

*af* Alliance Française  
presents

31<sup>st</sup> Cork

# FRENCH

*Film Festival*

4-8 March 2020



## PRINCIPAL FUNDERS



## PARTNERS





## Cllr. John Sheehan, Lord Mayor of Cork

### Salutations du Lord Mayor

It's a great pleasure for me to welcome this 2020 edition of the Cork French Film Festival.

Now in its 31st year, the French Festival is one of Cork's longest running festivals and one we remain very proud of. The festival reminds us of the strong links between Cork and France: touristic, cultural and commercial.

That there are busy daily flights between Cork and Paris is one expression of these links. That we host a thriving annual French Film Festival is another. This is also an opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the many thousands of French nationals who have made Cork their home. They make an enormous contribution to the life of the city.

I wish to pay special tribute to the board and staff of Alliance Française de Cork whose initiative this festival is. For over 30 years Alliance has carefully guided the festival, just one of their important contributions that add positively to the cultural life of our City.

I also wish to acknowledge the important work of the President and Chairperson John Mullins and in particular, Board members Josselin Le Gall and Valérie David-McGonnell in providing admirable stewardship and service to the festival.

I know the festival attracts large audiences of Cork cinéphiles and Francophiles. This year's Festival is diverse in themes and styles. It is to be welcomed also that families and schools are catered for, and of course the important post-screening social events.

**Bon festival et bon succès**

## Box Office Info

### Box Office Information

All tickets to the festival can be bought online at **[www.corkcinemas.com](http://www.corkcinemas.com)** or in person at:

#### **The Gate Cinema**

North Main Street, Cork City  
021 427 9595

### Festival Information Desk

at The Gate Cinema March 4 – 8

**Weekdays:** 1.00pm – 9.00pm

**Weekends:** From 11.00am

Alliance Française de Cork

#### **Festival Information Line:**

021 4310677 (Office Hours)

#### **Email:**

[culture@alliancefrancaisecork.com](mailto:culture@alliancefrancaisecork.com)

[www.corkfrenchfilmfestival.com](http://www.corkfrenchfilmfestival.com)

### Ticket information

Shows before 5pm:

**€7 / €6.50**

Shows from 5pm:

**€10 / €9**

*Image: Pierrot le Fou,  
Jean-Luc Godard*



### Merci!

Alliance Française de Cork and the Festival team would like to express our deep gratitude to everyone who has supported and contributed to the 31st Cork French Film Festival. We thank our partners, sponsors and funders for their invaluable support and extend our thanks to staff, contributors, film agencies, companies and of course, our wonderful volunteers.

*Cover image: Who You Think I Am (Celle que vous croyez)*

# Cork French Film Festival

## The Gate Cinema

North Main Street, Cork City  
021 427 9595

Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> March
			11.30am <b>A Miniscule Adventure</b> (Classification G) 92 Mins	11.30am <b>A Miniscule Adventure</b> (Classification G) 92 Mins
	1.45pm <b>Alice and the Mayor</b> (Alice et le Maire) 105 Mins	1.45pm <b>System K</b> (Système k) 95 Mins	1.45pm <b>Gloria Mundi</b> 107 Mins	1.45pm <b>Pierrot Le Fou</b> 115 Mins
	4.15pm <b>Proxima</b> 106 Mins	4.00pm <b>Someone, Somewhere</b> (Deux Moi) 110 Mins	4.15pm <b>Alice and the Mayor</b> (Alice et le Maire) 105 Mins	4.30pm <b>Two of Us</b> (Deux) 95 Mins
6.45pm <b>Proxima</b> Opening Film 106 Mins	6.30pm <b>In the Stillness of Sounds</b> (L'esprit des Lieux) 91 Mins  Short Intro	6.30pm <b>Only the Animals</b> (Seules les Bêtes) 116 Mins	6.30pm <b>Deerskin</b> (Le Daim) 77 Mins	6.45pm <b>The Truth</b> (La Vérité) Closing Film 77 Mins
	8.45pm <b>Someone, Somewhere</b> (Deux Moi) 110 Mins	8.45pm <b>Who do you think I am</b> (Celle Que vous Croyez) 101 Mins	8.45pm <b>Le Misérables</b> 102 Mins	



