

**4 November to  
17 December 2020**

La crème de la crème  
of Francophone Cinema

28



**FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL UK**

*La fête du  
CINEMA*



[www.frenchfilmfestival.org.uk](http://www.frenchfilmfestival.org.uk)



# The World Francophone Platform

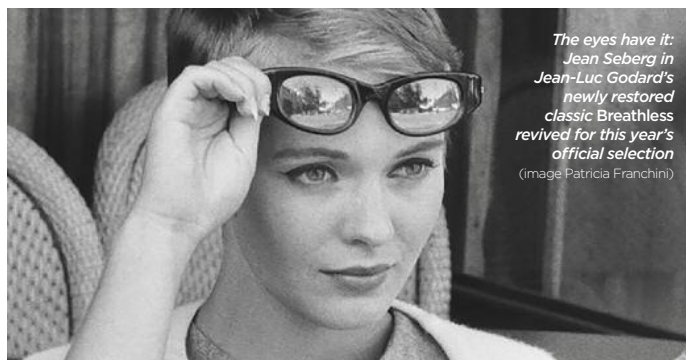
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# welcome



**BENVENUE AND WELCOME** to the 28th edition of the French Film Festival UK which takes place from 4 November to 17 December 2020 as usual in leading independent cinemas across the UK, from Oban to Plymouth.

In these challenging circumstances audiences will still be able to enjoy the best of Francophone cinema (from France, Belgium, Switzerland, Quebec, Africa and elsewhere). The Festival can be found in both traditional cinemas observing current Government guidelines and online with fff @ home, in association with Festival Scope, as part of a variety of innovative initiatives to cope with restrictions. And this year young cinemagoers will be able to sample specially curated titles in the safety of their own classroom environment.

Accompanying a broad range of exciting titles from both new and established directors, as described in detail on the pages to follow, will be a range of virtual guests (many familiar from previous festivals) taking part in question and answer sessions.

Many screenings will be accompanied by a one-minute short film on the subject of climate change as part of our continuing collaboration with the Paris-based Mobile Film Festival. In addition the Short Cuts selection will feature new prize-winning talents at the start of their careers.

Besides such directorial luminaries as Jean-Paul Salomé (*La Daronne*); Anne Fontaine (*Night Shift*); Valérie Donzelli (*Notre Dame*); Nicholas Vanier (*Spread Your Wings*); Eric Barbier (*Small Country*); Emmanuel Mouret (*Love Affairs*); and Lucas Belvaux (*Home Front*) this edition introduces vibrant newcomers including Manele Labidi (*Arab Blues*); Laurent Micheli (*Lola*); and Caroline Vignal (*My Donkey, My Lover & I*).

No Festival would be complete without honouring the rich history of French cinema, represented this year by a new restoration of Jean-Luc Godard's iconic *Breathless* and Franco-Greek director Costa-Gavras's first feature *The Sleeping Car Murders*, boasting a stellar cast of the late Michel Piccoli and the great Simone Signoret.

There are stand-out performances aplenty, notably Lambert Wilson in *De Gaulle*; Isabelle Huppert as *La Daronne*; Jean-Pierre Darroussin in *Gloria Mundi*; Gérard Depardieu in *Home Front*; Jean-Paul Rouve in *Small Country*; Omar Sy in *Night Shift*; compelling duo Vincent Cassel and Reda Kateb in *The Specials* and Valérie Donzelli multi-tasking in *Notre Dame*.

**Have a great film festival – Bonne fête du cinéma. And take good care – Et prenez soin de vous.**

**Richard Mowe**

Director French Film Festival UK

**Ilona Morison**

Co-Director French Film Festival UK

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## BSL

When a guest or introduction is billed for FFF UK screenings a BSL interpreter will be available on request.

Cover image: **Isabelle Huppert in *La Daronne***

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





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## AT A GLANCE

# what's on where

### **Adolescents** (p 29)

St Andrews Byre

### **Aïlo's Journey** (p 30)

Derby Quad

Nottingham Broadway

### **Arab Blues** (p 24)

Derby Quad

Glasgow Film Theatre

London Ciné Lumière

London Watermans Arts Centre

Sheffield Showroom Workstation

St Andrews Byre

### **Aznavour by Charles** (p 31)

Edinburgh Filmhouse

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### **The Bears' Famous Invasion of Sicily** (p 41)

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### **Cyrano My Love** (p 24)

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Inverness Eden Court

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### **The Dazzled** (p 34)

fff @ home

### **De Gaulle** (p 13)

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London Ciné Lumière

Nottingham Broadway

### **Felicità** (p 34)

fff @ home

### **A Friendly Tale** (p 13)

Derby Quad

### **Gloria Mundi** (p 14)

Edinburgh Dominion

Glasgow Film Theatre

Gloucester Guildhall

Hereford Courtyard

Inverness Eden Court

Lewes Depot

London Watermans Arts Centre

Stirling Macrobert Arts Centre

### **Home Front** (p 14)

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Glasgow Film Theatre

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Lewes Depot

Sheffield Showroom Workstation

### **Honey Cigar** (p 35)

fff @ home

## AT A GLANCE

# what's on where

### How to be a Good Wife (p 15 & 35)

London Ciné Lumière  
fff @ home

### In the Name of the Land (p 25)

Oswestry Kinokulture  
Plymouth Arts Cinema

### Into Dad's Woods (p 36)

fff @ home

### Just Kids (p 36)

fff @ home

### Lola (p 25)

Edinburgh Filmhouse  
Sheffield Showroom Workstation  
Stirling MacRobert Arts Centre

### The Lost Prince (p 48)

Edinburgh Dominion  
Lewes Depot  
Oban Phoenix

### Love Affairs (p 15)

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### Mama Weed (p 16)

Aberdeen Belmont Filmhouse  
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### Les Misérables (p 48)

Chichester Cinema at New Park  
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### Mobile Film Festival (p 44/45)

### My Donkey, My Lover & I (p 26)

Aberdeen Belmont Filmhouse  
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### My Family and the Wolf (p 41)

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### Notre Dame (p 17)

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### Perfumes (p 26)

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## AT A GLANCE

# what's on where

### Short Cuts (p 46/47/36)

Edinburgh Institut français d'Ecosse  
Newcastle Community Cinema  
fff @ home

### Slalom (p 27)

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### The Sleeping Car Murders (p 21)

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### The Specials (p 18)

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Plymouth Arts Cinema

### Spread Your Wings (p 18)

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### Three Days and a Life (p 19)

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Dumfries Robert Burns Centre  
Edinburgh Institut français d'Ecosse  
Gloucester Guildhall  
Hereford Courtyard  
Oban Phoenix  
Stirling Macrobert Arts Centre

### The Translators (p 19)

Aberdeen Belmont Filmhouse  
Edinburgh Filmhouse  
Chichester Cinema at New Park  
Glasgow Film Theatre

### Under the Stars of Paris (p 37)

fff @ home





## Find your new favourite film

The Skinny provides exhaustive coverage of the world of film throughout the year, from the latest Hollywood blockbusters to the best of arthouse cinema. We also focus on the various film festivals taking place in locations across Scotland and beyond throughout the year.

We are very proud to be partnering with the French Film Festival again in 2020.

For the latest reviews, previews, interviews and more, head to [theskinny.co.uk](https://theskinny.co.uk)

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Illustration: Kyle McPartlin



# Love letter to Our Lady

By **Richard Mowe**

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She was the last person to film Notre-Dame both inside and out before the conflagration. Was it just chance or a date with destiny that drew director Valérie Donzelli to Our Lady? She reflects on her attachment to the historic landmark and her film that turned out to be an ode to Paris.





*Leading player and director Valérie Donzelli reveals a slightly surreal Paris with characters who possess a warmth and humanity in their imperfections. (Photo Unifrance)*

**Life often imitates art – and vice versa. Director and actress Valérie Donzelli had no idea while she was filming her latest breezy comedy around Notre-Dame that the ancient Cathedral's roof would set itself ablaze attracting global attention and add a certain poignancy to her project.**

Many commentators seized on the blaze as a symbol of France's deterioration – and Donzelli's film captures a country and city ill at ease with itself and on the verge of paranoia. She reveals a slightly surreal Paris with characters who possess a warmth and humanity in their imperfections.

Donzelli herself plays a ditzzy architect and single mother of two teenagers who also provides support for her needy ex-husband. Unexpectedly she becomes the winner of a prestigious architectural competition on the best way to renovate the square in front of the Cathedral.

Notre Dame is the sixth feature in which Donzelli has starred and also directed and produced herself after rising to prominence with her debut

*Queen of Hearts* followed by *Declaration of War* (*La guerre est déclarée*) which opened Cannes Critics' Week in 2011. She was back in Cannes in the 2015 official selection with *Marguerite & Julien*.

She has an inbuilt sense of fantasy and the surreal and admits she is drawn to it. "It's always present in my films, including *Declaration of War*. I love comedy and I love burlesque cinema, I love when things are off-beat because it's a way of looking at the world that touches me, that brings a touch of modesty and poetry."

Donzelli suggests she wanted to show the world as many of us experience it today. "It's a world that isn't doing well with ecological disasters, the press and media that have become impersonal, people that either turn increasingly to individualistic or segregated lifestyles. And I wanted to laugh about it, because it's really rather tragic. Benjamin Charbit, with whom I co-wrote the screenplay, and I had a great deal of fun writing these false news segments some of which had a basis in reality."



“  
**I love comedy and  
 I love burlesque  
 cinema, I love when  
 things are off-beat.**  
 ”

She chose the square in front of Notre-Dame as the focus for the competition because it had many resonances about urban debates in the French capital over the decades.

“I did extensive research on the countless fierce debates surrounding urban installations in Paris: the Paul McCarthy anal plug-like tree at Place Vendôme in 2014, the inside-out Beaubourg (the Pompidou Centre), the Louvre Pyramide, the Bastille Opera House, and Buren’s Columns in the Palais Royal’s main courtyard in 1986. In the end, I was most inspired by the Bastille Opera House competition and the scandal about Daniel Buren’s work.

“I wanted to tackle the story of a failure related to architecture. What could possibly cause a scandal in this area today? Realistically, this scenario could only concern a really old monument to which one would suggest bringing an element of modernity. The only place that seemed probable, while also epitomising Paris and allowing for an architectural project of this kind was the square in front of Notre-Dame,” she said.

Paris has been her adopted home and she is motivated by a desire to rekindle her love for the city which she notes has been going through a

rough time since the 2015 attacks. “It now seems to be in a permanent state of chaos. The city even sounds different. Every five minutes we can hear the grating sound of police sirens going off. So yes, I wanted to bring its beauty back to the forefront without downplaying the violence and poverty, including all the people who have to live and sleep on the streets.”

Her producers Edouard Weil and Alice Girard had wanted her to take on a project inspired by her own life. “I wrote the first draft of a screenplay which followed a female director’s career path. It was, however, too close for comfort as the distance between fiction and autobiography wasn’t right. In the end, I moved away from her being a filmmaker and made her an architect. These two professions share common aspects – seeing a project through to its end within a given budget, running the risk of seeing one’s creative work severely criticised... With this line of work for my leading character, I was allowing myself to speak about an experience that was familiar to me while not entirely my own. I found her name, Maud Crayon, and I was good to go!”

**Notre Dame** – see page 17 for cinemas, dates and times

PREPARE to immerse yourselves in other worlds and times as well as contemporary concerns in the strand of the Festival devoted to films by established directors. Director Gabriel Le Bomin reassesses the part played by one of France's legendary leaders in *De Gaulle* which gives Lambert Wilson the chance to step up to the challenge. A different chapter in France's recent past is examined by Lucas Belvaux in *Home Front*, about the effects of the Algerian War still felt 40 years on. Ensemble comedies are a staple of *le cinéma français*: two shine out from the fray – Daniel Cohen's *A Friendly Tale* about the trials and tribulations of four friends, and Emmanuel Mouret's *Love Affairs* in which matters of the heart and soul are cast asunder.

More family matters arise in Robert Guédiguian's *Gloria Mundi* as hard times impact on life in Marseille while in Africa tensions impinge on a family in Burundi in Eric Barbier's *Small Country*. Directors Éric Toledano and Olivier Nakache (*Untouchable*) focus on two care workers (Vincent Cassel and Reda Kateb) in *The Specials* and their special charges. A father and son rebuild their relationship in *Spread your Wings*, a breathtaking visual feast. Back on the dark side Nicolas Boukhrief explores an unsolved crime 15 years on in *Three Days and a Life* and Anne Fontaine treads a different beat in *Night Shift* with a Parisian police officer taking pity on a refugee. Paris looms large in *Notre Dame* directed by Valérie Donzelli who also plays an architect juggling the personal and the professional. Femmes are to the fore in *The Good Wife* as the sexual revolution hits Sixties' France.

Isabelle Huppert puts her myriad talents at a premium in *Mama Weed*, a crime caper in which she plays a French-Arabic police translator with a faithful canine for company. And for the sheer pleasure of plot twists and turns hone your skills on *The Translators* – stylish and crowd-pleasing in any language.

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## De Gaulle (N/C 12+)

May 1940. France is facing a disastrous military situation against the German army. Charles de Gaulle, newly appointed General, joins the Government in Paris while Yvonne, his wife, and their three children remain in the east. Faced with the defeatist attitude of Pétain who wants to negotiate with Hitler, de Gaulle has one intention only: to continue fighting. Alongside thousands of French families, Yvonne and the children are soon forced to flee the advancing German troops. Without contact with each another, the doubt arises: will the de Gaulle family be sacrificed for the sake of France?

Cast **Lambert Wilson, Isabelle Carré, Olivier Gourmet, Gilles Cohen, Laurent Stocker**

Director **Gabriel Le Bomin** | 2019 | France | 105 mins  
Int sales **SND Groups M6 (Festival Agency)**

**Mixing the historic and the romanesque the film charts a military debacle as well as the revelation of a destiny.** *Cineuropa*

### FILM SHOWING:

Aberdeen Belmont Filmhouse	Mon 9 Nov	13:00 & 19:00
Edinburgh Filmhouse	Mon 9 Nov	14:00 & 20:30
London Ciné Lumière	Mon 9 Nov Sat 14 Nov	20:00 16:00
Dundee DCA	Thu 12 Nov (check website for times) Sun 15 Nov (check website for times)	
Derby Quad	Wed 25 Nov Thu 26 Nov	20:00 18:00
Nottingham Broadway	Wed 9 Dec	(check website for times)
Chichester Cinema at New Park	Wed 16 Dec Thu 17 Dec	14:15 20:45



## A Friendly Tale *Le Bonheur des uns* (N/C 12+)

Comedy of manners from Daniel Cohen (*Le Chef*), featuring a superb all-star cast in stellar form. Life-loving fortysomething Léa (Bérénice Bejo) works in retail, and is happily married to Marc (Vincent Cassel), a conservative and somewhat insecure salesman. Léa has long been considered a dreamer by her know-it-all best friend Karine (the inimitable Florence Foresti), who seems content enough with her advertising executive job and life with gentle giant Francis (François Damiens) and their two children. But something upsets the intricate balance of this quartet.

