

**INSTITUT
FRANÇAIS**

Royaume-Uni

A LA UNE

**Jan - Mar 2023
Highlights**

Night of Ideas



Before the Night

In the run-up to the Night of Ideas, a selection of thought-provoking films will be exploring several themes of this year's edition. Probe our relationship with nature in *Walkabout*, and documentaries *Geographies of Solitude*, and *Animal* or the extraordinary landscapes of the human body with *De Humani Corporis Fabrica*. We'll also investigate the fascination for images in rarely seen *Godard's films*, and the mise-en-scène of the self on social media with exhilarating shorts by *Gabrielle Stemmer*.

3 – 8 Feb

Night of Ideas

Crossing French and British perspectives, the **Night of Ideas** tackles the latest ideas of our time and engages audiences through **free debates** with 40 leading figures. **More?** That is the question which will lead us to address contemporary issues from the climate crisis to post #MeToo politics, from the ethics of fashion to the new geopolitics. Join the debate, join the Night of Ideas!

9 Feb, from 6pm

Little Night

Ahead of and during the Night of Ideas, we invite young ones to reflect on this year's themes. Following class activities, pupils from British and French primary schools in the UK will produce works to be displayed in January, and will take part in debates during the Night. A public workshop will also allow children to become scientists and create the human 2.0.

Thu 9 Feb, 4pm

Women Shaping the World



Women Writers

Our **monthly book club** puts the spotlight on contemporary Francophone women writers. Explore Maryse Condé's Guadeloupe-set fascinating murder mystery *Crossing the Mangrove*, Scholastique Mukasonga's moving tribute to her Tutsi mother, *The Barefoot Woman*, and *Tropic of Violence* Nathacha Appanah's evocation of lost youth on the French island of Mayotte.

12 Jan, 7pm – Maryse Condé

2 Feb, 7pm – Scholastique Mukasonga

2 Mar, 7pm – Nathacha Appanah

Women Behind the Camera

With the latest *Sight and Sound* poll placing Chantal Akerman's film *Jeanne Dielman* at the top of all films ever made, 2023 announces itself as a strong year for women behind the camera. We'll be presenting the UK premiere of the restored print of *Sois belle et tais-toi* by *Delphine Seyrig's* along with *Laura Poitras'* Golden Lion-winning documentary on artist Nan Goldin, *All The Beauty and the Bloodshed*. *Emily Atef* will present a preview of her poignant drama *More than Ever* starring the late Gaspard Ulliel on 19 January.

Jan - March

Saint Omer

Acclaimed at the Venice Film Festival where it won 3 prizes, including the Silver Lion, *Alice Diop's* stunning narrative debut *Saint Omer* is France's entry to the 2023 Academy Awards. Loosely inspired by a real court case where a mother abandoned her baby to the rising tides on a beach, *Saint Omer* is a finely observed drama which stylishly probes the unspeakable.

From 3 Feb

Cinema



New Year, New Releases

Enter the new year with French hits and international must-sees. François Ozon returns with **Peter Von Kant**, featuring **Denis Ménochet** and **Isabelle Adjani**, and catch Marie Kreutzer's exhilarating **Corsage**, with a mercurial **Vicky Krieps** as Empress Sissi. Director **Emily Atef** joins us for a special preview of **More Than Ever**, a romantic drama led again by the unstoppable Vicky Krieps, who stars alongside the late Gaspard Ulliel. Other new releases include **Saint Omer** by Alice Diop and **Full Time** starring Laure Calamy.

Jan - March



European Cinema

Travel across Europe from the comfy seats of Ciné Lumière with festivals such as **Cinema Made in Italy**, back for a 13th edition packed with the hottest titles. We'll also host **WatwhAut**, the Austrian Film Festival featuring the current generation of Austrian filmmakers, and the **Kinoteka Polish Film Festival** completing our cinematic journey with more exciting films to discover.