### **Rendez-vous avec le cinéma français!**

**The French Embassy in Ireland is proud to support the Alliance Française de Cork in presenting another great edition of the Cork French Film Festival, the longest established festival of French cinema in Ireland.**

Bringing you the best of French films to Cork, this festival contributes to the rich cultural ties between our two countries. This year, the programme focuses on issues which cut across the societies of today. The chosen films are superb, and deal with topics that speak to all of us. There are beautiful stories of women: how to reconcile career and motherhood in *Proxima*, complex relationships between mothers and daughters in *The True*, and *TWO*, a film which tells the poignant love story of two older women. The films *Someone Somewhere* and *Who You Think I Am* tackle the issues of the intrusion of social networks into romantic relationships and how they change gender relations. French cinema remains very socially engaged: *Les Misérables* sounds the alarm in underprivileged neighbourhoods, *Gloria Mundi* highlights the social violence of today's world and *Système K* looks at some of the realities of Africa and how committed artists survive within political and social chaos.

Not to mention all the other wonderful films selected for the festival. They are all worth watching. Finally, I would like to thank the Cork French Film Festival for paying tribute to the recently departed Anna Karina, the magnificent actress in Jean-Luc Godard's film *Pierrot le fou*.

Last but not least, the festival is also part of the Francophonie Festival celebrating French language and cultural diversity across Ireland during the month of March and beyond and we are excited to present a film about African artists as part of the programme in resonance with the upcoming Africa 2020 Season in France.

Don't miss this rendez-vous avec le cinéma français!

**Mariam Diallo**, Cultural Counsellor, French Embassy





## ***Bienvenue au Festival du film français de Cork***

As President of the Alliance Française de Cork, may I extend to you a very warm welcome to our 31st French Film Festival here in Cork.

This year is a wonderful year for French film and we are delighted the Festival Programmer, Marie-Pierre Richard, has put together a tantalising mix of great films for young and old. I thank Una Feely and Mick Hannigan for their work in producing such a great festival. I want to particularly thank the Board and in particular Valérie David-McGonnell and Josselin Le Gall for all of their hard work in preparing the ground for this festival. Warm thanks to all of our sponsors – without you this would not happen. We are also grateful to H.E. Stéphane Crouzat, Ambassador of France to Ireland, Arts Council and Cork City Council for all of their support.

Thank you to Margaret Greene and all the team at The Gate Cinema for hosting us for all of these years.

Cordialement,

**John Mullins,**  
Board Director and President



Le partenaire **idéal** pour mener  
à bien vos projets d'énergies  
renouvelables



Wishing the 31<sup>st</sup> Cork French  
Film Festival a successful week

Bon Film!



# Proxima

Wednesday March 4th / 6.45pm / Gate Cinema



Alice Winocour / France / Subtitles / 106 minutes  
2019 / Colour

Eva Green (Penny Dreadful) stars as Sarah, French astronaut at the European Space Agency, training for her first year-long mission aboard the International Space Station with a crew including old-school Russian, Anton (Aleksei Fateev), and Mike (Matt Dillon), a veteran American space cowboy. Aided by counsellor Wendy, Sarah prepares to deal with the emotional rupture, as she must leave her beloved seven year old daughter, to adapt to the conflict of her professional and personal choices, and the escalating challenges and physical stresses she must face in becoming a 'space person' in this very male environment.

Shot at the European Space Agency and at Star City, Russia, the immensely talented director Alice Winocour, takes us on a contemplative, fascinating and richly observed journey, scored by legendary composer Ryūichi Sakamoto.

