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Irish Film Institute

# IFI FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL

NOVEMBER 11TH-22ND 2020

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# IFI FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL

NOVEMBER 11TH-22ND 2020

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## IFI PRINCIPAL FUNDER



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THE IRISH TIMES



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## BOOKING INFORMATION

IFI@Home screenings cost €7.50 each for a three-day rental.

Visit [www.ifihome.ie](http://www.ifihome.ie) for more information on great value multi-film packages.

[www.ifi.ie/frenchfest](http://www.ifi.ie/frenchfest)

[www.ifihome.ie](http://www.ifihome.ie)

**Festival Director:**  
Marie-Pierre Richard

**Programme Notes:**  
Marie-Pierre Richard (MPR)  
David O'Mahony (DOM)  
Alicia McGivern (AMG)



Irish Film Institute

6 Eustace Street  
Temple Bar, Dublin 2

@IFI\_Dub #IFIFrenchFest

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# WELCOME TO THE IFI FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL 2020



**A message  
from Ross Keane,  
IFI Director/CEO**

Welcome to 21st edition of the IFI French Film Festival. It is an extraordinary year as COVID-19 has tested all of our resilience; however, at IFI, it has also forged new pathways of creativity and connectivity. For the first time, the festival goes nationwide, as our new online platform IFI@Home is available across the country. We are immensely grateful for the support of our patrons, members and funders, particularly our principal funder the Arts Council and partner the Embassy of France in Ireland, to ensure that we can continue to deliver quality, curated film experiences. Now, more than ever, the power of film to transport us, entertain and enrich our lives is critical. We wish you every enjoyment of your selections.



**A message from  
Marie-Pierre Richard –  
Festival Director,  
IFI French Film Festival**

When we are confined to our own homes, cinema becomes a vital, expansive living room for imagination and reflection. This year, the IFI French Film Festival features young voices who bring us insightful and contemporary images of France's youth and its profoundly shifting social fabric. In parallel, established auteurs offer depth and dynamism through witty, fresh, satirical and grotesque comedy alongside heart-warming themes of self-discovery and coming-of-age stories. The festival also engages with the powerful and challenging topics of gender identity, as well as people facing tough moral and ethical dilemmas in both their work and personal life. We have stunning historical lessons through documentaries and animation and of course, the classics. We are proud to once again present you with the innovative complexity that is French cinema. Enjoy!



**A message from  
H.E. Mr Vincent Guérend,  
French Ambassador to Ireland**

We are delighted and proud that the IFI French Film Festival is taking place this year, while the world of culture is going through immense difficulties. The selection is particularly beautiful, it speaks to the cinema we love, open to all and more alive than ever. The opening film *The Big Hit*, which opened the Cannes Festival Event in October, pays tribute to Samuel Beckett. This year's film selection offers a wide variety of themes, from portraits of magnificent women in *Margaux Hartmann* or *My Donkey, My Lover and I*, to today's societal issues in *Lola*, *Those Who Work or A Son*. Four exceptional documentaries are presented including one about the French photojournalist Gilles Caron, a witness to the conflict in Northern Ireland. Finally, and here again is the intelligence and the modernity of this festival, a retrospective on Jean Grémillon, an avant-garde feminist filmmaker who remains too little-known and celebrated. Bon festival et vive le cinéma!

This year, the IFI is delighted to present the IFI French Film Festival on IFI@Home. Launched in July, IFI@Home is the IFI's video-on-demand platform, bringing the very best of the IFI's insightful and engaging cinema programming to homes across the Republic of Ireland.

Below are step-by-step instructions on how to sign-up to IFI@Home. You'll find a dedicated IFI@Home festival schedule on PAGE 5 of this programme.

Once you pay for and rent a film, it remains available in your library for 72 hours and, once you press PLAY, you can watch the film as many times as you like over the next 48 hours. If you pre-order a film, the film goes live in your library as per the festival schedule, so keep an eye on your library as the festival progresses!



Mama Weed

## SIGN UP FOR FREE

- 1 Visit [www.ifihome.ie](http://www.ifihome.ie)
- 2 In the top-right hand corner, click 'Create Account'.
- 3 Enter your name, email address, your date of birth, and create a secure password. Click 'Submit'.
- 4 You are now signed in and ready to explore the available festival films – it's that simple!

