

**NEUCHÂTEL
INTERNATIONAL
FANTASTIC FILM FESTIVAL**



THE SWISS EVENT FOR FANTASTIC FILM, ASIAN CINEMA & DIGITAL CREATION

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PRESS RELEASE

NIFFF 2016 - Swiss productions meet the new generation of international genre filmmakers

The Neuchâtel International Fantastic Film Festival (1-9 July 2016) is proud to unveil its 2016 programme, which includes many never-seen-before movies from Switzerland and the rest of the world. This year, the festival will chart contemporary genre productions through all of its categories, whether competitive or not. Our selection will focus on the importance of Swiss supernatural stories with a new section entitled AMAZING SWITZERLAND, as well as on Latin American cinema. The latter will be explored through a series of classic and modern films that highlight the influence of South American productions on the international scene, and prove the strength of its industry. Last but not least, we are organising a retrospective of John Carpenter's films, who is this year's guest of honour. He will be giving his only Swiss concert on July 6th.

The NIFFF in numbers

With its total budget of CHF 1,800,000, the NIFFF 2016 will last for 9 days. Films will be shown on 5 different screens, including one open-air venue, for a combined capacity of 2,095 seats. The 150 public screenings will be composed of 102 feature films and 29 short films, produced in 42 countries. These will include 5 world premieres, 5 international premieres, 7 European premieres, and 52 Swiss premieres. 16 conferences and public talks will also take place.

International competition

The competition's 14 films make for an original sample of fantastic cinema that comprises independent works directed by rising international artists. Among them are *Trash Fire* (USA, 2016) from Richard Bates Jr., whose film *Excision* was shown at the NIFFF 2012, and *Lo Chiamavano Jeeg Robot* (Italy, 2015) from Gabriele Mainetti, a feature that combines the superhero and gangster genres. Then we have *Under The Shadow* (Iran, Jordan, Qatar, UK, 2016) from Iranian filmmaker Babak Anvari, a powerful film about the female condition in 1980s Iran, and *Detour* (UK, South Africa, 2016) from British director Christopher Smith, who had forever made his mark at the NIFFF in 2010 with *Black Death* (winner of the RTS audience award). The competition also includes the following: *Miruthan* (India, 2016) from Shakti Soundar Rajan, a film in which zombies can sing and fall in love; *Grave (Raw)* (France, Belgium, 2016), the horror revelation of Cannes 2016, directed by French filmmaker Julia Ducournau; *The Transfiguration* (USA, 2016) from Michael O'Shea, an original film that focuses on a young African-American man who drinks blood and is obsessed with vampires; *The Lure* (Poland, 2015) from Agnieszka Smoczyńska, a musical that navigates between glamour and horror; *Swiss Army Man* (USA, 2016) from Daniel Scheinert and Dan Kwan, which has Daniel Radcliff play a zombie with the worst case of aerophagia in history; and directorial debut *Parents* (Denmark, 2016) from Christian Tafdrup - who plays on the *Borgen* TV show -, a one-of-a-kind supernatural drama.

New Cinema from Asia

Showcasing the latest masterpieces of Far Eastern cinema, the 2016 Asian competition is particularly eclectic. The chosen features include: *Creepy* (Japan, 2016) from master Japanese director Kurosawa Kiyoshi; *Seoul Station* (South Korea, 2016) from rising talent Yeon Sang-ho, who delivers a superb animated movie; *Psycho Raman* (India, 2016) from Anurag Kashyap, a very popular director from the independent Indian new wave; *Bitcoin Heist* (Vietnam, 2016) from Ham Tran - director of *Hollow*, which was shown at NIFFF 2015 -, one of Vietnam's box office hits; and the not-to-be-missed *Honor Thy Father* (Philippines, 2015) from Erik Matti, a brilliant psychological thriller made by a regular contestant at the NIFFF.

Films of the Third Kind and Ultra Movies

The Films of the Third Kind category is all about this year's most striking thrillers. Don't miss out on *Mi Gran Noche* (Spain, 2015) from Spaniard Álex de la Iglesia, or the international premiere of *Zeta* (Italy, 2016), from Cosimo Alemà, a major player of the new generation of Italian genre directors. Fans of big budget extravaganzas will be able to revel in the comedy of *The Mermaid* (China, 2016) from extraordinary Hong Kong filmmaker Stephen Chow, and the spectacle of *Baahubali: The Beginning* (India, 2015) from S.S. Rajamouli, the epic to end all epics. *Film noir* was of course not forgotten, as shown by the selection of *The Ardennes* (Belgium, 2015) from Robin Pront.

To spice up the nights of our visitors, the NIFFF will offer midnight screenings of the latest must-see horror and extreme films, as part of our Ultra Movies section. We'll hit the ground running with the eagerly awaited *Yoga Hosers* (USA, 2016) from the legendary Kevin Smith, who was our guest of honour in 2014, and *Baskin* (Turkey, USA, 2015), the first feature of Turkish director Can Evrenol, who delivers a stylistic, concept-driven shocker. There will also be *The Devil's Candy* (USA, 2015) from Sean Byrne, a very efficient horror thriller; the unmissable new adventures of the one and only underpants-toting superhero in *Hentai Kamen: The Abnormal Crisis* (Japan, 2016) from Fukuda Yûichi, who set the NIFFF ablaze in 2013; and finally *The Alchemist Cookbook* (USA, 2016) from Joel Potrykus, a true cinematic revelation.

Amazing Switzerland

In order to offer a new and more dynamic vision of quality genre cinema in Switzerland, the NIFFF has created a new category focused on the country's recent output. AMAZING SWITZERLAND notably includes the world premiere of *Das Kalte Herz* (1933-2016, Switzerland) from Karl Ulrich Schnabel, which was completed by Raff Fluri, *Aloys* (2016, Switzerland, France) from Tobias Nölle, and *Late Shift* (2016, Switzerland) from Tobias Weber, the world's first interactive film which will also go on the NIFFF ON TOUR in October 2016.

Histoires du genre

For its fourth year, the Histoires du genre section offers to take you on an artistic journey through time and space in the world of genre cinema. These documentaries will include three works from legendary French critic and director Yves Montmayeur, namely the world premiere of *Dragon Girls!* (France, 2016), *The 1000 Eyes of Dr Maddin* (France, USA, 2015), and *Viva La Muerte!* (France, 2009).

El Dorado - Discovering Latin American genre cinema

As everyone is turning their attention to Latin America - the new Promised Land for avant-garde fantastic cinema - the NIFFF has selected a series of never-seen-before films that will

explore the contemporary corpus of the Latin American genre industry, as well as the most essential classics from the 1950s to the 1980s. This overview has something for every film-lover and notably includes the Swiss premieres of *Muerte en Buenos Aires* (Argentina, 2014), a thriller from Natalia Meta, *Quando eu era vivo* (Brazil, 2014), a horror drama from Marco Dutra, *Daemonium: Soldier of the Underworld* (Argentina, 2015), a science fiction piece from Pablo Parés, and *Tenemos la carne* (Mexico, France, 2016), a surrealist horror film from Emiliano Rocha Minter. We will also be hosting the world premiere of thriller *Downhill* (Chile, Canada, France, 2016) from Chilean director **Patricio Valladares**, who will partake in a round table. Sci fi comedy *Ovnis en Zacapa* (Guatemala, 2015) from Marcos Machado will have its European premiere at the NIFFF. In addition, other renowned guests will attend the El Dorado round table organised by the festival. From Argentina, we will have **Bernardo Bergeret**, head of international affairs at INCAA and co-director for the Ventana Sur film market, **Laura Sanchez Acosta**, producer on *Daemonium: Soldier of the Underworld*, which is part of our programme, and **Simon Ratzl**, producer and creator. **Luis Ospina**, the legendary Colombian filmmaker whose movies *Pura Sangre* (Colombia, 1982) and *Todo comenzó por el Fin* (Colombia, 2015) will be shown, is also going to attend, along with Mexican director **Isaac Ezban**, whose film *Los Parecidos* is part of this year's International Competition. Among the other attendees are **Pablo Guisa Koestinger**, director, producer, distributor and one of the instigators of fantastic film productions in Latin America, **Adrián García Bogliano**, director (*Here Comes the Devil*, NIFFF 2013, *Scherzo Diabolico*, NIFFF 2015) and curator of the El Dorado programme, and Mexican producer **Andrea Quiroz**.

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INTERVIEW WITH ANAÏS EMERY, NIFFF ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

How would you describe the vision of the NIFFF and its evolution as the festival reaches its 16th edition?

In my opinion, the NIFFF is now mature enough to embrace its role as a springboard for avant-garde fantastic cinema and its most innovative forms - whether historical or contemporary. Thanks to the festival's growing reputation, we can now speak directly with renowned producers from all over the world. Up until now, our team has mainly - but not exclusively - focused on Europe, Asia, and North America. Recently, efforts have been made to build fruitful relationships with the Latin American industry.

The 2016 programme establishes a very detailed picture of the current genre productions on a global scale. I am pleased to see that the festival has developed such expertise, which allows us to propose quality films that are rarely screened in our country to the Swiss audience. The NIFFF now actively contributes to diversifying the movies screened in Switzerland.

Although myths about fantastic cinema tend to endure, the fact that our way of programming films is now fully understood is truly rewarding. Our audience has become more diverse, while we collaborate with more and more Swiss distributors and cultural institutions. That is why I think the festival's evolution is a positive one, and our place on the national scene is of the highest importance.

Finally, the interdisciplinary dimensions of the festival grow stronger as we enter yet another **NIFFF EXTENDED**, with events dedicated to digital creation, writing for television series, and fantasy literature. These symposiums are now an integral part of the festival's concept, and represent a great opportunity for professionals and audience members to analyse more completely the visual arts in the supernatural genre - that is to say: films, TV shows, new imaging technologies, and the development of digital games and related industries.

Can you highlight three high marks of the 2016 edition?

First of all, John Carpenter will lead the festivities with his only Swiss concert, which will combine his legendary film scores with tracks from his recent albums, *Lost Themes* and *Lost Themes II*. In addition, we will have a retrospective comprising all 18 of the Master's feature films. This will be a great opportunity for all filmgoers to re-experience the sheer creative power of one of the leading figures in contemporary genre cinema.