*(Marie-Pierre Richard)*

*"Proxima pulls off an impressive balancing act between the personal and the astronomical... The moving mother-daughter story at its core gives all the space-walk prep and zero gravity logistics a steady emotional grounding..."*

**The Hollywood Reporter**



**Fipresci Award,**  
Toronto International Film Festival 2019

**Special Jury Prize,**  
San Sebastian International Film Festival 2019  
Rotterdam International Film Festival 2020

## Alice and the Mayor (Alice et le Maire)



Nicolas Pariser / France / Subtitles / 105 minutes  
2019 / Colour

*"Talky in the best possible way, this is a classy but accessible piece of entertainment which is also food for thought."*

**Screen International**



**Best European Film,**  
Europa Cinemas Label Award,  
Directors Fortnight, Cannes International  
Film Festival 2019

Thursday March 5th / 145pm / Gate Cinema

After thirty years in politics, Théraneau (Fabrice Luchini), Mayor of Lyon, is in an existential crisis. Totally devoid of ideas, his team hires 30 year-old academic Alice Heimann (Anaïs Demoustier), a brilliant young philosopher, to give him new impetus. Alice enters the political fray and a philosophical dialogue between her and the Mayor blossoms. Literature, and political theory are on one hand, while on the other are technocrats and bureaucratic jargon. Dialogue is at the heart of this classy, lively comedy, with fascinating glimpses into the life of a public figure and the bureaucracy surrounding him.

Concise but never didactic, director Nicolas Pariser captures the disconnect between political theory and behind-the-scenes manoeuvring. Discussing ideas of today's democracy in crisis, it offers a playful, stimulating glimpse into hidden aspects of the old and new political worlds.

**(Marie-Pierre Richard)**

## Proxima



Alice Winocour / France / Subtitles / 106 minutes  
2019 / Colour



**Fipresci Award,**  
Toronto International Film Festival 2019

**Special Jury Prize,**  
San Sebastian International Film Festival 2019

Thursday March 5th / 4:15pm / Gate Cinema

Eva Green (Penny Dreadful) stars as Sarah, French astronaut at the European Space Agency, training for her first year-long mission aboard the International Space Station with a crew including old-school Russian, Anton (Aleksei Fateev), and Mike (Matt Dillon), a veteran American space cowboy. Sarah prepares to deal with the emotional rupture, as she must leave her beloved seven year old daughter, to adapt to the conflict of her professional and personal choices, and the escalating challenges and physical stresses she must face in becoming a 'space person' in this very male environment.

**(Marie-Pierre Richard)**

*"Proxima pulls off an impressive balancing act between the personal and the astronomical... The moving mother-daughter story at its core gives all the space-walk prep and zero gravity logistics a steady emotional grounding..."*

**The Hollywood Reporter**

## In the Stillness of Sounds (L'Esprit des lieux)



Stéphane Manchémartin, Serge Steyer / France /  
Subtitles / 91 minutes / 2019 / Colour

Presented in partnership with  
**Cork Environmental Forum** and  
**UCC Environmental Society**



## Someone, Somewhere (Deux Moi)



Cédric Klapisch / France / Subtitles / 110 minutes  
2019 / Colour

*"An ambitious narrative gamble lies at the heart of Someone, Somewhere... An artfully filmed therapy drama with emotional wallop."*

**The Sunday Times**

Thursday March 5th / 6.30pm / Gate Cinema

"I live in a world of sounds" comments Marc Namblard in this fascinating documentary about the acoustic dimension of nature and the art and act of listening and collecting sounds. Namblard is a sound engineer and artist living on the edge of a forest in the Vosges mountains. We learn about his family, his childhood and how he shares his dedication and passion with his daughter. We share in his sound expeditions, witnessing his approach, as he captures the sound of a bee rubbing its legs together, the persistent drumbeat of marching ants, the songs of nocturnal animals, the sound of ice cracking beneath a frozen lake. Through these recordings, we enter a world of sounds that we have never heard before.

