

Press release  
Geneva, October 10, 2024

## **GIFF : 30 years of Beyond Cinema**

**The Geneva International Film Festival (GIFF, November 1–10) presents the programming of an inspiring 30th edition.**

In tune with its DNA, the Festival will offer an unprecedented panorama of contemporary audiovisual productions, including top-tier films, series, and immersive experiences. The series program stands out this year with the exclusive presentation of highly anticipated titles such as *Whiskey on the Rocks* from the team behind *The Bridge* (2011), or *Families Like Ours* by the brilliant Danish director Thomas Vinterberg, *The Confidante (Une amie dévouée)*, a series about the Bataclan mythomaniac starring the majestic Laure Calamy, *Generation Z*, Ben Wheatley's series that will set England on fire at Halloween, *L'Arte della Gioia*, a fiery literary adaptation supervised by Valeria Golino, as well as Swiss series *Winter Palace*, *On the High Seas*, and *Those Who Blush* which will complement this prestigious program.

In parallel, films pushing the limits of the cinematic experience will also be featured, including *The Brutalist* (Brady Corbet | 2024 | US), *Diva Futura* (Giulia Louise Steigerwalt | 2024 | IT), *Kneecap* (Rich Peppiatt | 2024 | IE, GB), *Rumours* (Evan Johnson, Galen Johnson, Guy Maddin | 2024 | CA, DE), and *Spermageddon* (Rasmus Andre Sivertsen, Tommy Wirkola | 2024 | NO). Lastly, the Festival will offer striking immersive experiences such as the Taiwanese performance *Free Ur Head*, the collaborative experience by Joséphine Dérobe *bear my soul (moi fauve)*, the monumental digital restoration of the *Panorama of the Battle of Murten*, and the cutting-edge AI-generated video art installation *The Golden Key*.

In total, nearly **93 works** (44 films, 26 series, 23 immersive experiences), including 11 world premieres, 3 international premieres, 1 European premiere, and 54 Swiss premieres, will enliven Geneva during ten days, paying tribute to the creative vitality of today's and tomorrow's audiovisual industry.

While **Ava DuVernay** will be awarded the Film & Beyond prize, Professor **Sarah Kenderdine** will share her artistic and cultural vision in the section Tales of Swiss Innovation and Leos Carax will return to his unique and fascinating universe during a moderated conference. Guests will also include Aude Léa Rapin and Souheila Yacoub (*Planète B*), Kirill Serebrennikov (*Limonov: The Ballad of Eddie*), Louis Garrel (*Saint-Ex*), Pierre Monnard, Lindsay Shapero (*Winter Palace*), and Niels Schneider (*The World Doesn't Exist*) alongside Benjamin Voisin, Stefan Crepon (*The Quiet Son*), and Patrick Muroi (*Rave*). The numerous talented personalities expected in Geneva will meet with the audience to exchange ideas on artistic content and discuss ways to break down audiovisual boundaries, creating a direct and enriching dialogue between creators and spectators.

### **INTERNATIONAL FEATURE FILM COMPETITION**

Ten feature films that push stylistic boundaries and pave the way for the cinema of tomorrow will be screened as Swiss premieres. These films are competing for a Reflet d'Or worth CHF 10,000, offered by the City and Canton of Geneva, awarded by a jury chaired by Swiss filmmaker Carmen Jaquier and composed of film students.

<i>ALL WE IMAGINE AS LIGHT</i> PAYAL KAPADIA   2024   FR, IN, NL, LU, IT   110'   vo. ML, HI   st. FR, EN Swiss Premiere	<i>À SON IMAGE</i> THIERRY DE PERETTI   2024   FR   113'   vo. FR   st. EN Swiss Premiere	<i>DIAMANT BRUT</i> AGATHE RIEDINGER   2024   FR   103'   vo. FR   st. EN Swiss Premiere
<i>HIVER À SOKCHO</i> KOYA KAMURA   2024   FR, KR   104'   vo. FR, KR   st. EN, FR Swiss Premiere	<i>SEPTEMBER SAYS</i> ARIANE LABED   2024   FR, GR, IE, DE, GB   100'   vo. EN   st. FR Swiss Premiere	<i>THE GIRL WITH THE NEEDLE</i> MAGNUS VON HORN   2024   DK, PL, SE   123'   vo. DK   st. EN, FR Swiss Premiere
<i>THE OTHER WAY AROUND</i> JONÁS TRUEBA   2024   ES, FR   114'   vo. ES   st. EN, FR Swiss Premiere	<i>THE SHAMELESS</i> KONSTANTIN BOJANOV   2024   CH, BG, FR, TW, IN   115'   vo. HI   st. EN, FR Swiss Premiere	<i>UNE LANGUE UNIVERSELLE</i> MATTHEW RANKIN   2024   CA   89'   vo. FA, FR   st. EN, FR Swiss Premiere
	<i>WISHING ON A STAR</i> PETER KEREKES   2024   SK, AT, IT, HR, CZ   99'   vo. IT   st. EN, FR Swiss Premiere	

#### INTERNATIONAL SERIES COMPETITION

A key format in the audiovisual industry, the series competition explores the innovative potential of the most dynamic and influential format in contemporary audiovisual media. Ten series are on the program (two international premieres and eight Swiss premieres). They will be made accessible in their entirety thanks to an innovative format: the first episodes will be shown in theaters, while the rest of the series will be available through personalized viewing links. A jury composed of three festivalgoers will award the best series with the Reflet d'Or (CHF 10,000), offered by the City and Canton of Geneva.