Secondly, I want to highlight the birth of **AMAZING SWITZERLAND**, a section dedicated to fantastic films from Switzerland. The 6 recent movies we have selected conjure up various cinematic versions of the Swiss imagination, from interactive thrillers to futurism and surrealism. This new category is a unique chance to rediscover Swiss cinema from a different perspective, and intends to showcase the creative energy that defines the new generation of Swiss filmmakers.

Thirdly, I recommend to not miss the historic round table that will focus on the **EL DORADO** programme, since no other festival in Europe has managed to gather so many figures of Latin

American cinema. They will notably discuss what is at stake for the South American genre film industry. I expect this to be a trail-blazing, colourful, and fascinating event.

How important do you think the EL DORADO retrospective - dedicated to Latin American genre films - is?

I think the EL DORADO programme is a unique event in the world.

This overview is the result of more than 8 months of labour for the programming team, which was aided by our expert collaborator: Mexican director Adrian Garcia Bogliano (*Here comes the Devil, Late Phases, Scherzo Diabolico*). The retrospective intends to give the spotlight to the new wave of emerging Latin American genre filmmakers, along with the cult classics made from the 1950s to the late 1980s that influenced them.

We are proud to offer screenings of superb classics that have rarely - if ever - been shown on the big screen, as well as contemporary works coming from countries which are underrepresented in the cinemas of Europe; countries such Guatemala, Colombia, Chile, or Peru.

The **EL DORADO** programme will truly take the audience on an adventure. It will show them a path hitherto unexplored and let them experience new, intense cinematic pleasures.

AWARDS 2016

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

Awards for the international competition

CHF 10'000 - H.R Giger "Narcisse" award for best picture - awarded by the city of Neuchâtel

CHF 5'000 - Imaging The Future award for best production design - awarded by CSEM

Acquisition - RTS audience award - awarded by Radio Télévision Suisse

Nomination - Silver Méliès for best European fantastic film - in collaboration with the EFFFF

Promotion - NIFFF international critics award - awarded by Scifiworld (SP), Nocturno (IT),

Deadline (GER), Twitchfilm (CA) and Mad Movies (FR)

CHF 500 watch - Youth award - awarded by Lycée Denis-de-Rougemont

NEW CINEMA FROM ASIA - ASIAN COMPETITION

Awards for the Asian competition

Acquisition - RTS audience award - awarded by Radio Télévision Suisse

Honorary - Best Asian film award - awarded by the audience

SSA /SUISSIMAGE COMPETITION FOR SWISS SHORT FILMS

Awards for the Swiss short films competition

CHF 10'000 - Award for best Swiss fantastic short film - awarded by the SSA and Suissimage

CHF 2'000 worth of post-production services - Award for innovation - awarded by Taurus Recording Studio

Nomination - Silver Méliès for best European fantastic short film - in collaboration with the EFFFF

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

FEBRUARY

Osgood Perkins, US/CA, 2015, 93', demoniac college girls, atmospheric thriller

Cast: Emma Roberts, Kiernan Shipka, Lucy Boynton

Producers: Adrienne Biddle, Rob Paris, Bryan Bertino

World sales: Highland Film Group, USA, highlandfilmgroup.com

SWISS PREMIERE

The film

Kat lives at an isolated boarding school in the middle of the American country side. As classes and prayers make up most of her days, there is only one thing she is looking forward to: for her parents to take her away for the holidays. But they never come. Even worse yet, no one knows where they are. Trapped in a dull place, she is left practically alone, save for a couple of minders and Rose, a classmate who is staying by choice. Things look even grimmer when strange and troubling events start occurring...

February is a powerful and claustrophobic horror feature that skilfully transcends the audience's expectations to better explore the problems of adolescence and the approach of adulthood. But here, the shocks come from the psychological and emotional ordeal articulated through believable characters and clever writing. Osgood Perkins's first film is a sensible and disquieting piece of cinema that unravels the pain of loneliness by reviving universal traumas.

The director

The son of Anthony Perkins - actor and famous murderer of *Psycho* - Osgood was born in 1974. After obtaining a bachelor in English literature from New York University, he cut his teeth co-writing a few horror films, such as *Cold Comes the Night* and *The Girl in the Photographs*. For his directorial debut, he chose to repurpose the codes of the horror genre in order to lay bare the torments of his characters, thus exorcising his own demons linked to the painful loss of his parents.

SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY

2015 - *The Girl in the Photographs* (writer)

2013 - *Cold Comes the Night* (writer)

2010 - *Removal* (writer)

1983 - *Psycho II* (actor)

CREATIVE CONTROL

Benjamin Dickinson, US, 2015, 97', science-fiction, digital romance

Cast: Benjamin Dickinson, Nora Zehetner, Dan Gill

Producers: Craig Shilowich, Melody C. Roscher, Mark de Pace

World sales: Coproduction Office, Germany, www.coproductionoffice.eu

SWISS PREMIERE

The film

Brooklyn, in the near future. David is a young executive for a communication and development company. In the midst of relationship problems, he is given responsibility for a revolutionary augmented reality project. This allows him to indulge in the fantasies he has been coming up with about his best mate's girlfriend. As he sinks deeper and deeper into the pangs of the virtual world, David starts to lose touch with reality.

Films that explore the dangers of technology are nothing new, but *Creative Control* is one of those rare gems that combine vision with elegance. Benjamin Dickinson films the slow downfall of his protagonist one perfectly framed black and white shot after another. In addition to being an aesthetic accomplishment, his feature is also thematically engaging. Not unlike the *Black Mirror* TV series, *Creative Control* skilfully blends drama with social satire and proves that science fiction is at its best when it focuses on human nature.

The director

Benjamin Dickinson, originally from Illinois, certainly has more than one string to his bow. In 2004, he wrote, directed and edited his first short film entitled *Tenderfoot*. His first feature film came out eight years later: *First Winter* (2012), a post-apocalyptic survival favourably received by critics. His second movie, *Creative Control*, which he wrote and stars in, is further proof of his affection for the genre. It was completed mainly thanks to a crowdfunding campaign on Kickstarter.

SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY

2015 - *Brasilia: City of the Future* (short)
2014 - *Super Sleuths* (short)
2013 - *If You're F*cking, You're F*cking* (video Short)
2012 - *Majik Markers* (short)
2012 - *First Winter*

DETOUR

Christopher Smith, UK/ZA, 2016, 90', High concept - neo-noir

Cast: Tye Sheridan, Bel Powley, Stephen Moyer

Producers: Julie Baines, Phil Hunt, Stephen Kelliher

World sales: Bankside Films, UK, bankside-films.com

EUROPEAN PREMIERE

The film

Harper is a young student eaten up with anger towards his step-father, who is responsible for a car accident that caused his mother to sink into a coma. One night, finding solace in a glass of whiskey, he devises a plan to kill the man with the help of a redneck and a stripper. The next morning, the ensuing hangover leaves him no time to collect himself before he must embark on a vengeful ride and own up to whatever he has done.

After the dizzying time loops of *Triangle* (2009), Christopher Smith delivers a new narrative *tour de force*. *Detour* is a film that uniquely organises its numerous potential storylines, and takes us on a sinuous jaunt where timelines are set against each other through ingenious split-

screens. Aided by a brilliant cinematographer and a group of gifted young actors, Christopher Smith once again proves himself a master of conceptual cinema.

The director

Born in Bristol in 1970, Christopher Smith has become the new leading figure of British genre films. The director already has an impressive and eclectic filmography, including an urban survival (*Creep*, 2004), a medieval horror masterpiece (*Black Death*, winner of the NIFFF 2010 audience award), and a gory satire of the business world (*Severance*, 2006). Now, *Detour* allows him to deconstruct the psychological thriller by analysing the consequences of his characters' actions.

SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY

2014 - *Get Santa*

2012 - *Labyrinth* (TV mini-series, S1E1+2)

2010 - *Black Death*

2009 - *Triangle* 2013 - *If You're F*cking, You're F*cking* (video Short)

2012 - *Majik Markers* (short)

2012 - *First Winter*

GIRL ASLEEP

Rosemary Myers, AU, 2015, 77', coming of age - fairy tale

Cast: Bethany Whitmore, Harrison Feldman, Matthew Whittet

Producer: Jo Dyer

World sales: Memento Films International, France, www.memento-films.com

SWISS PREMIERE

The film

Upset by her recent move, Greta Discoll tries as best she can to adapt to her new life. At school, she is immediately hurt by her classmates' teasing and indifference until she meets Elliot, an eccentric young boy whom she befriends. Things get worse when her parents admit having invited everyone to her fifteenth birthday party. But Greta is far from suspecting who the party's hosts actually will be...

Girl Asleep is a coming-of-age movie that feels fresh while capturing the paradoxes of adolescence. The supernatural elements become a path to self-discovery on the one hand, and a way of making the transition from the comfort of childhood to adult life on the other. This absurdly humorous film harkens back to Wes Anderson's style through its bright colours and meticulous direction. A strange and visually rich film, the first feature from Rosemary Myers will surely secure the filmmaker a place in the industry.

The director

Australian director Rosemary Myers comes from a theatrical background. After having adapted famous tales for the stage - like *Pinocchio* or *The Wizard of Oz* - she chose to diversify. She went on to become the artistic director of the Arena and Sydney Theatre Companies, as well as a freelance contractor for ABC Television. Her vast experience transpires through this masterly piece of filmmaking.

GRAVE (RAW)

Julia Ducournau, FR/BE, 2016, 100', **bio horror vegetarian nightmare**

Cast: Garance Marillier, Ella Rumpf, Rabah Naït Oufella

Producers: Jean des Forêts, Julie Gayet, Nadia Turincev

Distributor: Cineworx GMBH, Switzerland, www.cineworx.ch

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

The film

Justine is a very gifted young woman who comes from a completely vegetarian family and is about to start her veterinarian studies. Like all students do, she must undergo the fresher initiation ritual. Unfortunately for this vegetable-eater, this year's festivities involve swallowing a raw rabbit kidney. Justine's life - and diet! - will never be the same again, as she starts discovering her true nature...

Julia Ducournau hits the nail on the head with this very Cronenbergian first film that mixes a variety of genres. Merging the teen movie with drama, comedy, and cannibalistic horror, *Raw* is the ideal example of a balanced cinematic diet: start off on a journey of discovery, and then delve into the nightmarish ordeal slowly, irresistibly emerging from the screen. Taste the sex, the love, the pleasures of the flesh, the longing for death and the blood ties in this morally disturbing and uninhibited work of art. Not suitable for vegetarians!

