

For Immediate Release:
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**Week Two Continues from March 25 to 29 at
The Water Docs Film Festival
At Jackman Hall, at the Art Gallery of Ontario**
Themes explored range from water and energy, to fish farming
And the power of water and the emotions it evokes

Toronto, ON: The Festival's closing week continues to inspire and provoke conversation and action as it explores how water affects our everyday lives and how we all need water to survive. All films are screened at Jackman Hall at the Art Gallery of Ontario (McCaul Street entrance south of Dundas West with the white canopy). The RBC Blue Water Project is the Premier Partner of the film festival.

The second week begins with a free **Water Symposium** at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 25, exploring our shifting perspective on water, posing the important question: What is our role in shifting our own and other people's perspective and behaviour on important water issues. The discussion will start by examining the "overview effect" experienced by some astronauts. This evening promises to be a stimulating discussion with a film screening followed by interactive dialogue, and facilitated by Waterlution.

Next is **Soirée Francophone** presented with Cinéfranco on Thursday, March 27 with the film ***Le Porteur D'eau*** (2007) and the short ***Une histoire de tortues*** (2012) (Kathy Shultz). Filmmaker Pascal Gélinas will lead a discussion afterwards. Presented in association with Cinéfranco.

The Festival's closing weekend features the film ***Burning Water*** (2010) [[Watch the trailer](#)] on Friday, March 28 at 7 p.m., a thought-provoking film about the Rosebud River Valley, near Calgary, where everyone agrees that there's gas in the water, but few agree on why. Yet in the hamlet, where the Rosebud Theatre is a popular tourist attraction, most residents refuse to even talk about burning water, for fear of harming the tourist industry. The film explores the life of one family as they struggle to remain a part of their community, while confronting the dark truth of what may be happening beneath the surface. ***The Ocean Inside*** (2013) by Emmanuel Vaughan-Lee is a beautiful short film about the ocean through the experience of California writer and surfer Josh Berry.

Saturday, March 29, begins with a 3:00 pm matinée screening of two films on the downside of fish farming: ***Salmon Confidential*** (2013) [[Watch the trailer](#)] by filmmaker Twyla Roscovich and biologist Alexandra Morton. This shocking documentary uncovers the truth behind British Columbia's wild salmon which are testing positive for dangerous European salmon viruses that are associated with salmon farming worldwide.

In *Farmed and Dangerous* (2013 short feature) [\[Watch the trailer\]](#) filmmakers Alex and Tyler Mifflin (the Water Brothers) tell the story of what kind of salmon people are actually eating. The brothers immerse themselves in the worlds of both wild and farmed salmon to discover that chances are, we are eating salmon that is not wild. They ask the important question: Globally, over 70% of the salmon we eat is raised on fish farms in the open ocean. Does it matter?

Closing night explores the theme of the joys and sorrows of fishing with two films: *Kiss the Water* (2013) [\[Watch the trailer\]](#) and the short film *Losing Nemo* (2013). In *Kiss the Water*, director Eric Steel and animator Em Cooper adhere to and escape from a traditional documentary form, spinning the facts and fictions of one woman's life into a stunning film about craft, devotion, love, and its illusions. In a cottage in northern Scotland, Megan Boyd twirled bits of feather, fur, silver and gold into elaborate fishing flies – at once miniature works of art and absolutely lethal. Wherever men and women cast their lines for the mighty Atlantic salmon, her name is whispered in mythic reverence, and stories about her surface and swirl like fairy tales. With breathtaking cinematography and expressive, hand-painted animation, *Kiss the Water* portrays how she caught fishermen with her exquisite flies.

In the short film *Losing Nemo*, whales, sharks, dolphins, turtles, seals, rays, skates, tuna, swordfish and mackerel are only very few of the plentiful species which roam the oceans in search of food and shelter. This extraordinary biodiversity has in recent years become steadily more threatened by human activity such as damaging industrial fishing operations and illegal hunting practices.

Ticket Information: Tickets are available online at www.waterdocs.ca to follow the links for www.brownpapertickets.com/profile/557968 at Brown Paper Tickets or by phone at **1-800-838-3006 Ext. 1**, or at the Box Office 45 minutes before each event. Some activities are free.

The Water Docs Film Festival highlights feature and short films about water, with fascinating discussions with filmmakers and water experts. Capitalizing on rising public concern about water and the growing popularity of documentary storytelling, this is one of only three water-themed film festivals in the world. The festival aims to change attitudes and practices, and to inspire real action to protect water. See www.waterdocs.ca for the full schedule through Saturday, March 29.

On *World Water Day*, Water Docs celebrated the significance of water, with the launch of the Water Docs Campaign for Action with Lake Ontario Waterkeeper. This year-long project explores how people can make a sustained difference in protecting Ontario's water, with fun monthly challenges to celebrate water and engage in constructive action, and sharing of ideas and experiences in an online water community. Patrons are being asked to consider signing up and sharing their water experiences online at www.ecologos.ca

The RBC Blue Water Project is the Premier Partner of the Water Docs Film Festival, and the opening night was co-presented by the Walter and Duncan Gordon Foundation and Lake Ontario Waterkeeper, with support from the Bau-Xi Photography Gallery. Steam Whistle Brewery is the official beer of the Water Docs Film Festival. For more information on the Ecologos Institute, the network of volunteers and registered charity that created the festival, see their website at www.ecologos.ca

Media inquiries: dkpr public relations inc., Deborah Knight (416) 200-3577 (dkpr), dknight@dkpr.ca. Media tickets are available for all screenings.