



**10th ANNUAL DOC NYC VISIONARIES TRIBUTE TO HONOR  
MICHAEL MOORE, DEBORAH SHAFFER,  
MAITE ALBERDI, AND ERIKA DILDAY ON NOVEMBER 8**

**DOC NYC FESTIVAL TAKES PLACE IN PERSON AND ONLINE NOVEMBER 8-26**

New York, September 28, 2023 - DOC NYC, America's largest documentary festival, announced the honorees for its 10th annual Visionaries Tribute, which will take place at New York's Gotham Hall on November 8. **Lifetime Achievement** honors will be presented to filmmakers **Michael Moore** and **Deborah Shaffer**. The **Robert and Anne Drew Award for Documentary Excellence** will go to **Maite Alberdi** (*The Eternal Memory*) and the **Leading Light Award** will go to **Erika Dilday**, Executive Director of American Documentary.

DOC NYC's 2023 festival will take place both in person and online. The in-person events will take place November 8-16 in New York City at the festival's traditional venues: IFC Center and SVA Theatre, as well as its new venue Village East by Angelika. The festival's online presentations will extend through November 26, with online screenings available to viewers across the US.

"We're elated to celebrate the tenth anniversary of Visionaries Tribute with this stellar line-up," said DOC NYC co-founder and Director of Special Projects Thom Powers, who oversees the event. "Michael Moore reinvigorated the documentary form with his provocative humor. Deborah Shaffer has been a pillar of the New York documentary scene for decades. Maite Alberdi has dazzled international audiences with her observational filmmaking. And Erika Dilday is upholding a crucial space for independent filmmakers at American Documentary and POV."

**LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

The **Lifetime Achievement Award** honors individuals with a substantial body of documentary film work. Past recipients are Werner Herzog, Geralyn White Dreyfous, Joan Churchill, Raoul Peck, Sam Pollard, Jean Tsien, Martin Scorsese, Michael Apter, Wim Wenders, Orlando Bagwell, Sheila Nevins, Errol Morris, Stanley Nelson, Jonathan Demme, Barbara Kopple, Jon Alpert, Frederick Wiseman, D.A. Pennebaker, Chris Hegedus, and Albert Maysles.

The 2023 Lifetime Achievement Award goes to:

**Michael Moore** launched his documentary career with *Roger & Me* in 1989. He went on to break the documentary box office record with his 2002 Oscar-winning film *Bowling for Columbine* and the Palme d'Or-winning *Fahrenheit 9/11*, which remains the highest-grossing documentary of all time. His other notable films include the Oscar-nominated *Sicko*, *Capitalism: A Love Story*, *Where to Invade Next*, and *Fahrenheit 11/9*. He won the Emmy Award for his prime-time NBC series *TV Nation* and is one of America's top-selling nonfiction authors, with

such books as *Stupid White Men*; *Dude, Where's My Country?*; and *Here Comes Trouble*. He is the host of the podcast *Rumble with Michael Moore*.

**Deborah Shaffer** began making social issue documentaries as a member of the Newsreel collective in the 1970s. Her first feature documentary, *The Wobblies*, was recently added to the National Film Registry. Her directing credits include *Witness to War: Dr. Charlie Clements*, which won the Academy Award for Short Documentary, as well as the features *Fire From the Mountain*, *Dance of Hope*, *From the Ashes: 10 Artists*, and *Queen of Hearts: Audrey Flack*. She co-directed and produced *To Be Heard*, which won awards at numerous festivals, including the Audience Award and Grand Jury Prize at the inaugural DOC NYC.

## **ROBERT AND ANNE DREW AWARD FOR DOCUMENTARY EXCELLENCE**

The **Robert and Anne Drew Award for Documentary Excellence** is named for the pioneering husband and wife filmmaking team. The award includes a \$5,000 cash prize contributed by Drew Associates. The award honors a mid-career filmmaker or partnership that excels in observational filmmaking. Three of the past six recipients of the award have gone on to win the Oscar for Best Documentary. Past honorees include Ondi Timoner, Peter Nicks, Alexander Nanau, Steven Bognar and Julia Reichert, Elizabeth Chai Vasarhelyi and Jimmy Chin, Heidi Ewing and Rachel Grady, Dawn Porter, Kim Longinotto, and Laura Poitras.

The 2023 Robert and Anne Drew Award goes to:

**Maite Alberdi** won the Sundance World Cinema Documentary Award for her latest film, *The Eternal Memory*, a poignant look at the marriage of Chilean actress Paulina Urrutia and journalist Augusto Góngora that balances vibrant individual and collective remembrance with the longevity of an unbreakable human bond. Her previous works include *The Mole Agent*, which was nominated for an Oscar, as well as *The Grown-Ups*, *Tea Time*, and *The Lifeguard*.

Jill Drew, the general manager of Drew Associates, who established this award at DOC NYC, said, "Maite Alberdi has dazzled me with her unique approach to observational filmmaking across her career from *Tea Time* to *The Mole Agent* to *The Eternal Memory*. In her latest work, she exercises great subtlety at exploring the challenge of memory loss while capturing a love story for the ages."

## **LEADING LIGHT AWARD**

The **Leading Light Award** honors an individual making a critical contribution to documentary in a role other than as a filmmaker. The past recipients are Sonya Childress, Chi-hui Yang, Yvonne Welbon, Cynthia Lopez, Tabitha Jackson, Cara Mertes, Molly Thompson, Tom Quinn, and Dan Cogan.

The 2023 Leading Light Award goes to:

**Erika Dilday** is the Executive Director of American Documentary Inc. and the Executive Producer of its award-winning documentary series *POV* on PBS and *America ReFramed* on WORLD Channel. Previously, she was the CEO of Futuro Media Group and the Executive Director of Maysles Documentary Center where she oversaw community cinema, filmmaking programs and produced the documentary *In Transit*.

Support for the Visionaries Tribute comes from Netflix. Additional support comes from Supporting Sponsor National Geographic Documentary Films and Signature Sponsor Bloomberg Philanthropies.

For information about purchasing a table at the Visionaries Tribute or advertising in the program book, please contact Allyson Morgan at [allyson@docnyc.net](mailto:allyson@docnyc.net).

More news about the festival, including features and shorts named to the festival's Short List sections, the main slate lineup, jurors for DOC NYC's competitive sections, and other updates will be announced in the coming weeks.

## SPONSORS

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DOC NYC is produced and presented by IFC Center, a division of AMC Networks.

To inquire about sponsor or partnership opportunities for DOC NYC, contact Executive Director Raphaela Neihausen at [raphaela@docnyc.net](mailto:raphaela@docnyc.net).

**Images of Visionaries Tribute honorees can be found [here](#).**

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