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**CALIFORNIA FILM INSTITUTE ANNOUNCES
 2017 INAUGURAL DOCLANDS DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL
 COMPLETE LINEUP FOR FIRST EDITION**

Highlights Include *NARI*, *RUMBLE: THE INDIANS WHO ROCKED THE WORLD*,
STEP, *BRIMSTONE & GLORY*

Special Presentation *Long Strange Trip* Film & Afterparty Music Event at Sweetwater Music Hall

SAN RAFAEL, CA (April 18, 2017) – The DocLands Documentary Film Festival, presented by the California Film Institute (CFI), announced today the complete line-up for the inaugural edition of the Festival (May 10 – 14, 2017) The five-day event will screen in San Rafael and Mill Valley and will feature premieres, industry events and live musical performances.

DOCLANDS Opening Night Film & Party - NARI

May 10 | 7:00pm | Smith Rafael Film Center

Special Guests: Director/Musician **Gingger Shankar**, Musicians **Carlo Ribaux** and **Vivek Maddala**

Kicking off the inaugural DocLands Film Festival is a captivating evening with Gingger Shankar presenting *Nari*, a stunning documentary blending film, archival footage and animation, accompanied by a live narration and original musical score featuring vocals, Indian percussion and Shankar's unique double violin. The film and performance will be followed by a Q&A with the performers. *The DocLands Opening Night Party will be held on the Maple Lawn Terrace at the Elks Lodge in San Rafael.*

DOCLANDS Closing Night Film & Party – RUMBLE: THE INDIANS WHO ROCKED THE WORLD

May 13 | 7:00pm | Smith Rafael Film Center

Special Guest: Executive Producers **Stevie Salas** and **Christina Fon**

We'll be rocking out for Closing Night of the Festival with this exhilarating doc that delves deep into the electrifying and difficult history of Native Americans in contemporary music. Buffy Sainte-Marie, Charley Patton, Jimi Hendrix and Robbie Robertson infuse indigenous styles into rock and roll, while stories of lesser-known artists expose a rich history of Native American musicians finding a way to keep on rocking in the not always Free World. *The DocLands Closing Night Party will be held at Green Chile Kitchen in San Rafael.*

DOCLANDS Special Presentation – LONG STRANGE TRIP

May 14 | 2:00pm | Cinéarts at Sequoia

Special Guest: Director **Amir Bar-Lev**

Rounding out the five day Festival is a special presentation of Amazon Studios' documentary *Long Strange Trip*. Featuring never-before-seen concert footage and illuminating interviews with band members, this four-hour epic captures the Grateful Dead's wild, multi-decade journey from scruffy San Francisco Bay Area hippies to, arguably, the biggest band in the universe.

Screening to be followed by live music event at the Sweetwater. Separate ticket required.

Long Strange Trip After Party with Steve Kimock & Friends

May 14 | 8:00pm | Sweetwater Music Hall

Featuring Bobby Vega, Pete Sears, Lebo, John Kimock, Leslie Mendelson & special guests

Providing an interactive forum to help invigorate the business and art of nonfiction filmmaking and build an active, involved and fully supportive community around documentary film DocLands will host two industry events, **DOCPITCH** and **DOCTALK**

DOCPITCH

Five film projects currently in development have been pre-selected to be presented during this pitching forum. The audience will vote for their favorite, which will receive a cash award provided by the Filmmaker Fund.

Moderator: Minette Nelson, Founder, Filmmaker Fund

DOCTALK: Sustaining a Career in Filmmaking

Visiting and local filmmakers will share their diverse strategies for survival in an ever-changing industry

DOCLANDS Sections and Films

The Art of Impact - will engage and spark action by sharing stories that open our eyes to the global community and its disparate cultures, politics, personal narratives and biographies.

Abacus: Small Enough to Jail

The sole bank indicted by the New York D.A. in the wake of the 2008 subprime mortgage scandal was a tiny Chinatown institution. Steve James (*Hoop Dreams*) captures the fierceness with which the familial owners defend their honor.

And Then They Came For Us (*World Premiere, Local Filmmaker*) – Special Guests: Directors Abby Ginzberg and Ken Schneider

Dorothea Lange's photographs of Japanese-Americans forcibly interned during WWII bear witness to those imprisoned, in a body of work previously buried in the National Archives.

Cloud Forest - Special Guest: Director Mónica Alvarez Franco (*CA Premiere*)

A small community in the Mexican state of Veracruz struggles to maintain one of the country's most biodiverse and at-risk regions. Immersed in its natural beauty and serenity, they work cooperatively to achieve a sustainable way of life.