Cast **Bérénice Bejo, Vincent Cassel, François Damiens**

Director **Daniel Cohen** | 2020 | France | 104 mins  
Int sales **SND Groups M6 (Festival Agency)**

**Very funny but also thoughtful, highlighting how happiness and success are not as cut and dried as you might think.** *News Break*

### FILM SHOWING:

Derby Quad	Wed 2 Dec	17:45
	Thu 3 Dec	20:00



## Gloria Mundi (N/C 15+)

In Marseille, a family gathers for the birth of baby Gloria. But despite the joy, they have fallen on hard times. However, Gloria's ambitious uncle has a new business idea, which could be a way out of their tough situation. Director Robert Guédiguian reunites with the cast of *The House by the Sea* and *The Snows of Kilimanjaro*, including his wife Ariane Ascaride who received a Best Actress award at the Venice Film Festival for this heartfelt family drama about love, social class and the gig economy.

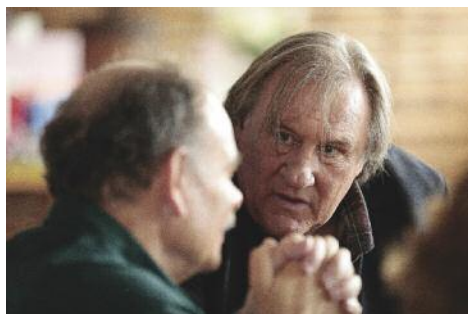
Cast **Ariane Ascaride, Jean-Pierre Darroussin, Gérard Meylan, Anaïs Demoustier, Robinson Stévenin**

Director **Robert Guédiguian** | 2019 | France/Italy  
107 mins | Int sales **MK2 Films / Print IFCinéma**

**A solid addition to his canon.  
Robert Guédiguian is indeed France's  
Ken Loach. Screen**

### FILM SHOWING:

London Watermans Arts Centre	Sun 8 Nov	16:00
Glasgow Film Theatre	Wed 18 Nov (check website for times) Thu 19 Nov (check website for times)	
Gloucester Guildhall	Check website for dates & times	
Hereford Courtyard	Check website for dates & times	
Inverness Eden Court	Thu 19 Nov	14:00 & 19:30
Lewes Depot	Mon 30 Nov Thurs 3 Dec	20:00 11:00
Stirling MacRobert Arts Centre	Sat 5 Dec Tue 8 Dec	13:30 19:00
Edinburgh Dominion	Thu 10 Dec	18:00



## Home Front Des hommes (N/C 15+)

In 1960 Bernard, Rabut, Février and many others were called up to fight in the Algerian War. Two years later, they returned to France. They said nothing and got on with their lives. But forty years on, it takes only very little – a birthday party, a gift found in someone's pocket – for the past to overwhelm those who have denied it for so long. Adapted from the eponymous novel by Laurent Mauvignier. Part of the official selection, Cannes Film Festival 2020 and selected as one of the ten *Cannes 2020* films screened at the 2020 Deauville American Film Festival.

Cast **Gérard Depardieu, Catherine Frot, Jean-Pierre Darroussin, Yoann Zimmer, Félix Kysyl, Édouard Sulpice**

Director **Lucas Belvaux** | 2020 | France/Belgium | 100 mins  
Int sales **Jour 2 Fête**

**Belvaux paints a chronicle of ordinary  
racism and its deep roots in French  
history. Cineuropa**

### FILM SHOWING:

London Ciné Lumière	Sat 7 Nov Mon 9 Nov	18:30 20:30
Sheffield Showroom Workstation	Sun 8 Nov Mon 9 Nov	15:00 17:30
Glasgow Film Theatre	Mon 16 Nov (check website for times) Tue 17 Nov (check website for times)	
Chichester Cinema at New Park	Tue 17 Nov Wed 18 Nov	20:45 14:15
Edinburgh Filmhouse	Wed 18 Nov	14:00 & 20:30
Lewes Depot	Mon 7 Dec Thu 10 Dec	20:00 11:00



## How to be a Good Wife *La Bonne épouse* (N/C 12+)

Women's Liberation and the sexual revolution come to ultra-conservative 60s France in Martin Provost's colourful comedy. The immaculate Paulette Van Der Beck (Juliette Binoche) and her husband have been running a school of Housekeeping and Good Manners in Alsace for many years. Their mission is to train teenage girls to become perfect housewives. After the death of her husband, Paulette discovers that the school is on the verge of bankruptcy and she takes on executive responsibilities. She and her students start questioning their beliefs spurred by the nation-wide protests of May 1968. Reunited with her first love, André (Édouard Baer), and with the help of her eccentric stepsister Gilberte (Yolande Moreau) and strict nun Marie-Thérèse (Noémie Lvovsky), Paulette joins forces with the pupils to overcome their suppressed status and become liberated women.

Cast **Juliette Binoche, Noémie Lvovsky, Yolande Moreau, Édouard Baer, François Berléand**

Director **Martin Provost** | 2020 | France/Belgium | 109 mins  
Int sales **Memento**

**An ensemble piece that surrounds Binoche with top-notch comic talent. *Screen***

### FILM SHOWING:

London Ciné Lumière Tue 10 Nov 19:30  
fff @ home

## Love Affairs

*Les Choses qu'on dit, les choses qu'on fait* (N/C 15+)

Holidays in the French countryside provide the perfect setting for Emmanuel Mouret to continue his exploration of all things tender and loving, throwing heart, soul and passion into the subject. François has to rush back to Paris to cover for a sick colleague, leaving his partner Daphne, three months pregnant, to welcome his cousin, Maxime. In the four days till François' return Daphne and Maxime get to know each other, sharing increasingly intimate stories that bring them closer.

Cast **Vincent Macaigne, Camélia Jordana, Niels Schneider, Émilie Dequenne, Jenna Thiam, Guillaume Gouix**

Director **Emmanuel Mouret** | 2020 | France | 120 mins  
Int sales **Elle Driver**

**Emotional detours galore via stylised dialogue delivered with aplomb. *Screen***

### FILM SHOWING:

London Ciné Lumière	Thu 5 Nov	20:20
	Fri 13 Nov	18:00
Aberdeen Belmont Filmhouse	Fri 6 Nov	13:00 & 19:00
Edinburgh Filmhouse	Fri 6 Nov	14:00 & 20:30



## Mama Weed *La Daronne* (N/C 15+)

A French-Arabic police translator (played by the inimitable Isabelle Huppert) specialises in phone tapping for the anti-narcotics unit. The job is tough and low-paid, but the Chief Inspector (Hippolyte Girardot) is charming. One day, while listening in to drug dealers, she discovers that one of them is the son of her mother's devoted carer. She decides to protect him and infiltrates a huge drug trafficking network. When, with the help of her new partner former police dog DNA, she discovers a huge haul of cannabis, she uses the opportunity to her advantage, becoming the *Mama Weed* in the title.

Cast **Isabelle Huppert, Hippolyte Girardot, Liliane Rovère**

Director **Jean-Paul Salomé** | 2020 | France | 104 mins  
Int sales **Le Pacte**

**Huppert's performance is as compelling as it is compassionate.** *IonCinema*

### FILM SHOWING:

Aberdeen Belmont Filmhouse	Wed 4 Nov	13:00 & 19:00
Edinburgh Filmhouse	Wed 4 Nov	14:00 & 20:30
Chichester Cinema at New Park	Wed 4 Nov Thu 5 Nov	20:45 14:15
London Ciné Lumière	Wed 4 Nov Sun 8 Nov	19:00 16:20
Inverness Eden Court	Mon 9 Nov	14:00 & 19:30
Glasgow Film Theatre	Wed 18 Nov	(check website for times)
Derby Quad	Fri 27 Nov Sat 28 Nov	18:00 20:00



## Night Shift *Police* (N/C 15+)

Based on a novel by Hugo Boris, *Night Shift* focuses on three Parisian police officers charged with escorting a foreigner back to the border. However, Virginie (Efira) realises their prisoner will most likely be killed on return to his country and so goes about attempting to convince her fellow officers to allow him to escape.

Cast **Omar Sy, Virginie Efira, Grégory Gadebois, Payman Maadi (aka Peyman Moadi)**

Director **Anne Fontaine** | 2020 | France | 100 mins  
Int sales **Studiocanal**

**Engrossing and slickly made... told from a predominantly female point of view.** *Variety*

### FILM SHOWING:

Glasgow Film Theatre	Sat 14 Nov (check website for times) Sun 15 Nov (check website for times)
Dundee DCA	Thu 19 Nov (check website for times) Sat 21 Nov (check website for times)
London Watermans Arts Centre	Sun 29 Nov 16:00
Lewes Depot	Tue 8 Dec 11:00 Wed 9 Dec 20:00





## Notre Dame (N/C 15+)

This light-hearted tale follows an architect in disarray as she works on redesigning the cathedral which was granted unexpected relevance when the beloved Paris icon was devastated by fire in April 2019, just as the director was finalising the project. Valérie Donzelli directs and stars as Maud Crayon, a single mother and struggling architect who wins a competition to redesign the esplanade in front of Notre Dame. What should be a career-defining opportunity, however, only brings more drama when the project becomes a media scandal. Juggling professional challenges with the complications presented by her ex-fiancé, Bacchus (Pierre Deladonchamps), Maud's quest to find a sense of balance is easier said than done. This is also a love letter to both Paris and one of its most famous landmarks.

Cast **Valérie Donzelli, Pierre Deladonchamps, Thomas Scimeca, Bouli Lanners, Virginie Ledoyen, Isabelle Candelier**

Director **Valérie Donzelli** | 2020 | France | 88 mins  
Int sales **MK2 Films / Print IFcinéma**

**Transforms sadness into shared joy. *Cineuropa***

### FILM SHOWING:

Dumfries Robert Burns Centre	Thu 5 Nov	19:00
London Ciné Lumière	Wed 11 Nov	19:30
	Fri 13 Nov	20:30
Oswestry Kinokulture	Wed 11 Nov	19:30
	Thu 12 Nov	13:30
Chichester Cinema at New Park	Fri 13 Nov	17:45
	Sat 14 Nov	14:15
Stirling Macrobert Arts Centre	Sat 14 Nov	13:30
	Tue 17 Nov	19:00
St Andrews Byre	Tue 17 Nov	19:00
Glasgow Film Theatre	Sat 21 Nov (check website for times)	
	Sun 22 Nov (check website for times)	
Inverness Eden Court	Thu 3 Dec	14:00 & 19:30
Edinburgh Dominion	Thu 4 Dec	18:00
Derby Quad	Fri 11 Dec	18:00
	Sat 12 Dec	20:15
Gloucester Guildhall	Check website for dates & times	
Hereford Courtyard	Check website for dates & times	



## Small Country: An African Childhood *Petit pays* (N/C 12+)

Gabriel, aged 10, lives in a comfortable expatriate neighbourhood in Burundi with his French entrepreneur father and Rwandan mother. Gabriel is a normal child, happy, carefree and running around having adventures with his friends and little sister. Until in 1993 tensions in neighbouring Rwanda spill over, threatening his family and his innocence.

Cast **Jean-Paul Rouve, Djibril Vancoppenolle, Isabelle Kabano, Delya De Medina**

Director **Éric Barbier** | 2019 | France/Belgium  
111 mins | Int sales **Pathé Films**

**One of the buzz titles at the Cannes Film Festival online.**

*Screen*

### FILM SHOWING:

London Ciné Lumière	Wed 11 Nov	15:45
	Thu 12 Nov	18:10
Edinburgh Filmhouse	Sun 15 Nov	14:00
Lewes Depot	Tue 1 Dec	20:00
	Wed 9 Dec	11:00
Oban Phoenix	Fri 4 Dec	19:30
	Mon 7 Dec	14:30



## The Specials *Hors normes* (N/C 12+)

Directors and screenwriters Éric Toledano and Olivier Nakache follow their huge hits, *C'est la vie* and *Untouchable* (about the friendship between a paraplegic and his carer), with *The Specials*, about a Jewish man, Bruno (Vincent Cassel) and a Muslim, Malik (Reda Kateb), working together to help children with severe autism who have been rejected by other institutions because they are too difficult to care for.

Cast **Vincent Cassel, Reda Kateb, Héliène Vincent, Bryan Mialoundama, Alban Ivanov, Benjamin Lesieur**

Directors **Olivier Nakache, Éric Toledano** | 2019 | France  
114 mins | Int sales **Gaumont**

**A rare film that comes both from the heart and reality... potent mix welcomes the audience in with grace and humour. *Screen***

### FILM SHOWING:

London Ciné Lumière	Fri 6 Nov 18:10 Wed 11 Nov 20:50
Plymouth Arts Cinema	Sat 7 Nov 17:00 Wed 11 Nov 20:30
Glasgow Film Theatre	Fri 13 Nov (check website for times) Sun 15 Nov (check website for times)
Aberdeen Belmont Filmhouse	Sat 14 Nov 13:00 & 19:00
Edinburgh Filmhouse	Sat 14 Nov 14:00 & 20:30
Chichester Cinema at New Park	Thu 3 Dec 20:45 Fri 4 Dec 14:15
Dundee DCA	Thu 3 Dec (check website for times) Sat 5 Dec (check website for times)
Nottingham Broadway	Thu 10 Dec (check website for times)



## Spread Your Wings *Donne-moi des ailes*

(N/C PG)

Inspired by a true story, *Spread Your Wings* follows video game-addicted teenager Thomas (Louis Vazquez) who is sent by his mother, Paola (Mélanie Doutey), to spend the school holidays with his father in the beautiful, yet secluded, wetlands of the Camargue region in Southern France. With no wi-fi and only his ornithologist father, Christian (Jean-Paul Rouve), for company, Thomas is slowly drawn into his father's passion for a gaggle of newborn wild geese. Together, father and son train the birds for their first migratory flight, hoping to free them from captivity. In doing so, they also start to rebuild their own strained relationship.

Cast **Jean-Paul Rouve, Mélanie Doutey, Louis Vazquez, Frédéric Saurel, Lilou Fogli**

Director **Nicolas Vanier** | 2019 | France/Norway | 113 mins  
Int sales **SND Groupe M6**

**Makes you want to re-engage with nature. *La Croix***

### FILM SHOWING:

London Ciné Lumière	Sat 7 Nov 14:00
Aberdeen Belmont Filmhouse	Sun 8 Nov 13:00
Edinburgh Filmhouse	Sun 8 Nov 14:00
Dumfries Robert Burns Centre	Sat 14 Nov 13:45
Nottingham Broadway	Sun 6 Dec (check website for times)
London Watermans Arts Centre	Sun 13 Dec 16:00



## Three Days and a Life *Trois jours une vie* (N/C 15+)

The murderer always returns to the scene of the crime, even if 15 years later. This is the case in a captivating rural thriller based on the best-selling novel by master crime writer Pierre Lemaitre. It is Christmas 1999 in a small village in the Ardennes, a seemingly safe provincial world, where everyone knows one another and follows the other's movements. It is a cotton-wool-wrapped microcosm which is one day rocked by the inexplicable disappearance of a four-year-old boy. And that's not all...

