



Irish Film Institute



Carte Noire IFI French Film Festival

November 20th – December 1st 2013



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Irish Film Institute

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Cover:

Jimmy P. (Psychotherapy of a Plains Indian)
by Arnaud Desplechin

Programme Notes:

Alice Butler (AB), Kevin Coyne (KC)
and Michael Hayden (MH)

Festival Director's Notes:

Marie-Pierre Richard (MPR)



Carte Noire IFI French Film Festival

Many films in this year's Festival are united by a search for identity, and an examination of complex behaviours and emotions. They are differentiated however by the many exciting and unique cinema voices of their makers.

We have some marvellous guests: Arnaud Desplechin will attend the Festival screening of his latest work *Jimmy P. (Psychotherapy of a Plains Indian)*, and a programme of his films. Emmanuelle Devos will speak after the screening of Desplechin's *Kings and Queen* and will also attend the opening film, the delicate romance *Just a Sigh* alongside director Jérôme Bonnell. In addition, Nicolas Philibert will present the compelling *La Maison de la Radio*.

The programme features 21 premieres including films by Bruno Dumont, Abdellatif Kechiche, François Ozon, Xavier Dolan and Claude Lanzmann.

Inventive comedies and dramas include *Me, Myself and Mum*; *2 Winters*, *3 Autumns*; *Going Away* and a superb Catherine Deneuve in *On My Way*. We also show this year's Prix Jean Vigo

winners, and the wonderfully restored *Lola* (Jacques Demy) and *Documenteur* (Agnès Varda). The brilliant *Grand Central* will be our closing film.

The Festival is made possible with the longlasting support of the French Embassy in Ireland and I would like to extend my gratitude to the French Ambassador in Ireland and his team.

I would like to thank all of our supporters: the Institut français and Unifrance Films, the Technicolor and Groupama Gan Foundations, Ciné-Tamaris; and the IFI's principal funder the Arts Council for its invaluable support again this year. I would also like to thank Carte Noire, the Festival's new title sponsor.

Welcome to the Festival!

Marie-Pierre Richard
Festival Director

Schedule

For all booking information and prices, please see page 26.

NOVEMBER

WED 20

20.00 Opening Film

Just a Sigh (Le Temps de l'aventure)

+ Q&A with Jérôme Bonnell
and Emmanuelle Devos

Followed by Reception

THURS 21

18.00 Kings and Queen

 (Rois et reine)

+ Q&A with Emmanuelle Devos

20.45 Jimmy P. (Psychotherapy of a Plains Indian)

+ Q&A with Arnaud Desplechin

FRI 22

11.00 Masterclass with Arnaud Desplechin

18.00 A Christmas Tale

 (Un Conte de Noël)

+ Q&A with Arnaud Desplechin

20.00 Blue is the Warmest Colour

(La Vie d'Adèle chapitres 1 et 2)

21.10 Domestic Life

 (La Vie domestique)

SAT 23

14.00 Domestic Life

 (La Vie domestique)

16.15 Jimmy P. (Psychotherapy of a Plains Indian)

18.45 Jeune & Jolie

20.45 Chinese Puzzle

 (Casse-tête chinois)

SUN 24

11.00 IFI Family:

**My Mommy is in America
and she met Buffalo Bill**

(Ma maman est en Amérique,
elle a rencontré Buffalo Bill)

13.30 Blame it on Voltaire

 (La Faute à Voltaire)

16.30 Lola

Introduced by Dr. Douglas Smith

18.45 My Blue-Eyed Girl

 (Ma belle gosse)

20.45 Tom at the Farm

 (Tom à la ferme)

MON 25

18.15 Chinese Puzzle

 (Casse-tête chinois)

20.45 Suzanne

TUES 26

18.30 On My Way

 (Elle s'en va)

21.00 2 Autumns, 3 Winters

 (2 Automnes, 3 hivers)

WED 27

18.30 Me, Myself and Mum

(Les Garçons et Guillaume, à table!)

Alliance Française Screening

20.30 Going Away

 (Un Beau dimanche)

THURS 28

16.15 Suzanne

18.30 Going Away

 (Un Beau dimanche)

20.45 Me, Myself and Mum

(Les Garçons et Guillaume, à table!)

FRI 29

18.30 La Maison de la radio

+ Q&A with Nicolas Philibert

20.40 Jappeloup

SAT 30

11.00 My Mommy is in America and she met Buffalo Bill

 (Ma maman est en
Amérique, elle a rencontré Buffalo Bill)

13.00 Documenteur + Incident urbain

+ Q&A with John Lalor and Garrett Phelan

16.00 On My Way

 (Elle s'en va)

18.00 Les Apaches

20.30 Camille Claudel 1915

DECEMBER

SUN 1

12.00 The Last of the Unjust

(Le Dernier des injustes)

Introduced by Dr Joseph Cohen

16.10 Jappeloup

18.45 The Enclosure of Time + Wheels and Reels

 (L'Enclos du temps / Le Quepa sur la Vilni!)

