



THEATRE RAYMOND KABBAZ PRESENTS

A WEEK OF FRENCH LANGUAGE CINEMA

March 18-23, 2022



Québec



CONSULATE GENERAL
OF THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM



–PROGRAM–

About the event "A Week of French Language Cinema"

March 18th – 23rd

For the thirteenth year, we work in collaboration with the Consulates of France, Belgium, Switzerland, Canada, the Quebec Government Office in Los Angeles, and Le Lycée Français de Los Angeles to present A Week of French Language Cinema, with nightly screenings of critically acclaimed French language films, from Friday, March 18 through Wednesday, March 23, 2022.

This collection of feature films celebrates the richness and diversity of the global French-speaking population, and relishes in the variety of stories told in one language across all five continents. A Week of French Language Cinema is celebrated every year in conjunction with International Organization of La Francophonie (OIF)'s annual celebration of French language and Francophone cultures on March 20th.

This evening France is honored with the film Saint Laurent, and we are thankful to Lizzie Brocheré, friend of Gaspard Ulliel, who will say a few words in his honor.

On-site exhibition of paintings and works on paper by **Renée Caouette**, a local artist of French descent.

Wine generously provided by the Consulate General of France in Los Angeles.

Find out more about our **next screenings for this week**, our **sponsors**, and our **upcoming events** at the end of the program.

About tonight's film "Saint Laurent"

France / 2014 / 2h30min

The film tells the story of the life of Yves Saint Laurent, played by Gaspard Ulliel, mostly between 1967 and 1976, and considered the designer's "dark" period because of professional and emotional anxiety along with tumultuous relationships with the dandy Jacques de Bascher (Louis Garrel) Pierre Bergé (Jérémie Renier). The film focuses on his working methods, the meeting of his two muses, Loulou de la Falaise (Léa Seydoux) and Betty Catroux (Aymeline Valade), the excesses of his nights during which the couturier goes out a lot, but above all, on the daily isolation and the pressure exerted on Saint Laurent. The film is a compulsively detailed swirl of moods and impressions, intent on capturing the contradictions of the man of his times.

Bonello sums up the film's guideline as follows: "We weren't interested in showing how Yves Saint Laurent became a genius. We wanted to show what it cost him every day to be who he was, and that's why, at the beginning of the film, he is already a star." With this biopic, Bonello embraces all his fetishes (nightlife, drugs...) and leads them in a macabre, suave, lyrical, and endlessly fascinating dance.



-DETAILS-

BERTRAND BONELLO – Director



The film is directed by Bertrand Bonello, born in 1968 in Nice, who is also a French screenwriter, actor, producer, and author.

His feature films have all received prestigious academic recognition.

His first feature film, *Quelque chose d'organique* (1998), was presented at the Berlin Film Festival in the Panorama section and immediately placed him in the new generation of filmmakers seeking to unravel the web of carnal and mental relationships.

Although his second film *The Pornographer*, a portrait of an aging and neurotic pornographic film director, was criticized, it was presented at the International Critics' Week at the 2001 Cannes Film Festival and won the prestigious FIPRESCI award. The theme of sexual identity is very present in Bonello's work, visible in *Tiresia*, a portrait of a Brazilian transsexual, a film that is also presented at the Cannes Film Festival in 2003. The director reached the consecration during the years 2010 with notably *L'Apollinide: Souvenirs de la maison close* and *Saint Laurent*.

GASPARD ULLIEL – as Yves Saint Laurent



Gaspard Ulliel is a French actor and model, born in 1984 and unfortunately died this year, on January 19, 2022.

He became known to the public in 2004 thanks to his role in *Un Long Dimanche de Fiançailles*, directed by Jean-Pierre Jeunet and starring Audrey Tautou. Indeed, in addition to making 70 million dollars at the box office worldwide, Ulliel was nominated for the third time for a Best Emerging Actor Cesar Award and this time, he finally won.

His performance for *It's Only the End of the World* (*Juste la Fin du Monde*), directed by the prodigy Xavier Dolan, surrounded by Nathalie Baye, Marion Cotillard, Léa Seydoux, and Vincent Cassel. Ulliel received César award for this performance at its 42nd ceremony in 2017.

During his sadly shortened life, played alongside, among others, Isabelle Huppert, Jean Reno, Gerard Depardieu, Adèle Haenel, Louis Garrel, Alex Lutz, had to work with Vincent Lindon and Ramzy Bedia and played in almost thirty feature films, an honorary career that earned him the award Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres.

JÉRÉMIE REINIER — as Pierre Bergé



Jérémie Renier is a Belgian actor, born in 1981 in Brussels.

