



Press release for immediate publication.

Vancouver, February 3, 2021.- Visions Ouest Productions (VOP) officially goes live on February 4 at 4:00 p.m. with the presentation of the 27th edition of the Rendez-vous du cinéma québécois et francophone.

Like many organizations, this is a great first for VOP, filled with challenges but also opportunities. With a brand new geolocation, this will be an opportunity to make all Rendez-vous programming accessible to new audiences throughout BC, Alberta and the Yukon. More than half of the programming will also be available online across Canada. We have opted to use the Eventive platform for the presentation of the Festival as well as for our screenings and events until early 2022. We will return to indoor presentations when the health situation allows.

More than 60 films from the national and international Francophonie will be shown between February 4 and February 14, 2021, including nearly 40 feature and medium-length films, some Premieres: DE GAULLE by Gabriel Le Bomin presented from February 4 to 11, 2021, MISS by Rubens Alves presented from February 5 to 12, 2021 and JOSEP by Aurel, a Franco-Hispano-Belgian animated film showing from February 6 to 13 2021. The latter has just won the 2021 Lumières Awards for best animated film and best music (Silvia Pérez Gruz) at the International Press Lumières ceremony.

Acadia in the spotlight at the 27th RVCQF2021

This year, Acadia is in the spotlight with, as leader, the filmmaker Phil Comeau who has just received the Léger-Comeau medal awarded by the Société nationale de l'Acadie, an honor that reflects on all his people! His films VAGUE D'ACADIE and BELLE-ÎLE EN ACADIE, not to mention ZACHARIE RICHARD TOUJOURS BATAILLEUR, will screen at the 27th RVCQF. The Acadian selection will include the films UNE FAÇON D'ÊTRE ENSEMBLE by Francine Hébert, POUR MIEUX T'AIMER by Gilles Doiron and Denise Bouchard, 54 NORTH by Émilie Peltier and Mélanie Léger, ACADIANA by Guillaume Fournier and Samuel Matteau and LA RIVIÈRE MÉTISSÉE de Julien Cadieux. In addition, the NFB's participation allows us to enhance the Acadian presence with the presentations of FRANCHIR LA LIGNE by Paul Émile d'Entremont, a film that breaks the Omertà concerning homosexuality that reigns in amateur and professional sport and LE BONHEUR DE LUCIEN by Nathalie Hébert. We are rounding off this Acadian program with the Vancouver premiere of Renée Blanchard's film LE SILENCE, which was recently awarded at the Festival international de cinéma de l'Acadie 2020. It will be presented only from February 12 to 14 for the C.-B., Alberta and the Yukon audiences.

On February 4 at 4:00 pm, the online edition of Rendez-vous du cinéma québécois et francophone will kick off with the impressive LIDA MOSER, PHOTOGRAPHER by Joyce Borenstein. Lida Moser, a young New York photographer working for Vogue magazine, traveled across Quebec in the summer of 1950. She took over a thousand stunning photos of a society and a country on the verge of modernization. The film unfolds a captivating interweaving of her photos, animation work and time-lapse shots, while combining her voice with archival recordings from Quebec from the 1950s. On the same program, two other portraits of Joyce Borenstein, that of MY MOTHER AND HER COLORS and THE COLORS OF MY FATHER.

The film ERRANCE SANS RETOUR by Mélanie Carrier and Olivier Higgins will symbolically close the 27th Edition of RVCQF2021. Available for a limited time, from February 12-14 for BC, Alberta and the Yukon, this is a deeply moving film about humanity. Within months, the Kutupalong refugee camp became the most populous in the world. Out of sight from the global community, nearly 700,000 people from the Rohingya Muslim minority fled Myanmar to escape genocide seeking asylum in Bangladesh in 2017. Now prisoners of a major humanitarian crisis, yet little publicized, Kalam, Mohammad, Montas and other exiles want to make their voices heard. Between poetry and nightmares, food distribution and soccer games, they bear witness to their daily life and the ghosts of the past. Around them, the specter of wandering, of waiting, of disappearance. In this labyrinth of makeshift shelters, almost out of time and space, is it still possible to exist?