20.45 Grand Central

Irish Premieres

Just a Sigh

(Le Temps de l'aventure)

Gala Opening

Wednesday 20th November, 20.00

Director: Jérôme Bonnell

105 minutes // France // 2013

World Narrative Competition,

Tribeca Film Festival 2013

.....
Taking an early morning train to Paris for an audition, actress Alix notices a doleful, English speaking man. Though they only have a brief exchange when he asks for directions, she remains intrigued by him. Unable to contact her elusive boyfriend, Alix proceeds to have a difficult day, though her initial anxiety passes and her trials prove to be liberating. She tracks down the man she saw that morning, and they make a connection. Centred on a perfectly measured performance from Emmanuelle Devos, and with Gabriel Byrne an ever reliable presence, Jérôme Bonnell delivers an affecting and humorous tale of a Parisian brief encounter with considerable class. (MH)

The screening will be followed by a reception.

Director Jérôme Bonnell and Emmanuelle Devos will be in attendance at the screening and will participate in a Q&A.

.....
Director's Note: Emmanuelle Devos is luminous in this wonderful portrait of a woman at a crossroads in her life, on a day when destiny takes hold.



Jimmy P. (Psychotherapy of a Plains Indian)

Arnaud Desplechin's new film sees Benicio Del Toro as Jimmy Picard, a Blackfoot Indian hospitalised in Kansas, suffering from trauma as a result of war-time injuries. Having played volatile characters in the director's earlier films, Mathieu Amalric is cast here as George Devereux, the anomalous psychoanalyst invited to treat Jimmy's perplexing symptoms. Based on a study written by Devereux in 1951, the film boasts a fascinating story and extraordinary central performances. (AB)

Director Arnaud Desplechin will participate in a Q&A after the screening on Thursday November 21st.

Director's Note: Desplechin's first film on American soil is captivating. An unexpected story of friendship with the ideal pairing of Amalric and Del Toro.

Thursday 21st November, 20.45
Saturday 23rd November, 16.15

Director: Arnaud Desplechin
120 minutes // France-U.S.A // 2013
Official Competition, Cannes 2013



Domestic Life (La Vie domestique)

Adapted from Rachel Cusk's book *Arlington Park*, Isabelle Czajka's film portrays the quotidian obligations of a group of suburban housewives and mothers. Juliette (Emmanuelle Devos) and family have recently relocated, and she struggles to fit an appointment vital to her career into a schedule filled with errands and the activities of her children. Old schoolmate Betty (Julie Ferrier) and her friends, on the other hand, lead the lives of more traditional housewives. Dissatisfied with their lot, and their unsupportive husbands, the film paints a stark portrait of family life. (KC)

Director's Note: The director succeeds brilliantly in capturing the oppressive atmosphere and the developing anxieties while making compelling viewing.

Friday 22nd November, 21.10
Saturday 23rd November, 14.00

Director: Isabelle Czajka
93 minutes // France // 2013



Jeune & Jolie

While on summer holiday with her family, beautiful Isabelle loses her virginity, an experience which leaves her cold. She wants something more and takes to prostitution, becoming addicted to both the money she makes and the attention she gets from men, whether they are charming or obnoxious. Featuring a remarkable break-through performance from Marine Vacth in her first leading role, and referencing Rimbaud's poem *No one's serious at seventeen*, the latest feature from the increasingly prolific François Ozon (*Potiche*, *In the House*) is a sensitive, typically intelligent portrait of a year in the life of a young sexually inquisitive woman measured out in the four seasons. (MH)

Director's Note: Alluring and puzzling, Ozon's depiction of adolescence is 'as an emotional time but also and above all as a hormonal one'.

Saturday 23rd November, 18.45
Director: François Ozon

95 minutes // France // 2013
Official Competition, Cannes 2013



Chinese Puzzle (Casse-tête chinois)

Following the huge box office successes of both *L'Auberge espagnole* (2002) and *Les Poupées russes* (2005), writer and director Klapisch returns with this jaunty third instalment recounting the cosmopolitan lives of Romain Duris' Xavier and friends. Following the break-up of his marriage to Wendy (Kelly Reilly), Xavier leaves Paris to follow her to New York, where she has moved with their two young children. Juggling single fatherhood with attempts to write a novel, find a place to live, and (fraudulently) secure a visa, Xavier also manages to get re-acquainted with Martine (Audrey Tautou)... but not without several diversions along the way. This is light, fast-paced and entertaining stuff. (AB)

Saturday 23rd November, 20.45

Monday 25th November, 18.15

Director: Cédric Klapisch

117 minutes // France // 2013

Director's Note: *Xavier's life resembles a real Chinese puzzle in Klapisch's charming new comedy.*



Tom at the Farm (Tom à la ferme)

