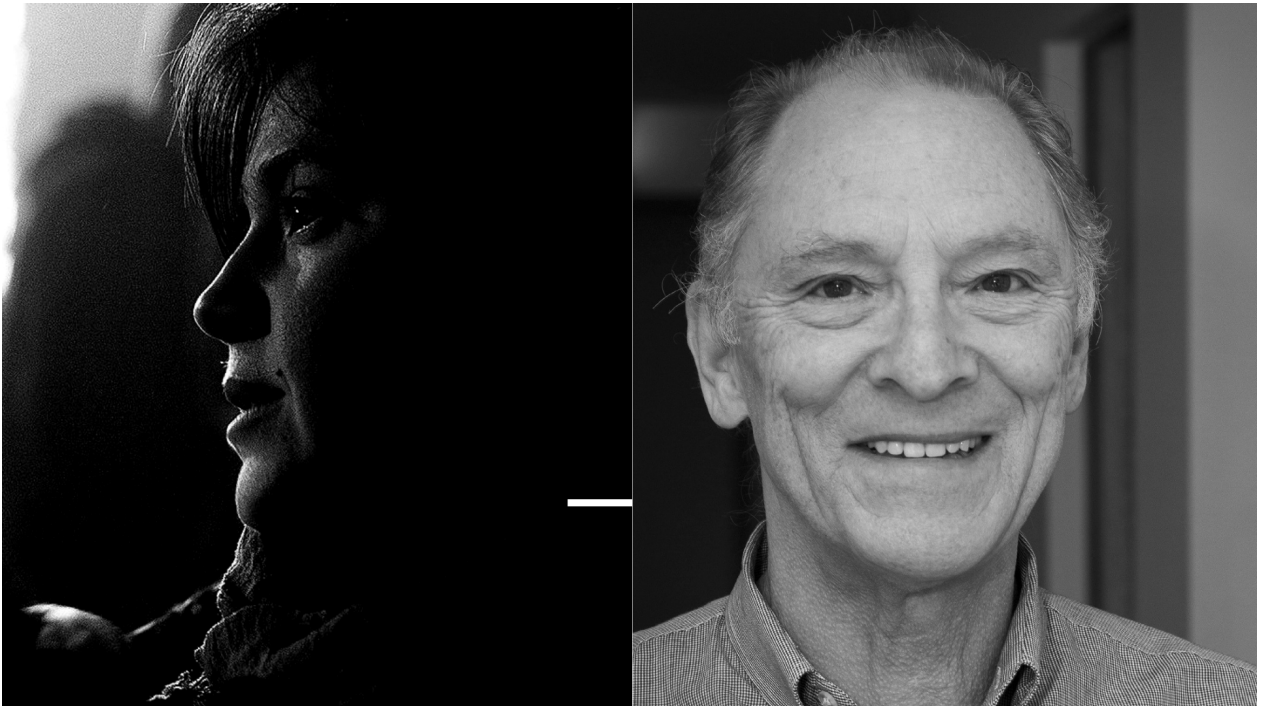




FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE TOURNÉE QUÉBEC CINÉMA VISITS ALBERTA EXCLUSIVE FILMS AND QUEBEC FILMMAKERS ON TOUR



Montreal, January 15, 2019 – This coming **January 25 and 26**, **La Tournée Québec Cinéma** will visit **Calgary** and **Lethbridge** for the first time, to present several short and feature films from Quebec for the region's cinephiles. The initiative launched 15 years ago, remains the biggest French-language film event in Canada outside Quebec, with many films presented in exclusive screenings. The 2019 tour is also bringing accomplished filmmakers to its screenings to field questions from the audience.

EXCLUSIVE SCREENINGS AND SPECIAL GUESTS

La Tournée Québec Cinéma helps promote francophone culture across Canada. In keeping with its mission, it presents recent films, most of which have never before been screened in Western Canada. This 2019 edition is sure to delight Alberta audiences with its high-quality programming. On Friday, January 25, the Tournée's team will descend on **Lethbridge** for two screenings at the Movie Mill theatre. Actor **Guy Thauvette** will be on hand for a Q&A session after the screening of ***Pieds nus dans l'aube*** by Francis Leclerc. This loose adaptation of a novel by the director's father, Félix Leclerc, was co-written by Fred Pellerin. Later the same evening, director **Jeanne Leblanc** will present her first feature, ***Isla Blanca***, a poetic work starring the charismatic Charlotte Aubin and Théodore Pellerin.