Cast **Pablo Pauly, Sandrine Bonnaire, Charles Berling, Margot Bancilhon, Philippe Torreton, Dimitri Storage**

Director **Nicolas Boukhrief** | 2019 | France/Belgium  
120 mins | Int sales **Gaumont / Print IFCinéma**

**Between a film noir and a thriller, this adaptation plays skilfully with our nerves.** *Closer*

### FILM SHOWING:

Stirling MacRobert Arts Centre	Sat 7 Nov	13:30
	Tue 10 Nov	19:00
Edinburgh Institut français d'Ecosse	Wed 18 Nov	14:00 & 18:45
Oban Phoenix	Fri 20 Nov	19:30
	Mon 23 Nov	14:30
Derby Quad	Fri 4 Dec	17:45
	Sat 5 Dec	20:00
Dumfries Robert Burns Centre	Thu 10 Dec	19:00
Gloucester Guildhall	Check website for dates & times	
Hereford Courtyard	Check website for dates & times	



## The Translators *Les Traducteurs* (N/C 12+)

If you relished the twists and turns of *Knives Out* then Régis Roinsard (*Populaire*) has devised a fiendishly clever whodunnit with a fantastic all-star international cast in a similar vein. To ensure absolute secrecy for the global publication of a bestseller, nine skilled translators are invited to a remote location. They are given a number of pages to translate each day. There is no contact with the outside world. Then the publisher receives a blackmail demand, threatening to release the manuscript online. Who is behind this and who is pulling the strings becomes the basis of a stylish, entertaining thriller.

Cast **Alex Lawther, Olga Kurylenko, Riccardo Scamarcio, Sidse Babett Knudsen, Eduardo Noriega**

Director **Régis Roinsard** | 2019 | France/Belgium | 120 min  
Int sales **Wild Bunch, UK**

**A cleverly concocted crowd-pleaser.**  
*Hollywood Reporter*

### FILM SHOWING:

Aberdeen Belmont Filmhouse	Wed. 11 Nov	13:00 & 19:00
Edinburgh Filmhouse	Wed 11 Nov	14:00 & 20:30
Glasgow Film Theatre	Fri 13 Nov	(check website for times)
	Sat 14 Nov	(check website for times)
Chichester Cinema at New Park	Thu 10 Dec	20:45
	Fri 11 Dec	14:15

# Classic



*Iconic performances from Jean-Paul Belmondo and Jean Seberg as the most delightful and insolent couple in cinema history...*

## Breathless *À bout de souffle* (PG)

Special 60th anniversary screenings. The epitome of cinematic cool which inspired a generation of filmmakers from Quentin Tarantino and Tony Scott to Lars Von Trier and Terence Malick, *Breathless* (*À Bout De Souffle*) features iconic performances from Jean-Paul Belmondo and Jean Seberg as the central, most delightful and insolent couple in cinema history – young, effortlessly stylish, and in love in Paris. Based on a story by Francois Truffaut and photographed by New Wave legend Raoul Coutard, Jean-Luc Godard's film debut is a jazzy riff on Film Noir. With its non-stop pace *Breathless* reinvented the grammar of movies and spearheaded the French New Wave of filmmaking. Selected in its new 4K restoration for Cannes Classics 2020, Bologna's Il Cinema Ritrovato Festival and the Lumière Film Festival in Lyon.

Cast **Jean-Paul Belmondo, Jean Seberg, Daniel Boulanger, Henri-Jacques Huet**  
Director **Jean-Luc Godard** | 1960 | France/Belgium | 90 mins | Int sales **Studiocanal**

**Pure, raw, chaotic newness – still fresh after all this time.** *The Guardian*

### FILM SHOWING:

London Ciné Lumière	Fri 13 Nov	15:45
Aberdeen Belmont Filmhouse	Tue 17 Nov	13:00 & 19:00
Edinburgh Filmhouse	Tue 17 Nov	14:00 & 20:30
Oswestry Kinokulture	Wed 25 Nov	19:30
	Thu 26 Nov	13:30
Dundee DCA	Thu 26 Nov (check website for times)	
	Sun 29 Nov (check website for times)	



# Classic

*Murder she said...  
Simone Signoret in  
Costa-Gavras's The  
Sleeping Car Murders*



## The Sleeping Car Murders *Compartment tueurs* (N/C 15)

This first feature by Franco-Greek director Costa-Gavras was adapted from a novel by Sébastien Japrisot and is a humorous, visually punchy take on the murder mystery. Six people share a sleeping compartment on a Paris-bound train. After they arrive, one of them is found strangled, and before long, the killer starts bumping off the remaining passengers. Yves Montand is superb as a harried police inspector coming down with the flu, who doggedly follows up every lead. Red herrings abound and the twists and thrills are masterfully executed with a dream cast including the late, great Michel Piccoli who died earlier this year.

Cast **Michel Piccoli, Simone Signoret, Jacques Perrin, Catherine Allegret, Jean-Louis Trintignant**

Director **Costa-Gavras** | 1965 | France | 135 mins | Int sales **Warner Bros (France) / Print IFcinéma**

**Gripping and mysterious thriller... seat-edge suspense.** *France Today*

### FILM SHOWING:

London Ciné Lumière	Sun 8 Nov	14:00	Wed 11 Nov	18:00
Inverness Eden Court	Sun 15 Nov	19:00	Mon 16 Nov	11:00
Edinburgh Filmhouse	Sat 21 Nov	14:00		
Glasgow Film Theatre	Sun 22 Nov	(check website for times)		
Chichester Cinema at New Park	Sat 28 Nov	20:30	Tue 1 Dec	14:15
Lewes Depot	Sun 29 Nov	14:00	Wed 2 Dec	11:00
Nottingham Broadway	Mon 7 Dec	(check website for times)		
Derby Quad	Wed 9 Dec	17:30	Thu 10 Dec	19:45
Oban Phoenix	Fri 11 Dec	19:30	Mon 14 Dec	14:30



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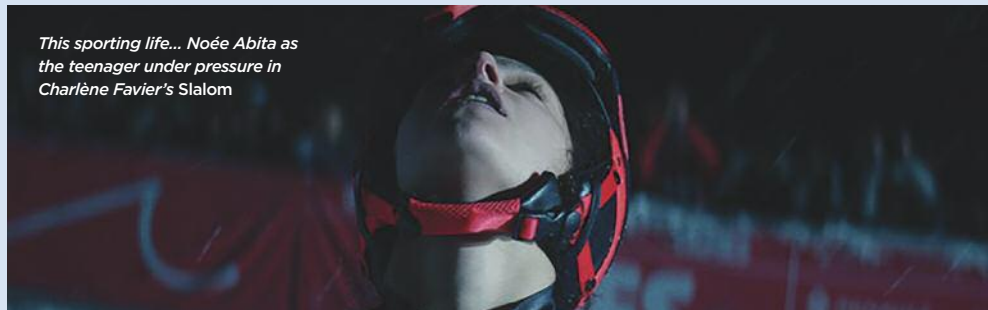
Programme  
& Tickets:

Design: Eduardo Cobo  
in homage to Victor Erice  
and Cruz Novillo

# Discovery

# 28

*This sporting life... Noée Abita as the teenager under pressure in Charlène Favier's Slalom*



Diversity is the name of the game for this septet of directors on their first or second features. Manele Labidi vindicates the role of women in Tunisian society in the comedy *Arab Blues* which is full of vitality and humour. Franco-British actor and director Alexis Michalik has much in common with Edmond Rostand, the 19th-century dramatist who inspired his play turned film, *Cyrano My Love (Edmond)*. And both became overnight successes at the age of 29.

Meanwhile Édouard Bergeon, a journalist with a background in TV documentaries, makes his debut with *In the Name of the Land* inspired by the life of his own farmer father. Still on country matters Caroline Vignal delivers a hilarious emancipation story in *My Donkey, My Lover & I*, chosen for the Cannes Film Festival's Label. Another female director Charlène Favier who grew up in Val d'Isère makes her feature debut with *Slalom* and skis on the personal side for the story of a young skier falling under the grip of her trainer.

Laurent Micheli delves into parts of his personal past to explore his troubles as a teenager and trans identity in *Lola*. Grégory Magne, in his second feature, casts Emmanuelle Devos as a fragrance maker who suddenly loses her sense of smell with unexpected consequences.

When the awards are bestowed, these are all names to watch.

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CYRANO MY LOVE	24
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MY DONKEY, MY LOVER & I	26
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PERFUMES	26
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SLALOM	27
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## Arab Blues *Un divan à Tunis* (N/C 12+)

Golshifteh Farahani stars as radiant yet tough Selma, a Tunis-born psychoanalyst who, having lived in Paris since age 10, has returned to Tunisia to set up a practice in a country where people habitually talk like crazy but not to mental health professionals. Via a colourful array of characters still finding their bearings post-Arab Spring, first-time writer-director Manele Labidi packs in a lot of affectionate observations, all set to an original retro-jazzy electric guitar-based score.

Cast **Golshifteh Farahani, Majd Mastoura, Aïcha Ben Miled, Feriel Chamari, Hichem Yacoubi, Najoua Zouhair, Jamel Sassi, Ramla Ayari**

Director **Manele Labidi** | 2019 | France | 88 mins  
Int sales **MK2 Films / Print IFcinéma**

**Culture-clash comedy... a dose of absurdity and some gentle social commentary.** *Eye for Film*

### FILM SHOWING:

London Ciné Lumière	Fri 6 Nov	20:45
	Sun 8 Nov	17:40
Glasgow Film Theatre	Sat 14 Nov (check website for times)	
	Mon 16 Nov (check website for times)	
St Andrews Byre	Thu 19 Nov	19:00
Sheffield Showroom Workstation	Sat 28 Nov	15:10
	Mon 30 Nov	18:10
London Watermans Arts Centre	Sun 6 Dec	16:00
Derby Quad	Wed 16 Dec	18:00
	Thu 17 Dec	20:15



## Cyrano My Love *Edmond* (N/C 15+)

Alexis Michalik's period-set biopic reveals the drama behind the playwright's most famous work *Cyrano de Bergerac*. We meet Edmond Rostand (Thomas Solivérès) during the explosion of artistic production that marked the Belle Époque in late 19th-century France. Despite being a clearly gifted writer, his career has yet to take off, and his bruised ego makes it difficult for him to find further inspiration. But, with the support of the legendary Sarah Bernhardt (Clémentine Célerié), stage legend Constant Coquelin (Olivier Gourmet) approaches Edmond and demands to star in his next play. With only three weeks to write it and only the title – *Cyrano de Bergerac* – to work with, can he accomplish the impossible?

Cast **Thomas Solivérès, Olivier Gourmet, Mathilde Seigner, Tom Leeb, Lucie Boujenah**

Director **Alexis Michalik** | 2019 | France/Belgium | 112 mins  
Int sales **Gaumont / Print IFcinéma**

**Delightful... a splendid original story of *Cyrano de Bergerac*.** *Screen*

### FILM SHOWING:

Chichester Cinema at New Park	Fri 6 Nov	14:15
	Thu 12 Nov	20:45
London Watermans Arts Centre	Sun 15 Nov	16:00
Inverness Eden Court	Mon 23 Nov	19:30
	Thu 26 Nov	11:00
Dumfries Robert Burns	Tue 24 Nov	10:45 & 19:00
Stirling MacRobert Arts Centre	Sat 28 Nov	13:30
	Tue 1 Dec	19:00
Nottingham Broadway	Fri 4 Dec (check website for times)	
Gloucester Guildhall	Check website for dates & times	
Hereford Courtyard	Check website for dates & times	





## In the Name of the Land *Au nom de la terre* (N/C 15+)

An intimate family drama set against a backdrop of agricultural strife. This is also an extremely personal endeavour for first-time feature director Édouard Bergeon, who tells the story of his own father – a proud *paysan* who struggled for decades to keep his business alive and paid a high price for doing so. Canet portrays the downward spiral of Pierre Jarreau, a man of the terroir who takes over the farm from his cruel and unforgiving father, Jacques (Rufus). Rather than letting his son inherit the property, Jacques forces him to buy it from him using a bank loan. In the ensuing years, Pierre is bled dry as he tries to make ends meet and pay off the mounting debt.

Cast **Guillaume Canet, Veerle Baetens, Anthony Bajon, Rufus, Samir Guesmi**

Director **Édouard Bergeon** | 2019 | France | 103 mins  
Int sales **Wild Bunch / Print IFcinéma**

**Gut-wrenching *cri de coeur* about the ways rural life and agricultural methods have changed. *Screen***

### FILM SHOWING:

Oswestry Kinokulture	Wed 18 Nov	19:30
	Thu 19 Nov	13:30
Plymouth Arts Cinema	Sat 28 Nov	17:30
	Wed 2 Dec	20:30



## Lola *Lola vers la mer* (N/C 15+)

Just when Lola, 18 years old and transgender, learns that she can finally have surgery her mother, her only financial support, passes away. Abiding by her mother's last wishes, Lola and her father, who have a thorny relationship and have not seen each other for two years, have to undertake a journey to the Belgian coast. They realise the outcome of the journey may not be the one they were both expecting...

Cast **Benoît Magimel, Mya Bollaers**

Director **Laurent Micheli** | 2019 | France/Belgium | 90 mins  
Int sales **Les Films du Losange** | UK Distrib **Peccadillo**

**A tender portrait of two lost souls who fight against the demons, and struggle to forgive and be forgiven. *Cineuropa***

### FILM SHOWING:

Edinburgh Filmhouse	Sat 7 Nov	13:00 & 20:30
	Sat 21 Nov	13:30
Stirling MacRobert Arts Centre	Tue 24 Nov	19:00
	Sun 22 Nov	15:10
Sheffield Showroom Workstation	Mon 23 Nov	18:10



## My Donkey, My Lover & I *Antoinette dans les Cévennes* (N/C 12+)

Antoinette, a school teacher, is looking forward to her long planned summer holidays with her secret lover Vladimir, the father of one of her pupils. When she learns that Vladimir cannot come because his wife has organized a surprise donkey trekking holiday with their daughter in the Cévennes National Park, Antoinette decides to follow their trace, by herself, accompanied by Patrick, a singularly stubborn donkey.