The precocious Xavier Dolan, still just 24 years old but with a phenomenal amount of awards and acclaim under his belt, moves into genre territory with his fourth feature, delivering a compact and audience-friendly thriller. Following the death of his lover Guillaume, Tom (Dolan) travels to rural Québec for his burial, to the family farm, where mother Agathe remains ignorant of her deceased son's sexuality. Brother Francis however, knew the truth and uses a mixture of physical and psychological coercion to ensure that Tom doesn't mistakenly enlighten her. The homoerotic power-play between the two men leads the film into satisfyingly mounting tension. (KC)

Sunday 24th November, 20.45

Director: Xavier Dolan

103 minutes // Canada-France // 2013

Winner: FIPRESCI International Critics Award, Venice 2013

Director's Note: *Dolan's powerful manipulative visual style provides climatic sequences in this volatile psychological thriller.*



Suzanne

Katell Quillévéré's debut feature *Love Like Poison* saw her justly fêted as an exciting new voice in French cinema, and her second film confirms her promise. A moving, realist drama which nods to the Dardennes, *Suzanne* portrays the relationship of two motherless sisters, clearly devoted to each other despite their differences. Suzanne is a troubled wild child, a constant worry for the elder sibling Maria, who just wants to do right for her kid sister and their loving dad. The film plays out in poignant fragments depicting the girls as they grow up, with exceptional performances from Sara Forestier and Adèle Haenel. (MH)

Monday 25th November, 20.45

Thursday 28th November, 16.15

Director: Katell Quillévéré

94 minutes // France // 2013

Special Screening, Critics' Week, Cannes 2013

Director's Note: *Through an elliptical narrative and sharp editing, Suzanne's destiny – beautifully played by Sara Forestier – is revealed.*



Tuesday 26th November, 18.30

Saturday 30th November, 16.00

Director: Emmanuelle Bercot

116 Minutes // France // 2013

Official Competition, Berlin Film Festival 2013

On My Way (Elle s'en va)

Catherine Deneuve relishes her central role in this offbeat road movie about Bettie, a former beauty queen who impulsively decides to abandon ship when she discovers her restaurant business is in dire straits and her lover has left her for a younger woman. After a few days of wild abandon driving across Brittany, Bettie gets a call from her estranged single-mother daughter who asks if she can drive her son Charly across France to visit his paternal grandfather. The film really takes off at this point, with the electric dynamic between Deneuve and Nemo Schiffman, who plays the puckish Charly, producing some hilarious results. (AB)

Director's Note: A terrific encounter between a director with an invigorating sense of liberty, and Deneuve, so wonderful as a true free spirit.



Tuesday 26th November, 21.00

Director: Sébastien Betbeder

87 minutes // France // 2013

ACID selection, Cannes 2013

2 Autumns, 3 Winters

(2 Automnes, 3 hivers)

2 Autumns, 3 Winters follows a trio of thirty-something Parisians as their lives interweave over this period. When endearingly shaggy Arman (Vincent Macaigne) takes up jogging, he bumps into Amélie (Maud Wyler). After this first encounter, we follow each separately until fate brings them together again. Benjamin (Bastien Bouillon), Arman's best friend, suffers a stroke, and in the course of his recovery, falls for physical therapist Katia (Audrey Bastien). Owing something to the American Mumblecore movement, it's a charming film that nevertheless doesn't shy away from the difficulties of relationships. (KC)

Director's Note: With constant interplay between what is said and what is shown, intelligence and humour flow through this highly original film.



Wednesday 27th November, 20.30

Thursday 28th November, 18.30

Director: Nicole Garcia

91 Minutes // France // 2013

Special Presentation, Toronto International Film Festival 2013

Going Away (Un Beau dimanche)

Substitute teacher Baptiste (Pierre Rochefort), good at his job and popular with students, enjoys the freedom it affords him to relocate at will. When student Mathias, whose parents are divorced, is left waiting at the school gates one day by his father, Baptiste is roped into driving the boy to his mother, Sandra (Louise Bourgoïn). Their unexpected arrival means that Baptiste must take care of Mathias while Sandra works. Acclaimed actress and director Nicole Garcia has created a tough and unsentimental drama in which the consequences of the characters' previous choices must also shape the future decisions they make. (KC)

Director's Note: Careful character observation and a powerful chemistry between the two leads bring intensity, emotion and tenderness to this remarkable film.



Friday 29th November, 18.30

Director: Nicolas Philibert

99 minutes // France // 2013

Documentary Competition, BFI London Film Festival 2013

La Maison de la radio

Assembled to evoke a day in the life of the state broadcasting company, Radio France, Nicolas Philibert's docu-portrait employs an even-handed approach to examine a cross-section of content, ranging from reports and interviews to musical performances and weather forecasts. The director, acclaimed for his unobtrusive but playful style – as seen in *Louvre City* (which screened last year) and *Être et Avoir* – refrains from using voice-over or captions, allowing the radio segments themselves to lend the film its distinctive character. (AB)

Director Nicolas Philibert will participate in a post-screening Q&A.

