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25

french film festival UK

SILVER JUBILEE EDITION

2 November to
17 December 2017



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welcome

BIENVENUE and welcome to the 25th silver jubilee edition of the French Film Festival UK

For any cultural endeavour to reach a quarter century is a milestone worth celebrating. Your 25th French Film Festival UK marks a significant notch on its calendar with a programme that is even richer and more comprehensive than ever before. Involving leading independent cinemas around the country from Glasgow and Edinburgh to London, from Inverness to Dundee and Belfast, from Warwick and Leicester to Chichester and Bristol, and so many more places in between watch out for the *crème de la crème* of contemporary and classic French-speaking cinema from 2 November to 17 December 2017.

With the support of a BFI Audience Fund award, programmers have chosen more than 40 diverse titles for all tastes including boulevard hits, auteur choices, documentaries, animation and shorts as well as key films from the past including glorious restorations of *Indochine* by Régis Wargnier (screened in the very first French Film Festival in 1992), and Claude Berri's magnificent *Jean de Florette* and *Manon des Sources* for the first time in cinemas for many a year.

Among the guests scheduled to attend are the Oscar-winning Régis Wargnier for the anniversary screening of *Indochine*; second time director Blandine Lenoir and stellar talent Agnès Jaoui for *Aurora*; acclaimed Belgian director Lucas Belvaux for the hugely topical *This is Our Land*; exciting new talent Nicolas Fleureau for the nail-biting social thriller *Corporate*; return guests Abel and Fiona Gordon for the hilarious *Lost in Paris*; Lisa Azuelos for the musical biopic *Dalida*; and Marie Noëlle for *Marie Curie: the Courage*

of Knowledge (screened to mark the 150th anniversary of the first female Nobel prizewinner's birth). Keep a close eye on the website (www.frenchfilmfestival.org.uk) for other guest appearances or updates.

Two titles honour great French artists Rodin and Gauguin incarnated respectively by those great actors Vincent Lindon and Vincent Cassel while two explorations delve into the lives and times of diverse musical legends Barbara and Dalida. Thousands of pupils will watch especially curated programmes for schools, giving them a first taste of films with subtitles and an understanding of the cultures of our European neighbours and those French speaking countries further afield.

Patron Sylvain Chomet (*Belleville Rendez-vous*, *The Illusionist*, *Atilla Marcel*) sent a jubilee message of good wishes: "Congratulations for an amazing 25 years to this gem of a Festival of which I became patron while making *The Illusionist* in Edinburgh. I love the informal atmosphere and the warm welcome guests always receive from the enthusiastic audiences. This Festival deserves support and encouragement from everyone." The late Jeanne Moreau, a previous Festival patron, receives a special homage in the year of her passing.

A chorus of "grand merci" as ever is due to sponsors, advertisers, funders, supporters, cinema colleagues, distributors, sales agents, and the dedicated Festival team without whom none of it would happen – and that would be so triste!

Bon Festival à tous!

Richard Mowe,
Director French Film Festival UK

Ilona Morison,
Co-director French Film Festival UK

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Cover image: **Louis Garrel & Stacy Martin in *Redoubtable* by Michel Hazanavicius**

Certificates in this brochure are advisory except when the film has been classified by the BBFC.

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AT A GLANCE

what's on where

150 Milligrams (p.12)

Belper Ritz Cinema
Chichester Cinema at New Park
Edinburgh Filmhouse
Inverness Eden Court
London Ciné Lumière
Stirling MacRobert Arts Centre

Abrahamadabra (p.47)

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Hull University

All the Boys Are Called Patrick (p.46)

Edinburgh Filmhouse
Falmouth The Poly
London Ciné Lumière

Aurora (p.26)

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Hull University
Inverness Eden Court
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Richmond The Station Cinema

A Bag of Marbles (p.12)

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Edinburgh Filmhouse
Hereford Courtyard
London Ciné Lumière (Jewish Film Festival)
London Reel Borehamwood
(Jewish Film Festival)
Manchester Cineworld Didsbury
(Jewish Film Festival)
Warwick Arts Centre

Other screenings for schools
- see Learning pages 44 / 45

Barbara (p.13)

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Dundee Contemporary Arts
Edinburgh Filmhouse
Glasgow Film Theatre
London Ciné Lumière
Northampton Errol Flynn

Bay of Angels (p.39)

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Edinburgh Filmhouse
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Before Summer Ends (p.30)

Edinburgh Filmhouse
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London Regent Street Cinema

Corniche Kennedy (p.13)

Edinburgh Dominion
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Corporate (p.26)

Chichester Cinema at New Park
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Glasgow Film Theatre
London Ciné Lumière

Dalida (p.14)

London Ciné Lumière

AT A GLANCE

what's on where

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Cardiff Chapter Arts Centre (Watch Africa)
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London Regent Street Cinema
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Gauguin (p.27)

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Edinburgh Dominion
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London JW3
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Warwick Arts Centre

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Ivan Tsarevitch and the Changing Princess (p.33)

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Other screenings for schools
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Jean de Florette (p.36)

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Warwick Arts Centre

Just To Be Sure (p.17)

Edinburgh Filmhouse
Glasgow Film Theatre
London Ciné Lumière

AT A GLANCE

what's on where

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Richmond The Station Cinema

Ladies (p.27)

Edinburgh Dominion
London Ciné Lumière

Lost in Paris (p.18)

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Lover for a Day (p.19)

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Marie Curie:

The Courage of Knowledge (p.19)

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Edinburgh Dominion
Hereford Courtyard
London Ciné Lumière
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Stirling MacRobert Arts Centre
Warwick Arts Centre

Mercenary (p.28)

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Stirling MacRobert Arts Centre

Mr & Mrs Adelman (p.28)

Aberdeen Belmont Filmhouse
Chichester Cinema at New Park
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Mr Klein (p. 40)

London Ciné Lumière

The Paris Opera (p.30)

Chichester Cinema at New Park
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London Ciné Lumière

Problemos (p.21)

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AT A GLANCE

what's on where

Redoubtable (p.21)

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Bristol Watershed
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Leicester Phoenix Cinema
London Ciné Lumière
Warwick Arts Centre

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London Ciné Lumière

School of Life (p.22)

Chichester Cinema at New Park
Edinburgh Filmhouse
Inverness Eden Court
London Ciné Lumière
Richmond The Station Cinema

Short Cuts (p.46)

Edinburgh Filmhouse
Edinburgh Queen Margaret University
(students + guests only)

Speak Up! (p.31)

Aberdeen Belmont Filmhouse
Edinburgh University
Glasgow Alliance Française

Step by Step (p.29)

Edinburgh Filmhouse
Stirling MacRobert Arts Centre

The Teacher (p.29)

Chichester Cinema at New Park

***Other screenings for schools
- see Learning pages 44 / 45***

This is Our Land (p.23)

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Tomorrow and Thereafter (p.23)

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Edinburgh Filmhouse
Leicester Phoenix Cinema
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The Workshop (p.24)

Belfast Queen's Film Theatre
Bristol Watershed
Chichester Cinema at New Park
Edinburgh Filmhouse
Glasgow Film Theatre
Hull University
London Ciné Lumière

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panorama horizons

Start here for films by established directors as well as acclaimed titles from the festival circuit including Cannes where earlier this year such veterans as André Techiné (*Golden Years*), Philippe Garrel (*Lover for a Day*), Jacques Doillon (*Rodin*) all had new films alongside an earlier generation such as Michel Hazanavicius having fun with Jean-Luc Godard in *Redoubtable*, Carine Tardieu's hit comedy (*Just to be Sure*), François Ozon erotic thriller (*The Double Lover*), Laurent Cantet (on top form in *The Workshop*) and Emmanuelle Bercot (*150 Milligrams*) about a real life medical whistle-blower.

There are two widely different takes on celebrated French singers. *Barbara*, Mathieu Amalric's tribute to the "dame en noir" in which the director himself plays a film director with his ex-wife Jeanne Balibar as the grande dame is the edgier of the two. Lisa Azuelos's more conventional glittery biopic *Dalida* boasts an unknown Sveva Alviti in the title role. Amalric is also present on screen as another film-maker in *Ismaël's Ghosts*, his seventh collaboration with Arnaud Desplechin alongside Marion Cotillard, Charlotte Gainsbourg, and Louis Garrel (also to be seen as the great Godard in *Redoubtable*).

To mark the 150th anniversary of Marie Curie's birth Marie Noëlle offers a large-scale biography of the Nobel-Prize-winning physicist starring Polish actress Karolina Gruszka (in a role once taken by Isabelle Huppert). Another historical subject *A Bag of Marbles* draws for inspiration on the memoirs of Joseph Joffo about two Jewish boys in Second World War France. From today's headlines *This is Our Land* by Lucas Belvaux has as a background the rise of the forces of the National Front while Pierre Jolivet's *The Firemen* looks from the inside at the summer conflagrations along the Côte d'Azur.

For sheer unadulterated delight try *Lost in Paris* by and with Dominique Abel and Fiona Gordon adrift in the City of Light, the wacky shenanigans of *Problemos* by comedian Eric Judor or the versatile Noemie Lvovsky with *Tomorrow and Thereafter* dedicated to her mother. No Panorama selection would be complete without a major literary adaptation which comes in the form of *A Woman's Life*, an adaptation by Stéphane Brizé of Guy de Maupassant's first novel.

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panorama horizons



150 Milligrams *La Fille de Brest* (N/C 15+)

The inspirational crusade of one dedicated doctor against a large-scale pharmaceutical company forms the basis of Emmanuelle Bercot's super-charged adaptation of real-life whistleblower Irène Frachon's bestselling memoir. Irène (*Borgen's* Sidse Babett Knudsen) is a hospital lung specialist who begins to suspect a connection between recent patient deaths and a medication called Mediator. Seeking solid proof to justify her suspicions, she joins forces with the hospital's head of research Antoine, played by Benoît Magimel. What follows is a long and rough road strewn with shady coverups, impenetrable institutional frameworks and powerful figures who are either corrupt or simply have their heads buried deep in the sand. Irène's determination in pursuing the cause catapults her into the spotlight. By challenging one unscrupulous company, she shakes the foundations of a system that has become inexcusably complacent.

Cast **Sidse Babett Knudsen, Benoît Magimel, Charlotte Laemmel, Isabelle De Hertogh, Lara Blazi Neumann, Philippe Uchan, Patrick Ligardes, Olivier Pasquier, Gustave Kervern, Pablo Pauly, Eddie Chignara, Raphaël Ferret**

Director **Emmanuelle Bercot** | 2016 | France | 128 mins | Int sales **Wild Bunch**

Suspense, tension, invention... a highly efficient thriller. *Le Monde*

FILM SHOWING:

Stirling Macrobert Arts Centre	Thu 2 Nov 19:30
Belper Ritz Cinema	Sun 5 Nov 17:00
London Ciné Lumière	Mon 6 Nov 20:45
Edinburgh Filmhouse	Wed 22 Nov 20:35
Chichester Cinema at New Park	Thu 23 Nov 17:30
Inverness Eden Court	Thu 30 Nov 18:00



A Bag of Marbles *Un sac de billes* (N/C 12+)

Based on the famous and acclaimed memoirs of Joseph Joffo, *A Bag of Marbles* offers a new version of his incredible story following the experiences of two young Jewish boys living in France during the Second World War. When Joseph Joffo was ten years old, his father (Patrick Bruel) gave him and his brother Maurice some money and a map and sent them on a dangerous mission to escape Nazi-occupied Paris in 1941. Making their way to the demilitarised zone in the South, the boys become unavoidably caught in the whirlwind of war. Aided by the occasional kind soul, the two young boys swerve and dart through obstacles set by Nazi soldiers to avoid succumbing to the dreadful fate of so many others.

Cast **Dorian Le Clech, Batyste Fleurial, Patrick Bruel, Elsa Sylberstein, Bernard Campan, Christian Clavier, Kev Adams, César Domboy**

Director **Christian Duguay** | 2016 | France/Canada | 110 mins | Int sales **Gaumont**

One of the rare movies depicting the French Occupation from the perspective of children.
Variety

FILM SHOWING:

Inverness Eden Court	Wed 8 Nov 10:00
Edinburgh Filmhouse	Sat 11 Nov 13:00
Chichester Cinema at New Park	Sat 11 Nov 13:15
Warwick Arts Centre	Sat 11 Nov 16:00
London Ciné Lumière	Sun 12 Nov 18:30 (Jewish Film Festival)
London Reel Borehamwood	Wed 22 Nov 20:00 (Jewish Film Festival)
Hereford Courtyard	Thu 23 Nov 19:45
Manchester Cineworld Didsbury	Sat 25 Nov 20:00 (Jewish Film Festival)

panorama horizons



Barbara (N/C 15+)

A loving tribute to the icon of French song with a brilliant performance by Jeanne Balibar who has an uncanny physical resemblance to the late "Dame en noir" as the legend used to be called by her admirers. Mathieu Amalric (who won best director at Cannes for *On Tour*) directs Balibar, his ex-wife, in a film within a film. Balibar plays an actress called Brigitte who is cast to star in a film about Barbara with Amalric playing a director called Yves. At times it is deliberately difficult to know what is real and what is recreation as Amalric edits in material from documentaries but there's no doubt about the power of Balibar's performance.

Cast **Mathieu Amalric, Jeanne Balibar, Erwan Ribard**
Director **Mathieu Amalric** | 2017 | France | 97 mins | Int sales **Gaumont**

Jeanne Balibar is cast in the double role of the celebrated singer and an actor playing her in a haunting performance... *The Guardian*

FILM SHOWING:

London Ciné Lumière	Thu 9 Nov 18:00
Glasgow Film Theatre	Fri 10 Nov 18:30
Edinburgh Filmhouse	Thu 16 Nov 20:40
Dundee Contemporary Arts	Mon 20 Nov 20:30
Chichester Cinema at New Park	Wed 29 Nov 18:15
Northampton Errol Flynn	Mon 4 Dec 18:15



Corniche Kennedy (N/C 15+)

Sensual, edgy, relentlessly honest and tender, *Corniche Kennedy*, directed by Dominique Cabrera, focusses on young people, their lives, dreams, and relationships. Taken from the eponymous novel by Maylis de Kerangal, Cabrera's film is set in Marseilles. The title refers to the Corniche du Président-John-Fitzgerald-Kennedy, a boulevard along the coast, and at its heart is a group of contemporary teens who defy the laws of gravity by plunging into the water from a height. A police chief, tasked with keeping an eye on this stretch of the coastline, observes them from behind her binoculars. The kids are caught between a zero-tolerance policy and their taste for the forbidden, and things are about to go awry...

Cast **Aïssa Maïga, Lola Créton, Alain Demaria, Kamel Kadri, Moussa Maaskri**
Director **Dominique Cabrera** | 2016 | France | 94 mins
Int sales **Jour2Fête** | Print source **Institut français**

A powerful, subtle and sensual film on this moment where anything is possible: adolescence. *Les Fiches du Cinéma*

FILM SHOWING:

Glasgow Film Theatre	Sun 12 Nov 16:45 + introduction by Martine Pierquin
Ipswich Film Theatre	Fri 1 Dec 19:30
London Regent Street Cinema	Mon 4 Dec 20:15
Edinburgh Dominion	Tue 5 Dec 18:00

panorama horizons



Dalida (N/C 12+)

In the tradition of French chanson a singer's ability to sell the audience on the emotions of the song is everything. Few did this better than Dalida. Over the course of 30 years beginning in the 1950s, this Egypt-born Italian became a French idol with a guileless voice and sensual stage persona, selling 170 million records worldwide. But all that professional bliss came packaged with a fair amount of private torture. This glittery biopic faithfully chronicles the complexities of being a liberated woman in a less liberated era, as well as the ferocious passions of a life in which, despite all the triumphs, suicide became a recurring theme. Writer/director Lisa Azuelos made a bold decision to go with the unknown Sveva Alviti in the title role who incarnates the legend with style and confidence.

