

THE SELECTION 2009

COMPÉTITION INTERNATIONALE

Aerial Perspectives on the Alberta Tar Sands

Peter, Mettler (2009, Canada, 40') WORLD PREMIERE

Infernal, poisonous images or a contemporary gold rush: the gigantic quarries of tar sands in Canada: an indispensable flight.

Bassidji

Mehran Tamadon (2009, Iran, Switzerland, France, 114') WORLD PREMIERE

In Iran, the director confronts the chiefs of the bassidji, the governmental militia for a totalitarian regime, with his questions.

Beyond the Game

Jos de Putter (2008, The Netherlands, 78') EUROPEAN PREMIERE

A cyber duel between a Chinese and a Dutchman vying for the title of world champion of the online strategy game, Warcraft.

Bilal

Sourav Sarangi (2008, India, Finland, 88') SWISS PREMIERE

An intimate, poetic film about the daily lives of a three-year-old child and his blind parents in the poorer areas of Calcutta.

Cooking History

Peter, Kerekes (2009, Slovakia, Austria, Czech Republic, 88') INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

Selection Eurodoc

An original historiography of the major wars in the 20th century - and also a modern soldiers' tale: wicked, winking and macabre.

Die Frau mit den 5 Elefanten

Vadim Jendreyko (2009, Germany, Switzerland, 92') WORLD PREMIERE

A fascinating world of culture and humanity at the heart of which the literary text is essential. 5 "elephants" = 5 great books by Dostoyevsky.

Geburt

Silvia Haselbeck, Erich Langjahr (2009, Switzerland, 76') WORLD PREMIERE

The spectacle of birth away from all untimely medicalization, with natural gestures and some exact images of the time of life that is arising.

L'Encerclement - La démocratie dans les rets du néolibéralisme

Richard Brouillette (2008, Canada, 160') SWISS PREMIERE

A journey with smart people who will make you more intelligent! Inside neo-liberal values, there is an adventure story that must be seen; the future is at stake.

La Maison vide

Stéphane Breton (2008, France, 52') WORLD PREMIERE

A melancholy portrait of mourning and regret in a small community in New Mexico and a world which ceaselessly dies and is reborn.

Les Damnés de la mer

Jawad Rhalib (2008, Belgium, Morocco, 71') INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

Jawad Rhalib observes globalisation in the fishing sector in Dakhla (Morocco). A bitter portrayal of the endless struggle between the weak and the strong.

Material

Thomas Heise (1988-2009, Germany, 166') INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

An exhausted political system, general protesting and the quest for paradise are perfectly and spectacularly represented by the fall of the Berlin Wall.

Mental

Kazuhiro Soda (2008, Japan, USA, 135')

Blurring the boundaries between sanity and madness, the film director follows the traces of Foucault through a Japanese psychiatric institution.

Perestroika - Reconstruction of a Flat

Christiane Büchner (2008, Germany, 84') INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

The complicated sale of a communal dwelling in St. Petersburg provides rich material for this tragicomical documentary.

Persona Non Grata

Fabio Wuytack (2008, Belgium, 38') SWISS PREMIERE

A son pays tribute to his father, a militant priest who has dedicated his life to the poor in the shantytowns of Caracas and the docks in Antwerp.

Survival Song

Yu Guangyi (2008, China, 94') SWISS PREMIERE

Selection Doc Alliance

How a family of Chinese peasants is condemned to poverty and is broken apart in the name of modernity. A deeply moving and sublime social tale.

The Last Season: Shawaks

Kazim Öz (2008, Turkey, 92') INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

The director follows a nomadic Kurdish tribe in eastern Turkey for a year in a film that is a cosmic ode to a world as yet unchanged.

The Sound of Insects - Record of a Mummy

Peter Liechti (2008, Switzerland, 87') SWISS PREMIERE

Selection Doc Alliance

A man of some forty years of age and refugee within a forest has decided to let himself literally die of hunger. He leaves a diary of his martyrdom.

The Tale of Nicolai and the Law of Return

David Ofek (2008, Israel, 54') INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

A Romanian construction worker in Israel learns about his Jewish roots, a discovery with unexpected consequences. An entertaining tale that seamlessly blends reality and fiction.

The Unforbidden City

Floris-Jan van Luyn (2008, The Netherlands, 58') INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

A reflection on the transformation of a city seen through the eyes of three inhabitants of one of Peking's oldest streets before its demolition.

