

Peter Greenaway receives the Raiffeisen Maître du Réel Award and Visions du Réel pays tribute to two established directors with its Ateliers

26 January 2016, Nyon (Switzerland) – Inviting two of the international documentary film scene's key directors and giving the public the opportunity to discover their world and working methods, is what Visions du Réel, Festival international de cinéma Nyon, has to offer. This year, in homage to his entire career, the British director Peter Greenaway will receive the Sesterce d'or Raiffeisen Maître du Réel Award in person. The Festival's guests of honour for the Ateliers, the Canadian Dominic Gagnon and the Lithuanian Audrius Stonys – major directors on the international scene in the field of documentary filmmaking – will also be in attendance. These three renown filmmakers will each present their work to the public during masterclasses at the Festival.



Peter Greenaway: filmmaker of the system and of excess

"For every edition, we invite a major filmmaker in order to recognise their entire career with an honorary award", points out Luciano Barisone, Director of Visions du Réel. "This year, in director Peter Greenaway, we honour a real explorer of cinematic codes and his works which are profuse in extremely stylised aesthetics," he enthuses.

Among the recurring elements of his work are murder, scheming, sex, irony, and a certain cruelty. A director, plastic artist and visual artist, Peter Greenaway has made over sixty films. *The Cook, the Thief, His Wife and Her Lover* (1989), *Drowning by Numbers* (1988) and *The Draughtsman's Contract* (1982) are among his major works.

His latest film, *Eisenstein in Guanajuato* (2015), will be screened on Monday 18 April after the Maître du Réel Ceremony during which he will be presented in person with the Sesterce d'or Raiffeisen Maître

du Réel Award. In addition, Peter Greenaway will hold a masterclass open to the public the following morning, Tuesday 19 April. "We will screen some of his most significant films during the Festival (15–23 April 2016) and we confirm our leading role in film activities around Lake Geneva by continuing our rich collaboration with the Cinémathèque suisse in Lausanne, which will be organising a retrospective of the works of Peter Greenaway at the same time," highlights Claude Ruey, President of the Festival.

Encounters with two internationally renown directors

For its traditional Ateliers, Visions du Réel welcomes two key filmmakers from the world of documentary cinema. The guests of honour sharing their world and working methods with the public this year are: the Canadian director Dominic Gagnon, whose approach revolves around sound installations, machines and concepts; and the Lithuanian Audrius Stonys, who ceaselessly questions the world in his creations, thus blending the material with the spiritual.

Dominic Gagnon: filmmaker of chaos

A director, installation artist and performance artist, Dominic Gagnon works from images taken from the web. His works examine the distinctiveness of cinema while suggesting the collapse of its formal settings. Through these twists, his practice challenges the institutional and cultural methods of producing and using images. His work focuses on themes of contemporary mythologies, marginal productions of the image in movement and of their censure, and terms of mediation between the work and the spectator. The issues of violence, economy, the homeless, identity or sadomasochism are part of his discourse.



**Audrius Stonys: filmmaker of the invisible**

The work of Audrius Stonys takes the form of a quest opening onto an imagination composed of fragility and poetry. Heaven and earth, above and below, the immanent and the transcendent inhabit his filmmaking. His latest achievements – principally short and medium-length films – question the very gesture of filming through the use of celluloid and digital technology. This way of working influences the aesthetics of his films; it is not uncommon for film accidents to be shown to the spectator. His cinema is a form of speech, via images, directly influenced by his life under the lies and propaganda of the Soviet era.

Portraits of directors and a selection of images from their films: www.visionsdureel.ch/presse/materiel
Detailed filmographies in the press kit: www.visionsdureel.ch/en/press/information

Visions du Réel, Festival international de cinéma Nyon, 15–23 April 2016

The full Festival programme will be announced on 23 March 2016

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