

Virginia Commonwealth University and the University of Richmond present French film festivol R i c h m o n d , V i r g i n i a

Lock in your pass for the 29th French Film Festival with the 28th Festival price

Regular VIP Pass: \$115

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Make check payable to: French Film Festival

Mark your calendars!

29th French Film Festival

March 25-28, 2021

Offer available only during weekend of Festival – see "Will Call Table"









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French Film Festival Schedule

Thursday, March 26

IN THE VCU INSTITUTE FOR CONTEMPORARY ART

Master Class with Eyak specialist Guillaume Leduey & director

Vincent Bonnay and screening of their film

Sur le bout de la langue

10:30 a.m. Master Class with Baptiste Heynemann Master Class & Homage in the presence of 1:00 p.m.

Karine Pinoteau with film directors and authors

David Maltese & Pascal Galopin and screening of their film

Claude Pinoteau, par amour du cinéma

2:30 p.m. Master Class with music composer Christophe Héral

IN THE BYRD THEATRE

4:30 p.m. On l'appelait Roda by Charlotte Silvera

Presentation by and discussion with director Charlotte Silvera

Marthe ou la Promesse du jour by Jean-Loup Hubert

Presentation by and discussion with director Jean-Loup Hubert and Dr. Catherine Ingrassia

À 2 heures de Paris by Virginie Verrier

Presentation by and discussion with director Virginie Verrier

Friday, March 27 IN THE VCU INSTITUTE FOR CONTEMPORARY ART

10:00 a.m. Master Class & Homage with music composer Armand Amar

1:00 p.m. Master Class & Homage with actor Philippe Torreton

2:30 p.m. Master Class & Homage with screenwriter,

director and actress Josiane Balasko

IN THE BYRD THEATRE

4:00 p.m. Exfiltrés by Emmanuel Hamon

Presentation by and discussion with director Emmanuel Hamon

and music composer Armand Amar

Les Silences de Johnny by Pierre-William Glenn

Presentation by and discussion with director Pierre-William Glenn and producer Viviane Mikhalkov

Gazon maudit by Josiane Balasko

Presentation by and discussion with director and

actress Josiane Balasko

10:25 p.m. Un monde plus grand by Fabienne Berthaud

Saturday, March 28 IN THE BYRD THEATRE

8:00 a.m. First Short Film Series

Esperança by Cécile Rousset, Jeanne Paturle

and Benjamin Serero

Les Chiens aboient by Grégory Montel Roberto le canari by Nathalie Saugeon Hors champ by Artem Gutkowski

En sortir by Thierry Machard

Presentation by and discussion with directors, screenwriters, and actors Philippe Torreton, Marine Danaux, Massimo Riggi, David Kammenos, Stephen Manas, Thierry Machard

10:10 a.m. Le Voyage du Prince by Jean-François Laguionie and Xavier Picard

Presentation by and discussion with music composer

Christophe Héral

12:05 p.m. Donne-moi des ailes by Nicolas Vanier

Presentation by and discussion with music composer Armand Amar

L'Esprit de famille by Eric Besnard 2:40 p.m.

Presentation by and discussion with with actress Josiane Balasko

and producer Vincent Roget

Trois jours et une vie by Nicolas Boukhrief 5:30 p.m.

Presentation by and discussion with actor Philippe Torreton

Official Reception at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts 7:30 p.m.

Alice et le Maire by Nicolas Pariser 8:00 p.m.

9:45 p.m. Revenir by Jessica Palud

Sunday, March 29 IN THE BYRD THEATRE

8:00 a.m. Second Short Film Series

Parenthèse by Denis Larzillière Grenouille de Cristal by Slony Sow Bacha Posh by Katia Scarton-Kim

Avanti by Mélanie Doutey La Parcelle by Michaël Guerraz

Genet à Tanger by Guillaume de Sardes

Chien bleu by Fanny Liatard and Jérémy Trouilh Presentation by and discussion with directors, screenwriters, and actors Philippe Torreton, Guillaume de Sardes, Katia Scarton-Kim, Virgile Bramly, Emma Liégeois, Denis Larzillière, Slony Sow, Eriko Takeda and Mariam Makalou-Baradji

L'Incroyable Histoire du Facteur Cheval by Nils Tavernier 10:35 a.m.

Presentation by and discussion with film editor

Marion Monestier

Je ne rêve que de vous by Laurent Heynemann 1:00 p.m.

Presentation by and discussion with director & screenwriter Laurent Heynemann, actor Philippe Torreton and film editor Marion Monestier

Grâce à Dieu by François Ozon **Presentation by and discussion with** actress Josiane Balasko and Dr. R. Andrew Chesnut

6:35 p.m. Hors normes by Olivier Nakache and Eric Toledano

8:50 p.m. Alice et le Maire by Nicolas Pariser

Festival Venue

The Byrd Theatre is located at 2908 W. Cary St. in Richmond. A parking deck is located directly behind the theatre.

Master Classes

Seven free and open to-the-public Master Classes take place on the VCU campus at the new Institute for Contemporary Art (ICA). Simultaneous interpretation English-French-English headsets provided without charge upon presentation of an I.D. card. The ICA Auditorium has 204 seats. Please reserve your free seat by registering for each Master Class on www.eventbrite.com. VCU Parking Decks are two blocks away from the ICA building: HH Deck (925 W. Grace Street) and BB Deck (926 W. Grace Street) which are pay-as-you-go parking facilities.

Official Reception

The Official Reception is for all Festival student, faculty and regular VIP pass reception-holders who have purchased the \$25 add-on for the reception. If you have purchased a pass already and did not choose the reception add-on, you still may do so by contacting the Festival office. This special event will be held on the evening of Saturday, March 28, 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, a non-smoking venue, located at 200 N Arthur Ashe Boulevard, Richmond, Va. VMFA Museum Parking Deck is free to all Festival Reception Pass Holders.

Cover photo by Pascal Ito



Multicultural. Inclusive. Bilingual. Rigorous. An education like no other in Washington D.C.





Proud sponsor of the 28th French Film Festival and Master Classes

Virginia Commonwealth University and the University of Richmond present



Meet the French Delegation during our Reception

Saturday, March 28th
7:30 - 9:30 p.m.
Virginia Museum of Fine Arts
200 N. Arthur Ashe Boulevard

The Official Reception of the 28th French Film Festival with the delegation of directors, actors and artists from France will take place in the Marble Hall of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. Food, Drinks, Fun and Conversation.

Free Parking Available for Festival Reception Pass Holders in VMFA Parking Deck

Please make sure to purchase the reception add-on to your Festival pass for entrance into the reception.









Introduction to the Master Classes

his year, seven free and open-to-the-public Master Classes will be held on the VCU campus at the Institute for Contemporary Art (ICA). Simultaneous interpretation headsets will allow everyone to participate in the discussions regardless of English or French proficiency levels. The ICA Auditorium has 204 seats. Please reserve your free seat by registering for each Master Class on www.eventbrite.com.

The art of acting on screen and on stage, choices in musical compositions for film, video games and virtual reality, ecological choices in film production, language learning and cinematic art changing communities and revitalizing cultures, iconic individuals and their impact on cinematic and musical arts are some of the themes weaved throughout the program of this year's Master Classes.

Two intensive days permitting a better understanding into how directors, screenwriters, actors, composers and artist-technicians create ingenious ways through the visual and aural power of cinema to communicate important issues facing our world today while captivating and entertaining the viewer. Discussions in the Master Classes also reveal from whom artists have drawn inspirations and with whom they elaborate

have drawn inspirations and with whom they elaborated, or pushed even further, certain styles and cinema genres.



Pierre-William Glenn's Master Class in 2019

On Thursday, director Vincent Bonnay and Eyak language specialist Guillaume Leduey kick-off the Master Class series with their inspirational story and film Sur le bout de la langue followed by their discussion on how Passions for Cinema and Languages Can Change Peoples' Lives. General Director of the CST (Commission Supérieure Technique de l'Image et du Son), the High Commission for Image and Sound Technologies in Cinema, Baptiste Heynemann introduces us to ecological decisions film producers and production companies must make in face of climate change and how recommendations by an European initiative called EcoProd guides their decision-making process. Indeed, Green Production is No Fiction! The life of director Claude Pinoteau is comparable to a history of French cinema in itself. Directors Pascal Galopin and David Maltese, accompanied by Karine Pinoteau, present their special Master Class & Screening Claude Pinoteau, par amour du cinema. Music composer Chrisophe Héral will share

his approaches to creating music for different media in *Composing Music for Film vs Video Games: Linear vs Interactive Storytelling.*

On Friday, renowned music composer Armand Amar takes us on his world cultural journey during his Master Class Weaving Influences While Forging a Pure, Personal Musical Language. Celebrated screen and stage actor Philippe Torreton will share his views, thoughts and insights into what being an actor truly involves. This special Master Class & Homage to Philippe Torreton is entitled, "Je dis donc je suis!". And to cap of this year's Master Classes, a special conversation and homage with iconic actress Josiane Balasko is slated. Last year, Master Class attendees learned so much about actor Thierry Lhermitte, his career and his dedication to helping others away from the cameras. This year's Master Class & Homage Breaking Ceilings, Taboos While Splitting Sides: Sacrée Josiane! is guaranteed to be as revealing.

Given the emphasis on music composition in filmmaking weaved

"Festival Master Classes in Richmond are so unique, informative and professional. Nothing even comes close to them anywhere else in the world. What is being done here is truly extraordinary."

- Gilles Porte, director and cinematographer

throughout Master Classes and screenings at the Byrd Theatre, the Festival Directors are honored to welcome author and journalist Elsa Boublil who will ensure exchanges between the delegation and public on this highlighted topic.

Producer at Radio France since the early 2000s, Elsa Boublil hosted the jazz program *Summertime* for six years on France Inter, introducing listeners to new French and international jazz scenes. In Autumn 2015, she launched her new program *Vous avez dit classique?*, a daily broadcast devoted to classical music and jazz. She then joined France Musique to host her



Elsa Boublil

weekly interview program *Musique Émoi*, portraying a well-known French celebrity through her/his musical tastes.

She has authored two books: *Body Blues* published by Iconoclast, and *Le Temps d'apprendre* à *vivre*, published by Plon.

So, mark your calendar, reserve your free seat, grab your simultaneous interpretation headset at the ICA, and then enter into the transformative worlds of cinema.

Support for the Master Classes also comes from our sponsors SACD, CST, ADAMI, SACEM, L'ARP, MEAE-STAFE, Audiens Care, and Rochambeau – The French International School. The Festival acknowledges and thanks Rochambeau School for its partnership to continue offering these special exchanges with professionals in the film industry. Rochambeau School has incorporated the Master Classes and the Festival itself as an integral part of their students' experiences in its cinema and theater programs.