Twenty Show Le film

Godefroy Fouray, François Vautier (2009, France, 70') WORLD PREMIERE

Selection Doc Web

Based on real and fictional video blogs, an intimate and eloquent (self-) portrait sheds some light on the young Internet generation.

REGARDS NEUFS

18 ans

Frédérique Pollet Rouyer (2009, France, Belgium, 22') WORLD PREMIERE

A sensitive portrayal of the turning point in the life of 18-year-old Morgane, who was brought up by just one parent due to her mother's alcohol addiction.

Babaji an Indian Love Story

Jiska Rickels (2008, The Netherlands, 72') INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

The director accompanies a 107-year-old healer who has taken to lying in his ready-made grave. It is the story of an awesome love.

Balance

Mahalia Cohen (2008, USA, 53') WORLD PREMIERE

American filmmaker Mahalia Cohen documents renowned New York dancer Homer Avila's battle with cancer: pitiless, tender, touching.

Baseball Boys

Ko-Shang Shen, Ching-Yao, Liao (2008, Taiwan, 85') EUROPEAN PREMIERE

Using a handheld camera, two Taiwanese filmmakers follow the highs and lows of a team of boys preparing for an important baseball tournament.

Brittany

Yann-Olivier Wicht (2009, Switzerland, 28') WORLD PREMIERE

Listen to this wasted trip to Brittany with a character who stubbornly refuses to open up to the camera, underscored by the emotional narration of a parting of the ways.

C'est notre Histoire

Frank Wimart (2009, Canada, 85') INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

A son's search for absent fathers and mothers leads to the realisation that familial entanglements are sometimes not so easy to unravel.

Carnets d'un fragment sonore

Samantha Granger (2009, Switzerland, 85') WORLD PREMIERE

From Switzerland to Japan, a hearkening to the sounds of the vast world that have the property of accessing landscapes deep within us. Rich to behold and beautiful to hear.

Cash and Marry

Georgiev Atanas (2009, Austria, Macedonia, 76') INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

In Vienna, two immigrants from Eastern Europe go to any length to find an Austrian woman consenting to a marriage of convenience.

Creative Chaos: Round One

Hassan Zbib (2008, Ireland, France, Liban, 66') INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

Returning to his village in Southern Lebanon following the 2006 war, the filmmaker reunites with his mother and a community that is wounded, yet very much alive.

Extravío

Daniellis Hernández Calderón (2007, Cuba, 21') WORLD PREMIERE

Recently arrived in Manchester and uncertain as to whom she can turn; a Cuban filmmaker embarks on an odyssey of chance encounters with people of African origin.

Hard Good Life 2

Hui-Ju Hsu (2008, Taiwan, 75') INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

In carefully composed scenes and with respectful distance, the filmmaker describes the strange entanglement of two cases of illness.

Hasta la Victoria

Chris Guidotti, Matteo Besomi (2009, Switzerland, 85') WORLD PREMIERE

A young married couple wishes to travel from Cuba to Switzerland for their studies. The wife flies out first of all but the husband's travel permit is delayed.

Home Recordings

Mari Soppela (2008, Finland, The Netherlands, Switzerland, 75') INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

In playful images from the family video album, the film director breathes life back into her marriage while a wry soundtrack comments on the crisis in the relationship.

Hors Saison

Jean-Claude Cottet (2008, France, 42') WORLD PREMIERE

After twelve years of absence, the film director reunites with his parents during a cautious approach of rare cinematographic intensity. A small gem of a film.

Hotel Sahara

Bettina Haasen (2008, Germany, 85')

Selection Doc Alliance

Nouhadibou in Mauritania: a melting pot of dreams and hopes and the terminus of countless young African emigrants who end up here.

La Chambre de Damien

Jasna Krajinovic (2008, Belgium, 73') EUROPEAN PREMIERE

The director follows a young man, Damien, during his last months of prison and his first steps in life, and perfectly illustrates what the "right distance" can be.

La Chirola

Diego Mondaca Gutierrez (2008, Cuba, Bolivia, 26') WORLD PREMIERE

A visually stunning portrait of a weathered ex-convict who had to flee civilisation in order to find himself in isolation.

