

Shorter Films
DRAWINGS
at the Institut français, London
2019
MAY 15-20

BEYOND WORDS

FRENCH
LITERATURE FESTIVAL
Talks
Performances

www.beyondwordslitfest.co.uk

INSTITUT
FRANÇAIS
ROYAUME-UNI

DISCOVER

Beyond Words at a Glance

WEDNESDAY 15 MAY

5pm – Talk – **French Translation Special**

6pm – Exhibition Opening
Ella Baron: Drawing Beyond Words

7pm – Talk – **European Dreams and Fictions**

7.30pm – Talk – **Baudelaire's Legacy**

8.30pm – Concert – **François Atlas: Les Fleurs du mal**

8.40pm – Screening – **Memoir of War**

THURSDAY 16 MAY

6pm – Talk – **Tatiana de Rosnay & Alicia Drake**

7pm – Talk – **Daughters of de Beauvoir #1: The Feminist Era**

7.30pm – Talk & readings
All About Victor Hugo

7.30pm – Concert – **Douce Mémoire: Leonardo Da Vinci, the Hidden Music**

8pm – Screening & Talk
Daughters of de Beauvoir #2: Simone de Beauvoir's Legacy

FRIDAY 17 MAY

2pm – Staged Reading – **Fists / Poings**

4pm – Virtual Reality – **Beyond Reality**

6.30pm – Talk – **Pierre Ducrozet & John Freeman**

7.30pm – Talk
Jean-Baptiste Del Amo

8.30pm – Screening
Vernon Subutex

SATURDAY 18 MAY

10.30am – Workshop
Café Philo

10.30am – Workshop
The Magic of the Haïku

2pm – CinéKids – **Goodbye Christopher Robin**

5pm – Drawing Session
Drink and Draw

6pm – Performance
Take Another Look, a Drawing Jam

6.15pm – Screening
Ferrante Fever

8.20pm – Screening
My Brilliant Friend

SUNDAY 19 MAY

11am – CinéKids
Les Malheurs de Sophie

2pm – Screening – **Ruy Blas**

MONDAY 20 MAY

8pm – Concert – **500 Years of French Music and Poetry**

French literature, live, loud and proud!

From 15 to 20 May 2019, 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, translators' pitches... and plenty of books to read and discover.

This will be the third edition of a festival which proudly hosts 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, journalists, musicians, academics, graphic novelists and all who are interested in bringing literature to life in other words.

Fiction, graphic novel, essay, theatre, poetry and film: demandez le programme !

With special thanks to Vincent and Florence Gombault and to the Friends of the French Institute Trust for their support to the festival.

WEDNESDAY 15 MAY



French Translation Special

TALK

Sarah Ardizzone, translation mentor for the National Centre for Writing, **Daniel Hahn**, founder of the Translators Association First Translation Prize, and **Ellie Steel**, editor at Harvill Secker, will be kicking off the festival with a discussion about the art of translation, followed by a selection of pitches by emerging translators about the French language books they are most excited about this year. In partnership with Harvill Secker Young Translators' Prize and The Starling Bureau.

5pm – £5

in English and French

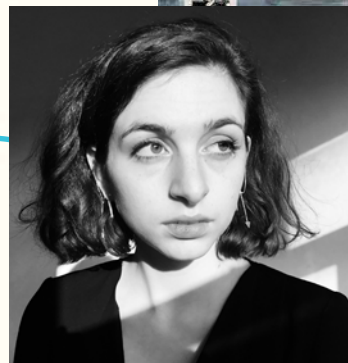
Ella Baron: Drawing Beyond Words

EXHIBITION AND TALK

Following her recent solo exhibition at Christie's London, *Times Literary Supplement* illustrator **Ella Baron** will be exhibiting a selection of drawings and recent cover illustrations. Nominated as Young Cartoonist of the Year in 2017, Ella Baron's images are a celebration of the commitment to ideas, literature, and the strong ties between words, images and politics.

The artist will give an introduction to the exhibition on 15 May at 6pm.

Free access to the exhibition during
La Médiathèque opening hours until 20 May



European Dreams and Fictions

TALK

Music & Literature editor and former Booker International Prize judge **Daniel Medin** will be chairing a series of readings and conversations about the dreams and fictions surrounding the social and political debates of today. This salon-style event will see **Jonathan Coe** talking about his new novel *Middle England*, set in the aftermath of the British referendum, French writer **Olivia Rosenthal** and her translator **Sophie Lewis** reading from *To Leave with the Reindeer* and questioning our modern ways of life, and Italian writer and FILL festival co-founder **Claudia Durastanti** discussing the place of European fiction in our reading landscapes.