On Saturday, January 26 in **Calgary**, the **Cité des Rocheuses** will host screenings of three features and two shorts. A morning screening of ***Nelly et Simon: Mission Yéti***, co-directed by Nancy Florence Savard

and Pierre Greco will give families a great opportunity to see the best of Quebec's animation talent. In the afternoon, the short film *Lola, le vent* directed by Izabel Barsive will precede a screening of *Pieds nus dans l'aube*, while *Noah, 18 ans* by Francine Hébert will be shown before *Isla Blanca*.

In light of recent government cutbacks, the Tournée is particularly grateful to the **Société Cinémagine de l'Alberta**, the **Centre culturel francophone de Lethbridge**, the **Cité des rocheuses** and the **Front des réalisateurs indépendants du Canada (Fric)** for their commitment and support. Québec Cinéma also thanks the artists who are travelling with the Tournée to promote francophone culture across Canada.

THE TOURNÉE TURNS 15

Since its inception, the Tournée has travelled more than 170,000 kilometres, bringing Quebec's films and francophone culture to audiences. On its journeys, the Tournée has screened more than 700 films representing every genre, introduced 450 artists working in several film disciplines to audiences, and reached 107,000 spectators across Canada. This 15th season, already well under way, will keep showcasing Quebec's films throughout 2019 in every Canadian province outside Quebec, as well as Yukon.

At the same time, the Lab Québec Cinéma will visit schools in Western Canada to present workshops and discussions for students. In just over 15 years, Québec Cinéma's educational activities have reached some 80,000 primary, secondary and cégep students with nearly 450 films and hundreds of opportunities to talk film with industry professionals.

RAISING AUDIENCE AWARENESS OF INDIGENOUS CINEMA

For the last three years, La Tournée Québec Cinéma has presented films produced by the **Wapikoni Mobile**, an initiative that has earned well-deserved success. For this project, the Tournée presents short films by First Nations filmmakers, with the aim of raising audience awareness of a still relatively unknown filmmaking community. There are also Q&A sessions with indigenous filmmakers.

THE TOURNÉE QUÉBEC CINÉMA PRESENTS:

LETHBRIDGE

JANUARY 25 | MOVIE MILL

7 p.m.

Pieds nus dans l'aube by Francis Leclerc **with actor Guy Thauvette present**

9:30 p.m.

Isla blanca by Jeanne Leblanc, **who will attend**

CALGARY

JANUARY 26 | LA CITÉ DES ROCHEUSES

2 p.m.

Nelly et Simon: Mission Yéti by Nancy Florence Savard and Pierre Greco

4 p.m.

Pieds nus dans l'aube by Francis Leclerc **with actor Guy Thauvette present**. Preceded by the short film *Lola, le vent* by Izabel Barsive.

7:30 p.m.

Isla blanca by **Jeanne Leblanc**, who will attend. Preceded by the short film **Noah, 18 ans** by Francine Hébert

Schedule and details quebeccinema.ca.

Follow the Tournée Québec Cinéma's adventures: **#TournéeQcC**
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ESSENTIAL PARTNERSHIPS

The Tournée Québec Cinéma is presented in collaboration with Radio-Canada and made possible by Bell Média through tangible benefits. Québec Cinéma thanks the governments of British Columbia, Manitoba, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Nunavut, Newfoundland and Labrador and Ontario as well as its primary partners: Radio-Canada, MELS, Akufen and VIA Rail. Thanks to our public-sector and government partners: the Secrétariat du Québec aux relations canadiennes (SQRC), the Société de développement des entreprises culturelles (SODEC) and Telefilm Canada. The Tournée also thanks the Canada Council for the Arts for its support. Last year, the Council invested \$153 million to bring the arts to Canadians throughout the country.

ABOUT THE TOURNÉE QUÉBEC CINÉMA

The **Tournée Québec Cinéma** tours Quebec-made movies from coast to coast, making the event the largest Canada-wide promotional vehicle for our films. Because most francophone communities outside Quebec lack access to big-screen showings of films from Quebec, the Tournée's activities enhance established festivals and enrich communities' French-language cultural offerings. Each year, several artists join the tour, making it an exceptional event for francophones and francophiles who love our movies.

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