**(Marie-Pierre Richard)**

*"Namblard's work is one of the jewels of sound art film. Throughout the film, we accompany Namblard in his admiration and sound-philis. There's a new knowledge, a discovery, sounds of nature with rhythm, intensities, tones, that orchestrate organically, and attune us to our natural surroundings, appreciated with photographic postcards, and then sound postcards. In The Stillness of Sounds offers a wondrous appreciation of nature's ecosystem."*  
Desistfilm

Thursday March 6th / 8.45pm / Gate Cinema Cork

Thirty-somethings Rémy and Mélanie both live alone in Paris. They take the same Métro, shop in the same grocery store, going home to their apartments in two adjacent buildings, yet they have never met. Collaborating with young cinematographer Elodie Tahtane, Klapisch delivers a stylised, nuanced film with vibrant performances by the leads and a strong supporting cast of Camille Cottin, François Berléand and Simon Abkarian.

French director Cédric Klapisch, is renowned for his astute contemporary social comedies Good Old Daze (Le Péril jeune); 'Erasmus' trilogy: Pot Luck (L'Auberge espagnole); The Russian Dolls (Les Poupées russes); and Chinese Puzzle (Casse-tête chinois). Fondly recalling his delightful early film When the Cat's Away (Chacun cherche son chat), he returns to Paris to film this tender before-love story, an examination of urban isolation and what it means for a young generation to be single in our times of social media.

**(Marie-Pierre Richard)**

## System k (Système k)



Renaud Barret / France / Subtitles / 95 minutes / 2019 / Colour

*Presented in association with the French Embassy in Ireland within the Francophonie Festival 2020 and in resonance with the upcoming Africa 2020 initiative in France.*



**Panorama Section,**  
Berlin International Film Festival 2019

## Someone, Somewhere (Deux Moi)



Cédric Klapisch / France / Subtitles / 110 minutes 2019 / Colour

*"An ambitious narrative gamble lies at the heart of Someone, Somewhere... An artfully filmed therapy drama with emotional wallop."*

**The Sunday Times**

Friday March 6th / 1.45pm / Gate Cinema

This raw, vibrant documentary directed by French-born Renaud Barret (Brenda Billili), captures the fascinating street art scene in the mega-city of Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo. Despite being one of Africa's richest countries in terms of natural resources, it is a country plagued by civil wars and corrupt governments, and is one of its poorest in terms of living standards.

Visual artists, musicians and performers – Freddy Tsimba, Béni Baras, Kongo Astronaute, Géraldine Tobe, Was Llunga and Majestikos, Strombo Kayumba, Flory and Junior, Kokoko – invade the streets through paintings, performances, and interventions using recycled objects and their own bodies to express their anger but also their dreams for change, to critique government corruption and Western exploitation. Ever-resourceful, these artists waste nothing, transforming scrapped computers, TV sets, plastic, rubber, bullets shells and machetes from the civil war, into monumental installations and kinetic performance pieces.

*(Marie-Pierre Richard)*

Friday March 6th / 4.00pm / Gate Cinema

Thirty-somethings Rémy and Mélanie both live alone in Paris. They take the same Métro, shop in the same grocery store, going home to their apartments in two adjacent buildings, yet they have never met. Collaborating with young cinematographer Elodie Tahtane, Klapisch delivers a stylised, nuanced film with vibrant performances by the leads and a strong supporting cast of Camille Cottin, François Berléand and Simon Abkarian.

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*(Marie-Pierre Richard)*

## Only The Animals (Seules Les bêtes)



Dominik Moll / France-Germany / Subtitles /  
116 minutes / 2019 / Colour

*"Edgy, elusive and enthralling at the outset, Moll flirts with Rashomon-style perspectives in a remote French farming community to bracing effect."*

**Screen International**

Friday March 6th / 6.30pm / Gate Cinema

Evelyne Ducat (Valeria Bruni Tedeschi) has disappeared mysteriously during a blizzard in the isolated Causse Méjean plateau in Southern France. Five stories ensue and intertwine, spanning continents as we follow five characters, all unexpectedly caught up in the mystery.