Cast Sveva Alviti, Riccardo Scamarcio, Jean-Paul Rouve, Nicolas Duvauchelle, Alessandro Borghi, Patrick Timsit, Vincent Perez, Valentina Carli, Brenno Placido, Niels Schneider, Vittorio Hamariz Vasfi, Davide Lorino, Haydee Borelli

Director Lisa Azuelos | 2016 | France | 124 mins | Int sales Pathé Distribution

Dalida is a highly polished product, right down to the star's inimitable wardrobe and wigs.
Hollywood Reporter

FILM SHOWING:

London Ciné Lumière

Thu 9 Nov 20:30

+ Guest Lisa Azuelos



The Double Lover *L'Amant double* (N/C 18+)

Francois Ozon's erotic thriller, about a woman Chloé (Marion Vachth from *Young and Beautiful*) who falls in love with Paul, her psychoanalyst (Jéréemie Renier) but discovers there's more to him than meets the eye, sees the director back to his old tricks after the restrained Second World War saga Franz. His latest foray has style, sex appeal and a delicious streak of craziness. When Chloé and Paul move into their new apartment she discovers a box containing Paul's past, including a passport bearing a different surname. A web of secrets are about to be unleashed... Loosely based on the Joyce Carol Oates novel *Lives of the Twins* (written under the pseudonym Rosamond Smith) and with distinct shades of Brian de Palma and Hitchcock on the side. Watch out for Jacqueline Bisset in a neat cameo part.

Cast Marine Vachth, Jeremie Renier, Jacqueline Bisset, Myriam Boyer, Dominique Reymond

Director François Ozon | 2017 | France | 107 mins

UK Distributor Curzon Artificial Eye

Made with serious craftsmanship but never takes itself seriously. *The Hollywood Reporter*

FILM SHOWING:

London Ciné Lumière

Thu 2 Nov 18:30

Inverness Eden Court

Sat 11 Nov 18:45

Edinburgh Filmhouse

Tue 14 Nov 15:30 & 20:40

Glasgow Film Theatre

Sat 18 Nov 20:30

Chichester at Cinema Park

Sat 25 Nov 18:00 & Mon 27 Nov 15:45

Stirling Macrobert Arts Centre

Thu 30 Nov 19:30

Aberdeen Belmont Filmhouse

Fri 1 Dec 20:40

Belfast Queen's Film Theatre

Thu 14 Dec eve

Bristol Watershed

Sat 16 Dec late eve

panorama horizons



Félicité (N/C 15+)

Alain Gomis' latest film orbits around its heroine of the same name (Véro Tshanda Beya Mputu), a single mother who makes a living as a nightclub singer in the capital of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Félicité's life takes a complicated turn when her son Samo (Gaetan Claudia) is critically injured in a motorcycle accident. She is forced to swallow her pride and go hat-in-hand to any possible source of financing for the costly surgery, medication and follow-up medical care. Concurrent with this crisis, Félicité is fixed in the romantic crosshairs of Tabu (Papi Mpaka), a charming bar patron and handyman with demons of his own. Music forms the spine of Félicité; not just due to the livelihood of its heroine, but also from the presence of a tone-setting chorus.

Cast **Véro Tshanda Beya, Papi Mpaka, Gaetan Claudia**

Director **Alain Gomis** | 2015 | France/Belgium/Senegal | 120 mins
UK Distributor **Mubi UK**

A wild and adventurous fourth feature from French-African director Alain Gomis.

The Film Stage

FILM SHOWING:

South London Gallery	Fri 3 Nov 19:00 (Film Africa)
Bristol Watershed	Fri 10 Nov (Afrika Eye)
Cardiff Chapter Arts Centre	Sun 12 Nov (Watch Africa)
Chichester Cinema at New Park	Fri 24 Nov 18:00
Belfast Queen's Film Theatre	Thu 30 Nov

The Firemen *Les Hommes du feu* (N/C 15+)

With a summer heatwave raging in the south of France the fire brigade have their work out dealing with outbreaks of fires all over the terrain, some of them the deliberate work of criminal gangs. Pierre Jolivet examines how the firemen cope in the face of overwhelming odds, not least because of internal conflicts between two of the officers in charge. An uncanny prelude to the blazes that caused such devastation this year on the Côte d'Azur.

Cast **Roschdy Zem, Emilie Dequenne, Michaël Abiteboul, Guillaume Labbé**

Director **Pierre Jolivet** | 2017 | France | 90 mins | UK Distributor **STUDIOCANAL**

It deserves credit for the documentary way it captures the daily round of a squad of firefighters. *The Hollywood Reporter*

FILM SHOWING:

Richmond The Station Cinema	Sat 4 Nov 17:45, Mon 6 Nov 20:15, Sun 12 Nov 19:30 & Wed 15 Nov 18:00
London Regent Street Cinema	Wed 6 Dec 20:00
Edinburgh Dominion	Thu 7 Dec 18:00

**FRENCH
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STUDIOCANAL

panorama horizons



Foreign Body *Corps étranger* (N/C 15+)

Tunisian director Raja Amari's traditional yet interesting fourth feature follows the first months in France of Samia, a young illegal immigrant who ran away from her brother, an abusive man and Islamist radical she informed on in the aftermath of the Jasmine Revolution. Rather than retracing the inevitable obstacle course any refugee has to face (finding a roof, escaping the police, etc.), Amari focuses on her heroine's inner turmoil and confronts her with a troubling waltz of desires. Sarra Hannachi (*Child of the Sun*) superbly plays the lead character alongside the always elegant presence of Hiam Abbas (of *Lemon Tree* and *The Source* reknown who also appeared in the director's *Red Satin*) as the half-maternal, half-Pygmalion figure. On a broad canvas the film touches on themes such as jihadism, class differences, power games, complex family relationships and unexpected sexual affinity.

Cast **Hiam Abbas, Marc Brunet, Salim Kechiouche**

Director **Raja Amari** | 2016 | France/Tunisia | 92 mins
Int sales **UDI (Urban Distribution International)**

Topical themes and accomplished cast.
Screen Daily

FILM SHOWING:

London Ciné Lumière

Sun 5 Nov 18:30 + Guest (Film Africa)



Golden Years *Nos années folles* (N/C 18+)

A deserter disguises himself as a woman to escape the fields of battle during the First World War in veteran André Techniné's new film, adapted from Fabrice Virgili and Daniele Voldman's non-fiction book *La garçonne et l'assassin / The Flapper and the Killer*. It is the story of Paul and Louise Grappe, a young couple living their golden years before the Great War breaks out. When Paul (*Stranger By The Lake* star Pierre Deladonchamps) is sent to the front he blows off his own finger to buy a reprieve. The night before he's due back in the trench, he makes a run for it and, with a little help from his wife (Céline Sallette), reinvents himself as Suzanne. After the government offered a blanket amnesty for all deserters, he would go on to tell his story in a popular vaudeville review.

Cast **Pierre Deladonchamps, Céline Sallette, Michel Fau, Grégoire Leprince-Ringuet, Virginie Pradal, Mama Prassinou, Axelle Equinet, Peter Bonke**

Director **André Techniné** | 2016 | France | 103 mins | Int sales **Celluloid Dreams**

Made with typical sensitivity and craft... it is a film that allows events of the past to speak directly to the present. *Screen Daily*

FILM SHOWING:

Chichester Cinema at New Park Sun 19 Nov 18:15

London Watermans Arts Centre Sun 19 Nov

Edinburgh Dominion Sun 3 Dec 18:00

London Regent Street Cinema Wed 6 Dec 18:00

panorama horizons



Ismaël's Ghosts *Les Fantômes d'Ismaël* (N/C 15+)

Just before he is about to start shooting his new film, a filmmaker's life is turned upside down when a woman he had loved and who had disappeared, reappears. Ismael (Mathieu Amalric, in his seventh outing with director Arnaud Desplechin), plays the filmmaker, who describes himself as a widower. He married Carlotta (Marion Cotillard) when she was just 20 years-old. A few years later she vanished without a trace. No body or evidence of foul play was ever found. Ismael has been grieving her loss for two decades, finally obliged to have the authorities legally classify Carlotta as "missing", as he was reluctant to have her declared "dead". Then she seems to reappear - but how could that be? Opening choice at this year's Cannes Film Festival.

Cast **Mathieu Amalric, Marion Cotillard, Charlotte Gainsbourg, Louis Garrel, Alba Rohrwacher, László Szabó, Hippolyte Girardot, Jacques Nolot, Catherine Mouchet, Samir Guesmi, Bruno Todeschini**

Director **Arnaud Desplechin** | 2017 | France | 114 mins
UK Distributor **Arrow Films**

A jubilantly complex tale within a tale - possibly within yet another tale. Told with daring and panache. *Screen Daily*

FILM SHOWING:

Richmond The Station Cinema	Fri 3 Nov 14:00, Tue 7 Nov 20:00, Sat 11 Nov 20:00 & Tue 14 Nov 14:30
Glasgow Film Theatre	Sun 12 Nov 19:15
Chichester Cinema at New Park	Sat 18 Nov 12:15 & Mon 20 Nov 15:15
Edinburgh Filmhouse	Thu 23 Nov 18:05
London Regent Street Cinema	Mon 4 Dec 18:00
Bristol Watershed	Fri 15 Dec late eve



Just To Be Sure *Ôtez-moi d'un doute* (N/C 15+)

The question at the heart of the new film by writer-director Carine Tardieu (of *The Dandelions* fame) is: you can't choose who your parents are - or can you? Out of the conundrum the director turns in a the sharp and funny comedy about two interconnected stories involving paternity and possible incest, as a widowed father discovers that his own dad may not be his biological one, while learning that his budding love interest may actually be his sister. It's as light-hearted as its subject matter is deadly serious. Featuring an excellent cast led by François Damiens and Cecile de France, this Cannes Directors' Fortnight entry from earlier in the year juggles issues with a light and intelligent touch.

Cast **François Damiens, Cécile de France, Guy Marchand, André Wilms, Alice de Lencquesaing, Estéban, Lyes Salem, Sam Karmann, Brigitte Roïan, Julie Debazac, Loïc Baylacq, Nadège Beausson-Diagne**

Director **Carine Tardieu** | 2016 | France, Belgium | 97 mins
Int sales **SND Groupe M6 / The Festival Agency**

Sharp and funny: Tardieu juggles lots of heavy issues with a supremely light touch, making us laugh about what would normally be tragic events. *The Hollywood Reporter*

FILM SHOWING:

London Ciné Lumière	Mon 6 Nov 18:30
Edinburgh Filmhouse	Sun 12 Nov 18:15
Glasgow Film Theatre	Mon 13 Nov 20:30

panorama horizons



A Kid *Le Fils de Jean* (N/C 8+)

Frenchman Mathieu (Pierre Deladonchamps) finds himself in strange circumstances when he learns the father he never knew has just passed away in this engrossing and deeply poignant ode to familial bonds from director Philippe Lioret (*Welcome*). In the wake of this startling news, Mathieu is overcome with eagerness to unravel his life's mystery, to receive the package his father left him, and most of all to meet his two brothers. The following day, he travels to Quebec, where he is welcomed by his father's best friend, Pierre. However, Mathieu's intentions are thwarted when Pierre forbids him to reveal the true purpose of his visit to his brothers who are unaware of their relationship to him. With the body of his father still missing, and forced to conceal his true identity, Mathieu undertakes an extraordinary and compelling journey of self-discovery against the picturesque Quebec landscape.

Cast **Pierre Deladonchamps, Gabriel Arcand, Timothé Yom Dorp, Catherine de Léan, Marie-Thérèse Fortin, Pierre-Yves Cardinal, Patrick Hivan, Hortense Monsaingeon, Romane Portail, Martin Laroche**

Director **Philippe Lioret** | 2015 | France/Canada | 98 mins
Int sales **Le Pacte/French Institute**

Solidly crafted family drama by ace storyteller Philippe Lioret that offers the right amount of psychological depth with a rewarding quasi-tearful glow. *Variety*

FILM SHOWING:

Richmond The Station Cinema	Sat 4 Nov 14:30, Mon 6 Nov 17:45, Sun 12 Nov 14:30 & Wed 15 Nov 20:15
Edinburgh Filmhouse	Wed 15 Nov 20:40
Aberdeen Belmont Filmhouse	Tue 28 Nov 20:40
Ipswich Film Theatre	Sat 2 Dec 14:30 & 19:30



Lost in Paris *Paris pieds nus* (N/C 8+)

A fun and hectic tale of peculiar people finding love while lost in the City of Light. Filmed in Dominique Abel and Fiona Gordon's signature whimsical style, *Lost in Paris* features the Belgium-based filmmakers as a small-town Canadian librarian and a strangely seductive vagabond. When Fiona's orderly life is disrupted by a letter of distress from her 88-year-old Aunt Martha (delightfully portrayed by the late Emmanuelle Riva, Oscar-nominated for *Amour*) who is living in Paris, she hops on the first plane she can. She arrives only to discover that Martha has disappeared. In an avalanche of spectacular disasters, she encounters Dom (Abel), the affable, but annoying tramp who just won't leave her alone. *Lost in Paris* with its trademark antics and intricately choreographed slapstick, will have you leaving the cinema with a gleeful skip in your step and a renewed zest for life.

Cast **Fiona Gordon, Dominique Abel, Emmanuelle Riva, Pierre Richard**

Directors **Fiona Gordon, Dominique Abel** | 2016 | France/Belgium | 83 mins
UK Distributor **Arrow Films**

A charming Ode to Tati and Chaplin. Blends storybook visuals with a stream of clever gags to deliver an infectious romance. *Indiewire*

FILM SHOWING:

Richmond The Station Cinema	Fri 3 Nov 18:00, Tue 7 Nov 13:30, Fri 10 Nov 20:15 & Tue 14 Nov 17:45
Dunoon Film Festival	Fri 10 Nov 18:00
Chichester Cinema at New Park	Sun 12 Nov 12:45 & Mon 13 Nov 20:45
Glasgow Film Theatre	Wed 15 Nov 21:00
Dundee Contemporary Arts	Thu 23 Nov 18:00
Aberdeen Belmont Filmhouse	Thu 23 Nov 20:00 + Guests Dominique Abel & Fiona Gordon
Edinburgh Filmhouse	Fri 24 Nov 13:40 & 18:15 + Guests Dominique Abel & Fiona Gordon
London Watermans Arts Centre	Sun 26 Nov
Northampton Errol Flynn	Mon 27 Nov 18:15
Leicester Phoenix Cinema	Wed 6 Dec 18:30

panorama horizons



Lover For a Day *L'Amant d'un jour* (N/C 15+)

Philippe Garrel, the 69-year-old veteran of the New Wave, has produced a casual, bittersweet, and intoxicating study of relationships in flux starring his daughter Esther. In this swift, touching ode to lovers with heart-breaking, irreconcilable differences, this is a work of rare clarity by a director whose experience shows. Completing a trilogy of sorts alongside fellow black-and-white dramas *Jealousy* and *In The Shadow of Women*, the narrative tells of a father (Eric Caravaca) and his 23-year-old daughter who returns home one day because her boyfriend has left her, and of the father's new girlfriend, who is also 23-years-old (Louise Chevillotte) and who lives with him. The scene is set for a platonic *ménage à trois* as the characters dance around their foibles and dysfunctions. Filmed in breathtaking black and white by cinematographer Renato Berta.

Cast **Eric Caravaca, Esther Garrel, Louise Chevillotte**

Director **Philippe Garrel** | 2016 | France | 76 mins | UK Distributor **Mubi UK**

A delectable wisp of a film about love versus desire and young love versus mature love... for half a century, Philippe Garrel has remained true to his roots with youthful panache. *Screen Daily*

FILM SHOWING:

London Ciné Lumière	Thu 7 Nov 20:50 + Short All the Boys are Called Patrick (p. 46)
Glasgow Film Theatre	Sat 11 Nov 21:00
Dundee Contemporary Arts	Wed 22 Nov 18:00
Edinburgh Dominion	Mon 4 Dec 18:00 + introduction by Martine Pierquin



Marie Curie, the Courage of Knowledge *Marie Curie* (N/C 15+)

Polish actress Karolina Gruszka stars in this sweeping biography of the legendary, Nobel Prize-winning physicist and chemist. Curie courted controversy with both her challenging of France's male-dominated academic establishment and her unconventional romantic life. Physicist, chemist, and pioneer in the study of radioactivity, Curie spent her life setting precedents. She was the first woman to win the Nobel Prize and the first person to win it twice. Director Marie Noëlle conjures turn-of-the-century Europe with camerawork whose restless precision is an analogue of the brilliant scientist's mind.

