



**The 48th Hong Kong French Film Festival**  
**Cine Panorama: 20<sup>th</sup> November to 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2019**  
**Retrospective: “60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of French New Wave”**  
**7<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>th</sup> November 2019**  
**Tickets available NOW**

## **48<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong French Film Festival**

**A yearly rendezvous with French films, fabulous programme with the presence of French film director!**

8<sup>th</sup> November, 2019 (Hong Kong) – The French Cinepanorama, Hong Kong French Film Festival, is back in town! Organized by the Alliance Française de Hong Kong with the support of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, the 48<sup>th</sup> French Cinepanorama will run from the 20<sup>th</sup> November to 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2019 for the films of the year and retrospective programme will take place from 7<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> November 2019 dedicated to celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of French New Wave (Nouvelle Vague).

In celebration of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of French New Wave, there will be a photo exhibition of famous French photographer Raymond Cauchetier at the Hong Kong Arts Centre from 7<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

### **Meet French Directors**

The 48<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong French Film Festival is welcoming French directors to meet Hong Kong film lovers! (Please refer to appendix 1. Festival Guests for their Biography)

#### **Director of *Fahim, the Little Chess Prince*, Pierre-François Martin-Laval**

Pierre-François Martin-Laval will present his latest film and meet the Hong Kong audience at a post screening following the screening of his film latest film, *Fahim, the Little Chess Prince* on November 23<sup>rd</sup> at AMC Pacific Place. There will be another post screening Q&A session on November 24<sup>th</sup> at Palace IFC.

### **2019 New Releases**

Hong Kong French Film Festival is one of the oldest film festivals with the longest history in Hong Kong, screening over a 1600 acclaimed French films and documentaries since 1953. As a pioneer of film festivals in Hong Kong, we are dedicated to bringing the best and the latest French films to Hong Kong audiences. It is our pleasure to present 28 newly releases French films to you this year in 5 main themes: Cannes Awards, Hong Kong Gala Premiere, Family-Friendly, Animations, and Outings with Friends.

### **Cannes Awards**

Cannes Film Festival is undoubtedly one of the most internationally recognized film festivals.



This year we are thrilled to present a great selection of award-winning films and films that have been screened at the 2019 Cannes Film Festival.

### ***A Brother's Love***

Sophia, an unemployed academic, is forced to change the way she thinks and lives her life when Karim, her beloved brother, falls in love.

*Prix Coup de cœur du jury, Un Certain Regard – Cannes Film Cannes, 2019*

### ***On a Magical night***

After 20 years of marriage, Maria decides to leave. She moves to the room 212 of the hotel opposite her marital home. From there, Maria can scrutinize her apartment, her husband, her wedding. She wonders if she has made the right decision.

*Prize for Best Performance: Chiara Mastroianni – Un Certain Regard, Cannes Film Festival, 2019*

### ***Portrait of a Lady on Fire***

On an isolated island in Brittany at the end of the eighteenth century, a female painter is obliged to paint a wedding portrait of a young woman.

*Best Screenplay Award: Céline Sciamma / Queer Palm – Cannes Film Festival, 2019*

### ***La Belle Epoque***

Victor, in the sixties, has his life turned upside down the day that Antoine, a flourishing entrepreneur, offers him a unique new brand of entertainment. Using a combination of theatrical artifice and historical re-enactment, his company gives its clients the opportunity to travel back in time, they can delve back into the period of their choice. Victor decides to relive the most memorable week of his existence, 40 years earlier, when he met the love of his life.

*Official Selection - Out of Competition, Cannes Film Festival, 2019*

### **Hong Kong Gala Premiere**

We are more than excited to present you a list of films that will be screened in Hong Kong for the first time ever. This includes the opening film *Fahim, the Little Chess Prince*, *Love at Second Sight*, *Spread Your Wings*, *The Translators* and *The Truth*.

### ***Fahim, the Little Chess Prince***

Forced to flee from his hometown Bangladesh, eight year-old chess prodigy Fahim arrives in Paris with his father. As a refused asylum they become illegal immigrants and spiral downwards into homelessness and desperation. By a stroke of luck, Fahim is introduced to one of France's top chess coaches, Sylvain, who tutors and gives him a sense of purpose - his struggles on the chessboard mirroring both his victories and his crushing defeats in his battle for a normal life.

### ***The Specials***

It is a story about two men, educators of children and adolescents with autism.

