

You are invited to a special film event...

# A VISION IN THE DARKNESS

by Sophie  
Bissonette



A creative &  
energetic  
feature length  
documentary  
uncovering the  
life of Jewish,  
ex-communist,

*"...A fascinating*

feminist

*first hand*

activist Léa

*account that*

Roback now

*documents*

87 years old

*Québec History*

*during the 20th*

90 mins.

*Century"*

MONTREAL MIRROR

**THE FULL SCREENING  
SCHEDULE IS AS FOLLOWS:**

**THURSDAY NOV. 21**

7:30 & 9:30 PM

**FRIDAY NOV. 22**

9:30PM

**SATURDAY NOV. 23**

7:30 & 9:30PM

**SUNDAY NOV. 24**

1 & 4PM

**OPENS IN TORONTO THURSDAY NOVEMBER 21, 7:30PM**

Léa Roback and director Sophie Bissonette will be present at the opening night screening

With *Let's Rap*, a five minute short by Alison Burns featuring young women rappers  
Further information call: Punam Khosla 922-0554 or Eun Sook Lee 967-1324

**cinéma  
libre**



National  
Film Board  
of Canada

Office  
national du film  
du Canada

\* Dominique

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Jean Tourangeau

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*Biographical film traces the history of Modern Quebec*

## **A Vision In The Darkness**

by  
**Sophie Bissonnette**

opens in Toronto  
**November 21 - 24, 1991**  
**John Spotton Theatre**  
**150 John St., Toronto**

*" Profusely illustrated with archival film material, Sophie Bissonnette's film is thrilling And important..." Le Devoir*

A Vision In The Darkness (Des Lumieres Dans la Grande Noirceur), a unique, stunning and energetic feature length documentary uncovers the life of a remarkable woman - **Léa Roback**. Now 87 years old, her life, contribution and world view illuminate a historical period of struggle, change, hope and visionary activism among working women, communists, feminists, pacifists and Jewish people in Quebec.

Léa Roback, is joined in the film by **Madeleine Parent**, known nation-wide for her persistent work among working women, along with numerous other women with whom Lea shares stories of her working life, community and personal growth.

Screened at Toronto's Festival of Festivals (1991) to enthusiastic audiences, "A Vision In The Darkness" is Bissonnette's fourth feature length documentary. Her work appeals to those interested in creative documentary filmmaking, women's oral history and trade unionism. Previous works include: A Wives Tale (79), The Electronic Sweatshop (84) and L'Amour...à quel prix (88).

**Léa Roback and director Sophie Bissonnette will be present at the opening night screening on Thursday November 21st at 7:30pm.** The full screening schedule is as follows:

Thursday November 21	7:30 & 9:30pm
Friday November 22	9:30pm
Saturday November 23	7:30 & 9:30pm
Sunday November 24	1 & 4pm

**For further information call:** Punam Khosla 922-0554  
Eun Sook Lee 967-1324



\$1000.00

The 1991 Festival of Festivals presents

**A VISION IN THE DARKNESS**  
(DES LUMIERES DANS LA GRANDE NOIRCEUR)

A film by **Sophie Bissonnette**  
with **Léa Roback**  
and with the participation of Madeleine Parent

*"...a fascinating first-hand account that documents Québec history during the 20th century"*

Martin Siberok, MONTREAL MIRROR

*"Profusely illustrated with archival film material, Sophie Bissonnette's film is thrilling. And important..."*

Francine Laurendeau, LE DEVOIR

*"DES LUMIERES DANS LA GRANDE NOIRCEUR IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE DISCOVERY AND UNDERSTANDING OF QUÉBEC'S HISTORY"*

Sherry Simon, 24 IMAGES

*"Léa Roback's memory is unerring. Here is the story of the 20th century, told with zest and wit. And that's what makes the film so attractive....Sophie Bissonnette's camera listens, and that is the stuff of which the best documentaries are made of."*

Serge Dussault, LA PRESSE

Through the eyes of a woman of eighty-six blessed with a marvelous memory, vitality and humour, this fascinating documentary offers a modernist vision of Québec history from the beginning of the twentieth century to the period known as La Grande Noirceur - the Great Darkness.

Léa Roback - feminist, pacifist, trade unionist, communist and proud Jew - was on the frontline of every major social issue during a period rife with social upheaval: anti-semitism, the roaring twenties in Montreal and Berlin, the struggles of the first women's unions, the repressive Duplessis regime, the cold war...she saw it all.

The film provides a fresh and highly personal view of a radically changing society that gave way to the Quiet revolution in Quebec.

**A VISION IN THE DARKNESS** will be shown on **Friday September 13** at 7 p.m. at the **Backstage 1 Theatre** and on **Saturday September 14** at 9 a.m. at the **Cumberland 4 Theatre**.

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