



Irish Film Institute



The Irish Film Institute's

FrenchFilmFestival

19th-29th November 2009



Introduction

This year's IFI French Film Festival aims, as ever, to provide an eclectic look at the best of recent French cinema and this year's programme is nothing if not wide-ranging in its content. From romantic melodramas to hip-hop animation, prison drama to slapstick comedies, intimate documentaries to drooling hordes of zombies, you'll have plenty to choose from.

We kick off the Festival with the latest film from Jean-Pierre Jeunet (*Delicatessen, Amélie*), *MICMACS*, an absolutely wonderful comedy-satire surely destined to be one of the biggest French films of 2010, before closing on the 29th of November with *Around a Small Mountain*, the latest film from legend of the French New Wave, Jacques Rivette - an appropriate way to end things in this, the 50th anniversary of the movement.

We'll be taking a retrospective look at the work of comedy genius Jacques Tati, with a 70mm screening of *PlayTime*, a programme of short films, a digitally restored version of *Mr Hulot's Holiday*, and a fascinating new documentary looking at his life and career. The Festival's comedic bent continues through new films too. In addition to the aforementioned *MICMACS*, we have films such as *The French Kissers*, one of the hits of Cannes' Directors' Fortnight, and the return of Emmanuel Mouret (*Shall We Kiss?*) to the Festival with his screwball comedy *Please, Please Me!*

Fans of documentary should take a look at Michel Gondry's delicate, touching film examining the life of his aunt, *The Thorn in the Heart*, and Serge Bromberg's stunning *Henri-George Clouzot's Inferno*, a brilliant examination of Clouzot's legendary

unfinished film featuring newly discovered footage.

If all this wasn't enough, we'll have Irish premieres of work from Claude Chabrol, André Téchiné, Christophe Honoré, Jacques Audiard and Benoît Jacquot to name but a few.

Of course, the Festival isn't just limited to films - a night of French hip-hop will follow a screening of *Round Da Way*, we'll have a panel discussion looking at the legacy of Jacques Tati, the IFI's French Film Club (details on page 13), late-night horror in the form of *The Horde* and a quiz night in the IFI's newly renovated bar.

Whether you indulge in one or ten days of French cinema, we hope you'll find much to enjoy in this year's Festival.

Niall Macpherson
IFI Festivals & Events Programmer

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Cover: *Henri-George Clouzot's Inferno*
Serge Bromberg, Director

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Schedule

Thursday 19th	18:30	MICMACS (Micmacs à tire-larigot)
Friday 20th	17:00	Tati Shorts
	18:15	Séraphine
	20:45	The French Kissers (Les Beaux gosses)
Saturday 21st	14:00	Monsieur Hulot's Holiday (Les Vacances de Monsieur Hulot)
	16:30	Someone I Loved (Je l'aimais)
	18:45	The French Kissers (Les Beaux gosses)
	20:45	The Girl on the Train (La Fille du RER)
Sunday 22nd	14:00	PlayTime
	16:30	Someone I Loved (Je l'aimais)
	18:30	Bellamy
	20:45	The Beautiful Person (La Belle personne)
Monday 23rd	18:15	The Girl on the Train (La Fille du RER)
	20:30	Bellamy
Tuesday 24th	16:15	Bellamy
	18:30	Henri-George Clouzot's Inferno (L'Enfer d'Henri-Georges Clouzot)
	20:30	Regrets (Les Regrets)
Wednesday 25th	18:15	The Thorn in the Heart (L'Épine dans le coeur)
	20:15	A Prophet (Un prophète)
Thursday 26th	16:15	Regrets (Les Regrets)
	18:30	The Thorn in the Heart (L'Épine dans le coeur)
	20:15	Please, Please Me! (Fais-moi plaisir!)
	22:00	The Horde (La Horde)
Friday 27th	16:30	Please, Please Me! (Fais-moi plaisir!)
	18:15	Hidden Diary (Mères et filles)
	20:30	Round Da Way (Les Lascars)
	22:00	Club Night
Saturday 28th	13:45	The Magnificent Tati
	15:30	Sisters (Gamines)
	17:45	Villa Amalia
	19:45	Hidden Diary (Mères et filles)
	21:45	Round Da Way (Les Lascars)
Sunday 29th	14:15	Sisters (Gamines)
	16:30	Bluebeard (Barbe Bleue)
	18:30	Around a Small Mountain (36 vues du Pic Saint-Loup)

Booking Information

Tickets cost €9, except for the opening and closing films which include a post-screening reception and cost €15 each. There are special package prices of €40 for 5 films and €70 for 11 films, but each ticket purchased must be for a different film and the package excludes the opening and closing films.