MASTER CLASS & SCREENING

Passions for Cinema and Languages Can Change Peoples' Lives:

Sur le bout de la langue

With director Vincent Bonnay and inspirational Eyak language speaker & specialist Guillaume Leduey Thursday, March 26 9 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

FREE and open to the public

A Special Master Class and Screening In Anticipation of the 4th Pocahontas Reframed: Native American Storytellers Film Festival, November 20-22, 2020

POCAHONTAS REFRAMED
"STORYTELLERS"
FILM FESTIVAL

"AwA'ahdah", "iishuh", "ilah qe'xleh". These forgotten words almost lost all of their meaning, even to their own people. In Alaska, the Eyak language died in 2008.

Is there life after death? The Eyak people want to believe so. The last native speaker, Marie Smith Jones, had a dream before she died: someone from far away would come to help her people. Two years later, hope, personified as Guillaume Leduey, a 21-year-old Frenchman, arrived by ferry. Passionate about native languages since his early teens, he set foot in Alaska, the land of a people whom he had learned the language, alone, in his hometown of Le Havre, France.

Today, Native Americans want to take back what is theirs, including their languages, and proudly claim who they are. Standing on their side, Guillaume is the living proof that everything is possible: if he has learned Eyak, so can they. Vincent Bonnay spent six years filming the incredible story of Guillaume Leduey and his trips and interactions with the Eyak community.

Immediately following this special screening of *Sur le bout de la langue* (*On the Tip of the Tongue*), Vincent and Guillaume will share more details about cinema, Eyak language revival, and about how passions for cinema and for languages truly change peoples' lives.

Vincent Bonnay

Vincent is a journalist, director of photography and filmmaker. After graduating with a bachelor degree and working freelance in Paris, his appetite for new horizons brought him to New York where he worked for numerous French and international television channels for three years. In October 2018, he decided to move to Canada.

Guillaume Leduey

At the young age of thirteen, Guillaume discovered the Eyak people and language by reading an online encyclopedia. Knowing only one speaker of Eyak was left, he started dedicating time to learn this far away indigenous language because he refused to see it disappear. Eight years later, Guillaume is one of two specialists (the other was



the late Dr. Michael Krauss) of Eyak language on Earth. Guillaume received a scholarship from the University of Fairbanks to write an Eyak-to-English dictionary... from his home in Le Havre, France. He writes eight hours a day, with passion, trying to handle the time difference between France and Alaska. This massive and critical work on Eyak language and expressions, originally started by Michael Krauss, counts more than 3,500 pages so far.

ALL AUDIENCES

cinematographer Vincent Bonnay screenwriter Vincent Bonnay music composers Rougge, David Lynn Grimes producer Vincent Bonnay starring Guillaume Leduey and the Eyak community running time 52 min



MASTER CLASS

Green Production is No Fiction!

With General Director of the CST Baptiste Heynemann Thursday, March 26 10:30 a.m.-12 a.m.

FREE and open to the public

Given the crucial importance for all industries, companies and citizens to be engaged in the critical issues facing world climate change, cinema production is no exception. Just in the last few years, sustainability during film shooting and postproduction has become an important component for film producers to take into consideration when budgeting and planning a film project. Once the United Nations established seventeen sustainable development goals to improve our climate, environment and world, the audiovisual sector jumped in to find solutions not only to comply with the UN targeted goals but also to directly lower film & audio-visual productions' environmental impact.

During his Master class, Baptiste Heynemann will illustrate how the film industry is approaching this issue. The *Ecoprod initiative*, created in 2009, groups together the synergies of institutions, local and national authorities, production companies, technicians and service providers. Ecoprod establishes and promotes best green and sustainability practices in film production and has created several tools used throughout the entire profession.

Thanks to Ecoprod's engagement in Green Film Shooting, a European initiative, these advocated best practices are now widespread all throughout Europe. Filmmakers, students in film production classes, and all citizens concerned about the environment will want to come to take notes.

Baptiste Heynemann

is the General Director of the CST (Commission Supérieure Technique de l'Image et du Son), the High Commission for Image and Sound Technologies in Cinema, since November 2018. Before joining the direction of the CST, Baptiste worked during the previous fifteen years at the CNC (Centre National du Cinéma et de l'Image Animée), French Film Board. The last eight of those years, he directed the unit "Innovation and



Baptiste Heynemann Photo by Lionel de Sousa

Competitivity". In association with Film France, he also implemented the Tax Rebate for International Productions, voted by French Parliament in 2008.

The CST was the first association ever created for French film and audio-visual technicians. The CST, founded in 1944, defends artist-technicians' collective work and promotes technical excellence, thereby ensuring the creation and achievement of an artistic team's vision. The CST continues to respect this vision and its mission and serves as the guarantee of translating artists' images, sounds and dreams onto the big screen for enjoyment by all spectators. Today, the CST counts more than 600 professional artist-technicians from the French film industry in its membership and receives most of its financing from the CNC.

The CST's actions includes the organization of specific technical work groups which define proper professional protocols, which then evolve into recommended practices often adopted as the standards throughout the profession. Furthermore, the CST also works closely with cinemas that wish to offer their clients the optimum cinematic experience. In this capacity, the CST oversees the technical management of several renowned festivals, including the

Cannes Film Festival, and the Richmond French Film Festival.





www.ecoprod.com



MASTER CLASS, HOMAGE & SCREENING

Darelite 52 et Terra Cinéma



Claude Pinoteau, par amour du cinéma

With directors, cinematographers, screenwriters Pascal Galopin and David Maltese in the presence of Karine Pinoteau Thursday, March 26 1:00 p.m.- 2:30 p.m.

FREE and open to the public



films, one documentary and four short films, without counting his participation as screenwriter on numerous films.

As a director, Claude Pinoteau demonstrated his gift for "discovering" and revealing on screen "promising" new actors and actresses.

He is responsible for having contributed directly to some very distinguished careers. Sophie Marceau, Isabelle Adjani, Isabelle Huppert, Elizabeth Bourgine, Géraldine Pailhas, Béatrice Agenin, Brigitte Fossey, Vincent Lindon, Charles Berling, Vincent Perez, and so many others started under the leadership of Claude or pursued successful careers thanks to him.

Through the remarkable filmmaking of Pascal Galopin and David Maltese in their documentary *Claude Pinoteau*, *par amour du cinéma*, one has the impression that Claude is talking to us, offering us that Master Class he wished to give here in 2012.

Following this special screening, Pascal Galopin and David Maltese will share more stories from their years of friendship with Claude. They will be joined by Karine Pinoteau, daughter of Claude & Birte



Claude Pinoteau with actress Angie Dickinson



Claude Pinoteau with actor Lino Ventura

Pinoteau. The discussions promise to be rich and full of insights given the fact that many members of the French delegation at this year's Festival knew or worked with Claude. This Master Class is a celebration of the life and career of our friend, a true artisan of cinema, Claude Pinoteau.

ALL AUDIENCES

directors Pascal Galopin, David Maltese cinematographers Pascal Galopin, David Maltese, Romain Petit

screenwriters Pascal Galopin, David Maltese

music composers Lucas Albert, Thierry Desseaux, Julien Billeaud

producers Pascal Galopin, David Maltese

starring Charles Berling, Elizabeth Bourgine, Elie Chouraqui, Vladimir Cosma, Jean-Loup Dabadie, Brigitte Fossey, Costa Gavras, Alexandra Gonin, Rémy Julienne, Claude Lelouch, Sophie Marceau, Géraldine Pailhas, Jack Pinoteau, Nicolas Seydoux, Danièle Thompson, Carole Weisweiller, Aurélien Wiik, Marie-Josèphe Yoyotte

running time 1h 05min

Claude Pinoteau passed away on October 5th, 2012 in Neuilly-sur-Seine, at the age of 87. Before falling ill. he planned to return to Richmond to offer us a Master Class tracing his remarkable career as a filmmaker. In 1999, during the 7th French Film Festival, Claude presented one of his feature films Les Palmes de M. Schutz starring Isabelle Huppert and Charles Berling. Following that screening in the Byrd Theatre, the public quickly learned that Claude was not only a remarkable filmmaker but also such an integral part to so many aspects of the history of French cinema itself. His career began well before the 1960s. He climbed up, rung by rung, the career ladder (messenger, props man, assistant, stage manager, technical adviser, script supervisor/ writer and even extra and a brief stint as an actor) before becoming a director himself. Indeed, he worked as first assistant to some of the most revered names in cinema: Jean Cocteau, Max Ophüls, Jean-Pierre Melville, Henri Verneuil, Jean Giono, Gilles Grangier, René Clément, René Clair, Claude Lelouch, or Abel Gance, without forgetting his brother, Jack Pinoteau.

In his own right, Claude leaves behind a filmography composed of eleven feature

MASTER CLASS

Composing Music for Film vs Video Games: Linear vs Interactive Storytelling

With film, video game and virtual reality music composer, Christophe Héral Thursday, March 26 2:30 p.m.- 4:00 p.m. FREE and open to the public

Christophe Héral's Master Class will explore the differences in approaching music composition for two distinctive narrations: music for film and music for video games. With demonstrations illustrating examples of his work, Christophe will also focus on a music composer's relationships with sounds: those used in feature films contrasted to sounds found in video games productions.

Christophe Héra

Christophe Héral's grandfathers were both knock-your-socks-off musicians. The first, a baritone, sang at the Montpellier Opera. The second, a gypsy, played the Mandolin.

After studying composition and harmony, Christophe Héral began working in 1984 on short and feature-length animation films. His filmography includes *Petite jeune fille dans Paris* directed by Lys Flowerday, *La Queue de la souris* by Benjamin Renner, *La Douce* by Anne Larricq, *Tigres à la queue leu leu* by Benoit Chieux, and *Peripheria* by David Coquart-Dassault, *Eleonore's Secret* by Dominique Monfery, and *Blackmor Island* by Jean François Laquionie

When he met Michel Ancel, Christophe became involved in *Beyond Good & Evil*, a video game produced by Ubisoft. The game's music received numerous international awards. Then he composed for *Tintin and the Secret of the Unicorn* in 2011, taken from the film directed by Steven Spielberg and many other music projects for video games were soon to follow: *Rayman Origin's*; *Rayman Legends* released in 2013 and winner of Best Music at the Paris Game Awards; and just recently, *Rayman Mini* in 2019, for Apple Arcade.