Cast **Laure Calamy, Benjamin Lavernhe, Olivia Côte, Éric Cantona**

Director **Caroline Vignal** | 2020 | France/Belgium | 95 mins  
Int sales **Playtime**

**One of our most anticipated French films of the year. IONCinema**

### FILM SHOWING:

Aberdeen Belmont Filmhouse	Fri 13 Nov	13:00 & 19:00
Edinburgh Filmhouse	Fri 13 Nov	14:00 & 20:30
London Ciné Lumière	Sat 14 Nov	18:30 & 20:45
Plymouth Arts Cinema	Sat 14 Nov Wed 18 Nov	14:30 20:30
Glasgow Film Theatre	Fri 20 Nov (check website for times) Sat 21 Nov (check website for times)	



## Perfumes *Les Parfums* (N/C 12+)

Comedy drama set in the 'nose' (nez) business. Emmanuelle Devos plays a once-famous *nez* (in the perfume world) who sells her extraordinary olfactory facility to any company that is prepared to pay for it. She is undoubtedly a diva, but one who might just have a shot at redemption through her relationship with her new chauffeur (Gustave Kervern), a man with many troubles of his own.

Cast **Emmanuelle Devos, Gustave Kervern, Sergi Lopez, Grégory Montel**

Director **Grégory Magne** | 2020 | France | 100 mins  
UK Distributor **Curzon**

**A gentle feel-good sweep to Grégory Magne's French dramedy... a very watchable blend. Eye for Film**

### FILM SHOWING:

London Watermans Arts Centre	Sun 22 Nov 16:00
Edinburgh Dominion	Sun 13 Dec 18:00



## Slalom (N/C 15+)

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A 15-year-old high school student in the French Alps has been accepted by a highly selective ski club whose aim is to train future professional athletes. Taking a chance on his new recruit, Fred, ex-champion turned coach, decides to make Lyz his shining star regardless of her lack of experience. Under his influence, Lyz will have to endure more than the physical and emotional pressure of the training. Will Lyz's determination help her escape his grip?

This powerful coming-of-age sports drama seen through the gaze of its youthful protagonist appears appropriately at a time when exploitative relationships in the sporting world have hit the headlines. Part of Cannes 2020 (Official Selection).

---

Cast **Noée Abita, Jérémie Renier, Marie Denarnaud, Muriel Combeau, Maïra Schmitt, Axel Auriant**  
Director **Charlène Favier** | 2020 | France | 90 mins | Int sales **The Party Film Sales** | UK Distrib **Curzon**

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**Beautifully directed and performed feature debut.** *Hollywood Reporter*

### FILM SHOWING:

London Ciné Lumière	Sat 7 Nov	16:20
Glasgow Film Theatre	Wed 18 Nov (check website for times) Thu 19 Nov (check website for times)	
Edinburgh Filmhouse	Thu 19 Nov	14:00 & 20:30

hmm .... london !!



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# Documentary

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## Adolescents *Adolescentes* (N/C 12+)

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Emma and Anaïs are best friends and yet everything in their life seems to set them apart – both their social backgrounds and their personalities. From the age of thirteen to eighteen, *Adolescents* follows the two teenagers during the years where radical transformations and first times punctuate daily life. Through their personal stories, the film offers a rare portrait of France and its recent history. Unveiled in the Critics' Week at the Cannes Film Festival, the film was shot over a period of five years.

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Director **Sébastien Lifshitz** | 2019 | France | 135 mins | Int sales **The Party Film Sales** / **Print IFcinéma**

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**An engrossing and valuable endeavour, documenting adolescence from a female perspective.** *Filmuforia*

### FILM SHOWING:

St Andrews Byre

Sun 15 Nov 14:30

# Documentary

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## Aïlo's Journey

### *Aïlo: Une odyssée en Laponie* (N/C 12A+)

Follow the adventures of young reindeer Aïlo in his first year, as he learns to survive in the frozen taiga landscape of Lapland. Guided by his mother, he takes his tentative first steps, and finds his way in the icy terrain, inhabited by creatures large and small, both friend and foe. Aïlo follows the herd on their year-long trek to the Arctic Circle, the magnificent cinematography allowing us to share in his every adventure, as he adapts to the behaviour of the wild. From wolves, to scurrying lemmings, to bears, to wolverines and elks, the film introduces us to the vast array of creatures and also alludes to the impact of climate change on their lives.

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Director **Guillaume Maidatchevsky** | 2019 | France/Finland | 86 mins | French with English subtitles | Print **IFCinéma**

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**Stunningly beautiful nature film, shot in live action.** *Sydney Morning Herald*

#### FILM SHOWING:

Nottingham Broadway

Sat 5 Dec (check website for times)

Derby Quad

Sat 19 Dec

15:30

Sun 20 Dec

13:30

# Documentary

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## **Aznavour by Charles** ***Aznavour le regard de Charles*** (N/C 12A+)

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For more than 70 years, every song by singer Charles Aznavour invited his legions of adoring fans into a magical dream of music and romance. Aside from the thousands of songs that made this French-Armenian polymath a star, Aznavour's life beyond music was even more extraordinary. Actor, political activist, diplomat and filmmaker, *Aznavour by Charles* enthrallingly reveals a complicated, multi-talented man who entertained for the greater part of a century. Narrated by award-winning French actor Romain Duris, this documentary knits together footage from Aznavour's vast personal experiences to present an unparalleled insight into the man himself and also his relationships with friends, including Frank Sinatra, Édith Piaf, Charles Trenet and Brigitte Bardot.

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Director **Marc di Domenico** | 2020 | France | 85 mins | Int sales **Pulsar Content**

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***Aznavour by Charles* delivers an intimate portrait of the iconic singer through exclusive footage of him through the years.** *Variety*

### **FILM SHOWING:**

Edinburgh Filmhouse

Nottingham Broadway

Sun 22 Nov 16:30

Tue 8 Dec (check website for times)



JULIETTE BINOCHÉ  
EDOUARD BAER

YOLANDE MOREAU

NOÉMIE LVOVSKY  
FRANÇOIS BERLÉAND

UK  
PREMIERE

VAN DER BECK  
HOUSEKEEPING  
SCHOOL

# How to be a Good Wife

A FILM BY  
MARTIN PROVOST

Ciné Lumière London Tue 10 November and fff @ home





# @ home

## Settle down for the best seat in the house!



In an age when film is consumed across a wide variety of platforms and has seen the rise of streaming giants such as Netflix and Amazon Prime, the French Film Festival UK is pleased to provide proof of our ability to innovate in challenging circumstances. For the first time we will inaugurate an online offer under the banner **fff @ home** in collaboration with **Festival Scope**.

From Friday 27 November to Friday 4 December inclusive our programmers have curated a selection of feature film titles and shorts for you to enjoy and appreciate in the surroundings of your own home. There are disadvantages, of course. You won't make a new friend out of the person sitting beside you. You won't be able to relish in the communal experience or chat about the film in the bar afterwards. But if guidelines allow you can still watch with friends and family. For many of the screenings there will be an online introduction and after the show a pre-recorded session with the director or specialist presenter.

On the plus side it's much easier to get tickets to an online festival than many real-life festival screenings but be quick because we only have a limited number of subscriptions to each screening and they will be restricted to a certain time frame.

We cannot imagine a world without cinemas where you can view films in the best of all possible environments free from the distractions of domesticity. More than 20 cinemas around the UK have kept faith with the Festival to show films on their screens at this uncertain time. Virtual online festivals will never replace the real thing but provide an added option. The titles available mainly are in addition to our theatrical selection with added extras although two of them also will have cinema shows as part of the new synergy.

### HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

LOG ON TO **frenchfilmfestival.org.uk/online**

And follow the instructions

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JUST KIDS	36
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## The Dazzled *Les Éblouis* (N/C 15+)

Actress-turned-director Sarah Suco's debut feature is a mesmerising slow burn set in an insular Catholic community. When promising 12-year-old acrobat Camille (promising newcomer Céleste Brunnquell) performs in a sketch that seems to make light of prayer, the church's leader—known only as “The Shepherd” (Jean-Pierre Darroussin) – asks her parents to withdraw her from circus training. Her mother (Camille Cottin) has become emotionally dependent on the parish, while her father (Éric Caravaca) seems brainwashed, so Camille has to fight for her own freedom and to save her younger brothers and sisters. Suco, who co-wrote the script with Nicolas Silhol (*Corporate*), grew up in just such a community.

Cast **Céleste Brunnquell, Camille Cottin, Jean-Pierre Darroussin, Éric Caravaca, Spencer Bogaert**

Director **Sarah Suco** | 2019 | France | 99 mins  
Int sales **Pyramide International**

**A disturbing look at family and fanaticism.** *Hollywood Reporter*

### HOW TO WATCH IT:

Log on to **frenchfilmfestival.org.uk/online**  
And follow the instructions



## Felicita' (N/C 15+)

Told through the eyes of 11-year-old Tommy, *Felicita'* is an endearing French comedy about the pre-teen, her eccentric mum, her fresh-out-of-jail dad and a road trip. Tommy (Rita Merle) and her loving yet unpredictable parents aren't afraid to put their idiosyncrasies on display. As the summer holidays come to a close, Tommy doesn't want to miss the first day of school (like last year) and can't wait to show the mean girls that she's grown. Only a stolen car, her mother's disappearance and an astronaut stand in her way. Akin to the spirited energy of *Little Miss Sunshine*, *Felicita'* is a charming look at family in all its kaleidoscopic glory.

Cast **Pio Marmaï, Rita Merle, Camille Rutherford**

Director **Bruno Merle** | 2020 | France | 81 mins  
Int sales **Charades**

**A road trip similar to *Captain Fantastic...* a comedy about family.**

*Variety*

### HOW TO WATCH IT:

Log on to **frenchfilmfestival.org.uk/online**  
And follow the instructions



## Honey Cigar *Cigare au miel* (N/C 15+)

The 17-year-old protagonist played by Zoé Adjani (niece of Isabelle Adjani) lives between countries and cultures as well as adolescence and adulthood in Franco-Algerian director Kamir Aïnouz's debut feature. Set mainly in 1993 Paris and the affluent suburb of Neuilly sur Seine where the girl grows up amid the strictures of her parents who insist she speaks French at home. She struggles to define herself and her relationship with various males in a narrative that moves from the personal to the generational.

Cast **Zoé Adjani, Amira Casar, Lyes Salem, Louis Peres, Idir Chender, Axel Grandberger, Jud Bengana, Rym Takoucht, Samir El Hakim**

Director **Kamir Aïnouz** | 2020 | France | 100 mins  
Int sales **Best Friend Forever**

**Refreshingly empowering in how it foregrounds the female gaze.**

*Variety*

### HOW TO WATCH IT:

Log on to [frenchfilmfestival.org.uk/online](https://frenchfilmfestival.org.uk/online) and follow the instructions



## How to be a Good Wife *La Bonne épouse* (N/C 12+)

Women's Liberation and the sexual revolution come to ultra-conservative 60s France in Martin Provost's colourful comedy. The immaculate Paulette Van Der Beck (Juliette Binoche) and her husband have been running a school of Housekeeping and Good Manners in Alsace for many years. Their mission is to train teenage girls to become perfect housewives. After the death of her husband, Paulette discovers that the school is on the verge of bankruptcy and she takes on executive responsibilities. She and her students start questioning their beliefs spurred by the nation-wide protests of May 1968. Reunited with her first love, André (Édouard Baer), and with the help of her eccentric stepsister Gilberte (Yolande Moreau) and strict nun Marie-Thérèse (Noémie Lvovsky), Paulette joins forces with the pupils to overcome their suppressed status and become liberated women.

Cast **Juliette Binoche, Noémie Lvovsky, Yolande Moreau, Édouard Baer, François Berléand**

Director **Martin Provost** | 2020 | France/Belgium | 109 mins  
Int sales **Memento**

**An ensemble piece that surrounds Binoche with top-notch comic talent.** *Screen*

### OPENING FILM HOW TO WATCH IT:

Log on to [frenchfilmfestival.org.uk/online](https://frenchfilmfestival.org.uk/online) and follow the instructions



## Into Dad's Woods *La Forêt de mon père* (N/C 15+)

Belgian director Véro Cratzborn's first feature film follows in the footsteps of a teenage girl reluctantly entering adulthood while facing up to her father's madness, a condition she finds impossible to understand. The girl becomes confused and rebels, allying herself to Nico, an adolescent from her neighbourhood, with a view to saving her father. Cratzborn first came to notice with her short film *Les Biches*.

Cast **Léonie Souchaud, Ludivine Sagnier, Alban Lenoir, Mathis Bour, Saskia de Melo Dillais, Carl Malapa, Yoann Blanc**

Director **Véro Cratzborn** | 2020 | France/Belgium/Switzerland  
90 mins | Int sales **Be for Films**

**A sincere, moving portrait of a "forgotten child."** *Cineuropa*

### HOW TO WATCH IT:

Log on to [frenchfilmfestival.org.uk/online](https://frenchfilmfestival.org.uk/online) and follow the instructions



## Just Kids (N/C 15+)

Suddenly Jack, 19, Lisa, 17, and Mathis, 10, become orphans. Each sibling reacts differently to the family tragedy: Lisa spreads her wings, while Jack, having just come of age is appointed as his brother's guardian by a court decision. A new life begins. But how does someone just barely out of adolescence himself become responsible for a child? And how does one construct a future when the past has become a dangerous obsession? Fortunately, the strength and energy of youth can work miracles.

Cast **Kacey Mottet Klein, Andrea Maggiulli, Anamaria Vartolomei, Angelina Woreth, Yves Caumon, Ahmed Abdel-Laoui, Pierre Vial, Lou Lambrecht**

Director **Christophe Blanc** | 2020 | France/Switzerland  
107 mins | Int sales **Be for Films**

**A sensitive and convincing film with an impeccable cast.** *Positif*

### HOW TO WATCH IT:

Log on to [frenchfilmfestival.org.uk/online](https://frenchfilmfestival.org.uk/online) and follow the instructions

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**TICKETS, DATES AND DETAILS OF TITLES & GUESTS:**  
[frenchfilmfestival.org.uk/online](https://frenchfilmfestival.org.uk/online)



*Last lap: Philippe du Janerand in Mon p'tit Bernard by Olivier Ducray and Wilfried Méance.*



## Under the Stars of Paris *Sous les étoiles de Paris* (N/C 12+)

A homeless woman, Christine – played by Catherine Frot – tries to help Suli (Mahamadou Yaffa), a lost eight-year-old boy from Burkina Faso to find his mother on the streets of Paris. Christine understands that he has been separated from his mother. Linked together by their bond as outsiders, they embark on an emotional journey full of tenderness to find Suli's mother in the underground world of Paris.

Cast **Catherine Frot, Mahamadou Yaffa, Dominique Frot**

Director **Claus Drexel** | 2020 | France/Belgium | 86 mins | Int sales **Memento**

**Director Claus Drexel lends a painterly visual aesthetic and a fairy-tale dimension** *Variety*

### HOW TO WATCH IT:

Log on to [frenchfilmfestival.org.uk/online](https://frenchfilmfestival.org.uk/online) and follow the instructions



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# Learning L'école du cinéma

FILMHOUSE

TOTAL

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TV5  
MONDE  
PLUS



**The French Film Festival UK's Learning Programme has always been active in bringing French-speaking cinema to thousands of pupils and teachers over the years. In these challenging times, instead of welcoming school groups to participating cinemas, the Festival organisers are taking the Festival into schools.**

To accompany the selection of films for different age groups, school screenings are enhanced by online free learning resources prepared by Lise Morel. Participating teachers can download these Learning Packs as PDFs to use in the classroom. These resources have been designed in accordance with the Modern Languages Experience and Outcomes for the Curriculum for Excellence.

