

FRENCH-LANGUAGE FILMS FROM AROUND THE WORLD • SEP 26 - OCT 3 • SIFF CINEMA UPTOWN • SIFF.NET



## OPENING NIGHT FILM AND PARTY


**THU SEP 26 • 6:30 PM**  
**ENCORE: SAT SEP 28 • 3:40 PM**

### The Shiny Shrimps

**FRANCE • 2019 • 103 MINUTES • CÉDRIC LE GALLO, MAXIME GOVARE**


When a champion Olympic swimmer utters a homophobic slur on national television, he is forced to become the reluctant coach of the Shiny Shrimps, a flamboyant and outrageous water polo team in training for the Gay Games in Croatia. Part road-trip saga, part inspirational sports movie, and part celebration of athletes who come in all levels of fabulousity, this dizzy and fizzy comedy reminds us that we're all in the same pool, just trying to stay afloat.

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**FRI SEP 27 • 6:30 PM**  
**A Clever Cook**  
*Un beau voyage*  
**FRANCE • 2018 • 104 MIN • LUCAS BERNARD**

Commissioner Beffrois (Charles Berling) waits for retirement with mixed enthusiasm when a theft of paintings catches his attention. Is it the elegance of the process? The audacity of the crime? The beauty of the stolen work? He launches a search of the atypical thief in this old-school caper with a light Gallic touch.



**FRI SEP 27 • 8:45 PM**  
**Our Happy Holiday**  
*Premières vacances*  
**FRANCE • 2019 • 105 MIN • PATRICK CASSIR**

Marion and Ben are both in their 30s and living in Paris. That and the Tinder app on their phones is pretty much all they have in common. But opposites attract, and two weeks after their first date, they leave together for their summer holidays... to Bulgaria. With no clear plan. And—as they will soon discover—with very different ideas of what a dream holiday should look like.



**SAT SEP 28 • 1:00 PM**  
**The Return of Martin Guerre**  
*Le retour de Martin Guerre*  
**FRANCE • 1982 • 123 MIN • DANIEL VIGNE**

During the middle of the 16th century, Martin Guerre (Gerard Depardieu) returns to his village in southwest France after being away in the war for almost a decade. The villagers who knew him as a young man suspect he is not Martin, but he seems to know all about his friends, his family, and his wife—even the most unusual things. Is this man really Martin Guerre?



**SAT SEP 28 • 6:00 PM**  
**Les Misérables**  
**FRANCE • 2019 • 103 MIN • LAÏJ LY**

Not quite an update of Victor Hugo's classic novel, this gripping and grounded procedural does however probe the tensions between Paris' anti-crime police and the poor Muslim population in the French suburb of Montfermeil in the present day—where little has changed in the 150 years since Hugo first characterized the strife he saw through his bedroom window. Winner of the 2019 Cannes Film Festival Jury Prize.



**SAT SEP 28 • 8:30 PM**  
**Genesis**  
*Genèse*  
**CANADA (QUÉBEC) • 2018 • 129 MIN • PHILIPPE LESAGE**

Guillaume finds he's falling for his best friend; Charlotte is feeling her boyfriend pull away. Both teenagers are shaken by their first loves in the turmoil of their youth. At a time when others are conforming, they stand their ground and assert their right to love and be free. *New York Times* Critics Pick.



**SUN SEP 29 • 1:00 PM**  
**In Safe Hands**  
*Pupille*  
**FRANCE • 2018 • 107 MIN • JEANNE HERRY**

From director Jeanne Herry (*Number One Fan*, FCN 2014), comes this riveting drama about a newborn named Théo who becomes a ward of the state. He ends up in limbo between social workers, the foster system, and an adoptive mother, swinging from intense determination to uncertainty, and, ultimately, joy; all par for the course while seeking the proper environment for a baby's life to begin.



**SUN SEP 29 • 3:30 PM**  
**ENCORE: WED OCT 2 • 8:45 PM**  
**Kiss & Tell**  
*Voyez comme on danse*  
**FRANCE • 2018 • 89 MIN • MICHEL BLANC**

Julien's son, Alex, finds out that 17-year-old Eva has neglected to tell him he's going to be a father. Eva's mother, Véro (Karin Viard), fears the worst for her grandchild. While Elizabeth (Charlotte Rampling), whose husband, Bertrand (Jacques Dutronc) has disappeared into thin air, witnesses her home trashed by a search warrant. That's only the beginning of the complications in the twisty ensemble comedy.




**SUN SEP 29 • 6:00 PM**  
**Stars By the Pound**  
*100 kilos d'étoiles*  
**FRANCE • 2018 • 88 MIN • MARIE-SOPHIE CHAMBON**

Sixteen-year-old Lois has only one dream: to become an astronaut. While she is gifted in physics, she has a major problem: She weighs over 200 pounds—a family trait she is inescapably stuck with. Just when everything seems lost, Lois meets Amélie, Stannah, and Justine: teenagers affected, like her, by life's tough breaks, yet ready to face anything in order to leave with her for outer space... Actor Laure Duchêne is scheduled to attend.




**SUN SEP 29 • 8:30 PM**  
**Mother's Instinct**  
*Duelles*  
**BELGIUM, FRANCE • 2018 • 97 MIN • OLIVIER MASSET-DEPASSE**

Best-pal neighbors and moms Céline and Alice (Veerle Baetens, *The Broken Circle Breakdown*) see their friendship take a darker turn when a devastating accident hits one of their households in this delightfully twisty period thriller that combines the tense thematic perversities of Alfred Hitchcock with the eye-popping sense of color and decor that recalls the Technicolor best of Douglas Sirk or Pedro Almodóvar.



