

[◀ previous](#)[next ▶](#)**VISIONS DU RÉEL 2019****Visions du Réel announces its 50th programme and it's all about freedom**

by GIORGIA DEL DON

12/03/2019 - The Nyon festival (5 to 13 April) celebrates its 50th anniversary without having lost any of its characteristic radicalism



Passion - Between Revolt and Resignation by Christian Labhart

Even though freedom and an openness to new cinematographic languages, themes and experiments may seem part and parcel of *Visions du Réel* by now, the important fiftieth edition of the festival on Lake Geneva (5 to 13 April) is due to celebrate these two concepts, with 169 films (including 102 world or international premieres) from 58 countries due to be showcased in this year's programme.

Always willing to take on the role of explorer and look for new perspectives that challenge the malleable definition of 'documentary film,' this year, in addition to the 95 films featured in its various competitive sections, *Visions du Réel* will also be showcasing feature films, *Burning Lights*, national and medium feature films, short films and *Opening Scenes* (a section dedicated to the new generation), 36 Swiss productions and co-productions, an homage to the immense and provocative German director **Werner Herzog** (who will also host an unmissable masterclass, in addition to receiving the Golden Sestertius Raiffeisen Maître du Réel Award), as well as two very interesting workshops hosted by **Tariq Tegui** and **Massimo D'Anolfi** and **Marina Parenti**. And while the



(The article continues below - Commercial information)

Among the 15 films competing in this year's International Feature Film Competition, all of which quite literally challenge the definition of 'documentary,' are 12 European productions and co-productions. The only Swiss film this year is **Passion-Between Revolt and Resignation** by **Christian Labhart**, an almost mystical essay on the complexity of contemporary living. **Nicolas Graux's** French-Belgian **Century of Smoke** transports us to far away Laos, while **Dreams for the Outback** by Danish director **Jannik Splidsboel** gives a voice to the Australian Aboriginal community. The German director **Thomas Heise** focuses on the complexity of Germany in his latest film **Heimat is a Space in Time** [+], already shown at the Berlinale. **Kiruna - A Brand New World** by **Greta Stocklassa** transports us to a city that quite literally has to move in order to exist, while young protagonists embark on a unique journey (from their native Germany to Romania) in the German film **Out of Place** by **Friederike Güssefeld**. The International Competition includes three European co-productions: **That Which Does Not Kill** by **Alexe Poukine** (Belgium/France), **The Wind. A Documentary Thriller** by **Michal Bielawski** (Poland/Slovakia) and **Those Who Remain** by **Ester Sparatore** (France/Italy/Belgium). Finally, three documentaries produced with a European country have also made the cut: the poetic and incisive **Aether** by **Rûken Tekes** (Turkey/Italy), **Norie** by **Yuki Kawamura** (Luxembourg/Japan), and **When the Persimmons Grew** by **Hilal Baydarov** (Azerbaijan/Austria).

Of the 16 selected films for the Burning Lights section, the second competitive section dedicated to feature films, four of them are Swiss film: **Loulou** by **Nathan Hofstetter**, **Madame** by **Stéphane Riethauser**, **Naturales Historiae** by **Pauline Julier**, and the French co-production **Le Pays** by **Lucien Monot** (medium-length film). Other French films in the selection include **Ordinary Landscape** by **Damien Monnier**, **The Hause** by **Mali Arun** and **Piuccheperfetto** by **Riccardo Giacconi** (medium-length film). **The Sound Is Innocent** by **Johana Ožvold** is a co-production between France, the Czech Republic and Slovakia, while Germany is also present with **Animals** by **Jonas Priestersbach**, and an Iranian co-production: **In the Name of Scheherazade or the First Beergarden in Tehran** by **Narges Kalhor**.

(Translated from Italian)

Did you enjoy reading this article? Please subscribe to our newsletter to receive more stories like this directly in your inbox.


[◀ previous](#)
[next ▶](#)

related news

13/03/2019
Cinéma du Réel 2019

Cinéma du Réel celebrates documentary film in all its forms

12/03/2019
Festivals – Italy

Bolzano Film Festival Bozen becomes a borderland between Italian and German cinema

11/03/2019
Thessaloniki Documentary 2019 – Awards

Advocate triumphs at the Thessaloniki Documentary Festival

11/03/2019
Festivals – Belgium

Reruns by Dutch director Rostow awarded at Anima

08/03/2019
Sofia 2019

The 23rd Sofia International Film Festival kicks off

07/03/2019
Festivals – Spain

Punto de Vista gears up to celebrate its 13th edition

[all news](#)