

Headlines
Short Films
14-27
MAY 2018

at the Institut français, London

BEYOND WORDS

FRENCH Talks
LITERATURE FESTIVAL

Performances

www.beyondwordsifest.co.uk

INSTITUT
FRANÇAIS

Beyond Words at a Glance

MONDAY 14 MAY

From 4pm – Photo Exhibition
Au coeur de Mai 68

6.15pm – Talk – **May Made Me: Mitchell Abidor & Paul Mason**

7.15pm – Talk – **A Walk Through Paris: Eric Hazan & Lauren Elkin**

8.30pm – Film – **Redoubtable**

TUESDAY 15 MAY

5pm – Talk – **Translating French and Francophone Writing**

6.15pm – Talk and Live Drawing – **Rebel Ladies Who Rocked the World: Pénélope Bagieu, Bryan & Mary Talbot**

6.45pm – Talk – **European Literary Salon**

7.30pm – Talk – **Laurent Gaudé**
8pm – Talk – **The Phantom on Film**

8.50pm – Film – **Phantom of the Paradise**

WEDNESDAY 16 MAY

6pm – Talk – **Miguel Bonnefoy & Daniel Hahn**

6pm – Talk – **Atiq Rahimi**

6.30pm – Film – **Roland**

Barthes: Television Degree Zero

7pm – Talk – **Marie Darrieussecq**

8pm – Talk and Screening

Publishing à la française: Frédéric Boyer, Atiq Rahimi & Marie Darrieussecq

8.40pm – Film – **The Red Collar**

THURSDAY 17 MAY

6.30pm – Talk – **Noémi Lefebvre & Eimear McBride**

7.30pm – Talk – **Vertical Writing: Fresh Voices in French Fiction**

8.40pm – Film – **See You Up There**

FRIDAY 18 MAY

2pm – Staged Reading
Bamako-Paris

6.15pm – Talk – **Leïla Slimani & Kit de Waal**

6.30pm – Talk – **The Reader on the 6.27: Jean-Paul Didierlaurent**

7.30pm – Performance
Proust in Just One Hour

8.30pm – Film – **Beauty and the Dogs**

SATURDAY 19 MAY

10.30am – Café Philo

8.30pm – Film – **Based on a True Story**

SUNDAY 20 MAY

2pm – Film – **Les Deux Anglaises et le Continent**

MONDAY 21 MAY

7pm – Music and Readings
Closing Event: Fishbach and Vernon Subutex

French literature, live, loud and proud!

From 14 to 21 May 2018, the Institut français will go Beyond Words with a festival bursting with bilingual live literature events, writers' talks, musical performances, shared reading experiences, book launches, screenings of recent literary adaptations, staged readings...

Beyond Words brings together French-language writers recently translated into English, English-language writers who have a special connection with France, European writers appearing in translation, as well as translators, musicians, academics, historians, actors and all who are interested in bringing literature to life in other words.

With special thanks to the Friends of the French Institute Trust for their support to the second edition of this festival.

MAY '68



©Philippe Gras

Au coeur de Mai 68

PHOTO EXHIBITION BY PHILIPPE GRAS

In May 1968, Parisian students marched down the street in protests that quickly spread throughout France. The country came to a near standstill. This exhibition of works by late French photographer Philippe Gras tells the story of May '68, fifty years after the event.

Juliette Desplat from the National Archives will give an introduction to the exhibition on 14 May.

