RENDEZ

WITH

FRENCH

CINEMA



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22ND EDITION · MARCH 1-12, 2017 · TICKETS: FILMLINC.ORG

Rendez-Vous with French Cinema returns with another edition that exemplifies the variety and vitality of contemporary French filmmaking. The films on display, by emerging talents and established masters, raise ideas both topical and eternal, and many take audiences to entirely unexpected places. Co-presented with UniFrance, the 22nd edition of Rendez-Vous will demonstrate that the landscape of French cinema is as fertile. inspiring, and distinct as ever.

Artistic Direction: Florence Almozini and Dennis Lim.

All films are subtitled.





DJANGO

Directed by Étienne Comar France, 2017, 115m

The world of legendary Romani jazz guitarist Django Reinhardt is brought to vivid life in this riveting saga of survival, resistance, and artistic courage. Reinhardt (Reda Kateb) is the toast of 1943 Paris, thrilling audiences with his distinctive brand of "hot jazz" and charming his admirers (including an intrepid friend and muse played by Cécile de France). But even as the rise of Nazism and anti-Romani sentiment force Reinhardt-whose music is considered degenerate under the Third Reich-to make a daring escape from the city, he refuses to be silenced, his music becoming his form of protest. The feature debut from acclaimed screenwriter Étienne Comar (Of Gods and Men) immerses viewers in a tumultuous chapter in the life of one of the 20th century's greatest musical geniuses.

Wednesday, March 1 8:30pm

Étienne Comar, Reda Kateb, and Cécile de France in person

U.S. PREMIERE

THE ODYSSEY (L'ODYSSÉE)

Directed by Jérôme Salle France, 2016, 122m

Lambert Wilson is magnetic in this grandly lyrical dramatization of the life of legendary explorer-turned-filmmaker Jacques Cousteau. Spanning half a century and criss-crossing oceans, the film charts Cousteau's professional triumphs and personal failures as he achieves renown for the underwater documentaries he produced on his oceanographic expeditions, amid the constant struggle to secure financial backing for increasingly ambitious scientific (and cinematic) objectives. Set against the backdrop of cross-generational family drama—centered on his long-suffering wife Simone (Audrey Tautou) and his talented, deeply conflicted son Philippe (Pierre Niney)—The Odyssey is an epic ode to scientific exploration and documentary filmmaking, and a celebration of the human drive to seek out new realms of discovery.

Saturday, March 11 6:00pm

Q&A with Jérôme Salle

Sunday, March 12 8:00pm

U.S. PREMIERE

150 MILLIGRAMS (LA FILLE DE BREST)

Directed by Emmanuelle Bercot France, 2016, 128m

A fearless everywoman stands up to a drug company in this gripping David vs. Goliath story, based on a real-life medical scandal. Irène Frachon (Sidse Babett Knudsen) is a pulmonologist at a hospital in Brest who begins digging into the connection between a widely prescribed diabetes drug and a spate of fatal valve disorders, with help from a research scientist (Benoît Magimel). Soon enough, Irène sets off a media firestorm, making powerful enemies in the pharmaceutical industry who will stop at nothing to suppress her story. Knudsen and writer-director Emmanuelle Bercot have created a memorably eccentric heroine, at once a tireless crusader and compelling human.

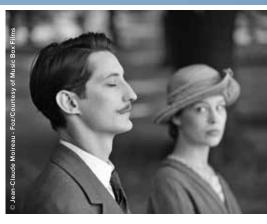
Saturday, March 4 3:15pm

Q&A with Emmanuelle Bercot

Monday, March 6 4:15pm







THE DANCER (LA DANSEUSE) Directed by Stéphanie Di Giusto France/Belgium/Czech Republic, 2016, 108m

This visually sumptuous drama set amid the opulence of La Belle Époque Paris charts the real-life saga of modern dance icon Loïe Fuller (Soko). Raised on the plains of the American Midwest, Fuller became the unlikely toast of turn-of-the-century France with her legendary performances, in which swirling swaths of silk fabric and dazzlingly colored lights created a kaleidoscopic spectacle of color and movement. Boasting lavish period detail, breathtaking dance sequences, and fiercely committed supporting performances by Gaspard Ulliel, Mélanie Thierry, and Lily-Rose Depp as Fuller's rival Isadora Duncan, The Dancer is an arresting chronicle of an artist's struggle to realize her vision.

