



15 November – 5 December 2004





15 November - 2 December 2004

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## Action! Moteur!

Every November, film fans, passionate Francophiles, and lovers of le cinéma français, make a rendez-vous with the UK's leading showcase for French cinema.

Now in its 13th year, the French Film Festival UK can lay claim to an impressive past list of tributes, retrospectives, guests and pioneering initiatives which have helped to uncover the sheer wealth of French cinema which normally would not make it to these shores as part of the year's releases.

The 2004 edition, under the patronage in person of Sylvain Chomet who made the animated hit, Les Triplettes de Belleville, again pushes forward the boundaries to offer a wide selection of films that are entertaining, challenging, stimulating, and truly memorable. There's something to suit all tastes, predilections, and ages at affordable prices including ticket deals and special passes to give even better value and access.

On the menu as a dish of the day is a tribute to Alain Delon, an undisputed icon of international cinema over the decades whose handsome exterior belied dangerous undercurrents in his work with such directors as Joseph Losey, Luchino Visconti, Jean-Pierre Melville, Jacques Deray, Henri Verneuil and Betrand Blier among others. Recent re-releases of such films as Le cercle rouge, Plein soleil and The Leopard have brought him back to prominence. Our five-film tribute comprises rare titles that have not been seen for a long time.

The Panorama section of films that have established directors attached, ranges over such directors as Benoît Jacquot, Tony Gatlif, Dominique Cabrera, François Dupeyron, Jean-Pierre Améris and Francis Veber. Topics covered include a buddy romp with Gérard Depardieu and Jean Reno; illegal immigration; the insanity of war; a music-fuelled journey of discovery; and a contemporary take on free-wheeling relationships.

In New Waves devoted to first, second and third time directors you will find choral magic in Les choristes which gave debut director Christophe Barratier the year's surprise box office hit and an Oscar contender.

There's also the astonishing baptism of Eléonore Faucher with Brodeuses; Gael Morel displaying maturity of purpose in The Clan, a tale of three brothers; the exuberance of L'Esquive; nostalgia for Janis Joplin and John Lennon; ambition on the make in the work place in Work Hard, Play Hard plus the family delights of Malabar Princess and the charming cartoon fable Raining Cats and Frogs.



For the first time this year the French Film Festival UK broadens its horizons to offer a special focus on the resurgence of Québec cinema in the wake of Denys Arcand's Les invasions barbares. The quartet of titles comprise a dark crime thriller; an effervescent romantic comedy with shades of Whisky Galore; adolescent trials and tribulations; and an ensemble road movie. In future editions the FFF will look at other French-language cinemas around the globe.

To mark the month of the documentary in France, and the continuing revival of interest in real cinema, three examples have been selected: an amazing foray into the mysteries of the universe from the makers of Microcosmos; a Gallic take on George Bush, and a highly amusing look at the incestuous world of the critic.

An array of guests will be in attendance to support their films and talk with audiences while France's cultural centres at the Alliance française de Glasgow and Manchester and the Institut Français d'Ecosse in Edinburgh will host additional events (listed separately in their brochures and leaflets). Exhibitions with a French twist include Jean-Marc Millière on show at Glasgow Film Theatre, and Celebrity Chien at the Institut in Edinburgh.

Festival director Richard Mowe and deputy director Ilona Morison extend their gratitude to all those involved – from sponsors, supporters funders, board members, and audiences to venue and industry colleagues, and of course our patron Sylvain Chomet. Merci et bon festival!

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## SYLVAIN CHOMET PATRON moving pictures



The honorary patron of this year's French Film Festival UK is ace animator Sylvain Chomet, now living and working in Scotland.

A veteran comic-book artist, Sylvain Chomet doesn't hesitate when asked about his foremost passion: "I like to draw, and I don't want to spend my time in front of a monitor with a mouse."

His award-winning hit Les Triplettes de Belleville did contain some digital effects, but the characters including a spindly cyclist Champion, his elfin grandmother, and their neurotic dog, were created entirely by a close-knit team of sketchers.

"I was directing them at the same time I was animating," explains Chomet. "I could show what I wanted by drawing in front of them." While *Triplettes* contains copious references to Jacques Tati and Chaplin, Chomet insists his inspirations were more contemporary. For the eponymous trio of music-hall dames who rescue Champion from the Mafia, he wanted to combine "the idea of these old women carrying basketball players inside of them" with the bebop charisma of Round Midnight's Dexter Gordon.

Very typically French (but with no dialogue), Les Triplettes de Belleville owed a great deal to the world of contemporary French comic strips, but also to filmmakers such as Jean-Pierre Jeunet (Amélie) and Marc Caro (Delicatessen). Chomet has, until now, pursued two simultaneous careers: one in comic strips, with his long term collaborator Nicolas de Crecy, the other in film, having made the half hour film La vieille dame et les pigeons (The Old Lady and the Pigeons), which won both the Grand Prix at Annecy in '97 and the Cartoon d'Or.

Chomet, 40, explains that he felt animation was a very rigid medium in terms of audience expectations. He says: "It's always got to be for kids. It should bring good feelings, have bad guys and good guys, and end with a moral. But this means there are lots of subjects and things you can't show, like someone smoking a cigarette for example. With Belleville, the aim was to go against that, and do something that wasn't aimed at kids. It's great that kids can enjoy the film, but it freed us up to go in directions that the animated movie hasn't gone in before."

He stresses his ideas don't come from a drawing. "What I get in my mind is an idea of their movement, and I just use the graphics to enhance this. Like with Madame Souza: she's a very small, fragile character, but because she has to drag around this enormous club foot, she can also be quite violent and stubborn. It's one of the things I love about animation: to be able to have two concepts of a character. To see one thing, but feel something else."

Since last year Chomet has based himself in Scotland because he was energised by the city when he came to present Les Triplettes at the Edinburgh International Film Festival. He believed it was a city that could inspire his creativity. He is linked to producer Mark Cousins and also to Hamish McAlpine of Tartan Films.

With his wife Sally, a production assistant, they are developing no fewer than three films: two of which will be made in Edinburgh and one, a foray into 3D, will be made by a US team under Chomet's direction. He is particularly excited by one of them, based around an unused script by the late Jacques Tati and which recently was discovered by his estate. Although orginally Tati set the story in Czechoslovakia, Chomet will shift the action to Edinburgh, and to a Hebridean island.

Ironically, Chomet once worked at Disney although he claims he has "never been paid so much to be so useless." The Scottish experience, he assures, is going to be rather different.

Now that I have made my home and production base in Scotland, I am delighted to be asked to preside as honorary patron over this year's French Film Festival. Although the festival has grown enormously and spread its wing to such English cities as London and Manchester, it is still rooted in Scotland.

The festival has helped to forge links with France – entirely appropriate for the land of the Auld Allinace. I am working with Scots film industry figures and have three new animation productions in the pipeline. I think there's really something happening in Scotland now. Edinburgh is probably going to be the place in Europe where there are the most animation productions. With my wife Sally we are currently developing no fewer than three films: two of them will be made in Edinburgh and one will be made by a US team under my direction. The selection for this year's festival looks vibrant and varied – and, of course, I am pleased to see animation represented by La prophétie des grenouilles which was such a big hit in France. Bon festival!

Sylvain Chomet

The lethal angel in disguise One of the cinema



One of the undisputed icons of international cinema Alain Delon is at the heart of this year's French Film Festival UK. The legendary figure who has made more than 80 films, currently has been enjoying a re-release revival with a whole new audience exploring the dangerous undercurrents beneath his notoriously handsome surface.

PROFILE: RICHARD MOWE

As famous at certain times for his chequered vie privée as for his screen incarnations Alain Delon has remained a fixture in French public life as well as international cinema for more than five decades, working alongside many directorial greats from Jean-Pierre Melville, Luchino Visconti to Jean-Luc Godard, Henri Verneuit, Joseph Losey and Michelangelo Antonioni.

His classically handsome features were used by directors, especially in the Sixties, to project a certain ambivalence just below the outward impassivity. The critic David Thomson memorably once described him as "the mysteriously lethal angel in a trenchcoat and a fedora." He has oft been compared to James Dean or Montgomery Clift, but despite common threads emerges as a true original.

Although recently he has been absent from cinema screens except for revivals and his reteaming with Jean-Paul Belmondo for Patrice Leconte's gangster caper Une chance sur deux (1998), he has been working on television, notably in the Marseilles-based trilogy, Fabio Montale, directed by Jean-Claude Izzo for TF1, the French TV channel. There was also his turn as an undercover cop in the mini-series Frank Riva. This autumn he retreads the boards in Paris at the Théâtre Marigny until February 2005 playing in Les montagnes russes. He worked at the same theatre in 1996 in Eric-Emmanuel Schmitt.s Variations énigmatiques. And it's been announced he will participate in a version of the story of Jacques Mesrine, France's public enemy No. 1 during the 1970s to be directed by Barbet Schroeder.

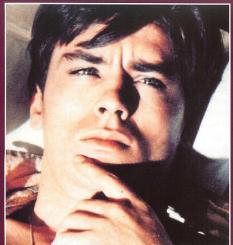
Delon's strong and multi-faceted character was shaped during a rebellious childhood. Born in Sceaux, a Paris suburb, on 8 November 1935, his parents separated when he was four, and he was looked after by foster parents before attending a Catholic boarding school. After his mother remarried, the teenage Delon took up an apprenticeship as a butcher before joining the marines and seeing service in Indochina. On his return from the conflict he found work in Paris as a porter and waiter, striking up friendships with aspiring young actors among them Jean-Claude Brialy who introduced him to the film director Yes Allégret who offered him his first role in the 1957 feature, *Quand la femme s'en mêle* with Edwige Feuiltlère.

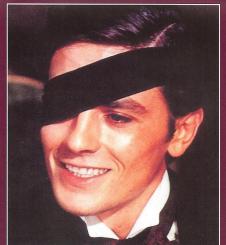
The burgeoning actor's first major role came the following year in the period romance Christine, during the filming of which he struck up his loving yet volatile relationship with Romy Schneider. As a golden couple they were barely out of the public eye. They also appeared on stage together in Paris in a production of Dommage qu'elle soit une putain which ran for more than eight months and, significantly for the actor's future development, was directed by Luchino Visconti. Even though they had parted, the complicity between Delon and Schneider also was evident in Jacques Deray's compelling psychological drama La Piscine / The Swimming Pool with Delon as an unemployed writer living in a luxury villa near St Tropez with his lover (Schneider) when Maurice Ronet turns up to disturb the idyll.

It was with René Clement's Plein Soleil / Purple Noon in 1959 that Delon seared his way into the critical and public consciousness. As Patricia Highsmith's taciturn Tom Ripley it showcased Delon's ice cool talents and provided an image that came to haunt him. This is one of the re-released titles that has revealed him to a whole new legion of admirers in the wake of Anthony Minghella's The Talented Mr Ripley, generally considered a pale imitation by comparison.

After working with Visconti on stage the Italian director then offered Delon another of his celebrated roles in *Rocco and His* 







Twin images of Delon from Plein Soleil and The Leopard, two films recently re-released that brought him back to prominence.

Brothers as well as the epic The Leopard with Burt Lancaster and Claudia Cardinale. Further classic roles followed, notably in Michelangelo Antonioni's L'Eclisse and Henri Verneuil's thriller Mélodie en sous-sol which paired him with Jean Gabin.

An abortive attempt to flirt with Hollywood in such vehicles as *The Yellow Rolls Royce* with Shirley MacLaine, prompted Delon to concentrate his career with European directors, frequently making his mark with the public as either gangsters or detectives such as in Jean-Pierre Melville's *Le cercle rouge* (again re-released to considerable acclaim) and *Le Samourai* as well as Verneuil's *Le Clan des Sicilliens*. The late Sixties also saw him star alongside his long-standing box office rival Jean-Paul Belmondo in Jacques Deray's *Borsalino*, a huge hit, which Delon as a co-producer helped to put together.

In the Seventies Delon attracted a lot of negative publicity about some of his activities, including his espousal of right-wing politics, and a scandal involving the murder of his bodyguard. Such revelations caused him much angst, and he raised court actions to prevent publication of contentious details, notably against biographer Bernard Violet.

On the personal front by this time he had married Nathalie Canovas with whom he had a son Anthony. They divorced in 1968 after which he met actress Mireille Darc who shared his Life for 15 years.

Delon always has possessed a capacity to bounce back. He contributed one of his best performances ever as a wartime profiteer in Vichy France in Joseph Losey's *Monsieur Klein* in 1976 although he had fallen out of favour with the public and his box office power had waned. He was also employed adeptly by Jean-Luc Godard in 1990 as polar opposite twins in *Nouvelle Vague*.

During the late seventies, eighties and nineties Delon has diversified out of the acting arena and into producing and also has founded his own company devoted to such luxury goods as perfumes and wines. He has enjoyed such pet interests as horse-racing, boxing, and collecting art. He is said to have amassed a considerable personal fortune. As recognition of his status he has been awarded the Légion d'honneur.

He acquired a new companion Rosalie Van Breemen in 1987 afer they had performed the song Comme au cinema as a video clip and he became a new father to Anouchka and Alain-Fabien. He took a decision to spend more time with his family at his abode near Geneva.

Delon has kept insisting that he is "not a star" but an actor of serious purpose. Early in his career he said that he had been "fighting for ten years to make people forget that I am just a pretty boy with a beautiful face. It's a hard fight but I will win it "

Today time has taken care of such concerns, leaving the craggy and jowled Delon to test himself in the most demanding of settings: the Paris stage. The fact that he continues to feel compelled to face such challenges is proof perfect that Delon was always more than just an exquisite visage...

The Alain Delon tribute has been organised by the French Film Festival UK and the Bureau du Cinéma of the Ministère des affaires etrangères in Paris.





Riverside	Thurs 18 Nov 6.30pm	
Glasgow	Sun 21 Nov 3pm	
	Mon 22 Nov 8.30pm	
Edinburgh	Tues 23 Nov 6pm	
	Wed 24 Nov 2.30pm	
Dundee	Sat 27 Nov 3,45pm	

#### Mélodie en sous-sol Any Number Can Win

A beautifully told, jazzy caper film set on the French Riviera features two generations of stellar icons – Delon is paired with Jean Gabin.

Fresh out of jail, Charles (the legendary but ageing Gabin) recruits a young man (Delon) to help him execute one final, signature heist: the robbing of a luxurious casino.

Everything seems to be working like clockwork, until their meticulous preparations begin to unravel. It was especially memorable for the pairing of Gabin, the *eminence grise* of French cinema, with the upstart Delon, at his most dazzling.

Director Henri Verneuil plots the convoluted machinations with exacting precision.
Luminously shot in black and white
CinemaScope by Louis Page.

Cast:	Alain Delon, Jean Gabin, Claude Cerval, Viviane Romance, Carla Marlier
Dir:	Henry Verneuil
Prod:	Jacques Bar, Jacques Duranville Cipra (Jacques Bar, Paris), CCM (Rome)
Scr:	Michel Audiard, from the novel by John Trinian
Ph:	Louis Page
Ed:	Françoise Verneuil

Mus: Michel Magne

1963. 117 mins.



Riverside	Wed 17 Nov 7pm	
Manchester	Sun 21 Nov 4.05pm	
Glasgow	Tues 23 Nov 6.15pm	
	Wed 24 Nov 3pm	
Edinburgh	Thurs 25 Nov 6pm	
	Fri 26 Nov 1.30pm	
Aberdeen	Tues 30 Nov 3.45pm	
	Wed 1 Dec 6.30nm	

#### La piscine The Swimming Pool

This obsessive psychological thriller, which became a cult favorite, revolves around a dangerous love triangle. In a villa on the Riviera, Jean-Paul (Delon) and Marianne [Delon's real-life lover Romy Schneider] share a peaceful, loving relationship. But the trouble begins when an old friend pays a visit with his young daughter (Jane Birkin). The atmosphere grows darker as each member of this tragic quartet conspires against each other. Despite appearances that their past differences have been settled, old enmitties between Jean-Paul and Harry soon begin to resurface — with deadly consequences.

One of Jacques Deray's best-known films, virtually all of the action takes place either in or by an outdoor swimming pool. A combination of sensual photography and great acting make it compelling viewing.