The programme for this edition has been co-ordinated by Yvonne Gordon (Head of Education & Learning) and Chloe Berger (Education & Learning Coordinator) at Edinburgh Filmhouse, in collaboration with French Film Festival UK's Sylvia Davidson, +44 7703 192 587. We also acknowledge the assistance of Philippe Sibeaud, Education Attaché/Director of Studies, Institut français d'Ecosse. For Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire schools the Festival salutes the contribution of Total E&P UK and Virginie Jégat and Jilly Powell.

The Festival organisers prefer films to be screened as intended as part of a cinema experience and up to now we have appreciated providing these opportunities for the young audiences of tomorrow, and sharing their excitement in front of the big screen. We hope that this alternative way of presenting our programme in a safe school environment will be equally engaging.

***Vive le cinéma!***

**THE BEARS' FAMOUS  
INVASION OF SICILY**

41

**MY FAMILY  
AND THE WOLF**

41

**AÏLO'S JOURNEY**

42

**STARS BY  
THE POUND**

42

**THE FINISHERS**

43





# Learning L'école du cinéma

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## The Bears' Famous Invasion of Sicily *La Fameuse invasion des ours en Sicile*

Eclectic Italian artist and illustrator Lorenzo Mattotti has designed everything from comic books to New Yorker covers in his long and acclaimed career, but *The Bears' Famous Invasion of Sicily* (*La famosa invasione degli orsi in Sicilia*) is his first venture into feature filmmaking. Based on novelist Dino Buzzati's (*The Tartar Steppe*) only children's book, which takes its cue from local traditions like the wandering minstrel and storyteller, it is a colourful fairy tale. To find his long-lost son and food to survive the winter, the great bear king leads his clan down from the mountains and into the world of men. After escaping terrible monsters and defeating an evil duke, the bears and men live together in peace – for a time.

Director **Lorenzo Mattotti** | 2019 | France | 82 mins  
French with English subtitles

**A folkloristic work of the imagination...**  
*Hollywood Reporter*

### FILM SHOWING:

Lewes Depot Sat 28 Nov 11:30  
Sun 29 Nov 11:30

OTHER SCREENINGS FOR SCHOOLS ONLY



## My Family and the Wolf *Ma famille et le loup*

Nine-year-old Hugo will never forget this summer spent with his cousins at Grandma Sara's house in the country. When the children learn that the wolf is coming to take Grandma away, they decide to do something about it. They then embark on a fantastic adventure, mixing fear and excitement. The film blends live sequences with animation in a funny and enchanting fantasy.

Cast **Carmen Maura, Pierre Rochefort, Bruno Salomone, Franco Bruneau, Baptiste Sornin**

Directors **Víctor Maldonado, Adrià García, Alfredo Torres**  
2019 | France | 85 mins | French with English subtitles

**Tender... touching... Carmen Maura is perfect as the fairy-tale recounting grandmother.** *Le Parisien*

### FILM SHOWING:

Stirling MacRobert Arts Centre	Sat 28 Nov 12:00
	Sun 29 Nov 12:00
Derby Quad	Sat 12 Dec 15:30
	Sun 13 Dec 13:30

OTHER SCREENINGS FOR SCHOOLS ONLY

In collaboration with





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## Aïlo's Journey *Aïlo: Une odyssée en Laponie*

Follow the adventures of young reindeer Aïlo in his first year, as he learns to survive in the frozen taiga landscape of Lapland. Guided by his mother, he takes his tentative first steps, and finds his way in the icy terrain, inhabited by creatures large and small, both friend and foe. Aïlo follows the herd on their year-long trek to the Arctic Circle, the magnificent cinematography allowing us to share in his every adventure, as he adapts to the behaviour of the wild. From wolves, to scurrying lemmings, to bears, to wolverines and elks, the film introduces us to the vast array of creatures and also alludes to the impact of climate change on their lives.

Director **Guillaume Maidatchevsky** | 2019 | France/Finland  
86 mins | French with English subtitles

**Stunningly beautiful nature film, shot in live action.**  
*Sydney Morning Herald*

### FILM SHOWING:

Nottingham Broadway	Sat 5 Dec (check website for times)
Derby Quad	Sat 19 Dec 15:30 Sun 20 Dec 13:30

OTHER SCREENINGS FOR SCHOOLS ONLY

## Stars by the Pound *100kg d'Étoiles*

Sixteen-year-old physics whiz Lois wants one thing: to travel to space. But heavyset people like Lois don't get to be astronauts. Weighed down by her genetic makeup, Lois starves herself to get trim and suffers a series of fainting spells which land her in a clinic where she meets three other girls struggling with their own issues. Together they break out and embark on an adventure to a national science competition in Toulouse, and the opportunity to win a zero-gravity flight.

Cast **Laure Duchene, Angèle Metzger, Pauline Serieys, Zoé De Tarlé, Philippe Rebbot**

Director **Marie-Sophie Chambon** | 2017 | France | 86 mins  
French with English subtitles

**A heartfelt ode to female friendship and teenage dreams striving to soar above the expectations of an often-cruel world.**

*Melbourne International Film Festival catalogue*

**FOR SCHOOLS ONLY**

# Learning L'école du cinéma

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MONDE  
PLUS



## The Finishers *De toutes nos forces*

Julien is 17 and has cerebral palsy. His father, Paul, is a celebrated athlete. They do not always see eye to eye. Then Julien convinces his father to sign them up for an upcoming Ironman race – which will involve 2.4 miles of swimming, then 112 miles of cycling, followed by 26 miles of running. Will this impossible challenge help reconnect father and son? Will they manage to complete the race? Inspired by a true story and brought back to the Learning Programme by popular demand.

Cast **Jacques Gamblin, Alexandra Lamy, Fabien Héraud**

Director **Nils Tavernier** | 2013 | France | 86 mins | French with English subtitles

**Sentimental but tough to resist... the film's heart is hard to deny... *Variety***

FOR SCHOOLS ONLY

## Green stories – in just one minute!

A legion of film-makers rally to the cause

[www.mobilefilmfestival.com](http://www.mobilefilmfestival.com)



The French Film Festival UK continues its collaboration with the Paris-based Mobile Film Festival by presenting a selection of shorts films before features in select venues. The theme of the 15th edition was **Climate Change** – and over 800 budding filmmakers from 91 countries responded to the call by submitting shorts of just one minute long and shot on mobile phones or tablets.

Bruno Smadja, founder of the Mobile Film Festival, says: “The brief is always the same – one minute, one mobile, one film: one mobile to make it the most accessible possible, to get rid of every financial constraint to make a film, so everybody can participate. But not everybody can make a good film, so we have to be very selective. That’s why you have to be a very good storyteller to work on that.”

He agrees that Swedish activist Greta Thunberg has been a huge inspiration for the youth movement spearheading the recent climate marches around the world providing a further boost to the festival’s theme, which is now at the heart of many people’s concerns.

The ideas speak to the ordinary citizen – asking and encouraging the viewer to reconsider every action they take, from where they throw their rubbish to the amount of clothes they buy or conserving water.

The MFF has gained momentum and garnered support from dozens of organisations, notably YouTube Creators for Change and the United Nations Climate Change agency.

Fifty films from 24 countries were in the running for the total prize money. The prizes are generous – 46,000 euros divided into two main prizes of 20,000 euros which will allow winners to produce a short film with a professional crew, and two 3,000 euro grants for residencies.

**Women’s Empowerment** is the theme for the MFF international edition this year, supported by BNP Paribas.

**One film from a selection of 27 on #ACT NOW ON CLIMATE CHANGE will be screened before most features in select cinemas.**

# MOBILE FILM FESTIVAL

Watch out for these innovative titles as part of the programmes of 2020 French Film Festival UK:

## Antlhuman

Humans and ants carry on walking, working, moving, living, until the moment when in a flash, everything changes. Winner, Best Director Award

Directors: **Vinamra Pancharia, Monika Sharma** | India

## The Breakdown / *La panne*

A man talks to the camera about his breakdown.

Director: **Camille de La Poëze** | France

## British Air NO Ways!

Ever wanted to visit the whole world without polluting the planet? Well now you can, with "British Air NO Ways"...

Directors: **Lisa Ray-Jacobs, Matylda D** | UK

## Easter Eggs and the *Tronçonneuf*

As a *Tronçonneuf* (Chainsaw Egg) fells trees, Easter and the Eggs follow behind sowing seeds along with a natural product promoting fast growth to counteract the felling, with a surprising result for Chainsaw Egg.

Director: **Allan Juin** | France

## #EverythingIsFine / *#Tout va bien*

Marie, ultra-connected user of technology, comments on her life, without noticing the changes around her. Through her Instagram stories, we follow Marie for a few days, a few days of chaos. Winner, Best Performance Award, Florence Fauquet

Director: **Mathieu Boivineau** | France

## Flora

Somewhere in Europe, June 2053: a group of scientists discover a now rare form of life and rush to tell the world.

Directors: **Baptiste Jung, Oscar Gentin** | France

## Forbidden Fruit / *Fruit défendu*

In the fourth millennium: a young woman tries to buy water on the black market with no luck, but she is offered something else instead.

Director: **Julien Johan** | France

## For the Love of... / *Pour l'amour de...*

A young man seeks to reunite with his ex-lover and their daughter, but his new job is a huge problem for her.

Director: **Tomisin Aderuku** | Burkina Faso

## Game Over

Some friends are playing a board game depicting planet Earth. As the stakes get higher, their relentless desire to win at all cost eventually leads to irretrievable damage.

Director: **Noélie Meckenstock** | France

## A Glass of Countryside / *Coupe de Champêtre*

The contrast between the words and reactions of a city dweller when he visits to the countryside.

Director: **Charly Bouthemy** | France

## Heavy Burden / *Lourd Fardeau*

A man throws his cigarette end on the ground, and a child appears behind him. A bell rings next time he sees something left on the ground.

Director: **Nelson De Melo** | France

## How Dare You!

Between September 20 and 27, 2019, a record 7.6 million people joined the Global Climate Strike to demand urgent action to mitigate climate change. This film inspired by Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg, and Canadian environmental activist Severn Cullis-Suzuki, set their messages, uttered a generation apart, side by side to echo Greta's challenge: How Dare You! Winner, Extra Court Award

Director: **Samphe Ballamingie** | Canada

## Imagine...

Amidst the cacophony and pollution of the ring road, a boy pictures something different... What if imagination were the starting point for change?

Director: **Raphaël Daniel** | France

## Karma

A flap of butterfly wings in Brazil may provoke a tornado in Texas, he said...

Directors: **Félix Dobaïre, Timé Bulliard** | France

## Killing Thoughts: The Revenge / *Le Geste qui tue*

What if a common horror movie scene takes an unexpected turn? A couple kissing in a car, someone watching but for an unusual reason...

Director: **John Lemore** | France

## Meehaculpa!

In a world where humans are no longer a majority, a man picking mushrooms stumbles on a device that has all but disappeared...

Director: **Amaud Tardy** | France

## Plastic Treasures

*Plastic Treasures* is a short documentary film with a focus on how plastic bottles can be transformed into a source of funding and a means of education for underprivileged children, using one school as an example. Winner, Spotlight Award

Director: **Precious Iroaghalachi** | Nigeria

## Preservation / *Préservation*

Carmen and Gaspard live in a world where all good behaviour is praised via an app. But everything, however commendable, has its limits.

Directors: **Marie-Stéphane Cattaneo, Raphaëlle Dubois** | France

## React! / *Réagissez !*

How would you really like to act when you see someone throwing rubbish on the ground? Is it finally time to REACT?

Director: **Ted Etienne** | France

## Recycle to Save / *Récycler pour sauver*

A young fashion designer uses discarded plastic bags to create a dress for a fashion shoot.

Director: **Marie Grace Kiyagbé** | Burkina Faso

## The Red Days / *Les jours rouges*

Green dreams to beat the red days. Winner, Audience Award

Director: **Anatole Levilain-Clément** | France

## Scream

Climate change. We hear about it. We see it happening. But still, some people do nothing about it. Grand Prize France

Director: **Gonzague Legout** | France

## Statement / *Déclaration*

How dangerous can a statement be? Special Mention Award.

Director: **David Murad** | France

## Switch

A series of voices against a backdrop of ecological disasters exhort us to not forget nature itself.

Directors: **Super Fusée, El Gato** | France

## Thirst for Life / *Soif de vivre*

In 2054, global warming and lack of water have pushed people out of the cities. A few survivors struggle to keep living in this hostile world.

Directors: **Shaan Couture, Jonas Dinal** | France

## Vacation

Two best buddy bottles on "Vacation" find themselves on an unknown beach and to their surprise an old friend turns up – after quite a journey to get there. Winner, Screenplay Award

Directors: **Christopher Axworthy, Robert Peacock** | France

## Wallet

Water one day becomes the international currency. International Grand Prize

Director: **Fatima Nofely** | Iran



# shortcuts

The ranks of film directors who started their careers by making short films is legion and there is no doubt that the renowned French directors of tomorrow are making short films today. At French Film Festival UK, we are committed to bringing you emerging new talent – including nominees and award winners from established film festivals – and inviting young filmmakers to talk to our UK audience about their work, albeit virtually. The 2020 edition of the now well-established Short Cuts programme was curated by a jury made up of FFF team members Sylvia Davidson and Martine Pierquin, François Giraud of the University of Edinburgh, and a brilliant panel of university students. We acknowledge also the participation of Paul Bruce and colleagues from the Edinburgh Short Film Festival. Our final selection emerged from lively discussions and heated debate. It includes inspired and inspiring work in both live action and animation cinema and covering a range of film genres from thriller to dark comedy and science fiction. Enjoy!



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## Shorts programme (12)

**Edinburgh Institut français d'Ecosse** Tue 24 Nov 14.00 & 18.45

Introduced by programme curators Martine Pierquin & François Giraud

**Newcastle Community Cinema** Sat 21 Nov 17:00

fff @ home



## A Sister / *Une Soeur*

A night. A car. A woman in trouble. A call. Oscar nomination for best live action short film. Winner, Lacoste Audience Award, MyFrenchFilmFestival 2020.

Dir **Delphine Girard** | 2018 | Belgium | 17 mins | Agence belge du court-métrage



## Good Ol' Bernard / *Mon p'tit Bernard*

Just retired, Bernard now has only one obsession – winning the next racewalking event in his own region. Official Selection, Alpe d'Huez Film Festival 2020.

