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NEW ACQUISITIONS •



WE, STUDENTS! •

Rafiki
72^e Internationale
 Filmfestspiele
 Berlin
Panorama

by Rafiki Fariala

Nestor, Aaron, Benjamin and Rafiki are economics undergraduates at the University of Bangui. Navigating between the overcrowded classrooms, the petty trades that allow students to survive, bribery lurking everywhere, Rafiki shows us what students lives are like in the Central African Republic, a shattered society where the youth keeps dreaming of a brighter future for their country.

MAKONGO FILMS - UNITÉ - KIRIPI FILMS • CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC - FRANCE - DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO
 - SAUDI ARABIA • 82' • 2022



▶ Promo Upon Request

• THE LOST SOULS OF SYRIA

by Stéphane Malterre & Garance Le Caisne

Stolen from the Syrian regime's secret archives, 27000 photos showing bodies of civilians detainees tortured to death are made public by a military defector codenamed Caesar. Who are the dead, what was their fate, why have they disappeared in Bachar Al Assad's prisons? All across Europe, victims' families, helped by international lawyers, activists and Caesar himself, seek for truth and justice, investigating the Syrian death machine and its highest officials. But torn between western governments' political agenda and the ongoing terror spread by Damascus dictatorship, how far will they go?

LES FILMS D'ICI - KATUH STUDIO • FRANCE - GERMANY • 99' • DELIVERY 2022



U-96, THE TRUE STORY OF “DAS BOOT” ●

by Raphaël Millet

The international success of the film *Das Boot* by Wolfgang Petersen made the U-96 one of the most famous submarines in cinematic history. But the true story of one of Hitler's most fearsome U-boats and its crew goes far beyond fiction. For the first time, this documentary sheds light on the reality behind the fiction through exclusive interviews with the makers and actors of *Das Boot*, as well as the last survivors of the time. In doing so, this documentary explores how Hitler's propaganda images may have influenced the visual and narrative force of *Das Boot*.

NOCTURNES PRODUCTIONS - GIRELLE PRODUCTION - ADV PRODUCTIONS • FRANCE - BELGIQUE • 52' & 70' •
DELIVERY 2023

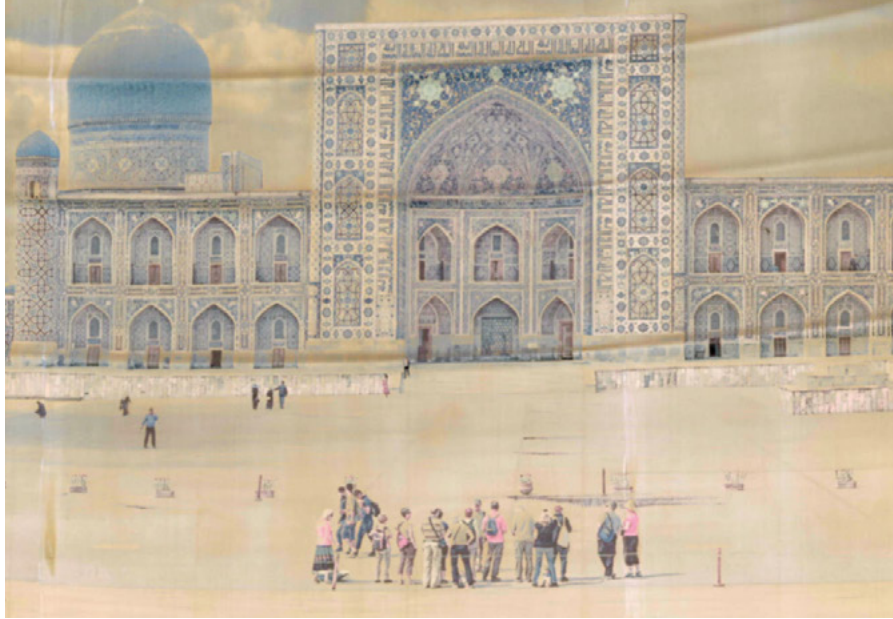


SABINE WEISS, ● ONE CENTURY OF PHOTOGRAPHY (Working title)

by Camille Ménager

In nearly a century, Sabine Weiss (1924-2021) has left behind a monumental and eclectic work: thousands of faces, collections of the greatest fashion designers in prestigious magazines, a Parisian working-class now disappeared, photoreports around the world... By focusing on the margins of society, she was an exceptional witness of the 20th century. For the first time, a film draws the portrait of this hard-worker artist and captures the last words of the greatest female figure of the Humanist photography (Robert Doisneau, Henri Cartier-Bresson).

