful essay film, ***Letter to the Editor***.

Ticket Information

DOC NYC Selects: Spring 2023 events are on sale now at www.docnyc.net and www.ifcenter.com. Single screening tickets are \$17- (\$14 for seniors and \$12 for IFC Center members) each. A Series Season Pass, good for all six Spring 2023 screenings in the DOC NYC Selects series, is available at \$80 (\$55 for IFC Center members). Following the screenings, the conversation continues at the nearby 9 Jones lounge, with DOC NYC-themed drink specials. For questions about accessibility at the screening, please email accessibility@docnyc.net.

DOC NYC Selects: Spring 2023 - Program Details and Schedule

Tuesday, March 21, 7pm

Series Opening Night

JUDY BLUME FOREVER

Directors: Davina Pardo, Leah Wolchok

Producers: Davina Pardo, Leah Wolchok, Sara Bernstein, Justin Wilkes, Marcella Steingart

Emmy-winning filmmakers Davina Pardo and Leah Wolchok trace trailblazing author Judy Blume's journey from fearful, imaginative child to storytelling pioneer who elevated the physical and emotional lives of kids and teens, to banned writer who continues to fight back against censorship today. (Amazon Studios)

The screening will be followed by an on-stage conversation with filmmakers Davina Pardo and Leah Wolchok.

Tuesday, March 28, 7pm

LITTLE RICHARD: I AM EVERYTHING

Director: Lisa Cortés

Producers: Lisa Cortés, Robert Friedman, Liz Yale Marsh, Caryn Capotosto

Director Lisa Cortés' Sundance opening night documentary tells the story of the Black queer origins of rock n' roll, exploding the whitewashed canon of American pop music to reveal the innovator – the originator – Richard Penniman, aka Little Richard. (Magnolia Pictures/CNN Films)

This dress-to-impress screening will be followed by an on-stage conversation with filmmaker Lisa Cortés.

Tuesday, April 4, 7pm

Film and guest information to be announced in mid-March.

Tuesday, April 11, 7pm

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Director: Alan Berliner

Producer: Alan Berliner

After its New York City premiere at DOC NYC 2019, Alan Berliner's visual essay reflecting on photojournalism took a long hiatus from public availability.

Re-launching at DOC NYC Selects Spring 2023, Berliner's transformation of a 40-year collection of photographs clipped from *The New York Times* into a meditation on what will be lost if print newspapers go away is at once profound and playful.

The screening will be followed by an on-stage conversation with filmmaker Alan Berliner.

Tuesday, April 18, 7pm

BEING MARY TYLER MOORE (NYC Premiere)

Director: James Adolphus

Producers: Lena Waithe, Debra Martin Chase, Ben Selkow, Rishi Rajani, Andrew C. Coles, Laura Gardner

With unprecedented access to the Mary Tyler Moore Estate, friends, family, and colleagues, filmmaker James Adolphus constructs an intimate mosaic of Mary's sixty-year career in show business, and her lasting impact. (HBO Documentary Films)

The screening will be followed by an on-stage conversation with filmmaker James Adolphus.

Tuesday, April 25, 7pm

DESPERATE SOULS, DARK CITY AND THE LEGEND OF *MIDNIGHT COWBOY* (NYC Premiere)

Director: Nancy Buirski

Producers: Nancy Buirski, Simon Kilmurry, Susan Margolin

Nancy Buirski examines the gifted, fascinating people behind the dark and difficult masterpiece that is 1969's enduring classic *Midnight Cowboy*, while delving deep into New York City in a troubled time of cultural ferment.

The screening will be followed by an on-stage conversation with filmmaker Nancy Buirski and producer Susan Margolin.

Note: Guest participation subject to change.

For press and media inquiries, please contact:

Harris Dew, IFC Center: harris.dew@ifccenter.com

About DOC NYC:

DOC NYC, New York's documentary festival, takes place annually in November; the 14th edition will be held November 8-26, 2023. The 2022 festival showcased over 250 films and events with more than 1,000 filmmakers and special guests in person. In addition to premiering feature-length and short documentaries, the festival's highlights also include DOC NYC PRO—a series of in-depth panels and case studies that also take place throughout the year—and the Visionaries Tribute awards ceremony that honors major figures in the field of nonfiction film. DOC NYC's filmmaker and industry programs include the Storytelling Incubator, Documentary New Leaders, 40 Under 40, and Industry Roundtables for works-in-progress. DOC NYC is produced and presented by IFC Center, a division of AMC Networks.