The director

The 32-year-old French filmmaker Julia Ducournau has had a long-standing passion for horror movies. However, it should come as no surprise that the daughter of a dermatologist and a gynaecologist finds herself driven to the transformation of bodies and David Cronenberg's filmography. She graduated from the French state film school (La Fémis), and co-directed the made-for-TV movie *Mange* (2012) for Canal+. *Grave* is her first feature film.

Selected filmography

2012 - *Mange* (TV movie)

2010 - *Junior* (short)

LO CHIAMAVANO JEEG ROBOT

Gabriele Mainetti, IT, 2015, 112', **Marvel spaghetti - action**

Cast: Ilenia Pastorelli, Claudio Santamaria, Luca Marinelli

Producer: Gabriele Mainetti

World sales: Rai Com, Italy, rai-com.com

SWISS PREMIERE

The film

Enzo Ceccotti, a thug from the suburbs of Rome, comes into contact with radioactive substances in the Tiber. Realising that he now has superhuman strength and healing capabilities, he becomes a kind of urban crime legend. Until he rescues Alessia that is, the daughter of an old friend who thinks he is none other than Japanese anime hero Jeeg Steel.

Cornered into a showdown with a sadistic mafia boss, will Enzo become the hero Alessia sees in him?

While a continuation of popular Italian superhero cinema - one unavoidably thinks of cult classic *Danger: Diabolik* or of the more recent *Il ragazzo invisibile* - *Lo Chiamavano Jeeg Robot* emerged from a mix of Japanese and American influences. Gabriele Mainetti's first feature film is an accomplished and uncompromising story where childhood innocence often hides an aggressive cruelty - a nuanced urban tale that perfectly balances social commentary with entertainment.

The director

Gabriele Mainetti was born in 1976 in Rome. Although this is his first film, he already proves himself a talented director capable of making the most of his resources. Under his gaze, Rome becomes a complex and manifold city; a vision no doubt enriched by an already impressive career as an actor. After four short films, Mainetti successfully takes the plunge and acts as director, writer and composer.

Selected filmography

2012 - *Tiger Boy* (short)

2006 - *Basette* (short)

2005 - *Ultima spiaggia* (short)

2004 - *Il produttore* (short)

LOS PARECIDOS

Isaac Ezban, MX, 2015, 89', **Retro futuristic mindfuck**

Cast: Luis Alberti, Carmen Beato, Fernando Becerril

Producers: Miriam Mercado, Elsa Reyes

World sales: Stray Dogs, France, stray-dogs.biz

SWISS PREMIERE

The film

Mexico, 1968. Trapped in a small-town bus station while a really bad storm is hitting the country, eight people are desperately waiting for a bus that just won't show up. The longer the wait, the more short-tempered they become. Things get even more complicated when a strange phenomenon starts occurring. Soon reality seems to slip through their fingers...

As a love letter to genre cinema, *Los Parecidos* manages to remain unique while injecting multiple references and tributes into its narrative, from *Body Snatchers* and *The Twilight Zone*, to 1950s B-movies, Carpenter, Hitchcock, and many more. This fun, disturbing and unpredictable film is all about entertaining the audience, but doesn't shy away from subtle political commentaries about estrangement and identity in an ever changing world. Don't miss out on this retro, claustrophobic game that pays a vibrant homage to the forces of imagination.

The director

After many short films, Isaac Ezban made a name for himself with *The Incident*, his first feature, which he directed when he was 28, in 2014. The movie proved very successful in festivals and garnered positive reviews. *Los Parecidos* is a new masterpiece that secures the Mexican director's place among the most promising genre filmmakers out there.

Selected filmography

2014 - *México Bárbaro* (segment "La cosa mas preciada")

2014 - *El Incidente*

2010 - *Cosas feas* (short)

2009 - *Hambre* (short)

2009 - *El secreto de Martin Cordiani* (short)

MIRUTHAN

Shakti Soundar Rajan, IN, 2016, 106', badass zombedy - survival

Cast: Jeyam Ravi, Lakshmi Menon, Kaali Venkat

Producers: S. Michael Rayappan, M. Seraphin

World sales: Ayngaran International, UK, ayngaran.com

SWISS PREMIERE

The film

A straw dog infected by a highly toxic substance is passing around a virus that turns humans into bloodthirsty beasts. As chaos starts spreading, traffic officer Karthik realises that his little sister has gone missing. With the help of his clumsy colleague, this decent cop decides to go look for her. In his quest, he will meet a group of scientists which he must escort out of the city so that they can come up with an antidote without getting killed by the rapidly multiplying hordes of infected people.

Miruthan is clearly a one-of-a-kind Indian movie: not only does it belong to the very sparse genre of commercial horror films, but it is the first Tamil zombie flick! Competing with both local and global productions, this Kollywood blockbuster transfuses the audience through smart writing, big action scenes and unbounded romanticism. An absolute breath of fresh air that sure as hell delivers the goods!

The director

Since 2010, Shakti Soundar Rajan has been a rising star of Kollywood cinema, going from the heist film *Naanayam*, to the action comedy *Beware of Dogs* (2014), a remake of the Tom Hanks vehicle *Turner & Hooch* (1989). Although *Miruthan*, his third feature, has already made him a landmark figure of the history books, Shakti has even bigger plans in mind: the first space Tamil film! And of course, some say a sequel to *Miruthan* is also in the works...

Selected filmography

2014 - *Naaigal Jaakirathai*

PARENTS

Christian Tafdrup, DK, 2016, 86', cosmic family crisis - drama

Cast: Bodil Jørgensen, Søren Malling, Miri-Ann Beuschel

Producers: Thomas Heinesen

Distributor: Outside the Box, Switzerland, outside-thebox.ch

SWISS PREMIERE

The film

Tired of coming of age movies, Christian Tafdrup decided to explore the hidden face of the genre by focusing on two parents who must learn how to become young again. When their child leaves the family home, Kjeld and Vibeke suddenly feel a great emptiness in their life. The two fifty-somethings thus try to rekindle their love by moving back into the flat they used to rent when they were students. This exercise in nostalgia takes an unexpected turn when they wake up to the fact that they have actually become 30 years younger.

Inspired by a dream he had of his parents moving back into the apartment they used to live in before having a kid, Christian Tafdrup has made a very accomplished film that develops into several temporalities and levels of reality. Infused with a typically Nordic deadpan sense of humour, this surrealistic tale is a touching comment on old age and family.

The director

Christian Tafdrup was born in 1978 in Copenhagen. He belongs to the latest generation of Danish filmmakers, just like Joachim Trier and Jeppe Rønde. Tafdrup began his career as an actor in the 1990s, appearing in numerous TV shows that include *The Killing* and *Borgen*. In the meantime, he wrote and directed three internationally acclaimed short films between 1999 and 2008. *Parents* is his first feature, which he also wrote and directed.

Selected filmography

2008 - *En forelskelse* (short)

2002 - *Debutanten* (short)

1999 - *Kopisten* (short)

SWISS ARMY MAN

Daniel Scheinert & Dan Kwan, US, 2016, 95', delirious XXL comedy, oneirism

Cast: Daniel Radcliffe, Paul Dano, Mary Elizabeth Winstead

Producers: Miranda Bailey, Lawrence Inglee, Lauren Mann, Amanda Marshall, Eyal Rimmon, Jonathan Wang

Distributor: Ascot-Elite Entertainment Group, Switzerland, ascot-elite.ch

EUROPEAN PREMIERE

The film

Hank is marooned on a deserted island. The desperate man is about to end his own life when he sees a corpse lying on the beach. It turns out the stiff still has enough life in him to produce impressive farts that can propel him into the air and have boners that would make the living green with envy. Hank will soon become friends with the decomposing body, and embark on an uncanny journey to try and make it home.

You thought you'd seen it all? Think again! With *Swiss Army Man*, the Daniels have conjured up true cinematic weirdness that breaks new records in folly and absurdity. Their greatest achievement, though, is to have created something moving and poetic out of the unlikely pairing of a fart-propelled raft played by Daniel Radcliffe, and a man who recovers a liking for life in the person of Paul Dano. There's only one thing we know for sure: you will never see Harry Potter the same way again.

The directors

When Daniel Kwan and Daniel Scheinert joined forces in the late 2000s, they logically decided to call themselves The Daniels. The two Americans quickly found fame thanks to their brazen music videos. In 2014, they won the MTV Video Music Award for Best Direction with the crazy video "Turn Down for What", in which apartment dwellers become possessed by their genitalia. *Swiss Army Man* is their first feature film

Selected filmography

2015 - *The Pound Hole* (TV short)

2014 - *Interesting Ball* (short)

2014 - *Possibilia* (short)

THE LURE

Agnieszka Smoczyńska, PL, 2015, 92', over the top musical, sexy horror

Cast: Marta Mazurek, Michalina Olszanska, Kinga Preis

Producer: Włodzimierz Niderhaus

World sales: WFDiF, Poland, wfdif.com.pl

SWISS PREMIERE

The film

Silver and Golden are two mermaids who join a family of musicians. Their band, The Figs and Dates, plays in a Warsaw nightclub every night. Soon though, the news about what the sisters really are travel throughout the Polish capital, and both the audience and their friends seem unable to think of anything else. While Silver becomes infatuated with a young musician, Golden struggles to control her murderous impulses and her cravings for human flesh...

The Lure is an epic aesthetic journey led by two irresistible female protagonists. Agnieszka Smoczyńska's first hybrid movie mixes genres to offer a novel retelling of Andersen's *The Little Mermaid*. This one-of-a-kind and mesmerizing film also features a great soundtrack from electropop band Ballady I Romanse, which fits perfectly in the unique universe created by the Polish filmmaker. Take a stroll through a neon-lit, retro glam Warsaw, you won't regret it.

The director

Polish director Agnieszka Smoczyńska was born in 1978 in Wrocław. She graduated from several universities, including the prestigious Wajda School. Her talent soon bore fruit as she was awarded many national grants and prizes. Her short films *Kapelusz*, *3 Love* and *Aria Diva* garnered critical acclaim at numerous festivals worldwide. With *The Lure*, she finally manages to pull off the impossible and delivers a unique feature directorial debut.