Cast **Karolina Gruszka, Charles Berling, André Wilms, Arieh Worthalter, Samuel Finzi, Daniel Olbrychski, Sabin Tambrea**

Director **Marie Noëlle** | 2016 | France/Poland/Germany | 95 mins
UK Distributor **Swipe Films**

Karolina Gruszka is very good as Curie, conveying a mix of intelligence and romantic impulse. *Chicago Reader*

FILM SHOWING:

Richmond The Station Cinema	Fri 3 Nov 20:15, Tue 7 Nov 17:30, Sun 12 Nov 17:00 & Wed 15 Nov 14:30
London Ciné Lumière	Tue 7 Nov 18:30 + Guest Marie Noëlle
Chichester Cinema at New Park	Fri 10 Nov 18:15 & Fri 1 Dec 13:15
Warwick Arts Centre	Tue 14 Nov 18:40
Dundee Contemporary Arts Centre	Sun 19 Nov 18:00
Stirling MacRobert Arts Centre	Mon 20 Nov 19:30
Hereford Courtyard	Fri 24 Nov 18:00 & Wed 29 Nov 20:00
London JW3	Wed 29 Nov 18:30
Edinburgh Dominion	Fri 1 Dec 18:00 + gala screening with collection for Marie Curie Cancer Care

THE AUTEURS COLLECTION

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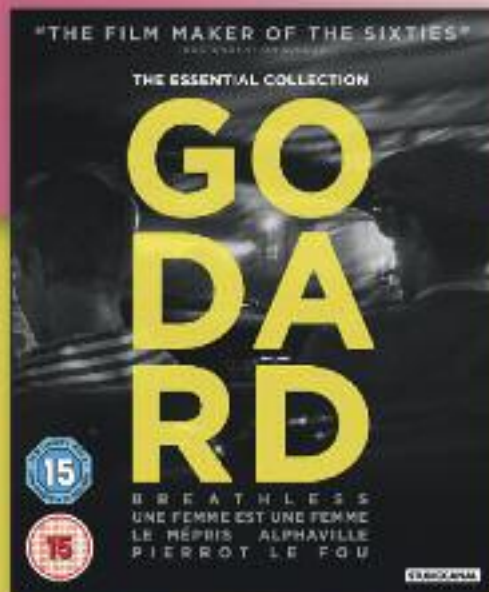


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OUT NOW



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panorama horizons



Problemos (N/C 12+)

Two young Parisians have come to pay a friend a visit in a "zadist" (radical green activist) camp surrounded by riot police. The hippy-style community extols the virtues of "living differently" and adopting a way of life in which individualism, technology and gender distinctions have all been abolished. But disaster strikes, and the population is wiped out by a terrible pandemic, making the group the only remaining survivors in the world... Eric Judor, a comedian who rose to fame as half of a duo with Ramzy Bedia, also acts in this, his third feature alongside Céliacs Rosich, Marie Helmer and Michel Nabokoff. Wacky and fun.

Cast **Blanche Gardin, Éric Judor, Arnaud Henriët, Youssed Hajdi, Claire Chust, Marc Fraize, Célia Rosich, Michel Nabokoff, Eddy Leduc, Bun Hay Mean, Dorotheé Poussé, Karine Valmer**

Director **Éric Judor** | 2016 | 85 mins | France | UK distrib **STUDIOCANAL**

What really resonates in this joyful romp are the performances of the whole cast. *Positif*

FILM SHOWING:

London Ciné Lumière

Fri 3 Nov 16:00

Leicester Phoenix Cinema

Tue 28 Nov 18:20



Redoubtable *Le Redoubtable* (N/C 15+)

The Artist director Michel Hazanavicius takes on the French New Wave and runs with it in style in *Redoubtable*. Charting the brief relationship of the iconic Jean-Luc Godard and Anne Wiazemsky (following the filming of *La Chinoise*, their marriage, and the May 1968 riots in Paris) Hazanavicius gives his subject a thorough going over, liberally sprinkled with irony, humour and affection. As Godard becomes more interested in politics he alienates his wife and his friends not to mention the public who preferred his zestful early films such as *Breathless*. He seems eager to reject his own oeuvres (eventually denouncing all of his cinema as "shit," while espousing such 'anarchic' comics as Jerry Lewis and the Marx Brothers). With an almost unrecognisable Louis Garrel displaying a deft talent for comedy as JLG and Stacy Martin (from Lars Von Trier's *Nymphomaniac*) looking the part of his Sixties muse who gamely spends much of the time naked, Hazanavicius focusses on the inner turmoil of creative spirits.

Cast **Louis Garrel, Stacy Martin, Bérénice Bejo, Gregory Gadebois, Micha Lescot**

Director **Michel Hazanavicius** | 2016 | France | 102 mins

UK distributor **Thunderbird Releasing**

Le Redoubtable* is a marvelous comedy very reminiscent of Woody Allen's classics. *Vanity Fair

FILM SHOWING:

Leicester Phoenix Cinema

Thu 2 Nov 18:20

London Ciné Lumière

Wed 8 Nov 20:40

Edinburgh Filmhouse

Fri 10 Nov 20:30 + Guest (tbc)

Glasgow Film Theatre

Sat 11 Nov + Guest (tbc) 18:20

Warwick Arts Centre

Sat 11 Nov 20:40

Falmouth The Poly

Wed 22 Nov 19:30
+ Short All the Boys are Called Patrick (p. 46)

Aberdeen Belmont Filmhouse

Sat 25 Nov 20:15

Chichester Cinema at New Park

Thu 30 Nov 12:45 & Fri 1 Dec 18:00

Belfast Queen's Film Theatre

Tue 12 Dec eve

Bristol Watershed

Sun 17 Dec early eve

**FRENCH
FILM FIRST**
STUDIOCANAL

panorama horizons



Rodin (N/C 15+)

At the age of 40 Auguste Rodin (portrayed by Vincent Lindon) at last receives his first state commission in 1880: *The Gates of Hell*, a sculptural group work composed of many figures, some of which would be the basis of free-standing sculptures that would later bring him fame, such as *The Kiss* and *The Thinker*. His pupil, assistant and, soon, his mistress is Camille Claudel (Izïa Higelin), an artist of no mean talent herself has to work in the shadow of the increasingly famous Rodin. Ten years of passion ensue, but also of mutual admiration and complicity. After their break-up, Rodin relentlessly pursues his work, coping with the rejection and the enthusiasm provoked by the sensuality of his sculptures. Veteran writer-director Jacques Doillon provides fresh insights in to the artist's life and work in the year of the centenary of his birth.

Cast Vincent Lindon, Izïa Higelin, Séverine Caneele, Bernard Verley, Anders Danielsen Lie, Olivier Cadiot, Arthur Nauzyciel, Laurent Poitrenaux, Guyène Péan, Magdalena Malina, Léa Jackson, Clép Ayasse-Sénia

Director Jacques Doillon | 2016 | France | 119 mins | Int sales Wild Bunch

Doillon's fastidiously executed labour of love focuses on the tangled relationship between Rodin and Camille Claudel. *Screen Daily*

FILM SHOWING:

London Ciné Lumière	Fri 3 Nov 20:45
Belper Ritz Cinema	Sun 12 Nov 17:00
Dundee Contemporary Arts	Fri 17 Nov 18:00
Chichester Cinema at New Park	Thu 30 Nov 18:00



School of Life *L'École buissonnière* (N/C 8+)

Paul (played by Solal de Montalivet) is sent from his austere orphanage home in working-class Paris in 1930 to live in the country with the cheerful Célestine and her taciturn game-keeper husband, on a vast estate belonging to Count de la Fresnaye. While out exploring, Paul meets Totoche (François Cluzet), a kindly poacher, who teaches him the secrets of the forest, the ponds and wildlife. As Paul begins his strange apprenticeship gathering mushrooms and poaching fish and game, he begins to realise it is no coincidence that he has come to this unknown place. A wonderful period evocation of boyhood and discovery.

Cast François Cluzet, Jean Sandel, Eric Elmosnino, François Berleand, Valérie Karsenti

Director Nicolas Vanier | 2017 | France | 116 mins | UK Distributor STUDIOCANAL

Elegant, sensitive and truthful. *Le Figaro*

FILM SHOWING:

London Ciné Lumière	Sat 4 Nov 20:40
Richmond The Station Cinema	Sun 5 Nov 14:00, Wed 8 Nov 17:15, Fri 10 Nov 17:30 & Tue 14 Nov 20:00
Inverness Eden Court	Sat 11 Nov 11:45
Chichester Cinema at New Park	Wed 15 Nov 15:45 & Mon 20 Nov 20:45
Edinburgh Filmhouse	Sat 18 Nov 15:30

FRENCH
FILM FIRST
STUDIOCANAL

panorama horizons



This is Our Land *Chez nous* (N/C 18+)

This timely drama follows a young nurse and mother named Pauline (Émilie Dequenne), who is recruited by a right-wing politician resembling Marine Le Pen (Catherine Jacob) to be the approachable face of the National Front. Although Pauline is not particularly concerned with politics, she is seduced by the promise of an increased salary to support her family and the opportunity to make her country a safer place. As she becomes more embroiled in political theater, Pauline begins to realise that the message she's endorsing conflicts with her own beliefs. Also starring André Dussollier, *This Is Our Land* offers a compelling look at the tensions leading up to the recent French election.

Cast **Emilie Dequenne, André Dussollier, Guillaume Gouix, Catherine Jacob, Anne Marivin, Patrick Descamps, Charlotte Talpaert, Michel Ferracci, Jean-Louis Sbillie, Corentin Lobet, Stéphane Caillaud**

Director **Lucas Belvaux** | 2016 | France/Belgium | 118 mins | Int sales **Le Pacte**

Visually the film is in keeping with Belvaux's solid, handsomely crafted style. *Variety*

FILM SHOWING:

London Watermans Arts Centre	Sun 12 Nov
Edinburgh Filmhouse	Sat 18 Nov 17:30 + Guest Lucas Belvaux
Glasgow Film Theatre	Sun 19 Nov 19:00 + Guest Lucas Belvaux
Chichester Cinema at New Park	Wed 22 Nov 14:00
Belfast Queen's Film Theatre	Sat 2 Dec mat
Leicester Phoenix Cinema	Sat 2 Dec 17:45
Regent Street Cinema	Sun 10 Dec 16:30



Tomorrow and Thereafter *Demain et tous les autres jours* (N/C 8+)

A fantastical tale of an eccentric mother, her precocious nine-year-old daughter and the latter's sagacious pet owl, this is a sensitively rendered slice of therapeutic autobiography for Noémie Lvovsky, one of France's most popular performers on her sixth outing as a director. Mathilde (Luce Rodriguez) lives with her mother (Lvovsky), who's fragile and has a tendency to lose touch with reality. Mathilde often finds herself having to be the responsible one. Both Mathilde and her mother appear to have no friends, relatives, or acquaintances. Mathilde's father (Mathieu Amalric) is mostly absent. One day, Mathilde receives an unusual present from her mother: a baby owl. Soon enough, she discovers that she is able to talk to the owl, who becomes her closest friend, her conscience, and a stand-in for her absent father. This crowd-pleaser possesses a gently melancholic undertow. Dedicated – like *Camille Rewinds* and *Life Doesn't Scare Me* – to Lvovsky's late mother Genevieve.

Cast **Noemie Lvovsky, Mathieu Amalric, Denis Podalydes, Anaïs Demoustier, Luce Rodriguez, Micha Lescot, India Hair, Julie-Marie Parmentier, Francis Lepley**
Director **Noemie Lvovsky** | 2017 | France | 95 mins | Int sales **Gaumont**

A moving, intimate and intensely emotional coming-of-age story resounding with personal echoes. *Screen Daily*

FILM SHOWING:

London Ciné Lumière	Sat 4 Nov 18:30
Dundee Contemporary Arts	Tue 21 Nov 18:00

panorama horizons



A Woman's Life *Une vie* (N/C 15+)

A moving, beautifully modulated adaptation of Guy de Maupassant's first novel, in which a young noblewoman copes with the loss of ideals. Stéphane Brizé (*The Measure of a Man*) offers a dazzling mosaic of the trials and tribulations spanning 27 years in the life of Jeanne (Judith Chemla, Camille Rewinds). Optimistic and bright-eyed, 20-year-old Jeanne is a noblewoman living in Normandy in 1819. When the handsome Viscount Julien de Lamare (Swann Arlaud) asks for her hand in marriage, she fantasises that the years to follow will be brimming with dreamy afternoons of flower beds bathed in dappled sunlight. Yet fate holds a very different destiny for this woman's life. Betrayed by her husband, her son, and in many ways, her own idyllic youth, we follow Jeanne through the passing of time, as her dreams turn to disillusionment. A revelation in the title role, Chemla effortlessly encapsulates an expansive range of emotions and character developments while exceptional camera work, production design and costumes recreate every detail of Jeanne's world.

Cast **Judith Chemla, Jean-Pierre Darroussin, Yolande Moreau, Swann Arlaud, Nina Meurisse, Olivier Perrier, Clotilde Hesme, Alain Beigel, Finnegan Oldfield**

Director **Stéphane Brizé** | 2015 | France/Belgium | 119 mins
Int sales **MK2** | UK Distributor **Arrow Films**

Haunting and profound... there could never be too many movies like this one. *The New York Times*

FILM SHOWING:

Richmond The Station Cinema	Sun 5 Nov 19:00, Wed 8 Nov 20:00, Sat 11 Nov 14:30 & Mon 13 Nov 17:30
Warwick Arts Centre	Mon 13 Nov 20:40
Leicester Phoenix Cinema	Tue 14 Nov 18:15
Chichester Cinema at New Park	Tue 14 Nov 13:15 & Fri 17 Nov 12:15
Edinburgh Filmhouse	Wed 15 Nov 13:00 & 18:00
Dundee Contemporary Arts	Mon 20 Nov 18:00
Aberdeen Belmont Filmhouse	Sun 26 Nov 18:00
Belfast Queen's Film Theatre	Sun 3 Dec mat
London Regent Street Cinema	Sun 10 Dec 14:00

FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL UK 2017 24



The Workshop *L'Atelier* (N/C 15+)

Laurent Cantet (Cannes Palme d'Or winner for *The Class*) here returns to top form by mixing social relevance and tension as his characters, all high school students off for the summer, attend a workshop for fictional writing headed by well-known French novelist Olivia (Marina Foïs). The multiculturalism is, like most of France, represented in the group with Arabic, African, and Spanish among the dozen or so students attending the workshop. The main character, Antoine (Matthieu Lucci), is a white-nationalist-minded teenager who, in his free time, watches right-wing videos about guns and reflects on France's lost cultural identity. Olivia soon finds herself fascinated by the angry-eyed Antoine, because, for all of his troubling views, he happens to be an astute literary critic.

Cast **Marina Foïs, Matthieu Lucci, Warda Rammach, Issam Talbi, Florian Beaujean, Mamadou Doumbia, Julien Souve, Mélissa Guilbert, Olivier Thouret, Lény Sellam**

Director **Laurent Cantet** | 2016 | France | 113 mins
UK Distributor **Curzon Artificial Eye**

A stunningly authentic portrait of French youth today; their class, racial and occupational concerns. *Variety*

FILM SHOWING:

London Ciné Lumière	Sat 4 Nov 16:00
Glasgow Film Theatre	Sat 11 Nov 13:10
Edinburgh Filmhouse	Fri 17 Nov 15:45 & 20:40
Hull University	Sun 26 Nov 16:00
Chichester Cinema at New Park	Mon 27 Nov 20:45 & Tue 28 Nov 14:15
Belfast Queen's Film Theatre	Wed 13 Dec eve
Bristol Watershed	Sun 17 Dec mat

THE SKINNY
INDEPENDENT CULTURAL JOURNALISM

The Skinny film team has chosen *The Workshop* as their pick of the FEST.

Discovery

25

Every year new talents abound in Discovery – and this silver jubilee edition is no exception with Blandine Lenoir on her second outing as a director treading the difficult tightrope between comedy and drama in *Aurora* with a gift of a role for Agnès Jaoui. Anne-Gaëlle Daval deals with the subject of cancer in *Ladies* – and does so in a touching and sensitive manner. Nicolas Silhol takes the basis of true events to explore ruthless exploitation and greed in big companies in *Corporate*. That magnetic actor Vincent Cassel embraces the life and times of artist Paul Gauguin under Edouard Deluc’s direction in *Gauguin*. Nicolas Bedos (son of actor and entertainer Guy Bedos) puts a spiky relationship under the microscope and over the decades in *Mr & Mrs Adelman*. And for completely different twists Sacha Wolff tackles a young rugby player from Wallis Island and his travails with a team in France in *Mercenary* while *Step by Step* by Mehdi Idir and Fabien Marsaud takes you from laughter to tears and back again in a tale of young people coming to terms with severe injuries. The selection is characterised by its diversity and the film-makers’ ability to make challenging subjects accessible, moving and engaging.

