



Mois de la  
francophonie  
UK



Mois de la Francophonie  
March 2023



# Le Mois de la Francophonie

“Espace immense, multilingue, espace de pollinisation, de créolisation, d’influences réciproques” (Leila Slimani), the Francophonie gathers 300 million of French-speaking people around the world.

Every year in March, the 88 members of the Organisation internationale de la francophonie (OIF) celebrate the **French language** they share and the **cultural and linguistic diversity** they represent. They also have values in common (promoting peace, democracy and human rights) and support education, training and gender equality.

The Institut français du Royaume-Uni, the French Embassy, the Institut français d’Ecosse, the UK network of Alliances Françaises and the Francophone partners in the UK dedicate the whole month to events and initiatives celebrating *la langue de Molière*, Maryse Condé and Léopold Sédar Senghor.

#FrancophonieUK

## Au Programme



### Tropic of Violence by Nathacha Appanah

2 March, 7pm | Book Club

Join our reading group dedicated to Mauritian-French author Nathacha Appanah and her acclaimed novel *Tropic of Violence*. Narrated by five different characters, the story is an exploration of lost youth on the French island of Mayotte in the Indian Ocean. Shining a light on problems of violence, immigration and identity, Nathacha Appanah’s powerful account promises some fascinating discussion.

in French



### Contemporary French Poetry: In Conversation with Suzanne Doppelt

3 March, 6.30pm | Talk + Reading

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*.

in French and English



## Close

From 3 March | Film

Awarded the Grand Prix at the Cannes Film Festival 2022, *Close* is a profoundly felt portrait of two inseparable friends by Lukas Dhont (*Girl*).

FRA/BEL/NED | 2022 | dir. Lukas Dhont  
in French with EN subs



## Jeanne Dielman, 23 Quai du Commerce, 1080 Bruxelles

5 – 8 March | Film

A singular work in film history, Chantal Akerman's *feature* meticulously details, with a sense of impending doom, the daily routine of a middle-aged widow. It was recently voted number 1 in the *Sight and Sound* poll of the Best Films of all Time.

FRA | 1975 | dir. Chantal Akerman  
in French with EN subs



## The Five Devils

From 6 March | Film

Vicky (Sally Dramé) has a mysterious gift: she can recreate any scent she comes across, even that of her beloved mother Joanne (Adèle Exarchopoulos). When her estranged aunt suddenly returns to town, the invocation of her fragrance plunges the young girl back in time to unravel a past replete with family secrets and queer romance. The screening on 19 March will be followed by a Q&A with director Léa Mysius.

FRA | 2022 | dir. Léa Mysius  
in French with EN subs



## The Image Book

12 – 15 March | Film

Jean-Luc Godard pushes his exploration of words, sounds and images to vivid new extremes in this complex, dizzying mosaic of film, essay and collage. This polyphonic discourse about the contemporary condition shows Godard, at 87, as intransigently and vitally confrontational as ever.

FRA/CHE | 2018 | dir. Jean-Luc Godard  
in French, Arabic, English and Italian  
with EN subs

Image © Casa Azul Films – Ecran Noir



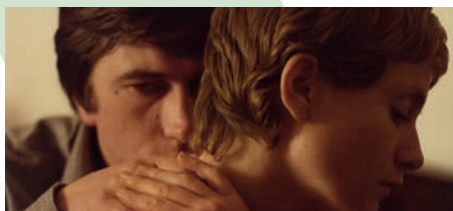


## For a Fistful of Fries

15 March, 7pm | Film

After the international success of *Ni Juge ni soumise (So Help me God)*, Jean Libon and Yves Hinant (*Strip-tease*) pursue their chronicle of police and justice in the underbelly of Brussels as superintendent Lemoine investigates a murder case in the red-light district. The screening will be followed by a Q&A with co-director **Yves Hinant**.

