# Roberto Dutesco The Wild Horses of Sable Island EQUUS Film Festival Panel - Roberto Dutesco - His Vision and Work 



## THE VISION OF THE MAN

Roberto Dutesco has been revealing the beauty of nature and the human spirit through his photography for more than three decades. He first learned of Sable Island and its wild horses in 1994 and made his first trip to the island that same year. A perilous journey by small plane from Halifax and a beach landing brought him to this remarkable place. Over time, and with patience and respect for these living creatures who, in the absence of natural predators, exhibit no fear of humans, he learned the ways of the horses and fell in love with the island in the process.

As Dutesco discovered the island for himself over the course of several visits, he captured the beauty and isolation of the wild horses and their austere habitat through still photography and $16-\mathrm{mm}$ film. His incredible journey is presented in a full-length documentary entitled Chasing Wild Horses, which has aired many times on the CBC (Canadian Broadcasting Corporation) and other media outlets in the U.S. and Europe.

In 2008, the Canadian government identified Sable Island as a protected national treasure under the Canada Shipping Act, Bill \#227, as a result of Dutesco's efforts. He says, "This legislation underscores the point that, if natural locations like this are to endure, they must be left alone. I have spent the last eighteen years dedicated to that belief and will continue to work for their preservation for the future."

