

# TRIBECA FILM FESTIVAL<sup>®</sup> TO CELEBRATE PRIDE WITH ALL-DAY EVENT FEATURING NEIL PATRICK HARRIS, JOHN CAMERON MITCHELL, LARRY KRAMER, ASIA KATE DILLON AND MORE

## Day to Close with World Premiere of HBO Documentary Films' Wig Followed by Drag Show Hosted By Wigstock Founder Lady Bunny

**NEW YORK, April 9, 2019** – The Tribeca Film Festival, presented by AT&T, will continue its tradition of celebrating activism in the arts with the inaugural **Tribeca Celebrates Pride**, a day-long event on Saturday, May 4th at the Tribeca Festival Hub at Spring Studios. The day will honor the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall riots, including one-on-one interviews with LGBTQ+ luminaries including **Neil Patrick Harris**, **John Cameron Mitchell, Larry Kramer** and guest speaker **Asia Kate Dillon**. The program will reflect on the impact of this seminal moment for the LGBTQ+ community and include conversations with **Raul Castillo**, **Patti Harrison**, **Angelica Ross**, and more. Tickets are on sale now for the event, which runs from 10am to 6pm.

Tribeca encourages and supports inclusive storytelling and its LGBTQ+ focused programming is an integral part of the Festival, mirroring the diverse population of New York City itself. The program will feature notable LGBTQ+ guest speakers in a series of conversations, including the activists that make up the fabric of New York's queer community, the thought leaders changing the landscape of film and television and the public figures leading the cultural conversation. Additionally, the event will shine a light on the LGBTQ+ experience through a carefully curated program of seven short films, all of which are playing in competition at the Festival. Notable talent featured in these shorts include **Angelica Ross** (*Pose*), **Brianna Hildebrand** (*Deadpool*) and **Zackary Drucker** (*Transparent*).

The day will conclude with the world premiere of the HBO Documentary Film Wig, a film spotlighting the art of drag, centered on the New York staple Wigstock, that showcases the personalities and performances that inform the ways we understand queerness, art and identity today. Following the premiere, audiences will be treated to a live drag show hosted by the founder of Wigstock, Lady Bunny. Tickets are on sale now for the 2019 Tribeca Film Festival, taking place April 24 - May 5.

"This year, Tribeca will showcase artists who have used storytelling to bring people together around a common goal: inclusivity. We've come so far in the fifty years since the Stonewall riots, but there is so much more to be done," said Paula Weinstein, EVP of Tribeca Enterprises. "In honor of that pivotal moment in our culture, we hope this day of LGBTQ+ storytelling-driven programming will not just honor the work of those who came before us, but also those who are helping to ignite the passion of the next generation."

Leading the programming for Tribeca Celebrates Pride is Lucy Mukerjee, a Senior Programmer at the Tribeca Film Festival, and formerly the Director of Programming at Outfest and Newfest LGBTQ Film Festivals. Mukerjee said, "I'm thrilled to have this opportunity during my first year at the Tribeca Film Festival to bring the queer community and our allies together. This exciting landmark event at the Festival showcases how fostering LGBTQ+ culture plays a role in moving society forward and creating a better tomorrow."

Tribeca Celebrates Pride partners include **The Stonewall Inn, NYC Pride,** and **The Human Rights Campaign**. Co-hosts include ACT UP, Callen Lorde, Immigration Equality, NALIP, NewFest, Queer|Art, The Trevor Project, Trans Can Work, True Colors United and Vocal NY. **Rivianna Hyatt** will speak on behalf of True Colors United and Laura A. Jacobs on behalf of Callen Lorde.

Tickets are on sale now for Tribeca Celebrates Pride a day long event from 10am to 6pm (\$30), followed by the World Premiere of Wig (\$30).