*Official Selection – Out of Competition / Closing Film, Cannes Film Festival, 2019*



### ***Love at Second Sight***

It's a story about a couple, Raphael and Olivier who are married for 10 years, and fell in love over again after a big fight. One day Raphael wakes up in parallel universe as unmarried and he must go above and beyond to win back the love of his life, who in this world has absolutely no idea who he is. *François Civil for Best Actor – L'Alpe d'Huez International Comedy Film Festival, 2019*

### ***The Truth***

Starring Catherine Deneuve and directed by Hirokazu Koreeda, the film is about a stormy reunion between a daughter and her actress mother, Catherine, against the backdrop of Catherine's latest role in a sci-fi picture as a mother who never grows old. *Official Selection – In Competition, Venice International Film Festival, 2019*

### **Family-Friendly**

Going to a cinema is probably one of the best family activities. Make sure to check out the selection of family-friendly films that are best for a family day!

### ***Spread Your Wings***

Christian, an ornithologist, works on a lifetime project. He wants to teach orphaned geese how to migrate. He will guide them, from Norway to France, along safe migration routes by using his ultralight airplane. Thomas is sceptical about his father's foolhardy plans. Stuck at his father's farm, the teenager gets to spend time with the birds. Gradually, Thomas connects with the geese and cares about them. Soon father and son will embark on a fantastic journey...

### ***Forward***

Their names are Micah, Chris, Heena, José Adolfo, Arthur, Khloe, Kevin, Aissatou. They are the voices of their generation in their countries. From Peru to India, from France to Guinea, they fight locally against extreme poverty, social inequalities and climate change. They are the children who will change the world.

### ***How to Become an Astronaut***

At the age of 38, Thomas Pesquet becomes the 10th and the youngest French astronaut to be selected for a 180 days mission in the ISS. Oleg Novitskiy, the Russian pilot and the American Peggy Whitson, the most experienced astronaut in the world, train alongside him.

### **Animations**

Animated film is definitely one of the most popular film categories among many others. Our picks this year include award winning animations from Annecy International Animation Film Festival 2019. These animations are for all, including adults, kids and families!

### ***Terra Willy***

Following the destruction of their ship, the young Willy is separated from his parents with



whom he travelled in space. His spare capsule lands on a wild and unexplored planet. With the help of Buck, a survival robot, he will have to hold until the arrival of a rescue mission.  
*Official Selection – Out of Competition, Annecy International Animation Film Festival, 2019*

### ***The Prince's Voyage***

An old monkey prince runs aground on an unknown shore. Injured and lost, he is found by 12 year-old Tom, and taken in by his parents, a couple of scientists who were banished from their community because they believe in the existence of other monkey civilisations. With Tom's help, the Prince discovers a society he knows nothing about, while Tom's parents decide to use him to prove that their theory was indeed correct...

*Honorary Crystal for Jean-François Laguionie - Annecy Festival, 2019*

### ***The Swallows of Kabul***

Since the ascendancy of the Taliban, the lives of Mosheen and his wife, Zunaira, have been gradually destroyed. Mosheen's dream of becoming a diplomat has been shattered and Zunaira can no longer even appear on the streets of Kabul unveiled. Atiq is a jailer who guards those who have been condemned to death. Atiq's wife, Musarrat, is suffering from an incurable illness. Yet, the lives of these four people are about to become inexplicably intertwined, through death and imprisonment to passion and extraordinary self-sacrifice.

*Official Selection – Un Certain Regard, Cannes Film Festival, 2019*

*Official Selection – In Competition, Annecy International Animation Film Festival, 2019*

### **Outings with Friends**

Going to cinema with friends is always a good idea. As the name of this category suggests, this selection includes a list of films about adventures with friends.

### ***Matthias & Maxime***

A drama focusing on a group of friends in their late 20s.

*Official Selection – In Competition, Cannes Film Festival, 2019*

### ***Alice and the Mayor***

The mayor of Lyon is in existential crisis. After 30 years in politics, he feels totally empty and devoid of ideas. As a fix for this problem, his aides bring a brilliant young philosopher, into his inner circle.

*Europa Cinemas Label Award & Directors' Fortnight - Cannes Film Festival 2019*

### ***Little White Lies 2***

Preoccupied and on the verge of depression, Max takes off for a long weekend alone in his house at Cap Ferret, on France's Atlantic coast. Eric, Marie, Vincent, Isabelle, Antoine and the kids hatch a plan to spring a surprise birthday party on him there, the day after he arrives. After drifting apart for so many years, it's an opportunity to catch up on life's ups-and-downs. But when the children have grown, couples have parted, daily lives have diverged, and everybody keeps telling their little white lies, what remains of friendship?



## **Retrospective – 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of French New Wave (from 7<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> November, 2019)**

2019 marks the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the French New Wave, an iconic milestone in cinema history. In celebration of this anniversary with our Retrospective Partner Hong Kong Arts Centre, we are pleased to invite you to embark on a cinematic and photographic journey to rediscover some of the best French film classics of this era. The French New Wave is one of the most significant film movements in the history of the cinema. During the late 1950s and early 1960s, the New Wave movement was spearheaded by directors and actors such as Agnes Varda, Jean-Luc Godard, François Truffaut, Jacques Demy and Jeanne Moreau.