Heather Booth: Changing The World (*DocLands Sneak Preview*) - Special Guests: Director Lilly Rivlin and Activist/Trainer Kweli Kitwana

Starting in the early civil rights movement, Heather Booth was a dedicated community organizer behind the most pivotal moments in history—from voter registration to financial reform. Her strategies for change are the playbook for young activists today.

The Pulitzer at 100 (*CA Premiere*) - Special Guests: Pulitzer Prize winners, David V. Mitchell, Mark Fiore

Dreamed up by a scandal-mongering immigrant newspaperman, the Pulitzer Prize is celebrating its centennial as the highest honor in American arts and letters and providing evidence of why it may be even more relevant today. With Toni Morrison, Michael Chabon, Wynton Marsalis and more.

Stranger In Paradise (*CA Premiere*) - Special Guest: Co-Writer/Producers Giuseppe Contarino, Angela Di Salvo

At the crossroads of fiction and documentary, this provocative, three-act film essay explores the human motivations for exile and the realities of migration to Europe, with Belgian actor Valentijn Dhaenens as an immigration official working with real-life asylum seekers.

STEP - Invited Guests: Film Subjects, Paul Dofat, Geri McIntyre

This documentary chronicles the trials and triumphs of the Senior girls on the high school's Step Team as they prepare to be the first in their families to go to college – and the first graduating class of The Baltimore Leadership School for Young Women. STEP is more than just a hobby for these girls, it is the outlet that keeps them united and fighting for their goals.

The United States of Detroit (*Bay Area Premiere, Local Filmmaker*) Special Guest: Director Tylor Norwood

We've all seen photos of Detroit's abandoned buildings and heard stories of its downtown renewal. This new perspective focuses on the ordinary community members who've devoted themselves to revitalizing their own struggling neighborhoods from the ground up.

Unrest (*CA Premiere, Local Filmmaker*) - Invited Guest: Executive Director Deborah Hoffmann
Jennifer Brea's riveting and heartbreaking chronicle of her harrowing battle with ME (aka CFS, or chronic fatigue syndrome) exposes the historical lineage of this "mystery disease" and a vast community of ME sufferers, whose voices she is determined to make heard.

When God Sleeps (*CA Premiere*) - Special Guests: Director Till Schauder, Producer Sara Nodjoumi

In the face of a religious fatwa at home and refugee tensions in Europe, Iranian musician-in-exile Shahin Najafi proves a political provocateur whose talent and passion are not without controversy in this suspenseful, memorable profile.

The Great Outdoors – will transport us outside to truly appreciate, explore and ultimately compel us to save and conserve our environment and the wilds of our precious and precarious planet.

Call of the Ice (*CA Premiere*) - Special Guest: Director Mike Magidson

Can a Californian-Parisian tap into the wisdom of Inuit hunters and learn to control a pack of sled dogs, carve a fishing hole, shoot a seal, and juggle his cameras? Not without the guidance of the community of starkly beautiful Uummannaq, Greenland.

Freedom Under Load (*US Premiere*)

The porters of the High Tatras are an endangered species. Ascending rugged peaks with 120 kilos on their backs, these indomitable men serve remote mountain huts regardless of weather conditions, enjoying solitude, freedom amid nature's stark beauty.

Holy (Un) Holy River (*CA Premiere*) - Special Guests: Directors Peter McBride, Jake Norton
A visual expedition along India's monumental Ganges River captures its enchanting mix of natural beauty and mystical power while underlining the need for change to help this vital living resource continue to rebound and thrive.

Mira

Despite her hardscrabble childhood and a challenging social environment, a young Nepali woman charts an improbable and inspiring rise in long distance mountain-running, one of the world's most physically and mentally demanding sports.

North of Known (*CA Premiere*) - Special Guest: Director Bryan Smith

Two paragliders traverse the 500-mile Alaskan Ridge in this suspenseful adventure documentary. Ultimately it is the breathtaking HD footage above rugged glaciers and North America's highest snowy peaks that is the star of this visual masterpiece.

The Shepherdess of the Glaciers (*US Premiere*)

A lone shepherdess tends her sheep and goats for months at a time in the remote, unforgiving mountains of Ladakh. Her affectionate appreciation for the animals keeps her fearless and strong in this rapidly disappearing profession.

WonderLands - will lift our spirits through stories of joy, wonder and possibility.

Brimstone & Glory - Special Guests: Producer, Kellen Quinn, Cinematographer, Tobias von dem Borne

This filmic extravaganza of light, color and sound captures the pyrotechnic festival in Tultepec, capital of Mexico's fireworks industry, and its twin attractions of beauty and danger. Made to be seen on the big screen.

Letters from Baghdad (*Bay Area Premiere*) - Special Guest: Executive Producer Elizabeth Chandler

Intrepid explorer Gertrude Bell traveled and mapped much of the uncharted Arabian desert at the turn of the 20th century. Recruited by British Military Intelligence during WWI, she became a pivotal political figure in the history of the Middle East.

