

TRIBUTE TO PASCALE FERRAN AT THE ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE TORONTO

September, 2, 4 and 7, 2014



Join us for a special event with acclaimed French film director and screenwriter Pascale Ferran at the Alliance Française Toronto, and don't miss the premiere of her latest film *Bird People* at the TIFF festival this year!

Alliance Française
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RETROSPECTIVE

SEPTEMBER 2, 7PM



A sunny beach in Brittany on an August afternoon. How we deal with death is as important as how we deal with life. Don't miss Pascale Ferran's celebrated first feature (*Camera d'Or* for the best first film at the 1994 Festival de Cannes).

Lady Chatterley (2006)

In the Chatterleys' country estate, one monotonous day follows another for Constance, trapped by her marriage and her sense of duty.

Drawing on the most scandalous summer romance in English literature, Pascale Ferran turns DH Lawrence's long-proscribed novel, at the time condemned for obscenity, into a powerful and sensual tale of love and an ode to nature. The film won five awards at the French César, including Best Actress, Best Cinematography, Best Adaptation and Best Picture.

MASTERCLASS WITH FRENCH DIRECTOR AND SCREENWRITER PASCALE FERRAN

Admission free: First come, first served

The masterclass will be moderated by Professor James Leo Cahill (University of Toronto).

James Cahill is assistant professor of Cinema and French at the University of Toronto, where he teaches courses on French cinema, film theory and historiography, and animals and cinema. His writing appears in numerous international journals and has been translated into German, Japanese, and Croatian. He is presently completing a book on French science and wildlife filmmaking team Jean Painlevé and Geneviève Hamon.

ON SET WITH FRENCH CINEMA

A series of masterclasses initiated by UniFrance films



PASCALE FERRAN - GRAVITY AND GRACE

THE IDHEC GENERATION

As a militant, film-loving teenager, the young Pascale Ferran ran a high-school film club. She studied filmmaking at Paris III university, where she was taught by influential movie critic Serge Daney. Ferran then trained in directing at the IDHEC film school (formerly Fémis) in Paris from 1980-1983, where she met Arnaud Desplechin, Eric Rochant and Pierre Trividic.

She made her first short films: *Anvers, Voie 5 - Départ 13h16* and *H. Widenberg* (1980-1982), followed by *Souvenir de Juan-les-Pins* (1983), a vacation story, then co-wrote Christian Vincent's short film *Il ne faut jurer de rien* (1983).

She worked as an assistant in television, and established a growing reputation as a screenwriter, working for Jean-Pierre Limosin (*Guardian of the Night*, 1986), Philippe Venault (*Blancs cassés*, 1988), Louis Skorecki (*Les cinéphiles 2 – Eric a disparu*, 1989), and Arnaud Desplechin with *The Sentinel* in 1992, which left its mark on the French cinema of the 1990s. Then she directed two short films, one with Pierre Trividic, *Un dîner avec M. Boy et la femme qui aime Jésus* (1989), where solitudes were already colliding, and *Le Baiser* (1990), an observation of two faces before and after a kiss.

FIRST FEATURE FILM. WINNER OF THE CAMÉRA D'OR IN CANNES

Ferran's first feature-length movie caused a sensation. *Petits arrangements avec les morts* (1994) is a dense and ambitious existential meditation in three chapters, which she wrote with Pierre Trividic. The film won the Caméra d'Or in Cannes, before being nominated for Best First Picture at the Césars, the French equivalent of the Oscars.

Then she worked with Anne-Louise Trividic (Pierre's sister) on the script of *L'Âge des possibles* (1996), a portrait of youth, with its doubts and aspirations, made with students from the Théâtre National de Strasbourg, which won many festival awards.

She co-wrote Mathieu Amalric's first film as director, *Mange ta soupe* (1997), filmed a documentary in Florida, *Quatre jours à Ocoee* (2000), about recording a jazz record, then wrote another feature, *Paratonnerre*, which was never made due to lack of financing.



Marina Hands - Lady Chatterley



Anaïs Demoustier - Bird People

10 YEARS OF SILENCE OR THE HATCHING OF A MASTERPIECE

Ferran then turned to an adaptation of D.H. Lawrence's novel "Lady Chatterley's Lover", along with Roger Bohbot and Pierre Trividic. The film was acclaimed for its lyricism and mastery, and Marina Hands' performance won much praise. The film won the prestigious Prix Louis-Delluc and five César awards (Best Film, Actress, Adaptation, Photography, Costumes).

A POLITICALLY-ENGAGED CINEASTE

A political activist, she has defended immigrants without official papers. She has also often spoken out to defend the rights of film artists and technicians, and to draw attention to the state of French cinema and the working conditions of productions.

HYMN TO FREEDOM

After another long silence, Pascale Ferran returned to directing with *Bird People* (2014), co-written with Guillaume Bréaud. This highly original poetic fable dares to enter the realm of the fantastic, carried by the performances of Josh Charles and Anaïs Demoustier. The film screened at this year's Festival de Cannes and is presented at the TIFF.



Anaïs Demoustier - *Bird People*



Josh Charles - *Bird People*

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