Director's Note: Nicolas Philibert's film about radio takes us on a rich, surprising journey, revealing the invisible faces behind the 'Round house' Radio France.



Friday 29th November, 20.40

Sunday 1st December, 16.10

Director: Christian Duguay

130 minutes // France // 2013

Jappeloup

Based on the pursuits of Olympic show jumping champion Pierre Durand, Jr., this rousing equestrian biopic from Québécois director Christian Duguay focusses on the athlete's relationship with his obstinate, but nevertheless masterful horse, Jappeloup. Written by and starring Guillaume Canet – himself a former show jumper who turned to acting after a fall from his horse at 18 – the film effectively relates the decisive moments in Durand's career, including his decision to compete with Jappeloup, considered by many too small a horse to be used professionally. With a strong supporting cast, including Daniel Auteuil and Marina Hands, this is a polished account of a gripping tale. (AB)

Director's Note: Highly entertaining and appealing, the pace is exhilarating! In one word: Emotion!



Saturday 30th November, 20.30

Director: Bruno Dumont

95 minutes // France // 2013

Winner: Jury Award, Brussels Film Festival 2013

Official Competition, Berlin Film Festival 2013

Camille Claudel 1915

Previously the subject of a biopic starring Isabelle Adjani, sculptor Camille Claudel is here portrayed by Juliette Binoche in the first instance of director Bruno Dumont working with an established star. In all other respects the film remains unmistakably identifiable as the work of Dumont. Confined by her family to a remote asylum following the breakdown of a long affair with Auguste Rodin, Camille's days are filled with despondency both at her surroundings and her sense of abandonment. Rigorous and challenging, the film also contains a performance from Binoche that stands out even in her illustrious career. (KC)

Director's Note: Dumont's film is raw, challenging, even painful, yet beautiful. Juliette Binoche is captivating!



Sunday 1st December, 12.00

Director: Claude Lanzmann

220 minutes // France-Austria // 2013

Out of Competition, Official selection, Cannes 2013

The Last of the Unjust

(Le Dernier des injustes)

This astonishing documentary focusses on a series of interviews Lanzmann conducted in 1975 with Benjamin Murmelstein, a contentious figure appointed by the Nazis as 'elder of the Jews' at Theresenstadt ghetto, and charged but acquitted for collaboration after the war. Murmelstein provides a vivid account of his experiences, including his relationship with principal Holocaust architect, Adolf Eichmann, 'a demon', he describes, who was anything but banal. An extension of Lanzmann's *Shoah* (1985), this impactful film poses vital questions about our understanding of this dire and enduring catastrophe of modern times. (AB)
Dr Joseph Cohen will introduce this screening.

Director's Note: Rediscovering unseen material, Claude Lanzmann directs another fascinating, poignant and vertiginous film.



The Enclosure of Time

Sunday 1st December, 18.45

The Enclosure of Time Dir.: Jean-Charles Fitoussi

64 minutes // France // 2012

Wheels and Reels Dir.: Yann le Quellec

36 Minutes // France-Belgium // 2013

The Enclosure of Time + Wheels and Reels

(L'Enclos du temps / Le Quepa sur la Vilni!)

The Enclosure of Time is the eighth instalment in director Jean-Charles Fitoussi's series of films in which chance plays a leading role. Here, Théo visits his ill grandfather in Italy. However, when the doctor who had previously saved his life is summoned, he sends instead a young nurse with mysterious healing powers. *Wheels and Reels* sees a postman ordered out of retirement by the local mayor to lead a group of younger cyclists in advertising the opening of the local cinema. (KC)

Director's note: These two award-winning films encapsulate the spirit of the Prix Jean Vigo.



Closing Film

Sunday 1st December, 20.45

Director: Rebecca Zlotowski

95 minutes // France // 2013

Un Certain Regard, Cannes 2013

Grand Central

At the core of this affecting drama are the exploits of Gary Manda (Tahar Rahim, *A Prophet*), a somewhat shady unskilled labourer desperate for cash, hastily employed at the film's outset to carry out perilous maintenance work close to the reactor at a nuclear power plant. While settling into the employees' trailer park accommodation situated behind the smokestacks, Gary meets and quickly becomes infatuated with Karole (*Blue is the Warmest Colour's* Léa Seydoux), a seductive co-worker who is engaged to Toni, one of the close-knit community's most valued chiefs. Combining a threatening environment with illicit attraction to great effect, Zlotowski evokes a profoundly unsettling, pertinent, and riveting affair. (AB)

Director's Note: Reminiscent of Renoir and Becker, director Zlotowski draws subtle parallels between love and radiation in this brilliantly cast, modern-day fiction.