Free access to the exhibition during La Médiathèque opening hours until 19 May

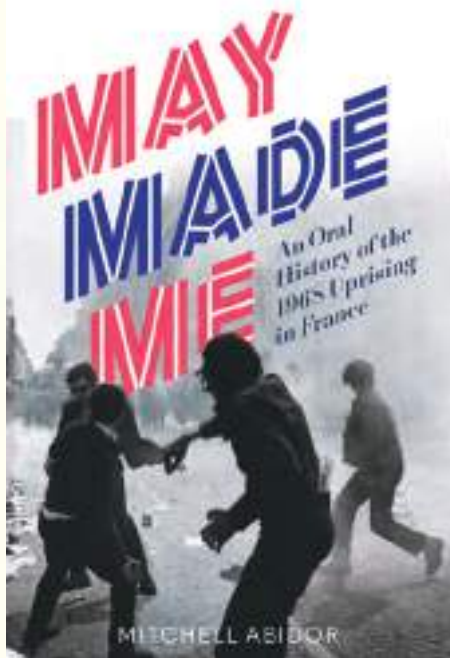
MONDAY 14 MAY

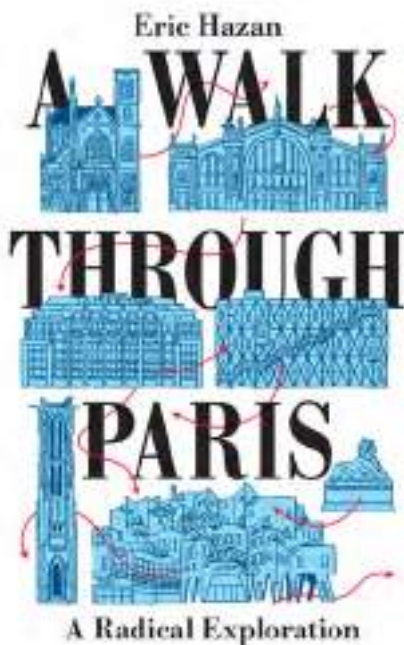
May Made Me: Mitchell Abidor & Paul Mason

TALK

The mass protests that shook France in May 1968 were exciting, dangerous, creative and influential, changing European politics to this day. **Mitchell Abidor**, author of *May Made Me* (Pluto), will be discussing their legacy with *Guardian* journalist **Paul Mason**, author of *Postcapitalism. A Guide to Our Future* (Allen Lane).

6.15pm – £7, conc. £5
in English





A Walk Through Paris: Eric Hazan & Lauren Elkin TALK

In *A Walk Through Paris* (Verso), essayist and publisher **Eric Hazan** takes us through the radical history of Paris, city of the May 1968 uprising, but also of Robespierre, the Commune and Jean-Paul Sartre. Drawing on his own life story and experiences during the Sixties, Eric Hazan will be in conversation with **Lauren Elkin**, author of *Flâneuse. Women Walk the City*.

7.15pm – £7, conc. £5

in English and French

**Double bill: May Made Me + A Walk
Through Paris: £9, conc. £7**

Redoubtable FILM

dir. Michel Hazanavicius, 2017, 107 mins

Paris 1967. Jean-Luc Godard, the most renowned filmmaker of his generation, is shooting *La Chinoise* with the woman he loves, Anne Wiazemsky. Happy, in love, magnetic, they marry. But the film's reception unleashes in Jean-Luc a profound self-examination amplified by the events of May '68.

8.30pm – £7

**in French with English
subtitles**

**Double bill: May Made Me
or A Walk Through Paris +
screening: £11, conc. £9**



TUESDAY 15 MAY

Translating French and Francophone Writing

TALK

Journalist and critic **Boyd Tonkin**, whose *100 Best Novels in Translation* is forthcoming in June (Galileo), will kick off this inaugural event for the translation strand of the festival with a conversation with **Lucie Campos** (head of the Book Office at the Institut français) about French and Francophone titles old and new. Followed by a selection of pitches by emerging translators about the French language books they are most excited about this year, discussed by translator **Ros Schwartz** and editor **Ellie Steel**.

5pm – £5

in English

Rebel Ladies Who Rocked the World: Pénélope Bagieu, Bryan & Mary Talbot

TALK AND LIVE DRAWING

Pénélope Bagieu's graphic novel *Brazen* (Ebury) presents a series of portraits of 30 incredible women such as Josephine Baker, Peggy Guggenheim or Tove Jansson. Penelope will be discussing these rebel ladies with **Mary** and **Bryan Talbot**, who revisit the life of anarchist and Communarde Louise Michel in the graphic novel *The Red Virgin and the Vision of Utopia* (Jonathan Cape).

6.15pm – £7, conc. £5

in English and French



European Literary Salon

TALK

British writer **Claire-Louise Bennett** (Fitzcarraldo), German writer **Esther Kinsky** (Fitzcarraldo) and *Music & Literature* editor (and former Man Booker International judge) **Daniel Medin** will be discussing non-narrative fiction in European writing today and the importance of translation in a salon style event.

6.45pm – £7, conc. £5

in English, French and German



Laurent Gaudé

TALK

Laurent Gaudé won the Goncourt prize in 2004 for *The House of Scorta*. His latest novel *Hell's Gate* (Gallic) is a thrilling story of love, loss, revenge and redemption in Naples and beyond, in which Gaudé questions the power of origins, death and family ties. In the presence of translator **Adriana Hunter**.