Dir **Olivier Ducray, Wilfried Méance** | 2020 | France | 11 mins | Hanna / Hilldale



## Our Territory / *Notre Territoire*

When I got to Rignano, the shanty town residents said, “You mustn’t keep any trace of our lives here in these makeshift houses. This despair is not yours to display.” The misery in the shanty town is the first thing that struck me, the first thing I wanted to show. Winner, Grand Prix, Festival International Signes de Nuit. Nominated for Best Documentary, Magritte Cinema Awards (Belgium) 2020.

Dir **Matthieu Volpe** | 2019 | Belgium | 21 mins | Luna Blue Films



## Airhead! / Tête de linotte !

A child confronted with a maths problem and his own problems of concentration, accompanied by a mother who is slowly but surely losing patience. Animation. Student film. Prix, l'extra courts métrages d'animation, Premiers Plans Angers 2020. Prix du Public Courts Métrage d'animation, Premiers Plans Angers 2020. Sélection Le Festival International du Film d'Animation de Bruxelles.

Dir **Gaspar Chabaud** | 2019 | Belgium | 6 mins | Adifac



## Paul

Cannes 2018: An evocative glimpse into the world of Paul, a grandfather alone in his Provençal farmhouse. Against a backdrop of still shots, his observations range from the practicalities of everyday life to the family memories that keep him alive. Documentary portrait.

Dir **Marion Gaufroy** | 2020 | France | 3 mins | Marion Gaufroy



## Jakob

Jakob, a humanoid robot, has just committed the first crime against a human being. He is destined to be destroyed, but a female lawyer tries to save him. Together, they have twelve hours to understand the murder. Twelve hours before the final verdict. Science fiction. Winner, Best Sci-Fi Film, Best Cinematography, Los Angeles Independent Film Festival 2015.

*In collaboration with Edinburgh Short Film Festival*

Dir **Eymeric Jorat** | 2015 | France | 16 mins | Eymeric Jorat



## By a Hair / Pile Poil

It is three days till Élodie will be sitting her final exam to become a beauty therapist. Her father, Francis, a butcher, would prefer her to help more in his butcher's shop. Winner, Best Short Film, César French Cinema Awards 2020. Prix de la Press Internationale, MyFrenchFilmFestival.

Dirs **Lauriane Escaffre, Yvonnick Muller** | 2018 | France | 18 mins | Agence du court métrage



## Blue Dog / Chien Bleu

Emile, Yoan's father, is afraid to go out and paints everything blue. One night Yoan meets Soraya, who practises Tamil dance. They find a way to help Emile venture into the outside world. Nominated for Best Short Film, César French Cinema Awards 2020.

Dir **Fanny Liatard, Jérémy Trouilh** | 2018 | France | 17 mins | Hirvi Production



## Les Misérables (15)

It may have the same title as the oft-filmed Victor Hugo classic but be beware: this is a slice of realist French cinema that bursts out with the same vigour, passion and realism as Mathieu Kassovitz's *La Haine* which in 1995 also took a look at the racial and cultural volatility in the multi-ethnic housing schemes on the outside of Paris. Director Ladj Ly who has said he was inspired by Kassovitz's groundbreaking debut as a director, sets the film in Montfermeil where Hugo chose to situate *Les Misérables* 150 years ago. The springboard for the background was the riots that took place in 2005, although it could equally well be the France of President Macron and the *gilets jaunes*. Ly wanted the people who have lived in these schemes to have the chance to tell their own stories which gives *Les Misérables* an unerring sense of authenticity. It is directed with assurance and vitality marking out Ly as a significant new Oscar-nominated talent and winner of best film César earlier this year.

Cast **Damien Bonnard, Alexis Manenti, Djebril Zonga**

Director **Ladj Ly** | 2019 | France | 102 mins

UK Distributor **Altitude**

**Ladj Ly's César-winning drama explores life on a poor Paris estate as tensions with the police reach boiling point.**

*The Guardian*

### FILM SHOWING:

Chichester Cinema at New Park.	Sat 7 Nov	20:45
	Tue 10 Nov	17:45
Dumfries Robert Burns Centre	Thu 19 Nov	19:00



## The Lost Prince *Le Prince oublié* (12)

The latest film from Oscar-winning director Michel Hazanavicius (*The Artist*) is a modern-day fairy tale starring Omar Sy and Bérénice Bejo. Sy plays a single widowed dad who refuses to leave the world of make-believe he's built over the years for his 11-year-old daughter, who's growing up faster than he'd care to admit. He's so obsessed with keeping the status quo, until he eventually embraces the reality of adolescence. Initially enamoured by her dad's bedtime stories, daughter Sofia (Sarah Gaye) is turning into a young adult who needs some serious alone time at night, not to mention time to exchange texts with a boy in her class, Max (Néotis Ronzon), who seems to have caught her eye. It cuts back and forth cleverly between reality and make-believe and will appeal with its oodles of charm to both adults and children.

Cast **Omar Sy, Bérénice Bejo, François Damiens, Sarah Gaye, Keyla Fala, Néotis Ronzon**

Director **Michel Hazanavicius** | 2019 | France | 101 mins

UK Distributor **Studiocanal**

**This modern fairy tale is the latest visually whizzy, high-concept comedy from Michel Hazanavicius. *Metro***

### FILM SHOWING:

Oban Phoenix	Fri 27 Nov	19:30
	Mon 1 Dec	14:30
Lewes Depot	Sat 5 Dec	11:00
	Sun 6 Dec	11:00
Edinburgh Dominion	Sun 6 Dec	18:00

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### Discover Le Di-Vin wine bar in the heart of Edinburgh's West End

On offer (Government guidelines permitting) light lunches or a charcuterie and cheese board and bread as the perfect way to unwind for the weekend. Le Di-Vin is suitable for a quick glass of wine with your partner or several with friends and family (again restrictions permitting). We also have a fabulous French restaurant, serving such delicacies as moules marinières, or breast of Barbary duck with prunes and armagnac sauce as well as vegetarian options. **La P'tite Folie** (The Little Madness) adjoins the wine bar at 9 Randolph Place.

**Opening Times (restrictions permitting):** Lunch 12pm – 3pm, Dinner 6pm – 11pm, Closed on Sundays  
Both the wine bar and restaurant can be hired privately. Menus can be arranged.

**Le Di-Vin and La P'tite Folie, Tudor House, 9 Randolph Place, Edinburgh EH3 7TE**



# Timetables

Note that certain cinemas have delayed confirming some programme information. Continuously updated details on cinema websites listed here and also on [www.frenchfilmfestival.org.uk](http://www.frenchfilmfestival.org.uk)

## ABERDEEN BELMONT FILMHOUSE

01224 343500 | 4 – 17 Nov

Wed 4 Nov 13:00 & 19:00 **Mama Weed**  
**Intro by Isabelle Huppert + Q&A**  
**Jean-Paul Salomé (TBC)**

Fri 6 Nov 13:00 & 19:00 **Love Affairs**

Sun 8 Nov 13:00 **Spread  
Your Wings**

Mon 9 Nov 13:00 & 19:00 **De Gaulle**

Wed 11 Nov 13:00 & 19:00 **The Translators**

Fri 13 Nov 13:00 & 19:00 **My Donkey,  
My Lover & I**

Sat 14 Nov 13:00 & 19:00 **The Specials**

Tue 17 Nov 13:00 & 19:00 **Breathless**

## DUMFRIES ROBERT BURNS FILM CENTRE

01387 264808 | 5 Nov – 10 Dec

Thu 5 Nov 19:00 **Notre Dame**

Sat 14 Nov 13:45 **Spread  
Your Wings**

Thu 19 Nov 19:00 **Les Misérables**

Tue 24 Nov 10:45 & 19:00 **Cyrano  
My Love**

Thu 10 Dec 19:00 **Three Days  
and a Life**

## DUNDEE CONTEMPORARY ARTS CINEMA

01382 909900

For times see  
[www.dca.org.uk/whats-on/films](http://www.dca.org.uk/whats-on/films)

Thu 12 Nov **De Gaulle**

Sun 15 Nov **De Gaulle**

Thu 19 Nov **Night Shift**

Sat 21 Nov **Night Shift**

Thu 26 Nov **Breathless**

Sun 29 Nov **Breathless**

Thu 3 Dec **The Specials**

Sat 5 Dec **The Specials**

## EDINBURGH DOMINION

0131 447 4771 | 4 – 13 Dec

Thu 4 Dec 18:00 **Notre Dame**

Sun 6 Dec 18:00 **The Lost Prince**

Thu 10 Dec 18:00 **Gloria Mundi**

Sun 13 Dec 18:00 **Perfumes**

## EDINBURGH INSTITUT FRANÇAIS D'ECOSSE

0131 285 6030 | 18 & 24 Nov

Wed 18 Nov 14:00 **Three Days  
and a Life**

Wed 18 Nov 18:45 **Three Days  
and a Life**

Tue 24 Nov 14:00 **Short Cuts**

Tue 24 Nov 18:45 **Short Cuts**

## EDINBURGH FILMHOUSE

0131 228 2688 | 4 – 22 Nov

Wed 4 Nov 14:00 & 20:30 **Mama Weed**  
**Intro by Isabelle Huppert + Q&A**  
**Jean-Paul Salomé (TBC)**

Fri 6 Nov 14:00 & 20:30 **Love Affairs**

Sat 7 Nov 13:00 & 20:30 **Lola**

Sun 8 Nov 14:00 **Spread  
Your Wings**

Mon 9 Nov 14:00 & 20:30 **De Gaulle**

Wed 11 Nov 14:00 & 20:30 **The Translators**

Fri 13 Nov 14:00 & 20:30 **My Donkey,  
My Lover & I**

Sat 14 Nov 14:00 & 20:30 **The Specials**

Sun 15 Nov 14:00 **Small Country**

Tue 17 Nov 14:00 & 20:30 **Breathless**

Wed 18 Nov 14:00 & 20:30 **Home Front**

Thu 19 Nov 14:00 & 20:30 **Slalom**

Sat 21 Nov 14:00 **The Sleeping  
Car Murders**

Sun 22 Nov 16:30 **Aznavour  
by Charles**

## GLASGOW FILM THEATRE

0131 228 2688 | 13 – 22 Nov

For times see  
[www.glasgowfilm.org](http://www.glasgowfilm.org)

Fri 13 Nov **The Specials**

Fri 13 Nov **The Translators**

Sat 14 Nov **The Translators**

Sat 14 Nov **Arab Blues**

Sat 14 Nov **Night Shift**

Sun 15 Nov **The Specials**

Sun 15 Nov **Night Shift**

Mon 16 Nov **Arab Blues**

Mon 16 Nov **Home Front**

Tue 17 Nov **Home Front**

Wed 18 Nov **Mama Weed**

Wed 18 Nov **Slalom**

Wed 18 Nov **Gloria Mundi**

Thu 19 Nov **Slalom**

Thu 19 Nov **Gloria Mundi**

Fri 20 Nov **My Donkey My Lover & I**

Sat 21 Nov **My Donkey My Lover & I**

Sat 21 Nov **Notre Dame**

Sun 22 Nov **The Sleeping Car Murders**

Sun 22 Nov **Notre Dame**

## INVERNESS EDEN COURT THEATRE

01463 234234 | 9 Nov – 3 Dec

Mon 9 Nov 14:00 & 19:30 **Mama Weed**

Sun 15 Nov 19:00 **The Sleeping  
Car Murders**

Mon 16 Nov 11:00 **The Sleeping  
Car Murders**

Thu 19 Nov 14:00 **Gloria Mundi**

Thu 19 Nov 19:30 **Gloria Mundi**

Mon 23 Nov 19:30 **Cyrano  
My Love**

Thu 26 Nov 11:00 **Cyrano  
My Love**

Thu 3 Dec 14:00 **Notre Dame**

Thu 3 Dec 19:30 **Notre Dame**

# Timetables

## OBAN PHOENIX CINEMA

01631 562905

Fri 20 Nov	19:30	<b>Three Days and a Life</b>
Mon 23 Nov	14:00	<b>Three Days and a Life</b>
Fri 27 Nov	19:30	<b>The Lost Prince</b>
Mon 30 Nov	14:30	<b>The Lost Prince</b>
Fri 4 Dec	19:30	<b>Small Country</b>
Mon 7 Dec	14:30	<b>Small Country</b>
Fri 11 Dec	19:30	<b>The Sleeping Car Murders</b>
Mon 14 Dec	14:30	<b>The Sleeping Car Murders</b>

## ST ANDREWS BYRE THEATRE

01334 475000 | 15 – 19 Nov

Sun 15 Nov	14:30	<b>Adolescents</b>
Tue 17 Nov	19:00	<b>Notre Dame</b>
Thu 19 Nov	19:00	<b>Arab Blues</b>

## STIRLING MACROBERT ARTS CENTRE

01786 466666 | 7 Nov – 8 Dec

Sat 7 Nov	13:30	<b>Three Days and a Life</b>
Tue 10 Nov	19:00	<b>Three Days and a Life</b>
Sat 14 Nov	13:30	<b>Notre Dame</b>
Tue 17 Nov	19:00	<b>Notre Dame</b>
Sat 21 Nov	13:30	<b>Lola</b>
Tue 24 Nov	19:00	<b>Lola</b>
Sat 28 Nov	12:00	<b>My Family and the Wolf</b>
Sat. 28 Nov	13:30	<b>Cyrano My Love</b>
Sun 29 Nov	12:00	<b>My Family and the Wolf</b>
Tue. 1 Dec	19:00	<b>Cyrano My Love</b>
Sat. 5 Dec	13:30	<b>Gloria Mundi</b>
Tue. 8 Dec	19:00	<b>Gloria Mundi</b>

## BRISTOL WATERSHED

01179 275100

For programme see  
[www.watershed.co.uk](http://www.watershed.co.uk)

## CHICHESTER CINEMA AT NEW PARK

01243 786650 | 4 Nov – 17 Dec

Wed 4 Nov 20:45 **Mama Weed**  
**Intro by Isabelle Huppert**  
**+ Q&A Jean-Paul Salomé (TBC)**

Thu 5 Nov	14:15	<b>Mama Weed</b>
Fri 6 Nov	14:15	<b>Cyrano My Love</b>
Sat 7 Nov	20:45	<b>Les Misérables</b>
Tue 10 Nov	17:45	<b>Les Misérables</b>
Thu 12 Nov	20:45	<b>Cyrano My Love</b>
Fri 13 Nov	17:45	<b>Notre Dame</b>
Sat 14 Nov	14:15	<b>Notre Dame</b>
Tue 17 Nov	20:45	<b>Home Front</b>
Wed 18 Nov	14:15	<b>Home Front</b>
Sat 28 Nov	20:30	<b>The Sleeping Car Murders</b>
Tue 1 Dec	14:15	<b>The Sleeping Car Murders</b>
Thu 3 Dec	20:45	<b>The Specials</b>
Fri 4 Dec	14:15	<b>The Specials</b>
Thu 10 Dec	20:45	<b>The Translators</b>
Fri 11 Dec	14:15	<b>The Translators</b>
Wed 16 Dec	14:15	<b>De Gaulle</b>
Thu 17 Dec	20:45	<b>De Gaulle</b>

