

# Fall

2022

the party  
FILM SALES

# Screenings 2022

## Venice



### ● A Couple ● By Frederick Wiseman

#### Press and Industry

THU 1<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER  
20:00  
SALA DARSENA

THU 1<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER  
22:30  
SALA PERLA

#### Official screenings

FRI 2<sup>ND</sup> SEPTEMBER  
16:45  
SALA GRANDE

SAT 3<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER  
18:00  
PALABIENNALE



### ● The Last Queen ● By Damien Ounouri & Adila Bendimerad

#### Press and Industry

THU 1<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER  
19:30  
SALA CORINTO

#### Official screenings

SUN 4<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER  
16:45  
SALA PERLA

SAT 10<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER  
17:00  
SALA PERLA

## Toronto



### ● Ashkal ● By Youssef Chebbi

#### Press and Industry

SAT 10<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER  
17:10  
SCOTIABANK 6

#### Public screenings

SAT 10<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER  
18:15  
SCOTIABANK 10

SUN 11<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER  
14:40  
SCOTIABANK 8

# Index ●

## OFFICIAL SELECTIONS FALL FESTIVALS

### VENICE

● **A Couple** ..... 06

By Frederick Wiseman

● **The Last Queen** ..... 07

By Damien Ounouri & Adila Bendimerad

### TORONTO

● **Ashkal** ..... 08

By Youssef Chebbi

### ANGOULÊME

● **Top Dogs** ..... 09

By Julien Guetta

### IDFA

● **Paradise** ..... 10

By Alexander Abaturov

● **The Lost Souls of Syria** ..... 11

By Stéphane Malterre & Garance Le Caisne

### TALLINN

● **And Yet We Were All Blind** ..... 12

By Béatrice Pollet

## COMPLETED

● **The Wild One** ..... 13

By Tessa Louise-Salomé

● **Polaris** ..... 14

By Ainara Vera

● **We, Students!** ..... 15

By Rafiki Fariala

● **Bambi, a French Woman** ..... 16

By Sébastien Lifshitz

● **Too Close to the Sun** ..... 17

By Briec Carnaille

● **My Neighbors' Neighbors** ..... 18

By Anne-Laure Daffis & Léo Marchand

● **Goodnight, Soldier** ..... 19

By Hiner Saleem

● **Summer Frost** ..... 20

By Laetitia Masson

● **The Takeover** ..... 21

By Gilles Perret

## UPCOMING

● **When it Melts** ..... 22

By Veerle Baetens

● **Morrison** ..... 23

By Phutti Phong Aroonpheng

## TV DOCS

● **Matrix, Inside & Out** ..... 24

By Benjamin Clavel

● **U-96, The True Story of "Das Boot"** ..... 25

By Raphaël Millet



## A Couple ●

By Frederick Wiseman



Leo and Sophia Tolstoy were married for 36 years, had 13 children. Each kept a diary. *A Couple* is Sophia's monologue about the joys and struggles of their life together, loosely drawn from her diary and their letters to each other.

**Cast** Nathalie Boutefeu

WAT FILMS LLC in association with ZIPPORAH FILMS, INC. and TOUT DE MÊME - USA - FRANCE • 64' • 2022 • FEATURE FILM



## ● The Last Queen

By Damien Ounouri & Adila Bendimerad

Algeria, 1516. The pirate Aroudj Barbarossa frees Algiers from the tyranny of the Spanish and seizes power over the kingdom. Rumor has it he murdered King Salim Toumi despite their alliance. Against all odds, one woman will stand up to him: Queen Zaphira. Between history and legend, this woman's journey tells of a struggle, of personal and political turmoil endured for the sake of Algiers.

*Damien Ounouri is an Algerian-French director based in Algiers. He studied cinema theory, developing its practical application as a self-taught skill. Adila Bendimerad is an Algerian actress, scriptwriter, and producer. As an actress she has worked with renowned Middle Eastern directors including Merzak Allouache and Georges Hachem. In 2011, she founded the production company Taj Intaj aiming to promote young Algerian talents. After his documentary *Fidaï* (TIFF, 2012), Ounouri directed the short film *Kindil El Bahr* cowritten with Bendimerad and produced by Taj Intaj (Cannes Directors' Fortnight, 2016). *The Last Queen* is the duo's directorial debut.*

**Cast** Adila Bendimerad, Dali Benssalah, Tahar Zaoui, Imen Noel, Nadia Tereszkiewicz

TAJ INTAJ - AGAT FILMS - BIRTH - CADC - LONG HU BAO - TAICCA • ALGERIA - FRANCE - TAIWAN • 109' • 2022 • FEATURE FILM



**Ashkal** ●  
By Youssef Chebbi



In the Gardens of Carthage, a district of Tunis initiated by the former Regime which construction stopped at the beginning of the Revolution, two cops, Fatma and Batal, find a burnt body in one of the lots. As construction slowly resumes, they start looking into this mysterious case. When the event repeats itself, the investigation takes a puzzling turn.