## HOW TO RENT A FILM

- 1 Browse the IFI French Film Festival page on IFI@Home.
- 2 Select the film you want to watch.
- 3 Click the film's RENT button – the RENT button will also show the price of the rental.
- 4 On the next page, enter your credit or debit card details and click 'Rent'.
- 5 You can start watching the film straight away or you can wait until later and find it in your Library. You can return to your current films by clicking "Signed in as..." in the top right-hand corner of your IFI@Home home screen, and selecting 'My Library' from the dropdown menu.

Remember, you have 72 hours to press play. Once you press play, you have a 48-hour window in which to watch the film.

**Questions or comments?** Email us on [ifihome@irishfilm.ie](mailto:ifihome@irishfilm.ie) - we're happy to help! Alternatively, see the help sections on the IFI@Home website.

**Please note** that we are unable to refund or extend any rentals.

# IFI@HOME SCHEDULE

All IFI French Film Festival titles are now available to pre-order on [www.ifihome.ie](http://www.ifihome.ie). If you pre-order titles individually or as part of a bundle, they will go live in your library as per the schedule below and you will have **72 hours** to press PLAY on the rental. Once you press PLAY, you will have **48 hours** to finish watching the film.

During the festival, the films below will be available to rent for the specified three-day period, after which they will no longer be available. If you rent the film during any of the periods below, you will have **72 hours** to press PLAY on the film from the time of rental, and **48 hours** to finish.

For example, if you pre-order *The Big Hit* before the start of the festival, the film will go live in your library at 18.00 on Wednesday 11th, and you will have until 17.59 on Saturday 14th to start watching it. If you rent *The Big Hit* at 20.00 on Saturday 14th, you will have until 19.59 on Tuesday 17th to **start** watching the film. If you were to then press play at 15.00 on Sunday 15th, you must **finish** watching the film by 14.59 on Tuesday 17th.

We regret that unwatched rentals and incomplete viewings cannot be refunded or extended.

TITLE	RENT FROM	RENT TO	SEE PAGE
<b>The Big Hit</b> (Un Triomphe)	18.00 on Wednesday 11th	22.00 on Saturday 14th	6
<b>Adolescents</b> (Adolescentes)	18.00 on Thursday 12th	22.00 on Sunday 15th	6
<b>Red Soil</b> (Rouge)	18.00 on Thursday 12th	22.00 on Sunday 15th	7
<b>Lola</b> (Lola vers la mer)	18.00 on Friday 13th	22.00 on Monday 16th	7
<b>The Woman Who Dared</b> (Le ciel est à vous)	12.00 on Saturday 14th	22.00 on Tuesday 17th	13
<b>Enormous</b> (Énorme)	12.00 on Saturday 14th	22.00 on Tuesday 17th	7
<b>Night Shift</b> (Police)	12.00 on Saturday 14th	22.00 on Tuesday 17th	8
<b>Love Affair(s)</b> (Les choses qu'on dit, les choses qu'on fait)	16.00 on Saturday 14th	22.00 on Saturday 14th	8
<b>Stormy Waters</b> (Remorques)	12.00 on Sunday 15th	22.00 on Wednesday 18th	13
<b>Josep</b>	12.00 on Sunday 15th	22.00 on Wednesday 18th	8
<b>Mama Weed</b> (La daronne)	12.00 on Sunday 15th	22.00 on Wednesday 18th	9
<b>À l'abordage</b>	18.00 on Monday 16th	22.00 on Thursday 19th	9
<b>Those Who Work</b> (Ceux qui travaillent)	18.00 on Monday 16th	22.00 on Thursday 19th	9
<b>The Nest</b> (Pingouin et Goëland et leurs 500 petits)	18.00 on Tuesday 17th	22.00 on Friday 20th	10
<b>#IAmHere</b> (#JeSuisLà)	18.00 on Tuesday 17th	22.00 on Friday 20th	10
<b>The Squad</b> (Les Joueuses)	18.00 on Wednesday 18th	22.00 on Saturday 21st	10
<b>Thalasso</b>	18.00 on Wednesday 18th	22.00 on Saturday 21st	11
<b>A Son</b> (Bik Eneich: Un fils)	18.00 on Thursday 19th	22.00 on Sunday 22nd	11
<b>Margaux Hartmann</b> (L'étreinte)	18.00 on Thursday 19th	22.00 on Sunday 22nd	11
<b>The Salt of Tears</b> (Le sel des larmes)	18.00 on Friday 20th	22.00 on Monday 23rd	12
<b>My Donkey, My Lover and I</b> (Antoinette dans les Cévennes)	12.00 on Saturday 21st	22.00 on Tuesday 24th	12
<b>Looking for Gilles Caron</b> (Histoire d'un regard)	12.00 on Sunday 22nd	22.00 on Wednesday 25th	12
<b>Calamity</b> (Calamity, une enfance de Martha Jane Cannary)	12.00 on Sunday 22nd	22.00 on Wednesday 25th	13





