

Press Release
For immediate release



3rd MONTREAL INTERNATIONAL HAITIAN FILM FESTIVAL
SEPTEMBER 19 – 23, 2007

NFB Cinema - Leonardo da Vinci Centre
Galerie Mosaïkart
www.festivalfilmhaitien.com

Montreal, Thursday, August 23, 2007 – The 3rd Montreal International Haitian Film Festival (MIHFF) will run from September 19 to 23, 2007. The films will be screened at the NFB Cinema and the Leonardo da Vinci Centre. The spokesperson for this year's Festival is **Francine Grimaldi**, well-known cultural reporter for Radio-Canada (CBC French Network).

Created by the Fabienne Colas Foundation, the MIHFF promotes Haitian cinema, encourages quality independent cinema and provides an opportunity for professionals from Haiti, Quebec and elsewhere to meet. This five-day event (from September 19 to 23, 2007) filled with interculturalism, entertainment and sharing will present the best and the most amazing new films in the world of Haitian cinema: fiction, documentary, feature-length and short films are all on the roster for the enjoyment of thousands of movie-goers in Quebec.

On the occasion of the *Journée internationale du souvenir de la traite négrière et de son abolition* (international day of remembering the slave trade and its abolition) declared by UNESCO (August 23), the MIHFF is taking on a new challenge, that of dealing with themes that are critical to Haitian society and to developing countries, in general. For the first time in North America, from September 18 to October 2, 2007, the Festival will present Céline Anaya Gautier's international "Slaves in Paradise" photo exhibition at Galerie Mosaïkart. Ms. Gautier's poignant photographs will raise public awareness of the conditions of modern-day Haitian slaves working and living on sugar cane plantations in the Dominican Republic. The exhibition will lead to the international "Blood, Sugar and Sweat" symposium, a debate amongst national and international experts on the problem of the *bateys* in the Dominican Republic. The debate will be held at the CBC building on September 19.

The complete program for the Festival will be unveiled at the press conference on Tuesday, September 11, 2007, at 11 a.m., at the NFB Cinema, 1564 Saint-Denis. The press conference will be given by Ms. Fabienne Colas, President of the MIHFF, Ms. Francine Grimaldi, Spokesperson for this edition of the Festival, and Ms. Nancy Roc, Commissioner of the "Slaves in Paradise" photo exhibition and Coordinator of the international symposium.

The vernissage for the photo exhibition, with photographer Céline Anaya Gautier, will be held on Tuesday, September 18, 2007, starting at 5 p.m., at Galerie Mosaïkart, 4897 Saint-Laurent Blvd (corner of Saint-Joseph).

For further information: www.festivalfilmhaitien.com
Reservations for symposium: projets@fondationfabiennecolas.org
Cost: \$35 – Places are limited.

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Source: Montreal International Haitian Film Festival
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