First-Time Directors

This regular strand of the Carte Noire IFI French Film Festival once again presents a small sample of the best and most intriguing talents that have emerged over the past year.



My Blue-Eyed Girl

(Ma belle gosse)

Sunday 24th November, 18.45

Director: Shalimar Preuss

83 Minutes // France // 2012

Several interrelated families are on holiday on the sunny Île de Ré, off France's west coast. The assembled children, ranging widely in age, pass their lazy summer days with sailing, games of checkers, and explorations of the island's varying terrain. Standing apart from the group is surly 17-year-old Maden (Lou Aziosmanoff), who has a secret – she is exchanging love letters with a much older inmate in the local prison. Inevitably, Maden's cache of letters is discovered, and the children's relationships become strained. Unfolding at a deliberate pace, Shalimar Preuss' sensitive film is a sympathetic portrayal of teenage restlessness and curiosity. (KC)

Director's Note: The natural aura of the children is delicately portrayed in this profound observation of family relations.



Me, Myself and Mum

(Les Garçons et Guillaume, à table!)

Alliance Française Screening:

Wednesday 27th November, 18.30

Thursday 28th November, 20.45

Director: Guillaume Gallienne

85 Minutes // France // 2013

Winner: Prix SACD + Art Cinéma Award
Directors' Fortnight, Cannes 2013

Actor-director Guillaume Gallienne's adaptation of his own one-man hit stage show revisits his sexually confused youth and his complicated relationship with his mother (also played by Gallienne, convincing in full drag). While his macho father bonds with his siblings over rugby, she steers Guillaume towards more gentle pursuits. Raised more as a daughter than a son, the young man is assumed by everyone, including himself, to be gay, before he eventually finds his own identity in this inventive and sweetly charming film. (KC)

The Alliance Française Screening on Wednesday 27th November will be followed by a wine and cheese reception.

Director's Note: The charisma of Guillaume Gallienne draws us into this delicate, witty comedy bursting with energy and imagination.



Les Apaches

Saturday 30th November, 18.00

Director: Thierry de Peretti

82 minutes // France // 2013

Official selection, Directors' Fortnight
Cannes 2013

Thierry de Peretti's film, loosely based on real events, takes place in the seedy underbelly of sunny, tourist-friendly Corsica. After a group of teenagers treat themselves to a party in an unoccupied villa, their petty theft of random items, including an antique rifle, leads the owners to employ local criminals to punish those responsible. Eager to avoid trouble, Aziz takes responsibility, and does not betray his friends. But one of them, François-Jo, is not satisfied with Aziz's word. Moody and gripping throughout, the film draws viewers in with its increasing sense of dread. (KC)

Director's Note: A tragedy of social division, the melancholic night skies contrast with the acutely realistic drama taking place below.

Arnaud Desplechin Programme



A Christmas Tale, Directed by Arnaud Desplechin

Arnaud Desplechin can be regarded as a truly visionary filmmaker. His cinema is warm and generous, at times volatile, burlesque and audacious.

Desplechin was born at Roubaix in the North of France in 1960. He studied at the IDHEC French film school, gaining a cult reputation right from the start with his medium length debut *The Life of the Dead* (1991).

In a recent interview, when asked the primary concern of his films, Desplechin answered 'The dizziness of identity.'

Desplechin's films are deeply human, emotional, obsessional. Tragedy and comedy combine, revolving around a few characters and focussing on family dynamics – between parent and child or amongst friends or couples. His characters of Greek (Junon), Joycean (Nora, Paul Dedalus), and biblical names (Ismaël, Abel, Elias), are emotionally volatile, melancholic – a mixture of strengths and weaknesses. They often seem to react disproportionately as they reappraise themselves, striving to break free from their inner kingdoms where they are trapped, before eventually finding themselves, and some greater

insight or acceptance is gained. Resolution brings sympathy from the viewer towards them.

Desplechin's unusual relationship with the actors reveals a new generation headed by Emmanuelle Devos and Mathieu Amalric – often his alter ego on the screen. (MPR)

We are delighted and honoured that Arnaud Desplechin will be attending the Festival. Please see the IFI November Programme for details of other screenings.

The IFI would like to thank at Why Not Productions: Thomas Rosso and Rosa Attab; at Wild Bunch: Elodie Sobczak and Esther Devos; and at L'Institut français; Christine Houard.



Kings and Queen

(Rois et reine)

Thursday 21st November, 18.00

146 minutes // France // 2004

Winner: Louis Delluc Prize 2004; Méliès Prize 2004
Best Actor Award, Mathieu Amalric: César Awards 2004

Novel-like in structure as well as scope, *Kings and Queen* is an ingenious, sprawling chronicle of the seemingly discrete lives of Nora Cotterelle and Ismaël Vuillard, played by Desplechin favourites Emmanuelle Devos and Mathieu Amalric. At the film's outset, gallery-owner Nora returns home to visit her introverted son Elias, who is staying with her father, a respected scholar, and who, it transpires, is grievously ill. Meanwhile, viola player Ismaël is confronted by two nurses at his apartment set on committing him to a psychiatric ward against his will. Complex, delighting in the absurd and replete with literary references, this is French cinema at its most enthralling. (AB)
Emmanuelle Devos will participate in a post-screening Q&A.