# THE BIG HIT

(UN TRIOMPHE)

## OPENING FILM

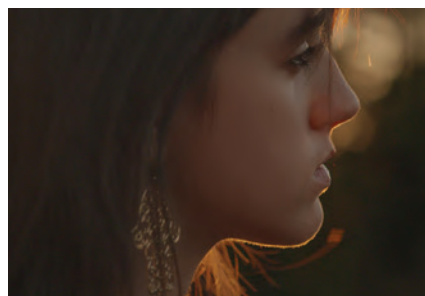
IFI@Home:

Available to rent from 18.00 on Wednesday 11th  
to 22.00 on Saturday 14th.

Director: Emmanuel Courcol

105 mins • France • 2020 • Digital • Subtitled

Étienne (Kad Merad), a passionate, if frequently-out of-work actor, runs a prison theatre workshop where he introduces an unlikely troupe of would-be actors to the challenging work of Samuel Beckett. Encouraged by the raw talent he uncovers in the disparate group of prisoners, Étienne conceives an idea to perform *Waiting for Godot* on a real theatre stage, outside the prison walls. Based on actual events, Emmanuel Courcol's delightful comedy-drama is an ode to friendship and the redemptive nature of art. **DOM**



## ADOLESCENTS

(ADOLESCENTES)

This new documentary by Sébastien Lifshitz (*The Invisibles*; *Little Girl*; *Bambi*) follows best friends Emma and Anaïs over a five-year period from the time they start secondary school. Both a personal story and a collective history, it chronicles the two girls' friendship and the transformative teenage years where radical change and first times punctuate daily life, while investigating the social and cultural pressures on France's young. This unique and fascinating documentary is a gift, getting right to the heart of Emma and Anaïs's lives. **MPR**

IFI@Home:

Available to rent from 18.00 on Thursday 12th  
to 22.00 on Sunday 15th.

Director: Sébastien Lifshitz

135 mins • France • 2020 • Digital • Subtitled



**IFI@Home:**

**Available to rent from 18.00 on Thursday 12th to 22.00 on Sunday 15th.**

**Director: Farid Bentoumi**

88 mins • France-Belgium • 2020 • Digital • Subtitled

## RED SOIL

(ROUGE)

In this gripping thriller that pits the tireless underdog against forces of corporate greed, Nour (Zita Hanrot), an ER nurse, starts a new job in the infirmary at the chemical factory where her father works, and uncovers long hidden secrets and corruption, involving toxic waste that causes an infamous 'red soil'. French-Algerian director Farid Bentoumi's second feature is a social thriller in the vein of Soderbergh's *Erin Brockovich*. Honest and direct, with an autobiographical dimension, this father-daughter confrontation plays out the complex dilemma that faces Nour as a whistleblower, clashing with unions, politicians, industry leaders, and her own family. **MPR**



**IFI@Home:**

**Available to rent from 18.00 on Friday 13th to 22.00 on Monday 16th.**

**Director: Laurent Micheli**

90 mins • Belgium-France • 2019 • Digital • Subtitled

## LOLA

(LOLA VERS LA MER)

Just as 18-year-old transgender Lola (Mya Bollaers, in her first role) learns she can finally have surgery, her mother, her only financial support, passes away. Abiding by her last wishes, Lola and her estranged father Philippe (Benoît Magimel) travel to the Belgian coast and learn to re-read their family history in light of the other's experience, getting a chance to try and make peace with a traumatic past that they'll finally be able to share. Belgian director Laurent Micheli explores the anger and provokes an authentic energy, while revealing tough truths in quite exceptional ways. Micheli, served by a wonderful duo of actors, captures the complexity and delves into the conflicting relationship between a transgender daughter and her overwhelmed dad, who had always rejected her, unable to accept the loss of the son he once had. **MPR**