Christophe Héral also composed *La Contrebasse voyageuse*, a project by Thierry Petit, bass musician at the Opéra Orchestre National of Montpellier. It is a symphonic poem performed internationally in cities such as Montpellier, Beirut, Cairo, and Thessaloniki

He is currently working on *Wild*, a video game for Sony, produced by Michel Ancel, and on *BGE2* for Ubisoft.

The new feature animation Le Voyage du Prince by Jean-François



Laguionie and Xavier Picard for which Christophe Héral composed the soundtrack was just released in France in December 2019.

Christophe Héral will present the feature-length animation Le Voyage du Prince at 10:10am on Saturday in the Byrd Theatre. (see page 21).









Master Class 4

MASTER CLASS & HOMAGE

Music Composer Armand Amar: Weaving Influences While Forging a Pure, Personal Musical Language

With music composer Armand Amar Friday, March 27 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. FREE and open to the public

The first part of my Master Class will be devoted to the relationship between film director and music composer, and to the challenges faced by these two creators during their collaboration. How to combine the wishes of the director without betraying your own aspirations as music composer? How to listen, how to understand what the director wants. . . or does not want?

The second part of my presentation and discussion will focus on the richness, breadth and scope of the instruments and voices of our diverse world, their integration and utilization in orchestration without sounding exotic or orientalist.

Armand Amar

French of Moroccan origin (although born in Jerusalem), Armand Amar spent his childhood in Morocco. Attracted by the sounds of instruments considered exotic at the time, the pull of that "world apart" soon fascinated him. Autodidact, he was constantly searching for new experiences. He learned how to play *tablas*, discovered the *zarb* and *congas*, and studied under various masters of traditional and classical music.

Armand's discovery of dance in 1976 was another decisive moment. Suddenly what he had been looking for was right there in front of him – a direct relationship to music, the power to improvise freely. Two adventures broadened his scope even further: his involvement in Patrice Chéreau's Actors' School and his teaching at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et de Danse de Paris. Since then, he has worked with various choreographers from different branches of contemporary dance.

The musical and spiritual influences at play show through in his film scores. Just to mention a few: AMEN (2000), Le Couperet (2005) and all the following films by Costa-Gavras; The Concert (winner of the César /Best Soundtrack of the Year Award 2009), Live and Become (2006), L'Histoire de l'amour (2016) by Radu Mihaileanu; Indigènes (2006), by Rachid Bouchareb; Tu seras mon fils (2011) by Gilles Legrand; Home (2009), Planète Océans (2012) and Human (2015) by Yann Arthus-Bertrand. He composed the scores for the three Belle and Sebastien films. He received the Amanda Award/Best soundtrack of the Year for the music of the Norwegian director



Armand Amar Photo by Françoise Jacquot

Erik Poppe's movie *A Thousand Times Goodnight*. He recently wrote the music for Gilles de Maîstre's *Mia et le lion blanc*, Nicolas Vanier's *Donne-moi des ailes* and Emmanuel Hamon's *Exfiltrés* (2019). In 2020, a new film by Yann Arthus-Bertrand with a score by Armand Amar will be released: *Woman*.

In 1994, he co-founded with Alain Weber and the assistance of Peter Gabriel the record label Long Distance for world music. His own work is released through Naïve, Long Distance, Universal, Sony and Warner

In June 2011, Armand Amar created, at the Festival of World Sacred Music, in Fès, Morocco, his first "oratorio mundi" named Leyla & Majnun, based on the eponymous legend. He uses a cast of forty singers and musicians from all over the world. The premiere performance was at Salle Pleyel, in Paris, and in February 2020 in Moscow at the Tchaikovsky Concert Hall.

Reserve Seat Here



In the Byrd Theatre, on Friday, March 27 at 4:00 p.m., Armand Amar with director Emmanuel Hamon will present their film *Exfiltrés*, and on Saturday, March 28 at 12:05 p.m. he will present *Donne-moi des ailes* by Nicolas Vanier. (see pages 17 and 22).



MASTER CLASS & HOMAGE

« Je DIS* donc je suis! » "I SAY* therefore I am!"

With actor and author Philippe Torreton Friday, March 27 1:00-2:30 p.m.

FREE and open to the public

Does an actor play? Is dramatic art the art of acting or the art of "saying"?

Does interpreting mean incarnating a character, or is it the art and conditions of creating an illusion of a character?

And in that case, from where does this desire to create this illusion come?

Since the dawn of humanity, it seems that men have sought to represent animals on the walls of their caves. We do not yet know the ultimate purpose of these drawings but their precision indicates a rigorous know-how, and the absence of smudges or erasures proved a masterful dexterity. Certain animal-head overlays presumably indicate in all likelihood the desire to recreate movement and to have been intended to interact with the flickering of a flame.

(Have the Lumière brothers really invented cinema?)

The mere presence of this cave-art, however, allows us to affirm that men have always felt a need to create the conditions for the emergence of reality. Would the actor then simply be the Darwinian evolution of this need for illustration and illusion of reality? Could it be the beating heart of an equally vital function that is just as essential for humanity as breathing, eating, drinking and reproducing?

A vital function that would be called culture?

Philippe Torreton

*From the verb DIRE in French which can be translated by "to say", but also by "to enunciate", "to voice", "to interpret" from within oneself, from within one's being.

Philippe Torreton

Philippe Torreton entered the prestigious Comédie Française, at the age of 25. For eight years, he covered most of the distinguished repertoire of the Comédie Française: Sophocles, Shakespeare, Molière, Beaumarchais, Goldoni, Musset, Balzac, Strindberg, Brecht, Sartre, Vinaver, rapidly progressing into interpreting the most eminent leading parts, Scapin, Tartuffe, George Dandin, and others.

In parallel to his theatre career, his film career began in 1991 with a small part in French director Claude Pinoteau's movie *La Neige et le Feu*. However, drawing the attention of French film director Bertrand Tavernier marks the beginning of a collaboration on three films for which he assumed the leading parts: *L.627* (1992), *Capitaine Conan* (for which he was awarded the *César* for Best actor in 1997) and *Ça commence aujourd'hui* (*Prix Lumière* for Best Actor, 2000).

His parting from the Comédie Française in 1999 marked an acceleration of two parallel and equally prolific and successful careers, illustrated by major theatrical performances as well as cinematographic achievements.

Of the forty-plus roles he has interpreted on stage, spectators will forever remember his performances in Shakespeare's *Henri V* (1999), *Richard III* (2005-6), *Hamlet* (2011-12), Molière's *Dom Juan* (2007-8, a play which he also directed), Edmond Rostand's *Cyrano de Bergerac* (2013, 2014, 2016) for which he received the 2014 *Molière* (award recognizing the Best Theater Actor of the Year), Fabrice Melquiot's *J'ai pris mon père sur mes épaules* (2019) and two Berthold Brecht plays, *La Resistible Ascension d'Artuto Ui*



Philippe Torreton

(2016-2017) and La Vie de Galilée (2019-2020).

During the 25th Festival anniversary, our audience had the privilege to appreciate his presence on stage and theatrical talent with the performance of *Mec!*, his live interpretation of selected works of poet Allain Leprest accompanied by percussionist Edouard Perraud.

As for his parallel cinematic career, in addition to the films previously cited, our audience will recall *Monsieur N*. (2002), *L'Équipier* (2004), *Jean de la Fontaine, le défi* (2006), *Ulzhan* (2008), *Présumé Coupable* (2011), *L'Ordre et la Morale* (2011), *La Pièce manquante, Qui a tué Jaurès* ? (2014), *Les Enfants de la chance* (2016).

Philippe Torreton is also the author of seven books. Three are deep explorations of his experience in acting, his confrontations with major texts he had the privilege and talent to interpret: *Comme si c'etait moi* (2004); *Petit lexique amoureux du théâtre* (2009); *Thank you Shakespeare*! (2016). Two are more personal, giving a voice to two important family members: his grandmother, *Mémé* (2014), his father, *Jacques à la guerre* (2018).

A defender of our planet, he is also a politically and socially committed spoke-person as found in his books *Cher François: lettres ouvertes à toi, Président* (2015), *Nous qui sommes devenus le mauvais temps* (2018), as well as in his numerous newspaper articles, TV and radio interviews.

At this year's Festival, Philippe Torreton will present two new features and two new short films in the Byrd Theatre.

On Saturday, March 28 at 5:30 p.m., he will present *Trois jours et*

une vie by Nicolas Boukhrief. On Sunday, March 29 at 1:00 p.m. and with director Laurent Heynemann and film editor Marion Monestier he will present Je ne rêve que de vous. Philippe will present with director Thierry Machard En sortir, and with director Guillaume de Sardes Genet à Tanger during the Short Film Series of the Festival. (see pages 24, 28, 33 and 36)



MASTER CLASS & HOMAGE

Breaking Ceilings, Taboos While Splitting Sides: Sacrée Josiane!

With actress, director and author Josiane Balasko Friday, March 27 2:30-4:00 p.m.

FREE and open to the public

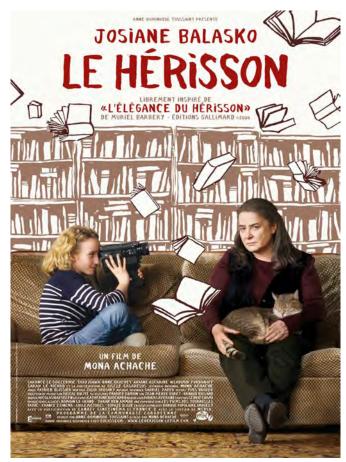


Josiane playing guitar Photo from Jean-Loup Hubert's *La Smala*

Who does not know Josiane Balasko? Her career and life have touched so many aspects of French culture, arts and society. Josiane is a familiar face here in Richmond. Regulars of our annual French Film Festival have seen her several times on the screen in the Byrd Theatre: *Trop belle pour toi* (for which she received the *César* for Best Actress), *Un crime au paradis, J'ai vu tuer Ben Barka, Françoise Dolto, La vie est à nous!, L'Auberge rouge, Musée haut, musée bas, Cliente* (which she directed, as well as wrote the screenplay and novel), *Le Hérisson, Sport de filles, Mes héros, Demi-sœur* (screenwriter and director too), as well as *Arrête ton cinéma*!

In comedies, dramas, docu-fictions...she has moved you. She made you cry during her stunning performance in *Le Hérisson*. Yet above it all, Josiane has always made you laugh. Sometimes a mirthless laughter, because she knows marvelously well how to combine comedy and gravity, whether in films like *Gazon maudit* (another she wrote and directed; nominated for the *Oscar* of Best Foreign film), the first film that dared to show female homosexuality as a striking love story, and to humorously, but severely challenge male patronization of women. Another example of the Balasko panache is *Mes héros*, which, through great sensitivity and humor, deals with racial prejudice due to one's unfamiliarity with the other.

