

**The Alliance Française French Film Festival reveal their 2017 Festival Patrons**

**National Press Release: Alliance Française French Film Festival 2017**

**Press release for 15 December 2016**

The Alliance Française French Film Festival is delighted to announce the return of New Zealand actress Antonia Prebble as a 2017 Festival Patron. Antonia gained a passion for all things French while living for a time in Paris, and following sterling patronage of the 2016 Festival, she returns to her role as a much-valued patron this year. A stalwart of stage and screen, Antonia is known for starring in New Zealand favourites such as *Outrageous Fortune*, and *Westside*.

The Festival Team is also thrilled to welcome Peter Calder as a 2017 Festival Patron. Peter's reputation as an esteemed film, theatre and restaurant critic speaks to his talent and expertise in dissection, comprehension and appreciation of art in all its mediums. Known for judicious, eloquent reviews and articles, Peter has had an illustrious career including a strong influence within the New Zealand Herald.

“We feel very honoured to have two high profile Festival Patrons supporting the 2017 Alliance Française French Film Festival: Francophile New Zealand actress Antonia Prebble will be our Festival Patron again this year and will be joined by renowned film critic Peter Calder.

Their view on the films of the programme, their exchange, will reflect the joy that is experiencing cinema: discussing and reflecting on film, living stories through others and with others.” — Festival director Dorothée Basel.

The Alliance Française French Film Festival will run from 1 March - 12 April 2017 in 12 cities across New Zealand. For dates and venues information, visit [www.frenchfilmfestival.co.nz](http://www.frenchfilmfestival.co.nz)

ENDS