**IFI@Home:**

**Available to rent from 12.00 on Saturday 14th to 22.00 on Tuesday 17th**

**Director: Sophie Letourneur**

100 mins • France • 2020 • Digital • Subtitled

## ENORMOUS

(ÉNORME)



Famous, self-absorbed pianist Claire Girard (Marina Foïs) is excessively 'handled' by husband Frédéric (Jonathan Cohen), who manages her career but also siphons away her choice and freedom. Although the couple have no plans to have children, Frédéric unexpectedly assists in delivering a baby on a plane, prompting an excessive and uncontrollable urge to have a child. Determined to get his way, he starts by tampering with Claire's contraception. What starts out as an unnerving film on toxic masculinity morphs into a wacky comedy aided by director Sophie Letourneur's choice to shoot in square format perfectly expresses the couple's claustrophobic sense of confinement. Masterfully swapping gender roles, Letourneur plays with the unacceptable to touching, hilarious, and often absurd effect. **MPR**

**Prix Jean Vigo 2020**



**IFI@Home:**

**Available to rent from 12.00 on Saturday 14th to 22.00 on Tuesday 17th**

**Director: Anne Fontaine**

98 mins • France • 2020 • Digital • Subtitled

## NIGHT SHIFT

(POLICE)



This devastating new drama from stalwart Anne Fontaine portrays 24 hours in the life of a Paris police department, as seen from the different perspectives of three characters (a stellar cast played by Virginie Efira, Grégory Gadebois and Omar Sy) who need to decide the fate of Tajikistani asylum seeker, Tohirov (Payman Maadi), as they escort him to Charles de Gaulle airport for deportation. As they try make an unbearable decision on his fate, we get a glimpse into their personal lives away from the daily incidents of violence in homes and on the streets.

Versatile director Anne Fontaine (*The Innocents*; *Pure as Snow*), in adapting the book *Police* by Hugo Boris, draws imposing and sensitive performances from her actors, and with brilliant, atmospheric photography by Yves Angelo, brings us an immersive night-lit climax of rare intensity and emotion. **MPR**



**IFI@Home:**

**Available to rent from 16.00 on Saturday 14th to 22.00 on Saturday 14th**

**Director: Emmanuel Mouret**

122 mins • France • 2020 • Digital • Subtitled

## LOVE AFFAIR(S)

(LES CHOSSES QU'ON DIT, LES CHOSSES QU'ON FAIT)

Daphné (Camélia Jordana), three months pregnant, is on vacation in the French countryside with boyfriend François (Vincent Macaigne, Festival Guest 2019). When François has to leave urgently for Paris to cover for a sick colleague, Daphné finds herself alone to welcome François's cousin Maxime (Niels Schneider). He and Daphné go sightseeing, and as they talk, an intimate bond forms. Emmanuel Mouret's (*Lady J*) tenth feature is a stunner: carefully-written, elegantly composed and framed, and beautifully nuanced. The film is a treat of delicacy, of joyful observation, filled with twists and turns. **MPR**

**Due to rights restrictions, Love Affair(s) will be available to rent from 16.00 to 22.00 on Saturday 14th. In addition, please note that all viewings must be COMPLETED by Sunday 15th at 22.00.**



**IFI@Home:**

**Available to rent from 12.00 on Sunday 15th to 22.00 on Wednesday 18th**

**Director: Aurel**

72 mins • France-Spain • 2020 • Digital • Subtitled

## JOSEP

February 1939. Serge is a gendarme on the French border, when some 500,000 Spaniards seek refuge in France during the Spanish Civil War. Confined in appalling conditions in camps built by the French government, they barely have access to water and food. The gendarmes, many of whom are racist, call the Spanish 'Red, Communist scum'. However, Serge is kind, and befriends refugee Josep. Sixty years later, in Paris, Serge tells his story to grandson Valentin, vividly recreated here in captivating animation. Editorial journalist, and award-winning cartoonist Aurel's (aka Aurélien Froment) debut feature is inventive and beautiful, inspired by the life and work of the late Catalan illustrator and caricaturist Josep Bartolí, a Republican fighting against Franco's regime. **MPR**