La tierra habitada

Anna Sanmarti (2009, Spain, 71') WORLD PREMIERE

It is a long way to this village in the Mongolian plains, but life among these immense landscapes requires a different way of looking at the world.

Le Fantôme de Jenny M

Maryam Goormaghtigh (2009, France, 55') WORLD PREMIERE

In an intriguing atmosphere, a family manor reveals its secrets when the owners strip it of its furniture.

Me Broni Ba

Akosua Adoma Owusu (2008, USA, Ghana, 22') INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

This lyrical portrait of hair salons in Ghana investigates the complex issue of beauty and race – why are white baby dolls considered more desirable in Africa?

Orages d'été

Heidi Hassan (2008, Switzerland, 25') WORLD PREMIERE

An urban poem accompanied by music and light on the beginning of a love story between the filmmaker and a young guitarist.

Pediatrics Department

Wang Hao (2008, China, 113') INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

Under difficult working conditions, doctors and nurses relentlessly fight for the survival of their young patients in a Chinese hospital.

Rabbit à la Berlin

Bartek Konopka (2009, Germany, Poland, 50') WORLD PREMIERE

In a surprising collage, the film relates, in an Orwellian fashion, the history of the rabbit farm in the death zone of the Berlin wall.

Spaghetti alle vongole

Lila Ribí (2008, Switzerland, 28') WORLD PREMIERE

The filmmaker attempts to get closer to her severely depressed father, trying to get him out of his apparently hopeless life situation.

The Revolution that Wasn't

Aliona Polunina (2008, Estonia, Finland, 96') SWISS PREMIERE

An Estonian director accompanies a member of Russia's National Bolshevik Party, unveiling the crude ideology of the political right.

Um Lugar ao Sol

Gabriel Mascaro (2008, Brazil, 71') WORLD PREMIERE

This documentary contrasts the euphoric discourse of well-off penthouse inhabitants in Rio de Janeiro with disturbing images of the luxury skyscraper itself.

Wanted - Who murdered Derek?

Andrea Thiele, Diana Weilepp (2008, Germany, 60') INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

Karen, who is inconsolable after her brother's death, heads off on a road trip to search for his murderer in California - where he had lived.

HELVETIQUES

Au loin des Villages

Olivier Zuchuat (2008, Switzerland, France, 77') SWISS PREMIERE

The director films refugees from Chad who have been expelled from their villages by Sudanese Arab militia, and reveals a forgotten side to the Darfur conflict.

Ceux de la Colline

Berni Goldblat (2009, Switzerland, France, 72') WORLD PREMIERE

In Burkina Faso, when a gold seam appears, a bustling city of gold diggers, dynamiters and prostitutes comes together in just a few days.

D'une Rive à l'autre - Accompagner la fin de vie

Aline Brechbühl (2008, Switzerland, 53') WORLD PREMIERE

A moving image of the palliative-care nursing home Rive-Neuve on Lake Lemman, where the prospect of death is handled with humanity.

Face au Juge

Pierre-François Sauter (2008, Switzerland, 73') WORLD PREMIERE

An immersion in the office of an investigating magistrate where defendants accused of misdemeanours tell surprising stories that are funny yet sad.

Familientreffen - Marthaler Theater im Grand Hotel

Sarah Derendinger (2009, Switzerland, 59') WORLD PREMIERE

The former director of the Zurich Schauspielhaus stages a play in the Waldhaus Sils Maria Hotel. The leading actor reflects on the preparations from his hospital bed.

Fragmented Rhythms

Cyril Gfeller (2008, Switzerland, 18') WORLD PREMIERE

An amusing, compactly cut musical film, influenced by the musical freedom of the Lucien Dubuis Trio.

La Vie en 2

Frédéric Baillif (2009, Switzerland, 75') WORLD PREMIERE

Frédéric Baillif films his single friends with emotion and humour and captures the reality of over thirty-year-old "singles"

La Visite

Thibault de Chateauvieux (2008, Switzerland, 43') WORLD PREMIERE

The filmmaker draws up an honest yet subtle portrait of his brother who has gone to preach to the Mexican community in a town in northern United States.

Pamiec

Pauline Julier (2008, Switzerland, 33')

The director confronts her mother and grandmother. An essayistic film dealing with three generations of women and the incongruence of what was lived and what is remembered.