<i>BELLAS ARTES</i> MARIANO COHN, ANDRÉS DUPRAT, GASTÓN DUPRAT   2024   ES   6x30'   vo. ES   st. EN, FR Swiss Premiere	<i>BIG MOOD</i> CAMILLA WHITEHILL   2024   GB   6x25'   vo. EN   st. FR Swiss Premiere	<i>BOARDERS</i> DANIEL LAWRENCE TAYLOR   2024   GB   6x45'   vo. EN   st. FR Swiss Premiere
<i>BULLSHIT</i> MILAD ALAMI, BO HR. HANSEN, MOLLY MALENE STENSGAARD	<i>CHAMELEON</i> KRISTOF HOEFKENS, MALIK MOHAMMED   2024   BE	<i>IN MEMORIAM</i> PIERRE-MARC DROUIN, PASCALE RENAUD-HÉBERT   2024

2024   DK   6x45'   vo. DK   st. EN, FR Swiss Premiere	10x30'   vo. NL   st. EN, FR Swiss Premiere	CA   8x45'   vo. FR   st. EN Swiss Premiere
<i>IRIS</i> DORIA TILLIER   2024   FR   6x25'   vo. FR   st. EN Swiss Premiere	<i>LOVE SUCKS</i> MARCO O. SENG   2024   DE   8x30'   vo. DE   st. FR International Premiere	<i>PIGGY</i> TROND HÅNDLYKKEN KVERNSTRØM   2024   NO   6x25'   vo. NO   st. EN, FR Swiss Premiere
	<i>THE PIRATE BAY</i> PATRIK GYLLSTRÖM, PIOTR MARCINIAK, JENS SJÖGREN   2024   SE   6x45'   vo. SE   st. EN, FR International Premiere	

#### INTERNATIONAL IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCES COMPETITION

Exploring the rich connections between storytelling and technology is one of the goals of this competition, which presents nine titles (one world premiere and eight Swiss premieres). A Reflet d'Or (CHF 10,000), offered by the City and Canton of Geneva and awarded by an international jury, will honor the most impactful artistic proposal.

<i>8 BILLION SELVES</i> NEMO VOS   2024   NL   22'   VR   Sans dialogue Swiss Premiere	<i>CHAMP DE BATAILLE</i> FRANÇOIS VAUTIER   2024   FR, LU, BE   22'   VR   vo. FR Swiss Premiere	<i>LIMBOPHOBIA</i> WEN-YEE HSIEH   2023   TW   25'   VR   Sans dialogue   st. CN, EN Swiss Premiere
<i>MOI FAUVE</i> JOSÉPHINE DERUBE   2023   FR   30'   VR   vo. FR, EN, KR Swiss Premiere	<i>OTO'S PLANET</i> GWENAEEL FRANÇOIS   2024   LU, CA, FR   28'   VR   vo. EN, FR   st. FR, EN Swiss Premiere	<i>RAVE</i> PATRICK MURONI   2024   CH   18'   VR   vo. EN, FR   st. FR, EN World Premiere
<i>THE ART OF CHANGE</i> SIMONE FOUIGNIER, VINCENT ROOIJERS   2024   IT, NL, US   10'   VR   vo. EN   st. EN Swiss Premiere	<i>THE TENT</i> RORY MITCHELL   2024   US, GB   25'   AR   vo. EN, FR Swiss Premiere	<i>UNE EAU LA NUIT</i> CHÉLANIE BEAUDIN-QUINTIN, CAROLINE LAURIN-BEAUCAGE   2024   CA   12'   VR   Sans dialogue Swiss Premiere

#### FUTURE IS SENSIBLE COMPETITION

A convergent section dedicated to exploring social, ecological, and technological issues, bringing together series, films, and digital experiences that question ethical choices and their impact on the

future. This prize, worth CHF 10,000, will be awarded in association with the Migros Cultural Percentage. An international jury will evaluate two series, four films, and three immersive experiences (one international premiere, one European premiere, and seven Swiss premieres).

