

# NIFFF



NEUCHÂTEL  
INTERNATIONAL  
FANTASTIC FILM FESTIVAL

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## FOR ITS 20TH EDITION THE NIFFF WILL EMBRACE ITS FERAL INSTINCTS

Just months away from the start of its 20th edition, the NIFFF (Neuchâtel International Fantastic Film Festival) is pleased to announce that it will celebrate its two decades of existence alongside a brand new collaborative partner, the Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle de Neuchâtel (MHNN, or Neuchâtel Natural History Museum).

The museum will grant the NIFFF several exhibition spaces for the whole 9 days of the festival. As a lead-in to the SAUVAGE ("Feral Instincts") exhibition that will take place at the MHNN from November 2020 to August 2021, the NIFFF will offer film screenings and immersive experiences that will spotlight our relation to wilderness and the animal world. Both institutions created a pluridisciplinary and collaborative approach to an important topic.

### Two unmissable parts of the festival's 20th edition will be set within the museum

Among the famous 110 dioramas dedicated to Switzerland's indigenous fauna is **VIRTUAL WORLDS**, the festival's immersive experience. It has its roots in the museum's permanent exhibitions. The full line-up will be unveiled in May, but the festival's team can already reveal that the HE-ARC school, the Geneva International Film Festival (GIFF), the Cineglobe Film festival @Cern and Estonian innovation accelerator Storytek will be part of the programming committee.

The cherry on top: music lovers, zoology enthusiasts and cinephiles who follow the **MUSIC@NIFFF** programme will be able to make a dream come true by spending the *night at the museum* and find out once and for all if the stuffed animals come alive after hours. With two inside and outside bars, these highly anticipated after parties will take the audience to uncharted sensory and artistic realms.

### The feral instincts of the MHNN will venture beyond its walls to shine on the NIFFF's screens

From seminal classic **THE BIRDS** (Alfred Hitchcock, USA, 1963) to **PRINCESS MONONOKE** (Hayao Miyazaki, Japan, 1997), **CAT PEOPLE** (Jacques Tourneur, USA, 1942), **OKJA** (Bong Joon-ho, South Korea/USA, 2016), and even *eco-terror* exploitation movies (**FROGS**, **ARACHNOPHOBIA**, **ORCA**), the **SAUVAGE** retrospective will present the various ways humans have fantasised about their relationship to nature in cinema. The selection will also call on artists and scientists to discuss the evolution of our fictional connections to nature.

Can we still entertain the idea of a utopian relationship with the environment? In such a process, what role can the entertainment industry and imaginary stories play?

The questions have been asked. See you at the #NIFFF20 to find the answers and explore the unfathomable fascination of everything SAUVAGE.

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