Tickets are available from IFI, 6 Eustace Street, Temple Bar, Dublin 2 or from the box office on 01 679 3477 or online at www.ifi.ie

Loyalty Get your free Loyalty Card from Box Office and earn points every time you spend at the IFI

Membership is required for all films. Daily membership costs €1 and annual membership just €25. Annual membership entitles the bearer to discounts on screenings, free preview screenings of selected films throughout the year, one complimentary ticket and a host of other benefits. See www.ifi.ie or call 01 679 5744 for further information.

MICMACS

(Micmacs à tire-larigot)

THURSDAY 19TH NOVEMBER, 18:30

IRISH PREMIERE

Director: Jean-Pierre Jeunet
France • 2009 • 104 minutes

We are delighted to be able to open this year's Festival with *MICMACS*, a film so wonderfully inventive, visually distinctive and utterly charming it could only have come from Jean-Pierre Jeunet. The film tells the story of Bazil (Dany Boon), a brain injured video store clerk and movie obsessive who, with the assistance of a coterie of colourful characters, plans to bring down two local arms dealers. As a child, Bazil lost his father in a landmine accident, and when decades later a stray bullet becomes lodged in his skull he finds himself in

a position to exact revenge on those responsible. The worlds which Jeunet creates (*Delicatessen*, *The City of Lost Children*, *Amélie*) are always beautifully realised. *MICMACS* is certainly no exception; it looks stunning, but as with all his films, its success isn't solely reliant on visual flair. A marvellous cast, great writing and Jeunet's skill as a storyteller combine to create a cracking comedic adventure.

This screening will be followed by a complimentary wine reception.



FRIDAY 20TH NOVEMBER, 18:15

Director: Martin Provost
France • 2008 • 125 minutes

Séraphine

This incredible biopic stars Yolande Moreau (also seen in *MICMACS*) in the title role as artist Séraphine Louis (now known as Séraphine de Senlis). When the German art critic Wilhelm Uhde (Ulrich Tukur) and his sister Anne-Marie (Anne Bennent) move into the small town of Senlis, he's shocked to discover the paintings of local maid Séraphine Louis who, living in poverty, creates the paints for her works using materials as diverse as animal blood, church candles and soil. Until her discovery by Uhde she was regarded as something of a joke by those around her and his interest in her ultimately offers the chance of national recognition. Sadly, this success proves to be fleeting.

Director and co-writer Martin Provost elicits a truly remarkable performance from Moreau, a deserved winner of the best actress César (*Séraphine* won seven, including best film).



FRIDAY 20TH NOVEMBER, 20:45

SATURDAY 21ST NOVEMBER, 18:45

IRISH PREMIERE

Director: Riad Sattouf
France • 2009 • 90 minutes

The French Kissers (Les Beaux gosses)

Pubescent, pimply, sex-obsessed high-schoolers Hervé (Vincent Lacoste) and Camel (Anthony Sonigo) want to get girlfriends, get laid and get cool. So far, so *American Pie*. But there's far more to this wonderful teen comedy than masturbation-based gross-out gags. Don't get me wrong, they're here in spades but comic-book writer turned filmmaker Riad Sattouf also brings a warmth and intelligence to his film which is so often lacking in its American counterparts.

Hervé and Camel don't exactly have much luck with the ladies, so it comes as something of a shock when classmate Aurore (Alice Trémolières) shows an interest in the hapless Hervé and the two embark on an awkward relationship. Astutely observed and, at times, very sweet natured, Sattouf strikes just the right balance between the genuinely touching moments we can all relate to and those outrageous, cringe-worthy scenes that, well, we can all relate to.