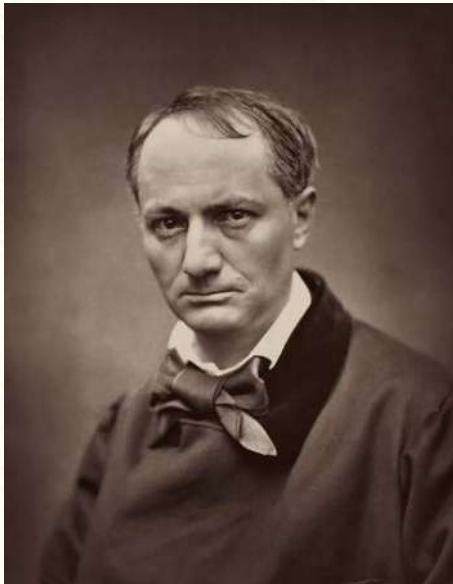
7pm – £7, conc. £5
in English and French



Jonathan Coe



Claudia Durastanti



Baudelaire's Legacy

TALK

French poetry specialists **Helen Abbott** and **Caroline Ardrey** will present the Baudelaire Song Project, exploring the legacy of French poet **Charles Baudelaire's** seminal text *Les Fleurs du mal* and the challenges of adapting his work into performance with musician **Frànçois Atlas**. Chaired by researcher **Nina Rolland**, in partnership with the University of Birmingham.

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

Double bill: talk + concert with Frànçois Atlas: £12, conc. £10



© Margaux Shore

Frànçois Atlas: Les Fleurs du mal

CONCERT

Frànçois Atlas will perform songs from his album *Les Fleurs du mal*: a series of musical adaptations from poems by France's great spleen-loving poet **Charles Baudelaire**, including classics such as *À une Passante* or *Parfum exotique*. Reuniting the sensuous rhymes of Baudelaire's decadent poetry with oriental sonorities Frànçois will recreate the doomed, romantic ambiance of the late 19th century.

8.30pm – £7, conc. £5

Double bill: talk Baudelaire's Legacy + concert: £12, conc. £10

WEDNESDAY 15 MAY



Memoir of War

SCREENING

dir. Emmanuel Finkiel, 2018, 127 mins

Memoir of War is an ambitious adaptation of **Marguerite Duras's** challenging WWII semi-autobiography, *War: A Memoir (La Douleur)*, originally published in 1985 and drawn from diaries written during the war. When she finds two old notebooks in a forgotten box, Marguerite Duras (Mélanie Thierry) remembers her past in the French Resistance and the unbearable pain of waiting for the return of her deported husband Robert Antelme.

8.40pm – £11, conc. £9

in French with English subtitles

Tatiana de Rosnay & Alicia Drake

TALK

With twelve published novels, four collections of short stories, and a recently published biography of Daphne du Maurier, **Tatiana de Rosnay** has been listed as France's fifth most read French author. She will be discussing her new novel *The Rain Watcher*, the story of a family split between Paris and London, with **Alicia Drake** whose *I Love You Too Much* is set in the heart of left-bank Paris.

6pm – £7, conc. £5

in English and French

Daughters of de Beauvoir #1: The Feminist Era

TALK

In the first of 2 events on the legacy of **Simone de Beauvoir**, debut writer **Adélaïde Bon** and her translator **Ruth Diver** will be discussing her novel *The Little Girl on the Ice Floe*, tackling themes of sexual violence, child trauma, and personal reconstruction; and writer and director **Négar Djavadi** will be addressing her novel *Disoriental* (shortlisted for the National Award for Translation), on a young woman whose family had to flee the Iranian Islamic Revolution for political reasons. They will be joined by *London Review of Books* columnist and Silver Press founder **Joanna Biggs** to engage in a discussion about the present stakes of feminism and the #metoo movement.

7pm – £7, conc. £5

in English and French

Double bill: Daughters of the Beauvoir #1 & #2: £15, conc. £13



Daughters of de Beauvoir #2: Simone de Beauvoir's Legacy

SCREENING & TALK

dir. Imogen Sutton, 1989, 60 mins

Academy Awards nominee Imogen Sutton's documentary *Daughters of de Beauvoir* interweaves the life of **Simone de Beauvoir** with those of the women she influenced – in particular through her seminal book *The Second Sex*, published just 70 years ago. The film includes archive footage of de Beauvoir with Jean-Paul Sartre, and exclusive interviews with women writers.

