



UNVEILING OF THE FIRST UNMISSABLE #NIFFF19 EVENTS

As its 19th edition (5-13 July 2019) approaches, the Neuchâtel International Fantastic Film Festival (NIFFF) is delighted to reveal the first films of the CLASSICS RELOADED section, dedicated to restored classics. The NIFFF will notably invite audience members to celebrate the 40th anniversary of *Alien*, a masterpiece of science fiction that will hatch once more, this time at the festival's Open Air, which will again be set at the historical and iconic place des Halles in an enhanced configuration.

Alien: 40 years of fear

The only Swiss festival dedicated to fantasy will celebrate the 40th anniversary of this monumental work of science fiction. Ridley Scott's film, in which a spaceship's crew is hunted down by a xenomorph, will be shown in a glorious 4K restoration. This is a unique opportunity to revisit this essential cinematic achievement which visual identity owes much to Swiss artist H.R. Giger, who was among the first NIFFF supporters (having designed our Narcisse award) and whose seminal work has been rewarded with an Academy Award.

This screening, which will no doubt be one of the highlights of the festival's 19th edition, will come with guests and the Swiss premiere of the documentary *Memory: The Origins of Alien* from Swiss filmmaker Alexandre O. Philippe (*The People vs. George Lucas, 78/52*). Comprised of interviews from prestigious contributors, the film sheds light on the inspirations and chain of events that allowed for the making of this masterpiece and examines its colossal influence.

"Pulp" classics: from Quentin Tarantino to Serge Gainsbourg

Aside from *Alien*, festival-goers will be able to revisit other classics for free at the Open Air, as part of the NIFFF INVASION-CLASSICS RELOADED programme, such as the super cult *Pulp Fiction*. 25 years after being booed in Cannes, the Palme d'Or winner - now considered among the best films ever made - will make the NIFFF audience do the twist. Quentin Tarantino's second film combines the director's talent with all of his irreverent and exhilarating ingenuity.

Swiss cinema will also be prominently featured, notably through a screening of *The Unknown Man of Shandigor*, a gem among Swiss films, directed by Jean-Louis Roy in 1967. Presented in collaboration with the Swiss Film Archive, this inventive spy film will bring back the golden age of sci fi movies to Neuchâtel. Discover this cinematic treasure, carried by impressive performances from Jacques Dufilho, Marie-France Boyer, Daniel Emilfork and Serge Gainsbourg.

The place des Halles will also become the playground for legendary cartoons, with a collection of animated episodes from various studios and directors. From *Merrie Melodies* to Tex Avery and celebrities such as Popeye or Casper, the programme will celebrate the hilarious inventiveness of these timeless cartoons.

An enhanced Open Air

For the second year in a row, the NIFFF Open Air - with 500 seats - will be set up at the iconic place des Halles, in the heart of Neuchâtel. The tiered structure will be enhanced with 360 covered seats. The new section will face an 18-meter wide screen that will light up the summer nights. From July 5th to July 13th, two daily screenings will celebrate the magic of cinema and the diversity of the fantasy genre.

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