



Press release

Luxembourg, 8th January 2019

For immediate release

Luxembourg City Film Festival, Luxembourg's leading film festival, is back from 7th-17th March with an expanded daily line-up. For the first time in the event's history, the Festival is going ALL DAY LONG with morning screenings opening to the general public. The Festival team is proud to announce the full Young Audiences Programme today. (Please note that the General Programme will be unveiled at a press conference on 13th February 2019.)

Film education and media literacy

In Luxembourg, images dominate the cultural pastimes of both the younger and older general public: cinema, television, internet use, social media etc. From its beginning, Luxembourg City Film Festival has aimed to help children and students gain a better understanding of this image-driven world and of new narrative forms by equipping them with tools to decipher and decode them. This commitment to visual education has been embedded in the Festival, edition after edition, and remains a cornerstone of the 2019 programme with exclusive film content for younger audiences, accompanied by invigorating debates and playful workshops.

A unique festival experience for Young Audiences

For 3 years and up:

In the MY FIRST MOVIES strand for toddlers, the Festival will present TWO TRAMS, six animated shorts full of tender, poetic and snowy universes, as well as TOOTLETUBS & JYRO, a world populated by tiny and eccentric insects. Lastly, the famous DIYers Pat and Mat return in PAT & MAT DÉMÉNAGENT! The final screening of the film will be accompanied by music in a one-off film concert.

For 5 years and up:

Back with a programme dedicated to science fiction, the indestructible CRAZY CINÉMATOGRAPHE FOR KIDS will dive into the world of silent film. GORDON & PADDY, the first children's detective film, coming to the Festival straight from Sweden, will warn young people not to judge a book by its cover. Adventure and discovery are the order of the day in two nature-driven films: WE'RE GOING ON A BEAR HUNT, an adaptation of the eponymous classic English children's book by Michael Rosen (preceded by two Belarusian animations) and TALES FROM THE LAKESIDE, a Hungarian ode to the environment. Lastly, MY GIRAFFE, inspired by the famous Dutch nursery rhyme *Dikkertje Dap*, tells the tale of a young boy desperate to take his giraffe to school.

For 7 years and up:

Live action fiction films dominate this strand with the exception of LILA'S BOOK. The first Colombian animated feature film directed by a woman, Marcela Rincón González will take children into a magical world of friendship and literary discovery. Travel and adventure feature prominently in ROSIE & MOUSSA, where a friendship blossoms on the rooftops of Brussels; in MATTI AND SAMI AND THE THREE BIGGEST MISTAKES IN THE UNIVERSE, a German road trip film about a family holiday to Finland; and in ICH BIN WILLIAM, a coming-of-age tale about a boy who saves the day – against all odds. The slightly older (9 years and up) can discover imaginary and magical worlds in INVISIBLE

SUE, a Luxembourgish coproduction about a girl blessed with the power of invisibility, as well as in THE WITCH HUNTERS, the big TIFF Kids favourite about a young imaginative disabled boy, Jovan, and his mischievous friend, Milica. Lastly, an original partially animated documentary, BEYOND BORDERS: STORIES OF FREEDOM & FRIENDSHIP, a collection of short films inspired by, and made for, refugee children. One of the directors Nazgol Emami, will attend the festival.

For 12 years and up:

A great vehicle for exploring the challenges associated with adolescence, cinema can also create a dialogue about current affairs. I USED TO LIKE THE SEA, a documentary by Idriss Gabel (in attendance at the Festival) gives the floor to children who have fled war, persecution and poverty to cross the Mediterranean and end up in a Belgian refugee centre. The migrant crisis is also covered in STYX, nominated for the LUX Film Prize 2018, a tense allegory about the West's ambivalence in the face of this tragedy.

Animated film, THE TOWER deals with the Israeli-Palestinian conflict through the story of a young Palestinian refugee in Lebanon who discovers her roots through family testimonies. For a more comedic take on the conflict, TEL AVIV ON FIRE follows the action around a checkpoint on the West Bank which turns into a creative writing workshop for a popular television soap (a Luxembourgish coproduction). Another national production FUNAN, recognised at Annecy 2018, takes a personal look at the horrors of the Khmer Rouge revolution. Continuing in this historical vein, Lars Kraume's THE SILENT REVOLUTION depicts German youths torn between the painful legacy of Nazism, Soviet doctrine and a growing appetite for freedom. An unconventional musical piece by Brechtian specialist Joachim Lang, MACK THE KNIFE – BRECHT'S THREEPENNY FILM blends reality and fiction in a pointed and crazy social satire. For more intimate films, see L'ANIMALE and the documentary IN MY ROOM. The first depicts an Austrian teenage girl in search of her identity while the latter deals with the use of social networks through the personal vlogs of teenagers stuck between exhibition and modesty.

Workshops and events with the local audiovisual community

Luxembourg City Film Festival's commitment to media literacy is weaved throughout its programme of workshops and events designed for younger audiences. Representatives from Luxembourg's audio-visual and animation community are involved in delivering activity across the eleven-day event.

Jurys

Luxembourg Film Festival invites children and students to take part in a number of different juries:

The KIDS JURY will pick the KIDS JURY AWARD from the '5-8 years' strand; a SCHOOL JURY made up of seven film-loving pupils, aged 12 to 15 years old, will select the SCHOOL JURY AWARD; the YOUTH JURY – made up from a panel of secondary school students – will watch and scrutinise a selection of films across the Festival programme, selecting the winner of the YOUTH JURY AWARD – BY KINEPOLIS. Otherwise, any children attending public screenings will be able to vote for the KIDS' FESTIVAL FAVOURITE from the '5-12 years' strand. The YOUNG CRITICS and VIDEO REPORTERS will follow all Festival activity, learning from professionals as they go.

