CURIOUS MINDS WEEKEND RETURNS THIS MARCH WITH RENOWNED SPEAKERS LEADING RIVETING CONVERSATIONS

- Featuring Tina Brown, Reza Aslan, Marty Baron, Masai Ujiri, and more!
- Thought leaders, acclaimed journalists and cultural innovators discuss timely and critical world events

Toronto, January 23, 2018 – Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema and The Globe and Mail are pleased to announce their second annual Curious Minds Weekend, featuring three full days of world-renowned speakers leading captivating discussions—all moderated by journalists from The Globe and Mail. Listen, learn and be inspired as we welcome Vanity Fair’s former editor Tina Brown, Executive Editor of The Washington Post Marty Baron, Toronto Raptors President Masai Ujiri, and New York Times bestselling author Reza Aslan, to name only a few! Several speaker events will also be complemented by a post-talk book signing. Expand your mind and join the conversation with the Curious Minds Weekend, taking place from March 2 to 4 at Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema.

"Every year at our annual film festival, Hot Docs audiences encounter unforgettable stories that spark conversations about important issues and ideas," said Will Di Novi, lead curator of the Curious Minds Weekend. "Curious Minds Weekend is a way to continue that exhilarating exchange of ideas. Over three days of onstage conversations and panel discussions, hosted by Canada's best journalists, we’ll present brilliant thinkers from across the disciplines and engage with them on the most urgent—and exciting—issues of our time."

"With the speed of change—socially, technologically and economically—it’s essential to take time to step back and reflect," said David Walmsley, Editor-in-Chief of The Globe and Mail. "Curious Minds Weekend provides us with that opportunity and provokes new, creative ideas to stay informed and engaged in these turbulent times."

FRIDAY, MARCH 2

6:30 PM
TINA BROWN on THE VANITY FAIR DIARIES
Moderated by The Globe and Mail’s Editor-in-Chief David Walmsley

Legendary editor Tina Brown discusses the bestselling Vanity Fair Diaries, her rollicking account of running one of the world's most influential magazines. Relive the news scoops and images that entranced millions—the Reagan Kiss, the meltdown of Princess Diana's marriage, those sensational Annie Leibovitz covers—and learn the brilliant formula that turned the struggling Vanity Fair into a global juggernaut. Now the CEO of the Women in the World Summit, which promotes the work of powerful new female role models, Brown remains one of the media's most influential tastemakers.
9:15 PM
SMASHING THE PATRIARCHY
Featuring Jen Agg, Emma Phillips and City Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam
Moderated by Globe and Mail columnist Elizabeth Renzetti

Jen Agg is the one of Canada’s most accomplished restaurateurs and the hospitality world’s foremost feminist firebrand. Labour Lawyer Emma Phillips has acted as legal counsel on prominent reviews addressing sexual harassment in organizations, including the Canadian Armed Forces. Toronto City Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam has a distinguished track record of human rights advocacy and co-presented Toronto’s first public forum on Gender Responsive Budgeting. Get inspired as these extraordinary industry leaders share their strategies for thriving in a career while working to confront—and end—sexism in the workplace.

SATURDAY, MARCH 3

10:30 AM
DAVID CROMBIE & NAM KIWANUKA on PRESERVING TORONTO’S NATURAL HERITAGE

David Crombie is one of Canada’s greatest public servants; a former Federal Cabinet Minister and Mayor of Toronto who remains a voice of authority on urban history and public affairs. Nam Kiwanuka is an acclaimed TVO broadcaster whose stories on immigration, the environment and Ontario history make civic issues exciting for younger generations. Join these two dynamic thinkers as they discuss their common passion for heritage preservation and the environment.

12:30 PM
GETTING THE STORY: BEHIND-THE-SCENES with The Globe and Mail

Journalism is one of the most powerful modes of storytelling. It gives a voice to the voiceless, and can catalyze meaningful change. But it’s far from easy. From finding the story and getting the interviews, to uncovering the issues and gathering the data, Globe journalists will give you a glimpse into places we may never see, and people we may never meet — helping us to understand an ever-changing world. So how do they get the story? Come behind the scenes to hear Globe and Mail journalists recount some of their most rewarding reporting journeys.