Jan - March



Tár

Centred on its star performer, Cate Blanchett and phenomenally supported by Noemie Merlant and Nina Hoss, **Tár** is a masterful drama about fictional celebrity conductor Lydia Tar. As the first-ever female chief conductor of the Berlin Philharmonic, this study of power, passion and entitlement feels eminently real.

From 13 Jan



Music



© Philippe Doumic/Ulfrance

Jean-Luc Godard: Perspectives

With a career spanning over 60 years and some 140 films, from the iconic works of the New Wave to the cinema essays he became known for, the late **Jean-Luc Godard** was the epitome of cinema. With this season, we offer a critical perspective to different periods of his filmmaking, with talks by prominent scholars and specialists. (Re)Discover the formidable and uncompromising Jean-Luc Godard.

Jan - March



The French New Wave: Critical Landmarks

Together with the foundational writings of the likes of Truffaut, Bazin and Godard, the new edition of **The French New Wave: Critical Landmarks** (Bloomsbury Press) gathers essential writings by and about the critics and filmmakers of this revolutionary cinematic movement. Join editor **Ginette Vincendeau** in celebrating the book launch accompanied by a film screening.

15 Feb, 6pm



Les Salons en Musique

Presenting the diversity of percussion instruments around the world with **L'Air(e)**, the **Trio No Bad Vibes** (Percussions de Strasbourg) invite us to an inventive show nourished by improvisation and performance. **"Between dadaist humour and extravagant tragedy (...) everything is eminently fluid"** (ResMusica).

2 Feb, 7pm

With special thanks to **Aline Foriel-Destezet**

Mois de la Francophonie



Choix Goncourt UK

For this 4th edition of the **Choix Goncourt UK**, students from 15 British universities will award their own Goncourt Prize chosen among the final selection of the Académie Goncourt. Ahead of the big reveal, meet Cameroonian writer **Djaïli Amadou Amal**, winner of the Choix Goncourt 2020 for *The Impatient*, who will talk about African women's empowerment.

24 March, 5pm



Joutes oratoires lycéennes

Open to all sixth formers in the UK, this **French debating competition** has gathered over the last decade hundreds of young French learners, who share the same interest in practicing languages in a creative and challenging way. Bringing several months of regional heats to a close, the 2023 finals will take place at the Institut français during the Mois de la Francophonie.

15 March , 12-6pm



French Pop Video Competition

This **national competition** invites Primary and Secondary schools to create their own French pop song and record a video clip. Students can engage with the French language in a creative way, from the writing of a song to its singing (or rapping!), from video shooting to editing. Who will be the 2023 winners?

Wed 1 Feb – Deadline for registrations



In conversation with Suzanne Doppelt

One of the major voices in contemporary French poetry, **Suzanne Doppelt** will discuss her creative practice with **Dr Jeff Barda**, lecturer in French Cultural Studies at the University of Manchester. In her latest book *Et tout soudain en rien*, she explores the multiplicity of the gaze through the photographic enigma in Michelangelo Antonioni's film *Blow-Up*.

Fri 3 March, 6.30pm



Francophone Films

Ciné Lumière welcomes cinematic gems from the Francophone world, including **Full Time** by French-Canadian director **Eric Gravel** (Best Director at the 2022 Venice Film Festival). From Belgium, we'll be showing **Close** (Cannes 2022 Grand Prix) by **Lukas Dhont**, and documentary **For a Fistful of Fries**, followed by a discussion with co-director **Yves Hinant** and judge **Anne Gruwez**.

March



Learn French

Any good resolutions for the new year? Why not learn French with the Institut français! Whether you are a beginner or have prior skills in French, try our stimulating, flexible and interactive onsite or online **French courses**. Check out our extensive offer, including our new Intensive Premium or French at Lunch courses, to find your perfect match! *C'est magnifique!*

New term from 9 Jan

The Earth Here and Now



Geographies of Solitude

In this poetic tribute to Sable Island, we follow **naturalist** and **environmentalist** **Zoe Lucas**, who has lived on the island for over 40 years. Each day she collects, cleans and documents the marine litter that persistently washes up on the land. Director Jacquelyn Mills delivers intimate, tactile 16mm images that feel like we are witnessing one of Zoe's solitary excursions.