Selected filmography

2012 - *Wszystko przed nami* (TV series)

2010 - *Viva Maria!* (documentary short)

2007 - *Aria Diva* (short)

THE TRANSFIGURATION

Michael O'Shea, US, 2016, 97', vampire in the ghetto, american gothic

Cast: Eric Ruffin, Chloe Levine, Jelly Bean

Producers: Susan Leber, Billy Mulligan

Distributor: Xenix filmdistribution GmbH, Switzerland, www.xenixfilm.ch

SWISS PREMIERE

The film

Queens, New York. Milo is a lonely orphan who is regularly tormented by the neighbourhood bullies. He spends most of his time indulging in his obsession for vampires and repeatedly watches *Near Dark* and *The Lost Boys*. Unlike his new neighbour Sophie, who is a fan of *Twilight*, Milo prefers realistic vampires. The very unusual needs he suddenly develops might suggest that he has some things in common with the characters from his favourite films...

By setting his story in Queens, Michael O'Shea associates *The Transfiguration* with a specific tradition of vampire movies, in which psychological disorders metaphorically affect the characters. Although the director's intimate approach is reminiscent of *Let The Right One In* (NIFFF 2008), he unmistakably falls in line with the current American indie school of realism. And while the actors' performances particularly stand out, *The Transfiguration* is first and foremost a proud heir of genre cinema, as shown by cameos from Larry Fessenden and Lloyd Kaufman.

The director

Having his film selected at the Cannes film festival was a dream come true for Michael O'Shea. After graduating in Film & Media Studies from SUNY Purchase College in New York in the 1990s, Michael got by as a bouncer, taxi driver, and computer technician, all the while pursuing his artistic endeavours by writing several scripts at once. Now that his first feature is out, he has started work on an ambitious slasher film.

TRASH FIRE

Richard Bates Jr., US, 2016, 91', bad romance - supernatural

Cast: Adrian Grenier, Sibyl Gregory, Fionnula Flanagan

Producers: David Lawson Jr., Lawrence Mattis, Matt Smith

Festival contact: The Festival Agency, France, www.thefestivalagency.com

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

The film

Owen isn't exactly the perfect boyfriend: he doesn't care about what his partner Isabel might feel, and can be a real jerk when it comes to showing compassion, support or kindness. But one day, Isabel becomes pregnant. Willing to prove that he can change and be a reliable father, Owen suggests he introduces her to his family. Soon, the visit turns out to be a lot more unsettling than anticipated. Isabel's nightmare has only just begun.

Describing accurately the emotions that come with watching *Trash Fire* is no easy task. For his third film, Richard Bates Jr. uses genre cinema to take apart love and family relations through laughter, uneasiness, and fear. Thanks to exceptional performances (notably from Adrian Grenier, who plays Vincent Chase in the *Entourage* TV show), the story will keep you on edge until the crushing conclusion. Misanthropes, this one is for you!

The director

A graduate from the prestigious NYU Tisch School of the Arts, Richard Bates Jr. is no stranger to the NIFFF, for his first feature, the morbid and colourful coming of age film *Excision* was part of the 2012 international competition. He directed *Suburban Gothic* two years later and, never slowing down, has now completed *Trash Fire*, an extreme and darkly humoured cinematic experience.

Selected filmography

2016 - *White Lung: Below* (video short)

2014 - *Suburban Gothic*

2012 - *Excision*

2008 - *Excision* (short)

UNDER THE SHADOW

Babak Anvari, IR/JO/QA/UK, 2016, 84', female struggle, spooky house

Cast: Narges Rashidi, Avin Manshadi, Bobby Naderi

Producers: Emily Leo, Lucan Toh, Oliver Roskill

Festival contact: The Festival Agency, France, www.thefestivalagency.com

EUROPEAN PREMIERE

The film

It's 1988, and the people of Tehran must cope with the destruction wrought by the Iran-Iraq War. As bombs fall from the sky, Shideh, a young mother with progressive ideas, does her best to survive with her daughter Dorsa. One day, a missile hits their apartment building but does not explode, and the little girl becomes ill. When she starts exhibiting a more and more disturbing behaviour as time goes by, one of the neighbours says there is a djinn prowling around, praying on people's mind...

Not unlike *The Babadook* - a terrifying claustrophobic thriller exploring the lives of a mother, her son, and the bogeyman - *Under the Shadow* leverages the horror genre to draw up a sharp denunciation of Iranian post-revolutionary politics and patriarchy. Its modest budget doesn't prevent it from being an efficient slow-burning horror that insidiously creates anxiety before

giving way to a fierce struggle against all forms of oppression. A master stroke from a very promising young filmmaker.

The director

Iranian director Babak Anvari lives in London, where he started his career as part of the British and Irish MTV crews, for which he used to set up live sessions with artists such as Lady Gaga, Florence & The Machine, and Deftones. He also directed short films, like *Solitary* (2007), a confrontation between two kidnapped women, and *Two & Two* (2011), a BAFTA-nominated story about tyranny. *Under the Shadow* is his first feature.

Selected filmography

2011 - *Two & Two* (short)

2007 - *Solitary* (short)

2005 - *Creed* (short)

2005 - *Creed* (short)

2005 - *What's Up with Adam?* (short)

FILMS IN COMPETITION FOR THE MELIES

FULL-LENGTHS FILMS

ALOYS, Tobias Nölle, Switzerland, France, 2016, 91'

HEIMATLAND, Michael Krummenacher, Jan Gassmann, Lisa Blatter, Gregor Frei, Benny Jaberg, Carmen Jaquier, Jonas Meier, Tobias Nölle, Lionel Rupp, Mike Schweiwiller, Switzerland, Germany, 2015, 99'

SYBILLE, Michael Krummenacher, Germany, Switzerland, 2015, 87'

BAD CAT, Ayse Ünal, Mehmet Kurtulus, Turkey, 2016, 84'

DETOUR, Christopher Smith, UK, South Africa, 2016, 97'

LO CHIAMAVANO JEEG ROBOT, Gabriele Mainetti, Italy, 2015, 112'

PARENTS, Christian Tafdrup, Denmark, 2016, 86'

GRAVE (RAW), Julia Ducournau, France, Belgium, 2016, 100'

THE LURE, Agnieszka Smoczyńska, Poland, 2015, 92'

SHORT FILMS

BELLE COMME UN CŒUR, Gregory Casares, Suisse, 2015, 12'

DRIVEN, Johannes Bachmann, Suisse, 2015, 9'

LE GOÛT DES CHOUX DE BRUXELLES, Michael Terraz, Suisse, 2016, 21'

HAUSARREST, Matthias Sahli, Suisse, 2015, 13'

IVAN'S NEED, Veronica Lingg, Manuela Leuenberger & Lukas Suter, Suisse, 2015, 6'

NACHTLICHT, Samuel Flückiger, Suisse, 2015, 12'

OS LOVE, Luc Gut, Suisse, 2016, 6'

UNE VILLE SOUS LA VILLE, Stefan Lauper & Consuelo Frauenfelder, Suisse, 2016, 17'

NEW CINEMA FROM ASIA

BITCOIN HEIST

Ham Tran, VN, 2016, 115', cyber thriller - action

Cast: Suboi, Thành Phạm, Petey Majik Nguyễn,

Producers: Jayvee Mai Thế Hiệp, Anderson Lê, NSUT Ngọc Hiệp

World sales: Vietnam Media Corp. - BHD Co. Ltd., Vietnam, vietnammediacorp.com

SWISS PREMIERE

Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to pull off the ultimate heist! In order to find “The Ghost” - Interpol’s most wanted hacker - a special agent sets up a team of criminals, including a street magician, a talented pickpocket, a League of Legends champion, a formidable father/daughter duo, a manga fan, and an exceptionally gifted hacker. Don’t miss this frantic action film that beats *Ocean’s Eleven* hollow!

CHONGQING HOT POT

Yang Qing, CN, 2016, 97', peppered film noir

Cast: Chen Kun, Qin Hao, Bai Baihe

Producer: Chen Kuo-fu

World sales: Distribution Workshop, Honk-Kong, www.distributionworkshop.com

SWISS PREMIERE

Three childhood friends end up in a bank vault while doing some works to expand their future restaurant. With money problems and gangsters on their tail, they decide to come up with a plan to steal the booty discreetly. Little do they know the bank is also about to get robbed by a band of criminals... The director delivers a superbly unpredictable thriller that makes good use of the Chongqing topography, turning a potentially bleak story into a very upbeat one.

CREEPY

Kurosawa Kiyoshi, JP, 2016, 130', icy thriller

Cast: Nishijima Hidetosh, Takeuchi Yûko, Kawaguchi Haruna

Producers: Fukasawa Hiroshi, Sumida Setsuko, Akagi Satoshi, Ishida Satoko

World sales: Shochiku Ltd, Japan, www.shochikufilms.com

SWISS PREMIERE

Having narrowly escaped death, an investigator decides he would rather teach at university. He manages to live peacefully with his wife, away from the urban noise, until a former colleague reaches out to him and sets him on a highway to hell... It's back to basics for Kurosawa Kiyoshi who delivers a morbidly relentless thriller that is as elegant as it is twisted, thus reclaiming his rightful place as the master of J-Horror.

HONOR THY FATHER

Erik Matti, PH, 2015, 115', film noir, dark drama

Cast: John Lloyd Cruz, Meryll Soriano, Tirso Cruz III

Producer: Erik Matti

World sales: Reality Ent., Philippines, reality.com.ph

SWISS PREMIERE

In spite of his humble origins, Edgar endeavours to give a better life to his family, but everything changes when his wife becomes embroiled in a fraudulent financial scandal. As threats against his family multiply, Edgar must try to get their life back on track. After a superhero movie (*Gagamboy*, NIFFF 2005) and a monster flick (*Tiktik*, NIFFF 2013), Erik Matti is back with a mesmerizing *film noir* that fiercely criticises the place of religion in the culture of the Philippines.

KEEPER OF DARKNESS

Nick Cheung, HK, 2015, 103', supernatural, black comedy

Cast: Nick Cheung, Amber Ku, Louis Cheung

Producers: Lo Chi-leung, Cheung Chi-Kwong, Claudie Chung

World sales: EDKO Films Ltd, Honk-Kong, www.cinema.com.hk

SWISS PREMIERE

Fatt is an exorcist who doesn't like to fight ghosts: he'd rather negotiate with them. When one of his feats buzzes online, he attracts the attention of a journalist and a dangerous spirit that threatens the female spectre who lives with him. For his second film as a director, Hong Kong star Nick Cheung (*Election, That Demon Within* - NIFFF 2014) takes a cue from *The Frighteners* and delivers a genre-bending, ghostly emotional maelstrom.