But what you and other fans of Josiane Balasko may not be aware of is the diversity and breadth of her contributions to film and theatrical arts. She has acted in over 93 films, of which she was often the director, screenwriter, and producer. She received the 2000 Honorary César (French Oscar) for her entire career, which she has cheerfully pursued with two to four films per year, and still going strong. She has also performed in more than twenty plays, most of which she wrote herself, adapted, and directed. She is also an author of novels, essays, and a collection of short stories.



Poster of Le Hérisson

She does not hesitate to put her notoriety, her spunk and wit at the service of social causes and battles against injustices. And yes, she also even makes music. In 2018, she recorded a song with rapper Mac Tyer for his album *C'est la street mon pote*. She also sung *La Vie en rose* in the feature *Ruby Blue* by director Jan Dunn and *Le Dernier Twist* in Jean-Loup Hubert's film *La Smala*, for which she was also the co-screenwriter.

We are pleased to welcome Josiane Balasko for a Master Class / Tribute to her career. She will also present two of her latest films, which are part of the Festival program: L'Esprit de famille by Eric Besnard, and Grâce à Dieu by Francois Ozon. Two new films representative of her cheeky but scolding humor for the former, gravity for the latter. Josiane Balasko will also present on Friday evening a special "Director's Cut" screening of her film Gazon maudit (the full version, not the version distributed in the US under the title French Twist).

At this year's Festival, Josiane Balasko will present three films in the Byrd Theatre. On Friday, March 27 at 8:00 p.m., she will present *Gazon maudit*. On Saturday, March 28 at 2:40 p.m., Josiane will present *L'Esprit de famille* by Eric Besnard, and on Sunday, March 29 at 3:20 p.m. *Grâce à Dieu* by François Ozon. (see pages 19, 23 and 29)



On l'appelait Roda [His Name was Roda]

documentary

French director and cinematographer Charlotte Silvera presents On l'appelait Roda



ALL AUDIENCES

director Charlotte Silvera

cinematographers Olivier Avellana, David Serfati, Nicolas Fauvel, Joachim de Leon Radu, Antoine Rivière, Sam Evans, Thibaut Ras, Charlotte Silvera

producer Florence Muracciole

starring Etienne Roda-Gil, Julien Clerc, Vanessa Paradis, Roger Waters, Louis Bertignac, Marianne Faithfull, Jean-Pierre Bourtayre

running time 1h 37min





Roger Waters (Pink Floyd)



Vanessa Paradis



English synopsis

Julien Clerc, Claude François, Pascal Obispo, Sophie Marceau, Johnny Hallyday, Juliette Gréco, Vanessa Paradis, Barbara, Mort Schuman, Julio Iglesias, France Gall, Angelo Branduardi, Alain Chamfort, Françoise Hardy, Christophe, Catherine Lara, Louis Bertignac. . . and Roger Waters!

What do those world famous artists have in common?

For one, they brought the French language to tempos and rhythms ranging from rock to medieval music, from mambo to heady melodies on which we still dance today. Above all, what they have in common is a remarkable songwriter who wrote for each and every one of them: Etienne Roda-Gil.

This documentary pays tribute to the creativity of this "industrial poet" as he liked to be called, to this incredible visionary and witness of his time, thanks to the interviews led by Charlotte Silvera, brutally interrupted by the disappearance of "Roda" on May 28, 2004. But others have taken over: composers, performers and those close to Roda to evoke the considerable place he held in the French song sphere, and the luminous path they traveled on together.

"There are songs that help to live and songs that help to die."

E. Roda-Gil

Synopsis en français

Qu'ont en commun des artistes devenus mondialement connus, emportant la langue française sur des tempos et des rythmes allant du rock à la musique médiévale en passant par le mambo ou des mélodies entêtantes sur lesquelles nous dansons toujours?

Julien Clerc, Claude François, Pascal Obispo, Sophie Marceau, Johnny Hallyday, Juliette Gréco, Vanessa Paradis, Barbara, Mort Schuman, Julio Iglesias, France Gall, Angelo Branduardi, Alain Chamfort, Françoise Hardy, Christophe, Catherine Lara, Louis Bertignac... ou encore Roger Waters!

Qu'ont-ils donc en commun ?

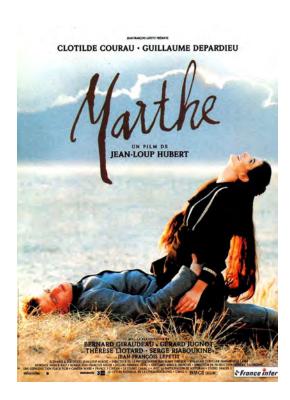
Une plume qui écrivait pour chacun d'eux : celle d'Etienne Roda-Gil. Le documentaire rend hommage à la créativité de ce « poète industriel » comme il aimait à se nommer et à l'incroyable visionnaire et témoin de son temps grâce aux entretiens menés par Charlotte Silvera, brutalement interrompus par la disparition de Roda-Gil le 28 mai 2004. Mais d'autres ont pris le relais : compositeurs, interprètes et proches de Roda pour évoquer la place considérable qu'il a tenue dans la chanson française et le chemin lumineux qu'ils ont parcouru ensemble.

« Il y a des chansons qui aident à vivre et des chansons qui aident à mourir. » E. Roda-Gil

Marthe ou la Promesse du jour [Marthe]

feature

French director and screenwriter Jean-Loup Hubert and **VCU English Department Chair** Dr. Catherine Ingrassia present Marthe ou la Promesse du jour



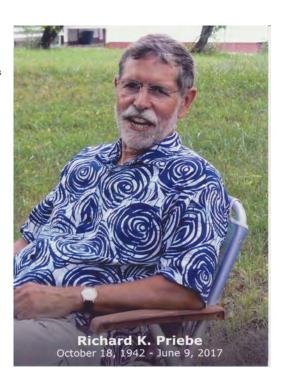
MATURE AUDIENCE director Jean-Loup Hubert cinematographer Jean-Marie Dreujou screenwriter Jean-Loup Hubert costume designer Annick François producer Jean-François Lepetit starring Clotilde Courau, Guillaume Depardieu, Bernard Giraudeau, Thérèse Liotard, Gérard Jugnot, Serge Riaboukine, Loïc Corbery, Charlotte Faivre running time 2h 01min



College of Humanities and Sciences

Special 35mm screening in memory of Dr. Richard K. Priebe sponsored by his colleagues from the **VCU English Department**

Save the date of April 16th for a special dinner paired with rare bottles of wine from Dr. Richard K. Priebe's cellar donated to the Festival. Contact Secco Wine Bar (seccowinebar.com) for dinner tickets and more information.



English synopsis

After being wounded somewhere in the Argonne trenches in autumn 1915. Simon and a handful of his companions are transferred to a hospital behind the lines. A world away from the front. A place out of time, a peninsula of sand and rock caught between sky and sea. A peaceful almost unreal world for these soldiers who have returned from the abyss that almost devoured them. . . Here, wounds heal and the men rediscover life, desire and dreams. A few weeks or months of convalescence before returning to the war. A respite, a parenthesis in time where everything is exaggerated and absolute in an attempt to escape death's terrifying clutches. Simon meets Marthe and loves her beyond every thing. He is alive.

Synopsis en français

Blessés dans les tranchées quelque part en Argonne au début de l'automne 1915, Simon et quelques-uns de ses compagnons sont transférés vers un hôpital de l'arrière. Très loin du front. Un endroit hors du monde, une presqu'île de sable et de rochers échouée entre ciel et mer. Un univers apaisé, presqu'irréel à ces soldats revenus d'un gouffre où tous pensaient être engloutis... lci les blessures se referment et les hommes renaissent à la vie, à leurs désirs, à leurs rêves. Le temps d'une convalescence de quelques semaines, de quelques mois, avant que la plupart d'entre eux retournent dans la guerre. Un répit, une parenthèse de temps où tout veut s'exacerber, se vivre dans l'absolu, s'échapper du vertige de la mort. Simon rencontre Marthe et l'aime ainsi, au-delà de toutes choses. Il vit.

À 2 heures de Paris [Two Hours From Paris]

feature

French director, screenwriter, and producer Virginie Verrier presents À 2 heures de Paris



PARENTAL DISCRETION

director Virginie Verrier

cinematographer Gérôme Saldès

screenwriters Virginie Verrier, Shirley Bousquet

music composers Pierre-Antoine Combard, Colin Johnco, Stanislas Grimbert

producer Virginie Verrier

starring Erika Sainte, Fred Testot, Thierry Frémont, Frédéric Pierrot, Fanny Cottençon, Valérie Mairesse, Matilda Marty, Shirley Bousquet

running time 1h 20min







English synopsis

Sidonie, a young airline stewardess, raises alone her 15 year old daughter, Lolo, born of unknown father. In an effort to satisfy Lolo's growing curiosity as to her origins, Sidonie returns with Lolo to her native region, the Somme estuary, in search of Lolo's potential biological father. Could he be the melancholic mechanic, the artist/painter jaded playboy, the former local football champion, the nightclub owner, the womanizing country doctor? Five men, five memories, five confrontations with her past.

Synopsis en français

Sidonie, une jeune hôtesse de l'air d'une trentaine d'années, élève seule sa fille de 15 ans, Lolo, née de père inconnu. Pour satisfaire la curiosité grandissante de l'ado sur ses origines, Sidonie l'embarque dans sa région natale, en Baie de Somme, à la recherche du père potentiel. Serait-il le garagiste mélancolique, l'artiste/peintre playboy décati, l'ancienne gloire du foot local, le patron de boîte de nuit ou le médecin de campagne volage ? Cinq hommes, cinq souvenirs, cinq confrontations avec son passé.

Exfiltrés [Escape from Raqqa]

feature

French director Emmanuel Hamon and French music composer Armand Amar present Exfiltrés



ALL AUDIENCES

running time 1h 43min

director Emmanuel Hamon
cinematographer Thomas Bataille
screenwriter Benjamin Dupas
music composer Armand Amar
costume designer Anne-Sophie Gledhill
producers Frédéric Brillion,
Gilles Legrand
starring Swann Arlaud, Finnegan Oldfield,
Jisca Kalvanda, Charles Berling,
Kassem Al Khoja



English synopsis

Unbeknown to her husband Sylvain, Faustine leaves Paris with her five year old son to join ISIS in Syria. But she realizes soon after reaching Raqqa the hell she has put herself into. Sylvain quickly understands that the French services are powerless to help, and plans with a few friends of his, a high risk exfiltration operation to save his wife and son.