Second Me

Anna Thommen (2008, Switzerland, 19')

Second Me is the tough encounter with an individual who has logged out of reality to live his life solely in a virtual world.

Tabou

Orane Burri (2009, Switzerland, France, 56') WORLD PREMIERE

Set to video images shot by a young man determined to commit suicide, the evolution of people painfully faced with death.

Trans-Cutucú Zurück in den Urwald

Lisa Faessler (2009, Switzerland, 91') WORLD PREMIERE

A documentary on the profound chasm that separates ancient traditions from the irrevocable progress of crude rape and modernisation in the Ecuadorian jungle.

ATELIER JOANA HADJITHOMAS & KHALIL JOREIGE

A Perfect Day

Joana Hadjithomas, Khalil Joreige (2005, Lebanon, France, Germany, 88')

Erring through the streets of civil war-stricken Beirut, a mother and a son try to get away from their pain with varying strategies.

Ashes

Joana Hadjithomas, Khalil Joreige (2003, Lebanon, France, 26')

Back in Lebanon with the ashes of his father who was cremated contrary to tradition, Nabil faces the pressure of his family... A short crowned with a César.

Autour de la Maison rose

Joana Hadjithomas, Khalil Joreige (1999, Lebanon, France, Canada, 91')

This colourful tragicomedy develops one of the key themes of the Lebanese pair: remembrance and oblivion are essential for community life.

Barmeh

Joana Hadjithomas, Khalil Joreige (2002, Lebanon, France, 7')

An actor, a camera, a car and a city are the protagonists in this short film which explores the limits of staged and portrayed reality.

Don't Walk

Joana Hadjithomas, Khalil Joreige (2000-2004, Lebanon, 15')

Confined to her bed during the last five months of her pregnancy, the artist films ordinary moments turning them into real events.

Je veux voir

Joana Hadjithomas, Khalil Joreige (2008, Lebanon, France, 75') SWISS PREMIERE

Icons of the cinema Catherine Deneuve and Rabih Mroué travel in Southern Lebanon after the war. This forms the immense backdrop for a real journey that would like to be fictional.

Khiam / 2000-2007

Joana Hadjithomas, Khalil Joreige (2008, Lebanon, France, 105')

Six of Khiam's ex-inmates evoke their experiences and the deleted memory of a camp created by the Israeli forces in Southern Lebanon in 1985.

Le Film perdu

Joana Hadjithomas, Khalil Joreige (2003, Lebanon, France, 42')

In search of a lost copy, the couple takes the opportunity to analyse the Yemenites' relation to images, between memory and oblivion.

ATELIER SERGEY DVORTSEVOY

Bread Day

Sergey Dvortsevov (1998, Russia, 52')

Using minimalist film language, the filmmaker portrays the misery in modern Russia, where former workers survive in ghostly settlements.

Highway

Sergey Dvortsevov (1999, France, Russia, 52')

As he follows the tour of a circus in Kazakhstan, Dvortsevov puts together a road movie of both cosmic and intimist dimensions.

In the Dark

Sergey Dvortsevov (2004, Russia, Finland, 40')

A mischievous, tense face-off between an old blind man and his uncontrollable cat. A very funny mini tragicomedy.

Paradise

Sergey Dvortsevov (1995, Russia, 23')

As if he would through his camera adopt the way of life of the Kazakh nomads, the director, in his first film, moves with their rhythm from one planned sequence to the next.

Tulpan

Sergey Dvortsevov (2008, Germany, Switzerland, Kazakhstan, Russia, Poland, 100') *SWISS PREMIERE*

The adventures of Asa in the Kazakh steppe, a rejected lover and sheep herdsman seeking family happiness: a true story, and a great Dvortsevov!

REPROCESSING REALITY

Dear Dennis

Susan Mogul (1988, USA, 4')

Susan Mogul makes a provocative, hilarious declaration about dental hygiene to film director Dennis Hopper.

Dressing Up

Susan Mogul (1973, USA, 7')

In reversing a striptease, this performance of getting dressed is a lighthearted ode to publicity and consumption and their uncontrolled victims.

Driving Men

Susan Mogul (2008, USA, 68')

An entertaining autobiographical road movie about the men and other curiosities in the life of video artist Susan Mogul.

Everyday Echo Street: A Summer Diary

Susan Mogul (1993, USA, 32')

A saucy video journal where Susan Mogul portrays her friends and neighbours, for an ironic introspection into her (non-existent) love life.