### TRIBECA CELEBRATES PRIDE:

**Event time:** 10:00AM - 6:00PM **Location**: Tribeca Festival Hub at Spring Studios

## Speakers:

## **Neil Patrick Harris**

The Emmy and Tony award-winning actor, writer, producer, singer and all-round entertainer, known most recently for his role in Netflix's *A Series of Unfortunate Events*, will take a look back at some of his most significant milestones including being the first openly gay man to host the Academy Awards, being named one of Time Magazine's Most Influential People, and being a father of two.

## John Cameron Mitchell in conversation with Patti Harrison

The director of *Hedwig* and the *Angry Inch* (2001), *Shortbus* (2006), *Rabbit Hole* (2010), *How To Talk To Girls At Parties* (2017) and the upcoming musical podcast series *Anthem: Homunculus*, reflects on being open about his queer identity throughout his career and how that has fed his creative work. In conversation with his *Shrill* co-star, comedian Patti Harrison.

### Larry Kramer in conversation with his friend and biographer Bill Goldstein

The founder of ACT UP, playwright of *A Normal Heart*, and subject of the documentary *Larry Kramer in Love and Anger* talks us through his experiences from the Stonewall riots to today, and how he's witnessed the LGBTQ+ movement evolve from protest to pride.

### Asia Kate Dillon

Best known for their roles on *Billions* and *Orange Is The New Black*, and soon to be seen in *John Wick 3: Parabellum*, Asia Kate Dillon is a non-binary actor and activist who advocates for expanding the definition of gender identity beyond just man and woman.

**Kathy Tu** and **Tobin Low** are the co-hosts of "Nancy," the critically acclaimed storytelling podcast from WNYC Studios exploring how we define ourselves, the journey it takes to get there, and the queer experience today. Praised as "warm and inspiring" by *The Guardian*, Tu and Low were recently named to the OUT 100 and to Logo TV's Logo30 for being among the most "extraordinary people who show pride in unique and provocative ways."

### **Conversations:**

### **Activism Through The Ages**

An inter-generational panel of thought-leaders and changemakers discuss the different forms their activism takes, and share some of the biggest highlights and challenges they've encountered on the front line in the fight for LGBTQ+ equality.

### Moderator: Twiggy Pucci Garcon

Panelists: Jason Walker, Fabrice Houdart, Staceyann Chin, Stacy Lentz

### **Being A Multi Hyphenate**

This panel will bring together queer creatives who have interpreted their artistic visions across various mediums, from art and fashion, to theater and film. As multi hyphenate cultural producers, the influence of these individuals runs deep within the community. In this conversation, we will hear from authors, filmmakers, performers and Broadway producers who have found themselves experimenting with many artforms in order to express themselves and tell their story.

## Moderator: Tre'vell Anderson

Panelists: Alok Vaid Menon, Jordan Roth, Leilah Weinraub, Jacob Tobia

## From Persecution to Asylum: LGBTQ Refugees Tell Their Stories

In more than 70 countries around the world, it is still considered a crime to be LGBTQ+. For nearly 25 years, Immigration Equality has provided free legal services to LGBTQ+ and HIV-positive immigrants fleeing persecution and has won asylum for more than 1,000 people. Hear first-hand testimonies from queer and trans asylum recipients about their experiences rebuilding their lives in the United States in partnership with Immigration Equality.

### Moderator: Aaron C. Morris

Panelists: Denise Chambers, David Paul Kay, Ilo Rincón

## LGBTQ Media Visibility

Media portrayals of our community have changed significantly in the past decade, not only becoming more frequent but also increasingly complex, representing intersectional identities across race, religion and genders. Inevitably, this LGBTQ representation has impacted societal attitudes. This conversation will look at how being out in the public eye has affected our panelists' identities, their day to day lives and careers and also shaped the cultural conversation of this country. We will talk about the milestones our panelists have been part of, both scripted and unscripted - from onscreen coming out declarations to triumphant same-sex embraces, and how the professionals around them have supported or discouraged their living openly and honestly.