Delon is on fine form, giving one of his darker performances, a perfect contrast with Schneider's gentler yet equally tough portrayal of Marianne. Maurice Ronet and Jane Birkin complete the formidable ménage à quatre, with Birkin's tender years and broken French making her character the most vulnerable and the most disturbing member of the ensemble.

Deray, probably better known for the detective thrillers he made in the 1970s and 1980s, shows a surprising artistic flair in a chilling portrait of male rivalry and jealousy.

oast.	Maurice Ronet, Jane Birkin, Paul Crauchet
Dir:	Jacques Deray
Prod:	SNC, Film Industria (Rome)
Scr:	Jean-Emmanuel Connil with adaptation and dialogue by Jean-Claude Carrière and Jacques Deray
Ph:	Jean-Jacques Tarbès
Ed:	Paul Cayatte
Mus:	Michel Legrand
1969. 1	124 mins.

Cast: Alain Delon Romy Schneider



 Riverside
 Fri 19 Nov 6.30pm

 Glasgow
 Wed 24 Nov 6.30pm

 Thurs 25 Nov 3pm
 Dundee

 Sun 28 Nov 5.50pm
 Edinburgh

 Wed 1 Dec 6.30pm
 Thurs 2 Dec 2.30pm

#### Mr Klein

Blacklisted American director Joseph Losey directs the great Jeanne Moreau and Delon in of his finest performances in this searing indictment of emotional and political indifference in wartime France.

One morning in 1942, art dealer Robert Klein (Delon) awakens to find on his doorstep a Jewish newspaper, addressed to himself. Mistaken for Jewish in German-occupied Paris, Klein becomes entangled in a Kafkaesque nightmare as he discovers that the stranger is slowly taking over his identity. Initially outraged, Klein comes to sympathise with his alter ego in a journey that leads to his eventual doom. The film won Losey a best director César as well as accolades for best film and best décor.

Cast:	Jeanne Moreau, Alain Delon, Massimo Girotti, Francine Berge Juliet Berto, Michel Lonsdale, Louis Seignier, Michel Aumont, Suzanne Flon, Gérard Jugnot, Etienne Chicot
Die	January Langui

Dir: Joseph Losey

Prod: Fox-Lira

Scr: Franco Solinas, Fernando Morandi

h: Gerry Fisher

: Henri Lanoë & Pablo Wochicievitch

Des: Alexandre Trauner

Mus: Egisto Macchi, Pierre Morte

1976, 123 mins.



 Riverside
 Sat 20 Nov 6.45pm

 Glasgow
 Fri 26 Nov 5.45pm
 Sat 27 Nov 3pm

 Edinburgh
 Sun 28 Nov 6.30pm

 Mon 29 Nov 2.30pm

## *Our History*Notre histoire

Alain Delon and Nathalie Baye are a perfect match in this dark, romantic tale from the

director of *Trop belle pour toi*. Sitting alone and morose, a man spies an alluring and mysterious woman. She begins to tell him a story, about a woman travelling on a train who encounters a solitary man with whom she has a quick, passionate, never-to-be-repeated sexual encounter. Soon, the line between fact and fiction becomes rather blurry indeed. But when the woman tries to leave, the man follows her, re-writing this tale with a dark twist. Cast against type Delon character is a melancholy middle-age garage owner. With hints of Bunuel, the woman becomes Delon's not so obscure object of desire, as he pursues her, despite her increasing indifference. Almost a parody of the typical French film of the late "70s, with a script of existential passion that Camus could have written, *Notre Histoire* brought Delon a César, the French Oscar while the screenplay also won a César.

Cast:	Alain Delon, Nathalie Baye, Gerard Darmon, Michel Galabru, Jean-Pierre Darroussin, Sabine Haudepin, Jean-François Stévenin, Ginette Garcin

Dir: Bertrand Blier

**Prod:** Sara Films, Alain Sarde, Adel Productions, Alain Delon

cr: Bertrand Blier

Ph: Jean Renzer

Ed: Claudine Merlin

Mus: Laurent Rossi

1984. 110 mins.



 Riverside
 Sun 21 Nov 6.45pm

 Glasgow
 Sun 28 Nov 7pm Mon 29 Nov 3pm

 Edinburgh
 Tues 30 Nov 6pm Wed 1 Dec 2.30pm

#### Trois hommes à abattre Three Men to Kill

One night along a lonely stretch of highway, a professional gambler (Delon) comes upon a terrible accident. He brings the driver to the hospital, who dies soon after. On the same night, two other men died in mysterious road accidents; all victims employed by a major weapons corporation.

As the man begins to realise that these were no "accidents," he finds himself trapped in a web of danger. In this Hitchcockian tale of urban paranoia, Delon teams up once again with Jacques Deray, who directed him to perfection in La Piscine (1969) and Borsalino (1970), as a professional gambler becomes ensarred in a scheme of corporate intrigue and murder.

Cast: Atain Delon, Christian Barbier, Pierre Dux, Simone Renant, Jean-Pierre Darras, Bernard Lecoq, Pascale Roberts, Pierre Belot, André Falcon

Dir: Jacques Deray

Prod: Adel Productions / A2

Scr: Jacques Deray, Christopher Franck

Ph: Jean Tournier

Ed: Isabel Garcia de Herrera

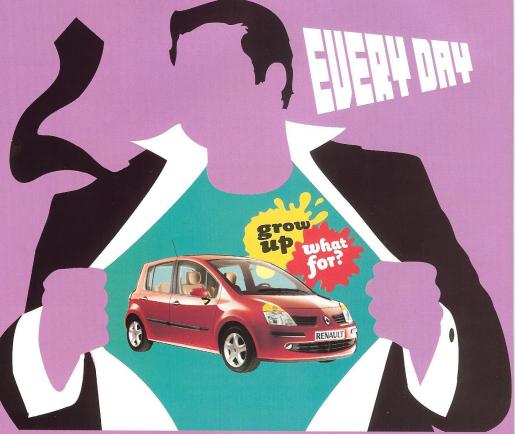
Mus: Claude Bolling

1980. 90 mins





# FRIDRY



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### PANORAMA The sublime and the ridiculous



Whether you're looking for ridiculously funny boulevard comedy with such stellar stalwarts as Jean Réno and Gérard Depardieu or more challenging fare from the likes of Benoît Jacquot, Jean-Pierre Améris, Dominique Cabrera and François Dupeyron or exotic music-based drama signed by the sublime Tony Gatlif you will find something to suit all tastes in this year's Panorama strand. These are the films that the French turned out in droves to see over the last 12 months and the critics applauded with unbridled enthusiasm.

Riverside

Sun 21 Nov 8.35pm

Glasgow

Sun 28 Nov 9pm Mon 29 Nov 6.15pm

Thurs 2 Dec 6pm

A tout de suite **Right Now** 

Interrupting a recent run of costume pieces to return closer to a contemporary setting, Benoît Jacquot conjures a rich evocation of the 1970s in this strikingly crafted drama. The film's moody atmosphere, keen sense of place and atmospheric monochrome visuals make it essential viewing.

Isild Lo Besco (an FFF guest two years ago for Les filles ne savent pas nager) plays a middle class Paris art school student living with her well-heeled parents. She hooks up in a bar one night with a young French-Moroccan (Ouassini Embarek) who reveals little about himself.

Soon after they sleep together for the first time, the girl receives a farewell phone call from her new flame during a bank robbery in which one of his accomplices has been shot and a cashier killed. She watches the hostage drama play out on TV news, and when he calls again after making his getaway, the girl unquestioningly hides out her lover and his surviving accomplice (Nicolas Duvauchelle, who also appears in Poids leger (page 15) in her house for the night. Next morning, the accomplice's girlfriend (Laurence Cordier) arrives with a car, and the two couples take flight.

Jacquot's idea of exploring how one brief, intense experience can radically alter a person and resonate far into their future has resonances with any number of outlaw-lover road movies.

Nicolas Duvauchelle, Laurence Cordier Fotini Kodoukaki, Leonor Graser, Emmanuelle Bercot, Odile Vuillemin, Catherine Davenier, Nicolas Pignon, David Ayala, Olivier Augrond, Sabri Lahmer

Benoit Jacquot

Natan Prods., Arte France Cinema production with participation of Georges Benayoun, Raout Saada

Exec Prod: Francoise Guglielmia

Benoit Jacquot, based on a story

by Elisabeth Fanger Caroline Champetier

Luc Barnie

Int sales: Flach Pyramide International: 5, rue du Chevalier de Saint-George, Paris 75008 Tel: 0033 142 96 02 20 Fax: 0033 140 20 05 51 2004 www.flach-pyramide.com



#### PANORAMA



 Riverside
 Thurs 18 Nov 8.50pm

 Glasgow
 Sat 20 Nov 8.15pm

 Edinburgh
 Sun 21 Nov 8.15pm

 Manchester
 Mon 22 Nov 6.15pm

berdeen Fri 26 Nov 8.30pm Sat 27 Nov 6.30pm

Dundee Thurs 2 Dec 8.30pm

### Exils Exiles

Winner of the Best Director prize at Cannes, Exiles is Tony Gatlif's latest intoxicating, music fuelled, and most personal cinematic delight. Exiles represents a terrific journey of self-discovery, a return to roots and a venture into the soul. The magnificent film is highlighted by a sensuous lead performance from Lubna Azabal and is propelled by a rousing, percussive musical score.

One day Zano (Romain Duris) suggests a crazy idea to his lover Naima (Lubna Azabal): travel across France and Spain down to Algeria and discover the land their parents had to flee decades ago. Lost in the perils of immigration these two children of the diaspora defiantly take to the road with music as their only belonging. Seduced by freedom, they let Andalucia's vibrant sensuality engulf them – before they make their minds up to cross the Mediterranean. From one meeting to another, a techno beat to a flamenco rhythm, Zano and Naïma reconstruct in reverse the path of the exile.

Gatlif whose Swing was shown at last year's FFF, describes his intentions thus: "The film circles the sensuality of bodies. Bodies that sweat, are tense or relaxed, they tell their own stories through skin and scars. I don't pretend to have made a film about Algeria, because I don't know it. I have made a film about the children of exiles in search of their origins. This film is about a new generation who are part of a mix, a fusion in motion. This young generation of people with North African, sub-Saharan or South American origins is in the process of bringing an extraordinary richness from all points of view; these young people from the 16th arrondissement in Paris who listen to Arab music without speaking the language. I find this fusion of cultures wonderful."

Cast: Romain Duris, Lubna Azabal

Dir: Tony Gatlif

Prod: Princes Films:

42 bis, rue de Lourmel, Paris 75015

Scr: Tony Gatlif

Ph: Celine Bozon

Ed: Monique Dartonne

Mus: Delphine Mantoulet, Tony Gatlif

es: Flach Pyramide International: 5, rue du Chevalier de Saint-George, Paris 75008 Tel: 0033 142 96 02 20 Fax: 0033 140 20 05 51 www.flach-pyramide.com

2004. 105mins

ALSACEBANDOLCABARDÈS CAHORSCÔTEDEBEAUNE CÔTEDENUITSCHABLIS CHAMPAGNECHINON CONDRIEUCROZES-HERMITAGEMÂCONMÉDOC MUSCADETPOUILLY-FUMÉ QUINCYSTJOSEPH SANCERREVOUVRAY

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#### PANORAMA



Thurs 25 Nov Shaftesbury Ave 11am, 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm

Glasgow Fri 26 Nov 8.15pm Edinburgh Sat 27 Nov 6pm Aberdeen Thurs 2 Dec 3.45pm

Fri 3 Dec 6.30pm

#### Folle embellie A Wonderful Spell

Set in the summer of 1942 during the Second World War, the film traces the trajectory of simple people thrown into extraordinary lives revealing the heart-warming flame of hope and humanity that endures, even in times of war and despair.

As young Julien, his family and a group of friends traverse the French countryside after fleeing the institution they called home, Julien must deal with his father's extreme violence and his mother's rosy fantasies and once again form a family that society tries to forget.

The film is simultaneously an intriguing story and a compelling metaphor. It contrasts the insanity of war with the insanity of mentally troubled persons and raises possibilities for healing through community and human relations. It won the Berlin Film Festival Ecumenical Jury prize

Cast: Miou Miou, Jean-Pierre Léaud, Morgan Marinne, Marilyne Canto, Julie-Marie Parmentier, Yolande Moreau, Gabriel Arcand, Olivier Gourmet, Philippe Grand'Henry, Pascale Montpetit, Sofia Leboutte, Félicien Pitsaer, Götz Burger

Dominique Cabrera

Emmanuel Giraud, Les Films de la Croisade

Dominique Cabrera, Antoine Montperrin

Ph: Helene Louvart

Ed: Sophie Brunet

Mus: Milan Kymlicka

Int sales: ARP: 13, rue Jean Mermoz Paris 75008 Tel: 0033 156 69 26 00 Fax: 0033 145 63 83 37 www.arpselection.com

2003, 110mins



Manchester Fri 19 Nov 6.15pm Wed 24 Nov Shaftesbury Ave 11am, 1,30pm, 4pm, 6,30pm, 9pm

Ciné-Lumière Thurs 25 Nov 8 45nm Fri 26 Nov 6.30pm

Glasgow Tues 30 Nov 8.45pm Thurs 2 Dec 7pm Edinburgh

Wed 1 Dec 9pm

#### Inguelezi

When her husband dies, Geneviève loses her grip. She leaves behind her nearest and dearest, and wants to be alone. But in the boot of her car, she finds an illegal immigrant, hidden away - and his presence turns her life upside down.

The inspiration is based on a real life incident in which a Kurd took refuge in a woman's car after the lorry in which he was stowed away became involved in an accident. Although he did not know a word of French, he tried to make himself understood and the woman agreed to take him to England.

The film is beautifully scripted, dealing with issues of humanity in a highly personal yet universal way. Filmed on the hoof with a digital camera François Dupeyron's method of filming in a sort of post-Dogma way resembles the chaotic lives of his characters.

This is the fourth time that Eric Caravaca has worked with Dupeyron - a fruitful partnership which began in 1999 with C'est quoi la vie followed by La chambre des officiers. In 2003 Caravaca was seen alongside Omar Sharif in Monsieur Ibrahim et les fleurs du Coran.

Eric Caravaca, Marie Payen, Françoise Lebrun, Mar Sodupe, Bernard Blancan, Jean-Michel Portal

François Dupeyron

Prod: Les films en Hiver. ARP Sélection

Scr: François Dupeyron

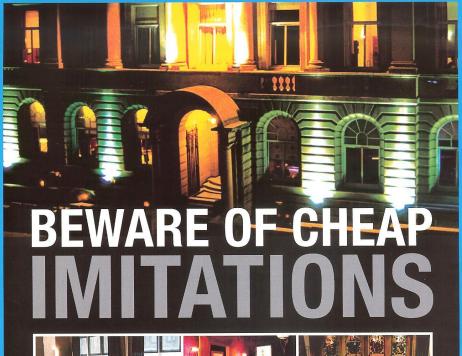
Dominique Faysse

Ph: Yves Angelo Mus: Samir Joubran

Int sales: Onoma international: 4, rue de Miromesnil, Paris 75008 Tel: 0033 158 18 34 90 Fax: 0033 145 25 99 70

2003. 100mins







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#### PANORAMA



Edinburgh

Fri 19 Nov 2.30pm & 6pm

Glasgov

Mon 22 Nov 3pm Tues 23 Nov 8.30pm

Ciné-Lumière

Thurs 27 Nov 6.30pm Fri 28 Nov 7pm

#### Poids léger Lightweight

Well-paced and laced with life's bitter and stinging wounds, Poids léger is admirable for its tenacity to document oneaverage man's self-destructive downslide. Antoine (Nicolas Duvauchelle) feels very much alone in the world:

Both his parents are dead, his sister is getting married, his cat has run off and his girlfriend (Mai Anh Le) is about to bolt herself. He's also mucking things up at work, listlessly toiling as an undertaker's assistant.

Smartly scripted and scoped by filmmaker Jean-Pierre Ameris, *Poids léger* delivers some sharp character points and is not afraid to pull its narrative punches when dealing with Antoine's inadequacies and anxieties.

In many respects, Antoine is his own worst enemy, self-flagellating by picking fights with his girlfriend, antagonising his well-meaning sister and alienating his peers. In the film's intelligent depiction, we see it all traces back to his childhood and his feelings of abandonment when his older parents died.