Followed by a Q&A with director **Imogen Sutton**, novelist **Margaret Drabble** and biographer **Sarah LeFanu**, chaired by film critic and novelist **Kate Muir**.

8pm – £12, conc. £10

in English and French with English subtitles

As part of The Craft of Film: Academy of Motion Picture at Ciné Lumière

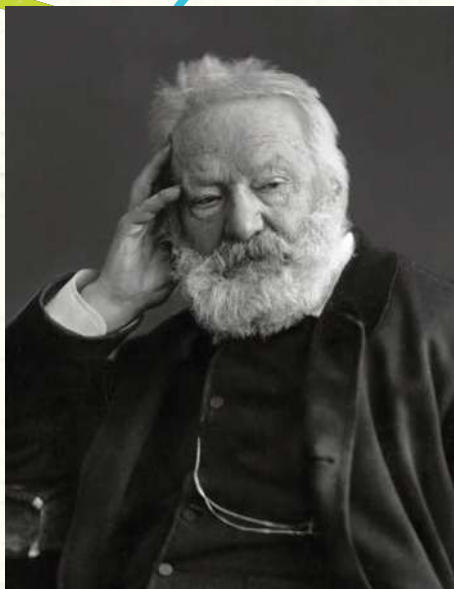


THURSDAY 16 MAY

All About Victor Hugo

TALK & READINGS

From *The Hunchback of Notre-Dame* to *Les Misérables*, **Victor Hugo**'s works are known, read, studied and loved all over the world. Over a century and a half later, his literary influence and his social and political commitments are as relevant as they were then. To mark the re-opening of Hauteville House, the residence of Victor Hugo during his exile, **Gérard Audinet**, Director of the Paris and Guernsey **Maisons de Victor Hugo** will be leading a conversation with **Laura, Marie** and **Jean-Baptiste Hugo** as they share their knowledge and memories of their ancestor and present their recently republished *Hauteville House: Victor Hugo décorateur*, in partnership with Benjamin Spademan Rare Books.



Following this, French and British biographers of Victor Hugo **Jean-Marc Hovasse** and **Bradley Stephens** will reflect on how one of world literature's largest bodies of work has come to enjoy global appeal and still influences French and British artists.

7.30pm – £15, conc. £13

in English and French

Douce Mémoire: Leonardo Da Vinci, The Hidden Music

CONCERT

Described as the embodiment of the Renaissance spirit, the multi-awarded **Douce Mémoire** ensemble has been touring around the world for thirty years. They will perform extracts from their new CD-book release: *Leonardo Da Vinci, The Hidden Music*, paying tribute to the 500th anniversary of the death of the Renaissance genius. The programme sets to uncover the secret music behind some of **Leonardo Da Vinci**'s paintings.

7.30pm – £15, members £13, students £5

Fists/ Poings

STAGED READING

Translated and directed by **Keziah Serreau**, **Pauline Peyrade's** play *Poings* takes us through five moments of an abusive relationship, from first meeting to break up: each moment being an attempt to explore the relentless strength of refusal and resistance that we carry deep within us, like a strongly clasped fist.

As part of the Institut français's Cross-Channel Theatre programme.

2pm – £7, conc. £5

in English

Beyond Reality

VIRTUAL REALITY

What if VR was not a new tech gadget, but in fact a way to explore new narrative paths and a tool to experiment new genres and forms? Put a headset on and go beyond reality with us.

4pm – free access in the Institut français's foyer (15-minute slots)