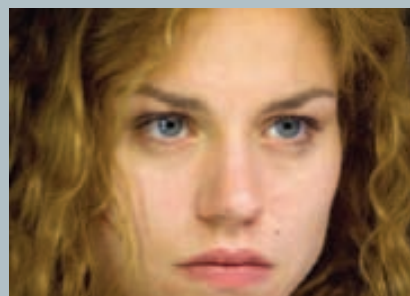
SATURDAY 21ST NOVEMBER, 16:30

SUNDAY 22ND NOVEMBER, 16:30

Director: Zabou Breitman
France • 2009 • 112 minutes

Someone I Loved (Je l'aimais)

Based on Anna Gavalda's novel of the same name, *Someone I Loved* is an unabashedly sentimental, old-fashioned romantic melodrama. It stars Daniel Auteuil and Marie-Josée Croze (also in *Hidden Diary*) as Pierre and Mathilde, illicit lovers engaged in a passionate affair. Chloé, Pierre's daughter-in-law, has recently separated from her husband after learning he has been unfaithful. As a means of escape, Pierre takes her and her two young daughters to a remote cottage in the country and it is here that, in a bid to ease the distraught Chloé's suffering, he recounts his relationship with the younger woman he fell deeply in love with many years before. Chloé listens intently as he charts the highs and lows of this intense romance, as well as his deep regrets.



SATURDAY 21ST NOVEMBER, 20:45

MONDAY 23RD NOVEMBER, 18:15

IRISH PREMIERE

Director: André Téchiné
France • 2009 • 102 minutes

The Girl on the Train (La Fille du RER)

Director André Téchiné lets the drama burn slowly in this hugely compelling film, which is based on a true incident, making the most of a supremely talented ensemble cast.

Emilie Dequenne (*Rosetta*) plays Jeanne, a young woman living in the suburbs of Paris who embarks on a whirlwind romance with aspiring wrestler Franck (Nicolas Duvauchoelle). The relationship comes to a sudden end however when Franck is brutally attacked, hospitalised and wants nothing more to do with Jeanne. The combination of the violence she has witnessed and the abrupt break-up leaves her emotionally traumatised, resulting in extreme and destructive behaviour. Claiming she was the target of an anti-Semitic attack, she sets off a chain reaction which affects all of those close to her, including lawyer Samuel Bleistein (Michel Blanc), a spokesman for the local Jewish community and an old flame of her mother's (Catherine Deneuve).



SUNDAY 22ND NOVEMBER, 18:30
 MONDAY 23RD NOVEMBER, 20:30
 TUESDAY 24TH NOVEMBER, 16:15

IRISH PREMIERE
Director: Claude Chabrol
 France • 2009 • 110 minutes



SUNDAY 22ND NOVEMBER 20:45

Director: Christophe Honoré
 France • 2008 • 95 minutes



TUESDAY 24TH NOVEMBER, 18:30

IRISH PREMIERE
Director: Serge Bromberg
 France • 2009 • 94 minutes

Bellamy

It comes as something of a surprise to realise that this low-key thriller marks the first occasion Claude Chabrol and Gérard Depardieu have worked together. In a role Chabrol created specifically for the actor, Depardieu stars as Paul Bellamy, a police inspector spending the summer with his wife (a fantastic Marie Bunel) in Southern France. Ever the detective, Bellamy finds his interest piqued when Noël Gentil (Jacques Gamblin) approaches him claiming to have killed a man. Bellamy can't help but delve into the case and this, combined with the unexpected arrival of his brother (Clovis Cornillac), leads to a particularly diverting holiday.

It's a neatly plotted and wholly engaging film from Chabrol, who, while clearly paying tribute to Georges Simenon's much-loved Maigret, has created a wonderful character in the form of Paul Bellamy. Depardieu, ably abetted by a wonderful supporting cast, embodies him beautifully.

The Beautiful Person (La Belle personne)

Inspired by the 1678 novel *La Princesse de Clèves* by Madame de Lafayette, Christophe Honoré's (*Dans Paris*) *The Beautiful Person* switches the drama from the court of Henry II to a contemporary Parisian high school where beautiful young student Junie (Léa Seydoux) has arrived following the death of her mother. She's soon fighting off the amorous advances of much of the male student population, eventually succumbing to the charms of the shy and reserved Otto (Grégoire Leprince-Ringuet). But it's a relationship which soon finds itself in jeopardy as Junie falls for the brooding Italian teacher Nemours (Honoré regular Louis Garrel).

