

FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL

1 – 12 November 2023

at Ciné Lumière



INSTITUT
FRANÇAIS
Royaume-Uni



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Divertimento

**UK Premiere | dir. Marie-Castille
Mention-Schaar | with Oulaya
Amamra, Lina El Arabi, Niels Arestrup,
Zinedine Soualem**

Inspired by the life of conductor Zahia Ziouani, *Divertimento* follows 17-year-old Zahia and her twin sister, Fettouma on their fight against discrimination and prejudice to enter the classical music world. Despite their underprivileged suburban background and Algerian roots, they struggle arduously to approach their dreams.

**1 Nov, 19.30 + Q&A with Marie-Castille
Mention-Schaar and Zahia Ziouani
11 Nov, 13.55**



Anatomy of a Fall

**Anatomie d'une chute
dir. Justine Triet | with Sandra Hüller,
Swann Arlaud, Milo Machado-Graner**

Only the third film directed by a woman to get the top prize in Cannes, **Justine Triet's 2023 Palme d'Or-winning** *Anatomy of a Fall* is a gripping psychological thriller. A celebrated writer is put on trial when her husband falls to his death from their secluded chalet. What starts as a murder investigation soon becomes a journey into the depths of a destructive marriage.

**2 Nov, 18.15 + Q&A with Justine Triet
5 Nov, 11.00
Release from 10 Nov**



On the Adamant

**Sur l'Adamant
dir. Nicolas Philibert**

Directed by veteran documentary filmmaker **Nicolas Philibert** (*Être et avoir*) and awarded the **Golden Bear** at this year's Berlin Film Festival, the film invites us to board The Adamant, a unique day-care facility for adults suffering from mental disorders.

**3 Nov, 11.00 & 18.15 | 4 Nov, 17.45
5 Nov, 17.35 | 6 Nov, 20.35
8 Nov, 15.45 | 11 Nov, 11.15**



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The Taste of Things

**La Passion de Dodin Bouffant
dir. Trần Anh Hùng | with Juliette
Binoche, Benoît Magimel**

1885. Peerless cook Eugenie (**Juliette Binoche**) and famous gourmet Dodin (**Benoît Magimel**) concoct the most delicious dishes to the wonderment of illustrious chefs. Best **Director Award** at the **Cannes Film Festival** this year, Trần Anh Hùng serves up an intense and poetic celebration of the pleasure of the palate, mind and heart, which will represent France at the 2024 Academy Awards.

**3 Nov, 17.50
5 Nov, 19.00**



The Animal Kingdom

**Le Règne animal
dir. Thomas Cailley | with Romain Duris,
Adèle Exarchopoulos, Paul Kircher**

In the long-awaited follow-up to his debut *Les Combattants*, writer-director Cailley offers a visionary flight of imagination on the relation between humans, animals and nature. With a dazzlingly poetic use of effects, and superb performances from **Romain Duris** and **Paul Kircher**, it tells the story of a strange condition sweeping the world, as people begin sprouting wings, scales, tentacles...

**3 Nov, 20.40
6 Nov, 18.00**



Here

**dir. Bas Devos | with Stefan Gota,
Liyo Gong**

A Romanian construction worker living in Brussels, Stefan is on the verge of moving back home. He is stopped in his tracks when he meets a young Belgian-Chinese woman researching for her doctorate on moss. He finds solace in her attention to the near-invisible. This atmospheric tale was awarded the **FIPRESCI prize**, as well as the top accolade in this year's Encounter Section of the Berlin Film Festival.

**4 Nov, 16.00
11 Nov, 14.55**



Red Island

L'île rouge

dir. Robin Campillo
with Nadia Tereszkiewicz, Quim Gutiérrez, Charlie Vauselle

Ten-year-old Thomas lives in a French military base in Madagascar at the beginning of the 1970s. Influenced by his reading of the intrepid comic book heroine *Fantômette*, he sweeps with a curious glance what surrounds him. Beneath the carefree expatriate life, his eyes are gradually opening to another reality.

