



**AWARD-WINNING ACTOR AND BESTSELLING AUTHOR ALAN CUMMING  
KICKS OFF THE TORONTO INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF AUTHORS**

**TORONTO, October 14, 2021** – The Toronto International Festival of Authors (TIFA), Canada’s largest and longest-running literary festival, today announced that award-winning Scottish actor and writer **Alan Cumming** will appear at a live TIFA preview event on **Tuesday, October 19** at **12:30pm ET** to present his new and highly anticipated memoir, *Baggage: Tales from a Fully Packed Life*. The free virtual event is open for registration now at [FestivalofAuthors.ca](https://FestivalofAuthors.ca), and will kick off the celebration of the Festival’s 42<sup>nd</sup> edition, which starts October 21.

A multi-hyphenate artist, Cumming is best known for his work in films like *Spy Kids*, *X2: X-Men United* and *Eyes Wide Shut* and his Tony Award-winning performance as the Emcee in the Broadway musical *Cabaret*. Cumming will sit down with TIFA Director Roland Gulliver for a conversation about his second memoir penned seven years after his bestselling *Not My Father’s Son*.

Poignant and joyous, Cumming’s newest book chronicles his life in Hollywood as he shows how every experience – good or bad – has shaped who he is today: a happy, flawed, vulnerable, fearless, middle-aged man with a lot of baggage.

The full programming slate of 200+ virtual events for TIFA’s 2021 edition, taking place October 21 to 31, is available now at [FestivalofAuthors.ca](https://FestivalofAuthors.ca).

About Toronto International Festival of Authors

The Toronto International Festival of Authors (TIFA) inspires, empowers and connects through the



art of stories, offering book lovers a breadth of bold, ambitious and accessible literary experiences. As Canada's largest literary festival, the charitable organization provides engaging opportunities to meet, hear and learn from the world's best contemporary writers and thinkers, and to celebrate the power of stories. Since 1974, TIFA has presented thousands of authors, including 22 Nobel Laureates, who represent diverse perspectives and a range of literary genres for all ages. TIFA's creative programmes continue to adapt to changing times, capturing the most innovative and enlightening forms of storytelling, on stage and online. Alongside the flagship Festival, TIFA delivers a year-round programme of events and activities that reflect Toronto to its residents, its literature to the nation, and its creative ambition to the world. TIFA will celebrate the 42nd edition of the Festival from October 21–31, 2021.

TIFA is grateful for the support of the Government of Canada – Department of Canadian Heritage, the Canada Council for the Arts, the Government of Ontario – Ontario Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries, the Ontario Arts Council, the Toronto Arts Council, and Ontario Creates, as well as the generosity of its donors.

-30-

#### **MEDIA CONTACTS:**

**Touchwood PR**

[press@touchwoodpr.com](mailto:press@touchwoodpr.com)

**Toronto International Festival of Authors**

Amy Dennis

[media@festivalofauthors.ca](mailto:media@festivalofauthors.ca)

Follow on Twitter: [@FestofAuthors](https://twitter.com/FestofAuthors)

Follow on Facebook: [@FestofAuthors](https://www.facebook.com/FestofAuthors)

Follow on Instagram: [@FestofAuthors](https://www.instagram.com/FestofAuthors)

#FestofAuthors21