Other films from Quebec distributor SPIRA will have choice billing, starting with CAYENNE by Simon Gionet, which premiered at the Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival and was selected at over 40 international festivals. The film qualified this year for the Oscar race for Best Short Film (Fiction). The films DES HISTOIRES INVENTÉES by Jean-Marc E. Roy and MAD DOG & THE BUTCHER, LES DERNIERS VILAINS by Thomas Rinfret will be added; the short films ACADIANA by Guillaume Fournier, Samuel Matteau and Yannick Nolin, À TRAVERS LES MURS by Larissa Corriveau, LE VIDÉOCLIP by Camille Poirier; the superb SCARS by Alex Anna as well as ROSELINE AS IN THE FILMS by Sara Boudreau.

VOP has given priority to the productions of the NFB with two of our favorites of the year: LES ROSE by Félix Rose, a family chronicle that aims to understand and contextualize what led the brothers Paul and Jacques Rose to commit the acts which led to the death of Pierre Laporte; LE CHEMIN DE LA GUERISON the fiftieth film by Alanis Obomsawin, a film that chronicles the enrichment of the Cree community of Norway House, one of the largest Aboriginal communities in Manitoba, home to a school like no other which offers an innovative and engaged educational system. In addition, we will showcase films that have been part of our history such as ALAIN ARTISTE DÉMOLISSEUR by Manon Barbeau and LA DERNIÈRE CLÉ by Julien Capraro which will add a very British-Colombian touch to the program.

Another program adapted due to the pandemic: in addition to presenting a planned mini-retrospective of Thierry Damilano's films since his first award-winning film at the Antibes International Underwater Image Festival with MEETING THE PEOPLE ASMAT (2014), we have added the films ROAD TRIP ALONG THE INDO PAKISTANESE AND CHINESE BORDER (2016); TAMIL NADU ON THE ROYAL ENFIELD (2014) and ON THE ROADS AND PALACES OF RAJASTAN (2014). We have brought together in a single program the two Damilano brothers, who share common passions with the sea, the mountains and the motorcycle. We therefore selected the film ON VA MARCHER SUR L'EVEREST directed by his brother, François Damilano, mountain guide, mountaineer and journalist.

Some nice surprises in this 27th Edition include the presentation of the IMELDA Trilogy by Martin Villeneuve with a 17-minute bonus content, shot in 1999 with the real Imelda, and very special

collaborations with the two renowned artists Ginette Reno and Robert Lepage. Equally engaging, *THE LAST NATAQ* by Lisette Marcotte, which was shot on the sidelines of the creation of the mural entitled *The territories cast in our veins* produced in Rouyn-Noranda, with the participation of Richard Desjardins, at home, with his stories and his music. Last minute surprises will follow, such as the world premiere of *LIVE STORY, CHRONIQUE D'UN COUPLE* by Jean-Sébastien Lozeau with Sébastien Ricard and Marilyn Bastien.

Some titles that will be available across the country:

ANTOINETTE DANS LES CÉVENNES by Caroline Vignal presented from February 6 to 13, 2021

AU NOM DE LA TERRE by Edouard Bergeron presented from February 7 to 14, 2021

BUSTER KEATON, A CELEBRATION by Peter Bogdanovich presented from February 7 to 14, 2021

CE QUE VOUS CROYEZ by Safi Nebbou presented from February 5 to 12, 2021

DONNE-MOI DES AILES by Nicolas Vanier presented from February 4 to 14, 2021

IL PLEUVAIT DES OISEAUX by Louise Archambault presented from February 7 to 14, 2021

