

LE SPRINT GALA STANDING TOGETHER FOR OUR MOVIES

Montreal, May 27, 2020 – Québec Cinéma is pleased to present the 5th annual SPRINT Gala. From May 28 to June 21, and thanks to the invaluable participation of the major viewing platforms for Quebec-made films, Québec Cinéma will provide access to the 40 films nominated for the 2020 Iris Awards, for a total of 25 days of all-Quebec programming!

12 broadcast and streaming partners answered the call: ICI TOU.TV EXTRA, Crave, SUPER ÉCRAN, Bell, Vidéotron, TELUS, Tënk, NFB, Maison 4:3, Les Films du 3 Mars, MK2 MILE END and Plein(s) Écran(s). The initiative will allow audiences to get ready for the Gala Québec Cinéma on June 10, where the 28 Iris Awards will be presented, by (re)watching the year's best films from Quebec. Cinephiles will also be able to enjoy the winning films in the week following the presentation of the awards.

"I am happy to see the film and exhibition industries working together again, for a fifth year, in this exceptional discoverability initiative for our films. The past year was an exceptional one for our industry. Thanks to this unique collaboration among distributors, exhibitors and partners, movie lovers will be able to watch the films in the running for the Iris Awards and appreciate our artists' great talent. I am also delighted that the 2020 edition of the SPRINT has been extended to 25 days, so that Quebecers can use their time in isolation to catch our very best movies," said Ségolène Roederer, executive director of Québec Cinéma.

STANDING TOGETHER FOR OUR MOVIES!

The partner platforms will launch the SPRINT Gala starting at noon on May 28:

- ICI TOU.TV EXTRA, Crave, SUPER ÉCRAN, Bell, Vidéotron, TELUS and Tënk will offer their subscribers special SPRINT Gala programming.
- NFB.ca and select distributors' platforms, including those of Les Films du 3 mars, Maison 4:3 and MK2 MILE END, will participate through their video-on-demand services.
- <u>Plein(s) Écran(s) | Festival de cinéma sur Facebook</u> will present the winning short films in the fiction and animation categories for free, for 48 hours starting on June 11.

Crave and Québec Cinéma will also present the series Cinéma Maison SPRINT Gala on May 29 and June 5, 12 and 19, alongside the SPRINT Gala. Starting at 7:30 p.m., the audience will be invited to join the show's special guests in a discussion of one of the year's top Quebec-made films. The talks, moderated by Ségolène Roederer, will happen live on the Facebook pages of Québec Cinéma, Crave and Super Écran. The films *Menteur* by Émile Gaudreault, *Antigone* by Sophie Deraspe, *Fabuleuses* by Mélanie Charbonneau and *Kuessipan* by Myriam Verreault will headline the series. After the discussions, cinephiles will be able to watch the four Iris nominees on Crave, with their Super Écran subscription. It's a great opportunity to have an enhanced and enriched cinematic experience from the comfort of home.

With the 2020 edition of the SPRINT Gala, movie lovers will be able to enjoy a great selection of our films from anywhere, at any time, on their preferred platform. The availability of SPRINT Gala films will vary depending on the platform. **Visit** <u>quebeccinema.ca</u> for complete programming details. *Appended is a list of films by category and platform.

IRIS AUDIENCE AWARD

Remember, the public can vote for their favourite Quebec-made film of the year starting at noon today. Votes contribute to the selection of the Iris Audience Award winner, to be revealed during the Gala Québec Cinéma. Cinephiles can visit <u>Radio-Canada.ca/galaquebeccinema</u> and enter their vote for *La femme de mon frère* by Monia Chokri, *II pleuvait des oiseaux* by Louise Archambault, *Mafia Inc* by Daniel Grou (Podz), *Menteur* by Émile Gaudreault and *Merci pour tout* by Louise Archambault. Voting will continue until June 9 at noon.

THE GALA QUÉBEC CINÉMA AND IRIS 2020 PRESENTATION

As previously announced, Québec Cinéma and Radio-Canada will present the Iris awards in two sessions on **Wednesday, June 10.** The industry and the public are invited to participate in the festivities from the comfort of home, **live starting at 7 p.m. online** and at **9 p.m.** on **ICI TÉLÉ**.

7 p.m. LE GALA SUR LE SOFA With Élise Guilbault, Guillaume Lambert and Mani Soleymanlou Live on <u>Radio-Canada.ca/galaquebeccinema, ici.artv.ca, Québec Cinéma's Facebook page</u> and <u>ICI</u> <u>TÉLÉ's Facebook page</u>.

9 p.m. BONSOIR, BONSOIR ! SPÉCIAL CINÉMA

Hosted by **Jean-Philippe Wauthier** Live on ICI TÉLÉ, <u>Radio-Canada.ca/galaquebeccinema</u> and ICI TOU.TV.

LATER VIEWING

Both of the Iris 2020 award presentation segments will be available for later viewing on <u>Radio-</u> <u>Canada.ca/galaquebeccinema</u> and ICI TOU.TV. Don't miss any Gala Québec Cinéma news: **#GalaCinéma #Galasursofa #Restezchezvous**<u>Facebook | Twitter | Instagram | Vimeo | YouTube | guebeccinema.ca</u>

ESSENTIAL PARTNERSHIPS

Québec Cinéma extends sincere thanks to Telefilm Canada and the Société de développement des entreprises culturelles (SODEC), who make the SPRINT Gala possible. We also thank our broadcasting and streaming partners: ICI TOU.TV EXTRA, Crave, SUPER ÉCRAN, Bell, Vidéotron, TELUS, NFB, Tënk, Les Films du 3 Mars, Maison 4:3, MK2 MILE END and Plein(s) Écran(s), without which this project could never achieve the success it deserves. Thanks also to Rouge FM and La Presse for their media support. Special thanks to the distributors of the Iris Awards nominees for their vital contribution to the SPRINT Gala.

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SOURCE Chantale Crépeault | communications director | Québec Cinéma chantale@quebeccinema.ca | 514-756-8342

MEDIA Marie-Noël Phaneuf | Annexe Communications <u>mnphaneuf@annexecommunications.com</u> | 514-553-2570