## DERBY QUAD

01332 290606 | 25 Nov – 20 Dec

Wed 25 Nov	20:00	<b>De Gaulle</b>
Thu 26 Nov	18:00	<b>De Gaulle</b>
Fri 27 Nov	18:00	<b>Mama Weed</b>
Sat 28 Nov	20:00	<b>Mama Weed</b>
Wed 2 Dec	17:45	<b>A Friendly Tale</b>
Thu 3 Dec	20:00	<b>A Friendly Tale</b>
Fri 4 Dec	17:45	<b>Three Days and a Life</b>
Sat 5 Dec	20:00	<b>Three Days and a Life</b>
Wed 9 Dec	17:30	<b>The Sleeping Car Murders</b>
Thu 10 Dec	19:45	<b>The Sleeping Car Murders</b>
Fri 11 Dec	18:00	<b>Notre Dame</b>
Sat 12 Dec	20:15	<b>Notre Dame</b>
Sat 12 Dec	15:30	<b>My Family and the Wolf</b>
Sun 13 Dec	13:30	<b>My Family and the Wolf</b>
Wed 16 Dec	18:00	<b>Arab Blues</b>
Thu 17 Dec	20:15	<b>Arab Blues</b>
Sat 19 Dec	15:30	<b>Aïlo's Journey</b>
Sun 20 Dec	13:30	<b>Aïlo's Journey</b>

## GLOUCESTER GUILDHALL

01452 503050

For dates & times see  
[www.gloucesterguildhall.co.uk](http://www.gloucesterguildhall.co.uk)

Gloria Mundi

Notre Dame

Three Days and a Life

Cyrano My Love

# Timetables

Note that certain cinemas have delayed confirming some programme information. Continuously updated details on cinema websites listed here and also on [www.frenchfilmfestival.org.uk](http://www.frenchfilmfestival.org.uk)

## HEREFORD COURTYARD

01432 340555

For dates & times see  
[www.courtyard.org.uk](http://www.courtyard.org.uk)

Gloria Mundi

Notre Dame

Three Days and a Life

Cyrano My Love

## LEICESTER PHOENIX

01162 422842

For programme see  
[www.phoenix.org.uk](http://www.phoenix.org.uk)

## LEWES DEPOT

01273 525354

Sat 28 Nov 11:30 **The Bears' Famous Invasion of Sicily**

Sun 29 Nov 11:30 **The Bears' Famous Invasion of Sicily**

Sun 29 Nov 14:00 **The Sleeping Car Murders**

Mon 30 Nov 20:00 **Gloria Mundi**

Tue 1 Dec 20:00 **Small Country: An African Childhood**

Wed 2 Dec 11:00 **The Sleeping Car Murders**

Thurs 3 Dec 11:00 **Gloria Mundi**

Sat 5 Dec 11:00 **The Lost Prince**

Sun 6 Dec 11:00 **The Lost Prince**

Mon 7 Dec 20:00 **Home Front**

Tue 8 Dec 11:00 **Night Shift**

Wed 9 Dec 11:00 **Small Country**

Wed 9 Dec 20:00 **Night Shift**

Thu 10 Dec 11:00 **Home Front**

## LONDON CINÉ LUMIÈRE

020 7871 3515 | 4 - 14 Nov

Wed 4 Nov 19:00 **Mama Weed**  
**Introduction by Isabelle Huppert**  
**+ Q&A with Jean-Paul Salomé (TBC)**

Thu 5 Nov 20:20 **Love Affairs**

Fri 6 Nov 18:10 **The Specials**

Fri 6 Nov 20:45 **Arab Blues**

Sat 7 Nov 14:00 **Spread Your Wings**

Sat 7 Nov 16:20 **Slalom**  
**Q&A with Charlène Favier (TBC)**

Sat 7 Nov 18:30 **Home Front**  
**Q&A with Lucas Belvaux (TBC)**

Sun 8 Nov 14:00 **The Sleeping Car Murders**

Sun 8 Nov 16:20 **Mama Weed**

Sun 8 Nov 17:40 **Arab Blues**

Mon 9 Nov 20:00 **De Gaulle**

Mon 9 Nov 20:30 **Home Front**

Tue 10 Nov 19:30 **The Good Wife**

Wed 11 Nov 15:45 **Small Country**

Wed 11 Nov 18:00 **The Sleeping Car Murders**

Wed 11 Nov 18:30 **Notre Dame**  
**Q&A with Valérie Donzelli (TBC)**  
**& Philippe Jakko**

Wed 11 Nov 20:50 **The Specials**

Thu 12 Nov 18:10 **Small Country**

Fri 13 Nov 15:45 **Breathless**

Fri 13 Nov 18:00 **Love Affairs**

Fri 13 Nov 20:30 **Notre Dame**

Sat 14 Nov 16:00 **De Gaulle**

Sat 14 Nov 18:30 **My Donkey, My Lover & I**

Sat 14 Nov 20:45 **My Donkey, My Lover & I**

## LONDON WATERMANS ARTS CENTRE

020 8232 1010 | 8 Nov - 13 Dec

Sun 8 Nov 16:00 **Gloria Mundi**

Sun 15 Nov 16:00 **Cyrano My Love**

Sun 22 Nov 16:00 **Perfumes**

Sun 29 Nov 16:00 **Night Shift**

Sun 6 Dec 16:00 **Arab Blues**

Sun 13 Dec 16:00 **Spread Your Wings**

## NEWCASTLE TYNESIDE CINEMA

0191 227 5500

For programme see  
[tynesidecinema.co.uk](http://tynesidecinema.co.uk)

## NOTTINGHAM BROADWAY

0115 952 6611 | 4 - 10 Dec

For times see  
[www.broadway.org.uk](http://www.broadway.org.uk)

Fri 4 Dec **Cyrano My Love**

Sat 5 Dec **Aïlo's Journey**

Sun 6 Dec **Spread Your Wings**

Mon 7 Dec **The Sleeping Car Murders**

Tue 8 Dec **Aznavour by Charles**

Wed 9 Dec **De Gaulle**

Thu 10 Dec **The Specials**

# Timetables

## OSWESTRY KINOKULTURE

01691 238167 | 11 – 26 Nov

Wed 11 Nov 19:30 **Notre Dame**

Thu 12 Nov 13:30 **Notre Dame**

Wed 18 Nov 19:30 **In the Name of the Land**

Thu 19 Nov 13:30 **In the Name of the Land**

Wed 25 Nov 19:30 **Breathless**

Thu 26 Nov 13:30 **Breathless**

## PLYMOUTH ARTS CINEMA

01752 206114 | 7 Nov – 2 Dec

Sat 7 Nov 17:00 **The Specials**

Wed 11 20:30 **The Specials**

Sat 14 Nov 14:00 **My Donkey, My Lover & I**

Wed 18 Nov 20:30 **My Donkey, My Lover & I**

Sat 28 Nov 17:30 **In the Name of the Land**

Wed 2 Dec 20:30 **In the Name of the Land**

## RICHMOND THE STATION CINEMA

01748 823062

For programme see [www.stationcinema.com](http://www.stationcinema.com)

## SHEFFIELD SHOWROOM WORKSTATION

0114 275 772 | 8 – 30 Nov

Sun 8 Nov 15:00 **Home Front**

Mon 9 Nov 17:30 **Home Front**

Sun 22 Nov 15:10 **Lola**

Mon 23 Nov 18:10 **Lola**

Sat 28 Nov 15:10 **Arab Blues**

Mon 30 Nov 18:10 **Arab Blues**

## BELFAST QUEEN'S FILM THEATRE

028 9097 1097

For programme see [www.queensfilmtheatre.com](http://www.queensfilmtheatre.com)

## NEWCASTLE COMMUNITY CINEMA

07904 645635

Sat 21 Nov 17:00 **Short Cuts**



**Up in lights...** Sheffield Showroom Workstation presents an exciting offer from this year's French Film Festival UK



# Virtual Guests

Because of travel restrictions and quarantine measures all guests at this year's edition will appear remotely. They will introduce their films and take part in pre-recorded discussions after the screenings. Due to the air of uncertainty appearances will be confirmed on the Festival website and the online brochure. Unforeseen circumstances may occur which prevent a particular individual from appearing: don't forget to keep a watch on the website [www.frenchfilmfestival.org.uk](http://www.frenchfilmfestival.org.uk) for all updates. Meanwhile we introduce some of those we hope will participate.



## JEAN-PAUL SALOMÉ

He first worked as a trainee for legendary director Claude Lelouch. He went on to direct two documentaries, *L'Heure d'aimer* in 1983 and *La Petite Commission* in 1984, both of which were selected at numerous film festivals. After making his first feature-length film for TV, he directed the feature film *Les Braqueuses* in 1993. He created a new cinematic adaptation of *Belphegor*, *Phantom of the Louvre* and an updated adaptation of the iconic tale of the gentleman thief, Arsène Lupin. These were followed by *Female Agents*, *The Chameleon*, and *Playing Dead*. He served as president of the ARP (the French Authors', Directors', and Producers' Guild) and also served as president of UniFrance. *Mama Weed (La Daronne)* is his latest feature (Page 16).



## LAMBERT WILSON

Outside of France the versatile Wilson (a fluent English speaker) is best known for his roles in *The Matrix Reloaded* and *The Matrix Revolutions*. He made his feature debut at the age of 22 in Fred Zinnemann's *Five Days One Summer* (1981) opposite Sean Connery. He has had a long association with the Cannes Film Festival, first coming to the Croisette in 1985 when he appeared alongside Juliette Binoche in André Téchiné's *Rendez-vous*. He served as jury president of the *Un Certain Regard* sidebar in 1999. Cannes put him further into the limelight when he starred in *Of Gods and Men*, Grand Jury Prize winner in 2010, for which he later won a best actor César award. He has two high profile titles in this year's Festival: incarnating *De Gaulle* (Page 13) and as a publisher in *The Translators* (Page 19).



## VALÉRIE DONZELLI

After working at the Cinémathèque française in Paris, Valérie Donzelli began her career as an actress, appearing in films by Anne Fontaine, Gilles Marchand, and Agnès Varda. She directed her first film, *Queen of Hearts*, in 2009. Her second feature film, *Declaration of War*, is a moving autobiographical account of her struggle with partner Jérémie Elkaim to keep their lives together faced with their child's illness. After the release of *Hand in Hand*, starring Valérie Lemercier, she came to Cannes in 2015 with *Marguerite & Julien*, in the Official Competition. After dealing with dramatic subjects she relished a comedy – and the result is *Notre Dame* (Page 17 and Pages 10 & 11).



## ANNE FONTAINE

Screenwriter and film director Anne Fontaine is known for her many powerful female characters in films such as *Nathalie*, multi-award winning *Coco Before Chanel*, *Perfect Mothers* and *Gemma Boverly* with Gemma Atherton playing the title character. She previously came to the Festival with *Nettoyage à Sec (Dry Cleaning)* that won the Best Screenplay Award at the 1997 Venice Film Festival. More recently she has made *Reinventing Marvin*, a coming out and a coming of age story with Finnegan Oldfield and Isabelle Huppert and *The Innocents* about the abuse of nuns in wartime Poland. In her most recent outing *Night Shift* (Page 16) she offers another strong female character in Virginie Efira's assertive police officer.

# Virtual Guests

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## LUCAS BELVAUX

Belgian actor and film director whose directing credits include the *Trilogie*, consisting of three films with interlocking stories and characters, each of which was filmed in a different genre. The three films are *Cavale*, a thriller; *Un couple épatant*, a comedy; and *Après la vie*, a melodrama. The *Trilogie* received many awards including the André Cavens Award. His film *The Right of the Weakest* (*La Raison du plus faible*) was entered into the 2006 Cannes Film Festival while *One Night* (*38 témoins*) was nominated for seven Magritte Awards, winning Best Screenplay. He also appeared as an actor in *Merry Christmas* (2005). He is the brother of Rémy Belvaux and Bruno Belvaux. His powerful exposé of the far right *This is Our Land* brought him to the Festival in 2017. *Home Front* is his latest work (Page 14).



## EMMANUEL MOURET

The director returns to the Festival with his 10th feature *Love Affairs* (Page 15) having previously been in attendance with *Venus and Fleur* in 2004. Mouret has always demonstrated a consistent impulse for showcasing affairs of the heart from Dolores Chaplin in *Laissons Lucie faire!* (2000), Virginie Ledoyen in 2007's *Shall We Kiss?* (and then 2013's *Another Life*) and Anaïs Demoustier in *Caprice* (2015). His latest fits the mould: A vibrant roundelay of exchanges and entanglements which recall the magic of Max Ophüls' *La Ronde* (1950).



## CHARLÈNE FAVIER

Her debut feature *Slalom* (Page 27) earned a place in this year's Cannes Film Festival Official Selection label. Favier did a lot of high performance sport in her teenage years, so the subject of a young skier subject to abuse and domination was not so far from her own experiences. She grew up around Val d'Isère and knew intimately the world of skiing both off and on the piste. She started writing the film in 2014 when she began a screenwriting workshop at the Parisian film school La Fémis. So far she has attracted attention at Festivals around Europe, including the FFF's partner festival in Namur.



## CAROLINE VIGNAL

Her previous feature *Girlfriends* came out 2000, and since then Vignal has been busy writing including texts for the radio. The desire to direct had left her but came back with *My Donkey, My Lover & I* (Page 26) after she had spent a fortnight with her family walking in the Cévennes area which she describes as wild, remote and under-populated. Her daughter, then aged six, accompanied her – and there was also a donkey involved. She liked it so much she returned to the same area the following year with a donkey called Patrick who provided the spark of inspiration.

