

PRESS RELEASE

BRIFF : CINEMA WITHOUT BORDERS

The International Competition of the BRIFF highlights a cinema for all, with emotional stories that question the world. A section that embraces the diversity of cinema and the diversity of its audiences with a selection of films that address strong and sensitive subjects.

In the 2019 edition, the International Competition includes fiction and documentary films that tell family's histories, pass through political regimes, dream of a pacifist world, flirt with fantasy, have a look into shattered traditions, mujahidin, voodoo and mafia. Films that tell the story of our past and present, that come from China, Afghanistan, the United Kingdom, Canada, France, Palestine, Ireland, Brazil and Macedonia, carried out by promising directors or directors that have already proven themselves, in an almost perfect gender parity.

To decide between the candidates, the BRIFF is lucky to count on the informed eye of a jury composed of five emblematic representatives of today's cinema.

THE JURY

Jakob Cedergren

Awarded by the Danish Award for best actor for *The Guilty*, an amazing thriller that won the Audience Award at Sundance and the BeTV and RTBF Awards at BRIFF 2018, Jakob Cedergren plays everything. Theatre, TV, cinema... Revealed in the series *Murders in Sandhamn*, he confirms the full extent of his acting talent with *Dark House*, selected in Cannes in the category "Un Certain Regard".

Vincent Macaigne

He is known from his roles in *La Bataille de Solferino*, *La Fille du 14 juillet*, *Le Sens de la fête*, ... and is already considered as the Gérard Depardieu of the new generation of French actor-directors. Vincent Macaigne will join the ranks of the international jury before the release of Wes Anderson's new film *The French Dispatch*, in which you can find the actor alongside Bill Murray and Cécile de France.

Nadia Kaci

Actress Nadia Kaci is humanist and committed, and is favourite actress of the Algerian director Nadir Moknèche (*Le Harem de Madame Osmane*, *Lola Pater*). She is also an author (*Laissées pour mortes*) and theatre actress. *Ca commence aujourd'hui*, *Bab El Oued City*, *Nationale 7*, *Les Bienheureux*..... We can no longer count the collaborations of this talented performer with the great directors of today's cinema: Bertrand Tavernier, Jean-Pierre Sinapi, Sofia Djama and Merzak Allouache.

David Oelhoffen

Already noticed at the 2006 César Awards for his short film *Sous le bleu*, David Oelhoffen landed in the big league in 2007, as he was selected for Cannes Critics' Week with *Nos Retrouvailles*. Then followed *Loin des hommes* (with Viggo Mortensen and Reda Kateb) and *Frères ennemis* (bringing together the disturbing duo Matthias Schoenaert / Reda Kateb), both in competition in Venice, as well as a collaboration with Safy Nebbou as scriptwriter *Dans les forêts de Sibérie*.

Esther Garrel

Esther Garrel, Philippe Garrel and Brigitte Sy's daughter started her carrier as an actress before her 17th birthday in Christophe Honoré's film *La Belle Personne*. In 2011, we saw her in *17 filles* from Delphine and Muriel Coulin, a drama about the collective pregnancy of a group of young women. In 2017, the critical success of *Call Me By Your Name* confirmed her international talent. A talent that will soon be expressed in *Adventures of a Mathematician*, Thorstein Klein's moving biography of a Polish immigrant.



INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

With a selection of films from the four corners of the world, you can discover 9 Belgian avant-premières at BRIFF. From future blockbusters to films from Cannes, Berlin and Venice, these are all favourites of our seasoned programmers! A unique view of nine countries.

1. The Palestine of Elia Suleiman - *It Must Be Heaven*

Elia Suleiman searches for its own identity and the similarities between different cities, using a single question as a guideline: where do you feel at home?

20/06 - 20h00 - UGC DB (Opening Ceremony)
24/06 - 18h30 - GALERIES

2. Wang Xiaoshuai China - *So Long My Son*

Already awarded at several prestigious festivals, this time the director of *Red Amnesia* follows a couple living in turbulent contemporary China.

21/06 - 20h00 - PALACE
22/06 - 15h30 - FLAGEY

3. Kim Longinotto Italy - *Shooting The Mafia*

Witness to female rebellion, this documentary zooms in on the battle villagers are waging against the mafia through the live of photographer Letizia Battaglia.

22/06 - 21h00 - PALACE
23/06 - 14h30 - UGC DB

4. Shahrbanoo Sadat Afghanistan - *The Orphanage*

Presented at the Quinzaine de Réalisateurs, the film by young director Shahrbanoo Sadat tells the story of Qodrat, a 15-year old Bollywood fan that survives in the streets of Kabul selling cinema tickets.

23/06 - 21h30 - UGC DB
25/06 - 15h00 - FLAGEY

5. The France of Bertrand Bonello - *Zombi Child*

An old Haitian family story brings unrest to a Parisian elite school.

24/06 - 19h00 - UGC DB
26/06 - GALERIES - 18h30

6. The United Kingdom of Richard Billingham - *Ray and Liz*

Internationally recognised for his photographic talent, Richard Billingham shows in his first film a raw portrait of the vulnerable English family in which he grew up.

25/06 - 19h30 - UGC DB
26/06 - 17h30 - UGC DB

7. The Quebec of Denis Côté - *Divided city scales*

Fog and endless days. But what's going on in this isolated town since Simon's death in an accident? Denis Côté's mysterious and metaphorical fable from Quebec was presented this year at the Berlinale.

26/06 - 20h00 - UGC DB
27/06 - 17h30 - UGC DB

8. Flavia Castro Brazil - *Deslembro*

Paris-Rio. Between two cities and two continents, Joana builds a new life with childhood memories that slowly bubble upwards.

27/06 - 21h00 - PALACE
28/06 - 14h30 - GALERIES

9. Teona Strugar Mitevaska's Macedonia - *God exists, her name is Petrunya*

When a woman takes part in an age-old religious ritual predestined only for men, she may have awakened a silent revolution in the small Macedonian town of Stip.

28/06 - 19h00 - PALACE
29/06 - 14h00 - UGC DB

>> PICTURES : **BRIFF.BE** <<

DATE

From 20 till 29 June 2019

PLACES

UGC De Brouckère, Palace, Cinéma Galeries, Bozar, Flagey, BRIFF Village

INFO & TICKETS

www.briff.be

CONTACTS - PRESS

FR / Barbara Van Lombeek
barbara@thepfactory.com
+32 (0)486/54.64.80

NL / Gudrun Burie
gudrun@thepfactory.com
+32 (0)498 10 10 01