4 Nov, 17.05

7 Nov, 18.10

The Course of Life

Le cours de la vie

UK Premiere | dir. Frédéric Sojcher
with Agnès Jaoui, Jonathan Zaccai, Géraldine Nakache

A famed and successful scriptwriter, Noémie (**Agnès Jaoui**) is invited to deliver a masterclass to final year students of the Ecole Nationale Supérieure de l'Audiovisuel in Toulouse. She will initiate them to the art of writing a screenplay as a way to intertwine life and cinema.

4 Nov, 19.30 + Q&A with Frédéric Sojcher and Agnès Jaoui

8 Nov, 20.40

Four Daughters

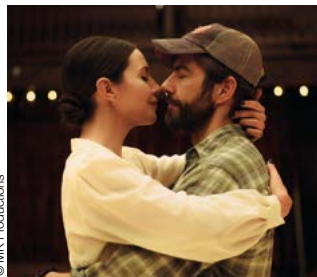
Les Filles d'Olfa

dir. Kaouther Ben Hania | with Olfa Hamrouni, Nour Karoui, Ichraq Matar

In this astonishing and poignant film, director Kaouther Ben Hania (*The Man who Sold His Skin*) blends documentary and fiction to tell the story of Olfa and her four daughters. One day, her two eldest daughters disappeared without a trace. The director combines interviews with re-enactments to depict an intimate, yet devastating, journey of hope, rebellion, violence, transmission and sisterhood.

5 Nov, 15.20

8 Nov, 18.15



Two Tickets to Greece

Les Cyclades

UK Premiere | dir. Marc Fitoussi
with Laure Calamy, Olivia Côte, Kristin Scott Thomas

Recently divorced, Blandine is struggling to get back to her life. Her loud and fearless former best friend Magalie (**Laure Calamy**) resurfaces and imposes herself on a trip to Greece they've always dreamed of as teenagers. When they reach their destination, they realise the dreamy holidays won't go as they had planned since they have now a very different approach to holidays... and to life!

5 Nov, 16.40

8 Nov, 16.00

10 Nov, 11.00

The Nature of Love

Simple comme Sylvain

dir. Monia Chokri | with Magalie Lépine-Blondeau, Pierre-Yves Cardinal, Monia Chokri

40-year-old philosophy professor Sophia is in a stable if somewhat socially conforming relationship with Xavier. Sylvain is a craftsman renovating Sophia and Xavier's new country house. When Sophia and Sylvain meet, her world is turned upside down. Opposites attract, but can they last?

6 Nov, 20.20

9 Nov, 18.15

Last Summer

L'Été dernier

dir. Catherine Breillat | with Léa Drucker, Samuel Kircher

Successful lawyer Anne (**Léa Drucker**) lives a seemingly happy life with her husband Pierre and their young, adopted daughters until the arrival of Theo, Pierre's troubled son from a previous marriage. In her first film since 2013, Catherine Breillat goes back to her favourite themes of transgression and the complexity of power (and age) dynamics.

7 Nov, 20.35



A Forgotten Man

UK Premiere | dir. Laurent Nègre with Michael Neuenchwander, Manuela Biedermann, Clea Eden

Spring 1945: Swiss Ambassador to Germany Heinrich Zwygart flees bombed-out Berlin after eight years of service in the capital of the Reich. This is the end of a terrible mandate, during which he had to make fatal compromises to preserve the neutrality and security of his country. He survived the war, but will he manage to live in peace?

8 Nov, 18.15 + Q&A with Laurent Nègre and Michael Neuenchwander



By Heart

Par cœurs

UK Premiere | dir. Benoît Jacquot with Isabelle Huppert, Fabrice Luchini

Director Benoît Jacquot invites us behind the scenes of the Festival d'Avignon where both **Isabelle Huppert** and **Fabrice Luchini** are premiering in the summer of 2021. His documentary shows how great actors inhabit a character and learn (or forget) their lines ahead and during live performances. When they leave backstage to stand out on stage, they are completely transformed.