I Stare at You and Dream

Susan Mogul (1997, USA, 56')

In this intimate journal that finds its way between humour and gravity, the film-maker reviews a generation in search of independence, reference points and love.

Prosaic Portraits, Ironies and Other Intimancies

Susan Mogul (1991, USA, 46')

Susan Mogul keeps a diary in film of her journey to Eastern Europe in search of herself, and of her meetings with a gallery of quite special characters.

Sing, O Barren Woman

Susan Mogul (2000, USA, 11')

In a cleverly constructed audiovisual montage, this documentary film morphs into a music video in which a group of women celebrate their voluntary childlessness.

Take Off

Susan Mogul (1974, USA, 10')

Sensually and provocatively, the director thematises feminine masturbation – and undermines the seductive strategies of porn cinema.

Untitled

Susan Mogul (1973, USA, 1')

A short, intense and provocative performance: that of a woman exhibiting the intimate relationship between herself and her own blood.

SÉANCES SPÉCIALES

Auge in Auge - Eine deutsche Filmgeschichte

Michael Althen, Hans Helmut Prinzler (2008, Germany, 106') SWISS PREMIERE

German directors like Andreas Dresen and Wim Wenders present their favourite films and establish a new 'definite' collection of German film.

Auto*Mat

Martin Marek (2009, Czech Republic, 90') WORLD PREMIERE

Selection Doc Alliance

Martin Marek invents a militant, jubilatory film-action to combat the automatisms generated by Prague's automobile culture.

Big John

Håvard Bustnes (2008, Norway, 86')

Selection Doc Alliance

The rise and fall of a young boxer, coached by his father “Big John”, who was also his trainer, impresario and agent. A story worthy of a Scorsese film.

Camerawar 6

Lech Kowalski (2009, France, USA, 90')

Selection Doc Web

The underground filmmaker Lech Kowalski goes online: an eminently political interactive project that renews the documentary film genre.

Double Take

Johan Grimmonprez (2009, Belgium, Germany, The Netherlands, 81') EUROPEAN PREMIERE

Selection Eurodoc

Thanks to the masterful editing of Hitchcock archives and films, the video director and artist proposes a brilliant reflection on fear as conveyed by images.

La Décomposition de l'âme

Nina Toussaint, Massimo Iannetta (2002, Belgium, 82')

An implacable investigation into the highly sophisticated repressive system of the Stasi prison in former East Berlin.

Maggie in Wonderland

Ester Martin Bergsmark, Beatrice «Maggie» Andersson, Mark Hammarberg (2008, Sweden, Finland, 72')

Selection Doc Alliance

Maggie, a young woman from Kenya, films her world in the Swedish city of Malmö. A creative portrayal of the meaning of social isolation.

Märkische Trilogie (1. Märkische Ziegel; 2. Märkische Heide, märkische Sand; 3. Märkische Gesellschaft)

Volker Koepp (1988-1991, DDR, Germany, 165')

In three parts, a contribution of reference at the heart of the collapse of the Communist regime. A small German town bears witness to the upheavals.

On Hitler's Highway

Lech Kowalski (2002, France, 81')

To travel with open eyes is a talent! Along this motorway, according to chance meetings, a strong geography of truths and illusions is deployed.

Super Mom

Sarah Klein (2009, France, USA, 70') INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

Selection Eurodoc

A sensitive meeting with several candidates who are preparing for the choice of the American "Young Mother of the Year".

Tag des Sieges

Ingeborg Jacobs (2001, Germany, 80')

The Soviet victory at the end of World War II, a patriotic commemoration with a Soviet flavour; the medals sparkle!

The City Named Desire

Peter Zach (2008, Germany, 92') INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

The director delicately captures the polyphony and ambivalence of Berlin: a fascinating portrait of the German capital.

The One Man Village

Simon, El-Habre (2008, Lebanon, 86') SWISS PREMIERE

Selection Eurodoc

Semaan has returned to the abandoned mountain village of his ancestors and sings lullabies to his cows – an understanding portrait of an odd man.

FICTIONS DU RÉEL

Barthalo! Good Luck!

Robert Lakatos (2008, Hungary, 80') SWISS PREMIERE

This feature film takes on the characteristics of a documentary in relating the hilarious adventures of two cliché-ridden dodgy dealers from Romania.

