

visions du réel

50^e FESTIVAL
INTERNATIONAL
DE CINÉMA NYON

VISIONS DU RÉEL
PLACE DU MARCHÉ 2
CH-1260 NYON
SUISSE

www.visionsdureel.ch

PRESS RELEASE

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WERNER HERZOG, A LEGENDARY DIRECTOR COMING TO NYON FOR THE 50th EDITION OF VISIONS DU RÉEL

The adventurous filmmaker Werner Herzog, a major figure in international film, has been invited by Visions du Réel for its 50th edition. The director will be awarded the Sesterce d'or Prix Raiffeisen Maître du Réel tomorrow evening, Monday 8 April, with a laudation by Carlo Chatrian, former Artistic Director of the Locarno Film Festival and Artistic Director of the Berlinale as of the 2020 edition. Werner Herzog will be present at the Festival for three whole days and will present several of his films among the 14 works screened as part of the retrospective organised in partnership with the Cinémathèque Suisse and ECAL. He will also give a Masterclass on Tuesday 9 April at 14:00. Information and tickets:

www.visionsdureel.ch/festival/maitre-du-reel-2019

Maître du Réel – Werner Herzog

A filmmaker whose approach is as philosophical as it is physical, Herzog constantly aspires to "walk to the ends of the earth" (*Gasherbrom*, *The Dark Glow of the Mountains*). At times omnipresent, at times leaving room for others, between heroism and testing limits (*The Great Ecstasy of Woodcarver Steiner*), and with a certain taste for madness and the absurd, he explores and surveys beings and places, not without humour or (self) derision (*Encounters at the End of the World*). Werner Herzog has worked with Isabelle Adjani, Nicolas Cage, Christian Bale and Nicole Kidman among others and won the award for Best Director at the 1982 Cannes Film Festival for his masterpiece *Fitzcarraldo*. Moving freely between different forms and processes, fiction and documentary, Werner Herzog was an obvious choice as the figurehead for this fiftieth edition of Visions du Réel.

Soirée Maître du Réel, Monday 8 April, 20:30 Théâtre de Marens

The Prix Raiffeisen Maître du Réel will be awarded to Werner Herzog on Monday 8 April at 20:30, with a laudation by Carlo Chatrian, Artistic Director of the Berlinale as of the 2020 edition. On this occasion, the audience will be able to discover Werner Herzog's latest film *Meeting Gorbachev* (2018), co-directed by André Singer, as a Swiss premiere. It gathers together several interviews undertaken over six months between the director and the former President of the Soviet Union, now 88 years old. They inevitably talk about politics, about the six years during which the Russian sat at the head of the USSR, perestroika and glasnost, and also reunification, since this is an aspect more closely connected to the biography of the filmmaker who grew up in post-war Germany. A singularly personal film that shows all the poetry of two illustrious men. Information and tickets at: www.visionsdureel.ch/2019/film/meeting-gorbachev

Fourteen films by Werner Herzog to see at Visions du Réel

My Best Fiend, *Into the Inferno*, *Lessons of Darkness*, *Wings of Hope*, *Grizzly Man* or even *Encounters at the End of the World*, from which the trailer for this 50th edition of Visions du Réel is taken: in total, fourteen films by Werner Herzog will be screened as part of the retrospective that Visions du Réel is dedicating to him. The director will present several screenings of his films.

Find the full programme at: www.visionsdureel.ch/festival/programme

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