Director's Note: By turns a burlesque comedy and psychological drama, this stylistic film has larger than life performances from Devos and Amalric.

Masterclass: Working with Actors

Friday November 22nd, 11.00, €5

We are delighted to announce that Arnaud Desplechin will be hosting a masterclass during the Carte Noire IFI French Film Festival.

Please see www.ifi.ie/frenchfest for further details.



A Christmas Tale

(Un Conte de Noël)

Friday 22nd November, 18.00

150 Minutes // France // 2008

Official Competition, Cannes 2008

A kind of sibling to *Kings and Queen*, *A Christmas Tale* is an inspired portrayal of the fractured Vuillard family in a curiously jovial state of crisis. At the helm are Jean-Paul Roussillon and Catherine Deneuve, magnificent in their parental roles as benevolent Abel and undemonstrative Junon. Diagnosed with leukemia, Junon urgently requires a bone marrow transplant, so Abel summons the family home for Christmas to see if any of their offspring will make a compatible donor. Deep-seated resentments resurface, particularly between playwright Elizabeth, played by Anne Consigny, and her burdensome brother Henri, a mesmeric Mathieu Amalric, who arrives after an extended absence with Emmanuelle Devos' enigmatic Faunia. (AB)
Arnaud Desplechin will take part in a post-screening Q&A.

Director's Note: Playful, comic, touching, inventive – volatile characters and unforeseen confrontations give this dense family painting its unique energy. A classic!

Abdellatif Kechiche Programme



Blame it on Voltaire, Directed by Abdellatif Kechiche

Director, screenwriter and actor Abdellatif Kechiche was born in Tunisia in 1960. At the age of six he moved to France, thereafter studying drama at the Antibes Conservatoire of Music and Drama.

He made his directorial debut with *Blame it on Voltaire* (2000), followed in 2003 by *Games of Love and Chance* which won César awards for Best Film, Best Screenplay and Best Director. Further multiple awards for *Couscous* (2007) and *Black Venus* (2010) followed, and this year *Blue is the Warmest Colour* was awarded the prestigious Palme d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival.

Despite their long duration, there is nothing of Kechiche's films that seems superfluous. Through tight framing and intimate close-ups he observes without judgement. Much of Kechiche's fascination lies in protracted conversations, often with overlapping dialogue – at once free flowing and naturalistic yet precisely shaped, embroidered with multiple story strands – yet never losing focus. Through these he extracts astoundingly raw and emotional performances from his actors.

In filming his characters over such long sequences, a powerful sense of realism emerges. Kechiche digs in – the steadfast eye of the camera eliciting intense empathy from the viewer. (MPR)

This season coincides with the release of Abdellatif Kechiche's latest work and fifth film *Blue is the Warmest Colour* (winner Palme d'Or, Cannes 2013).

The season, details of which can be also found in the IFI November Programme, features all of Abdellatif Kechiche's films: *Blame it on Voltaire* (2000), *Games of Love and Chance* (2003), *Couscous* (2007) and *Black Venus* (2010). Please see the IFI November Programme for further screening details or www.ifi.ie.

The IFI would like to thank L'Institut français; Christine Houard.



Blue is the Warmest Colour

(La Vie d'Adèle chapitres 1 et 2)

Friday 22nd November, 20.00

179 minutes // France // 2013

Winner: Palme d'Or, Official Competition, 2013

Winner: FIPRESCI Prize, 2013

Detailing the life of a young woman coming to terms with her sexuality from her later school years into the start of her adult working life, Abdellatif Kechiche's adaptation of Julie Maroh's graphic novel has caused considerable controversy since it won the Palme d'Or at Cannes earlier this year, with complaints about the director's working methods and the film's intimate depiction of lesbian sex threatening to undermine it. Yet beyond the furor, *Blue is the Warmest Colour* emerges as daring and brilliant, effectively evoking the pleasures of being in love and the pain of heartbreak while acknowledging the fragile line between those two states. (MH)

Director's Note: Kechiche's adherence to realism through splendidly choreographed images of almost overwhelming intensity brings remarkable insight into the life of Adèle.

Blue is the Warmest Colour will also run throughout the Carte Noire IFI French Film Festival as part of the main IFI Programme.