Demain, les chiens

Mathias Montavon, Marianne, Thivillier (2009, Switzerland, 26') WORLD PREMIERE

In the abandoned factories of Georgia, bodies arranged as tableaux vivants recount the reality of war... or perhaps of some murderous pandemic!

Dossiê Bordosa

Cesar Cabral (2008, Brazil, 15') INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

Entirely animated with plasticine figures, this short film examines the background and the murder of a notorious figure that was eliminated by her creator.

L'Aube

Pierre Merejkowsky (2008, France, 15') INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

When a libertarian topples the real world. An amusingly refreshing dig which irreverently imitates the militant film

Les Bureaux de Dieu

Claire Simon (2008, France, Belgium, 122') *SWISS PREMIERE*

The condition of women seen from a family planning clinic. The latest film of Claire Simon interweaving documentary and fiction with famed actresses.

Re-Search

Kwang-Ju Son (2008, South Korea, 20') *SWISS PREMIERE*

With a remarkable sense of humour and understatement, the filmmaker condenses a whole day's worth of research into twenty short minutes.

Borgate

Lotte Schreiber (2008, Italy, Austria, 15') SWISS PREMIERE

Lotte Schreiber (I.E., Quadro) offers a formal and eloquent deconstruction of a suburban Roman neighbourhood built in the modernist post-war spirit.

Dolce Vita

Michael Schwarz (2008, Germany, 13') INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

With a mixture of committed observation and amused distance, the filmmaker portrays a swinger club in Leipzig imbued with GDR nostalgia.

El olvido

Heddy Honigmann (2008, The Netherlands, Germany, 93') SWISS PREMIERE

Profound and sensitive portraits of the people of Peru, who have been abandoned by their governors, yet who resist despite the misery and despair of their situation.

El Sistema

Paul Smaczny, Maria Stodtmeier (2009, Germany, Switzerland, 102') INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

A fascinating portrait of a network of music schools that give Venezuelan children from precarious circumstances a chance at social survival.

Fading

Ko-Shang Shen (2008, Taiwan, 15') INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

Au travers d'ambiances éloquentes, Shen Ko-Shang nous raconte le destin de ce qui fut le plus grand aéroport militaire taiwanais et de ses logements pour familles.

Ghiro Ghiro Tondo

Angela Ricci-Lucchi, Yervant Gianikian (2007, Italy, 61')

Through a toy collection covering nearly half a century, the filmmakers evoke the ideologies that several generations of children grew up with.

Himalaya, le chemin du ciel

Marianne Chaud (2008, France, 65') SWISS PREMIERE

A subjective and amazing immersion in a Himalayan monastery in the footsteps of a little monk embarking on a perilous winter odyssey.

Hochburg der Sünden

Thomas Lauterbach (2008, Germany, 79') INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

Aysel, a religious Turkish woman, agrees to act in a provocative version of "Medea", compelling her to question her way of life.

Hunting the Hunters

Angela Graas (2009, Germany, 88') WORLD PREMIERE

In a kind of visual logbook, director Angela Graas documents Greenpeace's multi-week campaign against a fleet of whaling ships from Japan's Institute for Cetacean Research.

In Transit

Lida Abdul (2008, Austria, Afghanistan, 5') SWISS PREMIERE

Lida Abdul presents us with a meditation on the Afghan of the future, around the rusty plane wreckage that some children are transforming into their version of a kite.

La Cité des Roms

Frederic Castaignède (2008, France, 97') INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

An investigation in the Romani ghettos of Bulgaria, where children are victims of segregation as they are not allowed to attend normal classes with Bulgarian children.

La rabbia di Pasolini - ipotesi di ricostruzione della versione originale del film

Pier Paolo Pasolini, Giuseppe Bertolucci (2008, Italy, 76')

The reconstruction of a film made in 1963 by Pasolini. A montage of post-war pictures with a text in voice over, in which the filmmaker gives vent to his rage.

Lessons from the Night - An Existential Film about Cleaning

Adrian Francis (2008, Australia, 8') EUROPEAN PREMIERE

While completing her cleaning rounds through vacant offices, Maria muses on the work she does nightly and the trace people have left behind.

