

• BUZZ OF THE DAY CANNES TRANSFORMS: A RENAISSANCE OF LUXURY AND CULTURE MARKET REPORTS DAVINCI FILM SOCIETY, FANTASTIC PAVILION, CANNES IMMERSIVE **O SCREENINGS SCHEDULE FOR TUESDAY, 13 MAY 2025**

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FOCUS **HONG KONG** TAKES CENTRE STAGE

HONG KONG CIN **CANNES · 2025**



an

进制上半場

Atoma I

DAY 1 - 13 MAY 2025

Sons of the Neon Night

Official

Selection -Midnight Screenings Market

Screening: 17 May | 17:45 LERINS 4 18 May | 18:15 ARCADES 2

Pass and Goal



Twilight of the Warriors: Dragon Throne

Twilight the Warriors: The Final Chapter



Cold War 1994 Cold War 1995

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The Shadow's Edge





100 (B) (1

The Last Dance -Extended Version



Fight For Tomorrow



Dog Day Evening

Visit Hong Kong Pavilion at **Riviera J13** • Village International Riviera 117





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THE BUZZ OF THE DAY

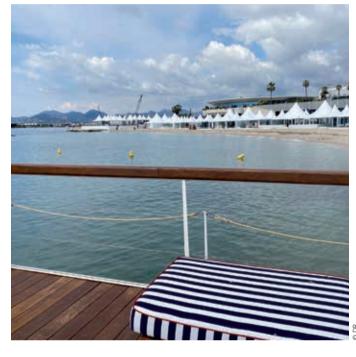
Cannes transforms: a renaissance of luxury and culture

annes is undergoing a remarkable transformation, with a bold vision that extends far beyond its famous Film Festival. Driven by mayor David Lisnard's

ambitious two-billion-euro investment since 2017, the city is re-imagining itself as a premier cultural and luxury destination. The city's legendary hotels are at the forefront of this renaissance. The Hotel Barrière Le Majestic has unveiled Le Ciro's. a spectacular beachfront restaurant that has moved from its traditional home in Deauville, and marries maritime heritage with contemporary gastronomy. Chef Gabriella Stocker, with her Michelin-starred background, brings exceptional culinary expertise to the Croisette. The hotel itself has been transformed by architect Isabelle Stanislas, who created an interior that captures the sophisticated Art Deco aesthetic of the French Riviera. Its adjacent beach and pier chill zones and sunbeds are the ultimate place to relax before or after the Festival.

The InterContinental Carlton Cannes underwent a spectacular transformation in 2023, breathing new life into the Belle Époque landmark. The renovation included an expanded lobby with a new bar, a bespoke art installation celebrating Cannes' cinematic history, and a state-of-the-art wellness centre. The hotel's sea-facing restaurant was redesigned, and a rooftop terrace added to its allure. Rüya offers modernized and re-imagined Anatolian cuisine set in a lively atmosphere enhanced by a daily DJ set.

The Hotel Martinez has not been left behind, opening a new bar that reinterprets 1930s elegance. Designed by Rémi Tessier, the venue features signature cocktails, rare vinyls and nightly DJ sets. Its new L'Oasis spa is open to the public, and part of a major wellness expansion that includes a pool and dreamy rooms designed by Pierre-



NEWS

Yves Rochin.

Cannes' new city cultural offerings are equally impressive. The newly inaugurated La Malmaison contemporary art centre has expanded its exhibition space to 600 square metres, featuring a multipurpose hall, bookstore and a panoramic terrace overlooking the Mediterranean. Even more exciting is the upcoming Contemporary Art Museum - Pigozzi Collection, set to open by 2029 in the historic Suquet district, which will house 1,688 contemporary African artworks.

The transformation extends to public spaces as well. Palm Beach has been completely overhauled by private investors with a 200-million-euro input, now featuring the Riviera's first members club, multiple restaurants, a cabaret and nearly 20 luxury brands. The Forville market is also being re-imagined, with a large public garden planned for its roof, scheduled to open in summer 2026. LIZA FOREMAN



DON'T GET LOST >> GET THE GUIDE

Access our brand-new Digital Guide to navigate the market map, check screening times and access details, explore all events, conferences and showcases. Install it from Day 1 to make the most of your Marché experience.

Scan the QR code or visit: guide.marchedufilm.com



WELCOME TO THE MARCHÉ DU FILM 2025!

elcome to the Marché du Film 2025! As the Marché du Film opens its doors for 2025, we proudly welcome an ever-growing international community. With over 15,000 professionals expected, Cannes once again proves to be the beating heart of the global film industry - where creativity meets business and ideas turn into partnerships. At the core of the Marché are our exhibitors, sellers and buyers, driving international business. With over 1,500 screenings, it remains the place where films find global visibility. We also proudly work alongside film institutions from across the world, whose support is vital to promote diverse cinemas. This year, we are honoured to spotlight Brazil as our Country of Honour, with a strong delegation and rich programming across all sections, showcasing the country's creativity and global ambition. Innovation will also define this edition. Our new Village Innovation brings together talks, live demos and showcases from Cannes Next and the brandnew Immersive Market, creating a unique hub to explore and debate key technologies such as AI, innovative business tools, virtual production and immersive storytelling. Our conference programme offers key insights into major industry topics with a wide range of talks and summits led by top voices. Meanwhile, our commitment to sustainability continues to grow,

encouraging responsible practices at all levels. Let's make this edition a vibrant, productive, and inspiring celebration of cinema. Welcome to the Marché du Film! GUILLAUME ESMIOL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MARCHÉ DU FILM



Ambitious

projects in

position the

cultural and

destination

Cannes

city as a

leading

luxury

CANNES Q&A WITH

JASPER JASPER NJSNARS HEAD OF FLANDERS IMAGE

What have been the milestones of your first year as head of Flanders Image?

It's been a year of remarkable festival and awards success for us, with Julie Keeps Quiet – a triple award winner at Cannes Critics' Week - going on to be screened at top international festivals such as Toronto, Busan and Karlovy Vary, as well as some of our documentaries, animated films and VR productions doing well worldwide. But what especially sticks out are the two milestone Oscar nominations for Flanders: the documentary Soundtrack to a Coup d'Etat by Johan Grimonprez and the animated short Beautiful Men by Nicolas Keppens. These are big achievements for Flanders and the acknowledgelent of the talent of these two figureheads of our local film industry is good news for us.

Tell us about the upcoming Flanders Film Days

The Flanders Film Days — previously CONNEXT — will be taking place in Ghent on Oct 7-8, 2025, in close partnership with Film Fest Gent. The showcase is aimed at connecting Flemish filmmakers and producers with international industry players, predominantly festivals, sales agents and distributors. We will present pitches, works in progress and screenings of new and upcoming fiction, documentary, animated and experimental productions from Flanders. The programme for this invitation-only event is currently taking shape, with new creations by Lukas Dhont, Teodora Ana Mihai, Felix van Groeningen and many more on the line-up.

The short film *Between the Sky and the Sea* has been selected for this year's Focus SCRIPT in Cannes. What other titles are under the spotlight at the Festival this year?

In Flanders we support young emerging film talent among other things by awarding the Flanders Wildcards, awards for the best graduation projects from Flemish film schools. The winners are financially supported and professionally guided in realising their first independent film. Proof of that can be seen in Cannes this year. Dorian Jespers, who got awarded a Flanders Wildcard in 2019 with his EFA-nominated short *Sun Dog*, used his Wildcard to realise the fiction short *Loynes* that is selected at this year's Directors' Fortnight. Besides fostering young talent, Flanders is also a professional and well-organised film production region — no less than four co-productions selected for Cannes prove this. *The Young Mother's Home* by the Dardenne brothers is a co-production by The Reunion, the newly established production house of Michiel Dhont and Lukas Dhont. And Sylvain Chomet's *The Magnificent Life of Marcel Pagnol* is not only a co-production, but most of the animation work was done in Flanders, at Walking the Dog studio. In addition, two co-productions with Flanders have been invited to the Critics' Week: *Adam's Sake* by Laura Wandel and *Reedland* by Sven Bresser.

How is Flemish cinema doing internationally? What does the future look like?

A key motivation for us at Flanders Image is that Flemish cinema continues to perform

66 A diverse wave of new work is coming up from Flanders 99

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exceptionally well internationally. According to figures from the European Audiovisual Observatory, Flanders-produced titles are distributed internationally at an above-average rate compared to other European territories. In other words, we are successful in exporting our films.

What's more, a diverse wave of new work is coming up from Flanders. There are promising titles by newcomers such as Cato Kusters, Meltse Van Coillie and Harm Dens, alongside new films by more established filmmakers like Patrice Toye, Frederike Migom, Frank Van Passel and Pieter-Jan De Pue. A lot to look foward to.