**MON SEP 30 • 6:30 PM**  
**The Trouble With You**  
*En liberté!*  
**FRANCE • 2018 • 107 MIN • PIERRE SALVADORI**

In a town on the French Riviera, detective Yvonne is the young widow of police chief Santi, a local hero. When she realizes her husband was not exactly the model of virtue so idolized by their young son, and that an innocent young man, Antoine, has spent eight years in prison as Santi's scapegoat, she is thrown into turmoil. Yvonne wants to do everything she can to help the very charming Antoine get back to his life and his wife—except tell the truth.



**MON SEP 30 • 9:00 PM**  
**The Party's Over**  
*La fête est finie*  
**FRANCE • 2018 • 90 MIN • MARIE GAREL-WEISS**

Céleste and Sihem arrive in a rehab facility on the same day, where they develop an indestructible friendship. It will be as much a force as an obstacle, though, when, expelled from their shelter, they are left on their own to face the world and its temptations and their real fight for sobriety and freedom begins.



**TUE OCT 1 • 6:30 PM**  
**Real Love**  
*C'est ça l'amour*  
**FRANCE, BELGIUM • 2018 • 95 MIN • CLAIRE BURGER**

Mario's two daughters, 14 and 17, are struggling with sex, independence, all the usual teen issues. So it proves a particularly complicated time for his wife Armelle to declare she needs some space and walk out on the three of them in this heartfelt drama.




**TUE OCT 1 • 8:45 PM**  
**Father and Sons**  
*Deux fils*  
**FRANCE, BELGIUM • 2019 • 90 MIN • FELIX MOATI**

Joseph and his two sons, Joachim and Ivan, form a close-knit family but fail to see that each one is losing control of his life. Joachim is supposed to be studying psychiatry but spends most of his time daydreaming about his ex-girlfriend; Ivan cannot fit in at school despite being very smart; and Joseph has secretly quit his job as a doctor and is trying to become a writer.




**WED OCT 2 • 6:30 PM**  
**Amin**  
**FRANCE • 2018 • 91 MIN • PHILIPPE FAUCON**

Amin is a lonely Senegalese man who regularly sends money back to his family in Africa, but becomes involved with a divorcee (Emmanuelle Devos) whose home he's renovating. Their story forms the lynchpin of several tales exploring the French immigrant experience in the new film by celebrated director Philippe Faucon (*Fatima*).



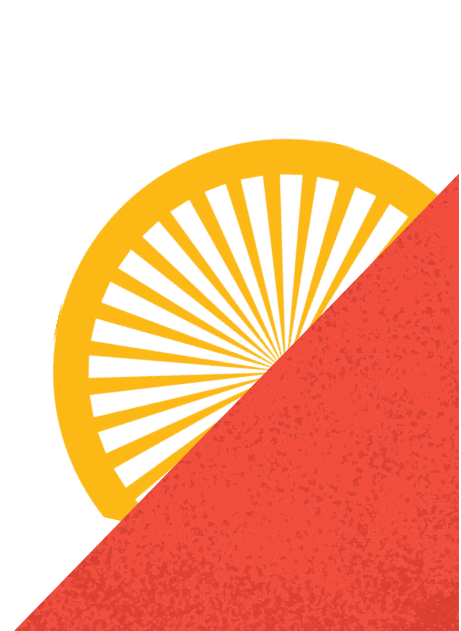
**CLOSING NIGHT FILM • THU OCT 3 • 6:15 PM**  
**Synonyms**  
*Synonyme*  
**ISRAEL, FRANCE, GERMANY • 2019 • 123 MIN • NADAV LAPID**

Based on the real-life experiences of writer/director Nadav Lapid, *Synonyms* explores the challenges of putting down roots in a new place as an ex-soldier's attempts to find himself awaken past demons and open him up to an existential abyss in this tragicomic puzzle that wisely knows how to keep its secrets. Berlin Film Festival Golden Bear Award-winner.



**THU OCT 3 • 9:00 PM**  
**As Happy As Possible**  
*Rêves de jeunesse*  
**FRANCE, PORTUGAL • 2019 • 92 MIN • ALAIN RAOUST**

Salomé lands a summer job in the junkyard of a village in Southern France where her rebellious adolescence catches up with her. She meets friends, old and new, who all share the same desire: to build a way of life far from any social order.



## SCHEDULE

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26**  
**6:30 PM • The Shiny Shrimps**  
Opening Night celebration at Bastille Café & Bar after the film

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27**  
**6:30 PM • A Clever Cook**  
**8:45 PM • Our Happy Holiday**

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**6:00 PM • Stars By the Pound**  
**8:30 PM • Mother's Instinct**

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30**  
**6:30 PM • The Trouble With You**  
**9:00 PM • The Party's Over**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1**  
**6:30 PM • Real Love**  
**8:45 PM • Father and Sons**

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2**  
**6:30 PM • Amin**  
**8:45 PM • Kiss & Tell**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3**  
**6:15 PM • Synonyms**  
**9:00 PM • As Happy As Possible**



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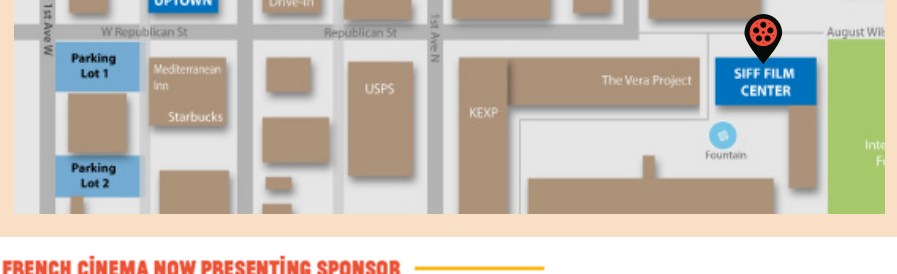
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