

Press release  
Geneva, November 9, 2024

## Retrospective and Winners of the 30th GIFF and 12th GDM

The Geneva International Film Festival (GIFF) is ending after a 30th edition focused on celebrating the many forms of audiovisual storytelling while keeping an eye on the future. GIFF honored its rich history over ten thrilling days, culminating in awards for five works: *Universal Language* by Matthew Rankin in the International Feature Film Competition, *Bullshit* by Milad Alami, Bo Hr. Hansen and Molly Malene Stensgaard in the International Series Competition, *Oto's Planet* by Gwenael François in the International Immersive Experience Competition, and *Quiet Life* by Alexandros Avranas in the Future is Sensible section whilst *Les Indociles* won the first edition of the Swiss Series Storytelling Award.

### Detailed winners list below

Renowned figures from the audiovisual world gathered in Geneva to celebrate GIFF's 30th anniversary, including Kirill Serebrennikov, Noémie Merlant, Leos Carax, Louis Garrel, Doria Tillier, Niels Schneider, Pierre Koralnik, Pierre Monnard, Lindsay Shapero, as well as Valeria Bruni-Tedeschi and Valeria Golino. The Film & Beyond Award was awarded to Ava DuVernay, the American director, producer, and screenwriter, while the Tales of Swiss Innovation section recognized the work of Professor Sarah Kenderdine. For the first time, the Swiss Series Storytelling Award, a national competition honoring the best series script, was awarded to Joanne Giger, Camille Rebetez, Delphine Lehericey, Aurélie Champagne and Olivier Volpi for *Les Indociles*.

The GIFF continues until tomorrow, Sunday, November 10, and online on [play.giff.ch](http://play.giff.ch) until December 10 for the International Series Competition. Recordings from GDM Talks and Festival conferences will be available to the public on the Festival website starting in early 2025. GIFF is also present throughout the year with its traveling program, GIFF Unlimited. Attendance figures for the edition will be shared at a later date. The 31st edition will take place from October 31 until November 9, 2025.

### The GDM settles at the heart of GIFF

The Geneva Digital Market (GDM), the professional program of the Geneva International Film Festival (GIFF), concluded last Thursday after welcoming over 900 participants, marking a 13% increase in attendance compared to the previous edition. As a unique platform in Switzerland focusing on audiovisual innovation, the GDM brought together international experts in new technologies, arts, and creative fields to discuss the challenges facing the industry. This year, particular emphasis was placed on television productions with, for example, a talk on the gamification of television that addressed the issues surrounding interactive live broadcasting.

Moreover, the relocation of the GDM to the Maison communale de Plainpalais recentered this essential component right at the heart of the Festival, infusing the venue with energy during its renowned Digital Night, a critical networking hub for the entire industry.

### Popular success and young audiences in attendance

As for GIFF, many screenings drew full houses, such as *Piece by Piece*, *Winter Palace*, *Iris*, *Les Femmes au balcon*, *Parthenope*, *Limonov: The Ballad*, *Jouer avec le feu*, *Hiver à Sokcho*, and *Dune: Prophecy*, demonstrating the public's enthusiasm for cinema and series.

Among young audiences, school attendance significantly increased this year, growing by 182% to a total of 638 students (compared to 226 in 2023) who came to discover various works showcased at the Festival, thereby giving them an introduction to both series and immersive experiences.

Another popular success was the *Panorama of the Battle of Murten*, presented in its digitized version produced by the Laboratory for Experimental Museology (eM+) at EPFL, under the direction of Professor Sarah Kenderdine.

Finally, the Festival was thrilled to introduce a new award for this 30th edition, the Swiss Series Storytelling Award, highlighting the undeniable evolution of Swiss series production. The growing number of spectators attending these screenings confirms the rising interest of audiences in this format.

## AWARDS

### REFLET D'OR FOR BEST FEATURE FILM 2024

Supported by the City and Canton of Geneva (CHF 10,000)

***Universal Language*** | Matthew Rankin | 2024 | CA | 89 min | Swiss distributor: Outside the Box

Awarded by a Jury led by director and screenwriter Carmen Jaquier (CH), with four film students from Swiss schools: Camille Brifford (ZHdK, CH), Samuel Damiani Jimenez (UNIL, CH), Vittoria Magnelli Tieppo (USI, CH), Sherii Tykhoniuk (ECAL, CH)

### REFLET D'OR FOR BEST SERIES 2024

Supported by the City and Canton of Geneva (CHF 10,000)

***Bullshit*** | Milad Alami, Bo Hr. Hansen, Molly Malene Stensgaard | 2024 | DK | 6x45 min | Distributor: Viaplay

Awarded by an inclusive jury of festivalgoers selected through an application: Minh Luong (CH), Luca Palumbo (CH)

### REFLET D'OR FOR BEST IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE 2024

Supported by the City and Canton of Geneva (CHF 10,000)

***Oto's Planet*** | Gwenaël François | 2024 | LU, CA, FR | 28 min | Distributor: Astrea

Awarded by an international jury of experts: Domenico La Porta (BE), Christopher Lloyd Salter (CH), Corine Meijers (NL)

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

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

**FUTURE IS SENSIBLE AWARD 2024**

Funded by the Migros Cultural Percentage (CHF 10,000)

*Quiet Life* | Alexandros Avranas | 2024 | SE, FR, GR, DE, EE, FI | 99 min | International sales: Elle Driver

Awarded by a jury of international professionals active in audiovisual and creative industries:  
Joséphine Derobe (FR), Abir Oreibi (CH)

**SWISS SERIES STORYTELLING AWARD**

Offered by SSA and Suissimage cultural funds (CHF 20,000)

*Les Indociles* | Joanne Giger, Camille Rebetez, Delphine Lehericey, Aurélie Champagne et Olivier Volpi  
| 2023 | CH, BE | 5x55' | Broadcaster: RTS

Awarded by an independent jury of three international television industry figures: Tanguy Dekeyser (BE), Brice Mondoloni (FR), Mirela Nastase (DE)

**FILM & BEYOND AWARD 2024**

In association with O.Zbinden and HEAD – Geneva

Ava DuVernay (US)

**TALES OF SWISS INNOVATION 2024**

Professor Sarah Kenderdine (CH)

**SAVE THE DATE**

**October 31 - November 9, 2025** | GIFF 31<sup>th</sup> edition

**November 3 – 6, 2025** | GDM 13<sup>th</sup> edition

More info about [GIFF](#)

[Press area](#)

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