

***For Immediate Release***

Wednesday, September 5, 2018

**FIN Atlantic International Film Festival's Closing Night Gala film announced  
adding to diverse and international 2018 program**

(Halifax, NS) – FIN Atlantic International Film Festival, taking place September 13-20 in Halifax, Nova Scotia, has announced its final films to complete the 2018 program line-up, including the highly anticipated Closing Night Gala film.

The new additions include the following:

**Closing Night Gala: *The Wife*** (Björn Runge, Sweden / USA / UK)

Thursday, September 20, 7 p.m. at Cineplex Park Lane Theatres 8 & 7

Joan Castleman (Glenn Close) is a still-striking beauty with impeccable credentials, the perfect alpha wife. Forty years spent sacrificing her own talent, dreams and ambitions to fan the flames of her charismatic husband Joe (Jonathan Pryce) and his skyrocketing literary career. On the eve of Joe's Nobel Prize for Literature, the crown jewel in a spectacular body of work, Joan's coup de grace is to confront the biggest sacrifice of her life and secret of his career.

**Gala Presentation: *American Chaos*** (James D. Stern, USA)

Tuesday, September 18, 9:30 p.m., Cineplex Park Lane Theatres 8 & 7

Starting six months before the 2016 presidential election, director Jim Stern put his life on hold and traveled through red states to interview and spend time with Donald Trump supporters from different backgrounds. It was a search for insights and answers, for anything that could explain the billionaire's surging appeal and why these voters remained untroubled by so many troubling things the candidate had said and done.

**Gala Presentation: *Free Solo*** (E. Chai Vasarhelyi, Jimmy Chin, USA)

Wednesday, September 19, 9:30 p.m., Cineplex Park Lane Theatres 8 & 7

From award-winning documentary filmmaker E. Chai Vasarhelyi and world-renowned photographer and mountaineer Jimmy Chin comes *Free Solo*, a stunning, intimate, and unflinching portrait of free soloist climber Alex Honnold as he prepares to climb the face of the world's most famous rock - the 3,200-foot El Capitan in Yosemite National Park - without a rope.

**Extreme Program: *Climax*** (Gaspar Noé, France)

Wednesday, September 19, 10 p.m., Cineplex Park Lane Theatre 3

A group of amateur dancers finish off an intense rehearsal with a party and someone has spiked the sangria...with LSD! No one makes cinema like Gaspar Noé (*Irreversible*, *Enter the Void*),

with hyper colour, nausea-inducing camerawork and an incredibly relentless thumping soundtrack. And with *Climax*, all of his extreme tendencies coalesce into what is quite possibly 2018's most thrilling movie experience.

"The Atlantic International Film Festival is incredibly fortunate to serve a community of such diverse interests and backgrounds each September," says Program Director Jason Beaudry. "One of the most important aspects of the Festival and one of the things we are most proud of, is when our presentations bring a community together for a special purpose. With 30 countries represented, and a vast array of topics covered throughout the program, we eagerly await welcoming everyone to celebrate, and perhaps discover, the diversity that's on offer this year."

With the FIN organization's 2017 rebrand, "International" was added to the Festival's name, and doing so highlights a long-standing tradition. FIN Atlantic International Film Festival has been a significantly global affair throughout its existence, bringing films from all over the world to Atlantic Canada for 38 years. For the 2018 edition, this new name is more apt than ever, with films spanning the globe and entries in over twenty languages, which include: Anishinaabemowin, Arabic, Cantonese, Croatian, Danish, French, German, Icelandic, Italian, Japanese, Kiribati, Kurdish, Mandarin, Norwegian, Persian, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Spanish, Swedish, Taiwanese, Turkish, Yolngu Matha, and of course, English.

The Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA) has been a proud supporter of the Atlantic Film Festival Association since 1988, helping promote local talent, forge global connections and grow the local film industry.

The Government of Canada has been pleased to provide expansion and marketing assistance to FIN along the way, including a recent investment of \$250,000 through ACOA's Business Development Program. The non-repayable contribution will help FIN increase tourism and business opportunities, create new jobs for Atlantic Canadians and raise the profile of the region as a film destination to international markets.

"As Atlantic Canada's curator for unforgettable feature films, FIN delivers incredible screen performances by filmmakers, producers and actors from around the world time and time again. Supporting this event demonstrates the Government of Canada's belief in the power of Atlantic Canada's creative culture and its ability to attract global investment and retain our talented artistic community," says Andy Fillmore, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Canadian Heritage and Multiculturalism and Member of Parliament for Halifax, on behalf of the Honourable Navdeep Bains, Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development and Minister responsible for ACOA.

In today's global climate the stories and issues we face both right here and around the world affect us all. Those stories and issues are well represented across the entire 2018 film festival program, including Climate & the Environment, Mental Health & Awareness, Women's Issues, and Indigenous Issues and Stories.

## **About FIN Atlantic International Film Festival**

FIN Atlantic International Film Festival is an eight-day celebration of film and media from around the world. It's a festival that turns Halifax into an international mecca for the arts, abuzz with movie lovers and filmmakers alike. Discover a variety of local, national and international films that explore all corners of life, culture, entertainment and the global human experience. A champion of local filmmakers, all of our film selections are chosen with our audience in mind and our special events are designed to bring our community together.

A not-for-profit organization, the Festival began as a tiny, grassroots operation in St. John's, Newfoundland in 1981, relocating to Halifax the following year. Three decades later, FIN Atlantic International Film Festival has evolved into one of Canada's premier film festivals. Whether for unabashed film lovers, curious onlookers, or industry folks, the Festival offers an ocean of opportunities to engage through the celebration of film.

FIN Atlantic International Film Festival is now a year-round celebration, growing beyond our cornerstone event in September to include: FIN Kids, FIN Outdoor, FIN Campus, FIN Makers and FIN Partners.

### **Follow FIN Atlantic International Film Festival on:**

Our website: [finfestival.ca](http://finfestival.ca)

Facebook: [atlanticinternationalfilmfestival](https://www.facebook.com/atlanticinternationalfilmfestival) #FINAIFF #BingeOnUs

Twitter: [@thefilmfest](https://twitter.com/thefilmfest) #FINAIFF #BingeOnUs

Instagram: [@thefilmfest](https://www.instagram.com/thefilmfest) #FINAIFF #BingeOnUs

YouTube: [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)

-30-

### **For photos, interviews opportunities, and to apply for media accreditation, contact:**

Wendy Phillips, Publicity  
(902) 492-0960 / [wendy@pprl.ca](mailto:wendy@pprl.ca)  
[finfestival.ca/media](http://finfestival.ca/media)