Synopsis en français

À l'insu de son mari Sylvain, Faustine quitte Paris avec son fils de cinq ans pour rejoindre Daech en Syrie. Mais peu après avoir atteint Raqqa, elle réalise l'enfer dans lequel elle s'est jetée. Sylvain comprend rapidement que les services français ne peuvent pas l'aider et planifie alors avec quelques amis une opération d'exfiltration à haut risque pour sauver sa femme et son fils.



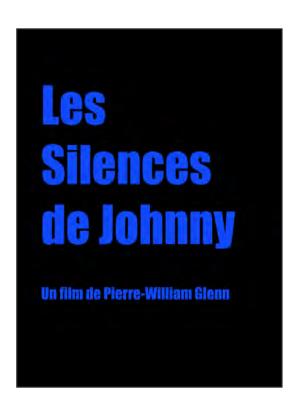
This screening is associated with music composer Armand Amar's Free Master Class taking place on Friday, March 27 at 10am in VCU's Institute for Contemporary Art (see page 11).

Les Silences de Johnny [Johnny's Silences]

documentary

French screenwriter & director Pierre-William Glenn and French producer Viviane Mikhalkov present

Les Silences de Johnny



ALL AUDIENCES

director Pierre-William Glenn cinematographer Nara Kéo Kosal screenwriter Pierre-William Glenn music composer Rurik Sallé producers Viviane Mikhalkov & Les Films du Phoenix

starring Johnny Hallyday, Claude Lelouch, Patrice Leconte, Lætitia Masson, Jean-François Stévenin, Dominic Besnehard, and Jean-Luc Godard

running time 55min

English synopsis

"Johnny's Silences is about Johnny Hallyday's cinematic 'missed vocation' and my 30-year long, cinematic, friendly relationship with the idol since 1985."

Pierre-William Glenn

Johnny Hallyday sometimes told his family and friends that cinema was his "(only) place of freedom". Through the testimonies of Claude Lelouch, Patrice Leconte, Lætitia Masson, Jean-François Stévenin and Jean-Luc Godard, Pierre-William Glenn, a great cinematographer, director and friend of the actor-singer, looks back on "Johnny Hallyday's 'missed vocation' as a film actor and on [their] cinephilic and close relationship that lasted three decades."

A personal and moving portrait.

Synopsis en français

« Les Silences de Johnny traite de la 'vocation manquée' » cinématographique de Johnny Hallyday et de ma relation cinéphile et amicale d'une durée de 30 ans avec l'idole depuis 1985.»

Pierre-William Glenn

Johnny Hallyday disait parfois à ses proches que le cinéma était son « (seul) endroit de liberté ». À travers les témoignages de Claude Lelouch, de Patrice Leconte, de Lætitia Masson, de Jean-François Stévenin ou de Jean-Luc Godard, Pierre-William Glenn, grand chef-opérateur, réalisateur et ami de l'acteur-chanteur, revient sur « la vocation manquée » cinématographique de Johnny Hallyday et [leur] relation cinéphile et amicale d'une durée de trois décennies. »

Un portrait personnel et émouvant.

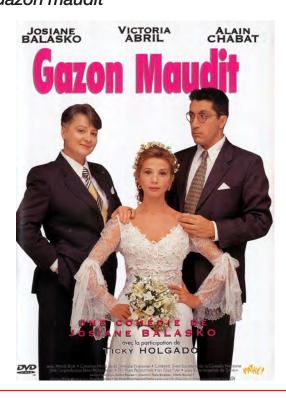


Johnny Hallyday with director Pierre-William Glenn during the shooting of *Terminus*

Gazon Maudit [French Twist]

feature

French director, screenwriter & actress Josiane Balasko, Jean Segner (Diversity Richmond) and Stephanie Merlo (Virginia Pride) present Gazon maudit



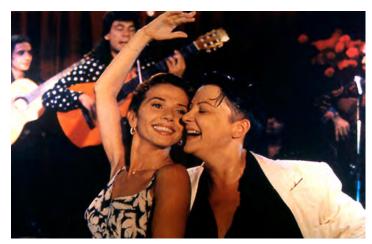
This special 35mm screening of the "Director's Cut" of *Gazon Maudit* is sponsored by Diversity Richmond and Virginia Pride





MATURE AUDIENCE

director Josiane Balasko
cinematographer Gérard de Battista
screenwriter Josiane Balasko
music composer Manuel Malou
costume designer Fabienne Katany
producer Claude Berri
starring Victoria Abril, Alain Chabat,
Josiane Balasko, Ticky Holgado
running time 1h 45min



English synopsis

Laurent is married to Loli. They are an apparently happy couple. Two kids, the happy housewife, him with a good job - a real-estate agent in a town in the south of France - and a number of extramarital affairs that do not affect the harmony of his home life as Loli is obviously quite unaware of his philandering. And then one day this sweet harmony is cracked, for no good reason, when a woman called Marijo has her camping-van break down in front of their house. Laurent and Marijo have only one thing in common, but it is big: they both like women. . .

Synopsis en français

Laurent est marié à Loli, apparemment un couple heureux, deux enfants, la femme à la maison, il a une bonne situation, une agence immobilière dans une ville du Sud, et pas mal d'aventures extra conjugales qui n'affectent en rien l'harmonie du foyer, puisque Loli bien évidemment, ne sait rien de ses frasques. Et puis un jour cette belle harmonie va se lézarder, bêtement, quand une fille nommée Marijo tombe en panne avec son camping-car juste devant leur maison. Laurent et Marijo n'ont qu'un point en commun, mais de taille : ils aiment tous les deux les femmes...



This screening is associated with actress Josiane Balasko's Free Master Class taking place on Friday, March 27 at 2:30pm in VCU's Institute for Contemporary Art (see page 13).

Un monde plus grand [A Bigger World]

feature



ALL AUDIENCES

director Fabienne Berthaud cinematographer Nathalie Durand screenwriters Fabienne Berthaud, Claire Barré based on the book *Mon initiation chez les*

music composer Valentin Hadjadj costume designer Mimi Lempicka

chamanes by Corine Sombrun

producers Carole Scotta, Christine Palluel, Barbara Letellier

starring Cécile de France, Narantsetseg Dash, Tserendarizav Dashnyam, Ludivine Sagnier, Arieh Worthalter

running time 1h 40min



English synopsis

Gone to Mongolia, living within a reindeer herder community, to record traditional songs, Corine thought she could get over the death of Paul, the love of her life. But her meeting with the shaman Oyun up-ends her plans. Oyun proclaims that Corine has received a rare gift and that she needs to be trained in shamanic traditions. Once back in France, she can no longer ignore the inner calling as it becomes more and more pressing. She must return to Mongolia to begin her initiation . . . and discover a bigger world.

Synopsis en français

Partie en Mongolie chez des éleveurs de rennes pour enregistrer des chants traditionnels, Corine pensait pouvoir surmonter la mort de Paul, son grand amour. Mais sa rencontre avec la chamane Oyun bouleverse son voyage. Elle lui annonce qu'elle a reçu un don rare et doit être formée aux traditions chamaniques. De retour en France, elle ne peut

refuser ce qui s'impose désormais à elle : elle doit repartir pour commencer son initiation... et découvrir un monde plus grand.

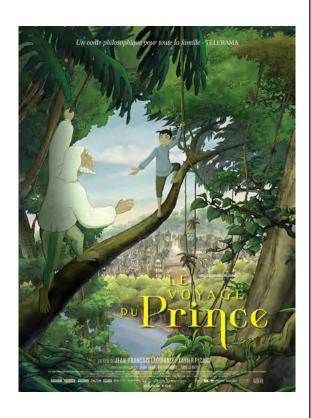




Le Voyage du Prince [The Prince's Voyage]

feature animation

French music composer Christophe Héral presents Le Voyage du Prince



ALL AUDIENCES

directors Jean-François Laguionie, Xavier Picard

screenwriters Jean-François Laguionie, Anik Le Ray

music composer Christophe Héral producers Armelle Glorennec, Eric Jacquot

starring Enrico di Giovanni, Thomas Sagols, Gabriel le Doze, Marie-Madeleine Burguet-Le Doze

running time 1h 16 min





English synopsis

An old Prince washes up on an unknown shore. Injured and lost, he is found by 12 year-old Tom, and taken in by his parents, a couple of dissident scientists who dared to believe in the existence of other civilisations. With Tom's help, the Prince discovers with enthusiasm and fascination a society he knows nothing about, although static and fossilized. Meanwhile, Tom's parents dream of convincing the Academy that their rejected theory was indeed correct. . .

Synopsis en français

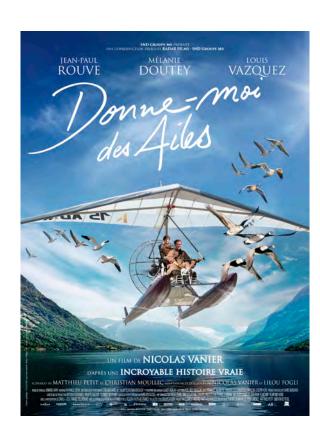
Un vieux Prince échoue sur un rivage inconnu. Blessé et perdu, il est retrouvé par le jeune Tom et recueilli par ses parents, deux chercheurs dissidents qui ont osé croire à l'existence d'autres peuples... Le Prince, guidé par son ami Tom, découvre avec enthousiasme et fascination cette société pourtant figée et sclérosée. Pendant ce temps, le couple de chercheurs rêve de convaincre l'Académie de la véracité de leur thèse auparavant rejetée...

This screening is associated with music composer Christophe Héral's Free Master Class taking place on Thursday, March 26 at 2:30pm in VCU's Institute for Contemporary Art (see page 10).

Donne-moi des ailes [Spread Your Wings]

feature

Music composer Armand Amar presents Donne-moi des ailes



ALL AUDIENCES

director Nicolas Vanier

cinematographers Eric Guichard, Laurent Charbonnier

screenwriters Christian Moullec, Matthieu Petit music composer Armand Amar

producers Clément Miserez, Matthieu Warter, Matthieu Petit, Quentin de Revel, Thierry Desmichelle, Rémi Jimenez

starring Jean-Paul Rouve, Mélanie Doutey, Louis Vazquez, Fred Saurel, Lilou Fogli, Grégori Baquet, Dominique Pinon, Ariane Pirié, Philippe Magnan

running time 1h 53min



English synopsis

Christian, a visionary scientist, studies wild geese. For his son, a teenager obsessed with video games, the idea of spending his vacation with his father in the middle of nature is a nightmare. However, father and son will draw closer together around a crazy project: to save an endangered species, thanks to Christian's ultra-light! So begins an incredible and perilous journey. . .