PSYCHO RAMAN

Anurag Kashyap, IN, 2016, 127', psychedelic thriller

Cast: Nawazuddin Siddiqui, Vicky Kaushal, Sobhita Dhuliwala

Producers: Vikas Bahl, Vikramaditya Motwane

World sales: Stray Dogs, France, stray-dogs.biz

SWISS PREMIERE

In the depths of Mumbai, a psychopath who worships a serial killer from the 1960s intends to pay tribute to his idol by carrying on with his work. He will cross paths with Raghavan, a young and brutal police commissioner who is far from flawless... One of India's best directors delivers a formidably efficient and twisted thriller that plunges the audience into the darkest recesses of humanity.

SEOUL STATION

Yeon Sang-ho, KR, 2016, 92', horror, dark animation

Cast: Shim Eun-kyung, Ryu Seung-ryong, Lee John

Producers: Yeon Sang-ho, Lee Dong-ha, Suh Youngjoo

World sales: Fine Cut, South Korea, www.finecut.co.kr

SWISS PREMIERE

In Seoul city centre, a homeless man starts exhibiting disturbing symptoms. His erratic behaviour soon spreads to the whole city, which descends into chaos. Suk-gyu must then survive the apocalypse, all the while looking for his missing daughter... Yeon Sang-ho, the talented director of *The King of Pigs*, tackles the horror genre with a terrifying film that also packs a devastating punch at a political level.

THE PRIESTS

Jang Jae-hyun, KR, 2015, 104', horror - action

Cast: Gang Dong-won, Kim Yun-seok, Park So-dam

Producers: Lee Yoo-jin, Baek Ji-sun, Song Dae-chan

World sales: Opus Pictures, South Korea, opuspictures.com

SWISS PREMIERE

A young deacon named Choi is dispatched to help Father Kim with an exorcism. Because of his bad reputation with the rest of the clergy, the priest asks Choi to record the events. When the demon shows his true colours though, it becomes obvious that they're in for one hell of a night... Jang Jae-hyun expands on the idea of his previous short film to crank things up a notch and bring badass Korean evil-fighting to the next level. Pray for your life!

SSA/SUISSIMAGE SWISS SHORT FILMS COMPETITION

With the support of Pour-cent culturel Migros.

BELLE COMME UN CŒUR, Gregory Casares, 2015, 12', **Witching Tale - Fantastic**
Prod: École Cantonale d'Art de Lausanne, Nadasdy Film Sarl - festival@nadasdyfilm.ch

Rosie is a young girl who can no longer stand her ugliness. One day, she jumps at an opportunity to change her appearance, unaware of the terrible consequences.

DRIVEN, Johannes Bachmann, 2015, 9', **Horror - Thriller**
Prod: Zürcher Hochschule der Künste, film.info@zhdk.ch

While driving through the forest, a young woman collides with something. As soon as she gets out of the car, she can feel a presence. In the pitch black night, fear overwhelms her.

LE GOÛT DES CHOUX DE BRUXELLES, Michael Terraz, 2016, 21', **Sitcomedy - Romance**
Prod: Fulldawa Films, festival@fulldawaprod.com
SWISS PREMIERE

Octave isn't quite sure anymore whether he still likes his wife. Plagued with doubt, the septuagenarian starts questioning his whole life on the day of their 50th anniversary.

HAUSARREST, Matthias Sahli, 2015, 13', **Black Comedy - Sci-tire**
Prod: Zürcher Hochschule der Künste - film.info@zhdk.ch

Placed under house arrest, Max is equipped with a next gen electronic tagging device. But even the most advance inventions have drawbacks...

IVAN'S NEED, Veronica Lingg, Manuela Leuenberger & Lukas Suter, 2015, 6', **Erotic fantasy**
Prod: Hochschule Luzern Design & Kunst, Schweizer Radio und Fernsehen - animation@hslu.ch

The sexual awakening of a trainee baker is prompted by the kneading of the dough and the voluptuous figure of his fleshy neighbour. The rapture is near!

NACHTLICHT, Samuel Flückiger, 2015, 12', **Apocalyptic drama - Mystery**

Prod: Aaron Film GmbH, Lithium Studios Productions - info@aaronfilm.ch

Konrad and Baschi, two young brothers who are respectively 5 and 9 years old, like to quarrel. But one day, their fight takes a wrong turn and the world starts to crumble.

OS LOVE, Luc Gut, 2016, 6', no dialogue, **Comedy 2.0 - Surreal**

Prod: Cinéma Copain Ltd, Schweizer Radio und Fernsehen - info@cinemacopain.com

WORLD PREMIERE

In a modern office, a woman is working on her computer. Rhythmically, her everyday life starts turning into a digital and symphonic *tête-à-tête*.

UNE VILLE SOUS LA VILLE, Stefan Lauper & Consuelo Frauenfelder, 2016, 17', **Mystery - Oneirism**

Prod: Garidi Films, Radio Télévision Suisse - stefanlauper@yahoo.fr

WORLD PREMIERE

While exploring the underground tunnels of a construction site, a reporter gets lost in a maze that leads her to a mysterious world. Spellbinding!

INTERNATIONAL FANTASTIC SHORT FILMS PROGRAM

ARCANA, Jerónimo Rocha, PT, 2015, 11', **Gory black magic**
Prod: Take It Easy

SWISS PREMIERE

HOTARU, William Laboury, FR, 2015, 22', **Oneiric science-fiction**
Prod: La Fémis

SWISS PREMIERE

LA VOCE, David Uloth, CA, 2015, 22', **Existentialist meta drama**
Prod: Sure Shot Productions

SWISS PREMIERE

PORTAL TO HELL!!!, Vivieno Caldinelli, CA, 2015, 12', **Lovecraftian comedy**
Prod: Fear and Desire Productions, Lori Fischburg Productions & Aircraft Pictures

SWISS PREMIERE

TUNNELEN, André Øvredal, NO, 2016, 12', **Dark sci-fi - Dystopian thriller**
Prod: Eldorado Film & Pravda

EUROPEAN PREMIERE

UNCANNY VALLEY, Federico Heller, AR, 2015, 9', **Virtual (ir)reality - Action**
Prod: 3Dar

SWISS PREMIERE

NEW SHORTS FROM ASIA PROGRAM

KEEP GOING, Kim Geon, KR, 2015, 20', **Science-fiction - Action**

Prod: Korea National University of Arts

SWISS PREMIERE

LALU, Ion Furjanic, MY, 2016, 9', **Thriller 2.0 - Experimental**

Prod: We Are Kix

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

THE DEATH OF A SECURITY GUARD, Cheng Wei-hao, TW, 2015, 25', **Mockumentary**

Prod: Grace Lee

SWISS PREMIERE

VOICE OF APOCALYPSE, Lu Ke, CN, 2016, 22', **Out of control musical**

Prod: 66films

EUROPEAN PREMIERE

ULTRA MOVIES

BASKIN

Can Evrenol, TR/US, 2015, 97', gruesome horror

Cast: Gorkem Kasal, Ergun Kuyucu, Mehmet Cerrahoglu

Producers: Tolga Erener, Sina Rasim

Distributor: capelight pictures, Germany, capelight.de

SWISS PREMIERE

A group of cops answers a distress call. Little do they know tonight is the night they face their worst nightmares. One of the smartest, bleakest and most stylised directorial debuts ever.

CARNAGE PARK

Mickey Keating, US, 2016, 90', 70's manhunt

Cast: Alan Ruck, Ashley Bell, Pat Healy

Producers: Eric B. Fleischman, Sean Tabibian

Festival contact: The Festival Agency, France, www.thefestivalagency.com

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

After screwing up their heist, two good-for-nothings go on the run with a hostage. Tough luck though, a psychotic sniper tags along to make their life hell. A lean, hard-hitting thriller.

HENTAI KAMEN: THE ABNORMAL CRISIS

Fukuda Yûichi, JP, 2016, 117', XXL perversion - comedy

Cast: Suzuki Ryôhei, Yagira Yûya, Yasuda Ken

Distributor: Toei Company, Japan, toei.co.jp/en

EUROPEAN PREMIERE

The most deviant Japanese superhero ever is back three years after setting the NIFFF ablaze in 2013, and this time, he must stop his greatest foe - the thong inhaler! Hide your underpants!

PRIDE AND PREJUDICE AND ZOMBIES

Burr Steers, US/UK, 2016, 107', horror victorian style

Cast: Lily James, Sam Riley, Lena Headey

Producers: Marc Butan, Sean McKittrick, Brian Oliver

Distributor: Ascot-Elite Entertainment Group, CH, ascot-elite.ch

Well-known characters from Victorian literature join forces to save their lands from an army of zombies. Forget everything you think you know about zombodies!

SCARE CAMPAIGN

Colin Cairnes & Cameron Cairnes, AU, 2016, 76', horror 2.0 - slasher

Cast: Meegan Warner, Ian Meadows, Olivia DeJong

Producer: Julie Ryan

World sales: Films Distribution, France, www.filmsdistribution.com

SWISS PREMIERE

Producers of a prank show spice things up in order to boost their audience ratings, but soon the biters are bit... A playful and extremely gory approach to television!

SCHNEIDER VS. BAX

Alex van Warmerdam, NL, 2015, 96', dark comedy - thriller

Cast: Alex van Warmerdam Tom Dewispelaere Maria Kraakman

Producer: Marc van Warmerdam

World sales: Fortissimo Films, Netherlands, www.fortissimofilms.com

Schneider's mission is simple: kill the recluse writer named Bax. And yet, nothing goes as planned! Black humour is at its very best in this uproarious film.

THE ALCHEMIST COOKBOOK

Joel Potrykus, US, 2016, 82', experiments gone wrong

Cast: Ty Hickson, Amari Cheatom, Fiji

Producers: Joel Potrykus, Andrew D. Corkin Bryan Reisberg, Ashley Young

World sales: Oscilloscope Pictures, USA, oscilloscope.net

SWISS PREMIERE

Sean lives as a recluse and attempts to communicate with the higher forces of nature. He will end up provoking events on a terrifying scale. An indescribable shock of a film!

DEVIL'S CANDY

Sean Byrne, US, 2015, 90', heavy metal horr

Cast: Ethan Embry, Shiri Appleby, Pruitt Taylor Vince

Producers: Jess Calder, Keith Calder

Festival contact: The Festival Agency, France, www.thefestivalagency.com

SWISS PREMIERE

It's not always easy to reconcile being a painter, a father and a metal fan all at once, especially with a demon roaming around. Don't miss out on this unique, terrifying shocker!

