



Press release
For immediate release

49th Festival du nouveau cinéma

FNC FORUM to be held online, October 7 to 18

A master class by Philippe Falardeau

Plus talks and workshops adapted to the current context

Montreal, September 22, 2020 – The Montreal Festival du nouveau cinéma (FNC) is pleased to unveil the programming for FNC Forum, its professional program focused on film creation, funding and distribution. In light of the current context, the 2020 Forum will be held online from October 7 to 18. On the lineup: networking events, workshops and expert panels aimed at sparking discussion among film industry professionals. On October 16, a master class with **Philippe Falardeau** will provide the perfect lead-up to the screening of his latest feature, **MY SALINGER YEAR**, which closes the Festival on October 18.

Master class with Philippe Falardeau

Online on Friday October 16 at 11 a.m.

Presented by the Directors Guild of Canada (DGC)
as part of DGC Visionaries

A well-established director and screenwriter whose *Monsieur Lazhar* (2011) received an Oscar nomination for Best Foreign Language Film, Philippe Falardeau shoots in both French and English and is today one of the most recognized and respected Quebec filmmakers in the world. During this master class, presented by filmmakers Daniel Roby and Tristan Dubois, Falardeau will discuss his career and share his vision of today's film industry.

Online talks and panels

- **Keynote- Opening talk: A look at 2020 – and beyond**

Friday, October 9 at 10 a.m.

A look at the current state of affairs in culture and film.

What went on in 2020? Where do things stand now? How will filmmakers survive and present their works in 2021 and beyond? Presented by Donato

Rotunno, producer and co-founder of the Belgian/Luxembourg production company Tarantula.

- **Producing during COVID: strength in numbers!**

Friday, October 9 at 11:30 a.m.

In partnership with the Bureau Estrien de l'Audiovisuel et du Multimédia (BEAM)

COVID-19 forced filmmakers and producers to halt production. How have they dealt with it? What were the alternatives? And did this “forced break” have any positive spinoffs?

- **Socially engaged cinema (free)**

Tuesday, October 13 at 10 a.m.

What is the artist’s responsibility? Has 2020 boosted awareness at all? A conversation with filmmakers who see cinema as a platform for social engagement and whose work targets action and social change, drawing on reality to cast a critical gaze on the status quo.

With

Simon Lavoie, director and screenwriter, Quebec

Elza Kephart, director and screenwriter, Quebec

Joana Hadjithomas, visual artist and filmmaker, Lebanon

- **Case study**

Wednesday, October 14 at 1;30 p.m.

Case study of **SIN LA HABANA**, a film by Kaveh Nabatian screening in competition at this year’s Festival. The filmmakers will discuss the creative and production process in Quebec and Cuba.

- **Funding auteur cinema**

Thursday, October 15 at 9 a.m.

Presented by the Canada Media Fund (CMF)

The 2008 financial crisis spelled out serious setbacks for auteur film in terms of distribution and financing. Where are we today? What’s the story with funding around the world in general, and in Canada in particular? How are institutions adapting? What programs or tools will ensure that auteur filmmakers can continue to make original works that are diverse in form and content?

Moderated by Ilann Girard, Arsam, France

With

Pauline Couture, CEO of BlockFilm, Canada

Anne-Marie Gélinas, producer EMAfilms, Canada

A Canada Media Fund (CMF) representative

A Telefilm Canada representative

- **Online Festivals and distribution are here to stay**

Thursday, October 15 at 11 a.m. — panel in English

Traditional film distribution models have been profoundly shaken. Slowly but surely, online distribution and screenings are becoming the norm. Festivals, distributors and producers, increasingly forced to adapt, are invited to think up new strategies.

**Moderated by Wendy Bernfeld, Right Stuff founder, Netherlands
With
Scilla Andreen, Indieflix founder, USA
Pierre Antoine, CEO of Kinow, France
An IFFR Unleashed representative**

- **Dialogues (free)**

Thursday October 8 to Friday October 16 at 9 a.m.