Rounding out the film's gutsy character development are the solid performances. As the blue-collar fighter, Duvauchelle shows the pain and cuts of a young man who feels he has no one in his corner in life, proving once again that this rising actor has genuine screen presence (see him also in A tout de suite on Page 11). Mai An Le is sublime as his Asian girlfriend.

Nicolas Duvauchelle, Bernard Campan, Mai Anh Le, Sophie Quinton

Dir-Jean-Pierre Améris

Prod: Philippe Godeau. Pan-Europeenne Production, France 2 Cinema, Saga Production production with participation of Canal Plus, France 2 and ABS

Jean-Pierre Ameris, based on a novel Scr: by Olivier Adam

Katva Chelli

Doctor L Mus:

Ed.

Int sales: Flach Pyramide International: 5, rue du Chevatier de Saint-George, Paris 75008 Tel: 0033 142 96 02 20 Fax: 0033 140 20 05 51 www.flach-pyramide.com



Wed 17 Nov 9pm Riverside

Manchester Sat 20 Nov 6.25pm

Edinburgh Fri 26 Nov 8.45pm

Sun 28 Nov 8 30nm Glasgow

Tues 30 Nov 3pm Thurs 2 Dec 5pm & 9pm

Tais Toi! **Ruby and Quentin** 

Following in the same fine comic tradition of the director's previous comedies, *Le Placard / The* Closet and especially Le dîner de cons / The Dinner Game, the plot relies heavily on cars, cell phones and sudden bursts of superhuman strength as the title pair repeatedly hop out of the frying pan and

The opening scenes, in which Quentin is stumped by the dearth of recognisable loot when he holds up a currency exchange rather than a bank, do a bang-up job of establishing Quentin as far too literal-minded to succeed as a crook. But what he lacks in intellect he makes up for in brute strength. Yet Quentin likes to talk the way most folks like to breathe (hence the film's French title, which means Shut Up!).

Ruby (Réno) on the other hand is the strong silent type who manages to hide £15 million purloined from his rival Vogel [Jean-Pierre Malo] before being arrested. Detective Vernet (Richard Berry) wants to nail Vogel, but Ruby won't utter so much as a helpful syllable. When the prison shrink (Andre Dussollier) mentions that ultra-talkative dimwit Quentin has driven a succession of five cell mates batty in less than a week, Vernet is inspired to toss Quentin in with Ruby. Quentin mistakes Ruby's silence for good listening skills, and a great, completely one-sided friendship is born

The cast appear to be enjoying themselves, and it is easy to imagine there were some funny outtakes en route to so many scenes in which Réno must maintain a stone face while Depardieu, boasting the expression of a well-meaning loon, storms new frontiers in idiocy. For the record, this is Depardieu's fifth performance in a Veber film lafter *La Chèvre, Les Compères, Les Fugitifs* and *Le Placard* and clearly the collaboration must be mutually satisfying

Sponsored by

Cast: Gérard Depardieu, Jean Rend André Dussollier, Richard Berry, Léonor Varela, Aurélien Recoing, Jean-Pierre Malo, Ticky Holgado, Michel Aumont, Jean-Michel Noirey

Francis Veber

Prod: Saïd Ben Saïd, UGC Images

Co-Prod: Filmauro, DD Productions, EFVE Films TF1 Films Production

Francis Veber. Original idea by Serge Frydman

Luciano Tovol Ed-Georges Klotz

Mus: Marco Princ

Int sales: UGC International: OGC International: 13, rue Madeleine Michelis Neuilly sur Seine Cedex 92522 Tel: 0033 155 24 46 00 Fax: 0033 155 24 46 46 2003

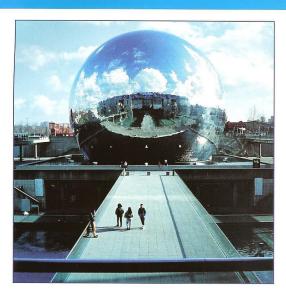
2003. 90min www.taistoi-lefilm.com







### SHOWCASE grains of invention



His client list included Vogue but Jean-Marc Millière is no ordinary photographer from the world of advertising and fashion. Instead he has pioneered techniques using negatives and paints and has become a true artistic pioneer.

The work of Jean-Marc Millière will make you want to look again at such famous landsmarks as the Eiffel Tower or Notre Dame. He removes the postcard familiarity and attempts to create atmosphere and mystery.

Millière's cityscapes in black and white capture the cinematographic nature of a city and prove to the viewer that every image is a story within a story to which we are not always conscious spectators.

Born in Paris in 1966, he trained at Corvisart, one of France's top schools of graphic art. He initially worked in advertising and photoengraving for clients such as Vogue. In 1992, Millière moved to Sweden to work in the music industry. Once in Sweden he began experimenting with the photographic medium – both in colour and in black and white. As in his previous graphic training the grain remains an essential element.

His work in colour involves a technique developed by the artist involving the manipulation of the negative with paints. This exhibition, especially timed to coincide with the French Film Festival UK, aims to draw out the parallels and the disparities between Paris and Glasgow – visually, showing the many sides of their personalities; romantic, mysterious and cutting edge.

His sensual female portraits evoke Hollywood sirens and vamps despite using only non-professional models in non-studio environments with the lighting available on location. A selection of black and white female portraits were published in 2001 by the Swedish publisher, Accent Förlag, with the title *Grains de Beauté*.

A second volume containing more recent portraiture, in colour and in black and white, will be published in October 2004 by Bjärnums Bokproduktion AB titled *Grains de Beauté Volume II*.

Millière is based in Paris but spends a great deal of time in Glasgow. He says "When I love a city it inspires me to take as many photographs as possible". His photographs have been selected for a postcard campaign throughout Great Britain by Boomerang Media. He was awarded the Prix Coup de Coeur in 2000 and 2002 at the Salon Daguerre under the patronage of the French Photographic Federation for his work and he has exhibited across Europe.

#### Jean-Marc Millière From Paris to Glasgow

19 November – 19 December 2004 Glasgow Film Theatre

For more information see: http://jmmilliere.free.fr

Contact Jean-Marc Millière by email jmmilliere@hotmail.com or by telephone 00 33 6 60 12 18 72







**Folle Embellie** by Dominique Cabrera is supported by ACID in this year's French Film Festival UK

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ACID also presents films at the Cannes Film Festival. Each year, 10 films, about to released in France or without any distributors, are screened to a public audience and to distributors, producers, exhibitors and journalists.

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## **SHOWCASE** celebrity chien



Me and my dog - le chien Mutley and actress Mila Jojovich

Born in Champagne, *le chien* Mutley moved to the world's fashion capital at the age of eight weeks. Installed in the trendy Marais quartier criss-crossing models, photographers and designers on the streets it was not long before he was talent-spotted for his first major fashion shoot. This was clearly a chien on the move.

The hip hound starred in a *Harpers & Queen* story showcasing the haute couture collection. One particularly memorable image features Mutley in a cobbled passage with the model wearing Chanel.

Next stop in his soaring ascendancy was when photographer Martyn Thompson cast Mutley in an international ad campaign for Paris House of Couture, Emanuel Ungaro. Stylishly lounging on the quayside at the end of the Ile St Louis the image did the tour du monde.

Soon the media was sniffing around. British *Elle* featured Mutley and his modelling career following a day in his life, which included a visit to dog beauty parlour. By this time Mutley was meeting the stars. Charlotte Rampling and Naomi Campbell came calling, he was taking coffee with Jane Birkin and Cate Blanchett...

Before long he was approached by a modelling agency and features started appearing across the world. He is a regular at the Cannes Film Festival and inaugurated the Palme d'Dog awards for the best performance by a canine in the films being screened along the Croisette. Last year it was won by a canine

From Lassie to Old Yeller, canines have become inextricably linked with the cinema – none more so than Mutley, a *chien* with impeccable pedigree who has inflitrated the fashion and movie worlds of Paris. This special French Film Festival exhibition reveals all.

collective – all the dogs who lived on vineyards worldwide and were featured in wine film Mondovino. Special mention went to the bulldogs of the world's leading wine buff Robert Parker, Edgar and Hoover, and the previous year was awarded to Moses, who for the most part was a chalk outline in the theatre set of Dogville. What was lacking, for most of the film, in flesh and blood was made up for by a wonderful bark. Moses was a key part of the action as his bark heralded the arrival of Grace, played by Nicole Kidman, to Dogville.

Mutley, as you might expect, has a couple of film projects in the pipeline. The first has as working title, *Mutt.* It was born in Cannes, is being funded out of Japan, , has been written in Los Angeles and will be filmed in the UK. Aside from this rom com, Mutt is hard at work on an arty film which will be shot on digital. The project is top secret but will soon be very big news.

Mutley was in Dinard in 2001 for the British Film Festival and was photographed with the jury chairwoman Emily Watson, and also Hugh Grant. This festival is the French equivalent of the French Film Festival UK. Mutley's owner is media guru Toby Rose who contributes to a wide-range of publications including the Evening Standard.

Le chien Mutley runs in the gallery at the Institut Français d'Ecosse, Randolph Crescent from Friday 19 to Monday 29 November. Private View on Thursday 18 November at 5pm. Entrance Free.

Tel: 0131 225 53 66 email: contact@ifecosse.org.uk



### CINEMA VERITÉ visions of reality



They may be worlds apart in terms of subject matter but the contenders in this year's documentary section are riding the crest of a wave of interest in real cinema around the globe. In the wake of Etre et avoir, Fahrenheit 9/11, Lost in La Mancha, Super Size Me, Les glaneurs et la glaneuses and Capturing the Friedmans, documentaries no longer are the poor relations. The public appetite once whetted cannot wait to be satiated. On offer this year is a French take on Bush, a new and amazing voyage of discovery from the team who made Microcosmos, and a deft confrontation between the critics and the artists. The French Institute in Edinburgh will also be screening two slices of real cinema as part of the Month of the Documentary.

Riverside	Sun 21 Nov 4.10pm	
Ciné-Lumière	Tues 23 Nov 8.30pm	
	Wed 24 Nov 6.45pm	
Edinburgh	Fri 26 Nov 6.30pm	
	Sat 27 Nov 2pm	
Glasgow	Sun 28 Nov 3pm & 5pm	
	Mon 29 Nov 6pm	
Aberdeen	Thurs 4 Dec 3.45pm	
	Fri 5 Dec 3.45pm	

#### Genesis

From the makers of Microcosmos comes another intriguing foray around the universe. Quite simply a storyteller relates the creation of the world. It may seem like a tall tale like all yarns. But this tall tale is a true one our very own story.

What science knows about the origins of the universe is presented painlessly and in simple, vivid language by an African storyteller-cum-philosopher (distinguished

veteran Sotigui Kouyate). He employs accessible demonstrations, using a cauldron full of water, a few soap bubbles or puffs of smoke, to tie together the majestic images used to illustrate the life cycle.

Where Microcosmos, true to its title, looked at the insect world, the new venture aims out into the cosmos and back, starting with the resounding Nothing that later filled up with stars and planets, including Earth and many of its most arresting inhabitants.

Cameras range in locales from Iceland to the Galapagos, and the directors appear to have convinced colourful specimens of marine and land life to give fantastic shows for the lens.

As scientists first and foremost, the filmmakers take care to glory in the myriad facets of life on earth without getting mired in religious explanations for where all this scenery and its striking inhabitants came from. The mix of humour and awe speaks for itself on every level. An unmissable treat Claude Nuridsany, Marie Perennou

Prod: Alain Sarde, Les Films de la Veranda, R.T.I co-production with participation of Canal Plus

Prod: Christine Gozla

Scr: Claude Nuridsany, Marie Perennou

Claude Nuridsany, Patrice Aubertel, William Lubtchansky, Cyril Tricot

Marie-Josephe Yoyotte,

Mus: Bruno Coulais

Int sales: Studio Canal, 1, Place du Spectacle, 92863 Issy les Moulineaux Cedex 9 Tel: 0033 171 35 35 35 Fax: 0033 171 35 11 89

2004. 80mins



#### CINEMA VERITÉ



Riverside

Sun 21 Nov 2.30pm

Edinburgh

Sat 27 Nov 4pm & Mon 29 Nov 8.30pm

Tues 30 Nov 5pm & 6.50pm Wed 1 Dec 3pm

#### Je t'aime moi non plus I Love you me Neither

Maria De Medeiros is best known as the petite round-faced star of such films as Henry and June and Pulp Fiction but here in her second foray into direction (April Captains was the first) she provides a spikey concoction on the love-hate relationship

between the critics and the creative artists. Ken Loach is heard comparing it to the synergy between "a lamp-post and a dog."

Medeiros who's Portuguese, conducts the interviews comfortably in English, French, Spanish and excels at getting critics to speak openly about a profession that is often shrouded in an air of members-only clubbiness. The result is that a few closely guarded secrets come marching out of the closet.

Atom Egoyan humorously recounts the ways in which an appreciative critic can lead an impressionable young director to believe that a single review might change the course of his career.

And before long, the inimitable Pedro Almodovar pops up to state the obvious: that many critics are themselves failed or frustrated filmmakers. After all, he suggests, no child says, "I want to be a film critic when I grow up."

Medeiros remains an alert and curious journalist throughout, with a knack for addressing some of the key issues facing the future of the craft – including the rapidly diminishing space afforded to serious critics (except in France) – in newspapers and magazines the world over.

Maria de Medeiros

Prod: An Everybody on Deck presentation in co-production with Onoma Cinecinema Produced by Bernard Rapp, Didier Creste

Scr: Maria De Medeiros

Ed: Frederic Charcot

Ph: Joshua Phillips

Mus: Caetano Veloso, Chico Buarque

Int sales: Onoma 4 rue de Miromesnil, Paris 75008 FRANCE Tel: 00 331 58 18 34 90 Fax: 00 331 45 25 99 70 e: onoma@onomainternational.com

2004. 81mins



Edinburgh

Sat 20 Nov 2.30pm Sun 21 Nov 3.45pm

Le monde selon Bush

The World According to Bush

William Karel adopts a more traditional

approach than Michael Moore but his take

Mon 22 Nov 6pm Tues 23 Nov 3pm

is just as damning as Fahrenheit 9/11. Those who think Moore's blast was diminished by his "liberal agenda", extensive use of pre-existing footage or failure to "show both sides" will have a much harder time discrediting the equally unflattering conclusions in The World According to Bush (unless they want to point out the director and producer are French.)

A wealth of original interviews conducted by the veteran Karel, complemented by powerful first-person testimony from an assortment of Bush non-sympathisers, from Hans Blix to David Kay, whose comments are as authoritative as they're damning.

Americans (and others) who are allergic to Moore but seek insight into why the actions of the Bush Administration are rarely viewed as admirable beyond US borders will find a thoughtful crash course here.

Norman Mailer, Robert Steele, Michael Leeden, James Robinson, Robert Baer, David Frum, Charles Lewis, Jim Hoagland, Joseph Trento, Sam Gwynne, Ed McAteer, Amaud de Borchgrave, Stanley Hoffmann, James Woosley, Richard Perle, Gen. William Odom, Anthony Blinken, David Corn, Hans Blix, Jawier Perez de Cuellar, Colin Powell, Joseph Wilson, Prof. Met Dinh, Frank Carlucci, Laurent Murawiec, David Kay.

Dir: William Karel

Agnès Vicariot, Jean-François Lepetit, Flach Film, France 2, RTBF, TSR, SBS Prod-

William Karel, in collaboration with Eric Laurent, inspired by Laurent's books *La guerre des Bush* and *Le monde secret de Bush* 

Narr: Michel Papineschi

Ph: Stephane Saporito Music: Ani DiFranco

Ed: Tal Zana

Int sales: Rezo Films 29, rue du Faubourg-Poissonnière, Paris 75009 FRANCE Tel: 00 33 1 42 46 46 30 Fax: 00 33 1 42 46 40 82 w: www.rezofilms.com e: infosrezo@rezofilms.com

2004. 90min

As part of Mois du Documentaire the French Institute in Edinburgh are holding two special documentary evenings Free entry plus a glass of wine Tel : 0131 225 5366 or contact@ifecosse.org.uk

#### On n'est pas des marques de vélo

Edinburgh: 15 November, 6pm
This is the story of a generation living in the heart of the northern suburbs of Paris (the famous "93") where the Hip Hop movement originated in the early 1980s. With the collaboration of the choreographer Farid Berki, Jean-Pierre Thorn retraces the life of a young dancer, Bouda, and her immigrant parents.

