

LE F i F A 41

Communiqué de presse
Pour diffusion immédiate



THE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF FILMS ON ART WILL OPEN ITS 41ST EDITION WITH THE FILMS **PENDULUM** BY **MANUEL MATHIEU** AND **INSIDE MY HEART** BY **SASKIA BODDEKE**

Montréal, February 14, 2023 — The International Festival of Films on Art (Le FIFA) is pleased to announce that the film *Inside My Heart* by **Saskia Boddeke** (the Netherlands) will be presented in a North American première and in competition to open its 41st edition (**March 14–26, 2023 in theatres and March 24–April 2 online**). At the theatre screening on **March 14** at **Théâtre Outremont** in Montréal, the film will be preceded by the short film *Pendulum* by **Manuel Mathieu** (Canada), a world première and in competition.

A screening with the filmmakers, **Manuel Mathieu** and **Saskia Boddeke**, in attendance.



Still from Saskia Boddeke's *Inside My Heart*

"In a film of great aesthetic beauty that immerses us in a profoundly poetic world, the director communicates her love and admiration for this theatre troupe with a unique look at a sensitive and deeply moving reality." – **Jacinthe Brisebois**, Director of Programming, FIFA



From backstage to onstage, moving from the magic of an opera to the depths of documentary, *Inside My Heart* pushes back the boundaries between rehearsal and performance within a troupe of professional actors with intellectual disabilities. This radically imaginative film uses all possible cinematographic means to lightly bring to life the romances, conflicts, and questionings of these actors who have us literally breathing with them in a baroque tragedy with fairy-tale touches. Through the themes of homosexuality, eroticism, and bodily relations, *Inside My Heart* challenges how we look at things and everything we might take for granted.

"I dream that I'm in a music group. Or a police officer or a singer. These dreams never come true. Because the alarm goes off, it's already over. My name is Ayle. I'm 27 years old. I don't suffer from my handicap."

The members of the Dutch theatre troupe **KamaK** are professional actors living with intellectual disabilities. When director **Saskia Boddeke** saw their performances in the play *Furia*, she knew that she wanted to work with them. The result is *Inside My Heart*, a film oscillating between documentary and fiction in which the characters sometimes need to be reminded where they are.

Inside My Heart is presented as a North American première.

Inside My Heart will be screened **March 14 at 7:30 p.m.** at **Théâtre Outremont**, with the director, **Saskia Boddeke**, in attendance.

It will also be available online starting **March 24 on ARTS.FILM**, Le FIFA's online platform for films on art, until April 2.

Presented in Dutch, with English subtitles.
Length: 86 minutes

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR



Saskia Boddeke is a Dutch multimedia artist and theatre, opera, and film director. Her work integrates projection, computer programming, virtual reality, and interactions between animated audiovisual avatars and live actors. Her performances are presented worldwide. She also creates immersive multimedia installations in which visitors are surrounded by projections, sound, light, smells, and art objects. In 2017, she directed the documentary *The Greenaway Alphabet*, which received the award for best documentary at three international

festivals, along with the Rose d'Or Arts Award in 2019.

The film *Inside My Heart* will be preceded by the world première screening of the Canadian short film in competition *Pendulum* by **Manuel Mathieu**.



Still from *Pendulum* by **Manuel Mathieu**

The first film by Montréal artist **Manuel Mathieu**, *Pendulum* evokes a search for balance between the past and an uncertain future. A knowledge-keeper carries on her shoulders her most precious heritage: her soul's freedom. From this heritage is born a spiritual choreography in which men win their own freedom while confronting the complexity of their humanity. During this perpetual exorcism, they absorb their liberation under a rain of white comets. What will remain of our essence? A new day is born.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR



Born in Haiti in 1986 and based in Montréal since he was 19 years old, **Manuel Mathieu** is a multidisciplinary artist who explores, poetically and pictorially, the themes of historical violence, erasure, nature, and spiritual heritage. *Pendulum* is the first public presentation of his filmmaking work. Like his paintings, sculptures, and installations, this film is inscribed in a quest for phenomenological encounters that challenge the power relations defining us. The vibrating effect of his work offers alternative ways for apprehending the world. A graduate of Goldsmith's College (London), he has had exhibitions all over the world for a number of years.

"In this first film, the artist Manuel Mathieu offers us a powerful and moving allegory expressing his attachment to his country of origin, Haiti, that echoes his pictorial works." – **Jacinthe Brisebois**, Director of Programming, Le FIFIA

[TICKETING INFORMATION](#)

41st International Festival of Films on Art
Montréal - Québec City - ARTS.FILM
March 14–26, 2023, in theatre and March 24–April 2, 2023 online
lefifa.com

ABOUT LE FIFIA 41

The International Festival of Films on Art (Le FIFIA) is dedicated to the promotion and international influence of films on art and the media arts. Under the general and artistic direction of Philippe U. del Drago, the FIFIA offers an annual event in March to discover the latest productions of films on art. Through its programming, its many annual activities and its online art film platform (ARTS.FILM), the FIFIA, founded by René Rozon, is committed to increasing public knowledge and appreciation of art. FIFIA is also committed to promoting the work of artists working in the fields of film, video and visual arts, and to encouraging the production and dissemination of films about art. The 41st edition of the festival will take place in Montreal and Québec City from March 14 to 26, 2023 and online from March 24 to April 2, 2023. www.lefifa.com

Le FIFA thanks Patrimoine canadien, le gouvernement du Québec, le Conseil des arts du Canada, Téléfilm Canada, la SODEC, le Secrétariat à la région métropolitaine, la Ville de Montréal, le Conseil des arts de Montréal and Tourisme Montréal for their generous support.

Canada

Montréal

Canada Council
for the Arts
Conseil des arts
du Canada

TELEFILM
C A N A D A

TOURISME /
MONTREAL

CONSEIL
DES ARTS
DE MONTRÉAL

Québec

– 30 –

Source :

Jérôme Rocipon

Director of communications, marketing and
partnerships

International Festival of Films on Art (Le FIFA)

lefifa.com

jrocion@lefifa.com

Relations de presse :

Geneviève Harvey

Consultante principale

RuGicomm

genevieve@rugicomm.ca | 514 927-1525