Fri 3 Feb 6.20pm
Sat 4 Feb 2pm



Eo

The world is a mysterious place when seen through the eyes of an animal. Inspired by Robert Bresson's 1966 film *Au Hasard Balthazar*, **Jerzy Skolimowski's** film *Eo* follows the journey across Europe of a grey donkey with melancholic eyes, as he meets good and bad people along the way. Winning the **Jury Prize** at the 2022 **Cannes Film Festival**, the film is Poland's entry to the 2023 Academy Awards.

From 3 Feb



Animal

In **Cyril Dion's** *Animal*, teenagers Bella and Vipulan meet with scientists and activists around the world such as Philippe Descola and Jane Goodall, in search of a harmonious way for humans and all living beings to live together. For more on the subject, follow wildlife photographer Vincent Munier and writer adventurer Sylvain Tesson on their quest for the snow leopard in *The Velvet Queen* (from 3 Feb).

Sat 4 Feb, 1.30pm

Kids' Corner



Kids' Activities

If you want your kids to stay in touch with the French language and culture, look no further! Bibliothèque Quentin Blake offers **rhyme times** for toddlers, **storytelling** sessions for kids between 2 and 6, and an (easy) **French Club** for those who want to start to learn French. On **20 January**, it's the **French Night of Reading**, and for the occasion, our librarians invite wannabe detectives to a mystery party.

Jan - March



CinéFamilies

Children and the young at heart will enjoy some family classics such as *Asterix & Cleopatra*, *Becassine the Wackiest Nanny Ever* and *Tintin and the Lake of Sharks* as part of the **CinéFamilies** programme at Ciné Lumière. Young parents with vocal babies can catch the latest releases such as *Corsage*, *More Than Ever* and *Tár* in our weekly **CinéBabies**.

Jan - March



French Camp for Kids and Teens

Kids aged 11 to 15 years can get ready for a very French holiday at the Institut français. We are taking our successful teaching practices to a fast-track, week-long immersion camp for your kids or teenagers. Fusing together language courses with exciting cultural activities, this camp will be an unforgettable French journey!


13 - 17 Feb

The image shows the exterior of the Institut Français building, a grand structure with red brickwork and large, ornate windows. A large, shiny red heart-shaped balloon is tied to a pillar in front of the building. The sky is blue with some clouds. The building's name 'INSTITUT FRANÇAIS ROYAL LÉON' is visible on the left, and 'S T I T U T F R A N C A I S' is inscribed across the facade.

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The background is a vibrant pop art style with a blue base. It features large, stylized yellow and pink shapes that resemble film strips or abstract patterns, outlined in black. There are also black dots and lines scattered throughout the design.

CINÉ LUMIÈRE
FOR A FIVER

I F Y O U A R E
25 AND UNDER

A black circular price tag with a white border and a scalloped edge, containing the text '£5' in white.

£5

Visit Us

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Ciné Lumière

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Mon & Tue: 5pm – 9pm

Wed to Sun: 10am – 9pm

La Médiathèque

T 020 7871 3545

library@institut-francais.org.uk

Wed & Fri: 1pm – 6pm

Thu: 1pm – 7pm

Sat: 12pm – 6pm

Sun – Tue: closed

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Wed – Fri: 1pm – 6pm

Sat: 12pm – 6pm

Sun – Tue: closed

Stay Tuned

Please note that the events listed here are only some of the highlights of our programme and are correct at the time of print, but liable to change.

For the full programme of events, films and updates:

- check our website: www.institut-francais.org.uk
- join our email list: marketing@institut-francais.org.uk
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Mon – Thu: 9.30am – 7.30pm

Fri & Sat: 9.30am – 4pm

Sun: closed

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