7.30pm – £7, conc. £5

in English and French

The Phantom on Film

TALK

Celebrating Gaston Leroux's 150th birthday, **Cormac Newark** (Guildhall School of Music & Drama) **Annette Davison** (University of Edinburgh) and **John Snelson** (Royal Opera House) unravel the many adaptations of *The Phantom of the Opera* from film through to cabaret.

As part of the project *Screen Adaptations of Le Fantôme de l'Opéra: Routes of Cultural Transfer*, supported by the Leverhulme Trust.

8pm – £7, conc. £5

in English



Phantom of the Paradise

FILM

dir. Brian de Palma, 1974, 92 mins

Composer Winslow Leach hides his wounded face beneath a silver mask and writes his music for the woman he loves. Betrayed by evil producer Swan, he decides to haunt his rock palace, the Paradise. Brian de Palma's flamboyant rock opera is adapted from Leroux's *The Phantom of the Opera*.

*Preceded by an introduction by **Annette Davison** (University of Edinburgh)*

8.50pm – £9, conc. £7

in English

Double bill: screening + The Phantom on Film: £15, conc. £13





Miguel Bonnefoy

TALK

A new voice in literary fiction, **Miguel Bonnefoy** made a breakthrough with his debut *Octavio's Journey*. Compared to Gabriel García Márquez's *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, his second novel *Black Sugar* (Gallic) tells the tale of a family's changing fortunes in Venezuela over the course of the 20th century. Chaired by **Daniel Hahn**.

6pm – £7, conc. £5

in English and French

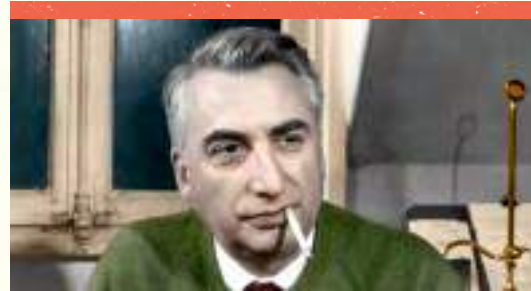
Atiq Rahimi

TALK

Writer and filmmaker, **Atiq Rahimi** won the 2008 Goncourt Prize for *The Patience Stone* (Penguin), his first book to be written directly in French, as a way to escape the “involuntary self-censorship” he feels when writing in Persian. The novel portrays a young woman's attempt to keep her husband alive as she rages against men, war, culture, God. Atiq Rahimi has since continued to write about language, political violence, historical belonging and migration.

6pm – £7, conc. £5

in English



Roland Barthes: Television Degree Zero

FILM

dir. Terry Braun, 1992, 120 mins

Television Degree Zero was a special edition of BBC's *The Late Show* (1990): a pithy deconstruction of the legacy of one of France's most influential intellectuals, Roland Barthes, whose essay *The Death of the Author* first appeared in France in 1968. The screening is preceded by a selection of interview clips with Jacques Derrida and Hélène Cixous, as part of Radical Broadcasters *Theory on TV*.

6.30pm – £7, conc. £5

in English and French with English subtitles

WEDNESDAY 16 MAY

Marie Darrieussecq

TALK

In *Being Here Is Everything* (Semiotext(e))

Marie Darrieussecq traces the short, obscure, and prolific life of the German expressionist painter Paula Modersohn-Becker (1876–1907), who despite being a woman became one of her generation's preeminent artists. In this exceptional London appearance, Marie Darrieussecq will also be talking about her other books, including *Pig Tales* (Faber).



7pm – £7, conc. £5
in English and French

Publishing à la française: Frédéric Boyer, Atiq Rahimi & Marie Darrieussecq

TALK AND SCREENING

Talented French publisher and film director Paul Otchakovsky-Laurens, founder of P.O.L, disappeared in January 2018. Writer and translator **Frédéric Boyer**, Goncourt prize winner **Atiq Rahimi**, Medecis prize winner **Marie Darrieussecq** and guests will take part in a series of readings of the books he published (Perec, Cadiot, Carrère). Followed by the screening, in French, of Paul Otchakovsky-Laurens' film *Editeur*.

8pm – £7, conc. £5
in English and French



The Red Collar

FILM

dir. Jean Becker, 2018, 83 mins

Adapted from *The Red Collar* by Prix Goncourt winner Jean-Christophe Rufin, Jean Becker's WW1 drama tells the story of a war hero, held prisoner in an abandoned barracks under the crushing heat of summer, and awaiting his interrogation by a corrupt judge to the sound of his mangy dog barking night and day.

