

# visions du réel

INTERNATIONAL  
FILM FESTIVAL  
NYON

PRESS RELEASE

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## CLAIRE SIMON HONOURED WITH THE PRIX RAIFFEISEN MAÎTRE DU RÉEL AND ATELIERS BY ROBERT GREENE AND PHILIP SCHEFFNER AT VISIONS DU RÉEL 2018

VISIONS DU RÉEL  
PLACE DU MARCHÉ 2  
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SUISSE

[www.visionsdureel.ch](http://www.visionsdureel.ch)

On Monday 16 April, Visions du Réel, International Film Festival Nyon (13–21 April 2018), will award the Sesterce d'or Prix Raiffeisen Maître du Réel to the French director Claire Simon. "We are delighted to welcome, for the first time, a woman as Maître du Réel, with a director that everybody should know: Claire Simon," rejoices Emilie Bujès, Artistic Director. During the Festival, a retrospective will be dedicated to the filmmaker, who will present a Masterclass: a unique opportunity to discover her universe, fluctuating between documentary and fiction. Two other special guests, the renowned filmmakers Robert Greene (United States), for whom this will be the first full retrospective, and Philip Scheffner (Germany), will also present their work to the public during two Masterclasses as part of the Festival's Ateliers.

### MAÎTRE DU RÉEL – Claire Simon or the great novel of ordinary life



Photo ©Nicolas Guérin

Claire Simon taught herself filmmaking, via editing. She moved towards documentary film, even if her aesthetics would never cease to blur the boundaries separating documentary from fiction. In the 1990s, she shot *Récréations* and *Coûte que coûte* (Locarno Festival), which won a number of prizes, then made a foray into fiction with *Simon, oui* (1997, Festival de Cannes), inspired by... a true story. By taking possession of authentic accounts, that prove her taste for the fictional, Claire Simon next filmed her daughter's flirtation (*800 km de différence/Romance*, 2001, FIDMarseille) then, among others, *Les Bureaux de Dieu* (2008, Quinzaine des Réalisateurs Cannes), in which she had both famous and amateur actresses perform, or *Le Bois dont les rêves sont faits* (2016). She has just finished a new feature-length film about adolescence entitled *Premières solitudes* (Berlinale). In addition to being present in Nyon during the Festival, Claire Simon will also attend the screenings of *Géographie humaine* and *Gare du Nord* (2013) in Lausanne on 18 April. These two screenings are part of the retrospective the Cinémathèque suisse dedicates to the filmmaker in collaboration with Visions du Réel.

- Soirée Maître du Réel, Monday 16 April at 20:30 • Masterclass Claire Simon, Tuesday 17 April at 10:00
- Retrospective at the Cinémathèque Suisse, 3–30 April, and at Visions du Réel, 13–21 April
- Filmography and more details: [www.visionsdureel.ch/en/festival/maitre-du-reel-2018](http://www.visionsdureel.ch/en/festival/maitre-du-reel-2018)

### ATELIER – Robert Greene, the reinvention of the North-American documentary

Robert Greene, a native of North Carolina, is one of the most significant and avant-garde directors of the emerging scene in the United States. His work has redefined the frontiers of the traditional documentary, challenging notions of reality and fiction. It was notably at Visions du Réel, with the surprising *Kati with an I* (2010), that the work of Robert Greene became recognised at an international level. The director offers up a coherent body of work that embraces American contradictions and mythologies; his films have been presented at the Berlinale and Sundance. This year's Visions du Réel Atelier is the very first full retrospective to be devoted to him, and thus provides students, film fans and the general public a unique opportunity to experience the most innovative films made in the United States for the past decade.

- Masterclass Robert Greene, Wednesday 18 April at 10:00
- Filmography and more details: [www.visionsdureel.ch/en/festival/ateliers-2018](http://www.visionsdureel.ch/en/festival/ateliers-2018)

### ATELIER – Philip Scheffner or the exploration of the folds of history

A unique voice in contemporary German documentary filmmaking, Philip Scheffner questions, throughout his work, the construction of truths, whether these are media-based (*Day of the Sparrow*, *Havarie*), legal (*Revision*), historical or anthropological (*The Halfmoon Files*). Often starting from news items, his work puts his subjects into perspective in order to examine how they are reported to us. His filmmaking is also marked by a profoundly human process in which the protagonists are approached as equals. His feature-length films have been presented in the Forum section of the Berlinale, at the Yamagata Film Festival and at the Museum of the Moving Image in New York among others. The Visions du Réel Masterclass will be given as a duo, with the German writer and filmmaker Merle Kröger, who, with Philip Scheffner, co-founded the pong production platform in Berlin.

- Masterclass Philip Scheffner and Merle Kröger, Thursday 19 April at 10:00
- Filmography and more details: [www.visionsdureel.ch/en/festival/ateliers-2018](http://www.visionsdureel.ch/en/festival/ateliers-2018)

Full programme and tickets on 14 March 2018  
49th edition of Visions du Réel: 13–21 April 2018

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