Jean-Pierre Thorn. 2002. 89 min.

Edinburgh: 16 November, 6pm Claire Simon followed Mirni, step by step from Nice where she was born, to the mountain countryside winer she chose to live. The film helps us to share her feelings and her encounters. Mirni isn't a star but she's happy to talk simply about herself. Claire Simon, 2002, 105min



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## The rebirth begins



The success of Denys Arcand's Les invasions barbares has given Quebec cinema a much needed shot in the arm but the industry still exists on a precarious balance. This year the French Film Festival UK throws a special spotlight on Quebec cinema in collaboration with the Québec Government Office in London and the Societé de developpement des entreorises culturelles (SODEC) in Paris.

Québec cinema is achieving unprecedented box office success and international acclaim. In the summer of 2003, Quebec films accounted for 18% of total ticket sales in the province; to put that figure in perspective, English-language Canadian productions typically account for only about 1% of the Canadian box office.

In addition, box office for Québec movies during the first four months of 2004 improved 113% on the year-earlier period, according to Alex Films, a tracking firm that compiles movieticket sales data. That increase is especially notable given that 2003 is the best year on record for Quebec cinema, with locally produced titles taking in 4.4 million Canadian dollars (\$3.4 million US) in ticket sales.

Yet when French cinema sneezes then Québec cinema catches cold. If French films do well in Canada then the home-grown industry benefits from the roller-coaster effect.

The last few months have seen disappointing results by le cinéma français in Québec compared to previous years. Hollywood commands the lion's share of the market with 78 per cent while films from France account for about four per cent of the total.

One commentator Pierre Brousseau from Films Séville sugggest that young audiences are not hooked into French films while a string of high profile comedies such as Chouchou and Les 11 commandements flopped disastrously at the box office.

French companies are accused of chasing the American dream of trying to sell their films for US distribution rather than cultivating the ready-made audience that exists in Québec – which means that frequently they are pricing themselves beyond the potential return for distributors in the province.

Once upon a time the market for French films in Canada amounted to between 400,000 and 600,000 Canadian dollars – now companies had to be content with half that amount, yet the prices charged by sales companies had remained the same. "Tais Toi scarcely reached 500,000 Canadian dollars whereas previous films by the same director Francis Veber scored 1.3 million and 1.2 million respectively. The market is no longer what it was and we have to scale down our expectations," said one source.

It's often said that Québec films released beyond the province's borders are hampered by parochialism in which in-jokes abound – and that comedies in particular fare badly overseas, especially in France.

There are exceptions to the rule, notably La grande séduction which has become one of the highest grossing Canadian films ever, and has had an enthusiastic reception overseas on the festival circuit, starting off with the Sundance Film Festival earlier this year.

The history of cinema in Québec started on 27 June, 1896 when the French Louis Minier inaugurated the first movie projection in

North America in a Montreal theatre room. However, it would have to wait until the 1960s before a genuine Quebec cinema industry emerged.

The National Film Board of Canada was established by the Parliament of Canada in 1939. Its office moved to Montreal in 1955. In 1957, the new Trueman commissioner recommended the creation of a separately funded French production wing. Minister J.W. Pickersgill rejected Trueman's recommendation as Ottawa feared that two separate organisations would develop under the same roof. This decision intensified the campaign of the Quebec French language press for an autonomous French language branch. Guy Roberge was appointed Commissioner in April 1957. The French branch of the National Film Board of Canada was established and the NFB became autonomous in 1959.

Cinema-vérité ("truth cinema") auteurs such as Michel Brault and Pierre Perrault made their debut. For most of the 1940s, Quebec films were about the country. Other important filmmakers of the 60s include Gilles Groulx and Claude Jutra. That decade also saw the beginnings of Gilles Carle and Denys Arcand.

The seventies marked a high in national filtmmaking. Commercial directors such as Denis Héroux were making hugely profitable movies for the first time since La Petite Aurore with such fare as Valérie and Deux femmes en or, an erotic movie. Arcand and Carle had critical [especially at Cannes] and some commercial success with films such as Gina Arcand) and La vraie nature de Bernadette (Carle). In 1975, director Claude Jultra released one of the most critically praised Quebec film to date, Mon oncle Antoine. However, his next movie, an adaptation of Anne Hébert's Karnouraska, was a failure.

The victory of the "no" camp in the referendum on Sovereignty-Association was a turning point in Quebec history and culture. Denys Arcand made one of his most acclaimed picture with the NFB, Le confort et l'indifférence, about the result of the referendum. He then procedeed to direct two movies that were nominated for best foreign picture at the Academy awards: 1986's Le déclin de l'empire américain and 1989's Jésus de Montréal.

After 1980, most felt that the struggle to build a nation that had animated early Quebec cinema was lost. Quebec filmmakers began to make movies that were no longer centred on the Quebec identity. The 1986 success, at home and abroad, of *Le déclin* marked another turning point in the movie history of the province. The government-funded "industry" tried to repeat Arcand's success with international co-productions, big budget movies and so-called "mass audience movies" to muted effect.

Last year was called "the year of Quebec's cinema's rebirth" with Arcand finally winning the foreign film Oscar for his *Le déclin* sequel *Les invasions barbares*, and with *Gaz bar blues* and *La grande séduction* gaining critical and public acclaim.

#### QUEBEC FOCUS



UGC Londor

Sat 20 Nov Shaftesbury Ave 11am, 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm

Edinburgh

Tues 23 Nov 2.30pm Wed 24 Nov 6pm

Glasgow

Thurs 25 Nov 8.30pm Sat 27 Nov 6.15pm

#### 20h17 rue Darling

An unemployed crime reporter and recovering alcoholic, Gérard has finally come back to Hochelaga, the working class Montreal neighbourhood where he grew up. Through a series of minor mishaps, he arrives home one night, just minutes after his apartment building has been torn apart by an explosion that claims six lives.

Three times divorced and six months sober, Gérard is wracked by survivor guilt. Questions torment him: why did his neighbours die and not him? Is there any sense to this event? Does life itself have any meaning? In seeking to answer the unanswerable, Gérard's old investigative instincts are reborn, as is his attraction to the bottle, and he embarks on a journey both geographical and existential.

This marks the second feature by the well-respected Bernard Émond.

Luc Picard, Diane Lavallée, Vincent Bilodeau, Guylaine Tremblay, Louis Sincennes, Fanny Malette.

Bernard Émond

Bernadette Payeur. ACPAV 1050, boul. René-Lévesque Est Bureau 200 Montreal, Quebec H2L 2L6. Tel: [514] 849-2281 Fax: [514] 849-9487.

Scr: Bernard Émond

Jean-Pierre Saint-Louis Ph:

Louise Côté

Mus: Robert Marcel Lepage

Int sales: Christal Films 376. rue VictoriaBureau 300, Westmount, Quebec H3Z 1C3. Tel: [514] 336-9696. Fax: (514) 336-0607

info@christalfilms.com www.christalfilms.com



Thurs 25 Nov 2.30pm

Aberdeen

Sun 28 Nov 3.45pm

Glasgow

Wed 1 Dec 6.30pm Thurs 2 Dec 3pm

#### C2Q Seek You Two

Carole Laure's seductive drama is a woman's picture in the very best sense of that term. Only a female director could tell this story of adolescent torment in such a powerfully intimate and sensuous way, and do it with a confidence that invites men in too.

Beautifully filmed in and around Montreal, this story of a confused, angry and scared teenager taking her first steps toward maturity is universal. Clara Furey, Laure's own daughter, is a revelation as Rachel, a hurt and sullen youngster whose parents made her choose between them when they split. Raised by her mother, she accuses her mother's boyfriend of abusing her and regards even the gentlest approach by a male as an assault. Touchy and offensive, she screams invective at them both and stays out at night scoring dope.

Meanwhile, inside a woman's prison, a lithe and exotic convict named Jeanne (Danielle Hubbard) has befriended shy, plump, housewifely Odile (Mireille Thibault) and shows her how to feel better about herself through dancing. When Jeanne is released and takes a bus to her home at a motel in the country, Rachel happens to see her leave the prison and follows her when she gets off. Jeanne is immediately responsive to the young woman's plight and gradually Rachel stays more and more at the motel, where Jeanne has a complicated relationship with the owner. Steven [Jean-Marc Barr). Once released, Odile too becomes part of the ad hoc family and she brings along her loving husband and kids.

Jeanne is a teacher of contemporary dance and it is through exposure to that most rigorous and challenging art form that Rachel discovers the potential for not only artistic expression but also love. Life, however, remains unforgiving and there are still many bridges to cross for each of the

Cast: Clara Furey, Danielle Hubbard, Mireille Thibault, Jean-Marc Barr, Emmanuel Bilodeau

Dir: Carole Laure

Prod: Lorraine Richard, Pascal Arnold, Carole Laure; Cite Amerique, Les Productions Laure in collaboration with Toloda and France 2 Cinema

Carole Laure

Gerard Simon

Marie-Blanche Colonna Ed:

Mus: Jeff Fisher

Int sales: Films Distribution, 20, rue Saint-Augustin 75002 Paris Tel: 0033 153 10 33 99 Fax: 0033 155 10 33 98 www.filmsdistribution.com

2003, 100 mins

#### QUEBEC FOCUS



**UGC London** Shaftesbury Ave

Tues 23 Nov 11am, 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm

Thurs 25 Nov 8.30pm Fri 26 Nov 4pm Sat 27 Nov 8.30pm

Glasgow

Mon 29 Nov 8.30pm

Dundee

Sun 28 Nov 5.45pm

La grande séduction **Seducing Dr Lewis** 

This rollicking story describes in witty detail how a ragtag community on a small island in Quebec attempts to snare a young doctor from the big city who craves cosmopolitan cuisine and foreign sporting activity.

Reminiscent of the glorious Ealing comedies like the classic Whisky Galore or even more contemporary shenanigans such as The Full Monty or Waking Ned, Jean-François Pouliot's beguiling and sophisticated debut feature proves that with pluck and imagination, anything can be made irresistible.

Not only may Doctor Lewis be seduced, but judging from the public who voted it the Audience Award at the Sundance Film Festival, so will everyone else who sees it. The comic tension lies in wondering which event will happen first: a villager exposing the charade or the hoodwinked outsider catching on to the game.

The film's strengths are in the characters of the villagers and their efforts to maintain the conceit. Raymond Bouchard is particularly good as an ordinary man forced to take charge in an extraordinary venture.

Raymond Bouchard, David Boutin, Benoît Brière, Bruno Blanchet, Pierre Collin, Rita Lafontaine

Jean-François Pouliot

Prod: Studio Max Films, Alexandra Wermester

Scr: Ken Scott

Ph: Allen Smith

Dominique Fortin

Mus: Jean-Marie Benoit

Int sales: Altiance Atlantis Vivafilm 5, Place Ville-Marie Bureau 1435 Montreal, Quebec H3B 262 Tel: (514) 878-2282. Fax: (514) 878-2419. info.vivafilm@allianceatlantis.com

www.allianceatlantis.com

2003. 110mins



Glasgow

Wed 24 Nov 9pm Thurs 25 Nov 6.45pm

Edinburgh

Mon 29 Nov 6pm Tues 30 2.30pm

#### Quebec-Montreal

An innovative twist on the Canadian "road movie" tradition, *Quebec-Montreal* follows four different cars as they travel down Highway 20 from Quebec City to Montreal. While the characters in each car are traveling down the same road, they are headed in very different directions. In the first car, secret tensions are about to spoil the vacation of three best friends. The second car transports two co-workers tangled up in a web of unintended flirtation and mistaken signals. The third car features a couple on the verge of a new life together – if they can survive the ride without killing each other. Meanwhile, an idealised couple in a flashy red sports-car zips by, reminding everyone what they are missing in their lives.

The confines of each car may be cramped, but anyone who has been on a road-trip knows that the most interesting conversations can be had in close quarters. An ensemble of talented actors brings to life a story full of unexpected revelations and hilarious insights into romantic foibles. Ricardo Trogi's directorial debut is a clever, sexually-charged ensemble comedy. It was nominated for four Genie Awards (the Canadian Oscars), including best motion picture

Cast: Patrice Robitaille. Jean-Phillippe Pearson, Stephane Breton, and Issabelle Blais

Dir: Ricardo Trogi

Nicole Robert, Richard Speer. Go Films inc. 400, av. Atlantic Penthouse, Outremont, Quebec H2V 1A5 Tel: (514) 844-0271 Fax: (514) 844-9127 go@gofilms.qc.ca

Jean-Philippe Pearson, Patrice Robitaille, Ricardo Trogi

Steve Asselin Ph:

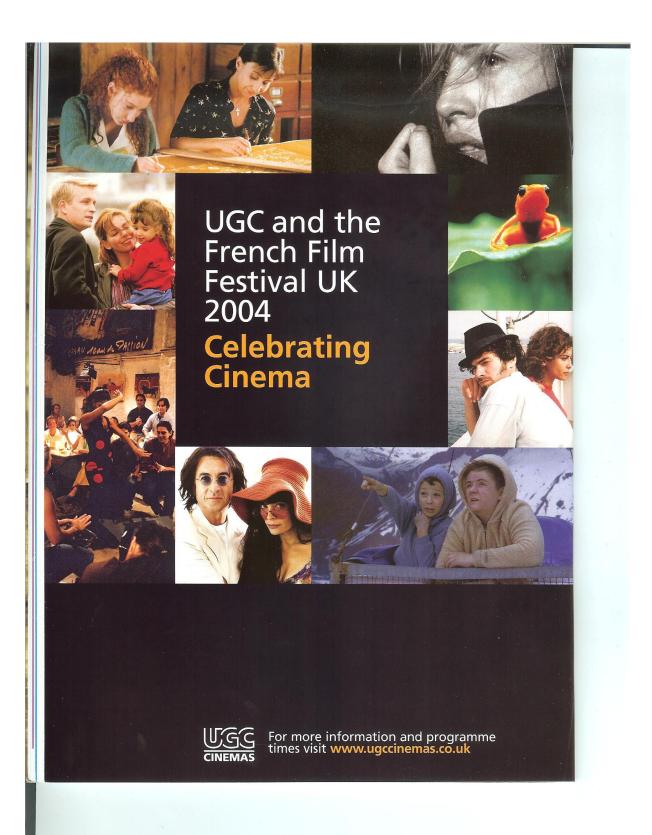
Yvann Thibaudeau Ed:

Mus: Pierre Desrochers, Nathalie Boileau

Int sales: Alliance Atlantis Vivafilm 5, Place Ville-Marie Bureau 1435 Montreal, Quebec H3B 2G2 Tel: (514) 878-2282. Fax: [514) 878-2419. info.vivafilm@allianceatlantis.com www.allianceatlantis.com

2003, 90mins





## hitting the high notes



Some of the most exciting new discoveries in French cinema of the past 12 months can be found in New Waves, the section devoted to first, second and third time directors. Eleonore Faucher has marked herself out as an Agnès Varda for a new generaton while Christophe Barratier is responsible for one of the year's biggest hits, now set to work its choral magic abroad. There is also a totally delightful piece of animation sharing concerns about the planet. Add the continuing confident hand of Gael Morel; an unashamedly theatrical ensemble piece full of youthful verve; a surreal treat with the late Marie Trintignant and an exposé of work-place politics and you have a tantalising choice. Note too the entrancing tale of a boy growing up in the shadow of Mont-Blanc; a thriller based on a novel by Donald E Westlake and a marital comedy drama. Simply, you're spoilt for choice.

Ciné-Lumière	Sat 27 Nov 8.30pm	
	Sun 28 Nov 5pm	
Glasgow	Mon 29 Nov 8.30pm	
Edinburgh	Tues 30 Nov 8.30pm	
Dundee	Wed 1 Dec 8pm	
Aberdeen	Tues 4 Dec 6.30pm	
	Wed 5 Dec 6.30pm	

## **Brodeuses**A Common Thread

Assured and tenderly felt, Brodeuses / A Common Thread marks the debut of a promising new talent in writer-director Eléonore Faucher. This story of a rural teenager coming to terms with her pregnancy and her future has some affinities with Agnès Varda's Vagabonde and the Dardennes brothers' Rosetta. Brodeuses.

however, doesn't share their gritty social realist approach or emotional intensity, but is much warmer in tone.

