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**NEWS RELEASE #11**

## CANADIAN OPEN VAULT PRESENTS LES BONS DÉBARRAS

Toronto – The 32nd Toronto International Film Festival presents Francis Mankiewicz's 1980 feature film **LES BONS DÉBARRAS** as this year's **Canadian Open Vault**. The cast includes Germain Houde, Serge Thériault, Charlotte Laurier, Roger Lebel, Louise Marleau, Marie Tifo and Gilbert Sicotte. Ticket Passes and Packages now on sale. For more information, please visit [tiff07.ca](http://tiff07.ca) or call 416-968-FILM or 1-877-968-FILM.

In **LES BONS DÉBARRAS**, Manon (Laurier) lives with her mother, Michelle (Tifo), and her developmentally disabled uncle, Guy (Houde), eking out an existence by selling firewood in rural Quebec. Manon is precocious and sensitive, and obsessed with maintaining an exclusive claim on her mother's love. When Michelle attempts to share joyful news that she is pregnant, an anguished Manon leaves home. She eventually returns bent on vengeance and determined to have her mother to herself.

The film's evocative imagery, spare narrative action and brilliant performances build to a climax of horror. Mankiewicz's gothic tale of passion, jealousy and all-embracing, destructive love won eight Genie Awards, including Best Achievement in Cinematography by Michel Brault (whose work is screening as part of this year's **Canadian Retrospective**) and is based on a screenplay by the acclaimed novelist Réjean Ducharme.

Born in Shanghai and trained in England at the London School of Film Technique, Mankiewicz (1944 – 1993) divided his career between Montreal and Toronto, directing remarkable personal films such as *LE TEMPS D'UNE CHASSE* (1972) and television productions such as *CONSPIRACY OF SILENCE* (1991). In 1993, Mankiewicz was posthumously awarded the Prix Albert-Tessier for his outstanding contribution to Quebec cinema. **LES BONS DÉBARRAS** has been included in every Toronto International Film Festival Group's Canada's Ten Best film survey.

Canadian Open Vault screens classic Canadian films in the Festival. Past Canadian Open Vault films include Peter Pearson's *PAPERBACK HERO*, Michel Brault's *ENTRE LA MER ET L'EAU DOUCE*, Peter Carter's *THE ROWDYMAN*, Ted Kotcheff's *THE APPRENTICESHIP OF DUDDY KRAVITZ*, Gilles Carle's *LA VRAIE NATURE DE BERNADETTE*, Philip Borsos' *THE GREY FOX*, Don Shebib's *GOIN' DOWN THE ROAD*, René Delacroix and Gratien Gélinas' *TIT-COQ*, and Claude Jutra's *MON ONCLE ANTOINE*.

**Canadian Open Vault is made possible with the generous support of the Feature Film Education and Access Program, and The Astral Restoration Program of the Audio-Visual Preservation Trust of Canada and the Department of Canadian Heritage.**

**Special thanks to Filmoption International and Cinematheque Quebecois.**

The Festival is a presentation of **The Toronto International Film Festival Group** (TIFFG), a charitable, not-for-profit, cultural organization whose mission is to transform the way people see the world. Its vision is to lead the world in creative and cultural discovery through the moving image.

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