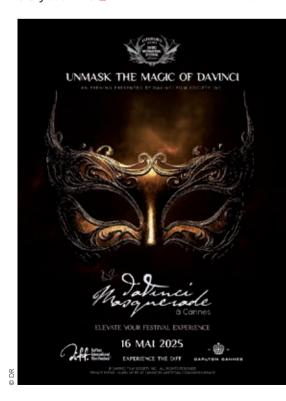


Masquerade Magic: **DaVinci Society To Dazzle Cannes With** Gala Debut

he Carlton will transform into ball central as the DaVinci Film Society unveils its inaugural Masquerade Gala during the Cannes Film Festival on May 16th.

Beneath the chandeliers, an assembly of cinema's finest will gather behind ornate masks, creating an atmosphere of mysterious opulence that reflects the society's Renaissance-inspired ethos.

"This event marks a watershed moment for independent cinema," declares Chadwick Pelletier, the society's founder. "We're building bridges between continents and cultures through the universal language of storytelling." The society, renowned for its annual Los Angeles festival, has chosen Cannes for its international expansion - a strategic decision that signals its growing influence on the global stage. As champagne flows and string quartets perform, whispers will circulate about the organisation's ambitious partnership with the Kenya Film Commission, establishing a satellite festival in Nairobi by 2026. "This African venture represents our commitment to discovering authentic voices from every corner of the globe," Pelletier explains, his passion evident for the project. Among the revellers, A-list celebrities are expected to mingle with emerging filmmakers from six continents, embodying the society's vision of creative cross-pollination. The evening will reach its crescendo with an immersive art installation, featuring projected scenes from award-winning independent films, bathing the gathering in shimmering light - a visual reminder of cinema's transformative power. As masks begin to fall away, the true purpose of the evening will emerge: connections forged, collaborations seeded, and a shared commitment to elevating authentic storytelling. With this Cannes debut, the DaVinci Film Society will establish itself not merely as a festival organiser, but as a cultural movement determined to reshape cinema's future - one masterfully told LIZA FOREMAN story at a time.



CANNES CONFIDENTIAL KYLE BELLINGER

PALISADES PARK PICTURES



Your job title? Vice President, Distribution & Marketing for Palisades Park Pictures

Astrological sign? Aries

You were born on... March 25th

Your three favourite films of the last 12 months? Sinners (I've seen it twice already!), Nosferatu, The Wild Robot

Your three favourite films of all time? Gattaca, 21 Grams, Step Brothers

What can we expect from your company/organization at Cannes this year?

We're heading into the market with a diverse slate of ambitious storytelling across many genres including the family fantasy adventure The Magic Faraway Tree, with Andrew Garfield, Claire Foy, and Rebecca Ferguson now in post-production; the liveaction monster tale Grendel from the acclaimed Jim Henson Company, starring Jeff Bridges and

Dave Bautista among a stellar cast; and the sci-fi horror-thriller Eyes in the Trees, featuring 2x Oscar winner, Sir Anthony Hopkins. And likely a last-minute addition or two naturally.

Your best Cannes moment?

The time I almost snuck into Leo DiCaprio's mansion party in Super Cannes at 5am, and was instead chased down by security.

If you could meet Juliette Binoche, what would you say to her?

Out of all film genres, which one have you watched the fewest movies from, and why?

Artificial intelligence is...

a major unknown that can take many paths.

How many streaming platforms do you frequently watch and what are they?

Generally, Hulu, Netflix and Max.

Outside of Cannes what is your favourite film festival and why? Definitely TIFF (Toronto International Film Festival). Toronto is a beautiful city, and the festival itself brings a vibrant energy where commercialism and art synchronize.

Movie theaters are...

a staple of entertainment and art, and I like to believe that they will never go away.

What are your immediate post-Marché du Film plans?

A Norwegian cruise - which will be my first cruise ever.

How many stamps on your passport?

Before entering the film industry? 0. Since then - at least 30.

How long did it take you to answer these questions? A week :-(

G TIFF brings a vibrant energy where commercialism and art synchronize. 🤧



Fantastic Pavilion turns spotlight on the genre movies of Mexico

he Fantastic Pavilion, an exhibition space located at the Cannes Marché du Film in the Palais des Festivals that launched in 2023, this year introduces Fantastic Focus, a new initiative that will highlight productions and talent from specific regions

around the world. Mexico's rich genre sector is the subject of the inaugural Fantastic Focus, which welcomes a strong delegation of prominent Mexican filmmakers and producers. They include Mexican-born actor, writer and director Gigi Saul Guerrero — now based in Vancouver, and hailed as one of the top, emerging directors in the horror genre.

Also attending from Mexico, producer and director Javier Colinas, whose *Beyond the Mountain* won the 2019 Press Award for Best Mexican Feature – Fiction, at the Guadalajara International Film Festival; and Sofia Garza-Barba, whose work has been described as "fantastic and whimsical, yet with hints of darkness". LA-based, Mexican-born Alex Kahuam, best known for his work on the critically acclaimed film *Failure!*, starring Ted Raimi and shot in a single take (87 minutes), is also in Cannes for the Fantastic Focus. Kahuam's "supernatural chiller" *The Remedy* — produced by Kahuam Films and US company Breakwall Pictures — features in the Fantastic Focus line-up.

A centrepiece of the inaugural Fantastic Focus is Adrián García Bogliano's film *Talking to a Stranger*, starring the aforementioned genre icon Gigi Saul Guerrero, in what is described as "a harrowing supernatural tale of grief and mental fragmentation". The film is produced by Corazón Films and Mórbido Films.

Mórbido Group CEO Pablo Guisa Koestinger, one of the founders of The Fanstastic Pavilion, said: "What began as a dream in 2023 has now become a thriving hub — a vibrant space where the genre community converges to connect, create and elevate independent cinema. Together, we produce, promote, release and forge

Genre icon Gigi Saul Guerrero, in Cannes for Fantastic Focus and also starring in Adrián García Bogliano's film Talking to a Stranger. stronger business opportunities. I couldn't be prouder of what we've built, and yet, for me, this is only the beginning."

The Fantastic Focus is organised by members of the genre/fantastic film community from around the world, in partnership with the Méliès International Festival Federation (MIFF) which groups the world's key genre/fantastic events. JULIAN NEWBY



Canary Islands cool: new film studio sets up in Tenerife

new film studio is bringing fresh creative energy to Tenerife's vibrant production landscape. Ofanim Studios, launching at this year's Cannes Film Festival, aims to capitalise on the Canary Islands' extraordinary locations and generous tax incentives.

The studio is the brainchild of Dean Hoff, an American writer/ director and non-binary actor who fell in love with the archipelago's diverse landscapes. "I've lived all over the world, but I have never seen a place so perfect for the backdrop of just about every kind of film," says Hoff, who will attend Cannes alongside actors from Ofanim's upcoming features. "As a drifter, traveling and finding things is second nature for me. As a director, finding locations has always been part of the job."

Ofanim operates with a dual purpose: developing its own slate of fantasy and creature features while offering location scouting services to international productions. Self-funded and fiercely independent, the studio continues Hoff's entrepreneurial spirit that previously saw them run a Scottish film and theatre company for over a decade.

Tenerife has recently hosted Johnny Depp filming Day Drinker, while productions including Doctor Who, The Rings of Power and The Witcher have all utilised the island's dramatic volcanic landscapes, colonial architecture and subtropical forests.

Foreign productions are attracted by the islands' generous 54% tax rebate, among other incentives. While at Cannes, Hoff will be seeking funding for *Extinct*, Ofanim's debut feature project. The studio will celebrate its launch with a Canary Islands Wine Event on May 15 at their Palais booth (-1, 19.07), where filmmakers can discover how the islands might serve their next production.

As streaming services drive unprecedented demand for distinctive filming locations, Ofanim's timing might prove as picture-perfect as Tenerife's landscapes themselves.





Prestigious Jury line-up named for **Cannes Immersive Competition**

The second edition of the Immersive Competition at the Cannes Film Festival sees 16 immersive works from nine countries presented in the Selection, including nine In Competition.

HIS YEAR's Immersive Competition Jury is chaired by French director Luc Jacquet, who will be joined by a Jury that includes US artist Laurie Anderson, French writer Tania de Montaigne, British director Martha

Fiennes and Japanese video-game creator Tetsuya Mizuguchi. The Jury will have the task of awarding

the prize for Best Immersive Work at the Immersive Closing Ceremony, held this year at the Carlton hotel on May 22. Returning for a second consecutive year, the Immersive Competition was introduced in 2024 "to celebrate new forms of storytelling through spatial and sensory experiences", that invite viewers to enter into the narrative and interact with it.

NINE WORKS IN COMPETITION

This year's Immersive Selection showcases nine works In Competition, two out of competition, and a Focus programme featuring five creations co-produced with Luxembourg "that will give festival goers an unprecedented insight into immersive creative processes".

The intention is that these 16 titles together offer an overview of a rapidly evolving language — from virtual reality and mixed reality to video mapping and artificial intelligence — all designed to be experienced rather than viewed. Cast members appearing in Cannes this Luc Jacquet

Tania de

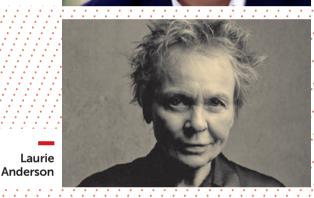
Martha

Fiennes

Tetsuva

Mizuguchi

Montaigne









year include Fanny Ardant, Daisy Ridley, Zar Amir and Rod Paradot.