***The 400 Blows*** - Les Quatre Cents Coups  
***Bay of Angels*** - La Baie des Anges  
***Breathless*** - À bout de souffle  
***Chronicle of a Summer*** - Chronique d'un été  
***Cleo From 5 To 7*** - Cléo de 5 à 7  
***Jules And Jim*** - Jules et Jim  
***Last Year At Marienbad*** - L'Année dernière à Marienbad  
***Lola*** – Lola  
***A Man And A Woman*** - Un homme et une femme  
***Paris Belongs To Us*** - Paris nous appartient  
***The Sign Of Leo*** - Le Signe du Lion  
***The Soft Skin*** - La Peau douce  
***A Woman Is A Woman*** - Une femme est une femme

## **About French New Wave, 60th Anniversary – Images of French New Wave by Raymond Cauchetier**

**Date: 7-24/11/2019**

Opening hours: 10am–6pm (Opening hours may change if Shouson Theatre has day-time performance)

Venue: Experimental Gallery, 3/F, Hong Kong Arts Centre

Price: Free admission

The 48th edition of Hong Kong French Film Festival marks the 60th anniversary of the French New Wave, an iconic milestone in cinema history. In celebration of this anniversary, we are pleased to invite you to rediscover its iconic actors and directors through a photo exhibition at the Hong Kong Arts Centre.

The French New Wave is one of the most significant film movements in the history of the cinema. During the late 1950s and early 1960s, the New Wave movement was spearheaded by Jean-Luc Godard and François Truffaut. Among a group of directors made this period of time so remarkable with timeless and iconic films. Raymond Cauchetier was a film set photographer on some of the most important films of the French New Wave and he has photographed countless classic photos. His work is seen as witness of a symbolic, energetic and experimental era, French New Wave. It is a rare insight into French cinema to see Raymond getting the recognition his work deserves, when for many years he remained unacknowledged in his field.



Designed by Raymond Cauchetier, the set photographer of the New Wave, this exhibition will give you the opportunity to discover some treasures of the world heritage of cinema. Film lovers and fans of Jean-Luc Godard, François Truffaut and Jeanne Moreau, this exhibition will thrill you!

**HKFFF Website:**

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

**Ticketing:**

**Tickets available NOW**

**Press kit download:** <http://bit.ly/2S6bwdA>

**For media enquires & interview requests, please contact:**

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**About French Cinépanorama (Hong Kong French Film Festival)**

**How did it start?**

Alliance Française de Hong Kong has been committed to the promotion of French cinema since its establishment in 1953. That same year it organised the first French film Festival in Hong Kong - the pioneering edition - making it the oldest film festival in the city. The first festival presented the “cult-to-be” film “Mr. Hulot’s Holiday” by Jacques Tati at the Queen Theatre, immediately after its release in France. Since then the festival has always brought the latest films to Hong Kong.

**The organisation behind the festival**

The festival is passionately created and presented by Alliance Française de Hong Kong, the city’s long-established French language and cultural center since 1953. Nonetheless, the festival wouldn’t be a success without the support of many other organisations, such as the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, UniFrance, the French Consulate, local theaters, film distributors, sponsors and many other partners.



### **More than 47 editions of the festival**

Since 1972 the festival has become a regular event each year, in collaboration with the LCSD. Today we celebrate the 45th consecutive edition of the festival. The festival has screened hundreds of French films, attracted a wide range of audience from cinema lovers to the general public, including some Hong Kong artists and directors who enjoyed their first exposure to French cinema at the festival.

### **The festival attracts the stars**

Over the years, many French actors and directors have been joined the celebrations of the festival and met Hong Kong audiences through Q&A sessions or press conferences: from the recently invited guests Gaspard Ulliel (Saint Laurent), Frédéric Chau, Phillipe de Chauveron (Serial Bad Weddings), Abdellatif Kechiche (Blue is the Warmest Colour – Palme d’Or) to the iconic Pierre Richard, Miu Miu, Gérard Jugnot, Matthieu Kassovitz, Cédric Klapisch, Isabelle Huppert, Olivier Assayas, Tran Anh Hung and many more.

### **Dynamism, Diversity and Quality**

The festival always promotes and accompanies the evolution of French cinema, from the prominent and influential new wave period until today. Each festival is a new challenge for the team to bring you the continuing renewal and invigorating diversity of French cinema, from first works to multi-awarded movies, making the programme accessible and truly representative of what French cinema is today.