Workshops for 5-13 years:

Continuing in its mission to promote national works, the Festival has invited **Fabrique d'Images**, a Luxembourgish animation studio to run their BAYALA: A MAGICAL 3D-UNIVERSE workshop. Luxembourgish artist Suzan Noesen's short film *Livre d'heures* will serve as a starting point for two creative workshops at Casino Luxembourg - Forum for Contemporary Art. The **MUDAM'S SET CREATOR FOR ONE DAY** workshop will invite children to create incredible illusions by building their own miniature sets. To mark the release of their animated feature *Le Voyage du Prince*, Luxembourgish animation studio **Studio 352** will introduce children to the basics of animation.

Based on the series *Nächst Statioun – Wëllkomm op der Äerd*, the "NÄCHST STATIOUN – WËLLKOM OP DER ÄERD" – THE ART OF STORYBOARDING workshop will invite children to create a storyboard inspired by a monument in the Luxembourg City centre. As part of the creative

workshop 1,2,3...MOLEMOL!, children will complete an episode of the series by adding in their own drawings thanks to professional animators from **Doghouse Films**. Lastly, MUDAMINI AKADEMIE - ART INSPIRES CINEMA will act as an introduction to modern art for 9-12-year olds, focusing on works inspired by cinema.

Workshops for 13 years and up:

A staple of Luxembourg City Film Festival, BOYD VAN HOEIJ's unmissable film analysis and film criticism workshops will unpick a Hollywood blockbuster.

The Centre national de l'audiovisuel (CNA) and the Festival will join forces with the Service National de la Jeunesse (SNJ) for CRÈME FRAÎCHE, a videoclip and screenwriting showcase and competition. Two informative workshops not to be missed: PICNIC WITH PROS, an interactive session about careers in TV and film organised with BTS Cinéma et Audiovisuel and in collaboration with the CNA and the Film Fund Luxembourg; and ANIMATION BRUNCH, a chance for the general public to discover Luxembourg's animation sector in collaboration with le Fédération des métiers de l'animation et de l'image virtuelle (FMAIV).

Several masterclasses provide ample opportunities to learn more about animated cinema:

- German filmmakers, Ralf Kukula and Matthias Bruhn, will introduce their film FRITZI – A MIRACULOUS REVOLUTIONARY TALE which is being released to coincide with the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall.
- Stéphan Roelants, founder of Studio 352, will explore the huge potential of today's animation techniques in ANIMATION FOR AN ADULT AUDIENCE, challenging the idea that animation is solely for children.
- Shortly after the Festival, Suzan Noesen will present a Masterclass at the Casino Luxembourg – Forum d'art contemporain based on the development process of her film *Livre d'heures*.

Two virtual reality workshops will introduce children to new technologies and narrative forms: EMOTION(S)^{XR}, organised in collaboration with SCRIPT and in the presence of artists Laura Mannelli & Frederick Thompson, will explore the role of emotions in colour theory, blending reality with virtual and augmented realities. Under the guidance of artists Pascal Piron and Karolina Markiewicz, participants in the VIRTUALLY ART workshop will learn to paint and sculpt in VR.

Luxembourg City Film Festival's sponsors

The **Ministry of Culture** and the **City of Luxembourg** are the Festival's main institutional sponsors. They are joined by the main private sponsor the **KINEPOLIS group**.

The sponsors of the Young Audiences Programme include Œuvre Nationale de Secours Grande-Duchesse Charlotte and Film Fund Luxembourg.

The Ministère de l'Éducation nationale, de l'Enfance et de la Jeunesse via the Service de Coordination de la Recherche et de l'Innovation pédagogiques et technologiques (SCRIPT) is supporting the School Programme of Luxembourg Film Festival 2019.

The Cinémathèque de la Ville de Luxembourg and Centre national d'audiovisuel (CNA) as well as the Casino Luxembourg – Forum d'art contemporain (Festival HQ) have assisted with the development of the ninth edition.

The Festival is proud to renew ties with their official sponsors: ORANGE Luxembourg and BGL BNP PARIBAS and with their long-term partners: ARNOLD KONTZ GROUP, CHAMBRE DE COMMERCE, LUXAIR, CERCLE CITÉ, ESPERA PRODUCTIONS and EXECUTIVE LANE.

Save the date for our press conference on **13th February, 2019 at 11am** (at the Cinémathèque de la Ville de Luxembourg) to discover our full programme (international and documentary competitions, official selection, and Made in/with Luxembourg strand, guests ...). In the meantime, stay connected via our official website (www.luxfilmfest.lu) and our social network profiles.

The Young Audiences programme, subject to change, is available on the official website: www.luxfilmfest.lu.

Individual tickets for the Young Audiences Programme's public screenings are available online at www.luxfilmfest.lu and www.luxembourgticket.lu.

Please note: to attend the morning school screenings which are open to the general public, customers must purchase tickets online in advance as the Festival box offices will not be open in the morning.

*Festival Passes will go on sale on **14th February 2019**.*

Download film stills and images from the website here: <http://www.luxfilmfest.lu/en/press>

For any request for information or interview: press@luxfilmfest.lu, T +352 28 22 93