THE JURORS

Jury president Luc Jacquet is a biologist by training. He participated in expeditions that led him to filmmaking in order to share those experiences. His film March of the Penguins won an Oscar in 2006. He later directed The Fox and the Child, Once Upon a Forest, Ice and the Sky, The Emperor and Voyage to the South Pole. In 2016, he created his first immersive experience, Antarctica, and three years later founded Icebreaker Studios to reinvent storytelling around nature — through exhibitions, the performing arts, opera, immersive sound and contemporary circus. Jacquet is finalising a new project set to premiere this summer.

Jacquet is accompanied by four jurors: Laurie Anderson, Tania de Montaigne, Martha Fiennes and Tetsuya Mizuguchi. Laurie Anderson is a leading figure in experimental music and performance. Her visual work has been shown globally, including major solo exhibitions at the Hirshhorn Museum (Washington DC) and Moderna Museet (Stockholm). In 2024, the Recording Academy honoured her with a Lifetime Achievement Award. Her latest exhibition, ARK, was presented in Manchester, England, in November 2023.

Tania de Montaigne is a novelist, her latest work, *Sensibilités*, published in 2023. Her augmented-reality, locationbased experience *Coloured*, created with Stéphane Foenkinos and Pierre-Alain Giraud and based on an essay by de Montaigne, won the Best Immersive Work Award in Cannes last year.

Martha Fiennes' started out directing music videos — including for Al Green and Boy George — before moving on to award-winning ads and feature films. Her film *Chromophobia* — with brothers Ralph, as one of the stars, and Magnus, who scored the movie — closed the 2005 Cannes Festival. Since 2011, she has been working in hybrid filmmaking, incorporating AI, digital environments and studio shoots. Her immersive works *Nativity* and *Yugen* were presented this year at London's Coronet Theatre, to critical and public acclaim.

Tetsuya Mizuguchi creates sensory experiences blending interactive art and XR technology. Director of the Synesthesia Lab and professor at Keio University in Minato, Japan, he "explores sensory interaction in media". In 2020, he co-organised Virtual Realms with Barbican Immersive, which develops, curates and tours exhibitions focused on contemporary culture, emerging technology and digital creativity. Mizuguchi's award-winning games include *Rez, Lumines, Child of Eden, Tetris Effect* and *Humanity.*

JULIAN NEWBY

Hong Kong cinema takes centre stage at 2025 Marché du Film



HONG KONG FILM INDUSTRY 2024

- Population: 7.53 million
- GDP: \$407.3bn
- Total Films Released: 280
- Local Films Released: 46
- Cinemas: 57
- Screens: 277
- Average Ticket Price: HK\$70.5 (£7.05)
- Film Development Fund: HK\$2.9bn since 2005
- FILMART 2025 Exhibitors: 760+ from 34 countries
- FILMART 2025 Attendees: 7,600+ professionals

As the Hong Kong film industry continues its postpandemic recovery, a significant delegation is set to showcase the region's dynamic cinema culture at the Marché du Film

- BY LIZA FOREMAN



ollowing a challenging period, Hong Kong is leveraging its presence at the Cannes Film Festival and market to reinforce its position as the East-meets-West melting pot for international cultural exchange, and as a tallagtual propagate trading hub

regional intellectual property trading hub. The Hong Kong presence at Cannes 2025 represents a co-ordinated effort jointly organised by the Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau, Hong Kong Film Development Council, Cultural and Creative Industries Development Agency, and Hong Kong Trade Development Council.

This campaign aims to elevate Hong Kong productions on the global stage while creating valuable platforms for local industry players to expand their international distribution networks and explore crossborder collaboration opportunities.

Hong Kong's strategic positioning at the Marché du Film includes two key locations: Riviera J13 and Village International Riviera

FOCUS HONG KONG

FEATURED PRODUCTIONS

CESIUM FALLOUT

GENRE: Disaster, drama DIRECTOR: Anthony Pun CAST: Andy Lau, Bai Yu, Karen Mok DISTRIBUTOR: Edko Films RELEASE: November 1, 2024 SYNOPSIS:

Set at the turn of the 21st century, a team of firefighters led by Kit Li and Simon Fan battle a massive inferno at one of Hong Kong's largest recycling yards, embodying the enduring courage and self-sacrifice of Hong Kong's firefighters and its people.

PASS AND GOAL

GENRE: Family drama

DIRECTOR: Jil Wong Pak Kei **CAST:** Gigi Leung, Charm Man Peter Chan, Chu Pak Hong, Rachel Leung, Sahal Zaman. Rondi Chan

PRODUCTION COMPANY: Entertaining Power

SYNOPSIS:

After her business collapses, HeiMan moves from Deep Water Bay to Sham Shui Po and becomes involved with a U12 football league. She discovers her young cousin and grassroots kids have formed a team with a disabled former football star as coach, gaining unexpected online popularity.

THE LAST DANCE -EXTENDED VERSION

GENRE: Drama

DIRECTOR: Chan Mou Yin Anselm CAST: Dayo Wong, Michael Hui, Michelle Wai, Tommy Chu DISTRIBUTOR: Emperor Motion Pictures RELEASE: 4 April 2025

SYNOPSIS:

Debt-ridden wedding planner Dominic gets a miraculous chance to turn things around when a funeral planner retires and passes the business to him. His creative approach brings unexpected success, but he must win the approval of traditional Taoist priest Master Man.

THE SHADOW'S EDGE

GENRE: Action, crime DIRECTOR: Larry Yang CAST: Jackie Chan, Zhang Zifeng, Ci Sha, Tony Ka Fai Leung PRODUCTION COMPANY: Golden Network Asia SYNOPSIS:

Jackie Chan stars as Wong Tak-chung, a retired surveillance expert brought back to assist the Macau police with a notorious group of thieves. The film showcases a battle between traditional tracking methods and cutting-edge surveillance technology in a cerebral

THE TRIER OF FACT

game of cat and mouse.

GENRE: Drama

DIRECTOR: Calvin Tong **CAST:** Louis Koo, Eddie Peng Yuyan, Kent Cheng, Raymond Lam, Chrissie Chau

PRODUCTION COMPANY: One Cool Pictures SYNOPSIS:

Detective Che Ching-guang walks the thin line between black and white in his pursuit of justice. When partnered with Technology Crime Division's Ben Kwok, their clash over methods is overshadowed by a hidden agenda, leading to a confrontation between procedural and substantive justice.

117. The pavilions will host both established production houses and emerging players in the industry, with a total of 12 companies confirmed to exhibit including those located in the Riviera.

This Cannes presence builds upon its hard work on home soil and recent successes overseas.

Since 2005, over HK\$2.9bn (approximately £290m) has been allocated to the Hong Kong Film Development Fund, including a significant HK\$1.4bn top-up announced in May 2024. This investment has supported over 90 films and 370+ film-related projects, which have collectively won 270 awards globally.

Other key government initiatives include its Film Production Financing Scheme 2.0 which is for small- to medium-sized local production support. The First Feature Film Initiative identifies new talents through a competition on screenplay and production proposals. The Hong Kong-Europe-Asian Film Collaboration Funding Scheme encourages cross-border storytelling and cultural exchange. The Film Production Grant Scheme for Promoting Chinese Culture focuses on narratives that showcase traditional heritage. The Film Festival Promotion Scheme boosts international visibility for local filmmakers and debuts. Meanwhile, The Hong Kong International Film and TV Market (FILMART) remains a cornerstone of the region's industry calendar. The 2025 edition featured over 760 exhibitors from 34 countries and regions, with over 30 national pavilions and over 7,600 industry professionals attending. The next edition is scheduled for March 17-20, 2026.

Competition from international streaming platforms remains intense, with Netflix,











Disney+, HBO Max and Viu all vying for audience attention in the region. Nevertheless, theatrical exhibition continues to play a critical role in Hong Kong's film culture, particularly for local productions seeking to build audience connection and generate word-of-mouth success.

In 2024, 280 films were released in the territory, including 46 local productions — 13 of which exceeded HK\$10m in boxoffice returns.

As of December 2024, Hong Kong had 277 screens across 57 cinemas, with venues typically housing 4-8 screens per location. The average adult ticket price stood at HK\$70.5 (approximately £7.05).

