

# FILM + DISCUSSION PUNCHING FOR POWER: POLITICS AS SHOWMANSHIP

PRESENTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

YORK UNIVERSITY  
PRICE FAMILY CINEMA

(ACCOLADE EAST 102)

OCTOBER 14

6 P.M.

FREE ADMISSION



“TRUE PIECE OF ANTHOLOGY”

- Jean-François Simard,  
Radio-Canada / Université du Québec UQO

## GOD SAVE JUSTIN TRUDEAU: THE MOVIE

**God Save Justin Trudeau** is not a boxing movie. Nor an authorized biography. It's a documentary about the art of politics in the 21st century.

Justin Trudeau vs. Patrick Brazeau. The improbable boxing match between the ambitious Liberal MP and the young Conservative senator was one of the hottest media events on the federal political scene. For better or for worse?

A metaphor for the ongoing political struggle between the Liberals and Conservatives since the founding of Canada, the documentary is both an intimate portrait of a young politician and a prime example of politics as a spectacle.

Is there a parallel between boxing and politics? What does it take to win? When politicians clash in a zero-sum game, what does victory mean for the rest of us?

Spectacle and showmanship increasingly dominate our political life in the 21st century. The predictions of great media theorists like Guy Debord, Marshall McLuhan, Neil Postman and Noam Chomsky seem to be coming true. This film is a timely reminder that Canadian democracy is ripe for a major reset.

Official selection at RIDM 2015. Opening at Visions du Reel Switzerland 2015  
4 **Gemeaux (Gemini)** nominations including “Best Documentary”

## LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

After the screening, let's talk about it. The film's producer Guylaine Maroist and York experts on politics and media will interact with the audience to explore the themes and questions raised in the documentary.



GUYLAINE MAROIST,  
Tout le monde en parle

ERIC RUEL

The film's authors directed and produced numerous documentaries on social, political and cultural issues. They won the 2013 Gemeaux Award for “Best documentary” for *Disunited States of Canada*. They received the Governor General's History Award in 2011 “The Pierre-Berton Award”. They also won the “Gold Ribbon Award” in 2008, for *Time Bombs*, honoring the “Best documentary” on Canadian television.