Full details on [www.frenchfilmfestival.org.uk](http://www.frenchfilmfestival.org.uk)

# cast + crew



**TEAM 2020 ON A SCREEN NEAR YOU: Top row (from left) Richard Mowe, Ilona Morison, Martine Pierquin, Lise Morel. Second row (from left) Mia Brailsford, Lucie Brocard, Sylvia Davidson and Stuart Hamilton.**

## **French Film Festival UK 2020**

**12 Sunbury Place, Edinburgh EH4 3BY**

**Tel (+44) 131 225 6191**

**Email [info@frenchfilmfestival.org.uk](mailto:info@frenchfilmfestival.org.uk)**

**[www.frenchfilmfestival.org.uk](http://www.frenchfilmfestival.org.uk)**

**Patron: Sylvain Chomet**

**Director and Co-Founder:**

**Richard Mowe**

**Co-Director: Ilona Morison**

**Associate Programmers:**

**Diane Gabrysiak, Allison Gardner**

**Assistant Programmer: Lucie Brocard**

**Head of Marketing and Sponsorship:**

**Stuart Hamilton**

**Head of Logistics: Lucie Brocard**

**Digital Services: Theodora Neocleous, Tim Baxter (Eclair)**

**Head of Technical Services:**

**Jamie Fraser**

**Head of Press: Stuart Hamilton**

**Chair: James Steel**

**Finance: Bank of Scotland**

**Design: Emma Quinn**

**Trainees: Mia Brailsford (Coordinator), Millie Palmer**

**Trailer Music: Michel Assier-Andrieu**

**Film & Photography: Scottie Anderson**

**Chief Photographer: Stephen Dunn**

**Website & App Services:**

**Bruce Morel-Barnes**

**Copy Editor and Translator:**

**Sylvia Davidson**

**Learning Packs and Translator:**

**Lise Morel**

**Learning Programme: Yvonne Gordon & Chloe Berger (Edinburgh Filmhouse), Sylvia Davidson (French Film Festival UK)**

**Associate Director (London):**

**Jonathan Hart**

**London Liaison: Marianne Gray**

**Mobile Film Festival: Bruno Smadja**

**(Festival Director and Founder):**

**fff @ home:**

**Festival Scope, Tanner Stechnij**

**Short Cuts: Martine Pierquin,**

**François Giraud, Sylvia Davidson**

**Short Film Jury: Caz Armstrong,**

**Bria Purdy, Victor Pilard, Eva Vaynshteyn**

**Namur Film Festival:**

**Nicole Gillet (Festival Director),**

**Barbara Firquet, Hervé Le Phuez**

**Institut Français (Paris):**

**Anne-Catherine Louvet**

**Institut Français du Royaume-Uni:**

**Claudine Ripert-Landier (Cultural**

**Counsellor & Director), Marjorie Lecointre**

**(Deputy Director & Audio Visual Attaché)**

**Consulat Général de France (Edinburgh):**

**Laurence Païs**

**Institut Français d'Écosse (Edinburgh):**

**Laurence Païs (Director), Catherine**

**Guliat (Books & Cinema Programme**

**Manager) Solange Daufès (Cultural**

**Development Officer), Falka Cansin**

**Stewart (Communications Officer)**

**FFF Recommends Newsletter:**

**Stuart Hamilton, Sylvia Davidson**

**Edinburgh Short Film Festival:**

**Paul Bruce, Festival Director**

**Edinburgh Spanish Film Festival:**

**Marian A. Aréchaga, Festival Curator**

**Belgian Presence: Wallonie Bruxelles**

**Image, Julien Beauvois, Edouard Notte,**

**David Thonon, Simona Palma**

**Edinburgh College of Art, University**

**of Edinburgh: Harvey Dingwall,**

**Programme Director of UG Illustration**

**University of Edinburgh French and**

**Francophone Studies: François Giraud**

**University of St Andrews Film**

**Studies: Dina Iordanova**

**Poster Competition Curator:**

**Mia Brailsford**

**Glasgow-Marseille Twinning:**

**Laura Lambert, Glasgow City Council**

# cast + crew

## Cast & Crew Cinemas

Aberdeen Belmont Filmhouse:

**Colin Farquhar, Caroline Orr, Ian Proctor, Harry Rafferty, Calum Scott, Kirsty Bain**

Dumfries Robert Burns Centre Film

Theatre: **John Harvey, Alice Stilgoe**

Dundee Contemporary Arts: **Alice Black**

(Head of Cinema), **Mike Tait** (Cinema Youth Development Officer),

**Michael Coull** (Cinema Coordinator)

Edinburgh Centre for the Moving Image

(Filmhouse & Edinburgh International Film Festival): **Chloe Berger, Ali Blaikie, David Boyd, Dougie Cameron** (COO), **Chloe Chandler, Ali Clark, Eddie Cousins, Mark Dailly, Marcia Dobrowolski, Abbie Dobson, Allan Gebbie, Yvonne Gordon, Ken Hay** (CEO), **Ileana Iacobescu, Alethea Laird Craig, Ally McCrum, Jessie Moroney, Ellie Parker, Gavin Rankin, Ewan Robertson, Rebecca Selby-Heard, Adam Smart, Yvonne Smith, Raymah Tariq, Kirsty Tough, Evi Tsiligarioud, Rod White**

Glasgow Film Theatre: **Debbie Aitken,**

**David Ashley, Karlean Bourne, Malcolm Brown, Andrew Burrows, Lindsay Clydesdale, Seonaid Daly, David Devereux, Robbie Duncan, Angela Freeman, Tom Freeman, Paul Gallagher, Allison Gardner, David Gattens, Janice Halkett, Andrew Henderson, Eleanor Harris, Tim Hughes, Maya Kincaid, Christopher MacMillan, Lee Macpherson, James Macvicar, Emma McDonald, Billy Malcolm, Mari McCuish, Kirsty Osse, Claire McNaught, Rebecca McSheaffrey, William Nation, Jenny Reburn, Caroline Rice, Ryan Rutherford, Lorna Sinclair, John Skivington, Tom Summers, Kamila Szachnitowska, Anne Thubron, Emma Van Der Putten, Jodie Wilkinson, Bryan Wilson, David Wylie, Ross Woodhead**

Inverness Eden Court:

**Paul MacDonald-Taylor, Jamie MacDonald, Kevin Douglas**

Oban Phoenix: **Jenny Larney**

St Andrews The Byre Theatre:

**Kally Lloyd-Jones** (Joint Director), **Caroline Ritchie, Jan McTaggart**

Stirling MacRobert Arts Centre:

**Grahame Reid**

Chichester Cinema at New Park:

**Roger Gibson** (Artistic Consultant and President), **Walter Francisco** (Cinema Director and Programmer)

Derby Quad: **Adam J Marsh**

Gloucester Guildhall: **Simon Nicholls**

(Film Programmer), **Tom Palmer & Matthew Devereux** (Technical Team)

Hereford The Courtyard: **Simon Nicholls**

(Film Programmer), **Tom Palmer & Matthew Devereux** (Technical Team)

Leicester Phoenix Cinema: **Jake Harvey**

(Cinema Programme Manager)

Lewes Depot Cinema: **Carmen Slijpen**

(Programmer)

London Ciné Lumière: **Diane Gabrysia**

(Head of Programming), **Alice Monin** (Programming Assistant), **Natacha Antolini** (Head of Marketing & PR), **Julia Bregeron** (Marketing Project Manager), **Thomas Riley** (Marketing & PR Officer), **Loïc Lefrileux** (Technical Manager)

London Watermans Arts Centre:

**John Morgan-Tamosunas** (Cinema Programmer), **Angela Hinds**

Nottingham Broadway:

**Caroline Hennigan** (Programme Director)

Oswestry Kinoculture Cinema:

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Plymouth Arts Cinema: **Anna Navas**

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Sheffield Showroom Workstation:

**Ian Wild** (CEO)

Belfast Queen's Film Theatre:

**Michael Staley** (Programme Co-ordinator)

Newcastle Community Cinema:

**Lucy Royal-Dawson**

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**Fanny Gavelle, Leslie Vuichot;**

**Wild Bunch: Esther Devos.**



**Frenchfilmfestival.org.uk**

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FRENCH-  
SPEAKING  
FILMS  
FROM  
BELGIUM  
AT FFFUK

## HOME FRONT

LUCAS BELVAUX

## LOLA

LAURENT MICHELI

## A SISTER

DELPHINE GIRARD

## OUR TERRITORY

MATTHIEU VOLPE

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[www.belmontfilmhouse.com](http://www.belmontfilmhouse.com)

01224 343500



## **DUMFRIES ROBERT BURNS CENTRE FILM THEATRE**

Mill Road, Dumfries DG2 7BE

[www.rbcft.co.uk](http://www.rbcft.co.uk)

01387 264808

## **DCA**

### **DUNDEE CONTEMPORARY ARTS CINEMA**

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[www.dca.org.uk](http://www.dca.org.uk)

01382 909900

## FILMHOUSE

### **EDINBURGH FILMHOUSE**

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Edinburgh EH3 9BZ

[www.filmhousecinema.com](http://www.filmhousecinema.com)

0131 228 2688



### **DOMINION CINEMA, EDINBURGH**

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Edinburgh EH10 4RT

[www.dominioncinemas.net](http://www.dominioncinemas.net)

0131 447 4771



### **EDINBURGH INSTITUT FRANÇAIS D'ÉCOSSE**

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[www.glasgowfilm.org](http://www.glasgowfilm.org)

0141 332 6535



### **INVERNESS EDEN COURT THEATRE**

Bishop's Road, Inverness IV3 5SA

[eden-court.co.uk/whats-on/cinema](http://eden-court.co.uk/whats-on/cinema)

01463 234234

## OBAN PHOENIX CINEMA

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[www.obanphoenix.com](http://www.obanphoenix.com)

01631 562905



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Abbey Street  
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01334 475000



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### **CHICHESTER CINEMA AT NEW PARK**

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[www.chichestercinema.org](http://www.chichestercinema.org)

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## GLOUCESTER GUILDHALL

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### RICHMOND THE STATION CINEMA

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20 University Square,  
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[www.queensfilmtheatre.com](http://www.queensfilmtheatre.com)  
02890 971097



### NEWCASTLE COMMUNITY CINEMA

Main Street,  
Newcastle BT33 0AG  
[www.newcastlecinema.org](http://www.newcastlecinema.org)  
07904 645635

# festival partnerships



## Watch out for **Premiers Plans Festival**



The 33rd edition of Premiers Plans Festival of first films from all over Europe runs from 25 to 31 January 2021 in Angers on the edge of the Loire Valley. Highlights include Retrospectives of Federico Fellini and Chantal Akerman.

[www.premiersplans.org](http://www.premiersplans.org)



Federico Fellini



Chantal Akerman

# hot tickets from the team

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



**Mia Brailsford** Trainee and Coordinator

## NOTRE DAME

Ten years after Valérie Donzelli's debut *The Queen of Hearts* introduced us to her distinct cinematic universe of magical realism, comes *Notre Dame*, and new reluctant hero in architect Maud Crayon (played by Donzelli herself) who wins a competition to redesign the esplanade of the cathedral – and chaos ensues. Donzelli once again turns Paris into a fantasy world to depict the realities and absurdities of family, love and professional life with poetry, playful surrealism and *joie de vivre*.



**Lucie Brocard** Head of Logistics

## IN THE NAME OF THE LAND

Édouard Bergeon's first feature film based on his family's story is a poignant and moving film about a hardworking farmer and the difficulties and hardships encountered within the agricultural world. Guillaume Canet is perfect in his portrayal of a struggling father and his relationship with Baetens' character is as equally touching as it is heartbreaking. This is a truly brilliant movie which shines light on the obstacles faced by farmers and the farming community in today's society. A must-see.



**Sylvia Davidson** Translator, Copy Editor

## LOLA

The theme of trans-identity is sensitively handled by Belgian director Laurent Micheli in this, his second film. *Lola* (Mya Bollaers), remains close to her mother Catherine (Els Deceukelier) since her father (Benoît Magimel) threw her out – because Lola was his son Lionel now transitioning into a young woman. Lola is bereft when she loses Catherine to illness but a journey to carry out Catherine's last wishes begins to slowly thaw the ice between her and her father. This is all set against Raf Keunen's dazzling soundtrack.



**Marianne Gray** London Liaison

## HOME FRONT

Set against the memory of the Algerian War (1954–62), a neglected conflict that controversially led to Algeria getting its independence from France. Many young French men were unexpectedly called up yet on their return to France they got on with their lives rather than talk about the unspeakable. Then something happened to bring it all back again. Adapted from the novel by Laurent Mauvignier, it stars Gérard Depardieu, Jean-Pierre Darroussin and Catherine Frot and is movingly directed by award-winning Belgian Lucas Belvaux who gives voice to a generation.



**Jonathan Hart** Associate Director London

## AZNAVOUR BY CHARLES

There is so much more to Charles Aznavour than crooning! Not only did he sell almost 200 million records during his almost century-long lifetime, he also fitted in being a war-time hero, a humanitarian, an Ambassador to Switzerland, a permanent delegate to the UN and a friend to presidents, popes and royalty. Marc di Domenico's incisive documentary, which is narrated by Romain Duris, provides a fascinating insight into the enormous achievements of the diminutive French-Armenian legend.

# hot tickets from the team

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



## **Stuart Hamilton** Head of Marketing and Sponsorship **DE GAULLE**

Craggy French stalwart Lambert Wilson eases under the skin of Charles de Gaulle, in particular during the period he leads the Free French in the decisive weeks of the Second World War. Director Gabriel Le Bomin has fashioned a stolid portrayal of the man who was to dominate French history for decades after the war. It's meticulously researched and authentically shot even if it lacks the spark of the Churchill saga *Darkest Hour*.



## **Lise Morel** Learning Programme, Translator **THE TRANSLATORS**

Given my profession, I was obviously intrigued by the premise of the film, based on the true story of Dan Browne's translators who were kept under lock and key in a bunker to complete their translation of *Inferno*. This classic whodunnit, somewhere between Agatha Christie and *Ocean's Eleven*, keeps its promises with a solid cast and somewhat unlikely extravagance. Not your typical French film!



## **Ilona Morison** Co-Director **MAMA WEED**

Think of *La Huppert* at her most enigmatic as a French-Arabic police translator, add a large pinch of humour, stir in some bad guys, a four-legged friend and leave to rise for a while in an anti-narcotics unit and stand by for some incredible results! That's *La Daronne* (literally The Matron or The Godmother). Surprising, exciting and hilarious and directed with mischievous aplomb by Jean-Paul Salomé.



## **Richard Mowe** Director and Co-Founder **SLALOM**

Charlène Favier makes an arresting debut with this narrative about a young female skier's passion for the sport, the pressures of competition, and topically the inappropriate closeness of her coercive instructor. Favier uses stunning camera work against breathtaking mountain vistas to set the narrative about the crossing of boundaries in the field of world-class sports. Dreams of physical prowess and glory are not worth paying such a hefty price. The topic is adroitly handled finally emerging as a tale of emancipation and empowerment.



## **Martine Pierquin** Short Cuts Curator, University Liaison **THE SLEEPING CAR MURDERS**

Described by David Cairns as "Maigret on speed," and "Parisian giallo," *The Sleeping Car Murders* is a zestful and unexpected first feature by political director Costa-Gavras. Adapted from the Agatha Christie-esque whodunit by Sébastien Japrisot, the film is a cinematic feast with stylised camerawork and a dream cast. Simone Signoret, Yves Montand, Jean-Louis Trintignant, Charles Denner and Michel Piccoli have fun interpreting a sombre set of eccentric characters. This is your chance to see this forgotten gem on the big screen!





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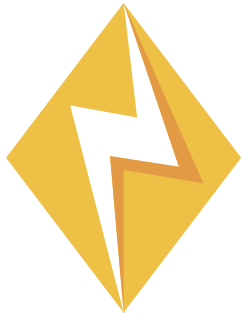


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