



**6 - 14 JULY 2018**

**18<sup>TH</sup> EDITION**

*NIFFF - Press release - 05.07.2018*

## **D-1 BEFORE THE NIFFF's 18<sup>th</sup> EDITION KICKS OFF**

The 18<sup>th</sup> edition of the Neuchâtel International Fantastic Film Festival (6-14 July) starts tomorrow! For 9 days, the medieval city will be enlivened by the NIFFF's energy, which will spread to all corners of its architectural landscape, and by the attendance of prestigious international guests. The coming of the four horsemen of the apocalypse will kick start the festivities with the world premiere of the web series *LE 5<sup>E</sup> CAVALIER*, which quite literally atomises the city of Calvin. A delegation from New Zealand will also be with us for the first weekend, as part of the *WHAT WE DO IN NEW ZEALAND* section. Attendees include Gaylene Preston (*MR. WRONG*, *PERFECT STRANGERS*) and Chris Stapp (*THE DEVIL DARED ME TO*), who will inaugurate the ambitious and first-of-its-kind retrospective, focused on genre films from the people of Aotearoa. They will be discussing the idiosyncrasies of their country's fantasy films (08.07, 4 p.m.) with illustrator Rebekah Tisch (Weta Workshop).

With maestro David Cronenberg as its President, the international competition will get off to a flying start with the attendance of American director *ARI ASTER* who will present his widely talked about film *HEREDITARY* (07.07, 10 p.m.). *Ramus Kloster Bro* will also attend and introduce the world premiere of his claustrophobic thriller *CUTTERHEAD* (08.07, 6 p.m.), as well as Argentinian filmmaker *Alejandro Fadel*, whose *MUERE, MONSTRUO, MUERE* (07.07, 5 p.m.) was the talk of Cannes film market. And of course, we will finally have our new Open Air, now in the very heart of the old town. The comedy *HUNT FOR THE WILDERPEOPLE* from New Zealander *Taika Waititi* will be the first screened there.

## **A STRONG SWISS SELECTION**

As a true springboard for a new generation of Swiss genre filmmakers, *AMAZING SWITZERLAND* is a non-competitive section that gives the spotlight to the strength of our national cinema. *CURRY WESTERN*, *Kamal Musale's* zany comedy (07.07, 7:30 p.m.) and *Greg Zglinski's* Lynchian film *TIERE* (08.07, 8 p.m.) will have their world premiere. And both directors will be present!

### **SWISS SHORTS - Swiss fantastic short films competition (07.07, 5 p.m.)**

The SSA/SUISSIMAGE competition is among the festival's leading sections and offers to take the pulse of the future of Swiss cinema. It includes 8 films, 2 of which are anticipated world premieres, namely *PROCHAIN TOUR* and *SOY TU PAPÁ*, and 2 Swiss premieres, namely *CRÉPUSCULE* and *COYOTE*. Our selection aims at showing how much the fantasy genre is essential to our industry. The various film crews will be in attendance.

### **CARTE BLANCHE TO A SWISS CELEBRITY: LIONEL BAIER**

*Lionel Baier* is an important part of Swiss cinema thanks to his movies, as well as his work as a producer, and director of the ECAL film studies department. He will introduce 3 of his own favourites that have left their mark on pop culture: *A NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET PART 2: FREDDY'S REVENGE* (06.07, 12:30 p.m.), *CUJO* (07.07, 10 p.m.), and *LITAN : LA CITE DES SPECTRES VERTS* (07.07, 5 p.m.).

## THE NIFFF: A MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH

The free NIFFF INVASION events allow us to invite everybody to partake in various activities related to the fantasy genre!

### LE 5<sup>E</sup> CAVALIER EXHIBITION (06-14.07, 4 to 8 p.m., Temple du Bas)

*Behind the scenes of web series LE 5<sup>E</sup> CAVALIER*

This multimedia exhibition will guide its visitors to the heart of the creative process of a unique Swiss web series. From sculpture to moulding and animatronics, this visually ambitious thriller mixes elements of horror, fantasy and science-fiction.

### ESPACE VR: THE VIRTUAL PSYCHO PAGODA (06-14.07, 4 to 8 p.m., Temple du Bas)

*In collaboration with the Geneva International Film Festival*

The NIFFF is partnering with the Geneva International Film Festival (GIFF) for the second year in a row to offer an overview of innovations in terms of virtual reality and digital creation. The 2018 programme is all about the Asian imagination.

### THE ODYSSEY OF A YOUNG MAORI GIRL (07.07, 2:30 p.m., Cinéma Les Arcades)

*In collaboration with La Lanterne Magique*

Discover the fabulous saga of Paï, a brave 12-year-old girl who can communicate with whales and wants to become her village's new leader. Other activities for kids are scheduled as part of FANTOCHE: A NEW PERSPECTIVE (08.07, 3:00 p.m.).

#### Practical information:

Online bookings on [www.starticket.ch](http://www.starticket.ch)

Press pack, list of guests and visuals available on our website's [Press page](#) (PW: niff18)

The reception for journalists and professionals during the festival is located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Théâtre du Passage, Maximilien-de-Meuron 4, 2000 Neuchâtel.

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