8.40pm – £11, conc. £9
in French with English subtitles



Noémi Lefebvre & Eimear McBride

TALK

Noémi Lefebvre's *Blue Self-Portrait* (Les Fugitives) is a novel of angst and high farce, caught between contrary impulses to remember and to ignore. She will be in conversation with Baileys Prize for Women's fiction winner **Eimear McBride**, whose latest novel is *The Lesser Bohemians* (Faber). Chaired by translator **Sophie Lewis**.

6.30pm – £7, conc. £5
in English and French



See You Up There

FILM

dir. Albert Dupontel, 2017, 115 mins
Winner of 5 Cesar Awards, Albert Dupontel's crime epic is an adaptation from Pierre Lemaitre's Goncourt winning novel, *Au revoir là-haut*. In November 1918, Edouard Pericourt, a gifted artist, saves the life of Albert Maillard, a humble bookkeeper. The two men have nothing in common apart from their experience of war and their hatred for Lieutenant Pradelle. Introduced by translator **Frank Wynne**.

8.40pm – £11, conc. £9
in French with English subtitles



Vertical Writing: Fresh Voices of French Fiction

TALK

Pierre Senges is known for his radio adaptation of Gustave Flaubert's *Bouvard et Pécuchet*, as well as for his quirky, poetic *Lichtenberg Fragments* (Dalkey Archive). He, **Noémi Lefebvre** and Quebec-born **Hélène Frédérick** are some of the up and coming writers of the Verticales list, who share a radical approach to narrative and document. They will be giving a special series of readings inspired by the literary debts that bind us, from body politics to new forms of archival writing. Introduced by **Emmanuel Bouju** (IUF) and **Jeanne Guyon** (Verticales).

7.30pm – £7, conc. £5
in English and French



Bamako-Paris

STAGED READING

Ibou, a Malian stowaway hanging on to the landing gear of an Airbus A320 heading for Paris, is talking to us about his future, and his hopes. About Bamako. About his mother. The Djeli-bougou dump. The Black Autumn Riots. A burning topic of our time, handled with solemnity and humour. Staged reading of Ian Soliane's play *Bamako-Paris* (translated by Felicity Davidson) as part of the Institut français' Cross-Channel Theatre programme, directed by Kimberley Sykes, with **Clifford Samuel** as Ibou.

2pm – £7, conc. £5

in English



Leïla Slimani & Kit de Waal

TALK

Goncourt Prize-winning *Lullaby* (Faber) is a compulsive, riveting and bravely observed exploration of power, class, race, domesticity and motherhood. Its author, **Leïla Slimani**, a frequent commentator on women's rights and a prominent advocate for francophone language and culture, will be in conversation with **Kit de Waal**, author of *My Name is Leon* and *The Trick to Time* (Vintage). Chaired by **Bidisha**.

6.15pm – £7, conc. £5

in English and French

The Reader on the 6.27:

Jean-Paul Didierlaurent

TALK

'All the characters have a close relationship with words - the words they read, the words they speak and finally the words of love.' Waterstones Book of the Month in 2016, *The Reader on the 6.27* has been a big success in France and in the UK. Its author, **Jean-Paul Didierlaurent** will be in conversation with **Ann Morgan**, from the blog *Reading the World*, and translator **Ros Schwartz**.

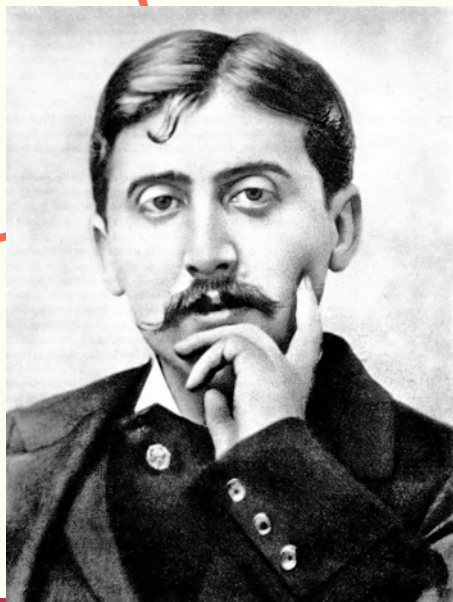
6.30pm – £7, conc. £5

in English and French



FRIDAY 18 MAY

FRIDAY 18 MAY



Proust in Just One Hour PERFORMANCE

In a special live performance, **Véronique Aubouy** heroically attempts to sum up the whole story of Marcel Proust's *In Search of Lost Time* for her audience in just an hour. Fascinated by this extraordinary novel, one of France's favourite books of all time, Véronique is able to bring to stage the complex world and characters's of this intricate plot: whether you have read the book or not, prepare to spend an hour exploring its world. Introduced by **Christopher Prendergast** (King's College Cambridge).

