



6 - 14 JULY 2018

18TH EDITION

NIFFF - Press release - 08.07.2018

A BRILLIANT FIRST WEEKEND AT THE NIFFF

The Neuchâtel International Fantastic Film Festival (6-14 July) started on Friday night and has already welcomed over 10,000 festival-goers, which is more than last year at the same stage. Standing out thanks to a diverse programme and audience, the 18th edition could not have begun better. Our full showings are a good omen to an exciting edition which will push the boundaries of genre cinema with the screening of films that are rarely seen in Switzerland. Both a unifying and demanding event, the NIFFF has solidified its position as a professional international platform thanks to the NIFFF Extended label that brings together experts from the audio-visual industry. You haven't heard the last of the NIFFF!

The sold out opening ceremony kick started the celebrations beautifully. Several of our prestigious guests have already walked through our city, most notably international jury president David Cronenberg - who will hand out the H.R. Giger "Narcisse" award next Saturday -, or Argentinian filmmaker Alejandro Fadel (MUERE, MONSTRUO, MUERE) whose film is part of the competition, and American director Ari Aster (HEREDITARY), whose first feature had never competed at a festival. The Open Air is now in the very heart of the city and has been a huge success with a varied audience thanks to the mild weather that allows for hardcore fans and those who are simply curious to attend. Remarkable events have already taken place there, such as Nosipho Dumisa's presentation of NUMBER 37, and Yannick Renier's introduction of CARNIVORES. Finally, we are proud to announce that the winner of the new THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX award (a distribution deal throughout Switzerland) is CÔMPRAME UN REVÔLVER from Julio Hernández Córdón.

COMPETITIONS ARE IN FULL SWING

The international competition is not going to slow down anytime soon, with the coming of other prestigious guests like Japanese artist Satô Yûichi who will introduce the world premiere of KASANE - BEAUTY & FATE (14.07, 3 p.m.), and Gaspar Noé who will present CLIMAX (13.07, 11 p.m.), his new cinematic exultation. And a last minute surprise: Indian star Harshvardhan Kapoor, the main actor of BHAVESH JOSHI SUPERHERO (10.07, 4:30 p.m.), will attend the Swiss premiere of the film, which competes in the NEW CINEMA FROM ASIA section.

NIFFF EXTENDED SHIFTS INTO HIGH GEAR

This is going to be a busy week with the NIFFF Extended label, which consists of encounters and debates with the greatest experts of the VFX industry. The IMAGING THE FUTURE symposium will have a roundtable with Rebekah Tisch, conceptual artist and illustrator at Weta Workshop, as well as Patrick Wagner, design illustrator for Weta Gameshop (09.07, 4:15 p.m.). Timur Bekmambetov and Olga Kharina will talk at length about their high concept project *screenmovies* (11.07, 3:15 p.m.) the day after PROFILE, their last film, is shown (10.07, 8 p.m.). NEW WORLDS OF FANTASY will come last and include a conference with Jan Harlan (12.07, 2:30 p.m.), executive producer for Stanley Kubrick, and another with David Cronenberg (12.07, 4 p.m.). Both should be great opportunities for artists and audience members to interact!

WINNER OF THE NEW SWISS DISTRIBUTION AWARD THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX: CÔMPRAME UN REVÔLVER

CÓMPRAME UN REVÓLVER from Mexican director Julio Hernández Córdón won the THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX AWARD. Selected by Swiss distributors among 12 films from the NIFFF, it will be handled by Outside the Box and released nationally in January in 13 cinemas (Cinema Rex Vevey, Cinéma ABC La-Chaux-de-Fonds, Cinéma Royal Ste Croix, Cinéma de Nyon, La Grange Delémont, Cinéma d'Oron, Minimum Neuchâtel, CityClub Pully, Le Grain de Sel Bex, Le Grütli Genève, Houdini Zürich, Bourbaki Lucerne, Filmpodium Biel).

Practical information:

Online bookings on www.starticket.ch

Press pack, list of guests and visuals available on our website's [Press page](#) (PW: nifff18)

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

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