BROTHERFILM • FRANCE • 52' • DELIVERY 2022



UZBEKISTAN, A TIMELESS JOURNEY IN CENTRAL ASIA ●

by Jivko Darakchiev

From the immediate aftermath of Alexander the Great to the Renaissance period, dive into 15 centuries of History and fascinating cultural effervescence in Central Asia!

The film explores a highly symbolic place on the Silk Road and draws a cosmopolitan picture of the city of Samarkand (UNESCO World Heritage Site), at the crossroads between Iranian, Turkish, Indian and Chinese culture. Discover the successive empires and peoples that shaped the Uzbek region as never told before.

LES POISSONS VOLANTS • FRANCE • 52' • 2022



● THE LIFE AHEAD OF US, ANOTHER FACE OF IMMIGRATION

by Frédéric Laffont, co-writing with Ariane Chemin

In the 60s and 70s, the French economy was booming creating a labor shortage, putting an end to the golden era of coal mines. The former officer Félix Mora was sent to Morocco to recruit and bring back more than 80 000 men to shut the French mines down. For Mora, they represented a low-cost workforce, willing to accept meager salaries and dangerous working conditions. Whereas for young Moroccans, this mission held out the promise of a better future.

BELLOTA FILMS • FRANCE • 52' • 2022



RUINS: A HISTORY OF A CONTEMPORARY WARFARE ●

by Cédric Gruat

Warfare took a turn in the 20th Century. More violent and destructive than ever, it spread beyond the battlefields affecting civilians and wrecking cities in its wake.

Revealing men's ability to self-destruct, what are these ruins symbolizing? Used for propaganda, to galvanize crowds, to stir up hatred or to sow terror and fear, they remain. Between reconstruction and conservation, erasing the trauma and commemorating, from WWI to the ongoing civil war in Syria, this film lays out a profound history of contemporary warfare over the last hundred years.



LEON LEWIS, ● A HOLLYWOOD SPY AGAINST THE NAZIS

by Olivier Mirguet

1933, California. The Nazi regime is seeking to establish itself in the US. Operating in the shadows, the Nazis' spies have infiltrated Hollywood and the studios, spreading their ideology and preparing to seize power. Leon Lewis, a Jewish lawyer perceiving the growing threat stands in the way. With few resources he sets up a spy ring to dismantle the Nazi groups and expose the plot. Mixing archives and animation, this documentary portrays the unknown story of an ordinary hero who foresaw and corrected the fate of his country before it was too late.



COLLAPSE, THE DISSOLUTION OF THE SOVIET UNION ●

by Denis Sneguirev

30 years ago the Soviet Union collapsed. An entire society and its citizens were dragged into social chaos when the social paradigms they all believed in felt apart. What happens when an entire system crumbles, when a state can no longer support financially and administratively its institutions, services and territory? How does one nation rebuilt itself? Through the personal stories of seven eyewitnesses, we'll try to better understand what is considered as one of the main turning point in recent history.

LES POISSONS VOLANTS • FRANCE • 52' • 2021



QUINZAINE
DIRECTORS' FORTNIGHT

SSIFF
Donostia Zinemakia
Festival de San Sebastián
ZABALTEGI-TABAKALERA

● RETURNING TO REIMS

by Jean-Gabriel Périot ● Narrated by Adèle Haenel

"An emotional, thought-provoking work" **Screen Daily**

Freely adapted from the eponymous novel by Didier Eribon, *Returning to Reims* tells in archives an intimate and political story of the French working class from the beginning of the 1950s to today.

LES FILMS DE PIERRE - ARTE FRANCE • FRANCE • 83' • 2021



THE FIRST 54 YEARS: AN ABBREVIATED MANUAL FOR MILITARY OCCUPATION ●



by Avi Mograbi

"The film is an essential explanation of Israeli objectives and the systematic subjugation of a people, deserving international attention." **Variety**

What is the meaning of military occupation? Through the testimonies of the soldiers who implemented it, director Avi Mograbi provides insights on how a colonialist occupation works and the logic at work behind those practices. Using the 54-year Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territories of the West Bank and Gaza Strip the director draws us a "Manual for Military Occupation".