Those familiar with the work of Moll (Harry, he's here to help; Lemming) will know the types of twist to expect in this intense study of human behaviour and the emotional despair that drives it. Each character reveals their secrets, fantasies, disappointment and disillusionment, all with fascinating connections.

Based on Colin Niel's novel, which evokes our modern world and the global interconnectedness that can bind a person from rural France to another from the Ivory Coast; two worlds that seem opposed at first glance.

**(Marie-Pierre Richard)**



Venice International Film  
Festival 2019

## Who You Think I Am (Celle Que vous Croyez)



Safy Nebbou / France-Belgium / Subtitles /  
101 mins / 2019 / Colour

*"Satisfying and compulsively watchable. Almost Hitchcockian. Binoche is superb."*

**Screen Daily**

Friday March 6th / 8.45pm / Gate Cinema Cork

Disquieting yet alluring Claire Millaud (Juliette Binoche) is a 50 year old University professor and a single mother of two. She creates a fake social media profile as 'Clara' a young and beautiful woman half her age. Claire tells us her stories through conversations with her therapist, Catherine Bormans (Nicole Garcia). Immersing herself in a virtual world, middle-age Claire becomes young imaginary Clara, full of 'dangerous liaisons' and manipulative games.

Adapted from Camille Laurens's novel, this vertiginous drama and entertaining thriller perfectly captures Laurens's notion that "Love is living in another person's imagination". Shot in a contemporary Paris of urban architecture and modern high-rise, Claire's reflection at nightfall takes on an almost ghostly dimension.

**(Marie-Pierre Richard)**





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**Tel:** 021 433 5247 / 021 4335810

Potential careers include: promotion and advertising photography, portrait, news, sport, food, fashion, events, architectural, clinical and forensic photography and video, motion graphics production, short documentary film and TV production, photography and video production and post-production.



Family Film

Saturday March 7th & Sunday 8th / 11:30am / Gate Cinema

# A Minuscule Adventure

(Minuscule 2 - Les Mandibules Du Bout Du Monde)



Hélène Giraud, Thomas Szabo / France  
No dialogue / 89 minutes / 2018 / Colour

11:30am / Saturday 7th / Gate Cinema  
11:30am / Sunday 8th / Gate Cinema

*We are delighted to welcome family audiences to see this beautiful animation film. With no dialogue, young audiences can enjoy the fun story while still appreciating a French way of making films come to life.*

When the first snowflakes start falling, everybody is busy stocking up on supplies for winter so nobody notices a ladybird getting caught in a parcel destined for the Caribbean! Time for the rescue team to get ready... an ant, a ladybird and a black spider travel to the other end of the world to save her.

A Minuscule Adventure, the sequel to Minuscule: Valley of Lost Ants (2015 César, Best Animation Film), continues to follow our intrepid adventurers, this time on a new journey where they encounter the dangers and pleasures of exploration at the heart of the jungle. Set in Guadeloupe (French West Indies), and completely without dialogue or narration, the film draws on the incredible biodiversity of the island for inspiration – paradise beaches, spectacular cliff plunges, luxuriant rainforests with tangled liana and incredible microfauna – as our heroes continue their quest, reaching beyond personal limits!

(Marie-Pierre Richard)

*"Giraud and Szabo have nailed the formula with lovely buzzy bug vocals and a wonderfully inventive soundscape... the film's gentle magic worked a treat."*

**The Guardian**



**Annecy International  
Animation Film  
Festival 2019**

## Gloria Mundi



Robert Guédiguian / France-Italy / Subtitles  
107 minutes / 2019 / Colour

*"Robert Guédiguian reunites his regular repertory for a heartfelt, gently scathing take on the gig economy and the generational divide."*

**Variety**

Saturday March 7th / 1.45pm / Gate Cinema Cork

Mathilda (Anaïs Demoustier) works as a retail assistant while partner Nicolas (Robinson Stévenin) is an Uber taxi driver. They are broke and struggle to make ends meet. On the birth of their daughter Gloria, grandmother Sylvie (Ariane Ascaride) sends a letter to Daniel (Gérard Meylan), the biological grandfather, currently serving a term in prison. When Daniel returns to Marseilles on his release, Mathilda is not interested in meeting her ex-convict father. Winner of Best Actress Award at Venice, (Ariane Ascaride), veteran director, Robert Guédiguian (Marius and Jeannette; The House by the Sea) delivers a tense contemporary melodrama with unique emotional richness.