In 2005, he played the main role in *L'Enfant* (The Child), directed by the Dardenne brothers (2004), a film that received the Palme d'Or at the 2005 Cannes Film Festival. It was neither the first nor the last time he shot for the great Dardenne brothers. He played in films that have become classics such as *In Bruges* and *Dikkenek*. Renier is also famous for his role in three films by François Ozon: *Criminal Lovers*, *Potiche* and *The Double Lover*.

In 2012, he received the Magritte for best supporting actor at the Magritte du cinéma, for his role in *Potiche*. The same year, he plays the singer Claude François in the biographical film *Cloclo* directed by Florent-Emilio Siri, for which he will be nominated three times best actor at the ceremonies of the Césars, Magrittes and Lumières.

At the Magrittes of 2015, he won the award for best actor in a supporting role for *Saint Laurent*.

He appeared in 3 films with his close friend Gaspard Ulliel: *Brotherhood of the Wolf*, *A Heavenly Vintage* and, as you already know, *Saint Laurent*. Renier was also one of the pallbearers at Ulliel's funeral.

For *Saint Laurent*, it's the second time he shoots with Bertrand Bonello, after *The Pornographer* (2001).

CAST

Gaspard Ulliel: **Yves Saint Laurent**

Jérémie Renier: **Pierre Bergé**

Louis Garrel: **Jacques de Bascher**

Léa Seydoux: **Loulou de la Falaise**

Aymeline Valade: **Betty Catroux**

Helmut Berger: **Yves Saint Laurent, old**

AWARDS

40th Cesar Awards: Best Costume Design

20th Lumières Awards: Best Actor

5th Magritte Awards: Best Supporting Actor

International Cinephile Society Awards 2016: Best Actor Gaspard Ulliel

Nominated for:

2014 Cannes Festival: Palme d'Or 40th Cesar Awards

in 9 categories Globes de Cristal Award: Best Actor

Louis Delluc Prize: Best Film

20th Lumières Awards in 5 categories

NEXT SCREENINGS FOR A WEEK OF FRENCH LANGUAGE CINEMA



NIGHT 2 — SWITZERLAND — Saturday,
March 19th

OLGA, 2021

Half-Swiss, half-Ukrainian Olga is a talented gymnast exiled in Switzerland. Like all athletes at the top of their game, she dreams of Olympic gold. Olga tries her best to focus on her goals and fit into her new national team but, as the European Championship draws near, developments at home unsettle her and test her will.

NIGHT 3 — CANADA — Sunday, March 20th

Call Me Human, 2020

When the elders leave us, a link to the past disappears with them. The Innu woman of letters, Joséphine Bacon, embodies this generation that witnessed a time that is soon to be over. With charisma and sensitivity, she leads a fight against oblivion and the disappearance of a language, a culture and its traditions. Following in the footsteps of Papakassik, the caribou master, JE M'APPELLE HUMAIN proposes an incursion into the history of a multi-millennial people alongside a free woman who has devoted her life to transmitting her knowledge and that of her ancestors. In her language, Innu means "human".





NIGHT 4 – A MOVIE FROM A RWANDAN DIRECTOR (Joël Karekezi)– Monday, March 21st

War-weary Sergeant Xavier and fresh recruit Private Faustin are accidentally separated from their Rwandan battalion inside Congolese territory when it is called out suddenly on nighttime raid. They face a lack of water, food, and threats from malarial fever and jungle wildlife. The two seek to reunite with the battalion by heading westward but must remain wary of interacting with the local population given Congolese antipathy to the Rwandan Army and the presence of irregular rebel factions.

NIGHT 5 – QUEBEC – Tuesday, March 22nd

14 Days 12 Nights

This moving drama follows Isabelle Brodeur (Anne Dorval) as she embarks on a journey to Vietnam, her adopted daughter's birthplace. During the trip, Isabelle learns the existence and whereabouts of her daughter's biological mother. Throughout this stunningly beautiful journey in the Vietnamese countryside, Isabelle discovers her daughter's country through the eyes of the woman who brought her into this world.





NIGHT 6 — BELGIUM — Wednesday, March 23rd

Two children, Abel and his little sister Nora, are starting a new school. Soon, Abel falls prey to a small gang of children who bully him day after day. To his sister who first tried to alert the adults, Abel urged her to not say a word, and she obeyed at first. When she finally decides to speak out, she too finds herself being bullied by the school bullies.

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The logo consists of a large, stylized letter 'C' that is lime green on the left and teal on the right. Inside the teal portion of the 'C', the text 'TV5 MONDE PLUS' is written in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters.

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A still from the film Elsewhere. Directed and Choreographed by Mike Tyus & Madison Olandt, 2021.

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