3:30 PM
MARTY BARON on THE FOURTH ESTATE IN THE AGE OF TRUMP
Moderated by The Globe and Mail’s Editor-in-Chief David Walmsley

At a time of political polarization and unprecedented attacks on the press, few are doing more to build trust in media institutions and hold the powerful accountable than Marty Baron, Executive Editor of The Washington Post. Immortalized in the Oscar-winning movie Spotlight, Baron now leads an extraordinary newsroom that is racking up scoop after scoop amid the turmoil of the Trump era. Hear Baron discuss the news stories that will keep his Post colleagues busy in 2018 and his strategies for keeping readers informed and engaged in the age of “fake news” and “alternative facts.”
7:00 PM
MASAI UJIRI on BUILDING A GLOBAL SPORTS JUGGERNAUT
Moderated by The Globe and Mail’s national sports columnist Cathal Kelly

He turned the Toronto Raptors into one of the NBA’s most successful franchises; but Raptors’ President Masai Ujiri is more than just a brilliant basketball mind, he’s also one of Canada’s most innovative executives. Ujiri has attracted and retained top level talent in a competitive international marketplace and served as a global ambassador for his city and his sport. His charitable efforts in Toronto and across his native Africa are a model for global citizenship in the 21st century—and a reminder of the true meaning of sportsmanship.

9:15 PM
JOHN HODGMAN on VACATIONLAND AND LIFE AFTER FAKE NEWS
Moderated by The Globe and Mail feature writer Ian Brown

Although his career as a bestselling author, comedic actor and Daily Show contributor was founded on fake news and invented facts, in 2016 that routine didn’t seem as funny to John Hodgman anymore. Disarmed of falsehood, Hodgman set off on the hilarious adventures he recounts in his first non-fiction work Vacationland, a travelogue through the wilds of his native New England and the rocky terrain of middle age. Presenting the book in Toronto for the first time, Hodgman will reveal the horror of freshwater clams, the evolutionary purpose of the mustache and the joys and sorrows of facing your forties.

SUNDAY, MARCH 4

1:00 PM
REZA ASLAN on GOD: A HUMAN HISTORY AND THE SEARCH FOR THE DIVINE
Moderated by The Globe and Mail’s deputy foreign editor Affan Chowdry

Whether he’s celebrating the revolutionary politics of Jesus, exploring the evolution and future of Islam, or debating the latest religious controversies on MSNBC and NPR, Reza Aslan is one of the world’s most exciting and provocative scholars of religion. In his new book, the New York Times bestseller, God: A Human History, Aslan offers a concise and fascinating history of humanity’s quest to understand the divine, arguing that the desire to humanize God, and create “a divine version of ourselves,” is a central feature of nearly every religious tradition.

3:45 PM
SHEELAH KOLHATKAR on REFORMING THE POST-CRASH ECONOMY
Moderated by The Globe and Mail’s Financial Services Editor Rita Trichur

In the decade following the 2008 Financial Crisis, The New Yorker’s Sheelah Kolhatkar has emerged as one of the most insightful commentators on the dramatic changes convulsing the world economy. A Toronto native and former hedge fund analyst who now serves as a staff writer and financial columnist for the magazine, Kolhatkar has been chronicling the vices of Wall Street and how problems like financial corruption, sexism and the aggressive tactics of billionaire financiers are spreading into institutions across the US economy.
6:30 PM
ACADEMY AWARDS® RED CARPET RECEPTION
Close out Curious Minds Weekend with a dose of Hollywood glamour! Enjoy delicious appetizers, drinks, early seating access to our Oscars Live Broadcast and the chance to chat with your favourite Globe and Mail columnists.

7:30 PM
FREE OSCARS LIVE BROADCAST & COMMENTARY
Hosted by Globe and Mail columnist Johanna Schneller

Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema rolls out the red carpet for a live telecast of the 90th Academy Awards®. Join us for a free night of glitz, glamour and commentary hosted by your favourite film columnists from The Globe and Mail, who will dissect the biggest stories of the night during commercial breaks.

Tickets are $29-$39 each (Hot Docs Members and Globe and Mail subscribers: $21-$29). Weekend passes $149 for one ticket to all Curious Minds Weekend events (Hot Docs members and Globe and Mail subscribers: $129). Tickets can be purchased at the Hot Docs box office (506 Bloor St. W.) or online at www.hotdocscinema.ca.

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Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema is a historic, century-old cinema located in Toronto’s vibrant Annex neighbourhood. Owned and operated by Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival, the 684-seat venue is a year-round home for first-run Canadian and international documentaries, as well as special documentary presentations and showcases, including the popular Doc Soup screening series. Continuing its longstanding role as a community cinema, it also hosts many of the city’s independent film festivals and is a proud member of the Bloor St. Culture Corridor. In June 2016, a donation from the Rogers Foundation enabled Hot Docs to purchase the cinema.

The Globe and Mail, founded in 1844, is Canada’s foremost news media company. Each day, The Globe leads the national discussion by engaging Canadians through its award-winning coverage of news, politics, business, investing and lifestyle topics, across multiple platforms. The Globe and Mail print and digital formats reach 6.4 million readers every week, with Report on Business magazine reaching 1.7 million readers every issue in print and digital. The Globe and Mail is owned by Woodbridge, the investment arm of the Thomson family.

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