"In our day, telling the story of a virtuous passion is much more of a challenge. In an age where amorous feelings must obligatorily find expression in 'doing the deed', renouncing instant gratification has become a form of perversion."
 Christophe Honoré

Henri-George Clouzot's Inferno

(L'Enfer d'Henri-Georges Clouzot)

Archivist Serge Bromberg tells the intriguing story of director Henri-George Clouzot's (*Les diaboliques*, *The Wages of Fear*) ill-fated film *Inferno*. In 1964, after a succession of profitable films, Clouzot found himself in a unique and enviable position – he could make a film unhindered by the limitations of budget. Inspired by Fellini's *8 1/2*, he set about making what he hoped to be his masterpiece. Intended as an intense study of jealousy, the film was to star Serge Reggiani and Romy Schneider. Able to let his imagination run free, the director experimented constantly, and the footage that Bromberg has unearthed for this documentary is simply mesmerising. No one knows exactly what the finished film could have been, or the impact it may have had, but through this brilliantly crafted documentary Bromberg offers us an all important glimpse.



TUESDAY 24TH NOVEMBER, 20:30
 THURSDAY 26TH NOVEMBER, 16:15

IRISH PREMIERE
Director: Cédric Kahn
 France • 2009 • 105 minutes



WEDNESDAY 25TH NOVEMBER, 18:15
 THURSDAY 26TH NOVEMBER, 18:30

IRISH PREMIERE
Director: Michel Gondry
 France • 2009 • 86 minutes



WEDNESDAY 25TH NOVEMBER, 20:15

IRISH PREMIERE
Director: Jacques Audiard
 France • 2009 • 154 minutes

Regrets (Les Regrets)

Regrets, the latest film from director Cédric Kahn (*Roberto Succo*, *Red Lights*), stars Yvan Attal and Valeria Bruni-Tedeschi as ex-lovers who become reacquainted and embark on a passionate and destructive affair. Attal plays Mathieu, an architect who returns to his hometown and, while there, runs into ex-girlfriend Maya (Bruni-Tedeschi). Despite the many years they've spent apart, the couple find they are still intensely attracted to one another.

Adultery is hardly an uncommon topic in French cinema (indeed it crops up in a number of the films playing as part of this Festival) but Kahn tackles the material in his own inimitable style. *Regrets* has far more in common with a slickly produced suspense thriller than romantic melodrama and it's this, combined with great performances from the leads, that makes it such a distinctive and engaging film.

The Thorn in the Heart

(L'Épine dans le coeur)

Michel Gondry's (*Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*, *The Science of Sleep*) latest film is at first glance disarmingly slight; on the face of it a home-movie exploring the life and work of his aunt, Suzette. But scratch beneath the surface and there's far more depth to this documentary than initially meets the eye.

Gondry's fondness and admiration for his aunt is what comes across first and foremost. A former school teacher, Suzette takes her nephew on a journey through her life and career, visiting the many schools at which she taught. But it's Gondry's exploration of her immediate family that reaps the most rewards, in particular those scenes which explore the multi-faceted relationship between Suzette and her son, Jean-Yves, the thorn in her heart, as she puts it. It's an honest and extremely heartfelt film.

A Prophet (Un prophète)

For many the highlight of this year's Cannes Film Festival (the film won the Grand Prix), *A Prophet* is a stunning piece of filmmaking and, without doubt, the finest crime drama of the year. Written and directed by Jacques Audiard (*The Beat My Heart Skipped*), it stars Tahar Rahim as 19-year-old Malik, an illiterate petty criminal condemned to six years in jail. Before long the Corsican gang ruling the prison use his vulnerability to their advantage, forcing him to embark on a series of missions. As Malik rises up through the prison ranks and his survival instincts become more attuned, he also becomes increasingly valuable to Corsican godfather César Luciani (Niels Arestrup). It's a trust that Malik can utilise to his own ends.

Ambitious, intricately plotted and deeply engrossing, Audiard doesn't put a foot wrong. It's a truly exceptional film.



THURSDAY 26TH NOVEMBER, 20:15
FRIDAY 27TH NOVEMBER, 16:30

IRISH PREMIERE
Director: Emmanuel Mouret
France • 2009 • 90 minutes

Please, Please Me! (Fais-moi plaisir!)

Once again taking on the roles of writer, director and actor, the latest romantic comedy from Emmanuel Mouret (*Shall We Kiss? FFF '08*) sees him playing Jean-Jacques, a slightly eccentric inventor. After his girlfriend Ariane (Frédérique Bel) discovers he's had a momentary liaison with another woman (Judith Godrèche) she, convinced he is obsessed, insists he must sleep with her so they can move on and get their relationship back on track. When the woman in question turns out to be the daughter of the French president and Jean-Jacques finds himself out of his depth at a high-society gathering, hilarity ensues.