**IFI@Home:**

**Available to rent from 12.00 on Sunday 15th  
to 22.00 on Wednesday 18th**

**Director: Jean-Paul Salomé**

106 mins • France • 2020 • Digital • Subtitled

## MAMA WEED

(LA DARONNE)

Isabelle Huppert is Patience Portefeux, a French-Arabic translator, specialising in wire-taps for the drug squad. Her mother, who lives in a nursing home, is nursed by Khadija, the mother of Afid, who we learn is involved in a major dope deal... only the dope has disappeared. And so, Khadija and Patience decide to team up. Using information Patience acquires through her translation job, she assumes the identity of a drugs wholesaler known as Mama Weed. Based on the book *La Daronne* by Hannelore Cayre, this zany comedy blends fast-moving action in a contemporary portrait of Paris's many melting-pot communities. As the film poster suggests 'Isabelle Huppert is 50% cop, 50% drug dealer, 100% pure'. **MPR**

**Screening as part of the Alliance Française French Film Club.**



**IFI@Home:**

**Available to rent from 18.00 on Monday 16th  
to 22.00 on Thursday 19th**

**Director: Guillaume Brac**

95 mins • France • 2020 • Digital • Subtitled

## À L'ABORDAGE



A summer's night along Paris's quays, and people are dancing. 20-something Félix (Eric Nantchouang) and Alma (Asma Messaoudene) meet, and wake together next morning in a park. Alma says goodbye and runs to catch a train to meet her family in the south of France. Félix, smitten and desperate to see Alma again, convinces pal Chérif (Salif Cissé) to accompany him to Valence, in the hopes of finding her. They leave Paris courtesy of a car share with reluctant driver Edouard (Edouard Sulpice). Director Guillaume Brac has made a magical film, full of Rohmer-esque comedy. Both a sensitive chronicle and delicate portrait of today's youth, his fresh cast of new faces fills us with romance and friendship while tempers fray and arguments erupt. **MPR**



**IFI@Home:**

**Available to rent from 18.00 on Monday 16th  
to 22.00 on Thursday 19th**

**Director: Antoine Russbach**

102 mins • France-Switzerland-Belgium • 2018  
Digital • Subtitled

## THOSE WHO WORK

(CEUX QUI TRAVAILLENT)

Frank (Olivier Gourmet) is consumed with his work chartering cargo ships for major international companies – night and day, he's on his phone, putting out fires. Faced with a crisis situation, Frank makes a brutal decision, and is subsequently fired. Feeling shaken to his core, and betrayed by a system to which he has given everything, Frank is forced to reassess his life and values in order to save the only relationship that still counts in his eyes, the one he has maintained with his youngest daughter, Mathilde. **DOM**



**IFI@Home:**

**Available to rent from 18.00 on Tuesday 17th to 22.00 on Friday 20th**

**Director: Michel Leclerc**

109 mins • France • 2020 • Digital • Subtitled

## THE NEST

(PINGOUIN ET GOËLAND ET LEURS 500 PETITS)

Director Michel Leclerc's mother and her friends (and legendary mime Marcel Marceau) were amongst 500 World War II orphans and foster kids raised by Yvonne & Roger Hagnauer, aka Goëland and Pingouin, code names for these strong-willed Resistance members. Between 1941-1970 at their school 'Maison de Sèvres', they dedicated their lives to innovative educational methods to help the children heal and blossom. Leclerc, through archive footage and interviews, uncovers in this fascinating, rich documentary a remarkable couple who left an indelible mark in all these children's hearts. Beginning with the story of his mother Léa, Leclerc gives us a unique account of freedom, education and openness, and something of what people lived and experienced during the war. **MPR**



**IFI@Home:**

**Available to rent from 18.00 on Tuesday 17th to 22.00 on Friday 20th**

**Director: Eric Lartigau**

98 mins • France • 2020 • Digital • Subtitled

## #IAMHERE

(#JESUISLÀ)

In this charming romantic comedy, Stéphane (Alain Chabat), a divorced chef in his 50s, has taken over his father's restaurant in the Pays Basque. He lives a quiet, satisfying life until one day he decides, quite irrationally, to travel to Seoul to meet Soo, a mysterious Korean lady he has fallen for on Instagram. Scheduled to meet at Seoul airport, things naturally don't go to plan. Eric Lartigau directs this colourful, charming, feel-good romcom, co-written with Thomas Bidegain. Chabat perfectly seizes the character of a man who is both confident and vulnerable as he wanders the airport terminals becoming something of a local celebrity. This great adventure is a catalyst for Stéphane to become for a time a 'French Lover', an odyssey which ultimately reconnects him with his loved ones. **MPR**