Long Strange Trip – Special Guest: Director Amir Bar-Lev

Featuring never-before-seen concert footage and illuminating interviews with band members, this four-hour epic captures the Grateful Dead's wild, multi-decade journey from scruffy San Francisco Bay Area hippies to, arguably, the biggest band in the universe.

My Bolivia, Remembering What I Never Knew (*World Premiere, Local Filmmaker*) - Special Guest: Director Rick Tejada-Flores

California-born filmmaker Rick Tejada-Flores unravels the myths and realities of his family history in Bolivia. His fascinating journey, rich in archival footage and family photos, sets the stage for the times before and after his grandfather was the country's President.

Paa Joe & The Lion (*CA Premiere*)

Ghanaian artist Paa Joe and his apprentice son Jacob bring fantasy coffin carving and traditional funeral celebrations to the UK, helping people reclaim the mystery of death as an integrated, vibrant part of life.

Nari – Special Guests: Director/Musician/Composer Gingger Shankar, Musicians Vivek Maddala and Carlo Ribaux

A stunning documentary blending film, archival footage and animation, accompanied by a live, original score featuring vocals, Indian percussion and Shankar's unique double violin.

Rumble: The Indians Who Rocked The World (*CA Premiere*) - Special Guests: Executive Producers Stevie Salas, Christina Fon

Entertaining and enlightening, this exhilarating doc delves into the electrifying history of Native Americans in contemporary music. Buffy Sainte-Marie, Charley Patton, Jimi Hendrix and Robbie Robertson infuse indigenous styles into rock and roll, while stories of lesser-known artists expose a rich history of Native American musicians finding a way to keep on rocking in the not always Free World.

Shorts:

The Accord – RC Cone

And Then They Came For Us (*World Premiere*) – Abby Ginzberg

Arrested (Again) – Dan Goldes

Before The Wave – Molly Willows

Brillo Box (3¢ Off) – Lisanne Skyler

Come Walk With Me – James Walsh

Dance With Your Heart – Eli Jacobs-Fantauzzi

Elk River – Jenny Nichols and Joe Riis

Exiled (*Bay Area Premiere*) – Mike Seely

Fresh Frozen (*World Premiere*) – Tony Nguyen

Jack (*World Premiere*) – Maya Craig and Seth Hahn

Martin's Boat – Pete McBride

The Perfect Flight – Joshua Izenberg

The Rabbit Hunt - Patrick Bresnan

Resurface – Joshua Izenberg

The Ride – Jeff Adachi and Jim Choi

Spring Chicken – Tamir Elterman

Throw – David Larsen and Darren Durlach

Bay Area Filmmakers

And Then They Came For Us (World Premiere) - Abby Ginzberg, Ken Schneider

Arrested (Again) - Dan Goldes

Dance With Your Heart - Eli Jacobs-Fantauzzi

Exiled (Bay Area Premiere) - Mike Seely

Fresh Frozen (World Premiere) - Tony Nguyen

Jack (World Premiere) - Maya Craig, Seth Hahn

My Bolivia, Remembering What I Never Knew - Rick Tejada-Flores

The Perfect Flight - Josh Izenberg

The Rabbit Hunt - Maida Brankman

Resurface - Josh Izenberg, Wynn Padula

The Ride - Jeff Adachi, Jim Choi

Spring Chicken - Tamir Elterman

The United States of Detroit - Tylor Norwood

Tickets:

Early Bird Specials Available Now: doclands.com

General Tickets On Sale 4/20/17

CFI Members receive discounts and first access to General Tickets on 4/19/17

About DOCLANDS

Presented by the California Film Institute, the inaugural DocLands Documentary Film Festival brings compelling stories and the provocative insights behind them to Marin County, California May 10 - 14, 2017. Expanding upon the exchange of ideas and inspiration through public screenings, engaged conversations and grassroots networking events, DocLands aims to build an active, involved, fully supportive community around documentary film, dedicated to initiating connections and partnerships that will illuminate and invigorate the business and art of non-fiction filmmakers.

About the California Film Institute

The non-profit California Film Institute celebrates and promotes film by presenting the annual Mill Valley Film Festival and DocLands Documentary Film Festival, exhibiting film year-round at the Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center, and building the next generation of filmmakers and audiences through CFI Education. It relies on the generosity of its community to sustain these core programs. The invaluable support of our sponsors, foundations, and individual donors ensures our continued success. For more information please visit www.cafilm.org.

Supporters

CFI is proud to acknowledge Genuine Article Pictures, the Nancy P. and Richard K. Robbins Family Foundation, Marin Community Foundation, Bellam Self Storage and Boxes and The EACH Foundation for their generous support of DocLands.

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