With a constant supply of visual gags and slapstick shenanigans aplenty, *Please, Please Me!* finds Mouret on sparkling form. The talented supporting cast acquit themselves beautifully with Déborah François (*L'Enfant*) especially effective as Godrèche's maid.



FRIDAY 27TH NOVEMBER, 20:30
SATURDAY 28TH NOVEMBER, 21:45

IRISH PREMIERE
Directors: Albert Pereira-Lazaro & Emmanuel Klotz
France • 2009 • 91 minutes

Round Da Way (Les Lascars)

Round Da Way was described by Variety as *Beavis and Butthead* meets *La Haine* and it's as accurate a description for this riotous animation as any (though the influence of stoner antiheroes Cheech and Chong is in evidence too). The film follows two-bit crooks Tony (voiced by Vincent Cassel) and Joe (rapper-comedian IZM) as they hatch a scheme to earn some quick cash. So, while Tony tries to offload a stash of weed, Joe gets a slightly more respectable job building a sauna for the local mayor, who's daughter Clémence (Diane Kruger) he's particularly enamoured by. It won't come as too much of a shock to learn that neither money-making scheme goes entirely to plan. *Round Da Way* is a blast. The graffiti influenced animation is fantastic, as is the soundtrack, marrying old-school tunes from the likes of A Tribe Called Quest and De La Soul with the best in French Hip Hop.

Join us for a night of French Hip Hop in the IFI bar following the screening (see page 13).



THURSDAY 26TH NOVEMBER, 22:00

IRISH PREMIERE
Directors: Yannick Dahan & Benjamin Rocher
France • 2009 • 97 minutes
Presented in association with
HORRORTON

The Horde (La Horde)

Low-budget zombie action flick *The Horde*, the first film by directing duo Yannick Dahan and Benjamin Rocher, has been dividing genre fans since its official world premiere at the Venice Film Festival. Set on the outskirts of Paris, the film centres on four corrupt cops out for vengeance after the gangland slaying of a fellow police officer. They soon find themselves in trouble, trapped and cornered in the mobster's hideout. Then the chaos really kicks-off as hordes of cannibalistic zombies invade the building thirsting for the blood of both gangster and cop. Could happen, right?

The latest addition to France's New Wave of Horror (*Mutants, Frontière(s), Inside... et al*) is relentlessly violent, very bloody and not for the faint of heart. You have been warned!



SATURDAY 28TH NOVEMBER, 15:30
SUNDAY 29TH NOVEMBER, 14:15

Director: Eléonore Faucher
France • 2009 • 99 minutes

Sisters (Gamines)

Sisters, directed by Eléonore Faucher, is based on actor Sylvie Testud's (*Sagan, La Vie en rose*) semi-autobiographical novel *Gamines*. Three sisters, Sybille, Corine and Georgette live with their Italian mother who is raising them as a single parent. While the bond between the siblings is strong, Sybille, as the only one with blonde hair and the one sister resembling her absent father, feels like an outsider. With a photograph of him as her only connection, she spends much of her time dreaming of a reunion.

Faucher is clearly a fine director of children; the three young leads are equally excellent and the family scenes set in 1970s Lyon are particularly impressive. Testud herself plays the adult Sybille, still close to her two siblings and now a successful actress, who, despite the passing years, has yet to escape the self-made fantasy of her father.



FRIDAY 27TH NOVEMBER, 18:15
SATURDAY 28TH NOVEMBER, 19:45

IRISH PREMIERE
Director: Julie Lopes-Curval
France • 2009 • 104 minutes

Hidden Diary (Mères et filles)

Up and coming actors Marina Hands (*Lady Chatterley*) and Marie-Josée Croze (*The Diving Bell and the Butterfly*) star alongside Catherine Deneuve in this family drama spanning three generations. Pregnant and avoiding a troubled relationship, Audrey (Hands) returns home to France. After a particularly difficult reunion with her mother (Deneuve), she finds refuge in the home of her deceased grandfather where she uncovers the diary of her grandmother, Louise, who deserted her family many years before. It's a discovery which reveals closely guarded secrets and a history those close to her don't want to fully acknowledge.