Los Herederos

Eugenio Polgovsky (2008, Mexico, 90') SWISS PREMIERE

Constructed in episodes, the film shows the life of a Mexican farming village, where the central tasks of the village community are taken over by children.

Música para astronautas

Ernesto Baca (2008, Argentina, 65')

The Argentinean filmmaker follows a solitary course between fiction and the documentary within the twists and turns of the human spirit.

My Neighbor My Killer

Anne Aghion (2009, France, USA, 80') SWISS PREMIERE

The peace process and cohabitation involved are observed through the popular trials following the Rwandan genocide. An emotional journey coloured with pain and hope.

Pale Peko Bantu Mambo Ayikosake

Bram Van Paesschen (2008, Belgium, 95') SWISS PREMIERE

The misery and grandeur of a handful of self-made Katangan miners struggling with the harshness of their condition in the Kolwezi region of the Congo.

Pizza in Auschwitz

Moshe Zimerman (2008, Israel, 52') SWISS PREMIERE

An Israeli survivor of the Holocaust wants to spend a night with his two grown-up children in the Auschwitz concentration camp – a tragicomical family outing.

Plane Days

Ewan McNicol, Benjamin Kracun (2008, UK, 15') SWISS PREMIERE

At the end of the Heathrow runway, spotters watch the planes go by! Purely British humour and cynicism abounds in this short movie.

Silent Color, Silent Voice

Ayako Mogi (2008, Japan, Germany, 75') INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

On an island in southwest Japan, weaver Akiko Ishigaki and her husband are living and working in harmony with nature and the gods.

Slaves

Hanna Heilborn, David Aronowitsch (2008, Sweden, Denmark, Norway, 15') SWISS PREMIERE

Two children from southern Sudan talk about their experiences as slaves in this animated short that illustrates their stories in cartoon-style.

Soy un alma sin ley en el mundo

Alejandro Fernández Mouján (2008, Argentina, 12') INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

Although Ualdino lives alone and miserably in a former factory site in Argentina, he has never lost his optimism.

The Living

Sergiy Bukovsky (2008, Ukraine, 75') INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

During the collectivization of farming in Ukraine in the 1930s, countless peasants were forcibly dispossessed and left to starve. A dark chapter in Soviet history.

Un Voyage américain

Philippe Séclier (2008, France, USA, 58') WORLD PREMIERE

Selection Eurodoc

December 2007. The end of a two-year journey to retrace the path of the mythical photographer Robert Frank and the start of a fascinating film.

Where the Sun Doesn't Rush

Matej Bobrik (2009, Poland, 18') INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

A Polish excursion into a village who's people seem to have nothing to look forward to but their own end and the recruitment of a new gardener for the cemetery.

With the Beatles - Klaus Voormann

Jörg Bundschuh (2009, Germany, 90')

A portrait of long-term Beatles associate, artist and bassist Klaus Voormann, who marks his 70th birthday by re-recording songs with his old rock 'n' roll buddies.

Z32

Avi Mograbi (2008, Israel, France, 81') SWISS PREMIERE

An ex-soldier confesses to the atrocities he committed while in the Israeli army. Mograbi provocatively and almost lightheartedly breaks another taboo.

Dear Oprah: Non-Voting America's Wildest Dream

Kasper Verkaik (2008, The Netherlands, 52') INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

Selection Doc Web

A funny yet earnest road-movie across the United States during the rise of Obama, in an attempt to meet the country's non-voters.

Déchets: le cauchemar du nucléaire

Éric Guéret (2009, France, 98') WORLD PREMIERE

What is being done with nuclear waste? This rousing report addresses an uncomfortable issue, reminding us that no satisfactory solution has yet been found.

Katanga Business

Thierry Michel (2009, Belgium, France, 120') EUROPEAN PREMIERE

An expert on the Congo, Thierry Michel takes a close look at Katanga, rich in copper ore, cobalt and zinc, and the object of every form of cupidity.

La Cité du pétrole

Marc Wolfensberger (2009, Switzerland, Azerbaijan, 52') WORLD PREMIERE

Right from the heart of the Oil Rocks oil platform this film tells the tale of the labourers who live and work on the world's largest offshore oil production facility.

Les Invisibles

Alain de Halleux (2009, Belgium, 13') WORLD PREMIERE

A deeply moving film about a photographer who portrays men and women living in regions contaminated by radioactivity.