LA BONNE ÉPOUSE by Martin Provost presented from February 4 to 11, 2021

LA BELLE EPOQUE by Nicolas Bedos presented from February 6 to 13, 2021

LA DARONNE by Jean-Paul Salomé presented from February 4 to 11, 2021 (official poster of the RVCQF)

LA FACE CACHÉE DU BAKLAVA by Marianne Zéhil presented from February 7 to 14, 2021

LA FILLE AU BRACELET by Stéphane Demoustier presented from February 4 to 14, 2021

L'ÉTAT SAUVAGE by David Perreault presented from February 5 to 12, 2021

LE VOYAGE DU PRINCE by Jean-François Laguioni and Xavier Picard from February 7 to 14, 2021

MIA ET LE LION BLANC by Gille de Maistre presented from February 6 to 13, 2021

PAPICHA Mounia Meddour presented from February 4 to 14, 2021

PETIT PAYS by Eric Barbier presented from February 4 to 14, 2021

RADIOACTIVE by Marjane Satrapi presented from February 7 to 14, 2021

Also, another short program distributed by TRAVELING-INIS: *LANDGRAVES*, the metal suspense of Jean-François Leblanc who has just won the Canadian Prize for best short film; *DELPHINE* by Chloé Robichaud who won the award for best Canadian short film at TIFF (2019); *MONSIEUR CACHEMIRE* by Iouri Philippe Paillé; *THE OWNER IS A TELESCOPE* by Charles Massicotte and *LA VOCE* by David Uloth, recipient of 30 awards and 18 nominations, a satirical fable inspired by Donizetti's opera *Lucia Di Lammermoor* and the silent movie era.

In addition, we will continue with *LES GRANDES RENCONTRES DE VOP* via Zoom!

The first *GRANDE RENCONTRE* will take place on Monday February 8 at 3:00 p.m. with Félix Rose, director of the film *LES ROSE*, the film having been the most popular on the ONF.CA site during the year 2020. The

film's release is part of the road towards the fiftieth anniversary of the October 1970 crisis. Its author and director is the son of Paul Rose, a member of the Chénier cell of the FLQ, sentenced to prison for murder.

The second *GRANDE RENCONTRE* with filmmaker Alanis Obomsawin, one of the world's most eminent Indigenous filmmakers in the world, who will be accompanied by Daniel Racine for the presentation of her 50th film *LE CHEMIN DE LA COÉRISON* will follow on February 9 at 3:00 p.m.

Thursday February 11, from 10:00 am to 11:30 am, in collaboration with the Department of Political Sciences of SFU-BAFF as part of the course entitled "Diplomacy and Global Governance", the public is invited to join the 4th year students in order to attend to a live public presentation by Jean-Yves Defay, followed by a discussion around his book "The secrets of the diplomatic bag". Jean-Yves Defay was born in Rennes and was a teacher, journalist (Ouest-France), diplomat (Quai d'Orsay, Matignon), photographer, lyricist, dialogue writer, traveller and Consul General of France in Vancouver from 2002 to 2006

With its annual Festival, its School Matinees in the fall and winter, its Beaux Jedis du cinéma and its valuable collaborations with universities, the Festival Les Rendez-vous du cinéma québécois et francophone offers a FRENCH FILM SEASON that will run throughout 2021. We are proud to be part of the cultural programming of SFU Woodward's and to be associated with BAFF-SFU (the Printemps de la Francophonie of the Office of Francophones and Francophile Affairs of B.C.), at the Center de la francophonie at the University of British Columbia and at the Conseil scolaire francophone de la C.-B. We thank the volunteers, supporters and collaborators for their commitment.

All films are presented in their original version with English subtitles. The full schedule is available at www.rendez-vousvancouver.com

Source: Régis Painchaud
604-803-9599



406-1111 BEACH AVENUE VANCOUVER BC V6E 1T9 / TÉL. : 604-876-2294
WWW.RENDEZ-VOUSVANCOUVER.COM / INFO@RENDEZ-VOUSVANCOUVER.COM