Presented by Hôtel Monville

In these informal, intimate discussions, filmmakers and professionals are invited to share their experiences, views and thoughts on their respective journeys. An invitation to discover their relationship with the industry and their peers, how they feel, and the topics and concerns that bring them together.

**With 6 pairs consisting of
Caroline Monnet (artist/filmmaker) and Éline Hébert
(producer at micro_scope)**

**Tatiana Zinga Botao (actor) and Maxime Giroux (casting
director)**

**Alexandre Domingue (founder, Post-Moderne and co-founder,
Cinéma Moderne) and Paul Landriau (director of programming,
Pleins Écrans)**

**Félix Dufour-Laperrière (filmmaker) and Marie Michelle
Deschamps (artist)**

**Anthony Therrien (actor) and Stéphanie Hamelin Tomala
(composer)**

**Ariane Giroux-Dallaire (Managing Director and Head of
Distribution MK2 MILE END) and Daniel Séguin (Vice president
of operations for Eastern Canada - Cineplex Entertainment)**

Networking, mentoring and online pitches — registration required

- **Speed meetings: emerging women directors**

Thursday, October 15 at 4 p.m.

In partnership with FCTMN

Virtual encounters with young women filmmakers and industry professionals. This activity facilitates networking among women and gives new directors a chance to get a better handle on their work and creations.

Private event; registration required.

- **First Cut Lab FNC Montreal presented by Netflix**

First Cut Lab FNC Montreal is a program designed for selected feature fiction films from Canada that are currently in the editing phase. Selected

producer/director teams will screen their rough cut in a private session and receive expert feedback on their edit from international film professionals (creative producers, festival programmers, sales agents, etc.) as well as personalized advice from an editing consultant. *Private event; registration required.*

The three selected projects are:

- *Très Belle Journée*, directed by Patrice Laliberté and produced by Julie Groleau (Couronne Nord)

Advisers:

Alesia Weston, Creative Director of accelerator Starfish, USA

Kathleen McInnis, publicist at See-Through Films, USA

**Marina Andree Skop, director and producer,
Bosnia-Herzegovina**

- *La Perla*, directed by Ariane Falardeau St-Amour and Paul Chotel and produced by Omar Elhamy, Simon Allard and Jeanne Dupuis

Advisers:

Weijie Lai, producer E&W Films, Singapore and Canada

Andrea Stavenhagen, Head of Industry at Morelia IFF, Mexico

Isabel Ivars, Head of Festivals at Films Boutique, Germany

- *Bootlegger*, directed by Caroline Monnet and produced by Catherine Chagnon (Microclimat Films)

Advisers:

Ewa Puszczynska, producer, Poland

Paz Lázaro, programmer at Berlinale, Spain and Germany

Cristina Gallego, director and producer, Colombia

- **Premières Oeuvres pitch session presented by Netflix**

Eight emerging Canadian directors pitch their first feature or medium-length film (fiction, documentary, experimental, animation) that's currently in development to a panel of experts. The best pitch will receive a \$10,000 CAD grant offered by Netflix.

Private event; registration required.

Jury:

- **Marit van den Elshout, Head of IFFR Pro, CineMart et Hubert Bals Fund, IFFR**
- **Anick Poirier, WaZabi Films co-president, Montréal**
- **Donato Rotunno, producer, co-founder of production company Tarantula (Luxembourg and Belgium).**

- **Workshop: Video pitch and online meetings**

Offered to selected participants of the 2020 Premières Oeuvres pitch session, this workshop focuses on developing and structuring a compelling pitch. Led by Hayet Benkara, industry consultant for FNC Forum 2020.

Private event; registration required.

- **Professional meetings**

One-on-one meetings between Premières Oeuvres pitch participants and industry pros selected by the FNC Forum team.

Private event; registration required.

PASSES AND RATES

FNC Forum professional passes can now be purchased for \$50 on the FNC website at: nouveaucinema.ca/en/tickets-2020

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The full Festival lineup will be unveiled on September 29.

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