FESTIVAL PRESENCE

A significant achievement for Hong Kong cinema at Cannes 2025 is the selection of Juno Mak's Feng Lin Huo Shan (Sons of the Neon Night) for an Out of Competition Midnight Screening. The 128-minute action-crime-drama features an all-star cast including Takeshi Kaneshiro, Tony Ka Fai Leung, Michelle Wai, Louis Koo and Yuanyuan Gao. Set in a snow-struck and surreal Hong Kong, the film follows the aftermath of a pharmaceutical chairman's murder, sending the city into chaos as family rivalries and criminal enterprises clash. The Chinese title, derived from Sun Tzu's The Art of War, encapsulates the film's exploration of family as the ultimate battlefield. Hong Kong cinema achieved notable critical recognition in 2024, with All Shall Be Well winning the Teddy Award for Best Feature Film and placing as second runner-up for the Panorama Audience Award at the 74th Berlin International Film Festival. Additionally, The Way We Talk secured the Best Actress Award for Chung Suet-ying at the 61st Golden Horse Awards.

The Hong Kong Cinema – Cannes 2025 initiative has also organised multiple industry events designed to foster international connections. Two significant panel discussions will explore the global success of Asian cinema and the opportunities and challenges in crossborder collaboration with a series of events: 'A Better Tomorrow: The Success of Hong Kong & Asian Cinema in the World' will bring together speakers from Alibaba Pictures, Kudos Films, Showbox Corp. and XYZ Films on Wednesday, May 14, at the Palais Stage.

'Asian Film Collaboration: Navigating Opportunities and Overcoming Challenges in a Global Landscape', scheduled for Saturday, May 17, at the Hong Kong Pavilion, will feature producers and executives from across the Asian film ecosystem discussing the evolving landscape of co-productions. Networking opportunities include a Pavilion Happy Hour on May 15, a Dim Sum Reception on May 16, and a Hong Kong Night on May 17 at the Majestic Beach. Hong Kong will also participate in the Marché du Film's Producers Network and Spotlight Asia Programme, culminating in the 'Roadmap to Co-Production' event and 'Spotlight Asia Networking Lunch' on May 18.

LEADING HONG KONG EXHIBITORS AT CANNES

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CELESTIAL PICTURES

Featured Project: Chinese feature films, Shaw Brothers Film Library **Core Business:** Content origination, aggregation and distribution of Asian-language film and TV

EDKO FILMS

Featured Project: *Cesium Fallout, Cold War 1994 & Cold War 1995* **Core Business:** Production, distribution and cinema operations with 70+ years in the industry

EMPEROR MOTION PICTURES

Featured Project: The Last Dance – Extended Version

Core Business: Film and TV production, distribution, financing and cinema operations

MEDIA ASIA FILM DISTRIBUTION

Featured Project: Twilight of the Warriors sequels

Core Business: Entertainment group with operations across film, TV, concert management and music publishing

ONE COOL PICTURES

Featured Project: The Trier of Fact

Core Business: Full-service film company founded by Louis Koo with international co-production experience

UNIVERSE FILMS DISTRIBUTION

Featured Project: Dog Day Evening

Core Business: Film production, acquisition, distribution and artiste management since the 1980s

ALL RIGHTS ENTERTAINMENT

Featured Project: Feature films and animation

Core Business: Global sales of feature films and animation, with presence in Asia, Europe and USA

ENTERTAINING POWER

Featured Project: Pass and Goal

Core Business: Investment, production and distribution across Hong Kong, China and Asia-Pacific

FORTUNE STAR MEDIA

Featured Project: Classic film catalogue

Core Business: Owner of one of the world's largest libraries of Chinese-language films

GOLDEN NETWORK ASIA

Featured Project: The Shadow's Edge

Core Business: Global sales and distribution of Asian films and animations

JUST DISTRIBUTION

Featured Project: Various titles

Core Business: Acquisition and distribution of Asian and English-language films and animation

MANDARIN MOTION PICTURES

Featured Project: Fight For Tomorrow

Core Business: Production and distribution specialising in action, crime and Lunar New Year films

FOCUS HONG KONG



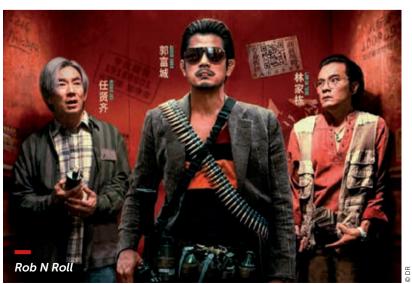


TOP 10 HONG KONG FILMS 2024			
Rank	Title	Admissions	Box Office
1	The Last Dance	2,165,320	HK\$142.3m (£14.2m)
2	Twilight of the Warriors: Walled In	1,648,624	HK\$108.4m (£10.8m)
3	Cesium Fallout	596,666	HK\$41m (£4.1m)
4	Table for Six 2	487,163	HK\$37.3m (£3.7m)
5	The Moon Thieves	346,453	HK\$27.5m (£2.8m)
6	We 12	217,138	HK\$22.3m (£2.2m)
7	Rob N Roll	318,735	HK\$21.2m (£2.1m)
8	Crisis Negotiators	328,556	HK\$20.4m (£2m)
9	Рара	296,809	HK\$19.5m (£2m)
10	Love Lies	282,739	HK\$18m (£1.8m)









© DR

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The busy back entrance of the Palais



INDIE IGHTS

(acid)



K B Roy, Gaurang Nemlekar, Brinda Agrawal and Rajat Agrawal (Ultra Media & Entertainment)

Beth Dewey, Linda Nelson and Michael Madison (Indie Rights)

Cinthya Calderón, Camille Winkler and Magdalena Banasik (M-Appeal)

CANNES IN PICTURES

acid







ERIC









TODAY, PAVILLON AFRIQUES



Souleymane Cissé, one of Africa's most celebrated filmmakers

NE Pav of e is to whi leyr

NE OF the highlights of the Pavillon Afriques programme of events in Cannes this year is today's Opening Ceremony, which includes a tribute to Souleymane Cissé, one of Africa's

most celebrated filmmakers, in the presence of his daughter Fatou Cissé, who produced the film. Through the testimony of friends, family and close collaborators, the film traces the life of Souleymane Cissé from his childhood to today. Fatou studied psychology at the University of Caen before returning to cinema to help her father manage the Union of Creators and Entrepreneurs of Cinema and Audiovisual in West Africa (UCECAO). She is production director and co-manager of Films Cissé and worked with her father as production manager for the films *Tell Me Who You Are* (2009); O Sembène (2013); and Our House (2015). She directed A Daughter's Tribute to Her Father: Souleymane Cissé (2022) to highlight the difficulties that her father was facing in getting his films made.

One of the pioneers of African cinema, Souleymane Cissé died aged 84 in February of this year. He won international recognition in 1987 when his film *Yeelen (The Light)* won the Jury Prize here, making him the first filmmaker from sub-Saharan Africa to win an award at Cannes.

His career spanned more than 50 years, winning many accolades along the way.

In 2023, Cissé was honoured in Cannes with a Carrosse d'Or award, given to directors who have "marked the history of cinema with their boldness, their exacting standards and their intransigence in staging".

He was also a double winner of the grand prize

at the biennial Pan-African Film Festival, Fespaco. Maintaining a strong female-led programme, the Pavillon Afriques has named Jolly Squid as partner this year. A female-led boutique animation studio that is aligned with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, Jolly Squid is "committed to diversity, equity, inclusion and career growth" and "supporting freelance animators and young women from Sub-Saharan Africa". With a global team across Africa, Europe, and the US, the company aims to bring together talent from different cultures and backgrounds towards its goal "not to follow trends, but to build new paths, nurture real collaborations and tell stories that leave a lasting mark".

Other Pavillon Afriques events include Animation Day (May 16); Coproduction Day (May 18); Artificial Intelligence Day (May 20); and Caribbean Day (May 21).

On Animation Day, delegates will have the opportunity to discover "how African creators are transforming global animation through film, tech and storytelling" through a day-long series of screenings and expert panels.

Coproduction Day features a documentary masterclass with Nigerien journalist, writer, and film director Rahmatou Keïta; Artificial Intelligence Day offers a day-long programme under the title CinéBrain Day – The Future of Film & AI, featuring a series of talks, case studies and a hands-on masterclass; and Caribbean Day offers a showcase of "the Caribbean's rich storytelling, creative vision, and growing global influence through film screenings, industry panels and a networking session". The day concludes with "a festive celebration of Caribbean culture and music". JULIAN NEWBY

IN 2023, SOULEYMANE CISSÉ WAS HONOURED IN CANNES WITH A CARROSSE D'OR AWARD, GIVEN TO DIRECTORS WHO HAVE "MARKED THE HISTORY OF CINEMA"



SCREENINGS _____FESTIVAL & MARKET



10:00

ZELENSKY

Out of Competition (Three films for Ukraine) France, 135'.