11 Nov, 16.45

12 Nov, 13.30



Marinette

UK Premiere | dir. Virginie Verrier with Garance Marillier, Émilie Dequenne, Alban Lenoir, Fred Testot

The film follows the fight to spread awareness on women's rights in sport of one of the world's greatest stars of football, Marinette Pichon. From a difficult past of abuse and homophobia, came a desire to make a difference in the recognition of French women's football, homosexuality, and equal opportunity. *Marinette* is an uncompromising ode to freedom.

4 Nov, 14.30 + virtual live Q&A with Virginie Verrier & Marinette Pichon
9 Nov, 18.20



Ernest & Celestine: Trip to Cibberitia

Ernest et Célestine: Le voyage en Charabie
dir(s) Julien Chheng, Jean-Christophe Roger

Ernest is an ursine troubadour dedicated to a life of music and art, and his constant grouchiness is softened by the creative whims of his mouse friend Celestine. When she accidentally breaks his beloved violin, they must take a long voyage to Ernest's country of Gibberitia, home to the only artist who can repair it.

4 Nov, 14.00 + pre-recorded Q&A with Julien Chheng & Jean-Christophe Roger



The Origin of Evil

L'Origine du mal

UK Premiere | dir. Sébastien Marnier with Laure Calamy, Doria Tillier, Jacques Weber, Dominique Blanc

On the verge of financial collapse, Nathalie (**Laure Calamy**) attempts to reconnect with her estranged wealthy father (**Jacques Weber**) and his eccentric family. Through an agile screenplay, Sébastien Marnier takes us beyond surface appearances with revelations and twists, to reveal the hidden and often unexpected agendas at play.

10 Nov, 19.30 + Q&A with Sébastien Marnier
11 Nov, 16.10



Shorts - Feathered Girls

dir.s Charlie Belin & Hefang Wei

This programme of two short animated films celebrates adventures through the stories of Louise and Elie. In *Louise et la légende du serpent à plumes*, a little girl finds out that her pet lizard Keza could be the reincarnation of Quetzalcoatl, the legendary feathered serpent god. In *Drôles d'oiseaux*, Elie explores an island with the most fascinating birds.

11 Nov, 13.30

Classics



My Little Loves

Mes Petites amoureuses

dir. Jean Eustache | with Martin Loeb, Jacqueline Dufranne, Ingrid Caven

Living with his grandmother in a sleepy village outside of Bordeaux, Daniel enjoys a carefree existence with his similarly innocent peers. But when his mother arrives and relocates him to Narbonne, Daniel is prematurely thrust into adulthood. Pulled out of school, he is forced to work for a surly mechanic and left to his own devices.

5 Nov, 14.00 + Film Club

9 Nov, 15.45

10 Nov, 14.45



Je t'aime moi non plus

dir. Serge Gainsbourg | with Jane Birkin, Joe Dallesandro, Hugues Quester

A unique opportunity to discover a 4K restoration of Serge Gainsbourg's groundbreaking film starring the late Jane Birkin. Padovan (**Hugues Quester**) and Krassky (**Joe Dallesandro**) drive their truck on a deserted road and decide to stop at an isolated snack-bar where a lonely Johnny (**Jane Birkin**) works and longs for love.

6 Nov, 18.00 + intro by Jeremy Allen

7 Nov, 20.30

Nov, 16.15



The Mother and the Whore

La Maman et la putain

dir. Jean Eustache | with Jean-Pierre Léaud, Bernadette Lafont, Françoise Lebrun

After the French New Wave, the sexual revolution, and May '68 came *The Mother and the Whore*, the autobiographical masterpiece by Jean Eustache.

Capturing a disillusioned generation navigating the 1970s post-idealism within the microcosm of a *ménage à trois*, it is a profound meditation on time. The film has been restored in pristine 4K and finally made visible after years of absence from the screens.