THE GREASY STRANGLER

Jim Hosking, US, 2016, 93', electro gore

Cast: Michael St. Michaels, Sky Elobar, Elizabeth De Razz

Producers: Elijah Wood, Tim League, Ant Timpson

World sales: Protagonist Pictures Ltd, UK, www.protagonistpictures.com

SWISS PREMIERE

A slimy psychopath dripping with oil wreaks havoc in a family of walking tour guides. Trust us: you'll have to take a shower afterwards.

YOGA HOSERS

Kevin Smith, US, 2016, 88', teens vs. Nazi monsters

Cast: Johnny Depp, Harley Quinn Smith, Lily-Rose Melody Depp, Vanessa Paradis

Producers: Elizabeth Destro, Jordan Monsanto, Jennifer Schwalbach Smith

Festival contact: The Festival Agency, France, www.thefestivalagency.com

SWISS PREMIERE

Two teenage yoga enthusiasts must fight an army of neo-Nazi sausages. Yes, you read that right. Kevin Smith's new bonkers film gives Johnny Depp one of his most unforgettable roles.

FILMS OF THE THIRD KIND

A CONSPIRACY OF FAITH

Hans Petter Moland, DK/DE/SE/NO, 2016, 112', action packed thriller

Cast: Nikolaj Lie Kaas, Fares Fares, Pål Sverre Hagen

Producers: Peter Aalbæk Jensen, Louise Vesth

Distributor: Frenetic Films Switzerland, www.frenetic.ch

SWISS PREMIERE

A detective follows the trail of a clue written with blood. He will uncover a story of missing children and evil cults in this chilling thriller from Scandinavia.

BAAHUBALI: THE BEGINNING

S.S. Rajamouli, IN, 2015, 137', epic is epic

Cast: Prabhas, Rana Daggubati, Anushka Shetty

Producers: Prasad Devineni, Shobu Yarlagadda

World sales: Arka Mediaworks, India, arkamediaworks.com

SWISS PREMIERE

This fantasy epic is one of India's greatest hits. Experience the insane direction and the monumental budget, and prepare to be gobsmacked! Your senses will not escape unscathed.

BAD CAT

Ayse Ünal & Mehmet Kurtulus, TR, 2016, 84', rebel-without-a-cause comedy

Cast: Cezmi Baskin, Demet Evgar, Aysen Gruda

Producers: Mehmet Kurtulus, Vehbi Berksoy

World sales: Odin's Eye Entertainment, Australia, odinseyeent.com

SWISS PREMIERE

Are you a cat lover? This zany animated film full of debauched talking pets should convince you otherwise. Behold the Turkish Aristocats on acid!

BLIND SUN

Joyce A. Nashawati, FR/GR 2015, 88', futuristic thriller

Cast: Yannis Stankoglou, Ziad Bakri, Mimi Denissi

Producers: Philippe Akoka, Fenia Cossovitsa, Alain Peyrollaz

World sales: Reel Suspects, France, reelsuspects.com

SWISS PREMIERE

In the near future, water has become sparse. Ashraf is hired to look after a villa while its owners are away. But the heatwave has never been so deadly... Astonishing!

DESIERTO

Jonás Cuarón, MX/FR, 2015, 94', Western - Survival

Cast: Gael Garcia Bernal, Jeffrey Dean Morgan, Alondra Hidalgo

Producers: Jonás Cuarón, Alfonso Cuarón, Carlos Cuarón

Distributor: Ascot-Elite Entertainment Group, Switzerland, ascot-elite.ch

SWISS PREMIERE

On their way across the border, in the middle of the Mexican desert, illegal immigrants hear gunshots in the air. Thus begins the primal and heart-pounding manhunt from the team behind *Gravity*.

MI GRAN NOCHE

Álex de la Iglesia, ES, 2015, 100', bombastic comedy

Cast: Raphael, Mario Casas, Hugo Silva

Producer: Enrique Cerezo

World sales: Film Factory Entertainment, Spain, www.filmfactory.es

SWISS PREMIERE\$

Because of everyone's egos and resentments, the filming of New Year's show turns into a disaster. Witness the most hilarious of vendettas thanks to the craziest Spanish director in History!

THE ARDENNES

Robin Pront, BE, 2015, 93', film noir - thriller

Cast: Jeroen Perceval, Kevin Janssens, Veerle Baetens

Producers: Bart Van Langendonck

Festival contact: Pascale Ramonda, France, pascaleramonda.com

SWISS PREMIERE

Dave's whole world is turned upside down when his brother comes out of prison. Who will yield to the other? Class, brutal, unforgiving - this is a film for the ages.

THE MERMAID

Stephen Chow, CN, 2016, 94', chopstick comedy with a tail

Cast: Deng Chao, Show Lo, Zhang Yu Qi

Producers: Stephen Chow, Y.Y. Kong

World sales: IM Global, USA, www.imglobalfilm.com

SWISS PREMIERE

The most unique Hong Kong director of all time is back with a hilarious comedy that pitches a mermaid against the businessman she must kill to save her people. Chinese cinema's greatest hit!

THE WAVE

Roar Uthaug, NO, 2015, 105', **disaster movie**

Cast: Kristoffer Joner, Ane Dahl Torp, Jonas Hoff Oftebro

Producers: Martin Sundland, Are Heidenstrøm

Distributor: AB Droits Audiovisuels, France, abweb.com

SWISS PREMIERE

What happens when a gigantic fjord collapses? The director of Cold Prey proves it is possible to make disaster films outside of the US. Prepare to be gobsmacked!

ZETA

Cosimo Alemà, IT, 2016, 100', **epic rap story**

Cast: Diego Germini, Salvatore Esposito, Jacopo Olmo Antinori

Producers: Cosimo Alemà, Riccardo Brun, Fulvio Compagnucci

World sales: 9.99 Films, Italy, 999films.it

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

After years of struggle, a young rap singer finally makes it on the Roman hip hop scene, but for what price? Italian cinema has a new flagship with this film both powerful and fascinating.

OPENING AND CLOSING MOVIES

OPENING MOVIE

HÄXAN

Benjamin Christensen, SE, 1922, b&w, 104', **Witchcraft from the past**

Cast: Benjamin Christensen, Astrid Holm, Karen Winther

Production: Svensk Film

The NIFFF and the Neuchâtel Symphony Orchestra, specially conducted by Gillian Anderson, will guide you through the history of witchcraft with this cult classic of Scandinavian cinema.

CLOSING MOVIE

THE HANDMAIDEN

Park Chan-wook, KR, 2016, 144', **erotic fairy tale**

Cast: Kim Min-hee, Ha Jung-woo, Kim Tae-ri

Producers: Park Chan-wook, Lim Syd, Kim Jong-dae, Jeong Wonj, Yoon Suk-chan

World sales: CJ Entertainment, www.cjent.co.kr

World sales: CJ Entertainment, www.cjent.co.kr

SWISS PREMIERE

A servant comes up with a plan to take the place of her mistress. The greatest living Korean filmmaker tackles lesbian eroticism in this skilfully directed masterpiece.

JOHN CARPENTER TRIBUTE

The presence of John Carpenter for his only Swiss concert is no doubt the most prominent event of the NIFFF 2016. It provides us with an opportunity to honour one of the most significant careers in the history of genre cinema, and (re)experience the Master's works on a big screen, from *Dark Star* to *The Ward* and his cult classics. The power of his films will leave no one untouched.

JOHN CARPENTER LIVE

06.07, Passage 1, 20:00

ASSAULT ON PRECINCT 13, John Carpenter, US, 1976, 91', thugs vs. cops uber-survival

BIG TROUBLE IN LITTLE CHINA, John Carpenter, US, 99', wacky genre - bending action parody

CHRISTINE, John Carpenter, US, 1983, 110', horror-on-wheels

DARK STAR, John Carpenter, US 1974, 83', slackers in space

ESCAPE FROM NEW YORK, John Carpenter, US, 1981, 106', action-packed nihilistic dysotopia

ESCAPE FROM L.A., John Carpenter, US, 1996, 101', kick-ass sequel

GHOSTS OF MARS, John Carpenter, US, 2001, 98', heavy metal martian ass-kicking

HALLOWEEN, John Carpenter, US, 1978, 91', quintessential slasher

IN THE MOUTH OF MADNESS, John Carpenter, US, 1994, 95', lovecraftian meta-horror

MEMOIRS OF AN INVISIBLE MAN, John Carpenter, US, 1992, 99', classic comedy with a twist

PRINCE OF DARKNESS, John Carpenter, US, 1987, prom horror from beyond

STARMAN, John Carpenter, US, 1984, 115', outer space

THE FOG, John Carpenter, US, 1980, 89', gloomy coastal terror

THE THING, John Carpenter, US, 1982, 109', icy spine - chilling horror

THE WARD, John Carpenter, US, 2010, 89', **mind-bending madhouse frightfest**

THEY LIVE, John Carpenter, US, 1988, 93', **ultimate sci-fi shocker**

VAMPIRES, John Carpenter, US, 1998, 108', **gory western with teeth**

VILLAGE OF THE DAMNED, John Carpenter, US, 1995, 99', **spooky alien invasion**

AMAZING SWITZERLAND

ALOYS, Tobias Nölle, CH/FR, 2016, 91', **Mystery - Onirism**

Contacted by a mysterious woman, a private detective finds out what the world is really made of when he breaks his state of isolation. The bizarre and sensitive *Aloys* will shake you up.

DAS KALTE HERZ, Karl Ulrich Schnabel, CH/DE, 2016, 83', **Blast from the past**
WORLD PREMIERE

A coal merchant trades his heart for wealth with a demon. Lost for over 80 years, this invaluable silent film based upon the legends of the black forest has re-emerged. Prepare to be spellbound!

DER VAMPIR AUF DER COUCH, David Rühm, CH/AT, 2014, 87', **Bloody comedy**

Sigmund Freud's newest patient is quite unique - especially in regards to his long fangs and his existential illness. Ready for a Cenovis-flavoured *What We Do In The Shadows?*

HEIMATLAND, Michael Krummenacher, Jan Gassmann, Lisa Blatter, Gregor Frei, Benny Jaberg, Carmen Jaquier, Jonas Meier, Tobias Nölle, Lionel Rupp, Mike Schweiwiller, CH/DE, 2015, 99', **Apocalyptic thriller**

The peaceful country of Switzerland is suddenly threatened by a gigantic electromagnetic cloud. Ten directors join forces to explore what torments the Swiss in this essential and ambitious film.