LES FILMS D'ICI - 24IMAGES - CITIZEN JANE PRODUCTION - AVI MOGRABI PRODUCTION • FRANCE - FINLAND - ISRAËL - GERMANY • 2X52' & 110' • 2021



NOW ● by Jim Rakete

Now shows how young activists from around the globe such as Felix Finkbeiner (Plant for the Planet), Luisa Neubauer, Greta Thunberg (Fridays for Future) and Vic Barrett (Youth v. Gov) are currently challenging the status quo and pushing for social and political change. Now is focusing on these young protagonists and the question what it feels like to be an activist and what is at stake for them. Experienced activists as well as experts for different and relevant topics will provide background information and forecasts for future developments.

STARHAUS PRODUKTIONEN • GERMANY • 52' & 73' • 2020



PLASTIC PLANET ● by Werner Boote

Werner Boote gives us a personal and critical reflection about a controversial and all at once fascinating material, which occupy now its rightful place in our everyday life: plastic. We'll leave with him for an around the world trip following the path of the plastic after 100 years of glorious existence, and discover thus its real impact on our world.

NEUE SENTIMENTAL FILM ENTERTAINMENT • AUSTRIA - GERMANY • 95'



JANE BY CHARLOTTE

by Charlotte Gainsbourg



"An impressionistic portrait of Birkin as a mother, wife and artist"
The Hollywood Reporter

"A tender and quite illuminating portrait of a mother-daughter relationship" **Screen Daily**

With the tremor of time passing by, Charlotte Gainsbourg started to look at her mother Jane Birkin in a way she never did, both overcoming a shared sense of reserve. Through the camera lens, they expose themselves to one another, begin to step back, leaving space for a mother-daughter relationship to unfold.

NOLITA CINEMA - DEADLY VALENTINE • FRANCE • 90' • 2021



OSCAR MICHEAUX, THE SUPERHERO OF BLACK FILMMAKING

by Francesco Zippel

"Oscar Micheaux was Spike Lee before Spike Lee (...) the pioneer of the pioneer"
Télérama

The most successful African American director of the first half of the 20th century, Oscar Micheaux (1884-1951) wrote, directed, and produced more than 44 films and six novels. This revealing documentary charts his artistic journey and pays tribute to his extraordinary accomplishments. A chorus of experts and fans weighs in on the incredible legacy of a real pioneer in the Hollywood film industry and his fight against the ubiquitous racism of the times.

SKY ITALIA WITH QUOIAT FILMS • ITALY • 80' • 2021



SEARCHING FOR GERDA TARO ● by Camille Ménager

Spain, July 1936. As the country flares up, Gerda Taro and her partner Robert Capa rush to fight alongside the Republicans to document and photograph the battle against Franco's troops. Their goal is to shake and awaken the sleeping consciousness of an indecisive Europe. Out of this passion, Gerda Taro did not come out alive, dying on the eve of her 27th birthday. Thanks to recent uncovering of her work, this documentary shines a new light on her role as war photographer and artist. Through her portrait we dive into the too-often forgotten place of women in social and historical representation of the war effort.

BROTHERFILM • FRANCE • 52' • 2021



JOHN FORD, THE MAN WHO INVENTED AMERICA ● by Jean-Christophe Klotz

Oscar-winning director John Ford helped create the legend of the American West during a career that spanned over fifty years and nearly 150 movies – *Stagecoach*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, *The Battle of Midway* to name a few. Bringing to life America's founding myths and heroes, dreams and disillusion, he captured the American soul like no one else. This film draws his portrait and explores the many echoes between his works and the turbulence that America is now going through.

HAUTEVILLE PRODUCTIONS • FRANCE • 52'



DANGEROUS LIAISONS, ● SCANDALOUS LETTERS

by Priscilla Pizzato

Well known for its exploration of seduction and revenge, *the Dangerous Liaisons* by Choderlos de Laclos caused a scandal from its first publication in 1782. Despite - or because of the scandal - the book was a top-seller. Since then, it stood the test of time. Combining eras, continents and people, the novel is adapted around the world. Marvelous tool for reflection on the female condition, social satire announcing the Revolution, remarkable work on the conflicting nature of love but also of the gender war, consecration of the power of the words, a libertine manual... *Dangerous Liaisons* is all of these at once.