Java Films Dir.: Yves Jeuland, Lisa Vapné, Ariane Chemin

Volodymyr Zelensky was born in 1978 in Kryvyï Rih, a major steel and mining centre in Ukraine's Russianspeaking east-central region. Raised as an atheist, as he should have been at the time, the Ukrainian president was first and foremost a Soviet boy. When he was 13, the USSR collapsed. His largely unpoliticised adolescence followed the hopes and chaos of an independent Ukraine, where crime and poverty flourished, while the future oligarchs appropriated a share of the country's resources. In building courtyards, on improvised stages, his little troupe of friends, boys and girls, try their hand at stand-up comedy and song. The undisputed leader, Volodymyr Zelensky studies law to reassure his father, but puts most of his hyperactivity into writing and putting on shows

Salle Bazin (Press screening+Ticket Required) (End 12:15)

13:00

NOTRE GUERRE

Out of Competition (Three films for Ukraine)

France, Ukraine, 78'. A Prime Goup Dir.: Bernard-Henri Lévy, Marc Roussel

Between February and April 2025, Bernard-Henri Lévy and his co-director Marc Roussel filmed the Pokrovsk and Soumy fronts in eastern Ukraine. They followed the fighters of the Anne de Kyiv Brigade, armed by France. They filmed the daily lives of the inhabitants. bombarded by Russian forces terrorising civilians on the eve of possible negotiations. They interview President Zelensky, who is reluctant to travel to Washington, and then watch the rebroadcast of the meeting with Ukrainian soldiers in a bunker. For the real heroes of the film are the anonymous fighters and civilians who hold their heads high in the face of adversity and suffering, and who are filmed on a daily basis. The film, the final part of Lévy's "Ukrainian Quartet", is a diary, peppered with flashbacks in which the author recalls the high points of this war that began in 2014. Salle Bazin (Press screening+Ticket Required) (End 14:18)



15:00

THE GOLD RUSH (Premiere)

Cannes Classics (Restored Prints)

88', comedy. Festival De Cannes Dir.: Charlie Chaplin Cast: Charlie Chaplin A calm and content Little Tramp seeks his fortune in the hidden gold mines of the Klondike. All calm is quickly lost, however, when another prospector, just as famished as he is, begins mistaking him for a giant chicken.

Théâtre Claude Debussy (Press screening+Ticket Required) (End 16:28)

15:30

2000 METERS TO ANDRIIVKA

Out of Competition (Three films for Ukraine)

Ukraine, USA, 111' . Dogwoof Dir.: Mstyslav Chernov

From the Academy Award-winning director of 20 Days in Mariupol comes an immersive and harrowing look at the mission of one Ukrainian platoon. Mstyslav Chernov's commitment to documenting the devastation of his homeland and the gruelling efforts of Ukrainian forces to win back their territories is of the highest order. Despite the extremely high risk, Chernov joins soldiers on the front line in eastern Ukraine as they inch forward through a narrow strip of charred forest flanked by minefields in an effort to liberate the strategic village of Andriivka Salle Bazin (Press screening+Ticket Required) (End 17:21)

19:15

OPENING CEREMONY

Out of Competition Grand Théâtre Lumière (Festival Ticketing Website) Théâtre Claude Debussy (Press screening)

LEAVE ONE DAY (Premiere) st

Out of Competition

France, 94'. Pathé Films Dir.: Amélie Bonnin Cast: Juliette Armanet, Bastien Bouillon, François Rollin, Tewfik Jallab, Dominique Blanc, Mhamed Arezki Pierre-Antoine Billon, Amandine Dewasmes Cécile is about to open her own gourmet restaurant, finally making her dream come true, when suddenly her father has a heart attack and she is called back to the village where she was born Far from the hubbub of Paris life, she runs into her teenage crush. The memories come flooding back, destabilising her certainties. Grand Théâtre Lumière

(Festival Ticketing Website) (End 20:49) Next screening: 14 May, 09:00, Lumiére

LEAVE ONE DAY (Premiere) **S**

Out of Competition

France, 94'. Pathé Films Dir.: Amélie Bonnin Cast: Juliette Armanet, Bastien Bouillon, François Rollin, Tewfik Jallab, Dominique Blanc, Mhamed Arezki, Pierre-Antoine Billon, Amandine Dewasmes Cécile is about to open her own gourmet restaurant, finally making her dream come true, when suddenly her father has a heart attack and she is called back to the village where she was born. Far from the hubbub of Paris life, she runs into her teenage crush. The memories come flooding back, destabilising her certainties.

Théâtre Claude Debussy (Press screening) (End 20:49) Next screening: 14 May, 09:00, Lumiére

20:00

LEAVE ONE DAY (Premiere) 🐕

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Salle Bazin (Press screening) (End 21:34) Next screening: 14 May, 09:00,

Lumiére



LEFT-HANDED GIRL FILM PRODUCTION LHG FILMS LIMITED GOOD CHAOS LE PACTE & TAIPEI FILM COMMISSION

左撇子女孩 LEFTHANDED GIRL A FILM BY SHIH-CHING TSOU

STARRING SHIH-YUAN MA JANEL TSAL NINA YE WRITTEN BY SHIH-CHING TSOU & SEAN BAKER DIRECTED BY SHIH-CHING TSOU PRODUCED BY SHIH-CHING TSOU PRODUCERS SEAN BAKER MIKE GOODRIDGE JEAN LABADIE ALICE LABADIE EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS ALEX C. LO NEILL BARHAM ADITYA CHAND JENNIFER JAO CINEMATOGRAPHERS KO-CHIN CHEN & TZU-HAO KAO EDITOR SEAN BAKER

SUPPORTED BY TAICAT







23:00

LEAVE ONE DAY (Premiere) 🐝

Out of Competition

France, 94'. Pathé Films Dir.: Amélie Bonnin Cast: Juliette Armanet, Bastien Bouillon, François Rollin, Tewfik Jallab, Dominique Blanc, Mhamed Arezki, Pierre-Antoine Billon, Amandine Dewasmes Cécile is about to open her own gourmet restaurant, finally making her dream come true, when suddenly her father has a heart attack and she is called back to the village where she was born. Far from the hubbub of Paris life, she runs into her teenage crush. The memories come flooding back, destabilising her certainties

Grand Théâtre Lumière

(Festival Ticketing Website) (End 0:34) Next screening: 14 May, 09:00, Lumiére



9:00

UNDER THE STARS (Premiere) Italy, 97', romance. Cloud9 Studios (44 Boulevard De La Croisette) +13109031813

Dir.: Michelle Danner Cast: Toni Collette, Alex Pettyfer, Andy Garcia, Eva De Dominici **Lerins 2 (End 10:37)** Next screening: 14 May, 09:00, Lerins #2 Online

I AM WHAT I AM 2

(Premiere) China, 133'.

China Film Co-Production Corporation (Stand 18.04) Dir.: Haipeng Sun Lerins 4 (End 11:13) Next screening: 14 May, 09:00, Lerins #4 Online

INFILTRATE (Premiere) Canada, 90', thriller, in English.

WTFilms (13 Square Mérimée, 4th Floor) Dir.: James Mark Cast: Orphée Ladouceur-Nguyen **Olympia 3 (End 10:30)** Next screening: 15 May, 09:30, Olympia 6

LUCKY NUMBER PROMOREEL (Premiere)

110'. Trailer Lucky Number Dir.: Number Lucky Olympia 7 (End 10:50)

PROMO LOOP CHARADES

(Premiere) 50', in English. Trailer Charades Olympia 9 (End 09:50)

U.S. PALMESE (Premiere) Italy, 120', comedy, in Italian.

Beta Cinema

Dir.: Antonio Manetti, Marco Manetti Cast: Rocco Papaleo, Blaise Afonso, Giulia Maenza In Palmi a small town in Calabria

Don Vincenzo, a brilliant but eccentric retired farmer, comes up with a wild idea to revive the local soccer team: he launches an unconventional community fundraiser, rallying citizens to chip in money to sign Etienne Morville, a Serie A star and one of the best players in the world. Morville, notorious for his bad temper, leaves Milan for Palmi in an effort to repair his image. There, he's confronted with a world rooted in sincerity and simplicity – one that will lead everyone involved to an unforgettable experience.

Palais J (End 11:00)

Next screening: 14 May, 09:00, Palais #J Online

9:30

NAPOLI - NEW YORK (Premiere)

Italy, 124', comedy. Rai Cinema (Stand A6-C1) Dir.: Gabriele Salvatores Cast: Pierfrancesco Favino, Dea Lanzaro, Antonio Guerra, Omar Benson Miller, Anna Ammirati, Anna Lucia Pierro, Tomas Arana, Antonio Catania

In the immediate post-war period, amidst the rubble of a povertyridden Naples, two kids, Carmine and Celestina, try to survive as best they can by helping each other out. One night, they secretly board a ship bound for New York to reach Celestina's sister, who emigrated to America several years earlier. The two children join the many Italian emigrants seeking a new life in America and arrive in an unknown metropolis, which, after several misadventures, they will learn to call home

Olympia 6 (End 11:34)

Next screening: 14 May, 09:30, Olympia #6 Online

GOODFELLAS PROMOREELS (Premiere)

110'. Trailer Goodfellas (Ex Wild Bunch International) (3 Bd De La Croisette, 3rd Floor) Dir.: Goodfellas Goodfellas **Olympia 8 (End 11:20)**

PROMO 2.0 FILM CONSTELLATION (Premiere)

140'. Trailer Film Constellation Dir.: Promo Film Constellation Palais I (End 11:50)

GOOD BOY (Premiere)

USA, 73', horror. Altitude Film Sales/Altitude Film Entertainment (9 Rue Des États-Unis, 2nd Floor) Dir.: Ben Leonberg Cast: Indy , Shane Jensen, Arielle Friedman Our canine hero, Indy, finds himself on a new adventure with his human owner - and best friend - Todd, leaving the city life for a long-vacant family home in the country. From the start, two things are abundantly clear: Indy is wary of the creepy old house, and his affection for Todd is unwavering. After moving in, Indy is immediately vexed by empty corners, tracks an invisible presence only he can see, perceives phantasmagoric warnings from a long-dead dog, and is haunted by visions of the previous owner's grim death. When Todd begins succumbing to the dark forces swirling around the house, Indv must battle a malevolence intent on dragging his beloved Todd into the afterlife!