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Discovery



Aurora Aurore (N/C 12+)

With humour and sensitivity, Blandine Lenoir with her second feature offers an endearing film with a perfect role for Agnès Jaoui to reveal the full extent of her talents in the title role. *Aurore*, separated from her husband, has just lost her job and been told that she is going to be a grandmother. She feels she is slowly being pushed out of the way, yet she refuses to be relegated to the sidelines. What if now was the time to start over? What if a whole new life could begin? She has the chance among other things to rekindle the flame for her first love Totoche (Thibault de Montalembert). Delightful, warm-hearted and brimming with charm and optimism.

Cast **Agnès Jaoui, Thibault de Montalembert, Pascale Arbillot, Sarah Suco, Lou Roy-Lecollinet**

Director **Blandine Lenoir** | 2016 | France | 89 mins | UK Distributor **Peccadillo**

Strikes a realistic and unpretentious balance between moving moments and purely comical sequences... *Cineuropa*

FILM SHOWING:

London Ciné Lumière	Fri 3 Nov 18:30 + Guests Agnès Jaoui & Blandine Lenoir
Edinburgh Filmhouse	Sat 4 Nov 18:00 + Guests Agnès Jaoui & Blandine Lenoir
Glasgow Film Theatre	Sun 5 Nov 16:30 + Guest Blandine Lenoir
Richmond The Station Cinema	Sun 5 Nov 16:45, Wed 8 Nov 14:30, Fri 10 Nov 14:30 & Mon 13 Nov 20:15
Inverness Eden Court	Sat 18 Nov 18:15
Hull University	Sun 19 Nov 16:30
Hereford Courtyard	Tue 28 Nov 11:00



Corporate (N/C 15+)

Within the framework of a tightrope thriller director Nicolas Silhol takes a dive into the murky waters of corporate hierarchy to expose a high stakes game where the profit motive is eclipsed only by the prime directive: saving your own skin. Céline Sallette astutely plays a woman who knows the rules of the game. As the head of human resources she has mastered a calibrated femininity to match the ruthlessness and cold ambition expected from the higher-ups. When executive Stéphane Froncart (Lambert Wilson) devises a secret cost-cutting plan, he knows he can count on Emilie to implement it. What he doesn't count on are the deadly consequences... The starting point was a rash of suicides at France Telecom that shocked Paris.

Cast **Lambert Wilson, Céline Sallette, Violaine Fumeau, Stéphane De Groot, Alice de Lencquesaing, Antoine Levannier, Nathalie Sportiello**

Director **Nicolas Silhol** | 2016 | France | 95 mins | Int Sales **Indie Sales**

Satisfying boardroom thriller about greed and guilt... *Screen*

FILM SHOWING:

London Ciné Lumière	Tue 2 Nov 20:40 + Guest Nicolas Fleureau
Edinburgh Filmhouse	Mon 13 Nov 20:40 + Guest Nicolas Fleureau
Chichester Cinema at New Park	Tue 14 Nov 18:15
Glasgow Film Theatre	Tue 14 Nov 20:30 + Guest Nicolas Fleureau

Discovery



Gauguin *Gauguin - Voyage de Tahiti* (N/C 15+)

In 1891 Gauguin has exiled himself to Tahiti. He wants to rediscover his painting, as a free, wild man, far from the moral, political, and aesthetic codes of civilised Europe. He goes ever deeper into the jungle, coping with solitude, poverty, and sickness. He meets Tehura, who becomes his wife, and the subject of his greatest paintings. This second feature from Édouard Deluc, the director of *Return to Mendoza*. Deluc was inspired by *Noa Noa*, a book of journeys by Gauguin as well as *The Moon and Sixpence* by Somerset Maugham based on the artist's life.

Cast **Vincent Cassel, Malik Zidi, Tuheï Adams, Pua-Taï Hikutini**
Director **Édouard Deluc** | 2016 | France | 102 mins | UK Distributor **STUDIOCANAL**

Vincent Cassel incarnates Paul Gauguin with such determination and enthusiasm it is a joy to behold. *Télérama*

FILM SHOWING:

Richmond The Station Cinema	Sat 4 Nov 20:00, Mon 6 Nov 14:30, Sat 11 Nov 17:30 & Mon 13 Nov 14:30
London Ciné Lumière	Sun 5 Nov 16:20
Inverness Eden Court	Sun 12 Nov 13:30
Glasgow Film Theatre	Wed 15 Nov 18:00
Warwick Arts Centre	Wed 15 Nov 20:40
Chichester Cinema at New Park	Sun 26 Nov 20:30 & Wed 29 Nov 13:15
London JW3	Thu 30 Nov 20:50
Edinburgh Dominion	Sat 2 Dec 18:00
London Watermans Arts Centre	Sun 3 Dec

Ladies *De plus belle* (N/C 15+)

After a four-year struggle with cancer, Lucie (played by stand-up comic Florence Foresti), is still too tired to work a full day in the plant nursery she tends with her sister, Manon (Olivia Bonamy). She wears a long dark post-chemo wig. When her 15-year-old daughter tells her to get another hairpiece since she looks "like Morticia Addams," Lucie goes to the wig shop run by Dalila (Nicole Garcia). An obstacle, however, to Lucie getting back a positive body image is that she may never have had one in the first place, thanks to her mother (Josée Drevon), a domineering widow. One evening, cheerful and self-assured Clovis (Mathieu Kassovitz) takes an interest in Lucie. She keeps wriggling away from his attentions... but for how long?

Cast **Florence Foresti, Mathieu Kassovitz, Nicole Garcia, Jonathan Cohen, Olivia Bonamy, Josée Drevon, Jeanne Astier**

Director **Anne-Gaëlle Daval** | 2016 | France | 98 mins
UK Distributor **STUDIOCANAL**

A relativity unusual topic - how to relate to one's own body and to other people after battling and beating cancer - is explored in a touching manner... *Screen*

FILM SHOWING:

London Ciné Lumière	Sun 5 Nov 20:40
Edinburgh Dominion	Mon 6 Dec 18:00



Mercenary *Mercenaire* (15)

The odyssey of Soane, a young Caledonian from Wallis island, who leaves everything behind to try his luck in France as a rugby player. French, although not considered such, Soane has a thirst for freedom, but struggles to get the recognition that he deserves. The local rugby team official takes one look at him, deems him too short and 20 kilos too light and advises Soane to fly right back to where he came from. That's not an option, however. Writer-director Sacha Wolff elicits effective performances from an almost entirely non-professional cast in this eventful tale of standing up for yourself in tricky circumstances.

Cast **Iliana Zabeth, Toki Pilioko, Mickaël Tuugahala, Laurent Pakihivatau, Petelo Sealeu, Maoni Talalua, Teotola Maka**

Director **Sacha Wolff** | 2016 | France | 104 mins | Int sales **Be For Films**

A tough-as-nails French thriller about a Polynesian rugby player who tries to go pro and nearly gets killed in the process.
Hollywood Reporter

FILM SHOWING:

Leicester Phoenix Cinema	Thu 9 Nov 20:15
Stirling MacRobert Arts Centre	Thu 23 Nov 19:30
London Regent Street Cinema	Fri 8 Dec 19:30 + Guest Sacha Wolff



Mr & Mrs Adelman *Monsieur & Madame Adelman* (N/C 15+)

Funny, stylish and touching tale of courting and married life in this comic drama bursting with charm from debut director Nicolas Bedos. The young and intellectual Sarah falls madly for a promising young writer, Victor, son of a wealthy bourgeois family who, dissatisfied with his choice of career and girlfriend, proceed to cut them off without a penny. Narrated from the viewpoint of Sarah, the film charts this fascinating relationship across decades, with all its joyful and torturous twists and turns, taking a wry and often hilarious look at the pains and pleasure of love and marriage. Bedos, 36, makes his first foray behind the camera.

Cast **Doria Tillier, Nicolas Bedos, Denis Podalydès, Antoine Gouy, Christiane Millet, Pierre Arditi, Zabou Breitman, Julien Boisselier, Jean-Pierre Lorit, Nicolas Briançon, Ronald Guttman, Solange Najman**

Director **Nicolas Bedos** | 2017 | France | 120 mins | Int sales **Le Pacte**

Filled with energy and a certain amount of wit... Doria Tillier brings depth to the table as a woman hiding behind her man and suffering for it.
Hollywood Reporter

FILM SHOWING:

London Ciné Lumière	Sat 11 Nov 20:30 (Jewish Film Festival)
Inverness Eden Court	Thu 16 Nov 18:00
Glasgow Film Theatre	Thu 16 Nov 18:05
Chichester Cinema at New Park	Tue 21 Nov 17:15
London Everyman Barnet	Tue 21 Nov 20:45 (Jewish Film Festival)
Aberdeen Belmont Filmhouse:	Fri 24 Nov 20:25

Discovery



Step by Step *Patients* (N/C 12+)

An uplifting, contemporary comedy-drama based on popular French slam poet Fabien Marsaud's autobiography, *Patients*. A young man lies in a hospital bed. He can neither feel nor move his limbs. He can only stare at the ceiling. The nurses and doctors speak about him as if he weren't present in the room. They are saying he will never walk again. Thus begins the travails of 20-year-old Ben, an athletic college student whose dreams are as broken as his spine. The inspiring story recounts the hardships and the tears, as well as the ultimate victories of a life re-invented.

Cast **Pablo Pauly, Soufiane Guerrab, Moussa Mansaly, Naïlia Harzoune, Franck Falise, Yannick Renier, Rabah Aït Ouyahia, Côme Levin, Dominique Blanc, Anne Benoît, Alban Ivanov, Xavier Mathieu, Florence Müller**

Directors **Mehdi Idir, Grand Corps Malade aka Fabien Marsaud** | 2016 | France
110 mins | Int sales **Gaumont**

A moving and touching film that makes you go from laughter to tears. *Rolling Stone*

FILM SHOWING:

Stirling Macrobert Arts Centre

Thu 9 Nov 19:30

Edinburgh Filmhouse

Mon 20 Nov 20:40



The Teacher *Les Grands Esprits* (N/C 12+)

Written by first time feature film maker Olivier Ayache-Vidal, the action centres on François Foucault (Denis Podalydès), an associate professor of French literature at one of the most selective and elitist high schools in Paris, the lycée Henri IV. Following a series of events, he is forced to accept a one-year transfer to a school in a Parisian suburb designated for difficult pupils. He fears the worst, and rightly so... The director made a name for himself with his short films *Welcome to China*, *Coming Out*, *Mon dernier rôle* and *Undercover*.

Cast **Denis Podalydès, Abdoulaye Diallo, Tabono Tandia, Pauline Huruguen, Alexis Moncorgé, Emmanuel Barrouyer, Zineb Triki, Léa Drucker, Charles Templon, Marie Remond**

Director **Olivier Ayache-Vidal** | 2016 | France | 106 mins
Int Sales **Bac Films Distribution**

Much more than just a comedy, *The Teacher* offers another point of view on the relationship between teachers and pupils. *Cinecure*

FILM SHOWING:

Chichester Cinema at New Park

Sat 11 Nov 18:15

Documentaries



Before Summer Ends *Avant la fin de l'été* (N/C 12+)

After five years in Paris, Arash has decided to return home to Iran, but his fellow Iranian natives Hossein and Ashkan convince him to take one last trip through the South of France. As the best friends drive, drink lots of beer, and meet a pair of female French musicians, the trio experiences the thrill of a road trip imbued with a wistful longing for home. This artfully photographed non-fiction comedy beautifully captures the expat experience. It's definitely less about the destination than the journey, revealing three characters who are as lost in life as the rest of us can be at times. This short and sweet affair opened the Cannes Acid sidebar earlier this year.

Cast **Arash, Hossein, Ashkan**

Director **Maryam Goormaghtigh** | 2017 | France/Switzerland | 80 mins
Int sales **Upside Distribution**

The feature debut of writer-director-cinematographer Maryam Goormaghtigh is quirky and warm-hearted all at once.

Hollywood Reporter

FILM SHOWING:

Glasgow Film Theatre	Fri 10 Nov 20:45
Edinburgh Filmhouse	Sun 19 Nov 17:30
Hull University	Sun 26 Nov 14:00
London Regent Street Cinema	Sat 9 Dec 18:00



The Paris Opera *L'Opéra* (N/C 8+)

This all-access documentary goes behind the scenes of the Paris Opera, following the array of personnel – management, performers, costumers, cleaning crew – who work to bring breathtaking spectacles to audiences night after night. Over the course of a season, Swiss director Jean-Stéphane Bron nimbly juggles a dizzying number of storylines, from labour disputes to procuring a live bull for Schoenberg's *Moses und Aron* to a PR crisis involving the head of the company's ballet. Sweeping in scope yet full of intimate human moments, *The Paris Opera* offers a candid look at everything that goes into operating one of the world's foremost performing arts institutions.

Cast **Stéphane Lissner, Benjamin Millepied, Bryn Terfel, Philippe Jordan, Amandine Albisson, Hervé Moreau**

Director **Jean-Stéphane Bron** | 2016 | France/Switzerland | 110 mins
Int sales **Les Films du Losange**

The whole film is assembled, edited and orchestrated like an opera. *Telerama*

FILM SHOWING:

London Ciné Lumière	Wed 8 Nov 18:30
Glasgow Film Theatre	Sat 11 Nov 15:40 + Intro by Alex Reedjik (General Director Scottish Opera)
Chichester Cinema at New Park	Thu 16 Nov 14:15

Documentary Event



Speak Up À voix haute - La Force de la parole (N/C 12+)

Director Stéphane de Freitas' documentary follows a group of college students taking part in an annual oratory competition in the suburbs of Paris. The French have always had a way with words, which is why the annual college concours Eloquentia, or eloquence competitions, have such an important place. But not everyone is a born orator, nor are they necessarily given the tools to express themselves – especially if they come from a family where French isn't even the first language. The film looks at a group of mixed race students who are involved in the contest for the first time. Most of them have never spoken in public, but by the time the film is over, they have acquired skills in fluency and presentation. Without sentimentality, *Speak Up* proves how the art of speech is key to universal understanding, social ascension, and personal revelation.

Directors **Stéphane de Freitas** | 2017 | France | 99 mins | Int Sales **Upside Distribution**

What's impressive about this group is the level of creativity they bring to their public discourses.
Hollywood Reporter

FILM SHOWING:

University of Edinburgh Room LG.09, DHT/50, 55 George Square | Wed 15 Nov 17:00 (open to all)

Alliance française de Glasgow:

Wed 22 Nov 18:00 + intro by James Steel

Aberdeen Belmont Filmhouse

Thu 30 Nov 18:00

JOUTES LITTÉRAIRES / DEBATING COMPETITION

To mark the screening of *Speak Up*, the University of Edinburgh French Department is holding a student debating competition in French. The winners will be announced before the screening of the film on 15 November at 17:00, Room LG.09, DHT/50, 55 George Square. The screening is open to all. The students will have been prepared for this by their French lecturers throughout the term. You cannot but be fired up by the astonishing enthusiasm of the young men and women in the film and we look forward to this new collaboration with the University of Edinburgh.



SPECIAL SCREENING AT ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE, GLASGOW

French Film Festival Chair James Steel will introduce the screening at the Alliance française, 3 Park Circus, Glasgow G3 6AX, Glasgow. The event is free but ticketed. Email speak-up-event@frenchfilmfestival.org.uk to reserve your place.



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Animation



Ivan Tsarevitch and the Changing Princess

Ivan Tsarevitch et la princesse changeante (N/C 8+)

Renowned animator Michel Ocelot uses his unique and vibrant silhouette style to share a quartet of bewitching fairy tales, as told by a wizened projectionist and his young apprentices who meet nightly in a dilapidated theatre.

In the first a young girl who lives in a monster-fearing underground community gains the courage to face her fears and challenge her society in *The Mistress of the Monsters*. A poor Persian boy becomes apprentice to a powerful enchanter, only to learn of his dastardly ulterior motives in *The Sorcerer's Pupil*. A put-upon ward on a pirate ship outsmarts his captain during a stop in India in *The Ship's Boy and His Cat*. And the son of a dying Russian tsar races against time to find a cursed princess in *Ivan Tsarevitch and the Changing Princess*.

These are the four enchanting tales imagined, conceived, and designed by the boy, the girl, and the technician. As they consider the morals and gender ramifications of each yarn they'd like to spin, each tale comes alive as expressive silhouettes in front of opulent, country-specific backgrounds. Ocelot infuses these deeply rooted archetypes and fables with life, verve, and his gorgeous trademark animation style.