*Youssef Chebbi was born in Tunisia in 1984. After studying art, he directed two short films, **Vers le Nord** and **Les Profondeurs** selected in several international festivals. In 2012 he codirected a documentary **Babylon** which won the Jury Prize at the FID of Marseille and was presented at MoMA. **Ashkal** is his first feature film.*

**Cast** Fatma Oussaifi, Mohamed Houcine Grayaa

SUPERNOVA FILMS - POETIK FILM - BLAST FILM • FRANCE - TUNISIA - QATAR • 92' • 2022 • FEATURE FILM



● **Top Dogs**  
By Julien Guetta

Antoine and Christian, two long-estranged brothers from Normandy, couldn't be more different from each other: while the former is happily married with two kids and a successful boat driver, the latter is a facetious globe-trotting hustler who likes to engage in bar fights. But when Antoine starts getting involved in sleazy activities, Christian flies to his rescue. In an unexpected bonding-adventure they take upon themselves to defend the family they thought they'd never be.

*Graduated from La Fémis in 2019, Julien Guetta directed several short films such as **Le Vacant** selected in Competition in Clermont-Ferrand in 2011. After co-signing scripts for long features and winning of the Emergence and Anger Workshop in 2017, he wrote and directed his first feature film **The Troubleshooter** starring Eric Judor and Laure Calamy which was acclaimed by the critics. **Top Dogs**, his second feature with Jean-Paul Rouve (**Les Tuche**) and Grégoire Ludig (**Mandibles**), is produced by Nolita.*

**Cast** Jean-Paul Rouve, Michel Blanc, Grégoire Ludig

NOLITA CINEMA - PRINCESSE BELI PRODUCTIONS • FRANCE • 82' • 2022 • FEATURE FILM



## Paradise ●

By Alexander Abaturov



In the summer of 2021, an exceptional heat wave and drought lead to giant fires ravaging million of hectares of land in northeastern Siberia. In this region, at the heart of the taiga, lies the village of Shologon, soon to be coated by a thick cloud of smoke. Spread by the wind, the black ashes carry alarming news: the forest is on fire and the flames are fast approaching. The government having left them to fend for themselves, the inhabitants must rally to fight The Dragon.

*Alexander Abaturov was born in Russia in 1984. After graduating from Gorki University, he became a journalist. In 2010, he received a Masters degree from the French documentary School in Lussas. In 2013, he directed his first documentary, **Sleeping Souls**, selected in numerous festivals and awarded with the Institut Français Prize at the Cinéma du Réel Festival. **The Son**, his first feature length documentary, premiered in the Berlinale Forum and selected at many other festivals such as ArtDocFest, Message to Men, Cinéma du Réel, and several others.*

PETIT À PETIT PRODUCTION • FRANCE - SWITZERLAND • 89' • DELIVERY 2023 • FEATURE FILM



## ● The Lost Souls of Syria

By Stéphane Malterre & Garance Le Caisne

27,000 photos of civilian detainees tortured to death were stolen from the Syrian regime's secret archives by a military defector codenamed Caesar, and made public in 2014. But international justice proves impotent in prosecuting the criminal Syrian state. As the case seems doomed to oblivion, victims' families, along with activists and Caesar himself, seek truth and justice through state courts across Europe instead. More than five years of investigations and fighting will lead to the first trial against high officials of the Syrian death machine.

*Stéphane Malterre and Garance Le Caisne are French journalists who both studied Syria in their respective previous works. While Malterre made a dozen documentaries for TV, the latest of which having been filmed in Syria for three years and premiering at Fipadoc, this is Le Caisne's first feature documentary after working on the Syrian regime's crimes for ten years.*

LES FILMS D'ICI - KATUH STUDIO • FRANCE - GERMANY • 99' • DELIVERY 2023 • DOCUMENTARY



## And Yet We Were All Blind

By Béatrice Pollet



Claire and Thomas are happily married with two kids. As the Police find by their house a newborn believed to be Claire's, their lives are thrown into turmoil. Claire claims she didn't know she was pregnant but how could one not notice it? As her best friend and lawyer Sophie builds her defense, the very essence of motherhood soon becomes the heart of the case.