**IFI@Home:**

**Available to rent from 18.00 on Wednesday 18th to 22.00 on Saturday 21st**

**Director: Stéphanie Gillard**

88 mins • France • 2020 • Digital • Subtitled

## THE SQUAD

(LES JOUEUSES)



Olympique Lyonnaise is one of the best soccer teams in the world having, since 2011, won a collective 26 national and European titles. And yet, they are less recognisable than contemporary clubs such as Real Madrid or Chelsea, most likely on account of their being a women's soccer team. Stéphanie Gillard's illuminating behind-the-scenes feature documentary presents a welcome corrective to this male-centric view of the sport. With intimate access to her engaging subjects, we get to know these exceptional players both on and off the pitch, from training sessions to competitive matches, from failures to victories. **DOM**



**IFI@Home:**

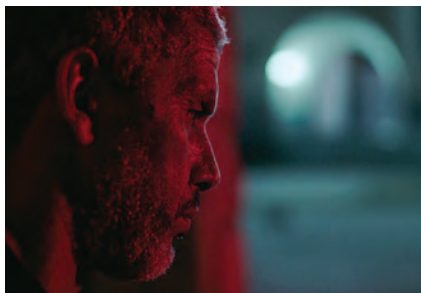
**Available to rent from 18.00 on Wednesday 18th to 22.00 on Saturday 21st**

**Director: Guillaume Nicloux**

93 mins • France • 2019 • Digital • Subtitled

## THALASSO

Director Guillaume Nicloux reunites ultra-mediatised provocateur Michel Houellebecq and larger-than-life Gérard Depardieu at the laboratory-like seawater spa in Cabourg, Normandy where they undertake a strict health regime. Denied his usual vices of smoking and drinking, the writer finds solace in the bacchanalian and gargantuan presence of France's most famous actor, with the two casually shooting the breeze amid all their algae wraps, mud massages and cryotherapy treatments, while sneaking in cigarettes and alcohol whenever they can. Nicloux relishes the game here, playing with the real and fictional identities of Houellebecq and Depardieu. Documentary, fiction, truth and lies collide in the brilliantly comic, tragic and grotesque *Thalasso*. **MPR**



**IFI@Home:**

**Available to rent from 18.00 on Thursday 19th to 22.00 on Sunday 22nd**

**Director: Mehdi Barsaoui**

95 mins • France-Tunisia-Lebanon-Qatar • 2020  
Digital • Subtitled

## A SON

(BIK ENEICH: UN FILS)

It is summer 2011 in Tunisia, and wealthy couple Fares (Sami Bouajila) and Meriem (Najla Ben Abdallah) are holidaying in the south of the country with their son Aziz. Accidentally caught up in an ambush, their car gets hit and Aziz is shot. At the local hospital in need of a liver transplant, a long-concealed family secret is unearthed. Tunisian director Mehdi Barsaoui's first feature is a tense, sensitive and troubling drama set to the backdrop of political and social upheaval, just months after the fall of Ben Ali and weeks before that of Gaddafi in Libya. The story brings questions of masculinity, paternity, the place of women, and trafficking of human organs to the fore. Haunting music from Amine Bouhafaf and elliptical narrative structures combine to slowly reveal the family's unspoken past. **MPR**



**IFI@Home:**

**Available to rent from 18.00 on Thursday 19th to 22.00 on Sunday 22nd**

**Director: Ludovic Bergery**

100 mins • France • 2020 • Digital • Subtitled

## MARGAUX HARTMANN

(L'ÉTREINTE)

50-something Margaux (Emmanuelle Béart) returns to her hometown near Versailles to reconnect with her sister Marianne (Eva Ionesco) following the death of her older husband. Having married young and with no children, for Margaux being alone is a new experience. When she takes up studies in German literature with a view to becoming a translator, she meets a group of students and befriends one of them. Béart makes a luminous comeback, subtly capturing Margaux's grief, and isolation, reaching out to retake possession of her life. Beautifully shot on film, framing the longing and the passing of time at a measured pace, we feel immersed, as night-time scenes and landscapes perfectly mirror Margaux's inner world. **MPR**



**IFI@Home:** Available to rent from 18.00 on Friday 20th to 22.00 on Monday 23rd

**Director:** Philippe Garrel

100 mins • France-Switzerland • 2020 • Digital  
Subtitled • Black and White

## THE SALT OF TEARS

(LE SEL DES LARMES)



Luc (Logann Antuofermo) is a young, serial lover: first Djemila (Oulaya Amamra), then Geneviève (Louise Chevillotte), and then Betsy (Souheila Yacoub). In parallel, he is seeking his vocation in life and coming to terms with his relationship with his father (André Wilms).