Thursday, March 2 1:45pm Monday, March 6 9:30pm

Introduction by Stéphanie Di Giusto

U.S. PREMIERE

DAYDREAMS (L'INDOMPTÉE) Directed by Caroline Deruas France, 2016, 98m

Past and present, fantasy and reality collide in the boldly original feature debut from Caroline Deruas. A group of young French artists converge at Rome's sun-dappled Villa Medicis for a one-year residency. Among them are Camille (Clotilde Hesme), a writer whose marriage to a famous novelist (Tchéky Karyo) is disintegrating, and Axèle (Jenna Thiam), a photographer haunted by spectral visions of the villa's past. Deruas conjures a subtly surreal atmosphere through striking stylistic flourishes—iris shots, color effects, dream sequencesin this beguiling tale of creative struggle, romantic rivalry, and ghosts.

Wednesday, March 8 4:30pm Friday, March 10 6:45pm

U.S. PREMIERE

FAULTLESS (IRRÉPROCHABLE)

Directed by Sébastien Marnier France, 2016, 103m

Out of money and options, 40-year-old Constance (Marina Foïs) abandons her life in Paris and returns to her suburban hometown in hopes of picking up where she left off. After she finds no real romance with her occasional lover (Benjamin Biolay), something finally snaps when she discovers that her old job as a real-estate agent has been given to a younger woman (Joséphine Japy). It soon becomes clear: Constance is dangerous, and will stop at nothing to get what she wants. Both a wild-ride thriller and a chilling character study, Faultless is driven by a riveting central performance: almost always on-screen, Foïs brings unexpected depth and poignant humanity to her portrayal of a coldly calculating sociopath.

Sunday, March 5 6:15pm

Q&A with Sébastien Marnier and Marina Foïs

Monday, March 6 2:00pm

FRANTZ

Directed by François Ozon France/Germany, 2016, 113m

The new film from acclaimed director François Ozon is a sublime, heartrending saga of guilt, forgiveness, and forbidden love in post-World War I Europe. Based on Ernst Lubitsch's 1932 antiwar drama Broken Lullaby, it charts the complex bond that forms between two strangers: Anna (Paula Beer), a young German woman grieving the loss of her fiancé, Frantz, in the war, and Adrien (Pierre Niney), a former French soldier. What plays out between them is a haunting investigation of postwar trauma and healing rendered in gorgeous black-and-white that occasionally gives way—gloriously—to psychologically charged bursts of color. A Music Box Films release

Thursday, March 2 9:15pm Q&A with François Ozon

Saturday, March 11 1:00pm







FROM THE LAND OF THE MOON (MAL DE PIERRES)

Directed by Nicole Garcia France/Belgium/Canada, 2016, 116m

Marion Cotillard delivers a performance of searing emotional intensity in this psychologically charged, 1950s-set saga of amour fou. She stars as Gabrielle. a troubled young woman—sick in both body and mind-who is stuck in a loveless marriage. When she travels to Switzerland for a rest cure, she meets the handsome, terminally ill lieutenant André (Louis Garrel), beginning a decades-long romantic obsession that will shape the course of her life. Beautifully photographed in the sunny south of France and the snow-capped Swiss mountains. From the Land of the Moon is an exquisite showcase for one of the finest actresses working today. A Sundance Selects release.

Friday, March 3 6:30pm *Q&A with Nicole Garcia*

Sunday, March 12 1:00pm

HEAL THE LIVING (RÉPARER LES VIVANTS)

Directed by Katell Quillévéré France /Belgium, 2016, 103m

A medical drama of unusual depth and sensitivity, Heal the Living charts the disparate lives touched by a tragedy. Following a car accident, 17-year-old Simon (Gabin Verdet) is left brain-dead, setting into motion a chain of events that affects everyone from his family to the hospital staff to a mother of two (Anne Dorval) in need of a heart transplant. Director Katell Quillévéré weaves together the multistrand narrative with consummate grace, abetted by a remarkable ensemble cast (including Emmanuelle Seigner and Tahar Rahim), elegant camerawork, and a striking score by Alexandre Desplat. The result is an enormously affecting study of human interconnectedness that finds a silver lining of hope in a wrenching situation. A Cohen Media Group release.