Synopsis en français

Christian, scientifique visionnaire, étudie les oies sauvages. Pour son fils, adolescent obnubilé par les jeux vidéos, l'idée de passer des vacances avec son père en pleine nature est un cauchemar. Pourtant, père et fils vont se rapprocher autour d'un projet fou : sauver une espèce en voie de disparition, grâce à l'ULM de Christian! Commence alors un incroyable et périlleux voyage...

This screening is associated with music composer Armand Amar's Free Master Class taking place on Friday, March 27 at 10am in VCU's Institute for Contemporary Art (see page 11).



L'Esprit de famille [The Father Figure]

feature

French actress
Josiane Balasko and producer
Vincent Roget present
L'Esprit de famille



ALL AUDIENCES

director Eric Besnard
cinematographer Jean-Marie Dreujou
screenwriter Eric Besnard
music composer Christophe Julien
costume designer Fabienne Katany
producers Pierre Forette, Vincent Roget,
Thierry Wong

starring Guillaume de Tonquédec, Josiane Balasko, François Berléand, Isabelle Carré, Jérémy Lopez, Marie-Julie Baup, Jules Gauzelin, Papilonio Tokotuu running time 1h 38 min

English synopsis

Alexandre is once again arguing with his father Jacques. At first glance, he should not, because the latter has just died, but Jacques, or rather his spirit, is there, grumbling at his side. Since Alexandre is the only one to see him and talk to him, his mother, his wife and his brother begin to worry about his strange behavior.

Synopsis en français

Alexandre s'embrouille une nouvelle fois avec son père Jacques. A priori, il ne devrait pas, car ce dernier vient de décéder, mais Jacques, ou plutôt son esprit, est bien là, à râler à ses côtés. Et comme Alexandre est le seul à le voir et donc à lui parler, sa mère, sa femme et son frère commencent à s'inquiéter de son étrange comportement.





This screening is associated with actress Josiane Balasko's Free Master Class taking place on Friday, March 27 at 2:30pm in VCU's Institute for Contemporary Art (see page 13).

Trois jours et une vie [Three Days and a Life]

feature

French actor
Philippe Torreton presents
Trois jours et une vie



ALL AUDIENCES

director Nicolas Boukhrief
cinematographer Manuel Dacosse
screenwriter Pierre Lemaitre
based on the eponym novel by Pierre Lemaitre
music composer Sylvain Goldberg, Rob
costume designer Elise Ancion
producers Sidonie Dumas, Julien Colombani
starring Sandrine Bonnaire, Philippe Torreton,
Charles Berling, Pablo Pauly, Margot Bancilhon,
Jeremy Senez, Dimitri Storoge, Arben Bajraktaraj,
Yoann Blanc, Igor Van Dessel
running time 2h



English synopsis

1999 - Olloy - the Belgian Ardennes.

A child has just disappeared. The suspicion that falls on various villagers, one by one, quickly brings the whole community to a boiling point. But an unexpected, devastating event will suddenly reshuffle the cards of Fate. . .

Synopsis en français

1999 - Olloy - Les Ardennes Belges.

Un enfant vient de disparaître. La suspicion qui touche tour à tour plusieurs villageois porte rapidement la communauté à incandescence. Mais un événement inattendu et dévastateur va soudain venir redistribuer les cartes du destin...



This screening is associated with actor Philippe Torreton's Free Master Class taking place on Friday, March 27 at 1:00pm in VCU's Institute for Contemporary Art (see page 12).

Alice et le Maire [Alice and the Mayor]

feature



ALL AUDIENCES

director Nicolas Pariser cinematographer Sébastien Buchmann screenwriter Nicolas Pariser music composer Benjamin Esdraffo costume designer Anne-Sophie Gledhill producer Emmanuel Agneray

starring Fabrice Luchini, Anaïs Demoustier, Nora Hamzawi, Léonie Simaga, Antoine Reinartz, Maud Wyler, Alexandre Steiger, Pascal Rénéric, Thomas Chabrol, Thomas Rortais

running time 1h 45min





English synopsis

The mayor of Lyon, Paul Théraneau, is in a slump. He has run out of ideas. After thirty years in politics, he feels empty. To solve this problem, his team decides to hire a brilliant young philosopher, Alice Heimann. A dialogue between Alice and the mayor unfolds, bringing them together and shaking their certainties.

Synopsis en français

Le maire de Lyon, Paul Théraneau, va mal. Il n'a plus une seule idée. Après trente ans de vie politique, il se sent complètement vide. Pour remédier à ce problème, on décide de lui adjoindre une jeune et brillante philosophe, Alice Heimann. Un dialogue se noue, qui rapproche Alice et le maire et ébranle leurs certitudes.

Revenir [Back Home]

feature



PARENTAL DISCRETION

director Jessica Palud

cinematographer Victor Seguin

screenwriters Jessica Palud, Philippe Lioret, Diastème freely based on the eponym novel by Serge Joncour

music composers Augustin Charnet, Mathilda Cabezas

costume designer Alexia Crisp-Jones

producers Marielle Duigou, Philippe Lioret

starring Niels Schneider, Adèle Exarchopoulos, Roman Coustère Hachez, Patrick d'Assumçao, Hélène Vincent, Franck Falise, Jonathan Couzinié, Catherine Salée

running time 1h 17min

English synopsis

This is the farm where Thomas was born. This is his family. His brother, who will not be coming back, his mother, who is going down the same road, and his father, who always remains aloof. Thomas gets back to everything he ran away from twelve years ago. Only today, there is Alex, his six-year-old nephew, and Mona, the boy's radiant mother.

Synopsis en français

C'est la ferme où Thomas est né. C'est sa famille. Son frère, qui ne reviendra plus, sa mère, qui est en train de l'imiter, et son père, avec qui rien n'a jamais été possible. Il retrouve tout ce qu'il a fui il y a 12 ans. Mais aujourd'hui il y a Alex, son neveu de six ans, et Mona, sa mère incandescente.





L'Incroyable Histoire du Facteur Cheval [The Ideal Palace]

feature

French film editor
Marion Monestier and Folk Art
Society president
Ann Oppenhimer present
L'Incroyable Histoire
du Facteur Cheval



ALL AUDIENCES

director Nils Tavernier
cinematographer Vincent Gallot
screenwriters Fanny Desmarès,
Nils Tavernier, Laurent Bertoni
film editor Marion Monestier
music composers Baptiste Colleu,
Pierre Colleu
costume designer Thierry Delettre
producer Alexandra Fechner
starring Jacques Gamblin, Laetitia Casta,
Bernard Le Coq, Florence Thomassin,
Natacha Lindinger, Zélie Rixhon,
Delphine Lacheteau
running time 1h 45min



English synopsis

At the end of the 19th century, Joseph Ferdinand Cheval, is a simple postman who travels every day along the Drôme region in France, from village to village. A solitary man, he is distraught when he meets the woman of his life, Philomena. From their union Alice was born. For this child he loves more than anything, Cheval then throws himself into an against-all-odds creative adventure: to build her an incredible palace with his own hands. Never spared by the ordeals of life, this ordinary man will not give up and will devote 33 years of his life to build an extraordinary work of art: "The Ideal Palace".

Synopsis en français

Fin XIXe siècle, Joseph Ferdinand Cheval, est un simple facteur qui parcourt chaque jour la Drôme, de village en village. Solitaire, il est bouleversé quand il rencontre la femme de sa vie, Philomène. De leur union naît Alice. Pour cette enfant qu'il aime plus que tout, Cheval se jette alors dans un pari fou : lui construire de ses propres mains, un incroyable palais. Jamais épargné par les épreuves de la vie, cet homme ordinaire n'abandonnera pas et consacrera 33 ans à bâtir une œuvre extraordinaire : « Le Palais Idéal ».

Screening sponsored by the Folk Art Society of America

P.O. Box 17041 Richmond, VA 23226 To join, visit the website: www.folkart.org





Je ne rêve que de vous [An Irrepressible Woman]

feature

French director & screenwriter Laurent Heynemann, French actor Philippe Torreton and film editor Marion Monestier present Je ne rêve que de vous



ALL AUDIENCES

director Laurent Heynemann cinematographer Jean François Robin screenwriters Laurent Heynemann, Luc Béraud

inspired by the novel *Je vous* **promets de revenir** by Dominique Missika

film editor Marion Monestier

music composer Bruno Coulais

costume designers Édith Vesperini, Stéphane Rollot **producer** Nelly Kafsky

starring Philippe Torreton, Elsa Zylberstein, Hippolyte Girardot, Emilie Dequenne, Mathilda May, Grégori Derangère, Thomas Chabrol, Stéphane Bissot, Jérôme Deschamps

running time 1h 43 min





English synopsis

1940. Jeanne "Janot" Reichenbach leaves behind her husband and son to link her destiny to the tragic fate of the man she has been in love with since her adolescence when he is threatened by the menace of the Vichy regime and its collaboration with the Nazis. She will cross Europe and sacrifice her freedom to marry the man she loves in the Buchenwald camp where he will be locked up. That man is Léon Blum.

Synopsis en français

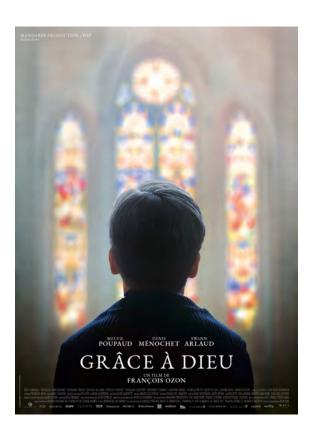
1940. Janot Reichenbach abandonne mari et enfant pour lier son destin à celui tragique de l'homme dont elle est éprise depuis l'adolescence alors qu'il est menacé par l'arrivée au pouvoir du régime de Vichy et sa collaboration avec les Nazis. Elle traversera l'Europe et sacrifiera sa liberté pour épouser l'homme qu'elle aime au camp de Buchenwald où il sera enfermé. Cet homme, c'est Léon Blum.

This screening is associated with actor Philippe Torreton's Free Master Class taking place on Friday, March 27 at 1:00pm in VCU's Institute for Contemporary Art (see page 12).

Grâce à Dieu [By the Grace of God]

feature

French actress Josiane Balasko and Dr. R. Andrew Chesnut present *Grâce à Dieu*



ALL AUDIENCES

director François Ozon
cinematographer Manu Dacosse
screenwriter François Ozon
music composers Evgueni Galperine,
Sacha Galperine
costume designer Pascaline Chavanne

producers Nicolas Altmayer, Éric Altmayer starring Melvil Poupaud, Denis Ménochet, Josiane Balasko, Swann Arlaud, Éric Caravaca, François Marthouret

running time 2h 17min

This screening is sponsored by the Bishop Walter F. Sullivan Chair in Catholic Studies at VCU, Dr. R. Andrew Chesnut





English synopsis

Alexandre lives in Lyon with his wife and children. One day, he learns by chance that the priest who abused him when he was in the boy-scouts is still working with children. He decides to take action and is soon joined by François and Emmanuel, two other victims of this same priest. They band together to lift the burden of silence surrounding their ordeal. But, the repercussions and consequences will leave no one unscathed. Based on a true story, still unfolding in France today.