Veteran filmmaker Philippe Garrel, whose films are regularly screened at the IFI French Film Festival, is back with the latest instalment in a cycle of films which began in 2013. Working with regular collaborators – screenwriters Jean-Claude Carrière and Arlette Langmann, cinematographer Renato Berta, and composer Jean-Louis Aubert – this pared-back cinema, using a minimum of resources, reminds us very much of the cinema of Maurice Pialat and Jean Eustace. A cinema which is emotional and instinctive.

**MPR**



**IFI@Home:**  
Available to rent from 12.00 on Saturday 21st to 22.00 on Tuesday 24th

**Director:** Caroline Vignal

97 mins • France • 2020 • Digital • Subtitled

## MY DONKEY, MY LOVER AND I

(ANTOINETTE DANS LES CÉVENNES)



School teacher Antoinette Lapouge (a luminous Laure Calamy) is secretly in love with Vladimir (Benjamin Lavernhe), the father of one of her students. Having organised a week away together, Vladimir's wife unexpectedly books a holiday hike with the family in the Cévennes. Antoinette decides to set off to the Cévennes too, but on a very stubborn donkey named Patrick, who is reluctant to move. Antoinette confides in him, talking as if he was her therapist, which amusingly is the catalyst for him to move. Set in the scenic and sunny south, and inspired by Robert Louis Stevenson's masterpiece *Travels With a Donkey in the Cévennes*, Caroline Vignal's delightful film is an enchanting story about liberation and being fearless. **MPR**



**IFI@Home:**  
Available to rent from 12.00 on Sunday 22nd to 22.00 on Wednesday 25th

**Director:** Mariana Otero

93 mins • France • 2019 • Digital • Subtitled

## LOOKING FOR GILLES CARON

(HISTOIRE D'UN REGARD)

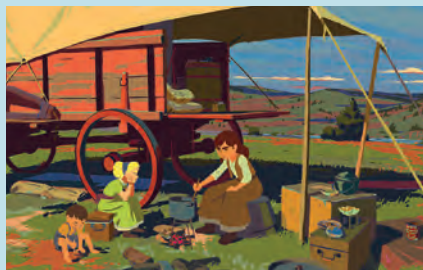


French photojournalist Gilles Caron disappeared in Cambodia in 1970, aged 30, at the height of a brilliant career, with more than 100,000 photographs to his name. With honesty and rigour, Caron covered high profile and dramatic conflicts from Vietnam to Biafra, Nigeria to Paris May '68, and to the Derry of 1969 where he took 1,200 photos in just three days. Filmmaker Mariana Otero offers us a resonant and moving portrait as she investigates and reflects on the ambiguous role and presence of the documentary photographer in scenes of conflict. **MPR**

The online rental of *Looking for Gilles Caron* will include a bonus talk with director Mariana Otero and Martin McCabe (Lecturer, BA Photography, TU Dublin).



# IFI FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL FAMILY SCREENING



**IFI@Home:**

**Available to rent from 12.00 on Sunday 22nd to 22.00 on Wednesday 25th**

**Director: Rémi Chayé**

85 mins • France-Denmark • 2020 • Digital • Subtitled

## CALAMITY

(CALAMITY, UNE ENFANCE DE MARTHA JANE CANNARY)

Winner of the Cristal Award at the 2020 Annecy International Animation Festival, this is a gorgeous family feature from French animator Rémi Chayé (*The Secret of Kells*), bringing his recognisable hand-drawn style to the Wild West. It's 1863 and young Martha Jane Cannary is riding along with a convoy of wagons headed west. When circumstances force her to care for the horses, she scandalously cuts off her hair and dons trousers, the better to function in a man's world. Gaining in strength as she drives west, Martha Jane's encounters with danger and adventure lead to her growing up as the frontierswoman and heroine, Calamity Jane. **AMG**

**Age recommendation: 10+**

## JEAN GRÉMILLON FOCUS

We are delighted to present rare screenings of four important works by director Jean Grémillon (1901–59). Vastly under-rated outside France, Grémillon started directing documentaries, making two features during the silent era, before directing over 20 features with sound. Filled with humanity and modernity, his films explore themes of obsession and inner conflicts, with strong, independent female characters, and carefully observed depictions of working class society.