Writer/Director Julie Lopes-Curval elicits fine performances from her starry cast. Hands and Croze (Louise, as depicted in flashback) are on fine form and, as the stoic matriarch, Deneuve delivers a restrained and nuanced performance in one of the best of her recent roles.



SATURDAY 28TH NOVEMBER, 17:45

IRISH PREMIERE
Director: Benoît Jacquot
France • 2009 • 97 minutes

Villa Amalia

Adapted by writer/director Benoît Jacquot from a novel by Pascal Quignard, *Villa Amalia* stars Isabelle Huppert (her fifth collaboration with the director) as Ann, a woman whose life is turned upside down after she witnesses her husband kissing another woman. In an extreme move, Ann decides to escape her life, discarding all of her belongings, her home and identity. Abandoning everything, that is, other than Georges (Jean-Hugues Anglade), an old friend she has recently become reacquainted with and has come to confide in.

Jacquot's skill in telling this story lies in his restraint, always keeping Ann's motivations at arms length. Far from being alienating, this serves to draw the audience further into her story - her elusive nature is what attracts us, pulling us ever deeper into her world. It's a hugely intelligent, enormously engaging film from Jacquot and features an especially fine performance from Huppert.

A Touch of Tati

A brand new documentary and a digitally restored version of Monsieur Hulot's Holiday provide a fantastic opportunity to revisit the work of the great Jacques Tati.



TATI SHORTS

Soigne ton gauche (1936) L'École des facteurs (1947) Cours du soir (1967)

As a teenager Tati developed a passion for sport: he was accomplished in rugby, football, tennis and horse-riding. This soon became the material of his mime shows, with which he toured France and Europe. As his interest in cinema developed, his miming technique and sport-loving nature were put to good use in his early film works.

Directed by René Clément, *Soigne ton gauche* turns a young farm boy into an unexpected boxing champion. With *L'École des facteurs*, an obvious sketch of *Jour de fête*, Tati becomes a fully-blown auteur. Shot on the set of *PlayTime* by Nicolas Ribowski, *Cours du soir* is also a nostalgic glimpse at Tati's early career, as he teaches students his music-hall numbers in a night class, the simplicity of the short contrasts sharply with the sophistication of the long feature.

This is a rare opportunity to see these seldom screened films.

FRIDAY 20TH NOVEMBER, 17:00

France • 1936\1947\1967 • 68 minutes

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Monsieur Hulot's Holiday (Les Vacances de Monsieur Hulot)

"Everyone has a bit of Hulot in them" - Jacques Tati

Three years after his first film, *Jour de fête*, Tati introduced the world to Mr Hulot - a tall, gentle, hat-wearing, pipe-smoking dreamer. Preceded by the petulant noise of his Amilcar, Mr Hulot arrives in a modest beachside resort in Brittany, and for the rest of his stay at the Hôtel de la Plage, shares the summer routine of a small community made up of regular holiday-makers and local residents as they move from the dining-room to the beach, from the picnic site to the tennis court.

As plot-less as the ebb and flow of ocean tides, as unforgettable as the best memories of a perfect vacation by the seaside, *Monsieur Hulot's Holiday* is a subtle, warm-hearted and cheerful portrayal of human nature, from childhood to old age, and an enchantment for the spectators' senses. The perfect antidote for our present time of doom and gloom.

SATURDAY 21ST NOVEMBER, 14:00

France • 1953 • 114 minutes

PlayTime (70mm)

"A film that comes from another planet, where they make films differently." - François Truffaut

PlayTime shows the director's fictional alter ego Mr Hulot wandering through Paris at a time when the French capital experiences the full blast of 1960s urbanism. After a missed appointment and several chance encounters, Hulot turns up as an unexpected guest at the opening night of a posh new restaurant. There he witnesses the slow but irreversible descent of the "Royal Garden" into anarchistic chaos, while embarking on a short-lived romantic flirtation with an American tourist. The morning after, the city of lights looks and feels very different.

The apex of Tati's cinematic vision, the film will be shown in its 70mm format, a rare treat that gives its full measure to the director's idiosyncratic and democratic humour: a successful blend of filmic avant-garde and Gallic wit in their most attractive forms.