Made with great craft and control that gently seduces the audience with its sympathetic characters and human-interest drama it has won festival admiration and prizes among them Le Prix Michel d'Ornano at the Deauville Film Festival in Normandy and in Cannes it tied for the Critics' Week Grand Prix with Keren Yedaya's Or.

Brodeuses avoids the sentimentality of a film like How To Make An American Quilt but in lesser hands the device might have seemed laboured. Faucher has the confidence and maturity to make it work and is immeasurably helped by the two central performances by Ariane Ariscaride and Lolya Naymark.

st:	Lola Naymark, Ariane Ascaride,
	Marie Felix, Thomas Laroppe,
	Arthur Quehen, and
	Jacky Berroyer

#### Dir: Eléonore Fauche

Prod:	Sombrero Pictures, Mallia Films,	
	Alain Benguigui,	
	Destroy d Van Effecteur	

#### Scr: Eleonore Faucher, Gaelle Mace

#### Ph: Pierre Cottereau

#### Ed: Joele Van Effenterre

#### Music: Michael Galasso

Int sales: Flache Pyramide, 5 rue Chevalier de Saint-George, 75008 Paris. Tel: 00 33 (0)1 42 96 01 01, Fax: 00 33 (0)1 40 20 02 21.

2004. 88mins





Mon 15 Nov 8.45pm	
Fri 19 Nov 8.30pm	
Sat 20 Nov 6pm	Mon 22 Nov 2.30p
	Fri 19 Nov 8.30p

 Manchester
 Thurs 25 Nov 6.25pm

 Dundee
 Sat 27 Nov 8.30pm
 Mon 29 Nov 10am

 Aberdeen
 Thurs 2 Dec 6.30pm
 Fri 3 Dec 3.45pm

#### Les choristes The Choir

The kind of heart-warming, sentimental yarn that some critics might dismiss Les Choristes has not just become a French box office hit, but also a cultural phenomenon. Fictionally covering parts of the same territory as the tremendously successful documentary Erne El Avoir, first time director Christophe Barratier focuses on an unemployed music teacher, hired as the supervisor of a young offenders' institution where he uses

music to both tame his unruly students and defeat the brutal methods of its headmaster. He piles unashamedly all the cliches of the genre one on top of the other.

The year is 1948. Clement Mathieu (Jugnot) is a chubby, middle-aged, and good-natured dominie, dreaming, like most music teachers, of becoming a great composer. Instead he finds himself in charge of these misfit children, some of them orphans whose parents lost their lives in the war, others kids from destitute families or unruly brats whose parents have given up on them.

He has no previous experience to guide him nor any particular charms, except his natural common sense and a lot of sympathy for this brood that everybody else seems very happy to be rid of. From the very first he is determined to support his pupils and take their side every time authority, represented by headmaster Rachin (François Berléand) threatens to raise its cane and strike.

It all proceeds with such good spirits and with so much relish that few will be able to resist its charms. With comic Gérard Jugnot offering an affectionate performance in the lead and with a bunch of kids who obviously had the time of their lives breaking all the rules and abusing the adults in charge, Les choristes is the kind of family entertainment that the French seem to do so well.

It will be released in the UK early next year.

Cast: Gerard Jugnot, Francois Berleand, Jacques Perrin, Kad Merad, Marie Bunel, Philippe de Janerand, Jean-Paul Bonnaire, Didier Flamand, and Carole Weiss

Dir: Christophe Barratier

Prod: Galatee Films, France 2 Cinema, Renn Productions, Jacques Perrin

Scr: Christophe Barratier, Philippe Lopes-Curval

Ph: Dominique Gentil

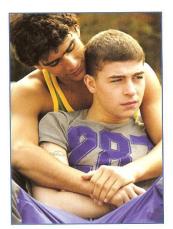
Ed: Yves Deschamps

Mus: Bruno Coulais

Int sales: Pathé international, 10 rue Lincoln, 75008 Paris Tel: 0033 140 76 94 38 Fax: 0033 140 76 91 94 www.patheinternational.com

UK dist: Pathé UK, Kent House, 14 - 17 Market Place London WIW 8AR, England Tel: +44 (0)20 7462 4427 Fax: +44 (0)20 7436 7891 www.pathe-uk.com

2004. 90 mins



## Riverside Fri 19 Nov 8.55pm Glasgow Sun 21 Nov 6.30pm Edinburgh Mon 22 Nov 6.30pm

#### Le Clan The Clan

Three brothers explore the sometimes awkward, sometimes dangerous business of burgeoning masculinity in The Clan, the third film after Full Speed and Under Another Sky from young actor turned director Gael Morel (who notably starred in André Techiné's Wild Reeds).

The three distinct segments (of 30, 40 and 18 minutes) are named after the three brothers. Marc (Nicolas Cazale), a perfect physical specimen, age 22, is a tightly-coiled rebel. His fury is impossible to channel once his admired older brother, Christophe (Stéphane Rideau), gets out of prison but refuses to help him avenge a terrible injustice at the hands of local toughs. Christophe lands a job at a factory that satts hams. Meanwhile, the third brother, Olivier (Thomas Dumerchez), 17, admires his conferees but finds life difficult at home. He becomes attracted to 21-year-old Hicham (Salim Kechiouche).

Morel excels at exploring the raw, pointless energy of bored young men. The mountain scenery near Annecy emphasises how easy it is to lead a constricted life in proximity to wide open spaces.

Cast: Nicolas Cazale, Stephane Rideau, Thomas Dumerchez, Bruno Lochet, Salim Kechiouche, Jackie Berroyer, Vincent Martinez, Aure Atika

Dir: Gael Morel

Prod: An ID Distribution release of a Sepia Prods., Rhone-Alpes Cinema production, with participation of Rhone-Alpes Region, CNC. Philippe Jacquier. Bertrand Guerry

Scr: Morel, Christophe Honore

Ph: Jean-Max Bernard

Ed: Catherine Schwartz

Mus: Camille Rocailleux

Int sales: Films Distribution, 20 Rue Saint-Augustin, Paris 75002. tel.: > +331 53 10 33 98

UK dist: Perasol Peccadillo a PPR
Release, Hoxton Works Office 3.4,
128 Hoxton Street, London N1 6SH
Tel: 020 7012 1770;
Fax: 020 7012 1771
e: info@pprflim.com

w: www.pprfilm.com

2004. 88 mins



Ciné-Lumière

Thurs 18 Nov 8.30pm

Edinburgh

Fri 19 Nov 8.15pm Sun 21 Nov 1pm

Glasgow

Sat 20 Nov 5.15pm

## *L'esquive*The Dodger

Adolescent passion and theatrical ambitions become entwined in *L'esquive*, an engaging

ensemble piece set amid a Paris housing scheme that's brought to life by an impressive young cast. Despite its no-name players, a low-stakes story, an untranslated title [French slang for "dodging"] and DV origins, the film already has created buzz.

At the centre of the drama is Krimo (Osman Elkharraz), an emotionally shut-down teenager who has an internal life that neither his girlfriend, Magali (Aurelie Ganito), nor his mother (Meriem Serbah) can access. While largely inarticulate and uncommunicative, Krimo clearly has a creative heart: His room is covered with watercolor illustrations of sailboats that his (unseen) father paints while in prison (on unidentified charges).

Dumped by Magali for his unexplained absences, Krimo trots downstairs and bumps into blonde bombshell Lydia (Sara Forestier). She's haggling over the design and cost of a dress she will wear in a school performance. Smitten, Krimo lends her cash to buy the dress and follows her, at her invitation, to a rehearsal in the park.

Unlike many films that flirt with theatrical material, Tunisian-born, French-raised helmer Abdellatif Kechiche makes the most of his camera. Opting for close-ups – and frequently extreme close-ups – the director thrusts the viewer into an intimate, confronting proximity that frequently obscures the backgrounded Parisien housing estates.

Cast: Osman Elkharraz, Sara Forestier, Sabrina Ouazani, Nanou Benhamou, Aurelie Ganito. Meriem Serbah, Rachid Hami

Dir: Abdellatif Kechich

**Prod:** A Noe Prods, Intl. presentation, in association with Lola Films. Produced by Jacques Ouaniche

Scr: Abdellatif Kechiche

Ph: Lubomir Bakchev

Ed: Ghalya Lacroix

Int sales: Films Distribution, 20, rue Saint-Augustin 75002 Paris Tel: 0033 153 10 33 99 Fax: 0033 153 10 33 98 www.filmsdistribution.com

2004. 123 mins



#### UGC London Fri 19 Nov Shaftesbury Ave 11am, 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm

Silantesbai y Ave	11am, 1.00pm, 4pm, 0.00pm, 7p
Manchester	Wed 24 Nov 6.15pm
Dundee	Fri 26 Nov 8.30pm
Aberdeen	Sun 28 Nov 6.30pm
	Mon 29 Nov 3.45pm
Glasgow	Wed 1 Dec 8.30pm
Edinburgh	Thurs 2 Dec 8.30pm

#### Janis et John

A joyously far-fetched premise is moulded into an off-beat slice of baby boomer heaven in Janis and Jahn. This assured deadpan comedy, in which a mousey housewife and a loser actor achieve self-actualisation by posing as Janis Joplin and John Lennon, is a lively, stylishly rendered venture that marks a sharp big-screen debut by co-scripter and director Samuel Benchetrit.

It provides a dynamite final role for actress Marie Trintignant whose mother Nadine Trintignant paid a private visit to last year's French Film Festival. This genuinely funny and sweetly cast ode pays hommage to rock, drugs, larceny, loneliness – and love.

Benchetrit, a celebrated theatre director, aided by a stellar cast and a fantastic score, has concocted a bold, vibrant, riotously funny comedy, evoking both the suburban kitsch visuals of American Beauty and the surreal universe of Being John Malkovich.

Cast: Sergi Lopez, Marie Trintignant, François Cluzet, Jean-Louis Trintignant, Christophe Lambert

Dir: Samuel Benchetrit

**Prod:** Olivier Delbosc/ Marc Missonnier

Scr: Samuel Benchetrit/Gabor Rassov

Ph: Pierre Aïm

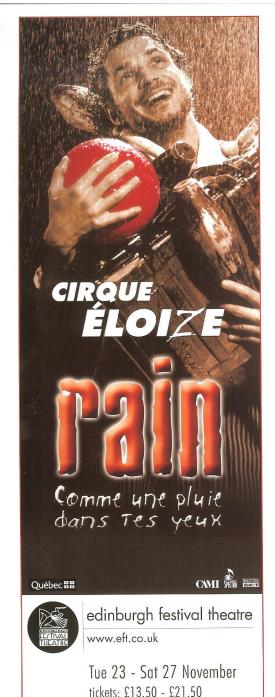
Ed: Juliette Welfing

Sound: Miguel Rejas

Int sales: Wild Bunch, 99, rue de la Verrerie, 75004 Paris Tel: 0033 153 01 50 20 Fax: 0033 153 01 50 49 www.wildbunch.biz

2003. 104 mins





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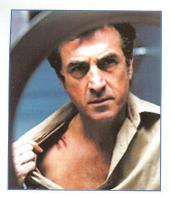
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www.ials.ed.ac.uk =



Fri 19 Nov 6pm

Edinburgh

Sat 20 Nov 8.30pm

Ciné-Lumière

Thurs 25 Nov 6.30pm

Fri 26 Nov 8.45pm

#### Je suis un assassin The Hook

A down-on-his-luck writer turns murderer-forhire in Thomas Vincent's The Hook, a very French thriller despite being adapted from a novel by American Donald F. Westlake, An unsuccessful novelist, played by François Cluzet, obliges a best-selling colleague by dispatching the rich man's wife.

Cluzet's character misses his train home to Marseilles after an interview in Paris for a dreaded job as a Spanish teacher. While killing time in the station newsstand, he bumps into former pal Brice Cantor (Bernard Giraudeau), now a suave megabucks author whose latest book is visible on the shelf between translations of Tom Clancy and Patricia Cornwell.

Vincent, whose much-praised 1999 debut Karnaval highlighted working class concerns under gray skies, is equally at home in the rarefied air of cultural movers and shakers and extravagant lifestyles. He excels at exposing the gap between - not the haves and have-nots - but rather the have-lots and wish-they-had-mores.

François Cluzet. Cast: Bernard Giraudeau, Karin Viard, Anne Brochet, Jacques Spiesser, Antoine Chappey

Thomas Vincent

Prod: Fidelite Production presentation of a Fidelite Production, France 3 Cinema, Studio Canal, Gimages Film production with participation of Canal Plus and TPS Star. Produced by Olivier Delbosc. Marc Missonier

Maxime Sassier, Thomas Vincent, based on the novel *The Contract* by Donald E. Westlake. Scr:

Ph: Dominique Bouilleret

Mus: Krishna Levy

Int sales: Studio Canal, 1, Place du Spectacle, 92863 Issy les Moulineaux

Cedex 9 Tel: 0033 171 35 35 35 Fax: 0033 171 35 11 89 www.studiocanal.com

2004. 111 mins



Glasgow

Tues 23 Nov 7pm

Dundee

Sat 27 Nov 1.45pm

#### Malabar Princess

A young boy spends a year in the French Alps beside Mont-Blanc in this intelligently scripted and beautifully made family picture for all ages.

It blends historical facts and believable human behaviour to yield sharp evidence that life isn't always easy as the boy discovers the truth about his absent mother.

The prologue shows an exhausted Pierre (Clovis Cornillac) stumbling alone through snow and ice to collapse at the mountain cabin of his father-in-law, Gaspard (Jacques Villeret), a crusty widower who works on the Mont-Blanc tramway. As Pierre had set out with his wife, Sophie (Julianne Loucq, in flashbacks), his three-year-old son Tom naturally asks, "Where's mummy?" Five years later, the only answer Tom (Jules Angelo Bigarnet) has ever been given is that his mum, an experienced skier and mountaineer, "disappeared" on a glacier, Because grown-ups have always used the euphemism (which, in French, means both "vanished" and passed away"], Tom remains convinced that if they look hard enough they'll still be able to locate her.

Tom, who's both dyslexic and literally-minded, is sent to spend a year with his grandfather so his guilt-plagued father can concentrate on work with the French railways. At first reluctant, the lad learns to love his grand-dad and blossoms under the attentive eye of local school-teacher Valentine (Michèle Laroque) and eventually uncovers the truth about his mum's disappearance. Besides being seen by general audiences, *Malabar Princess* also forms part of this year's FFF education programme (see page 43) and is in the grand tradition of such titles as La vache et le président. Le Papillon and Moi César.

Cast: Jacques Villeret, Jules Angelo Bigarnet, Michèle Laroque, Claude Brasseur, Clovis Cornillac, Damien Jouillerot, Urbain Chancelier, Fabienne Chaudat, Julianne Loucq

Dir: Gilles Legrand

**Prod:** Epithete Films, France 3 Cinema, Rhone-Alpes Cinema production, with participation of Canal Plus, CineCinema, France 3, the Rhone-Alpes region, CNC, Cofimages 14, Banque Populaire Images 4, Sogecinema 2, Gimages 6 and Warner Bros (France). Frédéric Brillon

Philippe Vuaillat, Marie-Aude Murail, Gilles Legrand

Yves Angelo

Ed: Andrea Sedlacockova

Mus: Rene Aubry

Int sales: Flache Pyramide, 5 rue Chevalier de Saint-George, 75008 Paris, Tel: 00 33 (0)1 42 96 01 01. Fax: 00 33 (0)1 40 20 02 21

2004. 95 mins









Ciné-Lumière Fri 19 Nov 3pm Sat 20 Nov 3.30pm

UGC London Sun 21 Nov 11am, 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm

Glasgow

Sat 27 Nov See GFT brochure for details

Sun 28 Nov 1.30pm Dundee

Wed 1 Dec 10am

#### La prophétie des grenouilles Raining Cats & Frogs

Tom, and his adoptive parents, Ferdinand and Juliette, are spending the summer holidays with Lili - a girl of Tom's age. Lili's parents run a family

zoo and have gone to Africa in search of crocodiles! Ferdinand and Juliette have offered to look after the kids and the zoo. Everything is going really well until the day some frogs warn the children that there's going to be a flood! When thunderclaps are heard, the resourceful Ferdinand decides to shelter the household in a barn, which he's able to transform into an ark so as to accommodate the animals from the zoo as well.