age: 12+

Pierre Ducrozet



John Freeman

Mapping our Human World: Pierre Ducrozet & John Freeman

TALK

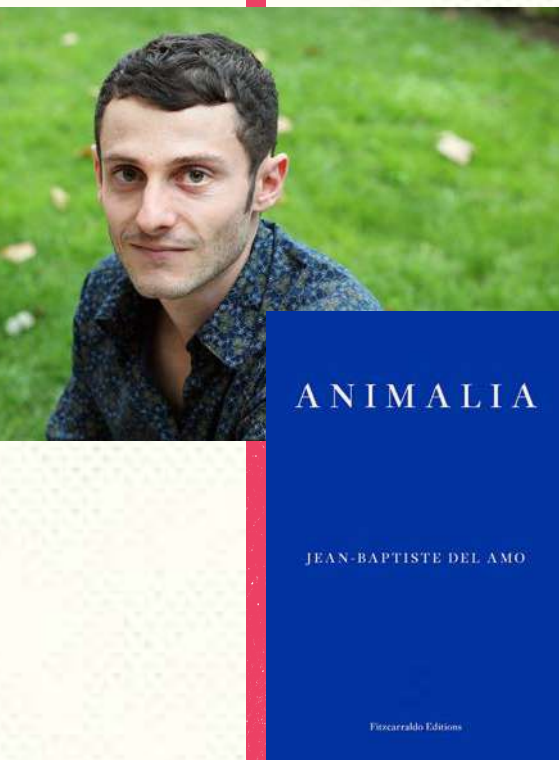
Selected for the **Prix du roman d'écologie** in 2018, French writer **Pierre Ducrozet** explores the limits of environmental and ecological activism, and the place of younger generations in these struggles in *L'Invention des corps* and *La Vie qu'on voulait*. He will be in conversation with literary critic and former *Granta* editor **John Freeman**, for whom he has translated into French the poetry collection *Maps* – a cartography of meaningful wanderings throughout the world from Algiers to Sarajevo.

6.30pm – £7, conc. £5

in English and French

FRIDAY 17 MAY

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Vernon Subutex SCREENING

dir. Cathy Verney, 2019, 3x30 mins

UK Premiere of three episodes of the highly anticipated TV series adapted from **Virginie Despentes**'s acclaimed trilogy, starring Romain Duris as Vernon Subutex, a former record dealer in dire straits, who seeks shelter at his friend Alex Bleach's place, a rock star in the midst of a comeback onto the scene. When the latter is found dead from an overdose, he leaves three mysterious videotapes to Vernon who vanishes in the streets of Paris. But the whole city comes looking for him...

8.30pm – £12, conc. £10

in French with English subtitles

The Violence of Man and Nature: Jean-Baptiste Del Amo

TALK

French writer **Jean-Baptiste Del Amo** will be coming to the UK for the first time to discuss his exciting novel *Animalia*, rewarded by the **Prix du Livre Inter** in 2017 and translated into English by Frank Wynne. A powerful novel about man's desire to conquer nature and the transmission of violence from one generation to the next, *Animalia* retraces the history of five generations through the cataclysm of war, economic disasters, and the emergence of a brutal industrialism.

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



Courtesy of Canal Plus

Café Philo

WORKSHOP

Open to everyone interested in discussing philosophical issues in an informal setting, the Institut's Café Philo meets every Saturday. Following the lead of some of the books showcased in the festival, **Christian Michel** will be focussing on the nature of man and his (il)legitimate rule over nature and its animal peers, studying different philosophical considerations from Aristotle and Descartes to antispecism, through Darwin and vegetarianism.

10.30am – £2

in English



The Magic of the Haïku

WORKSHOP

A special writing workshop for kids led by **Anne Delorme** during which children will discover everything there is to know about the art of haïkus and be taken on a creative journey where they will reflect on nature and create their own little poems. At the end of the workshop, parents and carers are invited to hear the children's haïkus during a little tea ceremony.

10.30am – £7, conc. £5 | age: 7-10

in English and easy French

Goodbye Christopher Robin

CINÉKIDS

dir. Simon Curtis, 2017, 107 mins

A rare glimpse into the relationship between beloved children's author **A. A. Milne** and his son Christopher Robin, whose toys inspired the magical world of Winnie the Pooh.

2pm – £5 | age 6+

in English



SATURDAY 18 MAY



David Prudhomme



François Ollislaeger

Drink and Draw

DRAWING SESSION

In the run-up to their evening performance French graphic novelists **François Ollislaeger** and **David Prudhomme** will lead a Drink and Draw session, during which they will guide their guests through the basis of drawing and composition, while simultaneously enjoying an informal chat about their outlook on art.

5pm – £9, members £7
Includes a glass of wine
in English and French

Ferrante Fever

SCREENING

dir. Giacomo Durzi, 2017, 74 mins

Using re-enactments of scenes from her novels in the locations where they are actually set, as well as archival material, photographs and animation inserts, *Ferrante Fever* gives life to **Elena Ferrante's** literary production. Giacomo Durzi's documentary presents Ferrante's deeply intimate writing and sketches the identity of an author, who despite an international success, keeps herself unknown.