SUNDAY 22ND NOVEMBER, 14:00

France • 1967 • 124 minutes

The Magnificent Tati

This new UK documentary exploring the work of Jacques Tati follows the filmmaker's career from his roots in the Parisian music-halls of the '30s to his rise and ultimate fall from grace after the release of his groundbreaking masterpiece *PlayTime*. Filled with stunning footage from all his films and insightful contributions from an eclectic range of interviewees, including admirers Mike Mills, Frank Black and Sylain Chomet, as well as artists, academics and former collaborators, *The Magnificent Tati* proves absolutely fascinating. It's an unmissable screening for Tati devotees and a great introduction to his work for those yet to experience his genius.

Following the screening we hope to welcome director Michael House and some special guests for a panel discussion looking at the career and legacy of Jacques Tati.

SATURDAY 28TH NOVEMBER, 13:45

Director: Michael House
UK • 2009 • 60 minutes

Tati programme notes by Laurent Marie



SUNDAY 29TH NOVEMBER, 16:30

Director: Catherine Breillat
France • 2009 • 80 minutes

Bluebeard (Barbe Bleue)

Catherine Breillat's (*Anatomy of Hell, The Last Mistress*) distinctive retelling of the French fairytale by Charles Perrault begins in the 1950s where two young sisters are at play. As the younger sister reads *Bluebeard* aloud to her frightened sibling, the 17th-century story unfolds onscreen. Unable to pay the fees after the death of their father, sisters Marie-Catherine (Lola Créton) and Anne (Daphné Baiwir) have been thrown out of their boarding school. Penniless, and their family facing ruin, Anne decides to marry a local noble, the menacing Bluebeard (Dominique Thomas). It's a bold move considering his previous wives have all vanished without a trace. Once married, he asks one thing of her, that she stays out of a specific room.

Something of a departure from the overtly provocative films she is best known for, Breillat's low-budget, understated adaptation is stylishly executed and highly compelling.

CLOSING FILM

Around a Small Mountain

(36 vues du Pic Saint-Loup)

SUNDAY 29TH NOVEMBER, 18:30

IRISH PREMIERE

Director: Jacques Rivette
France/Italy • 2009 • 84 minutes



In this, the 50th Anniversary of the French New Wave, it seems somewhat appropriate that we should close this year's Festival with a film from one of the movement's most eminent directors, Jacques Rivette. His latest film stars Jane Birkin as Kate who, after a fifteen year absence, has recently returned to her late father's circus. A chance encounter with Italian traveller Vittorio (Sergio Castellitto) sparks a quick friendship and, intrigued by Kate's personality and passion for circus life, Vittorio decides to follow them. As they

travel from village to village, he slowly gains the circus performers' trust, and begins to uncover what happened fifteen years earlier that led to Kate's departure. Light, humorous and affecting, with skillful turns by Birkin and Castellitto, *Around A Small Mountain* is a very welcome addition to the French master's filmography.

This screening will be followed by a complimentary wine reception.

Special Events



FRENCH FILM QUIZ

Do you know your Betty Blues from your Big Blues, your Rivette from your Renoir, your Tatou from your Tati? Then join us at the IFI for our inaugural French Film Quiz with four fun-filled rounds of entertaining and challenging questions loosely based on the Festival's line-up of films. Teams of up to five can compete, though should you want to participate alone, you can. Oh, and the prizes, the prizes...

Thursday 26th November
20:00, IFI Bar

FRENCH FILM CLUB

During this year's IFI French Film Festival, we're delighted to launch our French Film Club in association with Alliance Française. The Club will gather on chosen dates during the year for special screenings of regular French films within the main IFI programme. Guest speakers will be in attendance, and a reserved area will be held in the newly refurbished Mezzanine for people to discuss the film after the screening. The new French Film Club will kick off at the screening of *Bellamy* on Monday, November 23rd at 20:30 (see page 6). Anyone can attend and register for the French Film Club, and IFI members and Alliance Française members will also get a special discounted €7 ticket price on those nights. For more information, please visit www.ifi.ie

Bellamy
Monday 23rd November
20:30



HORRORTHON

A few weeks after the phenomenal success of our annual IFI Horrorthon Festival, this year the IFI is delighted to present its first French Film Festival horror slot in association with Horrorthon. So if you've been missing the gore and mayhem since the Festival, here's your chance to get your next fix! For more details on *The Horde/La Horde*, please see page 8.

