



**Ottawa Premiere of Documentary Award Winner "SONITA"
and Post-Film Talk with Professor Nipa Banerjee and JustJamaal the Poet
June 2, 2016 - Doors @ 6:30PM Film @ 6:45PM
ByTowne Cinema - 325 Rideau Street, Ottawa
oneworldfilmfestival.ca/sonita**

May 30, 2016, Ottawa - One World Arts and the One World Film Festival will present the Ottawa premiere of [SONITA](#) - [winner](#) of the Grand Jury and Audience Awards for World Cinema Documentary at the 2016 [Sundance Film Festival](#) - at a **one-night-only screening on June 2, 2016 at 6:45PM** at the ByTowne Cinema.

SONITA follows the story of a young Afghan woman whose dreams of becoming a world famous rapper are at odds with her family's plan to have her married and fetch a bride price of up to \$9000 US dollars for her. [Sonita Alizadeh](#) was 10 years old the first time her family considered having her married and now, at the age of 18, she finds herself struggling to evade a marriage she does not consent to. As a low income, undocumented refugee, with no identity papers, living in Tehran, Iran, her options are limited. Despite the overwhelming obstacles in her path, including Iran's ban on women performing in public for audiences that include men they are not related to, Sonita refuses to give up on her dreams and, with the help of Iranian filmmaker [Rokhsareh Ghaem Maghami](#), she finds ways to make them come true. This multiple award winner has inspired and thrilled audiences around the world, receiving [praise](#) from critics, international [media](#) coverage and [standing ovations](#) at film festival screenings.

A **talk** with Afghanistan expert and International Development and Global Studies professor **Nipa Banerjee** (University of Ottawa) and writer, rapper, poet and arts educator Jamaal Jackson Rogers (JustJamaal the Poet) will follow the film.

Tickets are \$12.00 and can be purchased in advance at: oneworldfilmfestival.ca/sonita/

Media are invited to attend free of charge. Please RSVP to oneworldfilmfestival@oneworldarts.ca
For more information contact Zoë Mallett at oneworldfilmfestival@oneworldarts.ca

For press kits and images visit oneworldfilmfestival.ca/media

The One World Film Festival is Ottawa's longest-running annual documentary film festival focused on raising awareness on a diverse range of global issues.

One World Arts is a volunteer-based, Canadian charitable organization that has been raising awareness and fostering public engagement on global issues since 1972.

Social Media: [Facebook.com/OneWorldFilm](https://www.facebook.com/OneWorldFilm) | Twitter [@OneWorldFilm](https://twitter.com/OneWorldFilm) | [Instagram.com/OneWorldFilmFestival](https://www.instagram.com/OneWorldFilmFestival)

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