Voice Cast **Yves Barsacq, Marine Griset, Julien Beramis**

Director **Michel Ocelot** | 2016 | France | 53 mins | Int sales **Septième Factory**

The animation style of this film is absolutely stunning. *Library of Fables*

FILM SHOWING:

Glasgow Film Theatre

Sat 18 Nov 11:30 (Take 2)

Dundee Contemporary Arts

Sat 18 Nov 13:00

The simple art of a master raconteur

Best known as the creator of *Kirikou and the Sorcerer*, *Kirikou and the Wild Beasts*, and *Azur and Asmar*, French-born, Guinea-raised animation director Michel Ocelot takes influences from various cultures around the world.

Although children love Michel Ocelot's films he does not make them with a junior audience in mind. His trick has always been not to create films for children. "Children might not understand my films but they see that I'm taking them seriously. The film registers and will help them later. They will understand later. The job of children is to learn."

So how did you get into animation? He says: "It was all about having fun when I was a child. I was always active – drawing, cutting, pasting and making gifts. I just went on." He had what he describes as a happy childhood, growing up in both Africa and in France, a multi-cultural background that he has used in his work.

"I was going to school in New Guinea. In the beginning me and my brother were the first two white children in our school. So my primary schooling was in Africa. I have only good recollections from this time. It was a time of total peace and harmony with only good people around me. There was no violence and at least five religions living well together."

He works swiftly, preparing everything meticulously in advance. He believes there is a birth of a golden age of animation in France. "The schools are outstanding and the students of animation amaze me. In France, we undoubtedly feel stronger and freer to do what comes naturally to us. For my part, I've always been independent. I've never tried to imitate the Japanese and the Americans even though I like their work."

How would he sum up his craft? "I'm a storyteller and the storyteller has no need to hide. One of the pleasures of fairytales is having a storyteller and playing with the audience. One of the pleasures of theatre is waiting for the curtain to go up. There's a whole artificial side, which must be retained. I really like never having to lie: what I show you are things I've completely made up. I don't hide the fact I've made them up and I even show you when I'm in the process of making them up. That's how fairytales work: we play together, we make-believe together and, gradually, we experience real things together."

Inevitably this master raconteur makes it all seem so incredibly simple.

RICHARD MOWE

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classics

Besides offering the best of contemporary French-speaking cinema the Festival has always paid attention to the glories of the past – this Silver Jubilee edition is no exception.

We dip into the archives of the very first edition of the Festival (then only *tout petit* in Edinburgh and Glasgow) to present screenings of the restored version of the Oscar-winning *Indochine* in the presence of director Régis Wargnier.

Another marker in our history is the tribute to Jeanne Moreau who was a patron from afar of the event in its early years and who can be seen in Jacques Demy's compelling *Bay of Angels*, Louis Malle's seminal *The Fire Within* and *The Lovers* and Joseph Losey's witty *Mr Klein*.

And as a special anniversary gift to our audiences we offer in sparkling restored copies those two Marcel Pagnol classics by the late Claude Berri, *Jean de Florette* and *Manon des Sources* with a memorable line-up of Gérard Depardieu, Yves Montand, Daniel Auteuil, Emmanuelle Béart and Elisabeth Depardieu.

Happy memories and indulge your nostalgia!

CLAUDE BERRI

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A large, stylized blue number '25' is positioned on the right side of the page, indicating the 25th anniversary of the festival.



Jean de Florette (PG)

When hunchback tax collector Jean de Florette (Gérard Depardieu) arrives in 1920s Provence from the city to take over the inheritance of a farm, peasant farmer César Soubeyran (Yves Montand) and his simple nephew, Ugolin (Daniel Auteuil), deprive his property of water so that they can drive him away and acquire the land for a pittance. Director Claude Berri spent six years trying to acquire the rights to Marcel Pagnol's two volume novel. Inspired by Pagnol's own 1952 feature, *Manon Des Sources*, the story chronicled the destruction of an educated outsider by avaricious provincials, who meet their match in his free-spirited daughter.

Cast **Yves Montand, Gérard Depardieu, Daniel Auteuil, Élisabeth Depardieu, Emmanuelle Béart**

Director **Claude Berri** | 1986 | France/Italy/Switzerland | 115 mins | Courtesy of **Park Circus/Twentieth Century Fox/Pathé**

A Greek tragedy done in southern French style, set amid the pressed-flower landscapes and the dark, cluttered interiors of the parched hill country behind Marseilles. *New York Times*

FILM SHOWING:

London Ciné Lumière	Wed 8 Nov 15:45
Glasgow Film Theatre	Fri 10 Nov 13:20, Mon 13 Nov 13:15, Tue 14 Nov 13:00, Wed 15 Nov 13:00 & Thu 16 Nov 13:00
Warwick Arts Centre	Sun 12 Nov 14:00
Chichester Cinema at New Park	Fri 17 Nov 17:45 & Thu 23 Nov 12:00
Leicester Phoenix Cinema	Sat 18 Nov 15:00
Belper Ritz Cinema	Sun 19 Nov 17:00
Edinburgh Filmhouse	Mon 20 Nov 11:00 (carers and babies) and 13:00, Tue 21 Nov 15:15 & Sat 25 Nov 13:00 (25 Nov only double bill with <i>Manon of the Spring</i>)
Hereford Courtyard	Mon 20 Nov, 14:30
Inverness Eden Court	Sun 26 Nov 12:00
Northampton Errol Flynn	Sun 26 Nov 15:00
Aberdeen Belmont Filmhouse	Sat 2 Dec 13:00



Manon of the Spring *Manon des Sources* (PG)

The tale resumes a decade later, focusing on Jean de Florette's beautiful daughter, Manon (Emmanuelle Béart), a shepherdess with whom Ugolin (Daniel Auteuil) falls hopelessly in love but fails to win. When Manon eavesdrops on hunters and learns the truth about the Soubeyrans and their plot against her father, she blocks the water supply to the village at its source in a cave only she knows about. Pandemonium ensues as Manon's scheme exacts revenge. Though deeply tragic, the story unfolds with charm, wit, and high spirits. Montand and Auteuil are superb in their roles as conniving villains who pay a terrible price, and Béart is magnificent as Manon.

Cast **Emmanuelle Béart, Yves Montand, Daniel Auteuil, Hippolyte Girardot, Élisabeth Depardieu, Ticky Holgado**
Director **Claude Berri** | 1986 | France/Italy/Switzerland | 113 mins | Courtesy of **Park Circus/Twentieth Century Fox/Pathé**

Daniel Auteuil deserved his César for Best Actor: his moral dignity provides the emotional core of a film that looks superb. *Empire*

FILM SHOWING:

London Ciné Lumière	Thu 9 Nov 15:45
Glasgow Film Theatre	Fri 10 Nov 16:00, Mon 13 Nov 15:45, Tue 14 Nov 15:30, Wed 15 Nov 15:30 & Thu 16 Nov 15:30
Warwick Arts Centre	Sun 12 Nov 16:00
Leicester Phoenix Cinema	Sat 18 Nov 17:30
Chichester Cinema at New Park	Sat 18 Nov 18:00 & Fri 24 Nov 12:45
Edinburgh Filmhouse	Wed 22 Nov, 13:00, Thu 23 Nov 15:30 & Sat 25 Nov (25 Nov only double bill with <i>Jean de Florette</i> which starts at 13:00)
Inverness Eden Court	Sun 26 Nov 15:00
Belper Ritz Cinema	Sun 26 Nov 17:00
Hereford Courtyard	Mon 27 Nov 14:30
Aberdeen Belmont Filmhouse	Sun 3 Dec 13:00
Northampton Errol Flynn	Sun 3 Dec 14:00



“The privilege of age is that I have more confidence and I am calmer. I know more about myself, I feel less egocentric.” (Photo Unifrance)

Journey with a free spirit

By Richard Mowe

Jeanne Moreau who died earlier this year at the age of 89, was not the obvious femme fatale although an essential accessory, a cigarette, was never far from her lips. One critic suggested that “her lips are too thick, her nose is not straight, her ears are too small and her legs are too thin.” Even the “unglamorous” Moreau admitted on one occasion: “Other actors told me I was ugly.”

Moreau had a chequered history with the men in her life including *The Exorcist* director William Friedkin whom she briefly married. She had a son Jérôme, a painter, by a previous marriage. And she was linked to actors Lee Marvin and George Hamilton.

I met Moreau in Paris at the beginning of the Nineties when I asked her to become an honorary Patron of the French Film Festival UK. Despite her fearsome reputation she agreed graciously and for the next few editions she sent warm messages of support. The four films on the following two pages are our way of showing our appreciation.

Born on 23 January 1926 Moreau’s mother was an English dancer from Oldham who came to work at the Folies Bergères in Paris and her father earned a meagre living as a bar tender. As a child, Jeanne lay in her bedroom listening to the soundtracks of the films playing at the cinema next door. Her younger sister with whom she remained close, still lives in Brighton. Her younger sibling returned with their mother to Britain when she was 10, while Moreau stayed in France.

Journalist Marianne Gray who wrote a biography of the actress, said after her difficult upbringing “she spent the rest of her life trying to learn how to build up trust and love for other people.”

Her career began on the stage at the Comédie-Française and she acted in films from 1948 on. She was noticed by the young director Louis Malle, who cast her in *Lift to the Scaffold* and, more notably, *Les Amants (The Lovers)* in which Moreau played an upper-class housewife who finds salvation via sexuality.

In the 1950s, Moreau’s performances helped launch many of the French New Wave of filmmakers. She starred in Francois Truffaut’s classic *Jules and Jim*, where she played Catherine, who (in Gray’s words) is “egocentric, unreliable and for the

most part completely unaware of the torment through which she puts her men... she was the first truly ‘modern’ screen woman, the first female free spirit we had seen on film.”

She worked with an amazing array of directors. *The Trial* (Orson Welles), *Eva* (Joseph Losey), *Peau de Banane* (Max Ophuls), *La Notte* (Michelangelo Antonioni), *La Baie des Anges* (Jacques Demy), *Moderato Cantabile* (Peter Brook), *Diary of a Chambermaid* (Luis Buñuel), *The Sailor From Gibraltar* (Tony Richardson), and *Querelle* (Rainer Werner Fassbinder). She won the best actress award at Cannes in 1960 for *Moderato Cantabile*.

Moreau preferred to work on productions where she knew everyone by name. Because of this she eschewed working a lot in the States and turned down such films as the Mrs. Robinson part in *The Graduate* and the Nurse Ratched role in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*.

As she matured she happily played older women who romanced younger men, thereby breaking another perceived taboo. She also started directing films of her own, with some success.

Several years ago, she won plaudits for playing a colourful artist in Laurent Heynemann’s *The Old Lady Who Walked in the Sea*. And more recently there was *Map of the Human Heart* (1992) and *The Proprietor* (1997). She struck up a close friendship with director Josée Dayan who directed her in *Cet Amour-Là* (2001), a portrait of a celebrated love affair between legendary novelist, scriptwriter, and film director Marguerite Duras and Yann Andrea, a man who is almost half Duras’s age. She was still working at the age of 84 when in 2013 she played Frida, a grande dame living in an elegant apartment who has to work out a way of getting on with Anne (Laine Magi), an Estonian divorcee, who has been hired to be her carer in *A Lady in Paris / Une Estonienne à Paris*, directed by Ilmar Raag.

She embraced her advancing years saying: “The privilege of age is that I have more confidence and I am calmer. I know more about myself.”

A version of this appreciation first appeared on www.eyeforfilm.co.uk.

classics / Jeanne Moreau



Bay of Angels *La Baie des anges* (PG)

A mild-mannered banker (Claude Mann) becoming obsessed with roulette. Along the way, he also becomes obsessed with an aloof platinum blonde (Jeanne Moreau) who seems to live at the roulette wheel. She returns his attentions until revealing that it was all a ruse, brought on simply because she thought he brought her good luck. It's triumph of style, from Jean Rabier's stunning camerawork amid sun-splashed Riviera locations to Moreau, looking resplendently like Bette Davis, to her entrance flashing across a succession of mirrors in the penultimate shot.

Cast **Jeanne Moreau, Paul Guers, Claude Mann, André Certes, Nicole Chollet, Henri Nassiet, Georges Alban, Jean-Pierre Lorrain**

Director **Jacques Demy** | France | 1962 | 85 mins | Int sales **MK2 Films**

Of all the performances that have made Jeanne Moreau revered among actresses, her work in *Bay of Angels* is one of the most compelling and one of the least seen... A mesmerising, compulsively watchable performance. *LA Times*

FILM SHOWING:

Edinburgh Filmhouse	Sun 12 Nov 15:45
Dundee Contemporary Arts	Sun 19 Nov 15:30
London Regent Street Cinema	Sat 9 Dec 14:30

The Fire Within *Le Feu follet* (12)

After garnering international acclaim for such seminal crowd-pleasers as *The Lovers* and *Zazie dans le métro*, Louis Malle gave his admirers a shock with *The Fire Within*. Maurice Ronet, in an implosive, haunted performance, plays Alain Leroy, a self-destructive writer who resolves to kill himself and spends the next 24 hours trying to reconnect with a host of wayward friends. For the most part, they choose to ignore his predicament, thinking their friend is being dramatic and will snap out of it. Only Jeanne (Jeanne Moreau), who lives among a set of decadent poets, seems to take it at face value, accepting her own helplessness with regret when she lets Alain get away.

Cast **Jeanne Moreau, Maurice Ronet, Bernard Noël, Jean-Paul Moulinot, René Dupuy, Bernard Tiphaine, Léna Skeria, Yvonne Clech, Alexandra Stewart**

Director **Louis Malle** | France | 1963 | 110 mins
UK Distributor **Curzon Artificial Eye**

One of the most ingeniously conceived, directed, and performed feature films of early Sixties. *All Movie Guide*

FILM SHOWING:

Belfast Queen's Film Theatre	Sat 25 Nov
Glasgow Film Theatre	Sun 10 Dec 15:00 (double bill with <i>The Lovers</i>)

classics / Jeanne Moreau



The Lovers *Les Amants* (15)

Louis Malle unveiled the natural beauty of Jeanne Moreau in *Lift to the Scaffold*. Here with his follow-up, *The Lovers*, he made her a star once and for all. A deeply felt and luxuriously filmed fairy tale for grown-ups, he presents Moreau as a restless bourgeois wife whose eye wanders from both her husband and her lover to an attractive passing stranger (Jean-Marc Bory). Thanks to its frank sexuality, the film caused quite a stir, being censored and attacked for obscenity around the world. It still glistens with sensuality and seductive storytelling.

Cast Jeanne Moreau, Alain Cuny, Jean-Marc Bory, Judith Magre, José Luis de Vilallonga, Gaston Modot, Pierre Frag, Michèle Girardon, Gib Grossac, Lucienne Hamon, Claude Mansard, Jean-Claude Brialy

Director Louis Malle | France | 1958 | 88 mins | UK distrib Curzon Artificial Eye

Les Amants helped turn Jeanne Moreau into an iconic leading actress. BBC

FILM SHOWING:

Inverness Eden Court

Thu 9 Nov 14:15

Glasgow Film Theatre

Sun 10 Dec 13:15
(double bill with *The Fire Within*)



Mr. Klein *Monsieur Klein* (12)

Alain Delon stars as the eponymous protagonist in Joseph Losey's first French film, *Mr Klein*. Living a posh life amid the chaos and turmoil of Nazi-occupied Paris, Mr. Klein makes his living buying art at cut-throat rates from desperate Jews fleeing the country. When a Jewish newspaper is mistakenly addressed to him, Klein learns of the existence of another, Jewish, Mr. Klein. Klein reports the irregularity to the police, only to find himself further implicated in intrigue and danger. Losey previously had directed *Eva* in 1962 with Jeanne Moreau in what was a career defining role. Here she makes a brief but memorable appearance.

Cast Alain Delon, Jeanne Moreau, Suzanne Flon, Michel Lonsdale, Juliet Berto, Francine Berge

Director Joseph Losey | 1976 | France/Italy | 123 mins
Courtesy of Park Circus/STUDIOCANAL

Seductive, splendidly visual, witty, and concerned with ideas that are fashionable without being at all disturbing. New York Times

FILM SHOWING:

London Ciné Lumière

Sun 5 Nov 14:00



bar à vin

'Bar à vin' is an authentic French wine bar in the Edinburgh West End. A thoughtful list of hand-picked wines and carefully selected, seasonal cheeses and charcuterie from artisan French and Scottish producers are at the heart of what we do.

