

The Water Docs Film Festival Is Back and Exclusively Online, November 4-8

Water Docs kicks off five days of water-themed documentaries with Watson, saluting renowned Canadian marine activist and 2020 Water Warrior Award-winner Paul Watson, Nov. 4







Stills from (L-R): Watson, Little Yellow Boots, and The Condor & The Eagle

TORONTO (October 7, 2020) – The <u>Water Docs Film Festival</u> is ready to quench the thirst of parched audiences everywhere with a virtual reboot of the festival, kicking off **Wednesday**, **Nov. 4!** Postponed this past March due to the pandemic, Water Docs is proud to re-imagine the festival to deliver digital screenings of five features and more than a dozen short films over the five day (**Nov. 4-8**) water-themed film showcase, exploring local and global water issues, along with informative online discussions with filmmakers, newsmakers, experts and advocates.

"Now in its ninth year, Water Docs curates an amazing annual showcase of water-themed films and experiences with the ultimate goal of inspiring community action to protect water," said Stan Gibson, Co-founder and Executive Director, Ecologos Environmental Organization. "We're honoured to deliver the festival exclusively online after postponing earlier this year, and we remain dedicated to upholding our mission: to stir and inspire people deeply through amazing films. We look forward to reuniting with our audience while staying safely apart."

A complete list of festival programming with screening times, synopses and trailer links will be available online on October 5 at https://www.waterdocs.ca/water-docs-2020.

DETAILS AT A GLANCE:

When: Wednesday, November 4 to Sunday, November 8, 2020

Where: Visit waterdocs.ca for the full film lineup and to purchase tickets on Monday, October 5

Festival Ticketing Info:

Festival passes are \$40 and will admit attendees to **all** screenings and special events. General Adult Admission: \$12 *Check website for multi-screening discounts and PWYC rates. **All previously purchased tickets and passes will be honoured!

The following is a listing of the 2020 edition of Water Docs Film Festival's programming:

FEATURE FILMS

Watson | Lesley Chilcott | Canadian Premiere

Featuring spectacular underwater nature footage, *Watson* paints a portrait of a man willing to put his own life at risk in a relentless quest to protect the oceans and the marine life within. Click <u>here</u> to watch the trailer.

Our Oceans: A Journey of Discovery | Charlie Luckock | North American Premiere
Our Oceans are in a state of crisis, and we're the ones responsible for it. A team of scientists,
divers, and photographers set out on a journey of discovery along one of the longest and
richest coastlines in the world and along the way unveil three incredible natural events of the
world, highlighting the impending threats, and promoting the protection of our oceans.
Click here to watch the trailer.

Little Yellow Boots | John Webster | Canadian Premiere

A cinematic letter to a future great-grandchild that weaves together a story of family, personal loss, and the positive difference each of us can make in the world. Click here to watch the trailer.

The Condor & The Eagle | Sophie and Clement Guerra |

Four Indigenous leaders embark on an extraordinary trans-continental adventure from the Canadian Boreal forests to deep into the heart of the Amazonian jungle to unite the peoples of North and South America and deepen the meaning of "climate justice". Click here to watch the trailer.

Sea of Shadows | Richard Ladkani | Water Docs 2020 Best Feature Award Winner When Mexican drug cartels and Chinese traffickers join forces to poach the rare totoaba fish in the Sea of Cortez, their deadly methods threaten virtually all marine life in the region, including endangered whale species the vaquita porpoise. Sea of Shadows follows a team of dedicated scientists, high-tech conservationists, investigative journalists and courageous undercover agents as well as the Mexican Navy as they put their lives on the line to save the last remaining vaquitas and bring the international crime syndicate to justice. Click here to watch the trailer.

SHORT FILMS

Wetlands | Persia Behesti

Dive into the celestial waters inhabited by mermaids inside an aquatic centre in Virginia, and explore the myth around water that provoked the creation of these water deities.

Mni Wiconi:Water is Life | Michael Genz and Jeremias Galante | Canadian Premiere

A black and white hand-drawn film that demonstrates how the fossil fuel industry is affecting climate change.

And That Is How The Rivers Came to Be | Miguel Araoz Cartagena and Stephanie Boyd |
This animation takes us back to the moment when a mighty Kukama God created the Amazon's rivers with his bow and arrow. Click here for the trailer.

Valley of the Southern North | Byron M. Dueck | Water Docs 2020 Best Short Award Winner A love letter to the Peace Valley and the people and creatures that make it home. The Site C dam, now under construction, will destroy the ancestral territory of the Dane Zaa and Cree, violate treaties and displace residents, farms, and wildlife living along its shores. Click here to watch the trailer.

Water Drops Shorts Program -- water films from around the world specially curated for short film lovers!

Cold Stunned – Henley Moore and David Coffey (Canadian Premiere)

Child of the Cenote – Andre Musgrove (Canadian Premiere)

Green Gold? – Nicky Milne (Canadian Premiere)

Italy & This Is Water - Ioan Gavriel and Anja Franziska Plaschg (Ontario Premiere)

Water – John Harvey

Call of the Lake – Cassidy McAuliffe (Toronto Premiere)

The Beaver Believers – Sarah Koenigsberg (Ontario Premiere)

Pilliga Rising- Mark Pearce (Toronto Premiere)

Media Note: For high res photos and interview opportunities with Ecologos/Water Docs, please contact WaterDocsInfo@gmail.com.

Social Media Links:

Twitter: <u>@WaterDocsFF</u> Facebook: <u>@waterdocs</u>

Instagram: <a>@waterdocsfilmfestival

#WaterDocs2020 #ActionForWater

About the Water Docs Film Festival

Dedicated to presenting independent, ground-breaking, water-themed documentaries, the Water Docs Film Festival is an annual exhibition that celebrates and promotes water protection and conservation. Water Docs provides a platform for vital discussions, and serves as a catalyst for change by providing opportunities to take action. Now in its ninth year, the festival delivers four diverse learning and action programs developed under the Water Docs Film Festival

banner, including the innovative <u>Water Docs @ School Action Projects</u>, currently rolled out in dozens of Grade 7 & 8 classes across Ontario and <u>Water Docs Where-You-Live</u> Community Screenings. The Water Docs Film Festival is produced and presented by <u>Ecologos</u>, a charitable, volunteer-driven organization that engages thousands of people each year in programs that celebrate a sense of reverence for water, inform about the challenges that threaten clean water supplies, and inspire action in defence of nature's most precious element.

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For more information, contact:

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