LATE SHIFT, Tobias Weber, CH/UK, 2016, 90', **Visionary Cinema**

After partaking in a heist under duress, a student must engage in a race against time to prove his innocence. This interactive film offers a once-in-a-lifetime cinematic experience!

SIBYLLE, Michael Krummenacher, CH/DE, 2015, 87', **Modern giallo from the North**

A pragmatic architect on holidays sees red when witnessing the suicide of another woman. A devastating shock of a film - skilful, learned, and harrowing.

EL DORADO PANORAMA

The NIFFF's 16th edition is dedicated to Latin American genre cinema, which is now considered as a land full of promises for avant-garde fantasy filmmakers. About twenty features never shown before in Switzerland will help get a better idea of the emerging generation of directors and of their cult.

Daemonium: Underworld Soldier, Pablo Parés, AR, 2015, 120', **out of control SF**
SWISS PREMIERE

Downhill, Patricio Valladares, CL/FR/CA, 2016, 82', **horror - thriller**
WORLD PREMIERE

El páramo, Jaime Osorio Marquez, CO/AR/ES, 2011, 108', **paranoid horror**
SWISS PREMIERE

El Soñador, Adrián Saba, PE, 2016, 80', **oniric drama**
SWISS PREMIERE

Km 31, Rigoberto Castañeda, MX/ES, 2006, 105', **ghostly horror**
SWISS PREMIERE

Kryptonita, Nicanor Loreti, AR, 2015, 80', **weird super heroes**
SWISS PREMIERE

Muerte en Buenos Aires, Natalia Meta, AR, 2014, 90', **stylish thriller**
SWISS PREMIERE

Ovnis en Zacapa, Marcos Machado, GT, 2015, 90', **science fiction - comedy**
EUROPEAN PREMIERE

Quando eu era vivo, Marco Dutra, BR, 2014, 108', **horror, drama**
SWISS PREMIERE

Tenemos la carne, Emiliano Rocha Minter, MX/FR, 2016, 79', **surrealist - horror**
SWISS PREMIERE

El vampiro negro, Román Viñoly Barreto, AR, 1953, 90', **horror, gothic**

La mansión de Araucaima, Carlos Mayolo, CO, 1986, 85', **erotic drama**

Nazareno Cruz y el lobo, Leonardo Favio, AR, 1975, 92', **esoteric fantasy**

Obras maestras del terror, Enrique Carreras, AR, 1960, 121', **fantasy, mystery**

O Estranho Mundo de Zé do Caixão, José Mojica Marins, BR, 1968, 80', **kaleidoscopic horror**

Pura sangre, Luis Ospina, CO, 1982, 90', **horror**

Santa sangre, Alejandro Jodorowsky, MX/IT, 1989, 123', **fantasmagoric odyssey**

¡Vampiros en La Habana!, Juan Padrón, CU/ES/FRG, 1985, 69', **cartoonesque comedy**

Veneno para las hadas, Carlos Enrique Taboada, MX, 1984, 90', **tale - spooky kids**

ROUND TABLE WITH OUR LATIN AMERICAN GUESTS

Bernardo Bergeret (INCAA, Ventana Sur - AR), Laura Sanchez Acosta (producer - AR), Simon Ratzel (creator & producer - AR), Luis Ospina (director - CO), Isaac Ezban (director - MX), Pablo Guisa Koestinger (Morbido director, producer - MX), Adrián García Bogliano (director, El Dorado curator - MX), Andrea Quiroz (producer - MX), Patricio Valladares (director, CL)

03.07, Passage 1, 15:30

HISTOIRES DU GENRE

Through exclusive documentary screenings, the NIFFF continues its in-depth exploration of the world of genre cinema, its auteurs, curiosities, past or present trends and its more or less well-kept secrets...

DRAGON GIRLS !, Yves Montmayeur, FR, 2016, 53', **documentary** - WORLD PREMIERE

FEAR ITSELF, Charlie Lyne, UK, 2015, 88', **documentary** - SWISS PREMIERE

LE COMPLEXE DE FRANKENSTEIN, Alexandre Poncet & Gilles Penso, FR, 2015, 104', **documentary** - SWISS PREMIERE

THE 1000 EYES OF DR. MADDIN, Yves Montmayeur, FR/US, 2015, 66', **documentary** - SWISS PREMIERE

TODO COMENZO POR EL FIN, Luis Ospina, CO, 2015, 208', **El dorado documentary** - SWISS PREMIERE

VIVA LA MUERTE !, Yves Montmayeur, FR, 2009, 57', **documentary**

DARIUS ROCHEBIN CARTE BLANCHE

This year, our second Carte Blanche to a Swiss celebrity goes to none other than Darius Rochebin, the legendary RTS news host!

A Clockwork Orange, Stanley Kubrick, UK/US, 1971

L'oreille, Karel Kachyna, CS, 1970

The Fearless Vampire Killers, Roman Polanski, UK/US, 1967

FANTOCHE BEST KIDS

In an effort to expand our fruitful collaboration with the Baden Animation Film Festival, the NIFFF is hosting this exciting programme created by Fantoche for the young and the less young. From 8 years old.

A Journey To The Moon Symphony, Sandra Reyes Sotomayor, CO, 2014, 14'

Changeover, Mehdi Alibeygi, IR, 2014, 2'

Deux Amis, Natalia Chernysheva, FR, 2014, 4'

Fears, Nata Metlukh, CA/US, 2015, 2'

Johnny Express, Kyungmin Woo, KR, 2014, 5'

Königin Po, Maja Gehrig, CH, 2015, 11'

La Petite Pousse, Chaïtane Conversat, FR/CH, 2015, 9'

Lila, Carlos Lascano, AR/ES, 2014, 9'

Some Thing, Elena Walf, DE, 2015, 7'

Super Grand, Marjolaine Perreten, CH, 2014, 2'

The Moustache, Anni Oja, FI, 2015, 4'

03.07, Arcades, 15:30

SYMPOSIUM IMAGING THE FUTURE

Symposium on Digital Imagery, FXs and Games 4 & 5 juillet 2016

Théâtre du Passage / Neuchâtel

Free registration on : niff.ch/itf

Programme subject to changes without notice.

MONDAY JULY 4th

08:30 - 16:00

WHY SO SERIOUS?

Introducing Serious Games projects in health, social and education fields developed by Swiss institutions and companies.

Introduction

Serious Games vs. Gamification

Stéphane Gobron, HE-Arc - ING, hes.so

Health session

Serious Games & Virtual Reality, the future of the neurorehabilitation

Yannick Charrotton, Lambda Health System, Yverdon-les-Bains

Immersive Solution for Phobia

Yassin Rekik, hepia, hes-so, Geneva

How SGs can help first aid services

Domingos Correia De Oliveira, HE-Arc, Fac. of Health, hes.so, Neuchâtel

Occupational health: current and fore-seeable challenges. Can serious games help prevention?

Vera Bustamante, Dept. of Health at Work, CHUV, Lausanne

SG for Silver Technologies Round table

All health session's guests. Moderated by René Bauer, Gamedesign ZHdK, Zurich University of the Arts, Zurich

Education session

Teaching unintentionally

Philomena Schwab, niche-game.com, Zurich

From serious game for crime scene coordination to a reflexion about the roles of images in police activity

Olivier Delémont, Forensic Sciences, UNIL, Lausanne

PEGASO - A serious game to promote healthy lifestyles for teenagers

Stefano Carrino, HumanTech Institute, HEIA-FR, hes-so, Fribourg

Serious games for teaching design to kids

Florence Quinche, HEP-Vaud, Lausanne

Serious Games & Internet of Things

Round table. All education session's guests. Moderated by Nabil Ouerhani, HE-Arc, hes.so

Social session

Motivation design in iMoMo

René Bauer, Gamedesign ZHdK, Zurich University of the Arts, Zurich

Accompanying people until death - a daily living for young nursing professionals

Pierre-Alain Charmillot, HE-Arc, Fac. of Health, hes.so, Neuchâtel

A platform for doing quests in real Life

Spyridon Nompilakis, www.greatsam.com, Wake App Association, (W.APP.A.), Lausanne

The dialogical dimension of serious Games

Antonio Iannaccone, University of Neuchâtel, dept. of Psy, Neuchâtel

SG and eCitizen

Round table. All social session's guests

Moderated by Yassin Rekik, HEPIA, hes.so, Geneva

Conclusion

Right place, right time for Gamification

Stéphane Gobron, HE-Arc - ING, hes.so

16:00 - 17:30

NARRATIVE CHALLENGES IN VR360 PROJECTS

A panel about VR360 production that will examine challenges raised by this new technology.

Samuel Schwarz, Director, Der Polder 360 Film, Ch, Prof Martin Zimper, ZHDK, 3D shortmovie, CH, Luke Ritchie, Interactive Arts Executive, Producer, Nexus Productions, UK

TUESDAY JULY 5th

09:00 - 12:00

TOOLS UNLIMITED

An overview of digital creative tools packages presented by experts : an exploration of current technologies, techniques and future convergences.

SideFX's Houdini

Rainer Duda, Houdini FX TD & mentor, DE

Unity3D

Mathieu Muller, Unity Technologies Field Engineer, F

Cinema 4D

Mathias Zabiegly, VFX sup., Aixsponza, DE

Moderated by Ean Carr, Compositing Sup., Dou-ble Negative, VES Member, UK

13:00 - 14:30

FROM OCEAN TO JUNGLE : AN ANIMATOR JOURNEY

Andy Jones, lead animation supervisor, UK

Oscar winner for his magnificent work on *Avatar* (Cameron, 2009), Andy Jones will talk about milestones in his career, from *Titanic* (Cameron, 1997) and *I, Robot* (Proyas, 2004) to *The Jungle Book* (Favreau, 2016). A unique opportunity to explore the artwork of an essential master of contemporary movie making.

14:45 - 16:00

THE LADIES' TOUCH

We have invited women that have achieved a strong career in the digital image industry to share their experiences and advices about their professional paths.

Kerstin Kensy, VFX Producer, Rise FX, DE, Helen Marti, VFX producer and coordinator, ES, Cécile Peltier, Digital Compositor, Framestore, U,K Elisabeth Schlichtner, Creative Director, Aixsponza, DE

16:15 - 18:00

GUERILLA FXs

The creation and use of FXs in independent or semi-professional productions on strongly typed projects. How to get the best cost / benefit ratio without sacrificing the artistic vision of the project and preserve the audience's experience?