Palais K (End 10:43)

Next screening: 15 May, 16:15, Palais K

11:00

DOWN TO THE FELT (Premiere)

USA, 95', action/adventure, in English. Hawk Hill Pictures (Stand 23.07) Dir.: Jon Osbeck Cast: Michael Weston, Scottie Thompson, Michael Stahl-David, Cullen Douglas, Richie Verito, Jo-Ann Robinson Online #1 (Buyers and Festivals) (End 12:35)





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SCREENINGS Day 1 – 13 May 2025

THIS CHARMING GIRL

(Premiere) France, 90'. MPM Premium (Stand L0) Dir.: Jean-Luc Gaget Online #5 (On invite or request) (End 12:30) Next screening: 15 May, 15:00, Online #5

100 LITRES OF GOLD (Premiere)

Finland, Italy, 88', comedy, in Finnish. MMM Film Sales Dir.: Teemu Nikki Cast: Elina Knihtilä, Pirjo Lonka, Ville Tiihonen In a small village in southern Finland,

the middle-aged sisters Taina and Pirkko promised to spend weeks making 100 litres of their famous strong self-brewed beer, sahti, for a family wedding. But their batch is so tasty, they drink it all themselves. While struggling with their massive hangovers, they have a series of hilarious misadventures racing the clock to make more beer to save the wedding and win back their reputation as the best sahti-brewers in the village.

Online #9 (On invite or request) (End 12:28)

11:30

HEADS OR TAILS ? (Premiere)

Italy, 106', drama. Rai Cinema (Stand A6-C1) Dir.: Alessio Rigo De Righi, Matteo Zoppis

Cast: Alessandro Borghi, Nadia Tereszkiewicz, John C. Reilly, Peter Lanzani, Mirko Artuso, Gabriele Silli, Gianni Garko

At the beginning of the 20th century, Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show arrived in Rome to sell Italians the myth of the frontier – with blank rifle shots and cowboy spectacles. Against the backdrop of a legendary rodeo contest between American cowboys and Italian butteri, Rosa, the young wife of the local landowner, falls in love with Santino, the buttero who wins the challenge. After the murder of her husband. Rosa and Santino run away together, but justice, as always, is sold to the highest bidder, and a hefty bounty is placed on Santino's head. With Buffalo Bill hot on their trail, Rosa dreams of America - the real one, not the one in the posters with bison – but her dream must confront reality. Because, like in every true western ballad, fate flips a coin. And often, the truth remains buried underground. Arcades 1 (Priority Badges Only)

(End 13:16) Next screening: 14 May, 12:00, Olympia 8

PLAYTIME PROMO REEL (Premiere)

France, 80'. Trailer Playtime (5f, 13 Square Mérimée) Dir.: Various Olympia 3 (End 12:50)

PROMO REEL LOOP (Premiere)

France, 60'. Trailer SND - Groupe M6 Dir.: SND Olympia 5 (Invite only) (End 12:30)

NORTH (Premiere)

Norway, 85', fantasy, in English. Studio 100 Film Gmbh (32 Bis Rue Des Serbes, Ap. 6b2) Dir · Bente Lohne Young Gerda sets off into the great unknown in search of her friend Kai, who has mysteriously vanished. On her journey, Gerda makes friends with people, birds, beasts and a kind witch, unaware that a hostile, unseen enemy, the Snow Queen and her devil apprentice, Luiz, are watching her. The evil queen keeps Kai prisoner in her ice palace way up north in Finnmark, Norway. Together, Gerda and Kai escape from her clutches, arriving back home just in time for the happiest winter holiday ever

Olympia 9 (End 12:55)

FROM CHRISTMAS, WITH LOVE (Premiere)

USA, 90', romance, in English. Hawk Hill Pictures (Stand 23.07) Cast: Aeon Cruz, Todd Thomas Anderson, Paul Anthony McLean, Camilla Sussar, Ken Thong, Bradley Garcia, Nick Dreselly Thomas, Lyle DeRose, Marrielle Monte An unexpected breakup relegates Paige to third-wheel status on what was supposed to be a romantic couples' Christmas cabin getaway. Companion-less, and with plenty of time on her hands, Paige ends up spending most of her days either on solo exploration of the resort's grounds, or hanging around with the owner's nephew, Daniel, who is also the local tour guide. One of Paige's expeditions reveals a cache of old love letters which she reads voraciously, becoming increasingly intrigued. Determined to discover the outcome of the writers' relationship, Paige recruits Daniel to join her on a quest to find out if it is ever to late to find true love. Online #2 (Buyers and Festivals) (End 13:00)

XENO

USA, 102', fantasy, in English-United States.

Blue Fox Entertainment Dir.: Matthew Loren Oates Cast: Omari Hardwick, Lulu Wilson, Wrenn Schmidt, Josh Cooke, Paul Schneider

When a fearless teenage girl stumbles upon a mysterious alien crash-landed in the desert near her home, she discovers that it's not the kind of extraterrestrial she expected — it's powerful, unpredictable and on the run. As government agents close in, she must protect her new otherworldly friend while uncovering a secret that could change the fate of both their worlds. Packed with action, heart, and humour, Xeno is a thrilling and heartfelt adventure in the spirit of E.T. and The Iron Giant, proving that the strongest bonds can be formed in the most unexpected places. Palais B (End 13:12)

THE REMNANTS OF YOU (Premiere)

Spain, 90', in Spanish. Beta Cinema Dir.: Gracia Gala Cast: Laia Manzanares, Ángela Cervante Ruide Carvalho Sara (25) should be preparing for her first jazz concert in New York, where she has lived for four years. Instead, she returns to her hometown in the Pyrenees, Huesca, Spain, after her father Julio (55) dies suddenly. She and her sister Elena (27), who works in livestock farming, inherit a farm and a flock of ecological sheep. While handling inheritance paperwork, Sara is burdened by grief and guilt. She finds solace in visiting her grandfather Mauro (87) in a nursing home, maintaining the comforting lie that Julio is still alive. When Elena wants to sell the flock, Sara opposes and cancels her concert to keep her father's legacy alive. She connects with Tina (46), a vet and Julio's girlfriend, and becomes involved in ecological farming. Despite her hard work, Sara feels the emptiness of a life she didn't choose. She realises she must forgive herself, accept the present without her father, and reclaim her own path. Palais J (End 13:00)

Next screening: 14 May, 11:30, Palais #J Online

12:00

PRAVAS- THE TOUR (Premiere)

India, 95', children's, in Other. Wings To Bollywood Entertainment Dir.: Vipul Sharma

Cast: Vishal Thakkar, Komal Panchal, Jay Pandya

Pravas depicts the story of a little child named Tino (Shivam). The agony of not going on the school trip becomes his inner journey (Pravas). Pravas is a captivating journey of a poor child. **Online #3** (On invite or request) (End 13:35)

THE TRUE BEAUTY OF BEING BITTEN BY A TICK (Premiere)

USA, 80', in English. Magnify Dir.: Pete Ohs Cast: Zoë Chao, Callie Hernandez, James Cusati-Moyer, Jeremy O. Harris After a tragic accident. Yvonne drives down to her friend Camille's pastoral new home for some time away. She's welcomed by A.J. and Isaac, two new friends of Camille, who also maybe live there. The group promises a weekend of homemade meals from fresh, local produce and parlour games by candlelight. But when Yvonne develops troubling symptoms from a tick bite, the rural paradise fades away revealing a breeding ground for a disturbing new life.

Palais C (End 13:20)

Next screening: 18 May, 09:30, Palais C

APPOFENIACS (Premiere)

USA, 92'. Odin's Eye Entertainment (Residence Grand Hotel 45 Bvd. De) Dir.: Marrs Pilario Chris Palais I (Invite only) (End 13:32)

FLEAK (Premiere)

Finland, France, Poland, 85', animation. All Rights Entertainment (France) (Stand E20) Dir.: Jens Møller In this animated fantasy adventure, 12-year-old Thomas loses his ability to walk after a desperate attempt to gain his siblings' attention. A magical

creature named Fleak from another dimension appears, offering him a fantastical journey where he trades his shadow for mobility. However, this exchange creates an allconsuming monster that Thomas must now defeat, requiring him to team up with his siblings and rediscover his own inner strength. **Riviera 1 (End 13:25)**

13:30

POPEMOBILE (Premiere)

France, Belgium, 90', comedy. The Bureau Sales (Stand L3-5) Dir.: Sylvain Estibal Cast: Kad Merad, Myriam Tekaia To mark his recent appointment, the new Pope prepares for a tour of Latin America, only to find that the Vatican is bankrupt. A rich Mexican woman offers to help out. In return for financing his trip, she demands he attends an event in his honour in the city of Ciudad Juarez – Mexico's capital of crime. The "guardian angel" turns out to be a drug trafficker, and when she discovers that a lookalike Pope has been sent in his place, confusion, laughter and unexpected chaos ensue.

