

The Alliance Française French Film Festival Announces 2017 Programme

National Press Release: Alliance Française French Film Festival 2017

Press release for 2 February 2017

The Alliance Française French Film Festival has announced the full 2017 programme, inviting audiences to experience one language, and a world of emotions.

“After months of preparation, viewing and selecting films, liaising with partners and much detailed planning, we are excited and happy to have arrived at the moment when we officially announce the full programme.

This year’s Festival is full of emotions: laughter, tears, suspense, excitement and entertainment. Much reflection lies ahead of us with 36 films presented over 6 weeks in 12 cities across New Zealand.

And all of this *en français - bien sûr! Le cinéma* — a great place to experience a culture, to learn a language, to travel the world and gain new understanding.” — Festival Director Dorothee Basel

With award-winning Festival titles, numerous female-directed features, and slapstick comedies, the 11th edition of the Alliance Française French Film Festival will feature some of France’s top stars and shine a light on up-and-coming talent.

Having presented the International Premieres of some superb French jewels in the past, such as *The Bélier Family* and *Rosalie Blum*, 2017 is no exception, marking the world debut of writer-director Carine Tardieu’s wonderfully funny *Just to be Sure (Ôtez-moi d’un doute)*. Starring François Damiens (*The Bélier Family*, AF FFF 2015) and Cécile de France (*La Belle Saison*, AF FFF 2016), the film leads the *La Vie et L’Amour* section of the programme.

Fans of classic French cinema will enjoy a fresh look at classic film genres with the *Classics Remixed* section, which pairs musical comedy *The Umbrellas of Cherbourg* with *Julie and the Shoe Factory*, and the film noir *Le Doulos* with *Dark Diamond*.

Featuring a line-up ripe with César Award nominees from Best Film (*Slack Bay*, *From the Land of the Moon*, *In Bed with Victoria*) and Best Actor (Nicolas Duvauchelle for *A Decent Man*, Fabrice Luchini for *Slack Bay*, Omar Sy for *Monsieur Chocolat*, Gaspard Ulliel for *It’s Only the End of the World*) to Best First Film (*Dark Diamond* by Arthur Harari), the 2017 Alliance Française French Film Festival is guaranteed to be a highlight in New Zealand’s cultural calendar.

The Alliance Française French Film Festival will run from 1 March - 12 April 2017 in 12 cities across New Zealand. For full programme information, including dates and venues, visit www.frenchfilmfestival.co.nz

ENDS