La Prophétie des Grenouilles is an exploration of the co-existence of humans and animals, herbivores and carnivores alike. To give voice to his characters, the director has called upon some major names including Annie Girardot, Michel Galabru, Anouk Grimberg and Michel Piccoli.

The anthropomorphic behavior of the animals offers considerable comic potential: a couple of elephants, immobilised by the lack of space, carry on like a pair of cranky elderly pensioners, whilst other animals philosophise and embark on endless discussions as only the French can do.

A charming experience for all audiences, the film is the first totally French produced animated feature since *Le Roi et L'oiseau / The King and Mr. Bird* in 1980. With its clear allusions to the problems of global warming and its cheerful animal saga, *La Prophétie des Grenouilles* is steeped in humanistic values and carries a beautiful and important message – and joyously became a surprise box office champion in France in late 2003. A true delight!

Cast: (Voices): Michel Piccoli, Anouk Grinberg, Annie Girardot, and Michel Galabru

Jacques-Rémy Girerd

Prod: Patrick Eveno

Jacques-Rémy Girerd, Antoine Lanciaux, Louri Tcherenkov

Mus: Serge Besset

Int sales: Studio Canal, 1, Place du Spectacle, 92863 Issy les Moulineaux Tel: 0033 171 35 35 35 www.studiocanal.com

2003. 90mins



Ciné-Lumière

Thurs 4 Nov 8pm

#### Les Sentiments

Two seemingly happily married French couples are forced to contend with a number of issues in director Noemie Lvovsky's highly original marriage comedy drama. Nearing the end of his career, small-town doctor Jacques (the always wonderful Jean-Pierre Bacri) and his wife Carole (Nathalie Bavel are relatively content with their lives and marriage. When François (Melvil Poupaud) – the new doctor taking over Jacques' practice – and his young bride Edith (Isabelle Carré) move in next door Jacques and Carole are ecstatic and they discover that the newcomers have a lot in common

While both the men and women hand with each other, Jacques also begins to take a sexual interest in Edith that she is all too willing to indulge. As their affair quickly ignites, both Jacques and Edith find their respective outlooks on life have been renewed while they also delude themselves by holding on to the notion that they can successfully pull off their affair without causing damage to their

Les Sentiments was included in the programmes for the 2003 Venice International Film Festival and the Toronto International Film Festival and continues its international career as part of the French Film Festival UK.

Cast: Nathalie Baye, Jean-Pierre Bacri, Isabelle Carré, Melvil Poupaud, Agathe Bonitzer & Virglie Grunberg

Prod: Claude Berri, Laurent Petin,

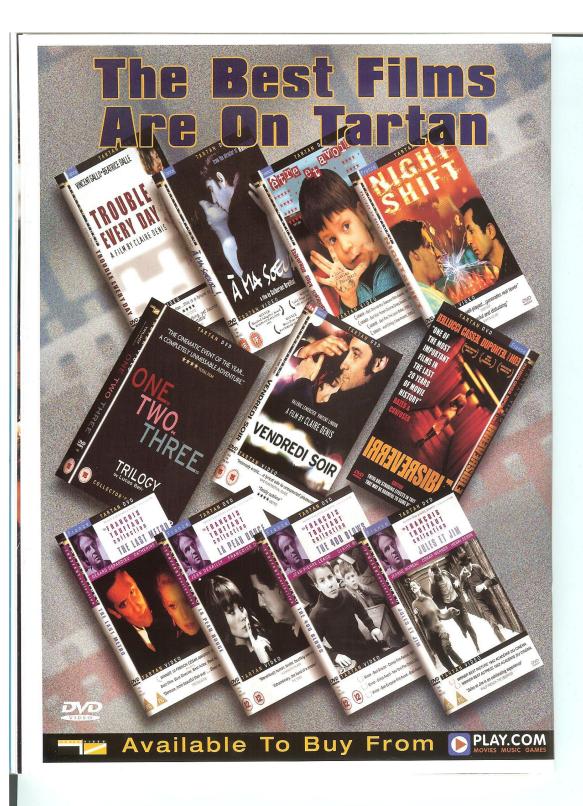
Scr: Florence Seyvos

Ph: Jean-Marc Fabre Ed: François Gedigier

Mus: Jeff Cohen and Philippe Roueche

Int sales: Arp, 13, rue Jean Mermoz. 75008 París
Tel: 0033 156 69 26 00
Fax: 0033 145 63 83 37 www.arpselection.com







Riverside	Sat 20 Nov 9pm
Glasgow	Mon 22 Nov 8.15pm
Edinburgh	Tues 23 Nov 8.30pm
Aberdeen	Fri 26 Nov 6.30pm
	Sat 27 Nov 3.45pm
Dundee	Tues 30 Nov 8.30pm

#### Le soleil assassiné The Sun Assassinated

Set in Algeria in the period shortly after independence, Abdelkarim Bahloul's powerful drama is a tribute to the Algerian-born poet Jean Sénac, murdered in 1962. A radio broadcaster promoting the pleasures of French literature – especially modern voices such as Char and Aragon – Sénac acts as an inspiration to a group of young Algerian poets and performers looking for their own expressive outlet in a changing society.

Inevitably, the poet, his cosmopolitan French circle and his young protégés come under attack from a new regime deeply hostile to the French colonial period and its cultural heritage, resulting in a tragic outcome.

As the homosexual loner and nonconformist Sénac, Charles Berling is a powerful central figure in what is essentially an ensemble drama – at once a political inquiry in the Costa-Gavras tradition, an essay on the complexities of racial and cultural identity, and a passionate plea for tolerance and against censorship.

Cast:	Alexis Loret, Charles Berling,
	Clotilde de Beyser, and
	Ouassini Embarek

Dir: Abdelkrim Bahloul

Prod: Martine Clermont-Tonnerre (de)

Scr: Saïda Ben Mahmoud

Ph: Charlie Van Damme

Ed: Jacques Witta/Pierre Didier

Mus: Jean-Marie Senia/Souad Massi

Int sales: Wide Management Enterprise, 42 bis, rue de Lourmel 75015 Paris Tel: 0033 153 95 04 64 Fax: 0033 153 95 04 65 www.widemanagement.com

2003. 90 mins



Glasgow	Fri 19 Nov 3pm
	Sun 21 Nov 9pm
Ciné-Lumière	Tues 23 Nov 6.45pm
	Wed 24 Nov 8.30pm
Edinburgh	Sat 27 Nov 8.30pm
	Sun 28 Nov 2.30pm
Aberdeen	Tues 30 Nov 6.30pm
	Wed 1 Dec 3.45pm

#### *Vénus et Fleur* Venus and Fleur

An amusing and entertaining two-hander about female friendship, Venus and Fleur showcases several new talents who undoubtedly will be seen again. At the centre of it is a timid Parisian wallflower Fleur (Isabelle Pires) who befriends Russian extrovert Venus (Veroushka Knoge) while both young women are on holiday in Marseilles. Each admires the other's dominant character traits and yearns to find a mate.

They meet each other when their identical handbags get switched in a cafe. Fleur invites Venus to stay with her in her uncle's borrowed villa. An insistent neighbour named God (Frederic Niedermayer) seems unnecessarily keen on both girls, but they're more interested in a backpacker named Happiness (Julien Imbert). The vicissitudes of finding a soul mate are played out via Rohmeresque dialogue while the bizarre names of the protagonists lead to some interesting verbal jokes. Shown as part of the Directors' Fortnight in Cannes.

Cast: Isabelle Pires, Veroushka Knoge, Julien Imbert, Frederic Niedermaye

Dir: Emmanuel Moure

Prod: Frédéric Niedermayer, Philippe Martin, David Thion. A Shellac release of a Moby Dick Films presentation of a Moby Dick Films, Les Films Pelleas production

Scr: Emmanuel Mouret

Ph: Djibril Glissant, Claire Nicol

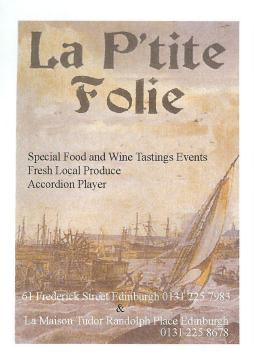
Ed: Cecile Dubois

Mus: Franck Sforza

Int sales: Family Films
78 avenue des Champs-Élysées,
Paris 75008 - FRANCE
Tél +331 43 59 33 66
F: +331 53 76 00 95
www.familyfilms.fr

2004. 78 mins







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Shaftesbury Ave 11

Mon 15 Nov 6.45pm Mon 22 Nov

11am, 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Thurs 25 Nov 6.30pm

Glasgow

Fri 26 Nov 3pm Sun 28 Nov 9pm

Edinburgh Sun 28 No

*Violence des échanges en milieu tempéré* Work Hard, Play Hard

Office work and its horrors have increasingly become a central theme of recent French cinema, notably in films by Philippe Harel (the Houellebecq adaptation Extension du domaine de la lutte / Whateverl and Laurent Cantet (Resources humaines / Human Resources).

Jean-Marc Moutout's film offers further insight into the world of ambitious young execs on the make, on the loose and on the fast track to moral perdition. Jérémie Rénier plays a young trainea newly signed up with a prestigious management consulting firm, and placed under the tutelage of a company hotshot (Laurent Lucas), who walks the walk, talks the talk and brooks no argument.

Sent to the provinces to oversee the audit of a metal company, he soon realises his task is to prepare the way for redundancies all round, and feels the pull of a less compromised life with his single-mother girlfriend back in Paris. But things aren't that easy. Moutout's film echoes oher workplace dramas as well as such Faustian business tales as Wall Street but the detail and the strong acting give it a distinctive touch. The impersonal opening locale of La Défense, and the script's matchless ear for baroque French management-speak add to the realistic thrust.

Cast: Cylia Malki, Jérémie Rénier and Laurent Lucas

Dir: Jean-Marc Moutout

Scr: Ghislaine Jégou-Herzog, Jean-Marc Moutout, Olivier Gorce

Ph: Claude Garnier

Ed: Marie-Hélène Mora

Mus: Sylvain Vanot

Int sales: Flach Pyramide International, 5, rue du Chevalier de Saint-George 75008 Paris Tel: 0033 142 96 02 20 Fax: 0033 140 20 05 51 www.flach-pyramide.com

2003. 95 mins



Glasgow

Sat 20 Nov 3.30pm Sun 21 Nov 8.45pm

## Wild Side

Like a sort of Jules et Jim conundrum for the new millennium, director Sebastien Lifshitz who made Presque rien, follows the fortunes to ftransexual Stephanie who returns home to Northern France and the rural landscape of her childhood to care for her dying mother.

The surroundings provoke a flood of emotions and memories, not only for Stephanie, but also for Mikhait and Jarnel, the two young men who share her affections and her bed. Mikhait lives slitegally hand to mouth in a country where he hardly speaks the language. Jarnel is a young Arab who makes ends meet through prostitution.

Their future is uncertain, although inextricably linked up with each other. Outsiders may not understand them, but the three unlikely friends have found comfort and passion in one another's arms and also the acceptance they have not received from their own families or society.

Wild Side is a beautifully and sparely shot by Agnès Godard with unconventionally sensitive performances. The film has a universal appeal way beyond its gay-themed subject matter. Winner of the Teddy Award at the 2004 Berlin International Film Festival.

Cast: Stephanie Michelini, Edouard Nikitine, Yasmine Belmadi, Josiane Stoleru

Dir: Sebastien Lifshitz

Prod: Gilles Sandoz, Maia Films, in association with YC Aligator Film, Zephyr Films, Arte France Cinema, AB3, with participation of Ganal Plus, Cine Cinema, CNC France, CNC Belgium. ] Produced by Gilles Sando

Scr: Stephane Bouquet Sehastien Lifshitz

Ph: Agnes Godan

Ed: Stephanie Mahet

Mus: Joceyln Pook

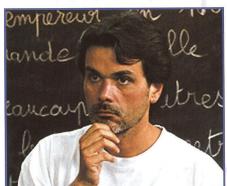
Int sales: Films Distribution, 20 rue Saint Augustin, 75002 Paris. Tel: 00.33 153 10.33 98 W:www.filmsdistribution.com e:info@filmsdistribution.com

JK Dist: PPR Film, Hoxton Works
Office 3.4, 128 Hoxton Street,
London N1 6SH
Tel: 020 7012 1770
Fax: 020 7012 1771
e: christian@pprfilm.com
w: www.pprfilm.com

2004. 94 mins

# songs of praise

Christophe Barratier: I know that films cannot change the world but they can give people the desire to try.



Chosen as France's Oscar contender,
Les choristes has become a cultural
phenomenon with the same impetus
as Amélie. With more than seven
million admissions and rising, a
best-selling soundtrack, a wave
of public and media attention and
a nationwide revival in the choral
singing tradition, it has catapulted
its director into the stratosphere.
RICHARD MOWE finds out what
all the fuss is about.

For the past ten months the whole of France has been alive with the sound of the cherubic voices of the boys who form the backbone of a film that seems made for such adjectives as heart-warming and sentimental.

The first-time director of *Les choristes*, Christophe Barratier, has taken the media feeding frenzy in his stride. His parents are in the business, his family is related to Jacques Perrin (the actor / producer) and before he ducked behind the camera for his directorial debut he was involved as an assistant producer on such hits as *Microcosmos*, *Himalaya* and *Le Peuple migrateur*.

Barratier originally had a musical training as a classical guitarist, winning several international awards but eventually turned towards cinema with his first short film *Les Tombales* with Lambert Wilson and Carole Weiss, adapted from a novel by Guy de Maupassant.

"The territory of *Les choristes* seemed a natural subject for me, partly because I wanted to deal with something with a musical background and partly because all the ideas I had in my head reverted back to childhood. I was inspired by one film, made in 1945, by Jean Dreville, *La cage aux rossignols* [The Cage with the Nightingales] which I kept seeing on television when I was seven or eight. What struck me was the way this film used the voices of the youngsters and also the effect of the

musician who made such an impact on those around him. In fact all the films that made an impression on me at that time featured individuals who were inspirational. I know that films cannot change the world but they can give people the desire to try."

Although Barratier had no inkling that the film would take off in quite the way it has, he felt the themes of injustice and youthful rebellion had a universal appeal. His hunch proved correct: *Les choristes*, stil on release with a DVD in preparation for the Christmas season, outstripped Harry Potter at the box office with more than seven million admissions.

What was even more amazing was that choirmasters across the country have been inundated by applications from boys and girls who say their lives have been changed by the music. Jean-Baptiste Maunier the angelic 13-year-old from Lyon who is the film's leading voice – has become an overnight star.

"The film has made choral singing fashionable. It has succeeded in winning over young people who had no previous musical culture," says Jean-François Duchamp, president of the Federation of Petits Chanteurs, which comprises more than 100 church and cathedral choirs.

#### PROFILE

Like Britain, France used to have a tradition of choir schools attached to cathedrals. In the past 20 years, a nationwide network of non-religious choirs has also been built up with the help of regional cultural funding, with the result that there are now some 25,000 choirs singing a repertoire that includes jazz, variety and increasingly – gospel. The film has helped to bring choral singing out of the restrictive image it had of being purely religious. In addition in the age of pop, television, gameboys, internet, and sport, youngsters like the idea of an activity for which all they need to bring along is their voice.

Gérard Jugnot, a previous French Film Festival guest for Une époque formidable, takes the lead role as Clément Mathieu, a humble music teacher who uses singing to redeem the lost souls at an authoritarian reform school in post-war France.

"Gérard also was one of the co-producers of the film, and I respect his judgement enormously. We had three different versions of the script and he made helpful comments before we locked in the final version," says Barratier.

When Jugnot's character arrives at the Fond de l'Etang [literally Bottom of the Pond] school in 1949, the boys – many of them war orphans – are running riot under the brutal but ineffective rule of the headmaster Rachin (François Berléand). Gradually Mathieu wins their trust, and, by showing what they can achieve together in a choir, brings a new spirit into their lives. One of his pupils eventually wins a scholarship to a conservatoire.

