

# Lost Illusions

By Xavier Giannoli

Adapted from Honoré de Balzac's *Les Illusions perdues*

Winner of 7 César Awards, including Best Film

Exclusive release at Ciné Lumière from 16 May 2022



The grand winner of this year's French César awards, garnering 7 prizes, including Best Film, Xavier Giannoli's *Lost Illusions* will open Beyond Words Festival of Literature on 16 May and will be screened exclusively at Ciné Lumière for a limited time until 3 July.

Adapted from Balzac's masterpiece, and featuring a stellar cast, including Gérard Depardieu and Xavier Dolan, *Lost Illusions* charts the life of ambitious romantic poet Lucien de Rubempré (Benjamin Voisin) as he ascends through the hierarchy of 19th century high society.

## Synopsis

Lucien is a young unknown poet in 19th century France. He has great hopes and wants to forge his destiny. He leaves the family printing house in his native province to try his luck in Paris on the arm of his patroness of the arts. Quickly left to fend for himself in this fabulous town, the young man will discover what goes on behind the scenes in this world devoted to the law of profit and pretence. A human comedy where everything can be bought or sold, literary success like the press, politics like sentiments, reputations like souls.

## Cast

Benjamin Voisin, Cécile de France, Vincent Lacoste, Xavier Dolan, Salomé Dewaels, Jeanne Balibar, Gérard Depardieu, André Marcon, Louis-Do de Lencquesaing

## Awards

Cesar Awards: Best Film | Best Cinematography | Best Adapted Screenplay | Best Costume Design | Best Production Design | Most Promising Actor | Best Supporting Actor  
Lumière Award: Best Screenplay

## From the Press

Screen Daily - « *The acting is exceptional* ». « *All credits to Xavier Giannoli for both honouring the spirit of the novel(...) and highlighting its resounding relevance for today* »

Variety - « *Lost Illusions blistering Balzac adaptation reminds that fake news is nothing new* ». « *This sweeping period drama (...) plays with all the brio and jeopardy of a modern-day gangster movie* ».

[Trailer](#)

[Screenings](#)

[Stills](#)

Venue : Ciné Lumière at the Institut français, 17 Queensberry Place, London SW7 2DT

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