<p><i>BLUE ARCHIVES</i> ARAM KEBABDJIAN, STÉFANE PERRAUD   2024   FR   50'   VR   vo. FR, EN International Premiere</p>	<p><i>ESCAPE FROM THE 21ST CENTURY</i> YANG LI   2024   CN   98'   vo. CN   st. EN, FR Swiss Premiere</p>	<p><i>GENERATION Z</i> BEN WHEATLEY   2024   GB   6x45'   vo. EN   st. FR Swiss Premiere</p>
<p><i>LES FEMMES AU BALCON</i> NOÉMIE MERLANT   2024   FR   105'   vo. FR   st. EN Swiss Premiere</p>	<p><i>NUDES</i> DAVID FORTEMS, JULIE- ALBERTINE SIMONNEY   2024   FR   10x30'   vo. FR   st. EN Swiss Premiere</p>	<p><i>THE GOLDEN KEY</i> MARC DA COSTA, MATTHEW NIEDERHAUSER   2024   US   45'   Installation interactive   vo. FR European Premiere</p>
<p><i>PLANÈTE B</i> AUDE LÉA RAPIN   2024   FR, BE   118'   vo. FR   st. EN Swiss Premiere</p>	<p><i>QUIET LIFE</i> ALEXANDROS AVRANAS   2024   SE, FR, GR, DE, EE, FI   99'   vo. RU, SE, EN   st. EN, FR Swiss Premiere</p>	<p><i>SOUL PAINT</i> NIKI SMIT, SARAH TICHO   2024   NL, GB   20'   VR   vo. EN Swiss Premiere</p>

#### HONORARY AWARDS

Director, producer, and screenwriter **Ava DuVernay** will receive the honorary Film & Beyond award. The festival audience will have the opportunity to attend a conference with this versatile audiovisual professional and watch four screenings of works directed by the American artist: *Origin* (2023), *Selma* (2014), *Middle of Nowhere* (2012), and *When They See Us* (2019).

<p><i>MIDDLE OF NOWHERE</i> AVA DUVERNAY   2012   US   101'   vo. EN</p>	<p><i>ORIGIN</i> AVA DUVERNAY   2023   US   141'   vo. EN   st.FR</p>
<p><i>SELMA</i> RAVA DU VERNAY   2014   US, GB, FR   128'   vo. EN   st. FR</p>	<p><i>WHEN THEY SEE US</i> AVA DUVERNAY   2019   US   4x75'   vo. EN   st.FR</p>

*Tales of Swiss Innovation* will honor Professor **Sarah Kenderdine**, director and curator of EPFL Pavilions and head of the Experimental Museology Lab (eM+) at EPFL. In addition to an exceptional conference titled "Future Cinema Systems" (November 6), the public will be able to discover her lab's work by (re)experiencing a digitized version of the *Panorama of the Battle of Murten*. Moreover, the

**GIFF** 30th GENEVA  
INTERNATIONAL  
FILM FESTIVAL  
1-10.11.2024

**GDM** 12th GENEVA  
DIGITAL  
MARKET  
4-7.11.2024

carte blanche given to Prof. Kenderdine will be an opportunity to attend screenings of *The Color of Pomegranate* (1969) and *Russian Ark* (2002).

<b>RUSSIAN ARK</b> ALEXANDER SOKOUROV   2002   RU, DE, JP, CA, FI, DK   99'   vo. RU, FA   st. FR, DE	<b>THE COLOR OF POMEGRANATES</b> SERGUEI PARADJANOV   1969   SU, AM   79'   vo. AM, AZ, GE   st. FR
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### SWISS SERIES STORYTELLING AWARD

GIFF enters its third decade with the launch of a key project: the Swiss Series Storytelling Award, further establishing the Festival as a hub for innovation in audiovisual fiction. This prize—the first of its kind in Switzerland—aims to reward the most creative narrative universe in terms of screenplay. The winners will be announced on November 8 during a special evening, and they will receive a CHF 20,000 reward, offered by SSA and Suissimage cultural funds.

### GENEVA DIGITAL MARKET

A unique event for audiovisual innovation in Switzerland, the Geneva Digital Market (GDM) returns from November 4–7. A platform for broadcasting and co-producing creative industries, its role is to bring together professionals to discuss the contemporary challenges of audiovisual creation during the *Talks* and participate in the *Market*—a European-scale market for digital works. The GDM will take place this year at Théâtre Pitoëff, Maison Communale de Plainpalais, at the heart of the Geneva International Film Festival.

Among the participants at the festival will be Elisha Karmitz (CEO, Mk2, FR), Babette Wijntjes (Founder, Cassette, Nu:Reality, NL), Marc Da Costa (Artist, US), Matthew Niederhauser (Artist, US), Annabelle Penloup (Vice President of Business Development, Technicolor Group, FR), Camille Duvelleroy (Screenwriter and Director, FR), Anaïs Garestier a.k.a Modiié (Videographer and Streamer, FR), and Marianne Levy-Leblond (Director of Digital Creations Unit, ARTE, FR).

Decision-makers from the following institutions will also be present: [Wales Millennium Centre](#), [Unframed Collection](#), [Festival de Cannes](#), [Diversion cinema](#), [Astrea](#), [INVR.SPACE](#), [HEK - Haus der Elektronischen Künste Basel](#), [PHI](#), [MEET Digital Culture Center](#), [Fondation Art Explora](#), [Venice Immersive - Mostra del Cinema](#), [ZDF Studios](#)

Check out the full [GDM](#) program now!

### SAVE THE DATE

**Since September 2** | Accreditation

**November 1-10** | GIFF 30<sup>th</sup> edition

**November 4-7** | GDM 12<sup>th</sup> edition

**November 6** | Digital Night (upon invitation)

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