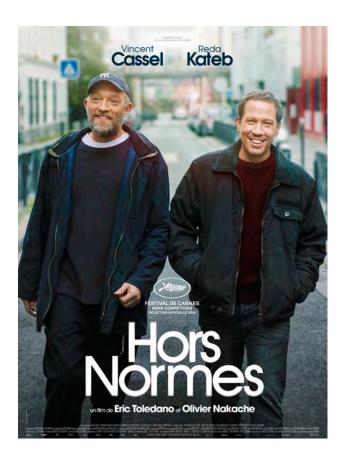
Synopsis en français

Alexandre vit à Lyon avec sa femme et ses enfants. Un jour, il découvre par hasard que le prêtre qui a abusé de lui aux scouts officie toujours auprès d'enfants. Il se lance alors dans un combat, rejoint par François et Emmanuel, également victimes du prêtre, pour « libérer leur parole » sur ce qu'ils ont subi. Mais les répercussions et conséquences ne laisseront personne indemne. Fondé sur une histoire vraie, qui se déroule toujours en France aujourd'hui.

This screening is associated with actress Josiane Balasko's Free Master Class taking place on Friday, March 27 at 2:30 p.m. in VCU's Institute for Contemporary Art (see page 13).

Hors normes [The Specials]

feature



ALL AUDIENCES

directors Olivier Nakache, Éric Toledano
cinematographer Antoine Sanier
screenwriters Olivier Nakache, Éric Toledano
music composer Vincent Piant
costume designer Isabelle Pannetier
producer Nicolas Duval Adassovsky
starring Vincent Cassel, Reda Kateb,
Hélène Vincent
running time 1h 55 min



English synopsis

For twenty years, Bruno and Malik have been living in a world apart, the world of autistic children and teenagers. Their respective associations train youngsters from difficult inter-city neighborhoods to learn how to care for these cases categorized as "extremely complex".

An out of the ordinary partnership for extra-ordinary personalities.

Synopsis en français

Bruno et Malik vivent depuis 20 ans dans un monde à part, celui des enfants et adolescents autistes. Au sein de leurs deux associations respectives, ils forment des jeunes issus des quartiers difficiles pour encadrer ces cas qualifiés « d'hyper complexes ».

Une alliance hors du commun pour des personnalités hors normes.



Directors Éric Toledano & Olivier Nakache and actor Vincent Cassel

Esperança [Esperança]

short animation

ALL AUDIENCES

directors Cécile Rousset,
Jeanne Paturle, Benjamin Serero
screenwriters Benjamin Serero,
Cécile Rousset
music composer Thomas Dappelo
producer Benjamin Serero
running time 5min

English synopsis

Fifteen-year-old Esperança has just arrived from Angola with her mother. At the Amiens railway station, they do not know where to sleep and try to find someone who could help them. Esperança tells us her story.

Synopsis en français

Esperança, 15 ans, vient d'arriver d'Angola avec sa mère. À la gare d'Amiens, elles ne savent pas où dormir et cherchent quelqu'un qui pourrait les aider. Esperança nous raconte son histoire.



Les Chiens aboient [Barking Dogs]

short

Actor Massimo Riggi and screenwriter Marine Danaux present Les Chiens aboient

ALL AUDIENCES

director Grégory Montel
cinematographer David Kremer
screenwriters Marine Danaux,
Grégory Montel
music composer Jean-Benoît Dunckel
costume designer Marion Rebmann
producers David Atrakchi,
Gaël Cabouat, Boris Mendza
starring Massimo Riggi, Samir Senhadji,
Julianna Vogt, Jean-Luc Couchard
running time 16min

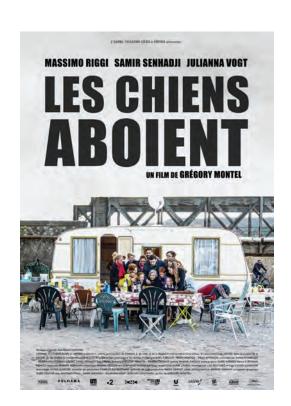


English synopsis

For some time now, Hicham has been crazily in love with Juliana. But everything opposes their love. Son of immigrants, he vegetates in the inter-city project district closed-in on itself. She is a gipsy and lives in a nearby camp. Despite Juliana's attempts to dissuade Hicham, the young man, determined to brave prejudices, goes to the camp to make their relationship official . . .

Synopsis en français

Depuis quelques temps, Hicham est raide dingue amoureux de Juliana. Mais tout s'oppose à leur amour. Lui, de parents immigrés, végète dans une cité fermée sur elle-même. Elle, manouche, vit dans le campement qui jouxte le quartier. Malgré les tentatives de Juliana pour dissuader Hicham, le jeune homme, résolu à braver les préjugés, se rend dans le campement pour officialiser leur relation...



Roberto le canari [Roberto the Canary]

short

French actor
David Kammenos presents
Roberto le canari

ALL AUDIENCES

running time 19min

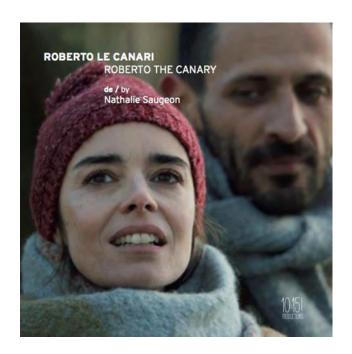
director Nathalie Saugeon
cinematographer Vincent Mathias
screenwriter Nathalie Saugeon
music composer Baptiste Charvet
costume designer Sarah Lazaro
producer Sébastien Haguenauer
starring Elodie Bouchez,
David Kammenos, Keanu Peyran,
Michèle Simonnet

English synopsis

The death of Roberto, the canary, forces a family to come to terms with its own mourning in a touching and un expected way.

Synopsis en français

La mort de Roberto, le canari, confronte une famille à ses propres deuils avec émotion et tendresse.



Hors champ [Out of Frame]

short

French actor Stephen Manas presents Hors champ

STEPHEN MANAS WINNER WINNER LOS ANGELES RICHARDS RICHARDS LOS ANGELES RICHARDS RICHARDS LOS ANGELES RICHARDS RICHA

ALL AUDIENCES

director Artem Gutkowski screenwriters Artem Gutkowski, Jade Orazinni, Anaël Lavalade-ben Fredj music composer Claudio Arenas costume designer Agathe Poitevin producer Thibaut Palson starring Stephen Manas, Husky Kihal, Giulia Gabriele, Christophe Favre running time 14min

English synopsis

Christian, a talented actor, ruins a film shoot with his tantrums and outbursts. Guilt will gradually gain on him through the form of hallucinations. His film crew follows him everywhere, all the time.

Synopsis en français

Christian, acteur de talent, ruine un tournage par ses nombreux caprices. La culpabilité va petit à petit l'assaillir sous la forme d'hallucinations. Il voit son équipe technique partout, tout le temps.

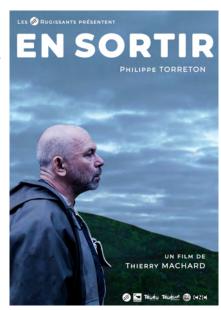
En sortir

short

French director & screenwriter
Thierry Machard and actor
Philippe Torreton present
En sortir

ALL AUDIENCES

director Thierry Machard
cinematographer Avel Corre
screenwriter Thierry Machard
music composer Glenn Mazé
producer Anthony Quéré
starring Philippe Torreton,
Valentin Le Coz, and the dog "Dudu"
running time 22min





English synopsis

A lonely man, a morning as usual, his dog, the machine . . . this day will not turn out as expected . . .

Synopsis en français

Un homme seul, un matin comme d'habitude, son chien, la machine... cette journée ne se déroulera pas comme prévue...

Parenthèse [Parenthesis]

short

French director, cinematographer & producer Denis Larzillière and screenwriter, producer & actress Maud Givert present Parenthèse

ALL AUDIENCES

director Denis Larzillière
cinematographer Denis Larzillière
screenwriter Maud Givert
music composers Azel Phara,
Carmen Maria Vega, Adrienne Pauly,
Aude Legastelois Bidé, Théo de Hond
costume designer Azel Phara
producers Jérémy Sahel,
Maud Givert, Denis Larzillière
starring Foëd Amara, Maud Givert,
Husky Kihal
running time 12min



English synopsis

A little tipsy, Mia has just received choking news. She enters mechanically Tom's car thinking he is her Uber driver.

The two strangers then embark on an unexpected eventful night, as if they had pressed pause on reality. A night in parenthesis.

Synopsis en français

Un peu éméchée et sous le choc d'une terrible nouvelle, Mia entre machinalement à l'arrière de la voiture de Tom, le prenant pour son VTC. Les deux inconnus vont alors vivre ensemble une nuit entre parenthèses, comme s'ils avaient mis la réalité sur pause.

Grenouille de Cristal [Crystal Frog]

short

French actress Eriko Takeda presents *Grenouille de Cristal*

ALL AUDIENCES

running time 16min

director Slony Sow
cinematographer Yutaka Yamazaki
screenwriter Slony Sow
music composers Frédéric Holyszewski,
Slony Sow
costume designer Mari Togashi
producers Lucas Oliver-Frost, Slony Sow
starring Gérard Depardieu, Eriko Takeda,
Naoto Takenaka, Evelyne Inuzuka



English synopsis

Benjamin, the owner of a French vineyard, travels to Tokyo to see Miko again. At her place, he is drawn to a picture taken 40 years ago alongside his grapevines. On it are Benjamin, his now deceased wife and Miko's late parents. The story of *La Grenouille en hiver* continues . . .

Synopsis en français

Benjamin, propriétaire d'un vignoble se rend à Tokyo pour revoir Miko. Chez elle, son attention est attirée par une photo prise dans ses vignes il y a 40 ans. On y voit Benjamin, sa femme décédée et les parents disparus de Miko. L'histoire de *La Grenouille en hiver* se continue...

