8th SAN FRANCISCO GREEN FILM FESTIVAL
ANNOUNCES OPENING AND CLOSING NIGHT FILMS

INTO THE OKAVANGO to Open Festival
THE CONDOR AND THE EAGLE to Close the Festival

SAN FRANCISCO, July 25, 2018 – The San Francisco Green Film Festival is pleased to announce the Opening and Closing Night films for its eighth edition, which returns September 6 to September 13, 2018.

This will be the first year the Festival will take place in the Fall, as an official Affiliate Event of the Global Climate Action Summit, (Sept 12-14), a hub of crucial discussion to support the Paris Climate Agreement. Green Film Fest will present environmental films throughout the Summit, reaching the eyes and ears of people and legislators with the influence to enact global change, spur new environmental commitments, and galvanize action.

OPENING NIGHT FILM

INTO THE OKAVANGO

- Castro Theatre, Thursday, September 6, 7:30pm
- Directed by Neil Gelinias (USA)
- San Francisco Premiere
- Expected Guests: Director Neil Gelinias

Botswana’s Okavango Delta, a 22,000sq kilometer maze of wetlands in the middle of the Kalahari Desert, is one of the last untouched refuges for wildlife on the planet. But its freshwater arteries - which provide water to over one million people – are under dire threat.
Follow conservation biologist Steve Boyes and a team of international scientists, photographers, filmmakers, and African guides on an epic four-month journey down the Delta’s source rivers to track the causes of threats to this vital river basin — from Angola through Namibia and finally emptying into the Delta in Botswana. Neil Gelinas creates a stunningly photographed tale of passion and conservation.

CLOSING NIGHT FILM

THE CONDOR AND THE EAGLE
- Castro Theatre, Thursday, September 13, 7:30pm
- First Feature film from directors by Sophie and Clément Guerra (Germany/USA/Ecuador/Canada/Peru)
- Sneak Preview
- Expected Guests: Directors Sophie and Clément Guerra; film’s characters & indigenous activists Casey Camp-Horinek, Yudith Nieto, Melina Laboucan-Massimo, and Bryan Parras.

Four Indigenous leaders embark on an extraordinary trans-continental adventure from the Canadian plains to deep into the heart of the Amazonian jungle to unite the peoples of North and South America and deepen the meaning of "Climate Justice". This film documents the stories of these four well-known Native environmental spokespeople who are at the forefront of a perspective shift in the identity of their people, from forgotten voices to strong shared communities with the power to bring change to the entire world. Their path through the jungle takes them on an unexpectedly challenging and liberating journey, which will forever change their attachment to the Earth and one another.

The Closing Night Wrap Party follows on the Castro Theatre Mezzanine.

2018 FESTIVAL THEME
This year’s **Elemental theme** ties in the fundamental necessity for climate discussion and action with the idea that structuring the conversation around the four elements - earth, water, fire, and air - creates multifaceted perspectives on climate issues. Change isn’t just necessary. **It’s Elemental.**

PRESS LAUNCH
The full program announcement will take place on August 1. Please contact Larsen Associates for more information.

2018 FESTIVAL AT-A-GLANCE

**Event:** 8th Annual San Francisco Green Film Festival

**Dates:** Thursday, September 6 thru Thursday, September 13, 2018
**Number of Films Forecast:** 55 films in 8 days

**Number of Guest Speakers/Filmmakers Forecast:** 100+ guest speakers including filmmakers, environmental experts, and global partners.

**Venues:** Venues across San Francisco including Opening & Closing Nights at the Castro Theatre, with additional screenings at Cowell Theater at Fort Mason Center, YBCA, Koret Auditorium at SF Public Library-Main Branch.

**Tickets:** $15 per screening ($13 Members) or $200 for a full pass to the Festival’s week of films, panels, and social events. All screenings are free to youth and student. The full program will be announced and tickets on sale on August 1.

**Website:** greenfilmfest.org

**Info:** info@greenfilmfest.org or 415.767.1977

**Social Media:** @GreenFilmFest #greenfilm #itselemental

**ABOUT SAN FRANCISCO GREEN FILM FESTIVAL**

Launched in 2011, the San Francisco Green Film Festival is the West Coast’s leading event for films & discussions about people and the planet. SF Green Film Festival is dedicated to screening compelling environmental films; connecting audiences to filmmakers and experts; and sparking green ideas & actions. Our signature program is the annual Green Film Fest and we also screen films and support filmmakers throughout the year.