

Press release
For immediate distribution

THE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF FILMS ON ART AND LE FRESNOY - STUDIO NATIONAL CELEBRATE TWENTY YEARS OF CLOSE AND FRUITFUL COLLABORATION



Le Fresnoy - Studio national des arts contemporains, Tourcoing, France. Photo credit : Marc Damage.

Montréal, 28 September 2021 - **The International Festival of Films on Art (FIFA)** is proud to celebrate 20 years of close and fruitful collaboration with **Le Fresnoy - Studio national des arts contemporains**, a national and international centre of excellence based in Tourcoing, in the Hauts-de-France region. The anniversary of FIFA's alliance with this renowned European cultural institution - described as a "high-tech Villa Medici" - marks the Festival's long-time presence in France, as well as the desire of both organizations to actively promote the production and dissemination of films on art and media arts, explore a multitude of art disciplines and themes, and encourage the next generation of creators who will thrill the general public, film buffs, and knowledgeable art lovers. Driven by this common mission, the Festival is pleased to have carte blanche to offer an ambitious annual program in this emblematic contemporary art venue.

This fall, **from Friday, October 15 to Sunday, October 17**, fans of the FIFA Festival in France will enjoy a program of ten (10) feature films and three (3) short films, most of them award winners, from thirteen countries. Canada will be represented by two films dedicated to dance: *Enracinée* by **Annie Leclair** and *Navigation* by **Marlene Millar** (see list of films programmed on [page 2](#)).

"FIFA salutes these two decades of prolific exchanges with Le Fresnoy: they underline the exceptional intellectual and artistic cooperation between the two institutions, both motivated by the primary ambition of promoting the creativity and work of talented directors and producers," noted **Philippe U. del Drago**, Executive and Artistic Director of the International Festival of Films on Art.

"I often say (seriously) that I make documentary films only to present them at FIFA and to Montreal audiences," added **Alain Fleischer**, Director of Le Fresnoy - Studio national. "Fortunately, I have managed to attend the festival in Montreal every year for a long time, and it has become a ritual. In addition, for the past 20 years, I have had the pleasure of hosting the FIFA awards at Le Fresnoy and of presenting to our public the best of contemporary production in the field of art films".

Finally, it is important to note that three feature-length films - *Que l'amour* by **Laetitia Mikles**, *Queen Lear* by **Pelin Esmer**, and *We are not princesses* by **Bridgette Auger** and **Itab Azzam** - are the result of a new partnership, begun this year, with the **Institut du Monde Arab** in Tourcoing.

FIFA PROGRAMMING | LE FRESNOY - STUDIO NATIONAL | 15-17 OCTOBER 2021 | TOURCOING, FRANCE

***Akeji, the Breath of the Mountain* by Corentin Leconte and Mélanie Schaan**

France, Japan. 2020. 1h12 min.

Award for Best Cinematic Essay - tie | 39th edition

***Architecture of Infinity* by Christoph Schaub**

Switzerland, 2018. 1h25 min.

Award for Best Cinematic Essay | 38th edition

***Beijing Spring* by Andy Cohen and Gaylen Ross**

United States. 2020. 1h40 min.

Jury Award | 39th edition

***Being and Becoming* by Maite Abella**

Netherlands. 2019. 9 min.

Award for the Best Short Film | 39th edition

***Enracinée* by Annie Leclair**

Canada. 2020. 7 min.

Award for the Best Canadian Short Film - Special Mention | 39th edition

***J'ai retrouvé Christian B.* by Alain Fleischer**

France. 2020. 1h 27 min.

Award for Best Cinematic Essay - tie | 39th edition

***Lemebel* by Joanna Reposi Garibaldi**

Chili, Colombia. 2019. 1h36 min.

Award for Best Portrait | 38th edition

***Marcel Duchamp: Art of the Possible* by Matthew Taylor**

France, United States, Italy, Sweden. 2019. 1h30 min.

***Navigation* by Marlene Millar**

Canada. 2020. 13 min.

Award for the Best Canadian Short Film | 39th edition

***Que l'amour* by Laetitia Mikles**

France. 2019. 1h19 min.

Jury Award | 38th edition

***Queen Lear* by Pelin Esmer**

Turkey. 2019. 1h24 min.

Grand Prize | 39th edition

***The Vasulka Effect* by Hrafnhildur Gunnarsdottir**

Denmark, Iceland, Czech Republic. 2019. 1h27 min.

Award for Best Portrait | 39th edition

***We Are Not Princesses* by Bridgette Auger et Itab Azzam**

United States, United Kingdom. 2018. 1h14 min.

Grand Prize | 38th edition

[Programming and practical information](#)

About Fresnoy - Studio national des arts contemporains

[Le Fresnoy - Studio National des Arts Contemporains](#) is the result of the determination of the French Ministry of Culture and Communication to set up new kind of higher artistic teaching establishment in the North of France, an innovative, world-class creative hub that would be like "an IRCAM of the visual arts" or "a hi-tech Villa Medici." With courses articulated around the production of artworks across a wide range of disciplines and styles, drawing on the availability of audiovisual techniques to professional standards, it is a unique centre for production, experiment and presentation.

About FIFA

[The International Festival of Films on Art \(FIFA\)](#) founded by René Rozon is dedicated to the international promotion and distribution of films on art and media arts. For nearly 4 decades, it has presented an annual event in March, which allows discovery of the latest documentaries on art. With its various activities all through the year, FIFA is committed to increasing the knowledge and appreciation of art among the public, promoting the work of artists in the fields of cinema, video and visual arts, and also encouraging the production and diffusion of art films. **FIFA's 40th edition will take place from 15 to 27 March 2022.**

FIFA has recently launched [ARTS.FILM](#), a new virtual art center that makes films about art available across Canada, anytime, year-round.

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Source:

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