FRA/BEL | 2022 | dir.s Jean Libon & Yves Hinant  
in French with EN subs



## Passion

19 – 21 March | Film

Made during Godard's return to relatively mainstream filmmaking in the 1980s, *Passion* is about the making of an ambitious art film that uses re-creations of classical European paintings as *tableaux vivants*, set to classical European music. The screening on 21 March will be introduced by film historian and curator **Tony Rayns**.

FRA | 1982 | dir. Jean-Luc Godard  
in French with EN subs



## Au revoir le bonheur

22 March, 6.15pm | Film

Ken Scott (*Delivery Man, Starbuck*) offers a quirky comedy following four brothers, very much at odds with each other, who must congregate for one final week at their summer house in the Magdalen Islands to commemorate the passing of their beloved father.

CAN | 2021 | dir. Ken Scott  
in French with EN subs



## In Conversation with Djaili Amadou Amal

24 March, 5pm | Talk

Meet Cameroonian writer **Djaili Amadou Amal**, winner of the Choix Goncourt UK 2020 for *The Impatient*, who will talk about African women's empowerment against the oppressive and long-held cultural traditions that define and limit the lives of too many of them. She will be in conversation with **Dr Adina Stroia** (Newcastle University).

In French and English



## The Beasts

From 24 March | Film

Antoine (Denis Ménochet) and Olga (Marina Fois) are a French couple that settled down some time ago in a small village in inland Galicia. There, they lead a peaceful life, although coexisting with the local people isn't as idyllic as they would like.

SPA/FRA | 2022 | dir. Rodrigo Sorogoyen  
in French, Spanish, Galician with EN subs



## Norbourg

25 March, 4pm | Film

When inspector and auditor Éric Asselin is mandated to monitor the activities of the Norbourg firm in Canada, he is so fascinated by the audacity of businessman Vincent Lacroix that he leaves his post to become his right-hand man.

CAN | 2022 | dir. Maxime Giroux  
in French with EN subs

Image © Entract Films Maison 43

# Que les meilleurs gagnent !



## National Finals of the Joutes Oratoires Lycéennes

15 March | Debate Competition

The Joutes Oratoires Lycéennes is a French debating competition open to all Sixth form students in England and Wales. After months of intense regional qualifications gathering over a hundred students in 6 regions, the best teams in the country will meet for a final round of debates to win the prestigious National Cup of La Francophonie.

in French



## Quiz Vive la Francophonie

18 – 26 March | Online Quiz

Test your French and learn more about Tunisia. Make the most of the Francophonie celebrations and get a chance to win books and other exciting prizes!



## Choix Goncourt UK

24 March | Student Book Prize

For the 4th year running, students from 15 British universities will award their own Goncourt Prize chosen among the final selection of the Académie Goncourt. This year's finalists are: *Le Mage du Kremlin* by Giuliano da Empoli, *Vivre vite* by Brigitte Giraud, *Les Presque sœurs* by Cloé Korman and *Une somme humaine* by Makenzy Orcel. Stay tuned to know the winner!



## French Pop Video Competition

Deadline: 1 May | Song Video Contest

The Institut français du Royaume-Uni, with the support of Francophonie UK, invites primary and secondary schools in the UK to take part in a French song video contest. Participating schools can submit their video clips in 3 age categories by 1 May 2023 for a chance to win books, tablets and attend a live Fête de la Musique concert!

in French

## Plus on est de fous, plus on rit !

### UK-Wide French Cultural Network

The Institut français d'Ecosse, the UK-wide network of Alliances Françaises (Cambridge, Glasgow, Oxford), and the Maison Française d'Oxford offer a rich programme of events, films and talks *en français* ! Explore their programmes!

[www.institut-francais.org.uk/francophonie/uk-wide](http://www.institut-francais.org.uk/francophonie/uk-wide)

### Francophonie UK Network

Shared by 300 million people worldwide, the fifth most spoken language on the planet, French, along with English, is the only language spoken on all five continents. From Québec to Belgium or Switzerland, the members of the Francophonie UK network celebrate the French language as part of the Mois de la Francophonie. Check their programmes!

[www.institut-francais.org.uk/francophonie](http://www.institut-francais.org.uk/francophonie)



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