



## **AGH BMO World Film Festival Opens this Friday with *Loving Vincent* and *Long Time Running***

**October 11, 2017, Hamilton ON** – The AGH BMO World Film Festival, the Art Gallery of Hamilton’s annual film festival now in its 9th year, brings 54 films to five unique venues across Hamilton from Friday, October 13 to Sunday, October 22.

Representing 25 countries, 18 languages and a spectrum of engaging topics, the Festival opens at the Lincoln Alexander Centre with a sold out 7 pm screening of *Loving Vincent*, the world’s first fully painted film. Created using 100 painters and 65,000 frames, *Loving Vincent*, was a labour-intensive project that took four years to develop and then two more years of painting to complete. A second screening of *Loving Vincent* has now been added on Friday, October 20 at 7:30 pm to meet public demand.

Opening Night will also feature a 9:30 pm screening of *Long Time Running*, a powerful documentary profiling the 2016 final tour of Canadian rock icons The Tragically Hip. It is also bound to be a festival favourite

Other new Festival highlights include a free screening of the AGH Youth Film Challenge presented by the Hamilton Community Foundation on Saturday, October 14 at 12 pm and the winner of a 24-Hour Film Race to screen on Saturday, October 21 at 8 pm. Presented by Banko Media and Collective Arts Brewing, the race challenges Hamilton filmmakers to create the best short film in only 24 hours.

“The festival continues to become more dynamic and welcome larger audiences each year,” says Ryan Ferguson, AGH BMO World Film Festival Curator. “More and more people in this area are seeking out thought-provoking, high-quality films as an alternative to mainstream cinema; it’s really exciting.”

“We’re proud that over 25% of films screened at the Festival are Canadian productions, helmed by Canadian directors, and that over 40% were directed by women”

Festival audiences will have opportunities throughout the ten day event to join discussions with directors and special guests such as Mayor Fred Eisenberger, (Part of a panel following the screening of *Citizen Jane: Battle for the City* on Saturday, October 14 at 4 pm). There will also be a great kick-off party, this year inspired by Stanley Kubrick’s classic thriller *The Shining*. Within the glamour of the Lincoln Alexander Centre, guests will enjoy “Red Rum” cocktails as they mingle with ghosts from the 1920s and groove to tunes by DJ Better Love. Free entry, everyone welcome.

### **Screening Locations**

Lincoln Alexander Centre (main venue): 160 King Street East, Hamilton

AGH Annex: 118 James Street North, Hamilton

Art Gallery of Hamilton: 123 King Street West, Hamilton

Cineplex Cinemas Ancaster: 771 Golf Links Road, Ancaster

Collective Arts Brewing: 207 Burlington Street East, Hamilton

The Art Gallery of Hamilton is pleased to acknowledge BMO Financial Group as the Presenting Sponsor of the 2017 AGH BMO World Film Festival and gratefully acknowledges support from Collyer Benson Capital, Effort Trust, incite Foundation for the Arts, McMaster Alumni Association, BankoMedia, CCXIT, Young Architects of Hamilton, Judy Marsales Real Estate Ltd., The Hamilton Community Foundation, Flat Rock Cellars, Celebrate Ontario, and Unfiltered Facts. Official Newspaper Sponsor: The Hamilton Spectator. Official Radio Sponsor: Fresh Radio 95.3. Community Partners are Ancaster Film Festival, SACHA Hamilton, Aboriginal Health Centre, South Asian Heritage Association of Hamilton and Region, Collective Arts Brewing, Dr. Disc, McMaster Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences, Factory Media Centre, Centre 3, The Inlet, Hamilton Artist's Inc., Broad Conversations, Girl on the Wing and HPL: Local History and Archives.

**For complete screening schedule, film descriptions, film trailers and ticket purchase information, please visit [aghfilmfest.com](http://aghfilmfest.com).**

### **About the Art Gallery of Hamilton**

Founded in 1914, the Art Gallery of Hamilton is the oldest and largest public art gallery in southwestern Ontario. Its permanent collection, which is focused on historical Canadian, 19th-century European and Contemporary art, now numbers more than 10,000 works and is recognized as one of the finest in Canada. The AGH is a vital creative hub and centre of lifelong learning that enables people of all ages to enrich their lives by gaining a deeper understanding of art. Visit [www.artgalleryofhamilton.com](http://www.artgalleryofhamilton.com) for more information.

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