Thursday, March 2 6:30pm *Q&A with Katell Quillévéré*

Friday, March 3 1:45pm

IN BED WITH VICTORIA (VICTORIA)

Directed by Justine Triet France, 2016, 97m

Victoria (Virginie Efira) is a hotshot lawyer with a disastrous personal life. Between juggling a demanding job, raising two kids, and fending off an ex-husband who's slandering her on the Internet, she can barely be bothered with the hit-or-miss (mostly miss) online hookups she sets up. Around the time Victoria agrees to help her old friend Vincent (Melvil Poupaud) with a decidedly bizarre legal matter, she runs into charming former client Sam (Vincent Lacoste). Now that a shot at real romance comes along, will the perpetually harried Victoria even recognize it? This refreshingly offbeat (how else to describe a film that features a trial in which the star witness is a Dalmatian?) farce is propelled by the irresistible Efira as a heroine who's raw, real, and complicated in ways that transcend the rom-com formula.

Saturday, March 4 9:30pm Q&A with Justine Triet

Sunday, March 12 3:30pm

IN THE FOREST OF SIBERIA (DANS LES FORÊTS DE SIBÉRIE)

Directed by Safy Nebbou France, 2016, 105m

Based on the award-winning memoir by adventurer Sylvain Tesson, this tale of survival follows Teddy (Raphaël Personnaz), a young Frenchman who leaves everything behind to live in isolation in the icy Siberian taiga. But initial exhilaration soon gives way to the harsh reality of staying alive in a frozen wilderness miles from civilization with roaming bears, life-threatening blizzards, and no electricity. The film captures majestic footage of the unspoiled Siberian landscape, its bleak beauty underscored by jazz trumpeter Ibrahim Maalouf's plaintive soundtrack.

Sunday, March 5 1:00pm
Thursday, March 9 4:00pm

SPECIAL EVENTS

U.S. PREMIERE (FREE SCREENING)



JULIAN STARKE'S FRENCH WAVES

house) musicians Pedro Winter, Para One, and Jacques will discuss French electronic music following a free screening of the immersive documentary *French Waves*.

Saturday, March 4 5:00pm

U.S. PREMIERE (FREE SCREENING)

CALL MY AGENT! (DIX POUR CENT)

Season 1 Episode 1 ("Cécile"), France, 2015. 60m. subtitled

At a top-tier talent firm in Paris, a group of agents juggle their personal and hyper-competitive work lives. Watch the first episode of the hit French miniseries at this special free screening.

Saturday, March 11 4:30pm



LES RENCONTRES
D'ARLES PHOTO EXHIBIT

FELLINI, 8 ½ IN COLOR PHOTOGRAPHS BY PAUL RONALD

Federico Fellini's frequent camera operator Piero Servo recently found a box of late photographer Paul Ronald's color negatives from the set of 8 ½. These rediscoveries are the focus of this exhibition, curated by Sam Stourdzé (director of Les Rencontres d'Arles) and featuring recollections from the film's co-star Anouk Aimée.

On view March 1-12



TALK WITH AGNÈS VARDA

French New Wave pioneer Agnès Varda has been a major voice in world cinema for more than 60 years. Her distinguished and varied career includes photography, nonfiction and fiction shorts and features, and, more recently, multimedia installations at museums and galleries around the world. Join Varda in this special event as she reflects on her voluminous body of work, influences, and approach to filmmaking.

Presented in conjunction with the French Institute Alliance Française's upcoming series Agnès Varda: Life as Art and Varda's first exhibition in NYC at Blum & Poe gallery.

Friday, March 10 6:00pm

FRFF TALKS

Panel: International Co-Productions

Producers from the U.S. and France will discuss strategies and challenges of collaboration. *Presented in partnership with French in Motion & IFP*.