Arcades 3 (End 15:00) Next screening: 20 May, 12:00, Lerins 3

RAI REELS (Premiere)

Italy, 110'. Trailer Rai Cinema (Stand A6-C1) Dir.: International Distribution Rai Cinema

Olympia 3 (End 15:20)

Next screening: 14 May, 13:30, Olympia #3 Online

FESTIVAL (B) MARKET

SOLA MEDIA PROMO REEL (Premiere)

Germany, 125', in English. Trailer Sola Media Gmbh (Stand J6) Dir · N/A Olympia 7 (End 15:35) Next screening: 14 May, 15:45, Olympia 7

WORLDBREAKER

(Premiere) USA, 93' Voltage Pictures (Flamant Building -7th Floor) Dir.: Brad Anderson Olympia 9 (Invite only) (End 15:03) Next screening: 16 May, 13:30, Olympia 9

14:00

THE PLAYMAKER MUNICH **PROMO REEL** (Premiere)

Germany, 30', in German. Trailer The Playmaker Munich (A brand of B.A. Produktion Gmbh) (Stand J4) Dir.: N Various Lerins 1 (End 14:30)

Next screening: 14 May, 14:00, Lerins #1 Online

VISION DISTRIBUTION PROMO REEL 30'. Trailer

Vision Distribution (G1) Lerins 3 (Priority Badges Only) (End 14:30)

SALIGIA (Premiere) Serbia, 123

Film Center Serbia (Pavilion 135) Dir.: Petar Ristovski Palais I (End 16:03)

Next screening: 14 May, 14:00, Palais #I Online

SWEETNESS (Premiere)

Canada, 93', thriller. Altitude Film Sales/Altitude Film Entertainment (9 rue Des États-Unis, 2nd Floor) Dir.: Emma Higgins Cast: Kate Hallett, Herman Tømmeraas, Aya Furukawa After a chance encounter with the lead singer of her favourite band, a teenager's plan to help him kick his drug habit soon takes a dark and sinister turn as she becomes hellbent on forcing her teenage fantasies into reality Palais K (End 15:33)

Next screening: 14 May, 16:15, Palais K

15:00

ODD FISH (Premiere)

Iceland, 104', LGBT, in Icelandic. MMM Film Sales Dir.: Snævar Sölvason Cast: Björn Jörundur Friobjörnsson, Arna Magnea Danks When two childhood friends finally get the chance to open their seafood restaurant year-round, one of them comes out as a trans woman, shaking the foundations of their partnership and long-time friendship.

Online #1 (On invite or request)

15:45

(End 16:44)

THE RESIDENCE

(Premiere) France, 110', thriller, in French. Gaumont (2 Rue Bivouac Napoleon-Floor 6) Dir.: Yann Gozlan Cast: Cécile de France, Lars Mikkelsen, Mylène Farmer In the near future, Clarissa, a novelist with writer's block, joins a prestigious artist residency. She lives on the top floor of an ultra-modern building where her every need is seen to by Dalloway, her apartment's AI assistant. Quickly, it proves to be more than a simple assistant and becomes a true confidante for Clarissa. Yet, Clarissa is unsettled by the Al's increasingly intrusive presence. She meets Mathias, a whistleblower artist who warns her about the true motives behind the residency and the tech company

funding it. Clarissa begins to question whether this seemingly perfect situation is in fact a meticulously crafted trap. Arcades 1

(Priority Badges Only) (End 17:35)

Next screening: 14 May, 09:00, Arcades 1

CHRISTY

Ireland, United Kingdom, 94'. Charades

Dir.: Brendan Canty Arcades 3 (End 17:19) Next screening: 14 May, 17:45, Olympia 3

WHERE THE WIND COMES FROM

Tunisia, France, Qatar, 99', drama, in Arabic.

Films Boutique (Stand L3-2) Dir.: Amel Guellaty

Fearless spirit Alvssa and sensitive artist Mehdi hest friends since childhood, feel cramped in their life in the outskirts of Tunis. When Alyssa discovers an artist contest in Djerba that might be their ticket out, she pulls Mehdi into a fantastical journey . across Tunisia which will put their friendship to the test.

Lerins 2 (End 17:24)

Next screening: 14 May, 15:45, Lerins #2 Online

THE GENTLEMAN (Premiere)

Spain, Mexico, 89', thriller, in Spanish. Film Factory Entertainment Dir.: Luis Gabriel Beristáin Cast: Ron Perlman, Megan Montaner, Damian Alcázar Hovik Keuchkerian Marco De La O, Natti Natasha Theo, as known as "The Gentleman", is a former American soldier. His lonely and miserable existence plays out between his memories of a better past with his late wife. Every Thursday he meets Olga, a prostitute, that he pays for her conversations, reminiscing about who he once was, and dreaming about what could have been. When Olga is murdered,

he seeks brutal revenge. The trail of blood he leaves behind is followed by Iborra, an alcoholic police inspector, and Herodes, a ruthless hitman. The intersection of these characters on the edge will have a violent outcome when the present comes to collect the debts of the past.

Lerins 4 (End 17:14)

Next screening: 17 May, 09:30, Olympia 6

TRUSTNORDISK **PROMOREEL** (Premiere)

Denmark, 120', Trailer TrustNordisk Dir.: TrustNordisk Olympia 1 (End 17:45) Next screening: 14 May, 13:00, Online #1

REBUILDING (Premiere)

USA, 95', drama, in English-United States. MK2 Films (Entrance H (On The Left) 6 Floor) Dir.: Max Walker-Silverman Cast: Josh O'Connor, Meghann Fahy, Kali Reis Olympia 3 (Priority Badges Only) (End 17:20) Next screening: 14 May, 11:30, Arcades 3

TRAPPED (Premiere)

France, 80', thriller, in French. WTFilms (13 Square Mérimée, 4th Floor) Dir.: Valentin Vincent Cast: Mélanie Bernier, François-Dominique Blin Olympia 7 (End 17:05)

The Residence



SCREENINGS DAY 1 - 13 MAY 2025

THE DEATH OF SNOW WHITE (Premiere)

USA 110 Entertainment Squad/Studio Dome (La Brise: 24 Croisette 5th Floor) +61411585268 Dir.: Jason Brooks

Palais B (End 17:35) Next screening: 14 May, 15:45, Palais #B Online

THIS ORDINARY THING (Premiere)

USA. 63'. documentary. in English. The Film Sales Company Dir.: Nick Davis Cast: Jeremy Irons, Helen Mirren, Lily Tomlin, F Murray Abraham This Ordinary Thing is a Holocaust film like none other; it explores the heroism, bravery and self-sacrifice of non-Jewish people throughout Europe who risked their very lives to hide Jewish strangers. Told through never-before-seen archival footage and performed by Academy Awardwinning actors and other huge stars, including Jeremy Irons, Helen Mirren, Lily Tomlin and F. Murray Abraham, the film is a powerful reminder that one person can make

a difference. Palais H (End 16:48)

Next screening: 14 May, 16:15, Palais G

STITCH HEAD

Germany, 90', family. **GFM** Animation (3 Rond Point D'Ubois D'Angers) Dir.: Steve Hudson , Toby Genkel Cast: Asa Butterfield, Joel Fry, Tia Bannon, Rob Brydon High above the little town of Grubbers Nubbin looms Castle Grotteskew. Here, in his haphazard laboratory, the maddest of all mad professors brings his latest monstrous creations to (almost) life. Watching, hidden in the shadows, is the professor's first, long-forgotten creation, Stitch Head. A tiny, strangelooking fellow made up of bits, pieces, and spare parts, he is quite a sight to behold, with his bald, round head covered in a patchwork of stitches, and mesmerising eyes. Stitch Head splits his time between keeping the castle safe & the other monsters hidden. He is terrified that even the smallest sign of monstrousness will cause the townsfolk of Grubbers Nubbin to burn the castle to the ground. It is a job he undertakes with care ϑ precision, until one day a tiredlooking freak show comes to town; led by its desperate owner Fulbert Freakfinder. The show is in dire need of a new attraction and when Freakfinder meets humble Stitch Head, he knows he has found his star

Palais J (End 17:15)

Next screening: 16 May, 09:00, Palais B



16:15

THE GIRL IN THE SNOW (Premiere)

Directors' Fortnight

France, 96'

Kinology (20bis Rue Des Serbes) Dir.: Louise Hémon Cast: Galatea Bellugi, Matthieu Lucci, Samuel Kircher

1899. On a stormy night, Aimée, a young Republican schoolteacher, arrives in a snowy hamlet on the edge of the Alps. Despite the mistrust of the inhabitants, she is determined to shed light on their dark beliefs. As she blends into the life of the community, a sensual vertigo grows within her.