Blame it on Voltaire

(La Faute à Voltaire)

Sunday 24th November, 13.30

130 minutes // France // 2000

Winner: Golden Lion, Best First Film,

Venice Film Festival 2000

Abdellatif Kechiche impressed from the beginning with this sprawling tale of a North African immigrant attempting to make a better life for himself in France. Admitted on a temporary visa, Jallel (Sammi Bouajila) stays in a shelter, forming friendships, making money selling flowers and fruit at the metro, and beginning a tempestuous relationship with a local waitress. The relationship's end sees him hospitalised for depression, where he meets fragile Lucie (Élodie Bouchez), and tries once again to forge a future for himself. Covering a wide range of topics (among them, racism, immigration, and bureaucracy), it was an auspicious debut. (KC)

Director's Note: Kechiche's directorial debut reveals his unique aesthetic approach, his talent as a benevolent observer, and his sense of romance and love for actors.

Classic Films Programme

This year's programme includes Irish premieres of the restored versions of Jacques Demy's *Lola* (1961), alongside Agnès Varda's *Documenteur* (1981). After the original negative of *Lola* was destroyed in a fire, an inter-negative was produced under the supervision of cinematographer Raoul Coutard, alongside the director's wife, Agnès Varda. In 2012, a full restoration took place in Los Angeles, conducted by Technicolor and Groupama

along with Demy and Varda's son, Mathieu Demy. *Documenteur* was restored under the supervision of Agnès Varda during the shooting of *Americano*, Mathieu Demy's feature debut, which includes sequences from *Documenteur* as flashbacks. ***Documenteur* and *Lola* have been restored by Technicolor Foundation for Cinema Heritage, Groupama Gan Foundation for Cinema and Ciné-Tamaris.**



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Lola

Sunday 24th November, 16.30

Director: Jacques Demy

84 minutes // Italy-France // 1961

Shot in the summer of 1960 by Raoul Coutard – renowned here for his work on *Rocky Road to Dublin*, *Breathless* and *Jules et Jim* – Jacques Demy's feature debut is possibly his most understated, stylish film. Marc Michel plays drifter Roland Cassard, who falls for Lola, a lusted-after cabaret dancer and somewhat frivolous single mother, played by spindly and ebullient Anouk Aimée. Imbuing the part with melancholy and allure, Demy cast Aimée to play Lola a second time in his cultish Los Angeles-set *Model Shop* (1969). Both films are marked with features that define the director's output; transience, resemblance, malaise and desire. (AB)

Dr. Douglas Smith will introduce this screening.

Director's Note: Set in his childhood town, Demy's debut is a delight, hinting towards the poetic and visionary universe of his later films.



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Documenteur

Saturday 30th November, 13.00

Director: Agnès Varda

65 minutes // France // 1981

For those unfamiliar with the work of gifted filmmaker Agnès Varda, *Documenteur* makes an ideal starting point given its poetic visual style and evocative sense of place. As with much of her work, *Documenteur* focusses on a female protagonist, providing a contemplative account of recently separated Emilie Cooper (Sabine Mamou) as she settles into life with her son in Los Angeles. Similar to Chris Marker, Varda makes fascinating use of voice-over and photographs, and the film's montage sequences – juxtaposing shots of objects with documentary-like footage of the city, its inhabitants, and a striking series of locally-painted murals – movingly illustrate the protagonist's sense of grief. (AB)

Director's Note: Subtitled 'an emotion picture', this is a rare, beautiful and melancholic film reflecting on solitude, sadness and the end of a relationship.

Showing with:

Incident urbain

Director: John Lalor

27 minutes // France // 2013

Set predominantly outside the French National Library in Paris, France-based Irish artist John Lalor's debut film focusses on two men, bound by some mysterious past, whose erudite conversation about the architectural landscape that surrounds them ultimately leads to catastrophe. (AB)

John Lalor will participate in a post-screening Q&A with artist Garrett Phelan on the theme of working at the intersection of art and cinema.

Director's Note: A stunning opening sequence to this short film... Beautiful and enigmatic.

My Mommy is in America and she met Buffalo Bill

(Ma maman est en Amérique, elle a rencontré Buffalo Bill)



Sunday 24th November, 11.00

Saturday 30th November, 11.00

75 minutes // France // 2013

Special Mention: Annecy

International Animation Film

Festival

Tickets €5 per person/€15

Family ticket (4 people)

Recommended age 7+

Notes by Alicia McGivern

Based on the best-selling children's book of the same name, this animation tells the story of six-year-old Jean who is going to big school for the first time and has to get used to the very strict teacher. At home his little brother Paul and he squabble a lot while the babysitter Yvette minds them until their father comes home after long days at the factory. Jean misses his mother badly so when he gets postcards from her, his friend Michèle from next door reads them aloud. He imagines his mother visiting all kinds of exciting places like Brazil, Switzerland and a Buffalo Bill Wild West show in the U.S.A. This beautifully animated, heartfelt story is about family, love and a little bit of growing up.

Director's Note: This lovingly-made animation set in the 1970s is a sensitive, sparkling and thought-provoking tale about childhood loss and hiding from the truth.

Subtitles will be read aloud on 24th November only.

