

Press release for immediate release  
Montréal, March 1, 2021

**249 FILMS FROM 41 COUNTRIES AVAILABLE ONLINE, ANYWHERE IN CANADA, FROM MARCH 16 TO MARCH 28, 2021: THE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF FILMS ON ART THINKS BIG FOR THE VIEWING PLEASURE OF ALL!**



The world's biggest art film festival today unveils the ambitious programming of its 39th edition. From **The Museum of Modern Art (MoMA)** to **Caroline Monnet**, and from **Beirut** to **Mexico**, a plethora of world views and perspectives makes up this 39th edition: a showcase of the most talented, surprising, original, and impassioned artists around. The resulting program is eclectic and sumptuous; surprising and uplifting; rich in discovery, inspiration, learning, and provocation.

For the second year in a row, FIFA is holding a virtual festival edition. The first festival in the Americas to offer a fully virtual program in March 2020, FIFA is back this year with a tailor-made online edition providing a unique festival experience via its new website ([lefifa.com](http://lefifa.com)) and new platform ([ARTS.FILM](http://ARTS.FILM)). Beyond simply a thematic grouping, the films are arranged in collections allowing festival-goers to embark on a journey across all sections of the festival. This provides diverse points of entry and opportunities for discovery within a rich, dense program.

As such, FIFA will present **133 films in the COMPETITION and OFFICIAL SELECTION**. Taking in a wide range of perspectives and multiple points of view, these films explore intimacy, identity, socially engaged art, land, travel, art for good, and Montréal. The 2021 program accords special attention to music and dance with a choice of films about artists, recordings of exceptional performances, and trips behind the scenes.

As in every edition, FIFA gives us access to many artists from all over the world and to their works: from **Marina Abramovic** to **Charlie Chaplin**, from **Christian Boltanski** to **Lang Lang**, from **Chagall** to **Ryue Nishizawa**, from **Erwin Olaf** to **Sébastien Tellier**, from **Frank Lloyd Wright** to **Raphaëlle de Groot**, from **Peggy Baker** to **Catherine Major**, from **Eve Egoyan** to **Louis de Funès**, from **Edgar Bori** to **Régis Campo**, all will star in the 39th edition of the Festival.

A series of CARTES BLANCHES see contributions from first-class institution **The Museum of Modern Art - MoMA**, festivals (**imagiNATIVE**), festivals from **Beirut**, **Mexico**, and **Tel Aviv**) and video channel **NOWNESS** who share their own favourite discoveries, as well as from young artist-curators (**Caroline Monnet** and **Ronald Rose-Antoinette**). The special programming section includes two films by **Francis Alÿs** and **Kitoko Diva**.

FIFA EXPERIMENTAL comprises 36 films spread over six programs, including two artist focus sections (one from Toronto-based artist of Cree and Scots heritage **Thirza Cuthand**, and the other from pioneering filmmaker **Vivian Ostrovsky**), two program-events celebrating 50 years of **Vidéographe**, and two thematic programs exploring concepts of listening and time.

FIFA CONNEXIONS will offer conferences for free via Facebook and Youtube. This section includes discussions on free access in online culture (with a highly anticipated panel including the **Montreal Museum of Fine Arts (MMFA)**, the **Opéra de Québec**, the **Orchestre symphonique de Montréal (OSM)**, and the **Théâtre du Nouveau Monde (TNM)** and a series on **music videos** (including a round table on the position of women in music video creation), in connection with the FIFA MUSIC VIDEOS section now celebrating its second year.

FIFA INTERACTIVE turns the spotlight on Quebec internet art creators with an exclusive program from **Galerie Galerie**. In addition, the scenographic project *Le magasin* by artist **Philippe Cyr** and scenographer **Odile Gamache** is co-presented with **Usine C** in a world premiere. A production of **L'Homme allumette**, in co-production with **Usine C**.

A collection of interviews and discussions recorded in the FIFA virtual studio will also be available to audiences. Among them are: **Francis Alÿs**, **Peggy Baker**, **Edgar Bori**, **Luc Bourdon**, **Raphaëlle de Groot**, **Aurélie Dupont**, **Michel Garneau**, **Caroline Monnet**, **Vivian Ostrovsky**, **Ronald Rose-Antoinette**, **Sébastien Tellier**, **Thierry Thieû Niang**.

### **39th International Festival of Films on Art**

**March 16 to 28, 2021**

**Online at [lefifa.com](http://lefifa.com) and [arts.film](http://arts.film)**

**Single passport and program available to view everywhere in Canada**

FIFA would like to thank Canadian Heritage, the gouvernement du Québec, the Canada Council for the Arts, Telefilm Canada, the SODEC, the Secrétariat à la région métropolitaine, the Ville de Montréal, the Conseil des Arts de Montréal, and Tourisme Montréal for their generous support.

FIFA Connexions is an initiative supported by the City of Montreal as part of its business event support program for the cultural and creative industries. It has also received support from the Caisse Desjardins de la Culture and the Association des Réalisateur et Réalisatrices du Québec (ARRQ).

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Source:

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