The Horde/La Horde
Thursday 26th November
22:00



CLUB NIGHT

With a soundtrack packed with cracking French hip-hop and old-school classics by way of House of Pain, De La Soul and A Tribe Called Quest, music is as much of a character in animated comedy *Round Da Way* as the film's unruly duo. How better to round off the Irish premiere of the film than with some *Round Da Way* inspired tunes, courtesy of DJ EZO. Join us in the IFI bar from 10pm. Regular cinema admission applies for the screening of *Round Da Way*, but entry to the club night is free.

Round Da Way/ Les Lascars
Friday 27th November
20:30

SPECIAL GUESTS

The IFI is delighted to welcome some very special guests to the Festival this year. Please check www.ifi.ie for updates on the various guests attending, and for dates and times of public interviews and screening introductions.

SPECIAL VALUE

We have special package prices available of €40 for 5 films and €70 for 11 films. Each ticket purchased must be for a different film and the package excludes the opening and closing films. Ask at the box office for further details on these recession busting offers!

TALKING TATI

Following the screening of *The Magnificent Tati*, we hope to welcome director Michael House and some special guests for a panel discussion looking at the career and legacy of Jacques Tati.

The Magnificent Tati
Saturday 28th November
13:45

IFI cards

Membership:

Enjoy the extra attention:

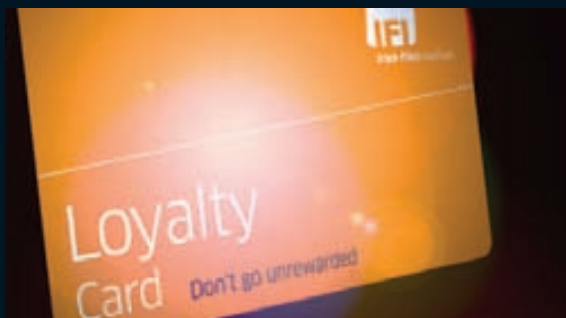
Become a member of IFI for just €25 per annum (€15 concessions) and get an invite to a free preview screening every month, receive discounts on all tickets and earn double loyalty points on every euro you spend! C'est formidable!



Loyalty:

Don't go unrewarded

Get your free loyalty card at the IFI and earn 4 points for every euro you spend on tickets, or at the bar, restaurant or bookshop! Convert those points into free cinema tickets, and you'll be reaping the rewards in no time!



Coming soon to the IFI



French films:

We have plenty more French films to entertain and enthral you over the coming months. Check www.ifi.ie for our regular programme of French film (including *The First Day of the Rest of Your Life / Le Premier jour du reste de ta vie*) which opens on November 27th. And don't forget our new French Film Club (see page 13).

IFI German Film Festival:

Hot on the heels of the French, comes the IFI German Film Festival with a collection of the best German features and documentaries from the past twelve months. Highlights will include *Storm*, director Hans-Christian Schmid's acclaimed political thriller about the murky nature of international justice; *Germany 09*, which sees some of the nation's finest filmmakers — including Fatih Akin, Wolfgang Becker and Tom Tykwer — combining forces to create a film panorama depicting the social and political situation in present-day Germany; *Effi Briest*, a new adaptation of the classic 19th century Theodor Fontane novel. *From December 3.*



www.tv5monde.com

Rendez-vous les dimanches à 20h et 22h45, les lundis à 22h50, les mardis à 17h35, les mercredis à 13h et les jeudis à 20h.

Retrouvez « Lumière et caméra », notre magazine cinéma tous les dimanches à 19h et les lundis à 0h35.

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Take a bow!

The arts really matter to us in Ireland; they are a big part of people's lives, the country's single most popular pursuit. Our artists interpret our past, define who we are today, and imagine our future. We can all take pride in the enormous reputation our artists have earned around the world.

The arts play a vital role in our economy, and smart investment of taxpayers' money in the arts is repaid many times over. The dividends come in the form of a high value, creative economy driven by a flexible, educated, innovative work force, and in a cultural tourism industry worth €5 billion a year.

The Arts Council is the Irish Government agency for funding and developing the arts. Arts Council funding from the taxpayer, through the Department of Arts, Sport and Tourism, for 2009 is €75 million, that's about €1 euro a week for every household.

So, at the end of a memorable film, don't forget the role you played and take a bow yourself!

Find out what's on at

www.events.artscouncil.ie

You can find out more about the arts here:

www.artscouncil.ie

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