Bacha Posh [Bacha Posh]

short

French director & screenwriter
Katia Scarton-Kim presents
Bacha Posh

ALL AUDIENCES

director Katia Scarton-Kim
cinematographer Thierry Pradervand
screenwriter Katia Scarton-Kim
music composer Qais Essar
costume designer Emmanuelle Piat
producer Thierry Pradervand
starring Sara Eftekhari, Marina Golbahari,
Azizullah Hamrah
running time 19min



English synopsis

In the Calais Jungle refugee and migrant encampment, Nadim and his family are in transit, hoping to reach England. Nadim works in the "grocery store" set up by his father in the Jungle. But the young boy hides a secret.

Synopsis en français

Jungle de Calais. Nadim et sa famille sont en transit pour l'Angleterre. Le jeune garçon travaille à l'épicerie que son père a montée dans la Jungle. Mais Nadim cache un secret.

Avanti [Avanti]

short

French actress Emma Liégeois presents *Avanti*

ALL AUDIENCES

director Mélanie Doutey
cinematographer Matthieu Le Bothlan
screenwriter Mélanie Doutey
music composer Pascal Sangla
costume designer Sybille Langh
producers Boris Mendza,
David Atrakchi, Gaël Cabouat
starring Emma Liégeois,
Lucie Digout, Jeremy Lewin
running time 12min

English synopsis

Dealing with mourning, Louise and Manu have two very different ways of reacting. While Manu decides to keep moving ahead, Louise is disoriented. Literally. She can only advance forwards by walking backwards. One day, she encounters Camille who reassures her about her state and reveals the existence of a discreet community: the ones who live better in today's world with their backs turned. Louise discovers with them that it is possible to move ahead in life, "back-forwards".

Synopsis en français

Face au deuil, Louise et Manu ont deux manières de réagir très différentes. Alors que Manu choisit d'aller de l'avant, Louise est désorientée. Au sens propre. Elle n'arrive à avancer qu'à reculons. Un jour, elle rencontre Camille qui la rassure sur son état et lui révèle l'existence d'une communauté discrète : ceux qui vivent mieux de dos. Louise découvre avec eux qu'il est possible d'avancer « de dos ».





La Parcelle [The Cornfield]

short

French actor Virgile Bramly presents La Parcelle

ALL AUDIENCES

director Michaël Guerraz
cinematographer Sylvain Rodriguez
screenwriter Olivier Dreux
music composer Mathieu Lamboley
costume designer Chouchane
Abello-Tcherpachian
producers Jonathan Hazan,
Laurent Denis
starring Virgile Bramly, Maud Wyler,
Jean-Michel Vovk
running time 20min

English synopsis

Yves has accepted to plant experimental seeds on a plot within his cornfield. This decision allows his couple to be more financially stable. Especially with a baby on the way. Everything seems to be on the up. Until one day, when Yves discovers some strange sap flowing down an ear of corn.

Synopsis en français

Yves a accepté l'implantation d'une parcelle de maïs expérimental sur son exploitation. Cette décision permet à son couple de retrouver une meilleure santé financière. D'autant qu'un bébé s'annonce. Tout semble aller pour le mieux. Jusqu'au jour où Yves découvre une étrange sève coulant le long d'un épi.



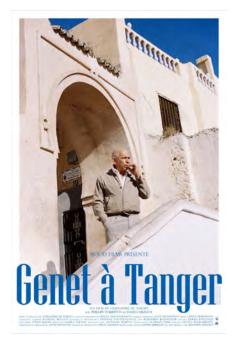
Genet à Tanger [Genet in Tangier]

short

French director, author & screenwriter Guillaume de Sardes and actor Philippe Torreton present Genet à Tanger

ALL AUDIENCES

director Guillaume de Sardes
cinematographer Cécile Friedmann
screenwriter Guillaume de Sardes
based on the eponym novel by
Guillaume de Sardes
music composer Anne de Boysson
producer Benjamin Bonnet
starring Philippe Torreton,
Hamza Meziani
running time 11min



English synopsis

At the beginning of the 70s, Jean Genet is in Tangier. He is in his sixties and he no longer writes. He lives in the El Minza hotel, a palace, where he spends entire days reading, smoking and sleeping (he takes Nembutal, a barbiturate used as a sleeping pill). He only goes out at the beginning of the afternoon to have a "café au lait" in one of the bars of Petit Socco. He sometimes meets the young Moroccan writer Mohamed Choukri there. Their conversation is banal and friendly. Sometimes they talk about literature. Genet is still inhabited by it.

Synopsis en français

Au début des années 70, Jean Genet est à Tanger, il a la soixantaine et il n'écrit plus. Il vit à l'hôtel El Minza, un palace, où il passe des journées entières à lire, à fumer et à dormir (il prend du Nembutal, un barbiturique utilisé comme somnifère). Il ne sort en début d'aprèsmidi que pour prendre un café au lait dans un des bars du Petit Socco. Il y rencontre parfois le jeune écrivain marocain Mohamed Choukri. Leur discussion est banale, amicale. Parfois, ils parlent de littérature. Genet est encore habité par celle-ci.

Chien bleu [Blue Dog]

short

French actress Mariam Makalou-Baradji presents Chien bleu

ALL AUDIENCES

directors Fanny Liatard, Jérémy Trouilh
cinematographer Victor Seguin
screenwriters Fanny Liatard,
Jérémy Trouilh
music composer Maxence Dussère
costume designer Cécile Box
producers Pauline Attal, Elsa Rakotoson,
Nérimen Hadrami, Juliette Valsamidis
starring Rod Paradot, Michel Pichon,
Mariam Makalou-Baradji
running time 17min

English synopsis

Yoan's father, Emile, is afraid of the world. He no longer goes outside. He paints everything blue. One night, Yoan encounters Soraya, a teenage fan of Tamil dance. She will help him find the right color.

Synopsis en français

Le père de Yoan, Emile, a peur du monde. Il ne sort plus de chez lui et peint tout en bleu. Une nuit, Yoan rencontre Soraya, une adolescente fan de danse tamoule. Elle va l'aider à trouver la bonne couleur.



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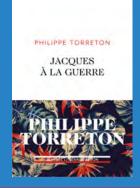




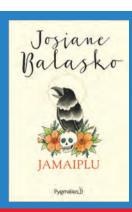










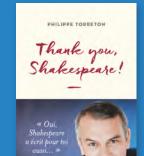


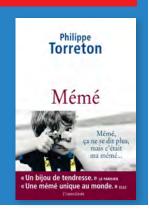
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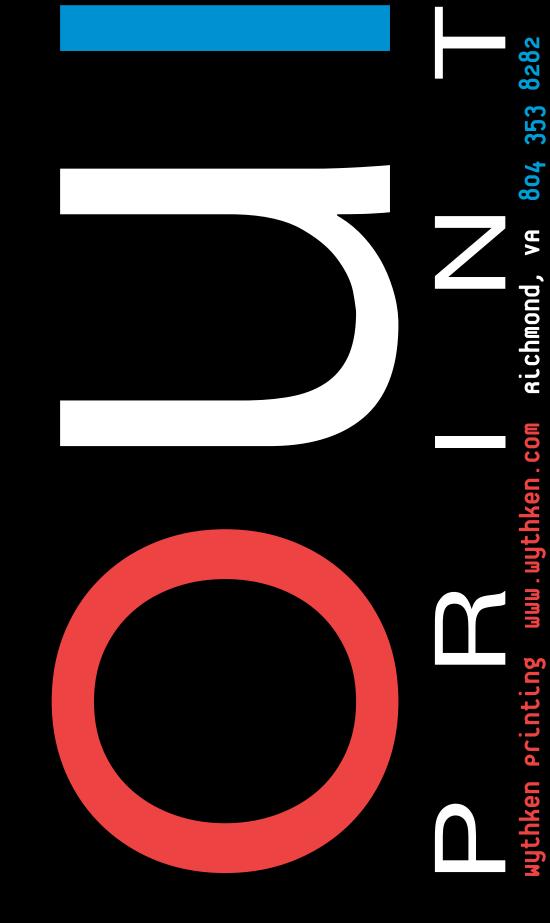
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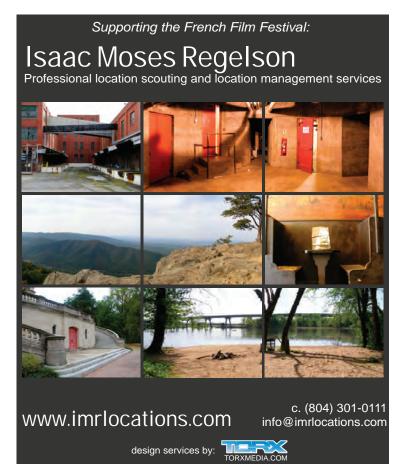
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Screenings of all French Film Festival feature films and short films will be held at the historic Byrd Theatre in Carytown. Free Master Classes will take place at the Institute for Contemporary Art (ICA) at VCU. Register for each free Master Class at www. eventbrite.com. The reception with the French Delegation will be held on Saturday evening from 7:30pm to 9:30pm at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts (VMFA). Student, Faculty and Regular VIP passes include guaranteed seating at all screenings and Q&A sessions with the actors and directors. There is a \$25 add-on cost per pass for admission to the reception Saturday evening.

Tickets for each film are available for \$15 at the box office. Tickets will be available at the box office 30 minutes before each screening. To guarantee your seating and to avoid lines at the door, buy a pass today.

Name	Address	_ Email/Phone	
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What Does It Mean to Be a Filmmaker Today?

One filmmaker answers this question before each feature.

director, cinematographer and originator Steve Moreau production coordinators Marc Legrand and Caroline Santiard mixing Samuel Mittelman color grading Paul Wattebled subtitles Jean Achache production Les films du voilier/l'ARP running time 2min each

Strange paradox at a time when cinema attendance rate is excellent. Screens of all kinds, globally, invade our daily lives and trivialize images as never before.

Today, everyone makes images. But making images does not mean making a movie. Tomorrow, who will make movies, and will we still even talk about movies? The great American filmmaker of Italian origin Franck Capra had this maxim: "A man, a film". Behind each film, one must (or should) feel the presence of a filmmaker. A man or a woman who defends and expresses his or her ideas against all odds and shares them with us."

But today, the notions of gaze, of point

of view, are mishandled and threatened for a lot of reasons, instead of being taken into consideration. But without a point of view, a film is useless. Hence the absolute need to give and/ or to give back his/her place to the filmmaker.

Every time I happen to cross the path of a true filmmaker, I am full of respect and truly amazed by his or her career trajectory and energy. Most are fighting against hurdles and walls of increasing difficulties. That is why, it seemed important to me to go and meet them with my little camera to feel their pulse with this banal, and yet not so obvious question: "What does it mean to be a filmmaker today?"

After all, who better to answer this question?

Steve Moreau, director and cinematographer





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