Thursday, March 2 5:30pm

Panel: Film as Political Intervention

In light of the election, directors will discuss how films can address political turmoil and social unrest.

Friday, March 3 5:00pm

SCHEDULE

All screenings & events take place in the Walter Reade Theater unless noter

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1

8:30 \triangleright Django

THURSDAY, MARCH 2

1:45 The Dancer

4:00 The Paris Opera

5:30 Panel: International Co-Productions*

6:30 \triangleright Heal the Living

9:15 Frantz

FRIDAY, MARCH 3

1:45 Heal the Living

6:30 \triangleright From the Land of the Moon

SATURDAY, MARCH 4

12:30 Sophie's Misfortunes

3:15 9 150 Milligrams

6:15 P Nocturama

9:30 P In Bed with Victoria

SUNDAY, MARCH 5

1:00 In the Forest of Siberia

3:30 \(\sigma \text{ Mum's Wrong} \)

6:15 \triangleright Faultless

9:00 Nocturama

MONDAY, MARCH 6

2:00 Faultless

4:15 150 Milligrams

7:00 Struggle for Life

9:30 \triangleright The Dancer

TUESDAY, MARCH 7

2:00 Planetarium

4:30 Journey to Greenland

6:45 P Raw

9:15 Struggle for Life

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

2:00 Sophie's Misfortunes

4:30 Daydreams

6:45 Journey to Greenland

9:15 PRaw

THURSDAY, MARCH 9

2:00 The Together Project

4:00 In the Forest of Siberia

6:30 Slack Bay

9:00 The Stopover

FRIDAY, MARCH 10

2:00 Mum's Wrong

4:15 The Stopover

6:00 Talk with Agnès Varda*

6:45 Daydreams

9:30 Right Here Right Now

SATURDAY, MARCH 11

1:00 Frantz

3:30 The Paris Opera

4:30 Call My Agent! (Free)*

9:00 Slack Bay

SUNDAY, MARCH 12

1:00 From the Land of the Moon

3:30 In Bed with Victoria

5:45 Right Here Right Now

8:00 The Odyssey

○ IN-PERSON APPEARANCE

* Elinor Bunin Munroe Film Center Amphitheater

Amphitheater

General Public On-Sale: Thu, Feb 16 Pre-Sale for FSLC Members: Tue, Feb 14

Tickets: \$16; \$12 for seniors (62+); and \$10

for FSLC members and students
Opening Night Tickets: \$25; \$20 for

members, students, and seniors

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JOURNEY TO GREENLAND (LE VOYAGE AU GROËNLAND)

Directed by Sébastien Betbeder France, 2016, 98m

Scruffy, thirtysomething best friends both named Thomas (Thomas Blanchard and Thomas Scimeca) leave behind their struggling acting careers in Paris for an extended sojourn in a remote, snowbound stretch of Greenland. One is there to reconnect with his off-the-grid father, the other for adventure. What ensues is a perceptive, warm-spirited study of cross-cultural misunderstanding and connection, as the two men learn to survive in a place without alcohol, indoor plumbing, or a reliable Internet connection. Director Sébastien Betbeder balances wry, unforced comedy with casual insight into human relationships: between friends, family members, and the strangers who touch your life. A Netflix release.

Tuesday, March 7 4:30pm Wednesday, March 8 6:45pm

MUM'S WRONG (MAMAN A TORT)

Directed by Marc Fitoussi France/Belgium, 2016, 110m

When idealistic 14-year-old Anouk (Jeanne Jestin) embarks on a weeklong internship at her mom's insurance company, she gets a crash course in the less-than-rosy reality of the corporate world, discovering some unsavory truths about her own mother along the way. An emotionally complex look at parents, children, and the moral compromises we make, Mum's Wrong adroitly blends workplace satire with a compassionate social-issue message, while its leads Jestin and Émilie Dequenne (Rosetta, Our Children) create a nuanced, wholly believable portrait of a mother-daughter relationship undergoing a crisis.