R.A.S. Nucléaire, rien à signaler

Alain de Halleux (2009, Belgium, 58') WORLD PREMIERE

The filmmaker interviews the increasingly mistreated workers of European nuclear stations on whom our security depends entirely.

The Soldier's Tale

Penny Allen (2008, France, 52') EUROPEAN PREMIERE

A chance in-flight encounter between peace activist Penny Allen and a traumatized Iraq war veteran leads to an ambivalent second meeting back in the States.

Traders

Jean-Stéphane Bron (2009, Switzerland, France, 52') WORLD PREMIERE

Men and women active in finance. The stock market or life! Some of the heroes are really boxing, for the good cause of course.

FIRST STEPS

A Taste of Honey

Simon Rittmeier (2008, Germany, Cuba, 10') WORLD PREMIERE

A black and white exercise in style focussing on the deconstruction of Cuban clichés in fifteen sequence shots organised like a musique concrete core.

Alles außer hören

Peter Hecker (2008, Germany, 16') EUROPEAN PREMIERE

Alles ausser hören is a tender film about a quiet yet in no way silent world.

Chrigi

Anj, Kofmel (2008, Switzerland, 7')

A short animation film in which the filmmaker, immersed in the rich imaginary world of her childhood, evokes the memory of her murdered journalist cousin.

Der Spaziergang

Elif Ugurlu (2008, Switzerland, 17') WORLD PREMIERE

In a successful experimental form, Elif Ugurlu connects scenes from Robert Walsers *Spaziergang* with archive material of the general strike in Grenchen from 1918.

El patio de mi casa

Patricia Ramos (2007, Cuba, 13') WORLD PREMIERE

Staged scenes of everyday life within a three-generation family merge into a spirited portrayal of present-day Cuban society.

Entretien avec Almiro Vilar da Costa

Sergio Da Costa (2008, Switzerland, 29') WORLD PREMIERE

Snapshot of a relationship. In a fixed camera approach, the film-maker asks his father what he really thinks of him.

Esquisse de vies

Janka Rahm (2008, Switzerland, 35') WORLD PREMIERE

Architecture is a vocation and a passion for many. In this movie, established and upcoming architects undertake a personal analysis of their creative process.

Le Pigeonnier

Romain Baudéan (2008, France, 19') INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

Following his contracting of the HIV illness, Jean-Marie decided on seclusion and has subsequently been living in an old dovecot in the middle of the Pyrenees.

Mafiesh

Amani Abu-Ramadan (2008, Palestine, 11') WORLD PREMIERE

In this fast-paced film that combines elements of the soap opera and the music video, Amani Abu Ramadan documents desperate yet entertaining preparations for a wedding in Gaza.

Migración

Marcela Gómez Montoya (2008, Colombia, 24') EUROPEAN PREMIERE

A young Colombian woman uses the medium of film to creatively work through her feelings about living apart from her family, who emigrated to the United States.

Mohnkugeln

Monja Art (2008, Austria, 20') INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

An old man lives alone in a remote farmhouse in Lower Austria. An individualistic approach to images and sound shapes this experimental Heimatfilm.

Nebenlauf

Anja Schwyzer (2008, Switzerland, 14')

Through the memories of her next-of-kin, the filmmaker gently comes to terms with her sad life experience.

Nine Forgotten Songs

Galina Krasnoborova (2008, Russia, 20') INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

High-contrast black-and-white images set the uncanny tone of this lyrical short film about loss and forgetting among the indigenous people of northern Russia.

On faisait un

Bastien Bössinger (2008, Switzerland, 16') WORLD PREMIERE

The film is an unadorned portrait of a young man who has no great expectations for his life and/or the fulfilment of his personal dreams.

Vinterferie

Camilla Magid (2008, Denmark, 14')

A short portrait of idle youth during the winter holiday that turns to boredom for three teenage girls in the suburbs of Copenhagen.

We - 1st Person Plural (This Is a Film about the Predictable Patterns of Human Behaviour)

Kevin Kirchenbauer (2008, Germany, 11') WORLD PREMIERE

In a short form experiment the filmmaker succeeds in finding out about the ever recurring identical action of human beings.

Yo Dual

Alana Simoes Orozco (2007, Cuba, Mexico, 15') WORLD PREMIERE

A delicate portrayal of a performance artist whose narcissistic creations lend his split identity a body and a voice.