12 Nov, 14.00

Info & Booking

Online: www.institut-francais.org.uk

Box office: 020 7871 3515

Please note that all information is correct at the time of print but liable to change. Do check our website for updates and additional events. Tickets are neither exchangeable nor refundable.

Venue

Ciné Lumière at the Institut français

17 Queensberry Place, London SW7 2DT

Social Media

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Schedule

Wed 1 Nov

19.30 - *Divertimento*, dir. Marie-Castille Mention-Schaar + Q&A

Thu 2 Nov

18.15 - *Anatomy of a Fall*, dir. Justine Triet + Q&A

Fri 3 Nov

11.00 - *On the Adamant*, dir. Nicolas Philibert

17.50 - *The Taste of Things*, dir. Trần Anh Hùng

18.15 - *On the Adamant*, dir. Nicolas Philibert

20.40 - *The Animal Kingdom*, dir. Thomas Cailley

Sat 4 Nov

14.00 - *Ernest & Celestine: Trip to Gibberitia*, dir(s) Julien Cheng & Jean-Christophe Roger

14.30 - *Marinette*, dir. Virginie Verrier + Q&A

16.00 - *Here*, dir. Bas Devos

17.05 - *Red Island*, dir. Robin Campillo

17.45 - *On the Adamant*, dir. Nicolas Philibert

19.30 - *The Course of Life*, dir. Frédéric Sojcher + Q&A

Sun 5 Nov

11.00 - *Anatomy of a Fall*, dir. Justine Triet

14.00 - *My Little Loves*, dir. Jean Eustache + Film Club

15.20 - *Four Daughters*, dir. Kaouther Ben Hania

16.40 - *Two Tickets to Greece*, dir. Marc Fitoussi

17.35 - *On the Adamant*, dir. Nicolas Philibert

19.00 - *The Taste of Things*, dir. Trần Anh Hùng

Mon 6 Nov

18.00 - *Je t'aime moi non plus*, dir. Serge Gainsbourg + Intro

18.00 - *The Animal Kingdom*, dir. Thomas Cailley

20.20 - *The Nature of Love*, dir. Monia Chokri

20.35 - *On the Adamant*, dir. Nicolas Philibert

Tue 7 Nov

18.10 - *Red Island*, dir. Robin Campillo

20.30 - *Je t'aime moi non plus*, dir. Serge Gainsbourg

20.35 - *Last Summer*, dir. Catherine Breillat

Wed 8 Nov

15.45 - *On the Adamant*, dir. Nicolas Philibert

16.00 - *Two Tickets to Greece*, dir. Marc Fitoussi

18.15 - *Four Daughters*, dir. Kaouther Ben Hania

18.15 - *A Forgotten Man*, dir. Laurent Nègre + Q&A

20.40 - *The Course of Life*, dir. Frédéric Sojcher

Thu 9 Nov

15.45 - *My Little Loves*, dir. Jean Eustache

16.15 - *Je t'aime moi non plus*, dir. Serge Gainsbourg

18.15 - *The Nature of Love*, dir. Monia Chokri

18.20 - *Marinette*, dir. Virginie Verrier

20.20 - *Daaaaaali!*, dir. Quentin Dupieux

Fri 10 Nov

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13.30 - *Shorts - Feathered Girls*, dir(s). Charlie Belin & Hefang Wei

13.55 - *Divertimento*, dir. Marie-Castille Mention-Schaar

14.55 - *Here*, dir. Bas Devos

16.10 - *Origin of Evil*, dir. Sébastien Marnier

16.45 - *By Heart*, dir. Benoît Jacquot

18.40 - *Daaaaaali!*, dir. Quentin Dupieux

Sun 12 Nov

13.30 - *By Heart*, dir. Benoît Jacquot

14.00 - *The Mother and the Whore*, dir. Jean Eustache



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