This is a quirky spot for lunch, an after work glass of wine with nibbles or a leisurely get together with friends over a couple of bottles and a generous platter of charcuterie.

'Bar à vin' is the last addition to the restaurants' family run by chef patron Fred Berkmler and partner Betty. Fusing classic French technique and carefully sourced Scottish ingredients l'escargot bleu (Broughton Street) and l'escargot blanc (Queensferry Street) restaurants feature regularly in lists of Edinburgh's best restaurants.

bar à vin

From 12pm till late Monday-Saturday
17A Queensferry St. Edinburgh EH2 4QW
0131 226 1890 www.winebaredinburgh.co.uk

l'escargot bleu

Monday-Saturday
56 Broughton St. Edinburgh EH1 3SA
0131 557 1600 www.lescargotbleu.co.uk

l'escargot blanc

Monday-Saturday
17A Queensferry St. Edinburgh EH2 4QW
0131 226 1890 www.lescargotblanc.co.uk



Fred Berkmler (pictured with Barra snails) has been recognised at the Scotland Food & Drink Excellence Awards for his contribution to Scottish food culture in 2016 ('Food Pioneer') and 2017 ('Scottish Sourcing').

classics / Régis Wargnier



Régis Wargnier: Stories in which love triumphs over politics.

Director with an epic sweep

Régis Wargnier, who made his international breakthrough in 1991 with the Oscar-winning *Indochine*, learned his craft on the job.

He had stints working as a second unit director with the late Michel Deville before scoring his own directorial debut with *La femme de ma vie* starring Jane Birkin and Jean-Louis Trintignant.

International fame followed including *Indochine* which also won a Golden Globe, and *East/West*. He has worked with many of France's leading actresses, including Catherine Deneuve, Sandrine Bonnaire and Emmanuelle Béart who took the lead role in *Une femme française* inspired by Wargnier's own mother.

East/West was nominated for best foreign language film in the Academy Awards. When it was released in France some critics described it as anti-Communist. Yet, in a sense, it is no more anti-Communist than *Indochine*, which dealt with the struggle against French colonialism, was pro-Communist. Both films are love stories in which love is tested by – and eventually triumphs over – politics.

In 2004 the director came to Edinburgh to part-shoot *Man to Man*, a British and French co-production, depicting the search for the so-called “Missing Link” – the connection between man and ape much discussed by scientists in the 19th century. After the anthropologists encounter a tribe of pygmies in South Africa, they send a couple back to Scotland for research purposes. *Man to Man* portrays not just the beginnings of modern evolutionary science, but also its unscrupulous abuse for selfish motives.

Last year he travelled back to Vietnam with Catherine Deneuve to present *Indochine* in the Hanoi International Film Festival – 25 years after it was made.

Paradoxically *Indochine* was never released in Vietnam at the time of its international release in 1992, a period when the country's cinema sector was virtually non-existent.

A single preview screening was organised in the only cinema operating at the time, the Thàng8 (which now has been fully renovated), attended by Deneuve and Wargnier who also served as the festival's jury president.

The film is credited with playing a significant role in boosting the international image of Vietnam and contributed to some extent to the nation's cultural renaissance.

Wargnier's fascination for this part of the world found further expression in his latest foray, *The Gate*, which was set in Cambodia during the Khmer Rouge regime.

An adaptation for the screen of the book, *Le Portail*, by François Bizot it details the author's detention and subsequent liberation. Bizot worked as a researcher with the French Research School of the Far East but was kidnapped by the Khmer Rouge in the early stages of the conflict.

Over the years Wargnier who turns 70 next year, has struck a harmonious working relationship with Scots composer Patrick Doyle who has written the music for most of his films, including the epic score for *Indochine*.

RICHARD MOWE

classics / Régis Wargnier



Indochine ⁽¹²⁾

An epic historical romance directed by Régis Wargnier and set in Indochina (later Vietnam) with Catherine Deneuve as a plantation owner who begins a passionate affair with a young naval officer (Vincent Perez). In the hothouse atmosphere of the setting the officer falls in love with Deneuve's adopted daughter (Linh Dan Pham). She follows him when he is posted to a remote outpost. The lovers hope to hide themselves amid the islands of a secret lake. All the components are in place for a lush and sensual old-fashioned (in a good way) melodrama which is as seductive as the stunning Vietnamese landscape. It has been described as a Gallic *Gone With the Wind*, imbued with the sense of decadence of a dying colonial regime. Deneuve has the role of a lifetime and seizes the chances with an ageless elegance.

Cast **Catherine Deneuve, Vincent Perez, Linh Dan-Pham, Jean Yanne, Dominique Blanc, Thibaut de Montalembert, Carlo Brandt, Hubert Saint Macary, Eric Nguyen, Alain Fromager, Gérard Lartigau, Andrzej Zeweryn**

Director **Régis Wargnier** | 1992 | France | 154 mins | Courtesy of **Park Circus/STUDIOCANAL**

Sprawls and enthralls. It has the breadth and intelligence of the David Lean epics... Catherine Deneuve is a star of epic glamour and gravity. *Time Magazine*

FILM SHOWING:

Edinburgh Filmhouse

Sat 11 Nov 17:00 + Guest Régis Wargnier

Glasgow Film Theatre

Sun 12 Nov 13:00 + Guest Régis Wargnier

Chichester Cinema at New Park

Sun 12 Nov 17:15 & Mon 13 Nov 13:15

Learning L'école du cinéma

FILMHOUSE

INSTITUT
FRANÇAIS
ÉCOSSE

TOTAL

The Learning screenings this year
are funded by



School screenings are supported by free Learning Resources prepared by Institut français d'Écosse and Edinburgh Filmhouse. These resources have been designed in accordance with the Modern Languages outcomes and experiences for the Curriculum for Excellence. Resources, prepared by Claire Bouzigon, professeure de français at the Institut français d'Écosse, will be available to download online as PDFs. The programme for this edition has been co-ordinated by Nicola Kettlewood (Head of Education & Learning), Flippanta Kulakiewicz, (Education & Learning Coordinator, education@cmi-scotland.co.uk) and Raymah Tariq-Ali, Programme Coordinator (programming@filmhousecinema.com) at Edinburgh Filmhouse (www.filmhousecinema.com, +44 (0) 131 228 6382)



VENUES AND BOOKING INFORMATION

A number of cinemas participating in the French Film Festival Learning Programme also organise educational events around French films throughout the year. For schools dates and ticket prices, including this year's selection, contact your nearest venue.

Aberdeen Belmont Filmhouse

For more information and to book please call 01224 343500 and ask to speak to the Duty Manager, or email education@cmi-scotland.co.uk

Bo'ness Hippodrome

For more information contact Box office on 0132 450 6850 or email bookings@falkirkcommunitytrust.org

Dundee DCA

To book contact the Box Office on 01382 909900
For any enquiries please contact mike.tait@dca.org.uk

Inverness Eden Court

For more information and to book places contact Paul Taylor on 01463 239841 or email ptaylor@eden-court.co.uk

Edinburgh Filmhouse

For more information and to book please call 0131 228 2688 and ask to speak to the Duty Manager, or email education@cmi-scotland.co.uk

Glasgow Film Theatre

To book places please go to: www.glasgowfilm.org/theatre/schools.
For any enquiries please contact Box Office on 0141 332 6535 or e-mail www.glasgowfilm.org/theatre/schools

London Ciné Lumière

For more information and to book please contact the Box Office on 020 7871 3515 or email box.office@institutfrancais.org.uk

Stirling Macrobert Arts Centre

For more information and to book please contact the Box Office on 01786 466666 or email groups@macrobertartscentre.org

Warwick Arts Centre

For more information and to book please contact the Box Office on 024 7652 4524 or email arts.centre@warwick.ac.uk

BELMONT
FILMHOUSE

the hippodrome
BO'NESS

CINÉ
LUMIÈRE

DCA
Dundee Contemporary Arts

EDEN
COURT

FILMHOUSE

GLASGOW
FILM THEATRE

Macrobert
Arts Centre
Stirling

warwick
arts centre

Learning L'école du cinéma

FILMHOUSE

INSTITUT
FRANÇAIS
ECC89E

TOTAL

The Learning screenings this year
are funded by



A Bag of Marbles *Un sac de billes* (N/C 12+)

Based on the famous and acclaimed memoirs of Joseph Joffo, *A Bag of Marbles* offers a new version of his incredible story following the experiences of two young Jewish boys living in France during the Second World War. When Joseph Joffo was ten years old, his father (Patrick Bruel) gave him and his brother Maurice some money and a map and sent them on a dangerous mission to escape Nazi-occupied Paris in 1941. Making their way to the demilitarised zone in the South, the boys become unavoidably caught in the whirlwind of war. Aided by the occasional kind soul, the two young boys swerve and dart through obstacles set by Nazi soldiers to avoid succumbing to the dreadful fate of so many others.

Cast **Dorian Le Clech, Batyste Fleurial, Patrick Bruel, Elsa Sylberstein, Bernard Campan, Christian Clavier, Kev Adams, César Domboy**

Director **Christian Duguay** | 2016
France/Canada | 110 mins | Int sales **Gaumont**



Ivan Tsarevitch and the Changing Princess *Ivan Tsarevitch et la princesse changeante* (N/C 8+)

Renowned animator Michel Ocelot (*Tales of the Night*) uses his unique and vibrant silhouette style to share a quartet of bewitching fairy tales, as told by a wizened projectionist and his young apprentices who meet nightly in a dilapidated theatre. In the first a young girl who lives in a monster-fearing underground community gains the courage to face her fears and challenge her society in *The Mistress of the Monsters*. A poor Persian boy becomes apprentice to a powerful enchanter, only to learn of his dastardly ulterior motives in *The Sorcerer's Pupil*. A put-upon ward on a pirate ship outsmarts his captain during a stop in India in *The Ship's Boy and His Cat*. And the son of a dying Russian tsar races against time to find a cursed princess in *Ivan Tsarevitch and the Changing Princess*. Ocelot infuses these deeply rooted archetypes and fables with life, verve, and his gorgeous trademark animation style.

Voice Cast **Yves Barsacq, Marine Griset, Julien Beramis**

Director **Michel Ocelot** | 2016 | France
53 mins | Int sales **Septième Factory**



The Teacher *Les Grands Esprits* (N/C 12+)

Written by first time feature film maker Olivier Ayache-Vidal, the action centres on François Foucault (Denis Podalydès), an associate professor of French literature at one of the most selective and elitist high schools in Paris, the lycée Henri IV. Following a series of events, he is forced to accept a one-year transfer to a school in a Parisian suburb designated for difficult pupils. He fears the worst, and rightly so... The director made a name for himself with his short films *Welcome to China, Coming Out, Mon dernier rôle* and *Undercover*.

Cast **Denis Podalydès, Abdoulaye Diallo, Tabono Tandia, Pauline Huruguen, Alexis Moncorgé, Emmanuel Barrouyer, Zineb Triki, Léa Drucker, Charles Templon, Marie Remond**

Director **Olivier Ayache-Vidal** | 2016 | France
106 mins | Int Sales **Bac Films Distribution**

All the Learning screenings are on www.frenchfilmfestival.org.uk

shortCUTs

The ranks of celebrated directors who started their careers by making short films is legion from Agnès Varda to François Truffaut. This programme embraces film-makers who relish working in the format from guests Wilfried Méance and Fabrice Bracq to veteran Jean-Luc Godard (see *Redoubtable* elsewhere in the programme) cutting his directorial teeth in 1959. The selection has been curated by Myrtle Lambert, Laurie Gaillard and Cannes award-winning film-maker and lecturer Irvine Allan from Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh.



L'AGENCE DU
COURT MÉTRAGE

Shorts programme (12)

Edinburgh Queen Margaret University

Tues 21 Nov 14:00 + Guests

Edinburgh Filmhouse

Tues 21 Nov 20:30 + Guests



Unleavened Bread / *Caramel mou*

Vanessa is in love with Rémi. Rémi is in love with Vanessa. The only damper: his bread won't rise.

Dir **Wilfried Méance** | 2016 | France | 9 mins | Executive Producer **Hilldale** | Introduction and Q&A by **Wilfried Méance**



Enemies Within / *Ennemis intérieurs*

In the 1990s, Algerian terrorism invaded France. Two men. Two memories. Two identities. A confrontation. (The question of Algeria and France is negotiated in a citizenship interview. Exclusion, identity, and immigration.)

Dir **Sélim Azzazi** | 2016 | France | 28 mins | Executive Producer **Qualia Films**



A Whole World for a Little World / *Le Monde du petit monde*

A woman tells her baby a lovely story. Like a fairytale, full of princes and princesses, she dips into her memories in order to transmit them to her family.

Dir **Fabrice Bracq** | 2017 | France | 15 mins | Int Sales **Manifest** | Introduction and Q&A by **Fabrice Bracq**



Marlon

Fourteen-year-old Marlon visits her mother in prison for the first time since she was incarcerated. The girl, protected by her family and her entourage, nevertheless persists in believing that her mother is her childhood heroine.

Dir **Jessica Palud** | 2017 | France/Belgium | 19 mins | Executive Producer **Punchline Cinema**



Cold Coffee / *Café froid*

Saigon, Vietnam. On the death of her mother, a young girl is forced to abandon her studies to take over the family coffee stall. Faced with a radical change of life, loneliness and sorrow, she gradually loses her bearings.

Dirs **Stéphanie Lansaquet, François Leroy** | 2015 | France | 15 mins | Int Sales **L'Agence du Court Métrage**



Journal animé

An artistic improvisation in real time carried out from day-to-day between September 15 and November 15, 2015, inspired by international events as taken from the pages of the French daily newspaper *Libération*.

Dir **Donato Sansone** | 2016 | France | 4 mins | Int Sales **L'Autour de Minuit**



All the Boys are Called Patrick / *Tous les garçons s'appellent Patrick*

A student waiting her friend is charmed by a stranger named Patrick and agrees to a date; when she leaves, her friend arrives and Patrick sets about seducing her as well. Brilliantly cynical about young love and the way men abuse it, featuring a youthful Jean-Claude Brialy. Here is one short film of the *Nouvelle vague* which perfectly captures the atmosphere of Paris of those times. See it conjunction with *Redoubtable*.

Dir **Jean-Luc Godard** | 1959 | France | 21 mins | UK Distrib **Argos Films** | Introduction by **Martine Pierquin**



ABRAHADABRA (N/C 12+)

On a ranch-style farm in south west of France, Jane Cavalieri, 14, lives protected by the love of her father Ludovic and his grandfather Papifou. The sudden death of her father, in a terrorist attack, plunges Jane into a waking dream.

Cast **Noémie Glairacq**, **Christian Cazenave**, **Jean-Pierre Massat**, **Nicolas Dubaële**

Director **Yannik Ruault** | 2017 | France, UK, Netherlands | 72 mins

FILM SHOWING:

Hull University Middleton Hall | 19 November 14:00

Introduction and Q&A with the director.

Aberdeen Belmont Filmhouse | 29 November 18:45

Introduction and Q&A with the director.

Private screening by invitation on advance request only.

Tickets are £5 and available on request by emailing workshops@frenchfilmfestival.org.uk quoting FILM

Yannik Ruault: The French film-maker who used to be based in Aberdeen and now lives and works in Hull (this year's European City of Culture) first came to the attention of the French Film Festival UK with his short film *Reflexions in the Cat's Eyes/Reflets dans l'oeil du chat* which was screened as part of last year's Short Cuts programme in his presence.

He returns to the Festival for the 25th edition with his first feature *Abrahamadabra* which was in part shot on a digital tablet and financed by a crowd-funding initiative and has been described variously as "touching, authentic and peaceful" and "a drama with fairy tale qualities and serenity."

ABRAHADABRA WORKSHOPS ON FILM-EDITING

Aberdeen Belmont Filmhouse

Tue 28 November 19:00 to 20:00

Wed 29 November 14:30 to 15:30

Wed 29 November 17:00 to 18:00

(Aberdeen university students only)

Workshops are in English and French. Places are limited (six to eight persons). Workshops on film-editing at the Belmont Filmhouse in partnership with Crow House Projects. During this workshop, you will discover the film-editing process in using some scenes of *ABRAHADABRA*.