7.30pm – £7, conc. £5
in English and French

Beauty and the Dogs FILM

dir. Kaouther Ben Hania, 2017, 100 mins
During a student party, Mariam, a young Tunisian woman, meets the mysterious Youssef and leaves with him. A long night begins, during which she'll have to fight for her rights and her dignity in the hands of a gang of dirty cops. Tunisian author and director Kaouther Ben Hania depicts an edifying portrait of her country poisoned by corruption and male chauvinism.

8.30pm – £12, conc. £10
in Arabic with English subtitles



SATURDAY 19 MAY

Based on a True Story

FILM

dir. Roman Polanski, 2017, 110 mins

Adapted from Delphine de Vigan's award-winning novel by Roman Polanski and Olivier Assayas, *Based on a True Story* blurs the line between reality and fiction. Overwhelmed by the success of her latest novel, Delphine can't find the strength to write. She gradually realises that the smart and intuitive Elle is not exactly the good friend she claims to be.

8.30pm – £12, conc. £10

in French with English subtitles

Café Philo

Led by **Christian Michel**, this special edition of the Café Philo will be the occasion to discuss the legacy of May 68 and its commemorations today, starting with the question: "Was the May 68 movement elitist, anti-populist and anti-democratic?"

10.30am – £2

in English



Les Deux Anglaises et le Continent

FILM

dir. François Truffaut, 1971, 132 mins

Ten years after *Jules et Jim*, Truffaut turned his attention back to the love triangle and another novel by Henri-Pierre Roché. This time the setting is a Welsh coastal resort, and the protagonists a young French writer and two English sisters. One of Truffaut's most personal and romantic films.

2pm – £9, conc. £7

in French with English subtitles

SUNDAY 20 MAY



MONDAY 21 MAY



Closing Event: Fishbach and Vernon Subutex

MUSIC AND READINGS

An exceptional Music Rendez-Vous with singer **Fishbach**, combining literary and musical variations around *Vernon Subutex* by Virginie Despentes (MacLehose). Awarded a Victoire de la musique in 2017, Fishbach will be on the cast of the new TV adaptation of the book. With translator **Frank Wynne**, she will read extracts from *Vernon Subutex* and will perform songs inspired by Despentes' world.

7pm – £7, conc. £5

in English and French

Beyond our Walls

Oxford

Monday 14 May - Laurent Gaudé at the Alliance française d'Oxford
www.af-oxford.org

Manchester

Tuesday 15 May - Eric Hazan at the Alliance française de Manchester
www.afmanchester.org

Edinburgh

Tuesday 15 May - Antoine Laurain at the Institut français d'Ecosse
www.ifecosse.org.uk

Bristol

Wednesday 16 May - Antoine Laurain at the Alliance française de Bristol
www.afbristol.org.uk

Bath

Thursday 17 May - Antoine Laurain at the Alliance française de Bath
www.bath.afbristol.org.uk

Book signings

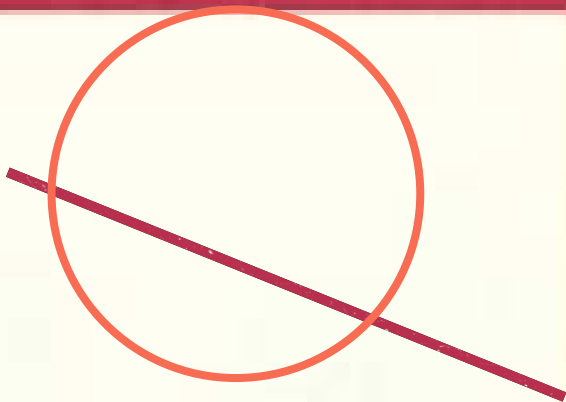
Come and browse through hundreds of books from our on-site booksellers: both English and French editions will be available. All the authors will be happy to sign after their events.

And further...

Ahead of (and after) the festival, you can find the featured books in our in-house library, La Médiathèque, and on our digital library, Culturethèque. Keep up also with the latest literary news and reviews with the French Books UK blog.

www.culturetheque.com

www.culturetheque-blog.com



Info & booking

www.beyondwordslitfest.co.uk

020 7871 3515

Early booking essential

All information is correct at the time of print but liable to change.

Please check our website for updates



Venue

Institut français

17 Queensberry Place, South Kensington

London SW7 2DT

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