Lerins 1 (Priority Badges Only) (End 17:51)

Next screening: 15 May, 11:15, Theatre Croisette

NYEPI: THE SILENT DAY (Premiere)

Korea (South), 69', horror, in Korean. Showbox Corp. (Stand E19) Lerins 3 (End 17:24)

CHINA FILM PROMOTION (Premiere)

70' Trailer China Film Co-Production Corporation (Stand 18.04) Dir.: CFCC China Film Pavilion Palais I (End 17:25)

PROMO REEL (Premiere) 110'. Trailer

WTFilms (13 Square Mérimée, 4th Floor) Dir.: Tbd

Palais K (End 18:05)

Next screening: 14 May, 16:15, Palais #K Online

TAFITI – ACROSS THE DESERT (Premiere)

Germany, 81', family, in English. Sola Media Gmbh (Stand J6) Dir.: Nina Wels

When Tafiti, a young meerkat, meets Bristles, the bush pig, he knows they can't be friends. 'Meerkats stick to their own!' is what grandpa has always told him, as life in the desert is full of danger. But when Bristles is attacked by an eagle, it's Tafiti who rushes to his rescue. Desperately seeking a friend, the fun-loving bush pig follows Tafiti home, unintentionally causing an unfortunate accident - Tafiti's grandpa is bitten by a deadly poisonous snake. Only a mythical desert flower can save him. Tafiti sets off on a perilous journey to find the flower, convinced he must do it alone. It's up to Bristles to prove that adventures are always better with friends! Riviera 1 (End 17:36)

17:00

OMLO (Premiere)

India, 88', children's, in Hindi. Wings To Bollywood Entertainment Dir.: Sonu Randeep Choudhary Cast: Shambhoo Mahajan, Sonali Sharmistha, Sonu Randeep Choudhary

Omlo's narrative unfolds around the poignant co-relation between a 7-year-old child, Omlo and a camel. The tale delves into the profound impact of how one treats family members compared to animals. creating an atmosphere of confinement, suppression and fear within the family dynamic. Omlo, mirroring the fear and tumultuous emotions experienced by his father in childhood, finds himself entangled in the same generational traumas. The narrative sheds light on the persistent cycle of passing down trauma from one generation to the next, with women often bearing the brunt of it. Trapped in an abusive marriage and a patriarchal society, Omlo's grandmother had harboured hopes that her son would bring about a peaceful life for her. However, he turns out to be even worse than his own father perpetuating a cycle of suffering that now affects his daughter-in-law and grandson. The story reflects the disheartening repetition of history,



where nothing seems to evolve. Yet, amidst the despair, there is a glimmer of hope as Omlo's mother yearns for her son to break the cycle and become a better person, echoing the optimism once held by her motherin-law. The narrative raises questions about whether certain patterns are destined to persist or if, indeed, change is possible. Online #1 (On invite or request) (End 18:28)

17:45

THE DISAPPEARANCE OF JOSEF MENGELE (Premiere)

Cannes Premiere

France, Germany, 129', thriller, in German. Kinology (20bis Rue Des Serbes) Dir.: Kirill Serebrennikov Cast: August Diehl, Max Bretschneider Dana Herfurth Friederike Becht In the aftermath of the Second World War, Josef Mengele, the Nazi doctor at Auschwitz, escapes to South America to rebuild his life in hiding. Through the eyes of his son who finds him again, Mengele is confronted with a past he can no longer ignore. From Buenos Aires to Paraguay via Brazil, the man who became known as 'The Angel of Death' will organise his methodical disappearance to avoid any form of trial.

Arcades 1 (Priority Badges Only) (End 19:54)

Next screening: 17 May, 09:00, Olympia 3

CHARADES PROMO

105'. Trailer Charades Arcades 3 (End 19:30)

PLAYTIME PROMO REEL (Premiere)

France, 80'. Trailer Playtime (5F, 13 Square Mérimée) Dir.: Various Olympia 7 (End 19:05)

18:15

MADLY (Premiere)

Italy, 97', comedy. Rai Cinema (Stand A6-C1) Dir.: Paolo Genovese Cast: Edoardo Leo, Pilar Fogliati, Emanuela Fanelli, Maria Chiara Giannetta, Claudia Pandolfi, Vittoria Puccini, Marco Giallini, Maurizio Lastrico, Rocco Papaleo, Claudio Santamaria

How well do we really know ourselves when we make a decision? What if there were multiple versions of ourselves, each with its own opinion? FolleMente is a delightful romantic comedy that goes beyond appearances, diving into the minds of the two main characters, Piero and Lara, and revealing their most hidden thoughts and the inner battles that we all face. Arcades 2 (End 19:52)

Next screening: 14 May, 18:15, Arcades #2 Online

THE WOLF, THE FOX AND THE LEOPARD (Premiere)

Netherlands, Ireland, Luxembourg, Taiwan, Croatia, 124', drama, in English.

Levelk (18 Rue De Venizelos, 1st Floor)

Dir.: David Verbeek Cast: Jessica Reynolds, Nicholas Pinnock, Naomi Kawase, Marie Jung, Lucas Lynggaard Tønnesen, Eoin Duffy, San Shella In the depths of a forest, a young woman (Jessica Reynolds) raised by wolves is discovered by rangers and taken to an ultra-modern medical facility. Under the scrutiny of scientists, one researcher, Takanara (Naomi Kawase), forms a unique connection with the wild voung woman. But once her capture has been publicised, an activist couple named Ellias (Nicholas Pinnock) and Wyona (Marie Jung) infiltrate the facility, believing she needs to be saved. They take her to an abandoned oil rig, far from society, where they aim to shape her into the ideal "pure" human for a postapocalvptic future. On the rig, the young woman - now named "One" struggles to adapt to their ideology and bizarre rituals, but gradually begins bonding with her saviours, disrupting the dynamics between the couple. But One's curiosity about the outside world grows, leading her to discover a shipwrecked fisherman, Araav, whom Ellias and Wyona have imprisoned on the rig. Despite their warnings, she befriends Araav and realises that her "parents" have been lying to her. The situation on the oil rig climaxes and One is ultimately rescued before being renamed yet again - this time as "Alice" - and integrated into society. But she struggles to fit in and is haunted by her past. Years later, she visits her imprisoned "parents", who encourage her to move on. Ellias reveals that a Japanese author has written a book about Alice's life, turning her into a symbol of hope for humanity. Alice, now burdened by the public's perception of her as a mythical "wolf-girl", visits the author Takanara in Tokyo in a final attempt to escape from the narratives that people continue to thrust upon her. Olympia 6 (End 20:19)

Next screening: 14 May, 18:15, Olympia #6 Online

THE LIGHT

Germany, 162', drama, in German. Beta Cinema Dir.: Tom Tykwer Cast: Lars Eidinger, Nicolette Krebitz, Tala al Deen, Julius Gause, Elke Biesendorfer

The Engels family, based in the bustling heart of Berlin, is a tumultuous and fractured unit consisting of parents Milena and Tim, both in their late forties, 17-year-old twins Frieda and Jon and 8-year-old Dio. Each of them is struggling with their own personal chaos after losing the common bond that once held them together as a family. When Syrian immigrant Farrah enters their lives as a housekeeper, she unexpectedly sets the disparate family on a new track. Quickly, each family member forms a profound and enigmatic connection with Farrah, falling individually for her focused yet mysterious persona. The Engels gradually unveil their past wounds and fractures to Farrah and they start to reconnect with each other after vears of estrangement. But ultimately, they understand that Farrah has been seeking their family for a long time and is now leading them on a journey into the unknown

Palais K (End 20:57)

Next screening: 14 May, 09:00, Lerins 4

20:30

THE LOVE THAT REMAINS (Premiere)

Cannes Premiere

Iceland, Sweden, Denmark, France, 110', drama. New Europe Film Sales Dir.: Hlynur Pálmason

A year in the life of a family as the parents navigate their separation. Through both playful and heartfelt moments, the film portrays the bittersweet essence of faded love and shared memories amidst the changing seasons. **Olympia 2** (Priority Badges Only) **(End 22:20)**

Next screening: 15 May, 18:15, Arcades 2

TALKING TO A STRANGER (Premiere)

Mexico, 100', horror, in Spanish. Grupo Mórbido (Stand J1 Fantastic Pavilion) Dir.: Adrián García Bogliano Cast: Gigi Saul Guerrero A woman with psychiatric issues is

tormented by a supernatural presence masquerading as her deceased son, intent on destroying her and her family **Olympia 4** (Press Allowed) **(End 22:10)**



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CANNES MARKET NEWS

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