Barratier is bemused by the explanations that have been proferred for the film's remarkable success. "They say it's to do with the total lack of sex and violence, and also its period setting and the simple values, as well as its message of hope and the soaring power of the music."

Barratier worked with composer Bruno Coulais on the score and contributed some of the songs himself. "We started writing in 2002, nine months before filming began," he explains. "We wanted to avoid the obvious kinds of choral singing and give it a bit more muscle – and the way the film was put together often seemed to be in the style of a musical."



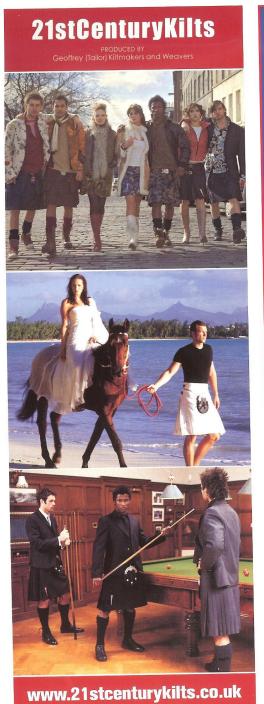
Jean-Baptiste Maunier, the angelic 13-year-old from Lyon has become an overnight star.

He admits that the experience allowed him to exorcise some of his childhood experiences as a gifted musical prodigy. "It's not that I had an unhappy childhood but I had difficulties, and was a bit fragile at times. Music is still one of my great passions, even although I decided to stop my professional career."

With Les choristes Barratier found the ideal way to combine both of his driving forces – music and cinema. And naturally he senses that in the future music will continue to be a dominating force in his films.

\* Les choristes will be released in the UK through Pathé in February







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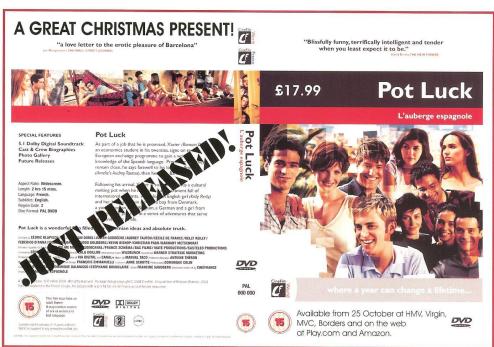
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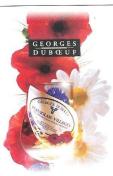


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# LA CLASSE DU CINEMA cinema lessons









Every year the French Film Festival offers the opportunity for thousands of pupils, students, and their teachers to attend screenings that our programmers have identified as having particular appeal. Special teaching packs, produced by Glasgow Film Theatre with the support of local authorities, will be available for Les choristes and Malabar Princess. If you're a teacher who hasn't yet sampled the French Film Festival, there is still time. Simply contact the venues on this page.

#### Secondary schools screenings

#### Les choristes (Age 12+)

Tuesday 23 November, 10am

Manchester Thursday 25 Nov, 10am – 1pm Isabelle Vanderschelden will introduce this screening and lead exercises after the film. Suitable for AS and A2 French and equivalent.

Monday 29 November, 10am

Call Education Officer for details

The year is 1948. Clement Mathieu is a chubby, middle-aged, and good-natured music teacher, dreaming of becoming a great composer. Instead he finds himself in charge of these misfit children, some of them orphans whose parents lost their lives in the war, others kids from destitute families or unruly brats whose parents have given up on them.

Dir: Christophe Barratier. 2004. 90mins 12(A)

#### Malabar Princess (Age 12+)

Glasgow	Tuesday 23 November, 10.15am
	& Wednesday 24 November, 10.15a
Edinburgh	Thursday 25 November, 10am

Introduced by Shiona Wood, ilmhouse Education Officer

Tuesday 30 November 10am Dundee

Eight-year-old Tom is sent to Chamonix to spend a year with his grandfather. His mother disappeared on a glacier in this area five years earlier. Little by little, Tom uncovers family secrets just as the glaciers yield pieces of a crashed airliner. Malabar Princess blends historical fact with believable human behaviour to create a beautiful and intelligent film.

Dir: Gilles Legrand. 2004. 95mins. 12(A)

### Primary schools screening

#### Genesis (Age 8+) Glasgow

Aberdeen

Monday 29 November, 10am Call Education Officer for details

From the makers of Microcosmos comes another intriguing foray around the universe. Quite simply a storyteller relates the creation of the world. The birth of the universe, the formation of the Earth, the appearance of life, the emergence from the waters, the colonisation of earthly paradise - this tremendous, event-filled saga unfolds before our very eyes. It may sound like heady material, but it's all very accessible and totally involving.

Dir: Claude Nurisdsany, Marie Perennou. 2004. 80mins PG

#### Raining Cats and Frogs (Enjoyable for all ages and levels) La Prophétie des grenouilles

Dundee

Edinburgh

Wednesday 1 December, 10am Thursday 2 December, 10am Introduced by Shiona Wood, Filmhouse Education Office

A delightful animated tale for all ages. Tom and his adoptive parents are spending the summer with his friend Lili. Her parents run a family zoo, and have gone on a trip to Africa in search of crocodiles. One day some frogs warn the children that there's going to be a flood.. Cast: Animation with the voices of Michel Piccoli, Anouk Grinberg, Annie Girardot, Michel Galabru.

Dir: Jacques-Remy Girerd 2003 90mins PG

#### CONTACT DETAILS

GLASGOW: GFT box office on 0141 332 8128 Glasgow City Council schools £1.50 per pupil All other schools £2.50 per pupil (Teachers free) Box Office Tel: 0141 332 8128 info@gft.org.uk

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beverley.nicolson@filmhousecinema.com

#### DUNDEE Contemporary Arts: 152 Nethergate Dundee DD1 4DY

Price - £1.00 per pupil, teachers come free Mairi Wallace

Cinema Development Officer

Tel: 01382 909236

Fax: 01382 909221 e-mail: mairi.wallace@dca.org.uk

Bookings: 01382 909900

#### ABERDEEN The Belmont: 49 Belmont Street

Aberdeen AB10 1JS (screenings of Les Choristes and Genesis)

Paul Foy, Education Officer, Tel: 01224 343537

paul.f@picturehouses.co.uk

#### MANCHESTER Cornerhouse

£2.50 per student (accompanying teachers free). Contact Sarah Perks. Cinemas Education Officer, Tel: 0161 200 1509. sarah.perks@cornerhouse.org Box office: 0161 200 1500

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# SHORT CIRCUIT

Short films (les courts-métrages) have given many film-makers a valuable forum in which to make their mark before progressing to fully-fledged features. France nurtures the short film-maker with such organisations as the Agence du court-métrages and such dedicated festivals as Clermont-Ferrand and Brest all helping exposure. This selection of shorts will be shown as a surprise bonus with some of our features and has been selected by our short film co-ordinator Amanda Stubbs.

#### Carcan

Leather-clad, a sinewy, iridescent, trance-like figure writhes and contorts for the camera in a provocative, sex-charged dance. A spidery hand reaches up and undoes a zip, exposing a patch of skin, vulnerable against the metal. Zip after zip is unzipped until the pink flesh wins over the polished skin of the leather, and, posing theatrically, the pupa is revealed. But things are not always as they seem. A playful, poke-in-theeye peep-show which poses questions about the nature of flesh and our perception of what is, variously, beautiful, sensual, erotic and, ultimately acceptable.

Stephane Levallois



# **Courtes Histoires** de Train

#### Short Stories from the Railway

We're on a train, maybe in the thirties, maybe in France or somewhere else. The train's passengers include an old, nostalgic woman, a Russian woman searching for her husband, a Russian ticket controler who has fled his country and several other people whose paths may or may not cross... With Micheline Presle and Stanislas Mérhar.

Dir: François Aunay 2003, 14mins

# Hommage à Alfred Lepetit

Who really is Alfred Lepetit? Respected by his profession, but ignored by the public. Alfred is about to win an award for his career in cinema. A portrait of a living legend among film stars with Charlotte Rampling, Jean-Claude Brialy and Roman Polanski, Berlin Festival, Golden Bear for Best Short Film

1999. 9 mins

#### J'attendrai le suivant I'll Wait for the Next One...

"Ladies and Gentlemen, ever so sorry to bother you... Don't worry, I'm not here to beg for money. Let me introduce myself. My name's Antoine, I'm 29... I recently read in a magazine that there are about 5 million single women in France... Where are they? I'm looking for a lady aged between 18 and 55 who's also had trouble meeting someone in a conventional way and who wouldn't mind giving a honest relationship with someone a shot

Philippe Orreindy

2004, 5 mins



## L'homme sans tête The Man without a Head

An ordinary room overlooking a vast industrial An ordinary room overtooking a vast industrial landscape. In the distance, the ocean as far as the eye can see. With a nostalgic air the man without a head dances with lively steps. A bow tie is tied. A photograph, with a dazzling look from the one he loves. He prepares himself for the romantic rendezvous. Tonight, he will declare his love. For such an occasion, he shall buy a head... Winner of the itum prize for best short at the Cannes Elim Easthial jury prize for best short at the Cannes Film Festival. Dir, scr, and ph: Juan Sola

2003, 10 mins

#### Ligne de vie The Line of Life

A harrowing tale of survival in a terminally grey, rain sodden concentration camp where art threatens to bridge the gap between prisoner and guard until one night they are taken by surprise...

Serge Avedikian



## Millevaches (expérience)

A 60-year-old man, faced with doubt and the experience of his strange metamorphosis, panics in the middle of the Millevaches plains...

2001, 10 mins

# Requiem(s)

In an abandoned quarry, a hitman is forcing another man to dig his own grave... With François Berléand, Daniel Rialet.

Stéphan Guérin-Tillié



## Aujourd'hui Madame

"My name is Christophe Toubart, I got married yesterday in my home town, and I danced a lot with Isabelle Martin, my childhood friend. My name is Christophe Toubard, yesterday, I got married..." A bitter-sweet tale of romantic foibles With: Patrick Fontana, Fabyenne Llorens, Zoé Félix, Pierre Belot, Maryse Feral.

Dir: César Vayssié



# Nosferatu Tango

A mosquito falls in love with a vampire. Forever looking for blood, love and a whole new experience, he rushes off in pursuit of Count Nosferatu, diving headlong into a weird and dangerous world. Fantastic animation.

Zoltan Horvath



# We are winning, don't forget

A presentation of the workplace – a microcosm where we see the struggle between the classes. Winner of the Press Prize at Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival.

Dir: Jean-Gabriel Periot 2003, 6 mins

# CAST AND CREW







#### www.frenchfilmfestival.org.uk

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ondon, UGC	Mike Kilby, Andy Carr, Roy Gower, Kate Cox
Manchester Cornerhouse	Linda Pariser (Cinemas Director), Sarah Perks, Jude Holmes, Caroline Walker, Isabelle Croissant
Québec Focus	Québec Government Office, London - Colin Hicks, Marie Morin; SODEC (Paris) - Christian Verbert
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cottish Screen	Alan Knowles
Inifrance	Antoine Khalife, Marion Riva
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We also wish to extend our thanks to the film companies who have provided the French Film Festival UK 2004 with films, help and advice:

Arp Selection (Claudia Rae-Colombani), Films Distribution (Pamela Leu), Flach Pyramide International (Paul Richer), Family Films (Audrey Verrecchia), Flach Films (Ludery Verrecchia), Flach Films (Ludery Verrecchia), Flach Films (Ludery Verrecchia), Flach Films (Ludery Verrecchia), Flach Films (Martine Boutrolle, Janine Deunfl, Out in Africa (Nodi Murphy) Studio Canal (Luder McGregor), Onomal Pascal Diot, Oceile Poparaveyre, François Ivernel, Alaisdair Nicholson (Pathe UK) Christian Martin (PPR), UGC Films (Eglantine Lasserre), Wide (Matteo Lovadina), Wild Bunch (Lucie Kalmar, Audrey Kamga),

Plus all the advertisers, sponsors, all teachers and staff at l'Institut Français d'Ecosse and l'Alliance française de Glasgow, and everyone at Edinburgh Filmhouse and Glasgow Film Theatre, The Belmont, Aberdeen, Dundee Contemporary Arts, Manchester Cornerhouse, London Riverside and Ciné-Lumière, London.

French Film Festival Ltd registered office: 55 Queen Street, Edinburgh EH2 4NE. A company limited by guarantee and registered in Scotland No 137686.

French Film Festival UK Office: 12 Sunbury Place, Edinburgh Tel: +44 131 225 6191 Fax: +44 131 225 6971

Email: fff@frenchfilmfestival.org.uk

## TICKETS AND BOOKING

#### **GLASGOW FILM THEATRE**

12 Rose Street, Glasgow G3 6RB

Box Office: 0141 332 8128

Mon – Sat 12 noon – 9pm. Sun Box Office opens 30 mins before 1st performance.

www.gft.org.uk info@gft.org.uk

Admin: 0141 332 6535

Postal bookings should be accompanied by cheque payable to GFT. Tickets booked in advance cannot be exchanged nor money refunded except in the event of cancellation of performance.

#### TICKET PRICES:

Matinees: Full Price: £4.00 Concs & UGC Unlimited holders:£3.00

Evenings (from 5pm): £5.00 Concs & UGC Unlimited holders: £4.00

[see all films] for:£60.00 Concs UGC Unlimited holders: £40.00

GFT Saver - See five films for: £20 Concs:£16

#### DISABLED ACCESS

Ground floor cafe-bar and toilet. Lift access to Cinema 1, Cinema 2 direct access. Infra-red in Cinema 2, induction loop and infra-red in Cinema 1. Wheelchair spaces in both cinemas - advance booking is recommended.

#### CAFÉ COSMO

Mon – Sat 12 noon – 9pm Food Served 12 noon – 5pm Sun opens 30 mins before first performance

#### **EDINBURGH FILMHOUSE**

88 Lothian Road, Edinburgh EH3 9BZ

Box Office: 0131 228 2688

Daily 12 noon - 9pm. www.filmhousecinema.com

Admin: 0131 228 6382

Credit card bookings charged at 80p per transaction Tickets cannot be exchanged nor money refunded except in the event of cancellation of the programme.

#### TICKET PRICES:

Matinees (shows prior to 4pm): £3.70
Concs UGC Unlimited holders Sun – Thu only:£2.20
Fri Bargain Matinee:£2.70 Concs UGC Unlimited holders:£1.50

Early Evening [4pm -7pm]: £4.80 Concs UGC Unlimited holders Sun - Thu only: £3.30

Main Evening (7pm and later):£5.50 Concs UGC Unlimited holders Sun – Thu only: £4.20

Festival Pass (see & films) for: £24.00 Concs UGC Unlimited holders: £15.00

Festival Pass (see all films)for: £50.00 Concs UGC Unlimited holders: £25.00

#### DISABLED ACCESS

Ground floor cafe-bar and toilet lift access to all cinemas. Advance booking advisable for wheelchair spaces. See Filmhouse brochure for all details.

#### CAFÉ BAR

Open IO am – late 7 days. Food & drinks.

#### **DUNDEE CONTEMPORARY** ARTS CINEMA

152 Nethergate, Dundee DD1 4DY

Box Office: 01382 909 900

Box Office opening hours: By tel: Mon – Sat 10.00am – 8.50pm, Sun 12 noon – 8.50pm In person: Mon – Sat 10.30am – 8.50pm, Sun 12 noon – 8.50pm dca@dca.org.uk www.dca.org.uk

No booking fees for credit card bookings. Postal bookings should be accompanied by sae with cheque made payable to Dundee Contemporary Arts Ltd. Tickets cannot be exchanged or money refunded except in the event of a cancellation of the programme.