**(Marie-Pierre Richard)**

*"I have always thought that cinema should move us... In short, we need both comedies and tragedies to continue to question our lifestyles... And we must continue to question ourselves more than ever in these troubled times so that we do not succumb to the illusion that there is something natural about the societies we live in."*

**Robert Guédiguian**

Alice and the Mayor  
(Alice et le Maire)

Nicolas Pariser / France / Subtitles / 105 minutes  
2019 / Colour

*"Talky in the best possible way, this is a classy but accessible piece of entertainment which is also food for thought."*

**Screen International**



**Best European Film,**  
Europa Cinemas Label Award,  
Directors Fortnight, Cannes International  
Film Festival 2019

Thursday March 7th / 4.15pm / Gate Cinema

After thirty years in politics, Théranneau (Fabrice Luchini), Mayor of Lyon, is in an existential crisis. Totally devoid of ideas, his team hires 30 year-old academic Alice Heimann (Anaïs Demoustier), a brilliant young philosopher, to give him new impetus. Alice enters the political fray and a philosophical dialogue between her and the Mayor blossoms. Literature, and political theory are on one hand, while on the other are technocrats and bureaucratic jargon. Dialogue is at the heart of this classy, lively comedy, with fascinating glimpses into the life of a public figure and the bureaucracy surrounding him.

Concise but never didactic, director Nicolas Pariser captures the disconnect between political theory and behind-the-scenes manoeuvring. Discussing ideas of today's democracy in crisis, it offers a playful, stimulating glimpse into hidden aspects of the old and new political worlds.

**(Marie-Pierre Richard)**

## Deerskin (Le Daim)

Saturday March 7th / 6.30pm / Gate Cinema



Quentin Dupieux / France / Subtitled / 77 minutes / 2019 / Colour

*"Jean Dujardin is the sort of leading man who likes to mix it up, and in Deerskin he gives an adventurous downbeat performance that tosses vanity – and sanity – right out the window"*

**Owen Gleiberman, Variety**

At 44 years old and recently-divorced, Georges (Jean Dujardin) is in midlife crisis. He abandons everything, buys a long-fringed deerskin jacket, and hits the road. Instantly, there is chemistry between Georges and his jacket, which takes on a life and character of its own.

When Georges meets a local bartender Denise (Adèle Haenel) in a small town in the French Alps, he pretends to be a big Hollywood filmmaker and convinces her to help him document his 'great plan': to ensure that his jacket is the only jacket left in the world. But when the jacket starts talking to Georges, his film degenerates into craziness and bloodshed...Director Quentin Dupieux creates a unique, free-form horror movie. Weird, slick, stylish and ridiculous, it is all at once goofy, scary, tragic and hilarious!

Dujardin impeccably portrays Georges as an obsessive loner, blending matter-of-fact dialogue with burst of bloody violence, and stretches our notions of madness, absurdity and masculinity.

**(Marie-Pierre Richard)**

Saturday March 7th / 8.45pm / Gate Cinema

## Les Misérables



Ladj Ly / France / Subtitles / 102 minutes / 2019 / Colour



**Winner Jury Prize,**  
Cannes International Film  
Festival 2019

**French Official Oscar Nomination,**  
Academy Award for International  
Feature 2020

French-Malian director Ladj Ly's first feature, Les Misérables, is adapted from his 2017 award-winning short film of the same name. Ly grew up in Montfermeil, a North Paris suburb, a suburb best known as the location of Victor Hugo's classic novel.