6.15pm – £12, conc. £10
in Italian and English with English subtitles

Take Another Look, a Drawing Jam

PERFORMANCE

French musician and singer **Mathieu Boogaerts** will team up with illustrator **François Ollislaeger** and graphic novelist **David Prudhomme** to offer a lively performance mixing music, songs and live drawing: a rhythmic and original concert combining the best of *chanson française* with live graphic improvisation.

6pm – £7, conc. £5

Double bill: Drink & Draw + Drawing Jam: £12, conc. £10



My Brilliant Friend

SCREENING

dir. Saverio Cosranzo, 2018, 2x50 mins

Discover the two first episodes of the screen adaptation of **Elena Ferrante's** best-selling series. When the most important friend in her life seems to have disappeared without a trace, Elena Greco, a now-elderly woman, turns on her computer and starts writing the story of their friendship. A tale that attempts to unveil the mystery of Lila, Elena's brilliant friend. Her best friend, and her worst enemy.

8.20pm – £12, conc. £10

in Italian and Neapolitan with English subtitles

Double bill: Ferrante Fever + My Brilliant Friend: £17, conc. £15



Les Malheurs de Sophie

CINÉKIDS

dir. Christophe Honoré, 2016, 106 mins

Christophe Honoré's adaptation of the **Comtesse de Ségur's** beloved classic, *Les Malheurs de Sophie*, recounts the adventures of Sophie, who isn't the model little girl one would like her to be and often gets into trouble.

11am – £5 | age 4+

in French with English subtitles

Ruy Blas

SCREENING

dir. Pierre Billon, 1947, 93 mins

In this adaptation of **Victor Hugo's** drama starring Danielle Darrieux and Jean Marais, Don Salluste's devilish plots for revenge on the Queen, who has exiled him from court, are put to the test when the loyalty of his pawn Ruy Blas shifts. A servant he has introduced to the court as a nobleman, whose wits and looks soon attract favours and affection from the Queen, Ruy Blas is soon appointed as Prime Minister. When the masquerade is revealed, tragedy ensues.

2pm – £9, conc. £7

in French with English subtitles



SUNDAY 19 MAY

MONDAY 20 MAY



© Emeric de Souançó

500 Years of French Music and Poetry

CONCERT

Embark on a musical journey through the verses of Ronsard, Verlaine and Victor Hugo with **Les Fauristes**. London French choir Les Fauristes, conducted by **Blandine de Raulin** and **Maud Maestracci** and accompanied on the piano by John Evanson, will take you through 500 years of courtly love and nature in *chanson française* with a programme including Renaissance madrigals, old folk songs, 19th century great poetry, pieces from Fauré, Saint-Saëns, Debussy and much more. . .

8pm – £15, members £13, students £5



Beyond our Walls

Bristol

16 May - Olivia Rosenthal - Waterstones
Bristol

www.waterstones.com

Edinburgh

16 May - Pierre Ducrozet - Institut
français d'Ecosse

www.ifecosse.org.uk

London

14 May - European Literature Night
British Library

www.bl.uk

Manchester

17 May - Olivia Rosenthal - Blackwells
Manchester

www.afmanchester.org

Oxford

15 May - Didier Decoin - Maison
Française d'Oxford

16 May - Michael Edwards - Maison
Française d'Oxford

16 May - Jean-Baptiste Del Amo and
Patrick McGuinness - St. Anne's College

www.mfo.cnrs.fr

Book signings

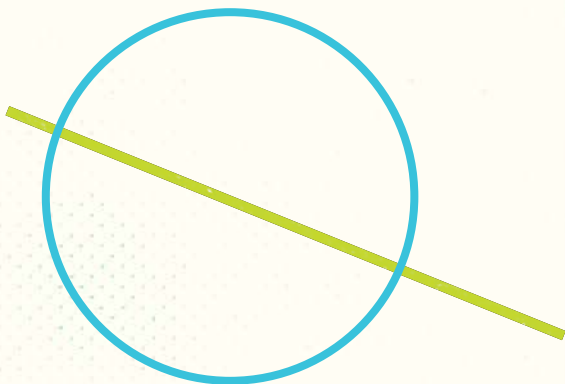
Come and browse through English and French editions available on site through our partner bookshop La Page. All the authors will be happy to sign after their events.

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

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