#### TICKET PRICES:

Matinees (every screening before 5pm): Early eve (5pm - 7pm): £4.30 Concs: £3.70 Main eve (after 7pm & Bollywood films): £4.60 Concs: £4.00 FFF Pass for ten FFF films: £22.00 Concs: £16.50
FFF festival Super 6 Saver for any 6 FFF films: £15.00 Concs: £12.00 £22.00 Concs: £16.50 Bargain Day Tue & Wed (all day): £3.90 Concs: £3.30 Students' Day Mon (all day): £3.00 (student co

MOVIE KIDS SHOWS (Sat & Sun & when indicated):

Child: £1.50 Adult: £2.00

Buy one get one free for kids under 16 School shows [teachers free]: £1.00/child

#### DISABLED ACCESS

Full disabled access facilities

CAFÉ BAR

10.30am - midnight, seven days

#### ABERDEEN THE BELMONT 49 Belmont Street, Aberdeen AB10 1JS

Box Office: 01224 343536

Daily 1pm-9pm

belmont@picturehouses.co.uk

www.picturehouses.co.uk

#### TICKET PRICES:

Weekends & Eves, excluding Mon Eve: Adults: £5.90

Friends: £4.90 Full time Students: £4.70 Children: £3.70

Adults: £4.90

All Day Mon & before 6pm Mon-Fri: Adults: Friends and concs& UGC Unlimited holders: £3.90

Children (up to 14 years) at all times: £3.70

6 film Pass: £28.00 Friends and concs& UGC Unlimited holders: £22.00

#### DISABLED ACCESS

Lift access to cinemas 2 and 3 and basement cafe-bar. Direct access to cinema 1. Toilets on each floor. Advance booking for wheelchair spaces recommended. See The Belmont brochure for full details.

#### BASEMENT CAFÉ BAR

Open all day at weekends and from 6pm weekdays.

#### TICKETS AND BOOKING

#### LONDON Riverside Studios

Crisp Road, Hammersmith, London W6 9RL

Box Office tel: 0208 237 1111

Box Office hours: 12noon to 9pm every day for telephone enquiries and bookings and until 15 minutes after the final performance begins for personal callers.

Admin Tel: 0208 237 1000

#### TICKET PRICES:

£5.50 (concs £4.50)

Concessionary rates apply to students, the unemployed, the registered disabled, the retired and people over 60. Ace card holders, Leisure Link members. Concessions are available only with correct Identification. Please contact the Box Office for details of group rates.

#### DISABLED ACCESS

The Gallery, Foyer and Studios 1 and 2 are fully accessible to wheelchair users but no access to cinema. Induction loop.

#### CAFÉ BAR

The heart and focus of the Riverside.

# CINE-LUMIERE AT THE INSTITUT FRANCAIS 17 Queensberry Place, London Sw7 2DT

Box Office: 0207 073 1350

www.institut-francais.org.uk

box.office@ambafrance.org.uk

#### TICKET PRICES:

Full Price £7.00 Concs and Members £5.00

Group rate (10+ people) £5.00 Schools £3.00

Double Bill & Special screenings with guests Full Price £9.00 Concs £7.00

6 Film Pass £30.00 Concs £18.00

4 Film Pass £20.00 Concs £12.00

#### DISABLED ACCESS

No disabled access

#### BISTRO DE L'INSTITUT

Mon-Fri 10am – 9.30pm Sat 12noon –9.30pm Sun 5pm-10pm

#### UGC SHAFTESBURY AVE

Trocadero Centre, 7 - 14 Coventry Street, Piccadilly Circus, London W1D 7DH

Info & Booking line: 0870 907 0716

www.ugccinemas.co.uk

#### TICKET PRICES:

Mon - Fri (after 5pm) & all day Sat & Sun:	€8.50	
Concs, Students & OAPs:	£5.50	
Before 5pm Mon - Fri:	£5.50	
Full child (every day):	£4.50	
Unlimited card (per month):	£12.99	
Early hird (hofore noon daily)	C/ 00	

#### DISABLED ACCESS

Partial disabled access

#### MANCHESTER CORNERHOUSE

70 Oxford Street, Manchester M1 5NH

Box Office: 0161 200 1500

Daily 12noon - 8.00pm. For enquiries and bookings in person up to 15mins after the last screening

www.cornerhouse.org

Admin: 0161 228 7621

#### TICKET PRICES:

Matinees (before 5pm): £3.90 Concs: £2.80

Evening (after 5pm): £5.00 Concs: £3.70

Concessionary rates apply to students, the unemployed, disabled people, and people over 60. Concessions are available only with correct identification.

Group rates: buy 9 tickets get 1 free.

Six Film Pass: £21.00 Concs: £15.00

## DISABLED ACCESS

Cinema 1, Galleries, Cafe Bar and Bar all fully accessible, Cinema 2-wheelchair lift available, Cinema 3-two steps but ramp access available. Accessible toilets on ground floor at main building and cinema 1. All cinemas have induction loops.

#### CAFÉ COSMO

Ground floor Bar: Mon – Sat 9.30am – 11pm, Sun 11.30 – 10.30pm First Floor Cafe: 11am – 11pm Sun 11.30am – 10.30pm



Receive a complimentary GRAND MARNIER® & tonic when you purchase any Festival Pass.

\*Terms and conditions apply

# TIMETABLE

## Edinburgh Filmhouse 19 November – 2 December 88 Lothian Road, Edinburgh EH3 9BZ

FRI 19	SAT 20	SUN 21	MON 22	TUE 23	WED 24	THU 25	FRI 26	SAT 27	SUN 28	MON 29	TUE 30	WED 1	THU 2
2.30pm POIDS LÉGER	2.30pm LE MONDE	1.00pm L'ESQUIVE [15]	2.30pm LES	2.30pm 20h17 RUE	2.30pm MÉLODIE EN	2.30pm CQ2 [18]	1,30pm LA PISCINE [15]	2.00pm GENESIS [PG]	2.30pm VÉNUS ET	2.30pm NOTRE	2.30pm QUEBEC-	2.30pm TROIS	2.30pm MR KLEIN (18)
(15)	SELON BUSH [15]	3.45pm LE MONDE SELON BUSH [15]	CHORISTES [12A]	DARLING [18]	SOUS-SOL [15]		4.00pm LA GRANDE SÉDUCTION	4.00pm JE T'AIMEMOI NON PLUS [15]	FLEUR [12A]	HISTOIRE [15]	MONTREAL [18]	HOMMES À ABATTRE (18)	
6.00pm POIDS LÉGER	6.00pm LES CHORISTES			6.00pm MÉLODIE EN	6.00pm 20h17 RUE	6.00pm LA PISCINE	(15)	6.00pm FOLLE		6.00pm QUEBEC-	6.00pm TROIS		6.00pm A TOUT DE
(15)	(12A)		6.30PM LE CLAN	SOUS-SOL (15)	DARLING [18]	[15]	6.30pm GENESIS	EMBELLIE (18)	6.30pm NOTRE	MONTREAL [15]	HOMMES À ABATTRE (18)	6.30pm MR KLEIN (18)	SUITE (18)
8.15pm L'ESQUIVE		8.15pm EXILS	(18)						HISTOIRE (15)				
(15)	8.30pm JE SUIS UN ASSASSIN (18)	(15)		8.30pm LE SOLEIL ASSASSINÉ (18)	8.30pm CO2 (18)	8.30pm LA GRANDE SÉDUCTION (15)	8.45pm TAIS-TOI!	8.30pm VÉNUS ET FLEUR (12A)	9.00pm VIOLENCE DES ÉCHANGES (15)	8.30pm JE T'AIME MOI NON PLUS [15]	8.30pm BRODEUSES [18]	9.00pm INGUELEZI (15)	8.30pm JANIS ET JOHN [18]

#### Glasgow GFT 19 November – 2 December 12 Rose Street, Glasgow G3 6RB

FRI 19	SAT 20	SUN 21	MON 22	TUE 23	WED 24	THU 25	FRI 26	SAT 27	SUN 28	MON 29	TUE 30	WED 1	THU 2
3.00pm VÉNUS ET FLEUR (12A)	3.30pm WILDSIDE [18]	3.00pm MÉLODIE EN SOUS-SOL [15]	3.00pm POIDS LÉGER (15)	3.00pm LE MONDE SELON BUSH	3.00pm LA PISCINE [15]	3.00pm MR KLEIN (18)	3.00pm VIOLENCE DES ECHANGES [15]	3.00pm NOTRE HISTOIRE [15]	3.00pm + 5.00pm GENESIS [PG]	3.00pm TROIS HOMMES À	3.00pm TAIS-TOI (12A)	3.00pm JE T'AIME MOI NON	3.00pm CQ2 (18)
6.00pm JE SUIS UN ASSASSIN [18]	5.15pm L'ESQUIVE [15]	6.30pm LE CLAN (18)	6.00pm LE MONDE SELON BUSH (15)	6.15pm LA PISCINE (15)	6.30pm MR KLEIN	6.30pm VIOLENCE_I15I	5,45pm NOTRE HISTOIRE (15)	6.15pm 20h17 RUE DARLING (18)	5.45pm LA GRANDE SÉDUCTION (15)	6.00pm GENESIS (PG) 6.15pm A TOUT DE	5.00pm + 6.50pm JE T'AIME MOI NON PLUS (15)	6.30pm CQ2 (18)	5.00pm TAIS-TOI [12A]
	8.15pm EXILS (15)		8.15pm LE SOLEIL ASSASSINÉ [18]	7.00pm MALABAR PRINCESS [PG]	(18)	6.45pm QUEBEC - MONTREAL (15)	8.15pm FOLLE EMBELLIE (18)	DARLING (10)	7.00pm TROIS HOMMES À ABATTRE [18]	SUITE [18]			7.00pm INGUELEZ (15)
8.30pm LES CHORISTES (12A)		8.45pm WILDSIDE (18) 9.00pm VÉNUS ET	8.30pm MÉLODIE EN SOUS-SOL [15]	8.30pm POIDS LÉGER (15)	9.00pm QUEBEC -	8.30pm 20h17 RUE DARLING (18)		B.30pm LA GRANDE SÉDUCTION (15)	9.00pm A TOUT DE SUITE [18]	8.30pm BRODEUSES (18)	8.45pm INGUELEZI [15]	8.30pm JANIS ET JOHN (18)	9.00pm TAIS-TOI [12A]

#### Dundee DCA 26 November – 2 December 152 Nethergate, Dundee DD1 4DY

RI 26	SAT 27	SUN 28	MON 29	TUE 30	WED 1	THU 2
	1.45pm MALABAR PRINCESS [PG]	1.30pm LA PROPHÉTIE DES GRENOUILLES (PG)	10.00am LES CHORISTES (12A)	10.00am MALABAR PRINCESS (12A)	10.00am LA PROPHÉTIE DES GRENOUILLES (PG)	
	3.45pm MÉLODIE EN SOUS SOL (15)	5.50pm MR KLEIN (18)				
B.30pm JANIS AND JOHN [18]	8.30pm LES CHORISTES [12A]	8.30pm TAIS-TOI (12A)	8.30pm LA GRANDE SÉDUCTION (15)	8.30pm LE SOLEIL ASSASSINÉ [18]	8.30pm BRODEUSES (18)	8.30pm EXILS (15)

### Aberdeen Belmont 26 November – 5 December 49 Belmont Street, Aberdeen AB10 1JS

SAT 27	SUN 28	MON 29	TUE 30	WED 1	THU 2	FRI 3	SAT 4	SUN 5
3.45pm LE SOLEIL ASSASSINÉ (18)	3.45pm CQ2 [18]	3.45pm JANIS ET JOHN [18]	3.45pm LA PISCINE (18)	3.45pm VÉNUS ET FLEUR [12A]	3.45pm FOLLE EMBELLIE	3.45pm LES CHORISTES (12A)	3.45pm GENESIS (PG)	3.45pm GENESIS (PG)
6.30pm EXILS [15]	6.30pm JANIS ET JOHN (18)	6.30pm CQ2 (18)	6.30pm VÉNUS ET FLEUR (12A)	6.30pm LA PISCINE	6.30pm LES CHORISTES [12A]	6.30pm FOLLE EMBELLIE [18]	6.30pm BRODEUSES [18]	6.30pm BRODEUSES (18)
	3.45pm LE SOLEIL ASSASSINÉ [18]	3.45pm	3.45pm	3.45pm	3.45pm	3.45pm	3.45pm	3.45pm

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## TIMETABLE

# London Riverside Studios 15 – 21 November Crisp Road, Hammersmith, London W6 9RL

MON 15	WED 17	THU 18	FDLAG	(19)	
			FRI 19	SAT 20	SUN 21
6.45pm MOLENCE DES ÉCHANGES EN MILIEU TEMPÉRÉ (15)		6.30pm MÉLODIE EN SOUS-SOL (15)	6.30pm MR KLEIN [18]	6.45pm NOTRE HISTOIRE (15)	2.30pm JE T AIME MOI NON PLUS [15] 4.10pm GENESIS [PG] 6.45pm TROIS HOMMES À ABATTRE [18]
6.40pm LES CHORISTES (12A)	7.00pm LA PISCINE (15) 9.00pm TAIS-TOI [12A]	8.50pm EXILS [15]	8.55pm LE CLAN [18]	9.00pm LE SOLEIL ASSASSINÉ (18)	8.35pm A TOUT DE SUITE (18)

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# **London Ciné-Lumière** 4 – 28 November 17 Queensberry Place, London SW7 2DT

THU 4	THU 18	FRI 19	SAT 20	TUE 23	WED 24	THU 25	FRI 26	SAT 27	SUN 28
8.00pm LES SENTIMENTS		3.00pm LA PROPHETIE DES GRENOUILLES [PG]	3.30pm LA PROPHETIE DES GRENOUILLES (PG)	6.45pm VÉNUS ET FLEUR (12A)	6.45pm GENESIS (PG)	6.30pm JE SUIS UN ASSASSIN [18]	6.30pm INGUELEZI (15)	6.30pm POIDS LÉGER (15)	5.00pm BRODEUSES (18) 7.00pm POIDS LÉGER (15)
LES SENTIMENTS [18]	8.30pm L'ESQUIVE (15)			8.30pm GENESIS (PG)	8.30pm VÉNUS ET FLEUR [12A]	8.45pm INGUELEZI [15]	8.45pm JE SUIS UN ASSASSIN [18]	8.30PM BRODEUSES (18)	

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# Manchester Cornerhouse 19 - 25 November 70 Oxford Street, Manchester M1 5NH

.15pm LA 95ch E181	FRI 19	SAT 20	SUN 21	MON 22	WED 24	THU 25
	6.15pm	6.25pm	4.05pm	6,15pm	6.15pm	6.25pm
	INGUELEZI [15]	TAIS-TO!! (12A)	LA PISCINE [18]	EXILS [15]	JANIS ET JOHN (18)	LES CHORISTES (12A)

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# **London UGC** 19 – 25 November Shaftesbury Avenue, Trocadero Centre, London W1D 7DH All screenings at: 11.00am, 1.30pm, 4.00pm, 6.30pm, 9.00pm

FRI 19	SAT 20	SUN 21	MON 22	TUE 23		
JANIS ET JOHN [18]	20H17 RUE DARLING [18]			10E 23	WED 24	THU 25
	20H17 ROE DARLING [18]	LA PROPHÉTIE DES GRENOUILLES (PG)	VIOLENCE DES ÉCHANGES EN MILIEU TEMPÉRÉ (15)	LA GRANDE SÉDUCTION (15)	INGUELEZI (15)	FOLLE EMBELLIE (18)

All timings and details correct at time of going to press. Please check individual venue brochures for any updates or changes.



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# REMERCIEMENTS



The French Film Festival UK, now taking place in seven locations around the UK, depends on the support and goodwill of numerous individuals, companies and organisations. On this page we recognise the contribution of our Sponsors, Funders and Associates in the success of the event. You can play your part in waving the flag – just like our 2003 guests Alain Corneau and Nadine Trintignant pictured at the residence with former Consul General Michel Roche. We look forward to maintaining our harmonious working relationship with all our supporters.

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Glamour girls and cocktails: Grand Marnier

Scots wha'hae: Alain Corneau, Nicholas Vannier, Jean Veber, Nicholas Guerin and Nadine Trintignant.

Two for the road: Corps à Corps film-makers Arthur-Emmanuel Pierre and François Hanss.

COME AND JOIN US: The French Film Festival UK would be delighted to talk to potential sponsors or advertisers at any time of the year. Now is the time to think about participating in the 2005 Festival. Talk to Shirley Gilmour on 0131 228 2292 or email: shirleygilmour@yahoo.co.uk or Clara Caleo Green on 0207 794 6751 or email claracaleogreen@hotmail.com