Workshops are free but ticketed. To reserve, please email workshops@frenchfilmfestival.org.uk quoting WORKSHOP

Timetables

**ABERDEEN
BELMONT FILMHOUSE**
01224 343500 **23 Nov – 3 Dec**

Thu 23 Nov 20:00
Lost in Paris + Guests
Dominique Abel & Fiona Gordon

Fri 24 Nov 20:25 **Mr and Mrs Adelman**

Sat 25 Nov 20:15 **Redoubtable**

Sun 26 Nov 18:00 **A Woman's Life**

Tue 28 Nov 20:40 **A Kid**

Wed 29 Nov 18:45
Abrahamadabra + Guest Yannik Ruault

Thu 30 Nov 18:00 **Speak Up!**

Fri 1 Dec 20:40 **The Double Lover**

Sat 2 Dec 13:00 **Jean de Florette**

Sun 3 Dec 13:00 **Manon of the Spring**

**BO'NESS
HIPPODROME CINEMA**
01324 506850 **3 Nov**

Fri 3 Nov **A Bag of Marbles**
(only for schools)

**DUNDEE
CONTEMPORARY ARTS**
01382 909900 **17 – 23 Nov**

Fri 17 Nov 18:00 **Rodin**

Sat 18 Nov 13:00 **Ivan Tsarevitch
and the Changing Princess**

Mon 20 Nov 18:00 **A Woman's Life**

Mon 20 Nov 20:30 **Barbara**

Sun 19 Nov 15:30 **Bay of Angels**

Sun 19 Nov 18:00 **Marie Curie:
the Courage of Knowledge**

Tue 21 Nov 18:00
Tomorrow and Thereafter

Wed 22 Nov 18:00 **Lover For A Day**

Thu 23 Nov 18:00 **Lost in Paris**

DUNOON FILM FESTIVAL
dunoonfilmfestival.org **10 Nov**

Fri 10 Nov 18:00 **Lost in Paris**

EDINBURGH DOMINION
0131 447 4771 **1 – 7 Dec**

Fri 1 Dec 18:00 **Marie Curie:
the Courage of Knowledge**

Sat 2 Dec 18:00 **Gauguin**

Sun 3 Dec 18:00 **Golden Years**

Mon 4 Dec 18:00 **Lover For a Day
+ introduction by Martine Pierquin**

Tue 5 Dec 18:00 **Corniche Kennedy**

Wed 6 Dec 18:00 **Ladies**

Thu 7 Dec 18:00 **The Firemen**

EDINBURGH FILMHOUSE
0131 228 2688
4 Nov & 10 – 25 Nov

Sat 4 Nov 18:00 **Aurora**
+ Guests Agnès Jaoui & Blandine Lenoir

Fri 10 Nov 20:30 **Redoubtable
+ Guest (tbc)**

Sat 11 Nov 13:00 **A Bag of Marbles**

Sat 11 Nov 17:00 **Indochine
+ Guest Régis Wargnier**

Sun 12 Nov 15:45 **Bay of Angels**

Sun 12 Nov 18:15 **Just to be sure**

Mon 13 Nov 20:40 **Corporate
+ Guest Nicolas Fleureau**

Tues 14 Nov 15:30 & 20:40
The Double Lover

Wed 15 Nov 13:00 & 18:00
A Woman's Life

Wed 15 Nov 20:40 **A Kid**

Thu 16 Nov 20:40 **Barbara**

Fri 17 Nov 15:45 & 20:40 **The Workshop**

Sat 18 Nov 15:30 **School of Life**

Sat 18 Nov 17:30 **This is Our Land
+ Guest Lucas Belvaux**

Sun 19 Nov 17:30 **Before Summer Ends**

Mon 20 Nov 11:00 **Jean de Florette**
(For carers with babies ages 1 and
under only) and 13:00, Tue 21 Nov 15:15
& Sat 25 Nov 13:00 **Jean de Florette**
(25 Nov only double bill with **Manon
of the Spring**)

Mon 20 Nov 20:40 **Step by Step**

Tue 21 Nov 20:30 **Shorts Programme**

Wed 22 Nov 13:00, Thu 23 Nov 15:30
& Sat 25 Nov **Manon of the Spring**
(25 Nov only double bill with
Jean de Florette)

Wed 22 Nov 20:35 **150 Milligrams**

Thu 23 Nov 18:05 **Ismaël's Ghosts**

Fri 24 Nov 13:40 & 18:15 **Lost in Paris +
Guests Dominique Abel & Fiona Gordon**

25

Timetables

GLASGOW ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE

0141 331 4080 30 Nov

Wed 22 Nov 18:00 **Speak Up**
+ introduction by James Steel

GLASGOW FILM THEATRE

0141 332 6535

5 Nov & 10 Nov – 10 Dec

Sun 5 Nov 16:30 **Aurora**
+ Guests Agnès Jaoui & Blandine Lenoir

Fri 10 Nov 13:20, Mon 13 Nov 13:15,
Tue 14 Nov 13:00, Wed 15 Nov 13:00,
Thu 16 Nov 13:00 **Jean de Florette**

Fri 10 Nov 16:00, Mon 13 Nov 15:45,
Tue 14 Nov 15:30, Wed 15 Nov 15:30,
Thu 16 Nov 15:30 **Manon of the Spring**

Fri 10 Nov 18:30 **Barbara**

Fri 10 Nov 20:45 **Before Summer Ends**

Sat 11 Nov 13:10 **The Workshop**

Sat 11 Nov 15:40 **The Paris Opera**
+ introduction by Alex Reedjik
(Scottish Opera)

Sat 11 Nov 18:20 **Redoubtable**
+ Guest tbc

Sat 11 Nov 21:00 **Lover for a Day**

Sun 12 Nov 13:00 **Indochine**

Sun 12 Nov 16:45 **Corniche Kennedy**
+ introduction by Martine Pierquin

Sun 12 Nov 19:15 **Ismaël's Ghosts**

Mon 13 Nov 20:30 **Just To Be Sure**

Tue 14 Nov 20:30 **Corporate**
+ Guest Nicolas Fleureau

Wed 15 Nov 18:00 **Gauguin**

Wed 15 Nov 21:00 **Lost in Paris**

Thu 16 Nov 18:05 **Mr & Mrs Adelman**

Sat 18 Nov **Ivan Tsarevitch and the
Changing Princess 11:30 (Take 2)**

Sat 18 Nov 20:30 **The Double Lover**

Sun 19 Nov 19:00 **This is Our Land**
+ Guest Lucas Belvaux

Sun 10 Dec 13:15 **The Lovers**
Sun 10 Dec 15:00 **The Fire Within**
(double bill)

INVERNESS EDEN COURT THEATRE

01463 234234 8 – 30 Nov

Thu 9 Nov 14:15 **The Lovers**

Sat 11 Nov 11:45 **The School of Life**

Sat 11 Nov 18:45 **The Double Lover**

Sun 12 Nov 13:30 **Gauguin**

Thu 16 Nov 18:00 **Mr & Mrs Adelman**

Sat 18 Nov 18:15 **Aurora**

Sat 26 Nov 12:00 **Jean de Florette**

Sat 26 Nov 15:00 **Manon of the Spring**

Thu 30 Nov 18:00 **150 Milligrams**

STIRLING MACROBERT ARTS CENTRE

01786 466666 2 – 30 Nov

Thu 2 Nov 19:30 **150 Milligrams**

Thu 9 Nov 19:30 **Step by Step**

Mon 20 Nov 19:30 **Marie Curie,
the Courage of Knowledge**

Thu 23 Nov 19:30 **Mercenary**

Thu 30 Nov 19:30 **The Double Lover**

BELPER RITZ CINEMA

01773 822224 5 – 26 Nov

Sun 5 Nov 17:00 **150 Milligrams**

Sun 12 Nov 17:00 **Rodin**

Sun 19 Nov 17:00 **Jean de Florette**

Sun 26 Nov 17:00 **Manon of the Spring**

BRISTOL WATERSHED

01179 275100 15 – 17 Dec

Fri 15 Dec **Ismael's Ghost**

Sat 16 Dec **The Double Lover**

Sun 17 Dec **The Workshop**

Sun 17 Dec **Redoubtable**

CHICHESTER CINEMA AT NEW PARK

01243 786650 10 Nov – 1 Dec

Fri 10 Nov 18:15 & Fri 1 Dec 13:15
Marie Curie, the Courage of Knowledge

Sat 11 Nov 13:15 **A Bag of Marbles**

Sat 11 Nov 18:15 **The Teacher**

Sun 12 Nov 12:45 & Mon 13 Nov 20:45
Lost in Paris

Sun 12 Nov 17:15 & Mon 13 Nov 13:15
Indochine

Tue 14 Nov 13:15 & Fri 17 Nov 12:15
A Woman's Life

Tue 14 Nov 18:15 **Corporate**

Wed 15 Nov 15:45 & Mon 20 Nov 20:45
School of Life

Thu 16 Nov 14:15 **Paris Opera**

Fri 17 Nov 17:45 & Thu 23 Nov 12:00
Jean de Florette

Sat 18 Nov 12:15 & Mon 20 Nov 15:15
Ismaël's Ghosts

Sat 18 Nov 18:00 & Fri 24 Nov 12:45
Manon of the Spring

Sun 19 Nov 18:15 **Golden Years**

Tue 21 Nov 17:15 **Mr & Mrs Adelman**

Wed 22 Nov 14:00 **This is Our Land**

Thu 23 Nov 17:30 **150 Milligrams**

Fri 24 Nov 18:00 **Félicité**

Sat 25 Nov 18:00 & Mon 27 Nov 15:45
The Double Lover

Sun 26 Nov 20:30 & Wed 29 Nov 13:15
Gauguin

Mon 27 Nov 20:45 & Tue 28 Nov 14:15
The Workshop

Wed 29 Nov 18:15 **Barbara**

Thu 30 Nov 12:45 & Fri 1 Dec 18:00
Redoubtable

Thu 30 Nov 18:00 **Rodin**

Timetables

WARWICK ARTS CENTRE 02476 524524 11 – 15 Nov

Sat 11 Nov 16:00 **A Bag of Marbles**

Sat 11 Nov 20:40 **Redoubtable**

Sun 12 Nov 14:00 **Jean de Florette**

Sun 12 Nov 16:00 **Manon of the Spring**

Mon 13 Nov 20:40 **A Woman's Life**

Tues 14 Nov 18:40 **Marie Curie, the Courage of Knowledge**

Wed 15 Nov 20:40 **Gauguin**

FALMOUTH THE POLY 01326 319461 22 Nov

Wed 22 Nov 19:30 **All the Boys are Called Patrick + Redoubtable**

HEREFORD THE COURTYARD 01432 340555 20 – 28 Nov

Mon 20 Nov 14:30 **Jean de Florette**

Thu 23 Nov 19:45 **A Bag of Marbles**

Fri 24 Nov 18:00 & Wed 29 Nov 20:00 **Marie Curie: the Courage of Knowledge**

Mon 27 Nov 14:30 **Manon of the Spring**

Tue 28 Nov 11:00 **Aurora**

HULL UNIVERSITY 01482 465713 19 & 26 Nov

Sun 19 Nov 14:00 **Abrahamdabra + Guest Yannik Ruault**

Sun 19 Nov 16:30 **Aurora**

Sun 26 Nov 14:00 **Before Summer Ends**

Sun 26 Nov 16:00 **The Workshop**

IPSWICH FILM THEATRE 07884 076950 1 – 2 Dec

Fri 1 Dec 19:30 **Corniche Kennedy**

Sat 2 Dec 14:30 & 19:30 **A Kid**

LEICESTER PHOENIX CINEMA 01162 422800 2 Nov – 6 Dec

Thu 2 Nov 18:20 **Redoubtable**

Thu 9 Nov 20:15 **Mercenary**

Tue 14 Nov 18:15 **A Woman's Life**

Sat 18 Nov 15:00 **Jean de Florette**

Sat 18 Nov 17:30 **Manon of The Spring**

Tue 28 Nov 18:20 **Problemos**

Sat 2 Dec 17:45 **This is Our Land**

Wed 6 Dec 18:30 **Lost in Paris**

LONDON CINÉ LUMIÈRE 020 7871 3515 2 – 12 Nov

Thu 2 Nov 18:30 **The Double Lover**

Thu 2 Nov 20:40 **Corporate + Guest Nicolas Fleureau**

Fri 3 Nov 16:00 **Problemos**

Fri 3 Nov 18:30 **Aurora + Guests Agnès Jaoui & Blandine Lenoir**

Fri 3 Nov 20:45 **Rodin**

Sat 4 Nov 16:00 **The Workshop**

Sat 4 Nov 18:30 **Tomorrow and Thereafter**

Sat 4 Nov 20:40 **School of Life**

Sun 5 Nov 14:00 **Mr Klein**

Sun 5 Nov 16:20 **Gauguin**

Sun 5 Nov 18:30 **Foreign Body + Guest Raja Amari (tbc)**

Sun 5 Nov 20:40 **Ladies**

Mon 6 Nov 18:30 **Just to be sure**

Mon 6 Nov 20:45 **150 Milligrams**

LONDON CINÉ LUMIÈRE *continued*

Tues 7 Nov 18:30 **Marie Curie: the Courage of Knowledge + Guest Marie Noëlle**

Tues 7 Nov 20:50 **All the Boys Are Called Patrick + Lover for a Day**

Wed 8 Nov 15:45 **Jean de Florette**

Wed 8 Nov 18:30 **The Paris Opera**

Wed 8 Nov 20:40 **Redoubtable**

Thu 9 Nov 15:45 **Manon of the Spring**

Thu 9 Nov 18:00 **Barbara**

Thu 9 Nov 20:30 **Dalida + Guest Lisa Azuelos**

Sat 11 Nov 20:30 **Mr & Mrs Adelman**

Sun 12 Nov 18:30 **A Bag of Marbles**

LONDON JW3 020 7433 8988 29 – 30 Nov

Wed 29 Nov 18:30 **Marie Curie: the Courage of Knowledge**

Thu 30 Nov 20:50 **Gauguin**

LONDON REGENT STREET CINEMA 020 7911 5050 4 – 10 Dec

Mon 4 Dec 18:00 **Ismaël's Ghosts**

Mon 4 Dec 20:15 **Corniche Kennedy**

Wed 6 Dec 18:00 **Golden Years**

Wed 6 Dec 20:00 **The Firemen**

Fri 8 Dec 19:30 **Mercenary + Guest Sacha Wolff**

Sat 9 Dec 14:30 **Bay of Angels**

Sat 9 Dec 18:00 **Before Summer Ends**

Sun 10 Dec 14:00 **A Woman's Life**

Sun 10 Dec 16:30 **This is Our Land**

Timetables

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Sun 19 Nov **Golden Days**

Sun 26 Nov **Lost in Paris**

Sun 3 Dec **Gauguin**

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26 – 27 Nov & 3 – 4 Dec

Sun 26 Nov 15:00 **Jean de Florette**

Mon 27 Nov 18:15 **Lost In Paris**

Sun 3 Dec 14:00 **Manon of the Spring**

Mon 4 Dec 18:15 **Barbara**

**RICHMOND
THE STATION CINEMA**
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Fri 3 Nov 14:00, Tue 7 Nov 20:00,
Sat 11 Nov 20:00 & Tue 14 Nov 14:30
Ismaël's Ghosts

Fri 3 18:00, Tue 7 Nov 13:30, Fri 10 Nov
20:15 & Tue 14 Nov 17:45 **Lost in Paris**

Fri 3 Nov 20:15, Tue 7 Nov 17:30,
Sun 12 Nov 17:00 & Wed 15 Nov 14:30
Marie Curie: the Courage of Knowledge

Sat 4 Nov 14:30, Mon 6 Nov 17:45,
Sun 12 Nov 14:30 & Wed 15 Nov 20:15
A Kid

Sat 4 Nov 17:45, Mon 6 Nov 20:15,
Sun 12 Nov 19:30 & Wed 15 Nov 18:00
The Firemen

Sat 4 Nov 20:00, Mon 6 Nov 14:30,
Sat 11 Nov 17:30 & Mon 13 Nov 14:30
Gauguin

Sun 5 Nov 14:00, Wed 8 Nov 17:15,
Fri 10 Nov 17:30 & Tue 14 Nov 20:00
School of Life

Sun 5 Nov 16:45, Wed 8 Nov 14:30,
Fri 10 Nov 14:30 & Mon 13 Nov 20:15
Aurora

Sun 5 Nov 19:00, Wed 8 Nov 20:00,
Sat 11 Nov 14:30 & Mon 13 Nov 17:30
A Woman's Life

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times are missing
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guests

A warm welcome to all the scheduled guests of this year's French Film Festival UK who are featured on these pages. Not all guests can make it to all the screenings of their films so please check out carefully where they will be and when. Also unforeseen circumstances can occur which may prevent a particular individual's attendance between this publication going to press and the start of the festival: don't forget keep a watch on the website www.frenchfilmfestival.org.uk for updates.