EX-NIHILO - ARTE FRANCE • FRANCE • 52' • 2021



THE SEA WALL, MARGUERITE DURAS AND THE COLONIAL ILLUSION ●

by Valérie Urréa & Nathalie Masduraud

Judged too Marxist, subversive, unpatriotic, *The Sea Wall* by Marguerite Duras published in 1950 did not receive the prestigious French Literature Goncourt Prize that year. 70 years later, this masterpiece of literature, which was one of the first to denounce the horrors of colonization, continues to resonate in the current postcolonial debate. Through the representation of the bodies depicting by Duras in her novel, using archives and current footage, interviews with anthropologists and Duras' specialists, the film reveals in a sensitive and unprecedented way, an Empire where race and gender predetermine the future of everyone.



THE GRAPES OF WRATH : THE GHOST OF MODERN AMERICA ●

by Priscilla Pizzato

Symbol of indignation and rebellion, *The Grapes of Wrath* written by John Steinbeck and published in 1939 raised a scandal. 80 years later, the themes tackled in the novel are more than ever current: labour, justice, capitalism devastation, financialization of the economy, migrants... Featuring movies excerpts and current footage, unseen Steinbeck's audio video archives and correspondences, interviews with historians, Steinbeck's specialists and writers, the film will guide us into the analysis of a cult book which became prophetic.



BAMBI, A FRENCH WOMAN •

by Sebastien Lifshitz — Director's Cut

From the day she was born in Algiers, Marie-Pierre has always wanted to wear dresses and has stubbornly refused her given name: Jean-Pierre. At the age of 17, her life takes a major turn when she comes upon a drag show on tour: *le Carrousel de Paris*. Marie-Pierre becomes Bambi, and within a few years establishes herself as a legendary figure of the Parisian cabaret scenes of the 50s and 60s. By collecting the story of one of the first transgender women, Sebastien Lifshitz continues his work initiated with *Wild Side* and *Little Girl* and portrays a forceful personality. This updated version of the film extends and deepens the short-film released in 2013 to become the feature-length version the director has always dreamt of making.

UN MONDE MEILLEUR • FRANCE • 2021 • 83'



• SEBASTIEN LIFSHITZ

LOCARNO
BFI LONDON
CÉSAR

•

ADOLESCENTES
(2019)

QUEER PARM
DIRECTOR'S FORNIGHT

•

THE LIVES OF THÉRÈSE
(2016)

CANNES
CÉSAR

•

LES INVISIBLES
(2012)



CITY HALL •

by Frederick Wiseman



City government touches almost every aspect of our lives. Most of us are unaware of or take for granted these necessary services such as police, fire, sanitation, veterans affairs, elder support, parks, licensing of various professional activities, record keeping of birth, marriage and death as well as hundreds of other activities that support Boston residents and visitors. *City Hall*, by Frederick Wiseman, shows the efforts by Boston city government to provide these services. The film also illustrates the variety of ways the city administration enters into civil discourse with the citizens of Boston. Mayor Walsh and his administration are presented addressing a number of their policy priorities which include racial justice, affordable housing, climate action, and homelessness. *City Hall* shows a city government successfully offering a wide variety of services to a diverse population.

ZIPPORAH FILMS • USA • 272' • 2020



• FREDERICK WISEMAN

- TORONTO
VENICE
NYFF • **MONROVIA, INDIANA**
(2018)
- TORONTO
VENICE
NYFF • **EX LIBRIS – THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY**
(2017)
- TORONTO
VENICE
NYFF • **IN JACKSON HEIGHTS**
(2015)
- DIRECTORS' FORTNIGHT
TORONTO
NYFF • **NATIONAL GALLERY**
(2014)
- TORONTO
VENICE
NYFF • **AT BERKELEY**
(2013)
- TORONTO
VENICE
NYFF • **CRAZY HORSE**
(2011)
- DIRECTORS' FORTNIGHT
TORONTO • **BOXING GYM**
(2010)
- TORONTO
VENICE • **LA DANSE, THE PARIS OPERA BALLET**
(2009)

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