Set in the wake of France's unifying 2018 World Cup victory, the film centers on three policemen, one of them recently recruited to the Montfermeil anti-crime brigade. Inspired by the 2005 riots, a three-week period of civil unrest characterised by violence, looting and cars burning, Ly examines tensions between neighbours and the police brutality that helped inflame rioting and an uprising against the anti-crime brigade. Ly's work talks of the invisible and marginalised in Paris' suburbs. The film is in Ly's words, a call for action: 'I made it mostly for the politicians because they are responsible for this situation that they've left to rot for about 40 years'. **(Marie-Pierre Richard)**

*"Occasionally recalling the more urgent, ragged work of Spike Lee in its feverish, on-the-ground formal energy, Les Misérables is aptly galling as a study of everyday power structures tested and exploited to breaking point..."*

**Guy Lodge, Variety**

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## Pierrot Le Fou



Jean-Luc Godard / France / Subtitles  
110 minutes / 1965 / Colour

*In tribute to Anna Karina (1940-2019), legendary figure of the French New Wave, muse of Jean-Luc Godard, and style icon, we screen Pierrot le Fou to celebrate Anna, the unforgettable Marianne Renoir*



INSTITUT  
FRANÇAIS

Sunday March 8th / 1.45pm / Gate Cinema

Godard had already shot five films with Anna Karina including *Band of Outsiders* (1964) and *Alphaville* (1965); and with Jean-Paul Belmondo, *Breathless* (1960), *A Woman is a Woman* (1961) (also starring Karina), before turning to this dazzling masterpiece. Loosely based on Lionel White's American novel *Obsession*, *Ferdinand / Pierrot* (Jean-Paul Belmondo) is an unhappily married man who flees Paris for the South of France with Marianne, his babysitter and ex-girlfriend, who is on the run from gangsters.

Filmed in glorious widescreen colour by cinematographer Raoul Coutard, red and blue dominate the image. Quotations, meta-references, and improvisation fill the screen. Godard transforms cinematic conventions with wild editing, breaks in continuity and sound. A road-movie, pop art in celluloid, *Pierrot le Fou* is free-spirited, impulsive, glib and lyrical. As Samuel Fuller, famously defining cinema, says in a cameo appearance in the movie: "A film is like a battleground: love, hate, action, violence, death — in one word, emotion."

(Marie-Pierre Richard)

## Two of Us (Deux)



Filippo Meneghetti / France / Subtitled /  
95 minutes / 2019 / Colour

*"A romance this convincingly lived-in is rare indeed. Director Filippo Meneghetti's incredibly deft feature debut is cause for celebration."*  
Screen International



Toronto International  
Film Festival 2019

Sunday March 8th / 4.30pm / Gate Cinema

Nina (Barbara Sukowa) and Madeleine (Martine Chevallier) two pensioners, secretly in love, conceal an intimate relationship for decades. To the outside world (and to Madeleine's children), they are just two retired, kindly neighbours who live opposite each other on the top floor of an apartment building.

Planning to sell up to move to Rome where they can live together, Madeleine organises a visit from a property agent. But when Nina later bumps into the agent, she learns Madeleine is not in fact planning to sell. When Madeleine's health takes a turn, the two of them find themselves disconnected. Now they must find a way back to each other.

Filippo Meneghetti's directorial debut is quite unforgettable. Beautifully tender, it is an absorbing and moving examination of female love and intimacy. With nuanced performances from Sukowa and Chevallier, their characters face extraordinary raw emotions, vulnerability and inner conflict.

(Marie-Pierre Richard)



# The Truth (La Vérité)

Sunday March 8th / 6.45pm / Gate Cinema



Kore-Eda Hirokazu / France / Subtitles / 107 minutes  
2019 / Colour

Fabienne (a magnificent Catherine Deneuve) is a film-star diva and legendary actress. When she publishes her memoirs, her scriptwriter daughter, Lumir (Juliette Binoche) returns to Paris accompanied by husband Hank (Ethan Hawke) a TV actor and their daughter Charlotte.