AGNES JAOUÏ One of France's most successful female directors she also writes and stars in her own films, alongside her one-time partner Jean-Pierre Bacri. She and Bacri developed a theatre and film style of which *Kitchen with Apartment* and *Family Resemblances* were first to meet with success. They worked with Alain Resnais on *Smoking/No Smoking* and *Same Old Song*. In 2000, Agnès Jaoui directed *The Taste of Others*, which was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film and won four César, including the César Award for Best Film. She wrote and directed *Look at Me*, which won Best Screenplay Award at the 2004 Cannes Film Festival, followed by *Let's Talk About the Rain* (2008) and *Under the Rainbow* (2013). She is a singer, and her Latin "Canta" album won a Victoire de la Musique award in 2007. She returned to the stage in 2014, and regularly appears on screen, most recently in Bruno Podalydès' *The Sweet Escape* in the French Film Festival UK official selection last year. She attends the Festival for the first time this year to present *Aurora* by Blandine Lenoir.

Personal appearance + Q & A for *Aurora* London Ciné Lumière 3 Nov 18:30 and Edinburgh Filmhouse 4 Nov 18:00



BLANDINE LENOIR She began as an actress in front of Gaspard Noé's camera in the short *Carne* (1991) and worked for him again on *I Stand Alone* in 1998, his first feature. She pursued her career as an actress but at the same time embarked on directing. She has already directed eight shorts, including *Dear Abbot*. Her first feature film *Zouzou* was released in 2014. She accompanies Agnès Jaoui to the Festival for *Aurora*, her second feature. She was inspired by Agnès Varda to take up directing after she had seen *Sans toit ni loi* in the mid-Eighties - the first time she had seen film about a woman by a woman. She made her first short film at the age of 25 - *Avec Marinette* but it took ten years or so before making a feature.

Personal appearance + Q & A for *Aurora* London Ciné Lumière 3 Nov at 18:30, Edinburgh Filmhouse 4 Nov 18:00 and Glasgow Film Theatre 5 Nov 16:30



REGIS WARGNIER After studying classics, Wargnier gave up his place at the film school l'IDHEC, preferring to learn the trade of director on film sets. He was first stand-in for Michel Piccoli for Claude Chabrol's *Le Décade Prodigieuse* (1972), then focus puller and location manager on features (Valerio Zurlin's *Le Désert des Tartares*, 1977) then assistant director to François Girod, Volker Schlöndorff, Margaret von Trotta, Elie Chouraqui, and Alexandre Arcady. Wargnier directed his first feature *La Femme de ma Vie* with Jane Birkin and Christophe Malvy, in 1986. Three years later he made *Je Suis le Seigneur du Château*. *Indochine* (1992) boasting a prestigious cast including Catherine Deneuve, Vincent Pérez, Dominique Blanc and Jean Yanne, was an international hit, and was awarded the Oscar for Best Foreign Film. In 1996, Emmanuelle Béart incarnated *Une Femme Française* alongside Daniel Auteuil. *East-West*, with Sandrine Bonnaire, was the French entry in the 2000 Academy Awards, and was also nominated for the best film, best director and best actress Césars that year. For his most recent feature he teamed up with Cambodian filmmaker Rithy Panh to bring Francois Bizot's bestselling autobiographical novel *The Gate* to the screen. With career spanning more than 25 years the Festival is delighted to welcome him in the 25th edition to present silver jubilee screenings of *Indochine* in a restored copy.

Personal appearance + Q & A for *Indochine* Edinburgh Filmhouse 11 Nov 17:00 and Glasgow Film Theatre 12 Nov 13:00



LUCAS BELVAUX Born in Namur, the Belgian director has put his name to works such as his trio of films released in 2002 (*An Amazing Couple*, *After Life* and *On the Run*), *The Right of the Weakest* (entered in competition at Cannes in 2006), *Rapt* (2009), *38 Witnesses* (One Night) which opened the International Film Festival Rotterdam and his out of character romantic comedy *Not My Type* (2014 and presented at the French Film Festival in 2015). After spending his childhood in the countryside, he decided to move to Paris to become an actor. After a few month of acting classes, he landed a part in a TV movie, followed by his first feature film, *Allons z'enfants* by Yves Boisset. Ten years later, he wrote and shot his first film, *Parfois trop d'amour* (1992). His films are often grounded in a strong sociological context, and question the underlying currents of society. *With This is Our Land* he goes a step further, delivering a film of scorching political topicality on the mechanisms of seduction used by populist parties, seen through the eyes of a young nurse who supports them almost unwittingly.

Personal appearance + Q & A for *This is Our Land* Edinburgh Filmhouse 18 Nov 17:45 and Glasgow Film Theatre 19 Nov 19:00



DOMINIQUE ABEL & FIONA GORDON She is a Canadian born in Australia and he is Belgian: Fiona Gordon and Dominique Abel met each other in Paris through their love of the circus and 32 years later, this love still unites them in real life as on screen. They turned their shared passion for clowns and the circus in to a distinctive style of physical comedy. Based in Belgium, the duo's latest burlesque comedy *Lost in Paris* sees Gordon as a Canadian librarian arriving in Paris to help her old aunt Martha (the legendary Emmanuelle Riva) - while Abel plays a homeless person who is out to ruin her life. The couple's previous films in similar whimsical style include *The Fairy* (2011), *Rumba* (2008) and *Iceberg* (2005). They visited the Festival for The Fairy in 2012 - and we are delighted to welcome the back.

Personal appearance + Q & A for *Lost in Paris* Aberdeen Belmont Filmhouse 23 Nov 18:00 and Edinburgh Filmhouse 24 Nov 13:40 & 18:15



MARIE NOELLE A writer and producer as well as director she was born in Châteauroux. Her body of work consists of directing, producing, writing, and editing. With her ex-husband Peter Sehr she co-directed the films *The Anarchist's Wife* (2008) and *Ludwig II* (2012). She also co-wrote *Love the Hard Way* (2001). *Marie Curie: The Courage of Knowledge* is the latest film in which she is co-writer and director.

Personal appearance + Q & A for *Marie Curie: The Courage of Knowledge* London Ciné Lumière 7 Nov 18:30



LISA AZUELOS A French-born writer, producer and director she is known for the films *LOL* (2008), its American remake starring Miley Cyrus (2012), and *Quantum Love* (2014), all of which she wrote and directed. She is the daughter of French singer and actress Marie Laforêt and is married to film producer Patrick Alessandrin.

Personal appearance + Q & A for *Dalida* London Ciné Lumière 9 Nov 20:30



SACHA WOLFF He has directed several award-winning short films selected for a number of international film festivals. A graduate of the Fémis School of cinema in Paris, he also pursued documentary film-making, which fuels and enriches his fiction work. *Mercenary* (2016), his first feature film, notably received the Gan Foundation Award in 2014 and premiered at the Director's Fortnight at the Cannes Film Festival.

Personal appearance + Q & A for *Mercenary* London Regent Street Cinema 8 Dec 18:00



FELIX KYSYL The young actor stars in two films in the Festival: *Redoubtable* and *Lover for a Day*. Last year French Film Festival audiences saw him in *Chocolat*.

Personal appearance + Q & A for *Redoubtable* Edinburgh Filmhouse 10 Nov 20:30 and Glasgow Film Theatre 11 November 18:20



NICOLAS FLEUREAU Director Nicolas Silhol developed his debut screenplay for *Corporate* (based on a rash of suicides at France Telecom) with his co-screenwriter Nicolas Fleureau. Both were fascinated by the harsh social ramifications of the business world. Fleureau is a professor of scriptwriting at ESIS (Ecole Supérieure de l'image et du son) and graduated from audio-visual studies at Université Paris 111 - Sorbonne Nouvelle. He worked previously with Silhol on his short film *L'Amour propre*. His other credits include *Marche forcée* (short) and *Self Defense* (short).

Personal appearance + Q & A for *Corporate* London Ciné Lumière 2 Nov 20:40, Edinburgh Filmhouse Mon 13 Nov 20:40 and Glasgow Film Theatre Tue 14 Nov 20:30

cast + crew



TEAM WORK: Some of the French Film Festival UK 2017 team take time out for the traditional photograph at Institut Français d'Écosse in Edinburgh: From left: Xinyi Lin, Nicola Kettlewood, Ilona Morison, Coline Pelard-Lassalle, Ceinwen Hemingway-Brunt, Amélie Lenoir, Mona Boujtita, Flippanta Kulakiewicz and Richard Mowe. On the other side of the lens for the shoot were Edinburgh College colleagues – photographers: Hazel Boyle, Stephen Dunn, Suzi Kerr, Niall Mactaggart and Audrey Peddie. This photograph by Hazel Boyle.

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cast + crew

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THE FIRST FRENCH FILM

FESTIVAL took place in October 1992, the year the European Council of the European Parliament met in Edinburgh for a Euro-summit during the UK's presidency of the EC. It was created on the initiative of two film journalists Richard Mowe and Allan Hunter who ran the festival in tandem for a number of years.

Hunter now has relinquished the reins to concentrate on other activities, including the Glasgow Film Festival. Mowe is now director of the French Film Festival UK, director of the distribution company CinéFile as well as continuing his media activities. Ilona Morison now has joined the FFF UK team as deputy director. 1992 was the year of guest Josiane Balasko (on the cover of the first edition brochure with Daniel Auteuil in *Ma vie est un enfer*), guest Gérard Jugnot for *Une époque formidable*, *Indochine*, *Madame Bovary* and then newcomer Arnaud Desplechin's *La Vie des morts*. An Air France photographic archive was on show on the walls of Edinburgh Filmhouse. Today the Festival takes place around the UK with screenings in leading independent cinemas in more than 30 different locations.



This year to mark the anniversary students at Edinburgh College of Art have been asked to reimagine the poster images of key films from the Festival's quarter century to be displayed in Edinburgh Filmhouse's café-bar for the duration of the Festival.

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Top picks from this year's selection by some of those close to the action



Michel Assier-Andrieu
Composer

Problemos emerges as an excellent absurdist comedy, exactly the kind I adore watching. It is in the same vibe as master Spanish surrealist Luis Bunuel or French director Quentin Dupieux (best known for *Rubber* and *Wrong Cops*). The other point in its favour is that French cinema doesn't make this kind of film very often. Maybe it should.



Mona Boujtita
Volunteer

The Workshop by Laurent Cantet takes place in a writing atelier for disadvantaged young people led by a teacher played by the brilliant Marina Fois. It deals pertinently with the topical subject of radicalism. The question is treated in an intelligent way and leaves us to reflect on how we can live together in a society in which we are always judging others. As the youngsters do in the film we learn a lot along the way.



Lucil Bousekkine
Logistics

This Is Our Land is marked by Lucas Belvaux's strong streak of social realism. He chronicles the modus operandi used by politicians, providing a view behind the scenes of a French far-right party. Striking and convincing, this fiction turns out to be a fine study of human nature. As a psychological thriller, Belvaux makes us feel empathy and terror, without being Manichean.



Joséfa Celestin
Film Editor

Patients or *Step by Step* deals with disability, always a sensitive subject, in ways that I wish we could see more often. Without making the mistake of falling in to unnecessary pathos, the film celebrates life and makes us smile and laugh a lot while confronting us with the fact that motor disability could happen to anyone... but it wouldn't have to mean the end of the world



Marion Cosse
Volunteer

Monsieur et Madame Adelman is a great comedy with audacious and sharp dialogue. Fans of Nicolas Bedos' wit won't be disappointed! You'll laugh, you'll cringe, you'll sigh, you might even shed a tear but you'll never feel those two hours go by. It also marks a great debut for Doria Tillier who is mesmerising!



Manon De Araujo
Assistant programmer

Speak Up! was the revelation of my film year. It takes us on a journey with a group of young students taking part in an oratory or public speaking competition. It is variously powerful, moving, funny, optimistic and fascinating. These qualities are all characteristics of a good film, here gathered together in a way that will take audiences by surprise and perhaps even inspire you to take the plunge and test your own abilities.



Marianne Gray London Media Relations

Bay of Angels, directed by Jacques Demy and starring the inimitable Jeanne Moreau, remains totally compelling. I wrote a biography of Moreau and of all her films seen while doing my research I found this whirling, Riviera-set masterpiece hugely watchable. A riddled gambler does not care what happens to Moreau's character as long as she has a chip to start her on the roulette tables.



Amélie Lenoir Guest Liaison & Communication

Lost in Paris directed by Fiona Gordon and Dominique Abel is a declaration of love to the city of Paris. It shows how you can feel lost when you arrive in a new city where you do not know anyone and barely speak the language. It also tells how we are never really lost thanks to the people we meet. The main actors who are also the directors, surpass themselves in this comical and surrealist film.

hot tickets from the team



Karin Macrae
Translator

French films don't often broach work place issues, with the exception of the memorable *Work Hard, Play Hard* (screened at the Festival in 2005). Now *Corporate* skilfully takes possession of the subject (with a screenplay written by the director Nicolas Silhol with Nicolas Fleureau) by exploring the responsibility of devoted workers charged with orchestrating "management through terror". This personal ethical dilemma is faced by human resources manager Emilie Tesson-Hansen (played by the outstanding Céline Sallette) in a film that is both gripping and pertinent.



Lise Morel
Translator

When I first saw *Jean de Florette*, the stunning adaptation of Pagnol's story, my immediate reaction was that it was an instant classic. The plot, for all its twists and turns, landscapes, cinematography, lighting and acting are all marvellous and enthralling. Now you can watch it all over again on the big screen where it belongs. I'm struck by its relevance with regards to irrational fears of new-comers and parochial insularity...



Ilona Morison
Co-Director

A Bag of Marbles explores courage and friendship in the most difficult of times. Joseph Joffo's story is beautifully retold and speaks to young and old in equal measure with wonderful performances from the whole cast and an impeccable period setting.



Richard Mowe
Co-Founder and Director

Louis Garrel transforms his looks and his dark locks are shaved to give an uncanny physical resemblance to Jean-Luc Godard in *Redoubtable*, Michel Hazanavicius's playful comedy about the intellectual "genius" whose thick-rimmed glasses provide a running joke. Godard's constant posturing is well observed with him intoning at one point: "If the audience no longer likes my films, it's because there is something wrong with them."



Coline Pelard-Lassalle
Festival Coordinator & Assistant Programmer

In *Aurora* it is comforting as well as fortifying to see a woman (divinely played by Agnès Jaoui) who is suffering a mid-life crisis, yet triumphing over hardships, the menopause, becoming a grandmother, being alone at home and losing her job... Director Blandine Lenoir offers us an ode to a 50-year woman, providing testimony that this period can be one of the most satisfying and enriching.



Martine Pierquin
Lecturer

Watch out in the Short Cuts programme for Jean-Luc Godard's early short *All the Boys Are Called Patrick*, an amusing comedy based on a screenplay by Eric Rohmer and with Jean-Claude Brialy picking up girls in the Jardin du Luxembourg in Paris. Come and see this and the rest of the shorts with some great guests to accompany them!



Margaux Ranger
Volunteer

All the simplicity and mystery of French auteur cinema can be found in the new film by Philippe Garrel: *Lover for a Day*. The staging of allegorical themes of love, in a setting that is timeless: everything is there to signify the universality of the theme under discussion. And the monochrome widescreen cinematography perfectly captures the intimacy.



Manon Wolff
Volunteer

Being named after *Manon of the Spring* myself, I watched Pagnol's adaptation with a keen interest. Filmed in the midst of authentic Provençal landscapes, the narrative stays deep and inspiring, mixing the characters' pasts, their paradoxes and future, just like the lost soul of Ugolin (Daniel Auteuil), chained in the burning flames of improbable love.

merci à tous

The FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL UK relies on the support, goodwill and generosity of many companies, organisations and funding bodies. Here we salute their contributions to the festival and say: *Merci à tous!* Should you wish to join the “family” seek out the sponsorship possibilities on our website www.frenchfilmfestival.org.uk and call for a chat (Richard Mowe +44 7710 762149 or Ilona Morison +44 7919 442233). We will be happy to talk and outline all kinds of exciting opportunities for 2018 and, as a taster, invite you to fantastic events in this year’s edition. *Be part of it!*

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