The festival will feature a talk with French film historian Geneviève Sellier, Professor of Film Studies at the

University Michel de Montaigne in Bordeaux, and author of *Jean Grémillon Le Ciel est à vous* (2012). The talk will be moderated by Douglas Smith, Associate Professor, School of Languages, Cultures and Linguistics, University College Dublin. See IFI@Home for details.

This programme is organised with the support of the Institut Français, Paris and the French Embassy in Ireland. A very special thanks to Christine Houard, Institut Français; Cultural Service of the French Embassy in Ireland; Gaumont; TF1 International; and MK2 Films.

## THE WOMAN WHO DARED

(LE CIEL EST À VOUS)



The Gauthier family – Pierre, his wife Thérèse, their two children, and Thérèse's mother – leave the old country garage they have been running for years to settle in a nearby town.

Thérèse suddenly develops a passion for flying, aided by Pierre, a former fighter pilot. With a screenplay by Charles Spaak, *The Woman Who Dared* is inspired by real-life aviatrixes. Beautifully shot in a realistic documentary style, it is considered by many to be Grémillon's masterpiece. The film includes wonderful performances from Madeleine Renaud and Charles Vanel.

**IFI@Home: Available to rent from 12.00 on Saturday 14th to 22.00 on Tuesday 17th**

105 mins • France • 1944 • Digital • Subtitled • Black & White

## STORMY WATERS

(REMRQUES)



André Laurent (Jean Gabin), captain of a tugboat, is husband to the frail Yvonne, who suffers from a heart complaint. One stormy night, a wedding party is interrupted by an SOS,

and a rescue operation ensues during which André meets the beautiful Catherine (Michèle Morgan). Based on the novel by Roger Verclé with dialogue by Jacques Prévert, this lyrical melodrama began shooting in France in 1939 as war broke out. Released in 1941, it was eventually banned as Gabin had joined the Free French Forces. Groundbreaking in its modernity, the film contains complex and compelling staged storm scenes, filled with dramatic tension.

**IFI@Home: Available to rent from 12.00 on Sunday 15th to 22.00 on Wednesday 18th**

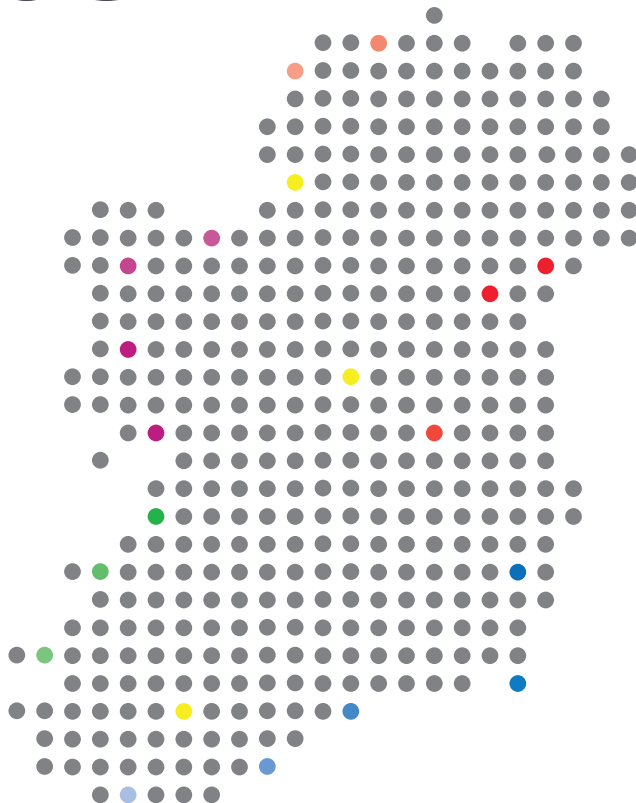
84 mins • France • 1941 • Digital • Subtitled • Black & White



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