The reunion quickly turns to confrontation when Lumir finds her mother's autobiography to be riddled with omissions and embellishments. It also brings back dark memories. Regrets and love are all confessed through conversations between mother and daughter.

Film legends Catherine Deneuve and Juliette Binoche star in master director Kore-Eda Hirokazu's first film directing outside his native Japan. Asking actresses what is acting? What makes a family? What is truth? And how to choose between a cruel truth and a kind lie? These are the questions Kore-Eda, a master of family observation, brings to light in this serious but also light-hearted film, where drama and comedy coexist.

(Marie-Pierre Richard)



**Opening Film,**  
Venice International  
Film Festival 2019

# Schools Programme 2020

Cork French Film Festival has a long and distinguished record of screening French films with educational aids to Cork students. This year we present three exceptional films specifically for schools audiences.

## In Your Hands (Au Bout Des Doigts)

Young pianist Mathieu comes to the attention of conservatoire teacher Pierre. Hoping to transform Mathieu into a prize-winning concert pianist, he assigns him to "The Countess," the school's most brilliant professor. Untrained and undisciplined, will it pay off?

*In association with IFI Education*

Ludovic Bernard / 105 mins



## Le Brio

Growing up in Creteil, Neila dreamed of being a lawyer. On her first day in college, she encounters a professor known for his unruly behaviour. He agrees to prepare Neila for a prestigious public speaking contest. Both of them will need to overcome their prejudices to make this work.

*With the support of Institut Français and French Embassy in Ireland*

Yvan Attal / 95 mins



## Stars By The Pound (100 Kilos d'Étoiles)

Lois has only one dream: to become an astronaut. Although she's gifted in physics, she has a problem with her weight – a family trait she's stuck with. Just when everything seems lost, Lois meets three new friends. A heart-warming story of friendship and acceptance.

*In association with IFI Education*

Marie-Sophie Chambon / 85 mins



Available to schools groups only.  
To book your school, please contact  
[thegatecork@corkcinemas.com](mailto:thegatecork@corkcinemas.com)



INSTITUT  
FRANÇAIS



# Credits

## 31st Cork French Film Festival

### Alliance Française de Cork

**John Mullins**, Board Director and President  
**Grace Neville**, Board Director and Vice-President  
**Josselin Le Gall**, Board Director and Treasurer  
**Valérie David-McGonnell**, Board Director and Board Secretary  
**Shane Gaynor-O'Carroll**, Board Director

### Guest Festival Programmer

Marie-Pierre Richard

### Festival Production

Green Ray Film Agency  
 Úna Feely, Mick Hannigan

### Brochure Design

Double Marvellous

### PR & Communications

Healy Communications  
 Jonathan Healy, Niamh Hennessy

### Photography

Clare Keogh



*Pic: Two of Us*

### Website

Digipix Agency  
 no-filter

### Festival Trailer

Sandymount Productions  
 Paraic English

### Gate Cinema Cork

Our sincere gratitude to the Gate Management and Staff

## Party Time!

### Throughout the Festival

Let's get social! Before, during and after screenings at The Gate Cinema, join us in the convivial surroundings of The Friary Bar, for some cinematic get togethers. A meeting point for festival discussion and interaction, we are delighted to partner with our friends there.

### Thursday March 5th

After the screening of 'In The Stillness of Sounds' enjoy special discounts on selected French refreshments.

### Friday March 6th – French Party Night

Celebrate this year's Cork French Film Festival. Join in a tasting of some of the foods and drinks that France is renowned for. With complimentary canapés!





Alliance Française

*Cork - Irlande*

*Corcaigh - Éire*

## FRENCH CLASSES

Adults

Teens

Children

Third Level

Exam Preparation

Corporate

Group or Private  
Tuition

Cultural Events

Enterprise House, 36 Mary street, Cork

021 431067 - [info@alliancefrancaisecork.com](mailto:info@alliancefrancaisecork.com) - [www.alliancefrancaisecork.com](http://www.alliancefrancaisecork.com)