*Born in 1964, Béatrice Pollet is a French filmmaker. From 1988 to 2011, she worked as a script supervisor with directors Philippe Lioret, Raül Ruiz, Hiner Saleem and many others. She has directed three short films as well as documentaries. Her first feature film, **Le Jour de la grenouille** was released in 2012. **And Yet We Were All Blind**, is her second feature.*

**Cast** Maud Wyler, Géraldine Nakache, Grégoire Colin

SENSITO FILMS • FRANCE • 95' • DELIVERY 2022 • FEATURE FILM



## The Wild One

By Tessa Louise-Salomé

An innovative, cinematic exploration of acting as a form of survival, through the life and work of Jack Garfein: Holocaust survivor, Actors Studio co-founder, controversial stage and screen director. A journey of an enigmatic, censored artist, *The Wild One* explores the importance of his legacy and questions how art can draw on personal memory to better enlighten our present.

*Tessa Louise-Salomé is a screenwriter, director and producer for Petite Maison Production which she founded in 2006. An artist-portraying specialist, she has directed or worked on several documentaries focusing on the art world. Her first feature-length documentary **Mr. X**, a portrait of French filmmaker Leos Carax; caught the attention of Sundance Film Festival where it premiered in 2014.*

**Narrated by** Willem Dafoe

PETITE MAISON PRODUCTION • FRANCE • 94' • 2022 • DOCUMENTARY



## Polaris ●

By Ainara Vera



Hayat, an expert sailor in the Arctic, navigates far from humans and her family's past in France. But when her little sister Leila gives birth to a baby girl, their worlds are turned upside down; we witness their journey, guided by the polar star, to overcome the family's fate.

Ainara Vera was born in Spain in 1985. After studying cinema, her first short documentary *Sertres* premiered at Locarno in 2014. She then directed a medium-length film *See you tomorrow, God Willing!* which premiered at IDFA and was selected in many festivals including Doc NYC, DocsBarcelona. *Polaris* is her first feature doc.

POINT DU JOUR LES FILMS DU BALIBARI - ANORÂK FILM • FRANCE - GREENLAND  
• 78' • 2022 • DOCUMENTARY



## ● We, Students!

By Rafiki Fariala

*"A warm and insightful documentary about friendship and the situation of students at the University of Bangui"* **Cineuropa**

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 for a brighter future for their country.

Born in 1997 in DRC, Rafiki Fariala arrived early in the Central African Republic where his parents took refuge because of the war. Entirely self-taught, he started developing his voice and composing music early on and is now one of the promising figures of Bangui's musical scene under the pseudonym RAFIKI - RH20. At a workshop, he directed his first film, *Mbi na Mo*, which was selected at the Biarritz FIPADOC and many other festivals.

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



## ● Bambi, a French Woman ●

By Sébastien 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, Sébastien 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 • 83' • 2022 • DOCUMENTARY



## ● Too Close to the Sun ●

By Brieuc Carnaille

When he leaves the hospital, 30-something Basile moves in with his younger sister and closest confidant, Sarah. Living with a psychiatric disorder, Basile tries his best to re-establish a sense of stability in both his work and his love life. But, whilst hiding his illness from his new relatives, how long can he maintain this fragile stability?

*Brieuc Carnaille is a French screenwriter and director. He is also a singer-songwriter for the rock band Duel. In 2020, he directed his first feature-length film, **Too Close to the Sun**, following a pivotal encounter with actor Clément Roussier, for whom he wrote the lead role.*

**Cast** Clément Roussier, Marine Vachh, Diane Rouxel, Hakim Faris

VIXENS - GAPBUSTERS - H1F • FRANCE - BELGIUM • 2022 • 90' • FEATURE FILM



## ● My Neighbors' Neighbors ●

By Anne-Laure Daffis & Léo Marchand

*"A stunning artistic power"* **Première**

*"A patchwork full of craziness and poetry"* **Télérama**

In a French building, the inhabitants seem to be dealing with the hazards of life: an ogre breaks his teeth on the very same day of the annual Ogre Feast, while being asked to watch over his neighbor's kids; a magician cuts his assistant in half and her legs run off; a hiker and his dog spend several days stuck in the elevator; an old man falls in love with a pair of legs...

A truly imaginative animation film about the intertwined destinies of these unusual neighbors and their neighbors' neighbors.

*Anne-Laure Daffis and Leo Marchand both graduated in plastic arts from the Sorbonne University and started directing their first movies together, two shorts and a documentary, before moving on to animation. They have been working together ever since and **My Neighbors' Neighbors** is their first feature film.*

LARDUX FILMS • FRANCE • 92' • 2022 • FEATURE FILM



## ● Goodnight, Soldier ●

By Hiner Saleem

Ziné and Avdal are madly in love in spite of their families' ancestral feud. When both parties finally set aside their differences and agree to their children getting married, Avdal is injured at the front and his inability to perform sexually casts a shadow over the wedding night. As this revives the family tensions, the newlyweds start exploring new forms of pleasure. Will their love overcome decades of conflict and tradition?

