

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**Spotlight on the art of filmmaking as four film directors
attend screenings of their films at the
Art Gallery of Hamilton CIBC Wood Gundy World Film Festival**

Those normally behind the camera will be in the spotlight as four directors will attend the screening of their films at the **Art Gallery of Hamilton CIBC Wood Gundy World Film Festival**.

Special guests include **Jonathan Sobol**, whose feature film directorial debut (*A Beginner's Guide to Endings*) received a coveted gala screening at TIFF and was singled out as one of Canada's "Ten to Watch" by *Playback* magazine; Genie-Award nominee **Alain Desrochers**, director of *Gerry*, who also directed episodes for the British/Canadian television cult favourite *The Hunger*; **Ryan Redford**, who will be presenting his first feature film *Oliver Sherman*, but is no novice to festivals, having directed six short films that have screened at over 50 international festivals and broadcast in Canada, the US, and France; the multi-talented **Dominic Desjardins** who directed *La sacrée* and has also acted, produced and edited English and French productions for television and the big screen. Joining Desjardins at the screening is *La sacrée* lead actor **Marc Marans**, a veteran of film, television and theatre.

"We're delighted that directors will be joining us at select screenings, allowing our Festival goers to learn more about the filmmaking process, its challenges, and rewards," said Louise Dompierre, the AGH's President and CEO. "Inviting the audience to ask questions and hear from the visionary behind the film adds greatly to the film-going experience."

Guest Director Schedule

Opening the film festival on Friday, September 23 at 7 pm is ***A Beginner's Guide to Endings*** with director **Jonathan Sobol** in attendance. Starring Harvey Keitel, Scott Caan, Wendy Crewson, J.K. Simmons and Tricia Helfer, this film marks Mr. Sobol's directorial debut. *A Beginner's Guide to Endings* follows three sons as they deal with their gambler father's somewhat complicated legacy. Mr. Sobol also wrote the film's screenplay. Presented at the Empire Jackson Square 6 Cinemas in Hamilton, Mr. Sobol will participate in a Q&A session following the screening after which all attendees are invited to a post-screening party at the Art Gallery of Hamilton, 123 King Street West, Hamilton. Cash bar available at the AGH.

Making an appearance at the screening of his film ***Gerry*** on Saturday, October 1 at 4 pm at Westdale Theatre in Hamilton will be director **Alain Desrochers**. His first feature film *La Bouteille* (2000) earned him a nomination for the Genie Award for Best

Achievement in Direction. *Gerry* is a biographical film shot in Quebec about Canadian rock singer Gerry Boulet (1946-1990). Film lovers are invited to a cocktail reception at 3 pm at the Westdale Theatre prior to the screening of **Gerry**. Cash bar available.

On Saturday, October 1 at 7 pm, director **Ryan Redford** will be attending the screening of his film **Oliver Sherman**. In **Oliver Sherman**, tensions arise when Sherman visits the home of Franklin, a fellow soldier who saved his life back in the war. Franklin has long since moved on but the stability he has worked so hard to establish is soon threatened by Sherman's presence. Mr. Redford also wrote the screenplay for the film. Screening at Encore Upper Canada Place Cinemas in Burlington.

On Sunday, October 2 at 1 pm, director **Dominic Desjardins** will attend the screening of his comedy **La sacrée** at Westdale Theatre in Hamilton. **La sacrée** tells the story of François Labas (Marc Marans), a penniless conman who is on the verge of making it big – if he can get his girlfriend, a cosmetic queen, pregnant. Unfortunately, François is sterile and in desperation travels to his native village where *la sacrée*, an old artisanal beer, has special powers to solve his problems. Also joining Mr. Desjardins at the screening is lead actor Marc Marans.

The AGH is pleased to acknowledge the support of its Corporate Partners: CIBC Wood Gundy (**A Beginner's Guide to Endings**); CCXIT Computer Solutions (**Oliver Sherman**); G4S Secure Solutions (Canada) Inc. (**Gerry**); and Cogeco (**La sacrée**).

La sacrée and **Gerry** are presented with Programming Partner Le Centre français Hamilton inc. and are screened as part of the Festival du film Francophone de Hamilton.

Screening locations: Westdale Theatre (1014 King Street West, Hamilton - 905.522.7173); Empire Jackson Square 6 Cinemas (2 King Street West, Hamilton - 905.526.8132); Encore Upper Canada Place (460 Brant Street, Burlington – 905.681.3456). Art Gallery of Hamilton is located at 123 King Street West, downtown Hamilton

For AGH CIBC Wood Gundy World Film Festival schedule, tickets, trailers and event information, please visit www.aghfilmfest.com or call 905.527.6610, ext. 252.

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For more information about the **Art Gallery of Hamilton CIBC Wood Gundy World Film Festival**, please contact:
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