Carte Noire IFI French Film Festival on Tour



access>CINEMA in association with the Irish Film Institute is pleased to bring the Carte Noire IFI French Film Festival to audiences outside Dublin. The Festival on Tour will present an exclusive screening of *Jappeloup* at Riverbank Arts Centre on Saturday 23rd November at 20.00.

Riverbank Arts Centre
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Newbridge
Co. Kildare

www.riverbank.ie
Tel: 045 448327

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www.accesscinema.ie



Jérôme Bonnell

Jérôme Bonnell made his feature debut with *Le Chignon d'Olga* (2002). This was followed by *Les Yeux clairs* (2005), winner of the Prix Jean Vigo, *Waiting For Someone* (2007), his first collaboration with Emmanuelle Devos, and *The Queen of Clubs* (2009). We are delighted to welcome him to present this year's Opening Film, *Just a Sigh* on November 20th.



Emmanuelle Devos

Over the last twenty-five years, Emmanuelle Devos has established herself as one of France's most versatile and hardest-working actresses. She has collaborated with directors such as Alain Resnais, Jacques Audiard, Cédric Klapisch, and, most notably, Arnaud Desplechin. She will take part in Q&As after several of her films. See schedule on page 4 for details.



Arnaud Desplechin

Arnaud Desplechin won the Jean Vigo Short Film Prize with his directorial debut, *The Life of the Dead* (1991). Since then, he has directed seven features and one documentary, and established a regular company of actors including Mathieu Amalric, Catherine Deneuve, Chiara Mastroianni, and, of course, Emmanuelle Devos. He will take part in a Masterclass and several Q&As. See schedule on page 4 for details.



John Lalor

After moving to Paris in 1988, Irish artist John Lalor has since exhibited widely in both countries. Having started in abstract portraiture, Lalor has expanded his profession to include, amongst other media, film, with one of his areas of interest being the presentation and subversion of meaning. He will take part in a Q&A with artist Garrett Phelan after the screening of *Incident urbain* on November 30th.



Nicolas Philibert

Esteemed documentarian Nicolas Philibert's style of filmmaking is unobtrusive, consisting of long takes which observe events unfold, drawing the audience in. This was seen to great effect in his best-known film, *Être et avoir* (2002). Festival guest of honour in 2007, we are delighted to welcome him to Dublin again. He will take part in a Q&A after the screening of *La Maison de la radio* on November 29th.

Keep an eye on the website www.ifi.ie/frenchfest for additional guest announcements.

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~

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~

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Festival French Wines

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Les Roucas (White) €23
Crispy and fresh, intense aromas citrus
and exotic fruits

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For details on the Carte Noire IFI French Film Festival, please visit www.ifi.ie/frenchfest



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The Institut français works to promote films that form part of French cultural heritage and organise non-commercial screenings of recent creations outside France. It supports world cinema through the Cinémathèque Afrique, the Cinémas du Monde Pavilion at the Cannes Film Festival, and the World Cinema Support managed by the National Center for Cinematography and the Moving Image and the Institut français.



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THE TICKET

Your weekly guide to entertainment

THE IRISH TIMES | WEEKLY GUIDE TO ENTERTAINMENT | FRIDAY 06.09.2013

THE TICKET

FILM Is Alan Cumming the hardest-working actor on the planet? He talks to Tara Brady, p.6

MUSIC The mighty Macklemore talks Thrift Shop with Jim Carroll, p.8

Monkeys see, Monkeys do

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FILM Donald Clarke previews all the upcoming movies from now till the new year, p.4-7

MUSIC Dornbush talks time-travelling rom-coms with Tara Brady, p.8

ELECTRIC PICNIC Factory Floor talk to Jim Carroll, p.6. Plus: 10 must-sees from down the bill. Booking the Coops plans the perfect picnic, p.7

PLUS A free guide to the best of the year's **ARTISTS' DAY** See centre pages

Tara Brady about the princess

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FILM Kevin Macdonald tells Donald Clarke that Saoirse Ronan is the best he's ever worked with, p.10

MUSIC Jim Carroll takes the pulse of Irish music at the Hard Working Class Heroes festival, p.9

Straight Cate Cate Blanchett talks to Tara Brady about motherhood, movies and working with Woody Allen

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FILM Director Ron Howard tells Tara Brady why he's in such a Rush, p.8

MUSIC Hello Yellow Brick Road! Etom John's back with a new album. Tony Clayton-Lea on the life of the Rocket Man, p.4

Autumn's UP! Jim Carroll on the hottest tickets and biggest releases this season

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BOOKING INFORMATION

Tickets cost €9.20 each, except for the opening film which includes a post-screening reception and costs €15.

Packages €40 for 5 films. €70 for 11 films. Both packages exclude the opening film.

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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 page 19 for our special Festival Membership Offer.

Free list suspended for Carte Noire IFI French Film Festival.

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