**Cast** Galyar Nerway, Dilîn Döger

AGAT FILMS & CIE - HS PRODUCTIONS • FRANCE - KURDISTAN • 90' • 2022 • FEATURE FILM



## ● Summer Frost ●

By Laetitia Masson

It's summer and France is hit by a polar cold. Ten lone and lost souls find each other, a profound meeting as a last chance to hope and fear, to love and dream. Ten tales as tribute to Monet's Water Lilies, ten tales portraying an impressionist painting of today's France.

**Cast** Benjamin Biolay, Elodie Bouchez, Judith Chemla, Nicolas Duvauchelle, Hélène Fillières, Cédric Khan, Laurent Stocker, Clémence Poésy, Nora Hamzawi, Pablo Pauly

LES FILMS DU KIOSQUE - CHRISTMAS IN JULY • FRANCE • 112' • 2022 • FEATURE FILM



## ● The Takeover ●

By Gilles Perret

Cédric is a worker in a precision mechanics factory in the French Alps. When he finds out that the factory is about to be sold to an investment fund, he joins forces with two of his childhood friends to pull off the biggest heist. With the help of occasional allies from the corporate world, this unexpected team of amateurs will learn the ropes of business and try to beat the financial system at its own game to put the company back into its employees' hands.

*Gilles Perret is a French filmmaker focusing on French politics and social movements. He directed 13 documentaries and worked with journalist and filmmaker, François Ruffin - a Member of the French parliament - on two documentaries, **A Place in the Sun** and **Those who Care**, two great popular success. **The Takeover** is Perret's first feature film.*

**Cast** Pierre Deladonchamps, Laetitia Dosch, Grégory Montel, Vincent Deniard, Finnegan Oldfield

ELZÉVIR FILMS • FRANCE • 105' • 2022 • FEATURE FILM

## UPCOMING



### When it Melts ●

By Veerle Baetens

Over a sweltering Summer, 13 year-old Eva finds escape from her absent parents by playing riddles with local teenagers. Soon the childish games take an unsound turn. Many years later, Eva returns to the village where she experienced her first tremors and traumas.

*Veerle Baetens is a Belgian actress from Antwerp, Flanders. After studying piano and musical theater in Brussels, she starts her acting career in 2007 in the Flemish version of **Ugly Betty**. She's mostly known for her role in **The Broken Circle Breakdown**, directed by Felix Van Groeningen which grabbed an Oscar nomination in 2014 and won the César award for Best Foreign Film. She was also the lead actress in Edouard Bergeon's film **In the Name of the Land** (2019). **When it melts**, adapted from a bestseller by Lize Spit, is her directorial debut.*

**Cast** Rosa Marchant, Charlotte De Bruyne, Amber Metdepenningen, Matthijs Meertens, Anthony Vyt, Sebastian Dewaele

SAVAGE FILM - PRPL - VERSUS PRODUCTION • BELGIUM - THE NETHERLANDS • DELIVERY 2023 • FEATURE FILM



### ● Morrison

By Phutti Phong Aroonpheng

Jimmy, a 40-year-old former popstar turned engineer, is sent to the region of his childhood to supervise the renovation of an old hotel. Once settled, Jimmy finds out the once flamboyant hotel has become a ruin, a maze of narrow corridors and a relic of a bygone era, which still bears the scars of the American occupation. In the heart of this mysterious place, Jimmy will wander between dream and fantasy and retrace his family's history.

*Phutti Phong Aroonpheng studied fine arts at Bangkok's Silpakorn University. His 2015 short **Ferris Wheel** won many awards on the festival circuit. He also works extensively as a DoP, with credits including **Vanishing Point** and **Anatomy of Time**, directed by fellow Thai filmmaker Jakrawal Nilthamrong. His debut feature film **Manta Ray** won the Orizzonti Award for Best Film at the 2018 Venice FF.*

**Cast** Hugo Chulachak Chakrabongse, Chicha Amatayakul, Joe Cummings

DIVERSION - CG CINÉMA • THAILAND - FRANCE • DELIVERY 2023 • FEATURE FILM



## MATRIX, Inside & Out •

by Benjamin Clavel

In 1999, a unique cinematographic object shook an entire generation and reached the top of the box-office world-wide. The Matrix saga was born and quickly became a pop-culture phenomenon revealing a duo of filmmakers: the Wachowskis. Its prophetic aspects will be at the heart of this unprecedented documentary. By propelling the audience into the 21st Century, it foresaw many social and political issues of our current times: use of technologies, hacking, gender and identity issues, fake news, conspiracy-theory... Forging ahead, the Wachowskis' cinema has been leading a global fight for emancipation, inspiring generations in their quest for truth, choice and freedom.

BELLOTA FILMS • FRANCE • 52' • DELIVERY 2023



## • 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 • DOCUMENTARY

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