uniFrance films presents A Single Girl

Boston

Benoit Jacquot

On set with french

cinema

Thursday,
November 8Boston University Collegeof Communication, Room B-05at 7pm640 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston



FRENCH EMBASSY IN THE UNITED STAT

HIGHER EDUCATION, ARTS, FRENCH LANGUA

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uniFrance films presents A tout de suite



Providence

Benoit Jacquot On set with french the french the first set of the set

Monday, Chace Center November 5 Auditorium at 7pm RISD Museum of Art, 20 North Main Street, Providence

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FRENCH EMBASS IN THE UNITED STA HIGHER EDUCATION

uniFrance films presents Farewell My Queen

SPECIAL GUEST Benoit Jacquot **New York**

On set with french

Monday, October 29 3pm: screening followed by a discussion with Benoit Jacquot

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uniFrance films and Wellesley College French House present Farewell N Dueen

SPECIAL GUEST

Wellesley

Benoit Jacquot On set with french the set with the set with

Collins cinema Tuesday, November 6 Wellesley College at 4:30pm 106 Central Street, Wellesley



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uniFrance films

Benoit Jacquot

Boston New York Providence Wellesley

On set with french cinema

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Benoit Jacquot was young cinema lover aged 17 when he started his film career as an assistant to Bernard Borderie on one of the films of the *Angélique* series. He was also assistant director to Duras for *Nathalie Granger* and *India Song*. For his first film, *L'Assassin musicien* (1975), he chose to make a screen version of a Dostoevsky novel. The austere staging and the actors' flat style of delivery seem to place him in the Bressonian tradition, an impression confirmed by his second film *Les Enfants du placard*. His next film *Les Ailes de la colombe* (1981) with Isabelle Huppert and Dominique Sanda is an ambitious adaptation of a James novel. At the end of the 1980s it was in fact with his theatre work, adapted for television, especially *Elvire Jouvet 40*, that Jacquot made a particular name for himself.

In 1990, inspired by young actress Judith Godrèche, the filmmaker made a fresh start with *The Disenchanted*, a moving portrayal of a high-spirited teenage girl. A Single Girl (1995) was built around another young actress, Virginie Ledoyen; this refined work won the acclaim of the international press. *Seventh Heaven* marked another step towards mainstream cinema and from that point onwards film stars were jockeying to perform in front of his camera: Huppert (*The School of Flesh*, presented at Cannes in 1998, *Pas de scandale* in 1999), Adjani (*Adolphe*) and also Deneuve (*Princesse Marie*, a TV drama).

His favourite theme is love, but above all Jacquot, by now one of France's most prolific filmmakers, is unusually eclectic: after making another detour via the theatre (*La Fausse Suivante*, filmed in a theatre and a brilliant exercise in style), he directed a period film about the life of *Sade* (2000) as well as an opera (*Tosca*). In 2004, he again surprised his audience with *A tout de suite*, filmed in black and white and DV, about a woman on the run played by his new muse Isild Le Besco, who then followed him to India for *The Untouchable*, presented in Venice in 2006.

This was followed by another journey, this time to an Italian island, for the making of *Villa Amalia*, adapted from the novel by Pascal Quignard, for which he once again teamed up with Isabelle Huppert (2009). The following year it was back to the 19th century accompanied by the faithful Isild Le Besco for his film *Deep in the Woods*, an ambiguous variation on the theme of love.

In 2011 the filmmaker, true to his love of costume drama films, made *Farewell My Queen*, a work of historical fiction about the final days of Queen Marie-Antoinette just before the storming of the Bastille in 1789. For the purposes of this new fresco he assembled a sublime cast composed of Léa Seydoux, Virginie Ledoyen and Diane Kruger. The film, a hit in France and abroad, had its world première at the last Berlin Film Festival.