Hassan El Youbi - VFX Sup., MA

Isaac Ezban - Director, MX

Victor Jaquier - Director, Screenwriter, Concept artist, CH

Michael Krummenacher - Director, Writer, CH

Simon Ratzel - SFX Sup., Screenwriter, AR

Laurent-Paul Robert - VFX Sup., UK/CH

Laura Sanchez Acosta - Producer, AR

Talal Selhami - Director, Writer, F/MA

Hosted by Alexandre Poncet - Journalist, Producer, Director, F

Followed by

THE FRANKENSTEIN COMPLEX

Swiss premiere screening

Documentary, Gilles Penso & Alexandre Poncet

Screening followed by a Q&A session with co-director Alexandre Poncet and one of the documentary's subjects : John Howe (Concept Artist).

RECRUITMENT BOOTHS

During the symposium, Elefant Studios (CH), Framestore (UK), Kenzan VR (CH) and Trixter (DE) representatives will be available at the symposium for recruitment talks and to meet talented artists from all backgrounds.

For more infos : itf@niff.ch

NEW WORLDS OF FANTASY

The literary symposium's 7th edition centres around two conferences dedicated to Swiss productions. The first one will tackle the growing appeal for detective fiction from Romandy, while the second will explore the rich career of one of Switzerland's most talented comic book artist.

Conference with the Cercle d'Auteurs de Polars Romands

Four members from the Cercle d'Auteurs de Polars Romands will explain what is at stake for their organisation and what their objectives are, specifically with regard to encouraging the creation of noir drama and thrillers in Switzerland. It will also be a good opportunity to explore the very diverse and unique works of each novelist.

Speakers

Marc Voltenauer (CH, *Le Dragon du Muveran*)

Marie-Christine Horn (CH, *Tout ce qui est rouge*)

Quentin Mouron (CH, *L'Âge de l'héroïne, Trois gouttes de sang et un nuage de coke*)

Olivier Chapuis (CH, *Le Parc*)

Host: Boris Bruckler

07.07, Passage 1, 14:00

Carte blanche to the Maison d'Ailleurs: The worlds of Frederik Peeters

Since his first success in 2001 - the autobiographical *Pilules Bleues* - the Geneva-based artist has been on a winning streak. Proving time and again his talent for telling stories on a human level, he has made a name for himself in various genres, switching effortlessly from science fiction (*Lupus*, 2003-2006 / *Aâma*, 2011-2014) to detective stories (*RG*, 2007-2008) and Lynchian surrealism (*Pachyderme*, 2009), or more recently to the supernatural western (*L'Odeur des garçons affamés*, 2016).

This event will be hosted by Marc Atallah, director of the Maison d'Ailleurs, the museum of science fiction, utopia and extraordinary voyages. He will guide us through the works and influences of a fascinating, multi-awarded author.

07.07, Passage 1, 15:00

A book signing session with all guests of the New Worlds of Fantasy forum will take place at the Max-et-Meuron restaurant from 16:00.

SERIES STORYWORLDS

International series

Jim Mickle (US, *Hap and Leonard* - creator)
Abdel Raouf Dafri (FR, *La Commune*, *Braquo* - writer)
Sophie Petzal (UK, *Wolfblood* - writer)

06.07, Passage 2, 15:15

Swiss series: What are the basics for writing a TV show directed at a national audience?

Pierre-Adrian Irlé (CH, *Station Horizons* - writer)
Fulvio Bernasconi (CH, *Anomalia* - writer)
Bettina Oberli (CH, *Private Banking* - creator)
Pilar Anguita MacKay (CH, *Anomalia* - creator)
Host: Nicolas Dufour (CH, *Le Temps*)

06.07, Passage 2, 14:00

NIFFF INVASION 2016

1 - 9 JULY

IN THE CITY OF NEUCHÂTEL

Throughout the 9 days of the Neuchâtel International Fantastic Film Festival, the NIFFF INVASION events will make the town come alive through a series of free activities for all ages, in collaboration with the City of Neuchâtel.

JOHN CARPENTER RETROSPECTIVE / EXHIBITION

To celebrate the exceptional presence of John Carpenter in Neuchâtel, the NIFFF will propose an original exhibition focused on the most iconic posters inspired by his films. From *Starman* to *The Fog* and *The Thing*, dive into the fascinating world of the “Master of Horror”!

01-09.07, Théâtre du Passage, 14:00 - 00:00

BOY & THE WORLD / YOUTH SCREENING

In collaboration with La Lanterne Magique
Alê Abreu, Brazil, 2013, 80'

A young boy leaves his village in search of his father and discovers a fantastic world inhabited by mechanical animals and other strange beings. This coming-of-age journey plays with the different periods of life to create a truly poetic and touching story, like we've rarely seen in an animated film!

02.07, Temple du Bas, 14:30

OPEN AIR / SCREENINGS

Several cult classics of fantastic cinema will be shown at the open air. Come to the beautiful Jeunes-Rives location on the lakeside to enjoy them in a summer atmosphere. The bar and the deckchairs await!

01-09.07, Jeunes-Rives, 22:15

John Carpenter Retrospective

STARMAN, John Carpenter, US, 1984, 115'

BIG TROUBLE IN LITTLE CHINA, John Carpenter, US, 1986, 100'

MEMOIRS OF AN INVISIBLE MAN, John Carpenter, US/FR, 1992, 100'

VILLAGE OF THE DAMNED, John Carpenter, US, 1995, 100'

ESCAPE FROM L.A., John Carpenter, US, 1996, 100'

Tribute to Ken Adam

DR. STRANGELOVE, Stanley Kubrick, US/UK, 1964, 95'

Tribute to David Bowie

THE MAN WHO FELL TO EARTH, Nicolas Roeg, UK, 1976, 122'

THE PRESTIGE, Christopher Nolan, UK, 2006, 130'

Tribute to Prince

PURPLE RAIN, Albert Magnoli, US, 1984, 111'

DIRTY QUIZZ CONTEST / SPECIAL PARTY

In collaboration with Couleur 3

It plays like a parody of famous television game shows: two teams compete against each other, one thrilling face-off at a time, under the gaze of a very impartial judge. From trivia on the NIFFF history and programme, to spontaneous fancy dressing, karaoke battles, cult scene

voice-over, music quizzes, and so on... we selected only the best challenges for your team and the audience to enjoy!

07.07, Temple du Bas, 22:00 (followed by a DJ set)

Teams of 2 to 5 people. Mandatory registration: quizz@niff.ch

1st prize: Festival Pass (17th edition) offered by the NIFFF

2nd prize: Surprise pack and concert tickets offered by Couleur 3

OMBRES / SHERLOCK HOLMES LIVE

Partnership between Gus&Co & the NIFFF

Ombres is an urban, interactive and multimedia narrative that will take you through the history of Neuchâtel by way of an imagined reality.

02-03.07, departure at 13:00 (Faubourg du Lac 23), back at 17:00

Mandatory registration: sherlockneuchatel.com

SORCIERES ET ESCARGOTS / INSTALLATION & PROJECTIONS

The CAN (Centre d'art Neuchâtel) has asked Nicolas Party and Jesse Wine to imagine a one-of-a-kind autonomous cinematic experience which will plunge you into a maze of paintings, sculptures, ceramics and furniture created by both artists. Everything has been conceived so as to enhance the sensory reception of the film, and is in keeping with the innovative tradition of fantastic cinema!

Häxan, Benjamin Christensen, SE, 1922, 104'

01-09.07, Rue du Seyon 9, 2 showings a day at 17:30 and 21:00

Mandatory registration from June 16th on can.ch

Preview: June 30th at 18:30

Nicolas Party's personal exhibition *Cimaise* is open for viewing at the CAN (Rue des Moulins 37, free admission) until July 10th.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Press Office:

Reception for journalists and other professionals is located at the Théâtre du Passage, Maximilien-de-Meuron 4, 2000 Neuchâtel, 1st floor.

Press office opening hours during the festival:

Friday 01.07: 14.00-19:00

Saturday 02.07 to Saturday 09.07: 9.00-18.00

Contact:

Mylène D'Aloia, mylene.daloia@niff.ch, +41 78 603 90 30

Christian Ströhle, christian.stroehle@niff.ch, +41 79 390 47 69

Press office: +41 32 731 07 76

SCREENINGS:

Cinéma Arcades: Faubourg de l'Hôpital 5

Passage 1, 2: Théâtre du Passage, Max-de-Meuron 4

Temple du Bas: Rue du Temple-Neuf 5

Cinéma Bio: Faubourg du Lac 27

PRICES

1 Film: CHF 14.-

Multipass 4 Films: CHF 50.-

Multipass 10 Films: CHF 110.-

Festival Pass: CHF 170.-

PRESALES: www.starticket.ch

OFF@ NIFFF

Food services and DJs every night at the Jardin anglais:

Thursday, Fridays and Saturdays --> 2 a.m.

Sunday to Wednesday --> 1 a.m.

WIFI@OFF

Video 2000 will offer free Wi-Fi access at the Jardin anglais throughout the festival.

AFTERS@NIFFF

Temple du Bas :

Friday 1st, Saturday 2nd, Thursday 7th, Friday 8th, Saturday 9th, 01:00 - 04:00

DJs & drinks.

Programme: www.niff.ch

RECHARGE YOUR MOBILES THANKS TO VITEOS

Under the tent (festival off), you can find Viteos "recharge-bars" to charge your mobile phones with Areuse-certified current.

TRANSPORTS

SPECIAL FARES AT THE PARKING DU PORT

Festival attendees can park for CHF 5 per day! Leave your car at the Parking du Port and buy your parking ticket for a reduced price at the Théâtre du Passage box office.

SHUTTLES AND TAXIS WITH TAXICAB

Vouchers available at the ticket offices and bars allow you to take a shuttle going every night, 45 minutes after the end of the last screening. It departs from Jardin Anglais (festival off) and goes to Landeron, Gorgier-Saint-Aubin, and La Chaux-de-Fonds. Travel fare: CHF 9.

You can avail of a 15% discount for any taxi fare when presenting a voucher. Vouchers are available at the festival ticket offices and bars. Taxicab: 032 724 12 12

SOFT MOBILITY - NIFFFROLLS

The NIFFF... on bicycle! Neuchâtelroule stations are situated close to the Temple du Bas, Passage, Arcades, and Jardin anglais. More details on www.neuchatelroule.ch

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