Sunday, March 5 3:30pm

Q&A with Marc Fitoussi

Friday, March 10 2:00pm

NOCTURAMA

Directed by Bertrand Bonello France/Germany/Belgium, 2016, 130m

The audacious new film from Bertrand Bonello (Saint Laurent) unfolds in two mesmerizing segments. The first is a precision-crafted thriller, following a multiethnic group of millennial radicals as they carry out a mass-scale terrorist attack on Paris. The second—in which the perpetrators hide out in the consumerist mecca of a luxury department store—is the director's coup, raising provocative questions about everything that came before. Bonello stages his apocalyptic vision with stylishly roving camerawork, blasts of hip-hop, and a lip-synced performance to Shirley Bassey's "My Way." This is edgy, risk-taking filmmaking that is sure to ignite debate. A Netflix release

Saturday, March 4 6:15pm

Q&A with Bertrand Bonello

Sunday, March 5 9:00pm

U.S. PREMIERE

THE PARIS OPERA (L'OPÉRA)

Directed by Jean-Stéphane Bron France, 2017, 110m

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

Thursday, March 2 4:00pm

Saturday, March 11 3:30pm







PLANETARIUM

Directed by Rebecca Zlotowski France/Belgium, 2016, 105m

Natalie Portman lends her star power to this dreamy, visually ravishing tale of magic and movies set in a glamorous vision of 1930s Paris. She and her sister (Lily-Rose Depp) form a psychic duo, touring the stages of Europe performing séances. When they catch the eye of a movie producer (Emmanuel Salinger), he resolves to make them stars and to capture an act of spiritualism on film. Forgoing traditional narrative structure in favor of swooning atmosphere, director Rebecca Zlotowksi revels in the Art Deco architecture, sumptuous period couture, and doomed decadence of prewar Paris. A Swen Group release.

Friday, March 3 9:30pm Q&A with Rebecca Zlotowski

Tuesday, March 7 2:00pm

RAW (GRAVE)

Directed by Julia Ducournau France/Belgium, 2016, 99m

When incoming freshman—and lifelong vegetarian—Justine (Garance Marillier) joins her older sister (Ella Rumpf) at a strangely decrepit veterinary college, she seems poised to be the school's new star pupil. But a hazing ritual in which Justine's forced to eat raw meat awakens something primal in her: a newfound—and highly disturbing—taste for flesh. The feature debut from Julia Ducournau marks the arrival of a bold new directorial voice. blending blood-spattered body horror, pitch-black comedy, and one of the most dysfunctional sisterly relationships ever depicted on screen into a potent, emotionally resonant coming-of-age nightmare. A Focus Features release

Tuesday, March 7 6:45pm

Q&A with Julia Ducournau

Wednesday, March 8 9:15pm Introduction by Julia Ducournau

RIGHT HERE RIGHT NOW (TOUT DE SUITE MAINTENANT)

Directed by Pascal Bonitzer France/Belgium/Luxembourg, 2016, 98m

Workplace drama doesn't get any messier than in this intriguingly knotty tale of corporate backbiting and buried secrets. Nora (Agathe Bonitzer) is a bright young professional whose new job at a financial firm turns out to be a trial by fire when she learns that her bosses (Lambert Wilson and Pascal Greggory) share a tumultuous history with her prickly mathematician father (Jean-Pierre Bacri). Meanwhile, an interoffice romance with a competitive colleague (Vincent Lacoste) leads to even more complications, leaving Nora to navigate a minefield of delicate relationships as she climbs the corporate ladder. Isabelle Huppert costars, delivering a typically multilayered performance as one of many sharply etched characters populating this complex moral tale.

Friday, March 10 9:30pm Sunday, March 12 5:45pm

SLACK BAY (MA LOUTE) Directed by Bruno Dumont France/Germany, 2016, 122m

In a postcard-perfect seaside village in 1910, an eccentric (to put it mildly) leisure-class family whiles away the summer. But something troubling is afoot: what's behind the string of tourists gone mysteriously missing? Former enfant terrible Bruno Dumont continues his surprising foray into farce—which began with 2014's acclaimed Li'l Quinguin-with this surreal, oddball mix of slapstick and detective story. The director and his cast (which includes Fabrice Luchini, Valeria Bruni Tedeschi, and a very game Juliette Binoche) stretch each joke to its breaking point, resulting in a winking, weirdly captivating comedy that's in on its own absurdity. A Kino Lorber release.