## Moderator: Brad Calcaterra

Panelists: Joanna Lohman, Raul Castillo, Roberta Colindrez, Wade A. Davis

## Who Gets To Tell Whose Story?

Telling the story of a community that you don't represent is a dicey prospect; filmmakers risk alienating the very audience the film is aimed at. Ego-free collaboration is crucial. This productive panel will include discussions of cross-community collaborations where trans, non-binary and intersex artists have joined forces with cisgender creatives to forge successful storytelling partnerships. The conversation will look at allyship and how filmmakers can use their privilege for good, putting historically marginalized characters front and center to tell unsung stories with respect and authenticity. Three teams will be showcased. Moderator: **Tig Milan** 

# Panelists: Angelica Ross & Steven Canals, Ser Anzoategui & Tanya Saracho, River Gallo & Sadé Clacken Joseph

## Out in Office

A cross section of individuals from congress and state legislation discuss their personal path to leadership, the state of equality today, and the importance of LGBTQ+ inclusion in the lawmaking process.

### Moderator: Allison VanKuiken

Panelists: House Representative Malcolm Kenyatta (PA), House Representative David Cicilline (RI), Sarah McBride

## **Queering the Industry**

Hollywood gatekeepers determine whose stories get told, so it's imperative that LGBTQ people are on staff at networks and studios if we are to see projects that authentically represent our lives. But there are also many other facets to the entertainment industry ecosystem, and queers have found subversive and innovative ways to support the creative lifeblood of our community. This panel brings together LGBTQ professionals who are doing their part to change the landscape of queer film and TV by championing the visions of queer creatives and engaging key audiences through their day-to-day work.

### Moderator: Lesli Klainberg

Panelists: Jeffrey Winter, Nicole Martinez, Fran Tirado, Travis Chamberlain, Ellene Miles

### **Representing Hollywood**

Several representatives discuss how they have supported and strategized the career trajectories of their high profile LGBTQ+ Clients. Moderator: **Bill Keith** Panelists: **Simon Halls, Kevin Huvane, Joe Machota** 

### Shorts Program Pride: Front and Center

Standing tall with these short films that celebrate Pride, this carefully curated program contains both narrative and documentary shorts, and poignantly explores LGBTQ+ life with humor, panache, kindness and compassion. Featuring **Angelica Ross** (*Pose*), **Brianna Hildebrand** (*Deadpool*) and **Zackary Drucker** (*Transparent*), prepare for a cross-cultural odyssey that ends, fittingly, with the safe queer haven of Christopher Street Pier. Curated by Tribeca Film Festival Shorts Programmers Sharon Badal and Ben Thompson. Featured shorts are: *I Think She Likes You, Momster, Ponyboi, Black Hat, Carlito Leaves Forever, Framing Agnes* and *Stanley Stellar: Here For This Reason.* 

### **EVENING PROGRAM:**

Event time: 8:00PM Location: Tribeca Festival Hub

### World Premiere of Wig

**Wig**, directed by Chris Moukarbel. Produced by Jack Turner, Bruce Cohen, David Burtka, Neil Patrick Harris, Jason Weinberg, Jay Peterson, Michael Mayer, Todd Lubin. (USA) - World Premiere, Feature Documentary. Wigstock was an annual drag festival, which glamorously signaled the end of summer for the gay community in NYC for almost twenty years. Late one night in 1984, Lady Bunny and a few friends drunkenly wandered from the Pyramid Club in the East Village to Tompkins Square Park and staged an impromptu drag show in the bandshell. This would soon become an annual drag bacchanal, that lasted up until 2001. And now, Lady Bunny has brought it back. This past summer, the festival returned, bringing together legendary queens with some of the new children of drag, into one of the largest drag performances ever staged.

*Wig* explores the origins and the influence of the historic festival through rich archival footage, as well as provides a look into the contemporary drag movement that the festival served as a foundation for. It's a celebration of New York drag culture, and those personalities and performances that contribute to the ways we understand queerness, art, and identity today. With Lady Bunny, Charlene Incarnate, Flotilla DeBarge, Kevin Aviance, Neil Patrick Harris, Willam, Linda Simpson, Naomi Smalls, Tabboo! *HBO Documentary Films* 

After the Premiere Screening: A special drag performance hosted by legendary drag queen Lady Bunny including Charlene Incarnate, Bobby Samplsize, Flotilla DeBarge, Willam, and more.

