

DOC NYC Announces New Season of Screening Series, DOC NYC SELECTS, at IFC Center, Beginning February 13

Winter 2024 Season Features Sneak Previews of Five Noted New Documentaries, Including Sundance and TIFF Hits, with Filmmakers in Person

NEW YORK, January 26, 2024 - **DOC NYC**, America's largest documentary film festival, today announced the return of its ongoing in-person screening series, **DOC NYC Selects**, an extension of its annual fall event. The Winter 2024 edition of DOC NYC Selects will run Tuesday evenings for five consecutive weeks, February 13 - March 12, at New York's **IFC Center**, with filmmakers in person.

"The new season of DOC NYC Selects will offer audiences a variety of undeniable, stunning new documentary features, the majority screening in New York City for the first time," said DOC NYC Artistic Director Jaie Laplante. "I look forward to the on-stage post-screening conversations with creators and subjects, which will extend beyond the theater with an after-screening Selects gathering at a nearby West Village social outpost."

The series kicks off on February 13 with the New York City premiere of *Frida* from Emmy-nominated editor and first-time feature director Carla Gutiérrez, direct from its recent Sundance world premiere. Gutiérrez's film takes the rare step of using the iconic Mexican artist's own words, culled from diaries, interviews and

other sources. Mixing visceral animation of Kahlo's influential works and expressive voice-over artists, *Frida* is a definitive film.

The following week, the New York City premiere of the Sundance 2024 competition film *As We Speak: Rap Music on Trial,* from filmmaker J.M. Harper will screen, significantly as part of Black History Month. Harper uncovers how rap has been not only irrationally demonized in the past 30 years and how racist responses to the art form have been used to secure unjust convictions in the U.S.'s carcel system, but how this disturbing trend is part of a larger 400-year history of the criminalization of Black music and Blackness itself.

Other highlights of the series include the New York City premieres of *Sorry/Not Sorry*, Caroline Suh and Cara Mones' provocative examination of Louis C.K.'s cultural "cancellation" in 2017 and the comedian's subsequent controversial comeback; and Lee Hirsch's *The First Class*, a closely observed verité film that gives voice to a new approach to American education.

An encore screening of the recent DOC NYC world premiere hit *The Trials of Alan Dershowitz*, from Canadian filmmaker John Curtin, completes the new season of Selects.

Ticket Information

DOC NYC Selects: Winter 2024 events are on sale now at <u>www.docnyc.net</u> and <u>www.ifccenter.com</u> (link to event page). Single screening tickets are \$18 (\$15 for seniors and \$12 for IFC Center members) each. A Series Season Pass, good for all five Winter 2024 screenings in the DOC NYC Selects series, is available for \$70 (\$50 for IFC Center members). For questions about accessibility at the screening, please email <u>accessibility@docnyc.net</u>.

DOC NYC Selects: Winter 2024 - Program Details and Schedule

Tuesday, February 13, 7pm Series/Edition Opening Night FRIDA Director: Carla Gutiérrez Producers: Katia Maguire, Sara Bernstein, Justin Wilkes, Loren Hammonds, Alexandra Johnes

NYC PREMIERE An intimately raw and magical journey through the life, mind, and heart of iconic artist Frida Kahlo. Told through her own words for the very first time — drawn from her diary, revealing letters, essays, and print interviews — and brought vividly to life by lyrical animation inspired by her unforgettable artwork. (Amazon Studios) *The screening will be followed by an on-stage conversation with filmmaker Carla Gutiérrez.*

Tuesday, February 20, 7pm AS WE SPEAK: RAP MUSIC ON TRIAL

Director: J.M. Harper

Producers: Sam Widdoes, Peter Cambor, Sam Bisbee, J.M. Harper

NYC PREMIERE Bronx rap artist Kemba explores the growing weaponization of rap lyrics in the United States criminal justice system and abroad — revealing how law enforcement has quietly used artistic creation as evidence in criminal cases for decades. (Paramount+) *The screening will be followed by an on-stage conversation with filmmaker J.M. Harper and additional guests.*

Tuesday, February 27, 7pm SORRY/NOT SORRY

Directors: Caroline Suh, Cara Mones Producers: Caroline Suh, Cara Mones, Kathleen Lingo

NYC PREMIERE Louis C.K.'s sexual misconduct during his long comedy career, alongside the perspectives of three women who spoke out about it, is examined. After admitting "these stories are true," C.K. faced initial repercussions followed by a swift comeback. (Greenwich Entertainment) *The screening will be followed by an on-stage conversation with filmmakers Caroline Suh, Cara Mones, and additional guests.*

Tuesday, March 5, 7pm THE TRIALS OF ALAN DERSHOWITZ Director: John Curtin Producer: John Curtin **DOC NYC FESTIVAL ENCORE** A fresh perspective on the provocative and controversial criminal defense attorney Alan Dershowitz, known for representing some of America's most notorious clients. Narrated by Dershowitz with insights from Gloria Allred, Mike Tyson, and Megan Kelly, this engaging documentary unveils a fresh perspective on the provocative and controversial lawyer. *The screening will be followed by an on-stage conversation with filmmaker John Curtin.*

Tuesday, March 12, 7pm THE FIRST CLASS

Director: Lee Hirsch Producers: Lee Hirsch, Robert Fernandez

NYC PREMIERE Crosstown High in Memphis, Tennessee is part of a national movement to redefine the future of learning in the U.S. In Lee Hirsch's closely observed verité film, the story of Crosstown's founding class gives voice to the beauty and value of high school—and the possibility of what high school can be for students everywhere. *The screening will be followed by an on-stage conversation with filmmakers Lee Hirsch and Robert Fernandez.*

Note: Guest participation subject to change.

For press and media inquiries, please contact:

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About DOC NYC:

DOC NYC, New York's documentary festival, takes place annually in November; the 15th edition will be held November 13-December 1, 2024. The 2023 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 Documentary New Leaders, 40 Under 40, and Pitch Day for works-in-progress. DOC NYC is produced and presented by IFC Center, a division of AMC Networks.