Thursday, March 9 6:30pm Saturday, March 11 9:00pm







U.S. PREMIERE

SOPHIE'S MISFORTUNES (LES MALHEURS DE SOPHIE)

Directed by Christophe Honoré France, 2016, 106m

Based on the French children's classic by the Countess of Ségur, this enchanting fable for adults and kids alike is set in a light-filled 19th-century chateau. The film captures the freedom of childhood through the eyes of Sophie (Caroline Grant), a mischievous young girl whose life changes drastically after she's left in the care of a severe stepmother—a far cry from the life she had with her loving mother (Golshifteh Farahani). As Sophie works to escape her stepmother's wicked grasp, Honoré combines gorgeous period detail with playful modern touches: a bouncy electronic score by Alex Beaupain, expressive handheld camerawork, and a menagerie of animated animals

Saturday, March 4 12:30pm Q&A with Christophe Honoré

Wednesday, March 8 2:00pm Introduction by Christophe Honoré

THE STOPOVER (VOIR DU PAYS)

Directed by Delphine & Muriel Coulin France/Greece, 2016, 102m

On their way home from Afghanistan, a band of French soldiers stop in Cyprus for decompression: three days at a sunsplashed resort, where they will undergo intense psychological debriefing. There, amid the crystal-blue waters and hordes of vacationing tourists, Marine (Soko) and Aurore (Ariane Labed)—two of only three women in their male-dominated unitconfront rage, trauma, and army sexism as they struggle to readjust to "normal" life. This riveting drama-winner of the Best Screenplay award in the Un Certain Regard competition at Cannes—is an alltoo-rare exploration of war's psychological wounds on female soldiers. A First Run. Features release.

Thursday, March 9 9:00pm Friday, March 10 4:15pm

STRUGGLE FOR LIFE (LA LOI DE LA JUNGLE)

Directed by Antonin Peretjatko France, 2016, 99m

In this wild, joke-a-minute slapstick satire, a middle-aged intern (Vincent Macaigne) is sent from France to French Guiana to oversee the creation of a South American ski resort led by Galgaric (Mathieu Amalric). There, he meets a beautiful intern at the National Forestry Office named Tarzan (Vimala Pons) and what ensues is a surreal journey through the Amazon jungle, with absurdist bureaucratic disasters, an aphrodisiac mishap, and a cannibal encounter. Playing something like a Jerry Lewis gag-fest meets *Survivor*, *Struggle for Life* combines anarchic black comedy with a scathing critique of colonialism.

Monday, March 6 7:00pm Q&A with Antonin Peretjatko

Tuesday, March 7 9:15pm
Introduction by Antonin Peretjatko

THE TOGETHER PROJECT (L'EFFET AQUATIQUE)

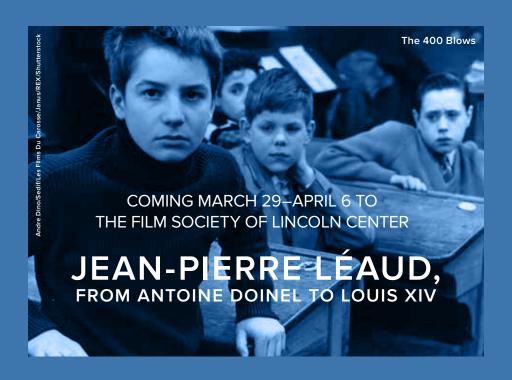
Directed by Sólveig Anspach France/Iceland, 2016, 83m

The final film from the late French-Icelandic director Sólveig Anspach is an irresistibly offbeat aquatic comedy. When gawky construction worker Samir (Samir Guesmi) encounters prickly swim instructor Agathe (Florence Loiret Caille), he's immediately smitten. But his unconventional plan to win her over—pretending he can't swim in order to take lessons from her—proves more than a little problematic. Sweet without being cloying, quirky without being grating, this romantic charmer succeeds thanks to the interplay between the two leads and Anspach's breezy sincerity.

Friday, March 3 4:00pm

Q&A with composer Martin Wheeler

Thursday, March 9 2:00pm





















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