

2019 Tournées Film Festival Program

January 24, 2019, 7pm: *L'atelier / The Workshop*

Weiss 235

Opening Reception, 5:45 in Weiss lounge

Directed by Laurent Cantet

In *The Workshop*, acclaimed writer-director Laurent Cantet takes an illuminating approach to a variety of key issues haunting contemporary France. Olivia, a successful Parisian novelist, has been hired to spend the summer in La Ciotat, a beautiful but economically battered town on the Mediterranean, teaching a writing workshop for a diverse group of young people whose only common denominator, as is so often the case among twentysomethings in the French provinces, is that they are unemployed.

January 31, 2019, 7pm: *Jeannette: L'enfance de Jeanne d'Arc / Jeannette: The Childhood of Joan of Arc*

Weiss 235

Opening Reception at 5:30

Director by Bruno Dumont

Writer-director Bruno Dumont created a faithful but strikingly contemporary interpretation of the childhood of Joan of Arc, with music by death metal composer Igorr and children recorded singing live on the dunes of the Pas-de-Calais. The result is mystifying and mystical, jaw-dropping and farcical, but never less than inspired: a film in which an eight-year-old girl does justice to the verse of one of the great French poets while twin nuns do a gestural dance surrounded by a flock of oblivious sheep.

February 7, 2019, 7pm: *Félicité*

Althouse 106

Directed by Alain Gomis

Félicité is a nightclub singer in a little bar in Kinshasa who lives alone with her teenage son Samo. When Samo severely injures himself in a motorcycle accident, *Félicité* must find a way to raise the money to pay for an operation or allow her son's leg to be amputated. The originality and power of French-Senegalese director Alain Gomis's fourth feature lies in the way it transcends this simple against-the-clock narrative to create a shifting, complex portrait of the struggles, joys, and imagination of a modern-day heroine—and by extension, of the city she lives in.

February 14, 2019, 7pm: *120 BPM*

Althouse 106

Directed by Robin Campillo

BPM is a fictionalized account of the history of Act Up-Paris, the triumphant true story of some of the great heroes of our era: the men and women who fought for the recognition and improved treatment of HIV and AIDS patients at a time when a diagnosis was a death sentence. As an original member of Act Up, writer-director Robin Campillo brings a detailed, thoroughly researched authenticity to his reconstruction of the activist organization's politically and emotionally charged group meetings, its colorful protests, and the intimate relationships that bound the tight-knit group together.

February 21, 2019, 7pm: *Moi un Noir*
Althouse 106
Directed by Jean Rouché

Few films have had as sweeping an impact as Jean Rouché's 1958 portrait of three Nigerien migrants in Treichville, a bustling neighborhood in Abidjan, Ivory Coast. As an ethnographic film, *Moi, un noir* was both politically and aesthetically revolutionary through its attempt to address the problem of the ethnographer (nearly always a white man) filming subjects (nearly always people of color) objectified and stripped of agency by the filmmaking process.

February 22, 5:45 pm: *Ouvrir la voix*
Althouse 106, Directed by Amandine Gay
Reception starting at 4:30pm at Clarke Forum to welcome the director, Amandine Gay. There will be a Q&A session following the film.

Ouvrir la voix (Speak Up/Make Your Way) is a film about francophone European black women from the diaspora that showcases art performances and compelling storytelling from those who are usually spoken of or spoken for. The film focuses on our common experience related to our minority status in predominantly White ex colonial countries, while highlighting the great diversity of our Afropean communities. *Ouvrir la voix (Speak Up/Make Your Way)* aims at bringing to light our existence at the crossroad of multiple discriminations that go way beyond our "black women" status. *Ouvrir la voix (Speak Up/Make Your Way)* is a statement from francophone European black women so as to why we choose to reclaim the narrative.

February 28, 2019, 7pm: *I am not your negro*
Althouse 106
Directed by Raoul Peck

Haitian filmmaker Raoul Peck's brilliant documentary on racism in America is an essential work for our era, drawing a clear line from the Civil Rights struggle to today's Black Lives Matter movement via the thought of James Baldwin, one of the most lucid, fearless American thinkers on race (and many other matters). Based on Baldwin's unfinished manuscript *Remember This House*, which considered the history of racism through memories of Baldwin's friends the civil rights leaders Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X, and Medgar Evers, *I Am Not Your Negro* analyzes white denial and black experience of racial oppression in a historical and contemporary context.

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