### Passes and Tickets for the 2019 Tribeca Film Festival

Tickets are on sale now for Tribeca Celebrates Pride and Wig at tribecafilm.com/tribecapride

Tickets for all events at the Tribeca Film Festival are on sale at <u>tribecafilm.com/festival/tickets</u>, or by telephone at (646) 502-5296 or toll-free at (866) 941-FEST (3378).

Also available for purchase now is The Hudson Pass, an all-access pass to screenings and talks taking place at BMCC TPAC, Regal Battery Park Stadium, Village East Cinema, and SVA theaters as well as full access to all events at the Festival Hub at Spring Studios, which includes VR and Immersive projects, Movies Plus screenings and access to Festival lounges.

Single tickets cost \$24.00 for evening and weekend screenings, \$12.00 for weekday matinee screenings, \$30.00 for Tribeca TV and Movies Plus \$40.00 for Tribeca Talks events and \$40.00 for Tribeca Immersive. All are available for purchase on the 2019 Tribeca Film Festival App on:

- iTunes: <a href="https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/tribeca-festival/id1208189515?mt=8">https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/tribeca-festival/id1208189515?mt=8</a>
- Google Play: <u>https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.tff2017.android</u>

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\*\*\*IMAGES FOR PRESS: Film stills for the 2019 Tribeca Film Festival are available at www.image.net. If you are not an image.net media user yet, please register using referral code 2604. If you have any issues or your need is time sensitive, please contact <u>skleiner@TribecaFilmFestival.org</u>

### About the Tribeca Film Festival:

The Tribeca Film Festival, presented by AT&T, brings visionaries and diverse audiences together to celebrate storytelling in all its forms, including film, TV, VR, gaming, music, and online work. With strong roots in independent film, Tribeca is a platform for creative expression and immersive entertainment. The Festival champions emerging and established voices; discovers award-winning filmmakers and creators; curates innovative experiences; and introduces new technology and ideas through premieres, exhibitions, talks, and live performances.

The Festival was founded by Robert De Niro, Jane Rosenthal, and Craig Hatkoff in 2001 to spur the economic and cultural revitalization of lower Manhattan following the attacks on the World Trade Center. Now in its 18th year, the Festival has evolved into a destination for creativity that reimagines the cinematic experience and explores how art can unite communities. The 18th annual edition will take place April 24 - May 5, 2019. <u>www.tribecafilm.com/festival</u>

Hashtag: #Tribeca2019 Twitter: @Tribeca Instagram: @tribeca Facebook: facebook.com/Tribeca

### About 2019 Tribeca Film Festival Partners:

As Presenting Sponsor of the Tribeca Film Festival, AT&T is committed to supporting the Festival and the art of filmmaking through access and innovation, while expanding opportunities to diverse creators around the globe. AT&T helps millions connect to their passions – no matter where they are. This year, AT&T and Tribeca will once again collaborate to give the world access to stories from underrepresented filmmakers that deserve to be seen. "AT&T Presents Untold Stories" is an inclusive film program in collaboration with Tribeca - a multi-year, multi-tier alliance between AT&T and Tribeca along with the year-round nonprofit Tribeca Film Institute.

The Tribeca Film Festival is pleased to announce its 2019 Partners: 23andMe, Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, Bai Beverages, Bloomberg Philanthropies, Borough of Manhattan Community College (BMCC), BVLGARI, CHANEL, CNN Films, Diageo, ESPN, HBO, IMDbPro, Kia, Marriott Bonvoy Boundless<sup>™</sup> Credit Card from Chase, Merck, Montefiore, National CineMedia (NCM), Nespresso, New York Magazine, NYC Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment, Prime Video Direct, P&G, PwC, Salesforce, Spring Studios New York, Squarespace, Status Sparkling Wine, and Stella Artois.

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