



Press release
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The Talks of Visions du Réel 2022

Offering a new series of Morning Talks, the 53rd edition of Visions du Réel invites filmmakers who are presenting their films in the 2022 program to meet and discuss contemporary cinema, around specific questions that link them or, on the contrary, divide them. As for the VDR-Industry Online Talks, created in 2020 for the online edition, they represent a crucial moment of confrontation and interaction between professionals. This year's discussions will welcome Frédéric Boyer (Artistic Director of the Tribeca Film Festival), Eva Sangiorgi (Director of the Viennale) and Giulia D'Agnolo Vallan from the Venice Film Festival, among others.

Finally, as the war continues in Ukraine, the Festival wishes to offer a platform to young Ukrainian filmmakers and producers currently standing alongside their compatriots under the Russian bombs, to reflect and debate with them on the possibility of resisting the ongoing aggression with the images that document it.

Morning Talks

Sunday 10.04. 10.00-11.30am, Colombière

Morning Talk 1 : Staging in direct cinema

Nothing could be further from the truth than the notion of direct cinema, conceived as the ability of filmmakers to choose the right focal length, to place themselves at the right distance and press record at the right moment. Yet the old "cinéma vérité" now seems to be part of the collections of the imaginary museum of documentary practices, which have renewed their inspirations through the hybridity of forms. But if staging is no longer banished from the field of the documentary, in what cases does it impose itself?

Moderation: Violeta Bava (selection committee). Participants: Lydie Wisshaupt, Tizian Büchi, Jannes Callens, Luka Papić (subject to change).

Monday 11.04 | 10.00-11.30am, Colombière

Morning Talk 2 : The intimate side of reality: approaching politics from below ?

Recent societal dynamics have not ceased to give political expression to common personal experiences (whether the feminist movement or questions related to gender identity). Echoing this general movement, documentary films combine freedom of tone and form to bring the intimate (love, family...) to the public space of the cinema. Why do a growing number of contemporary filmmakers want to tell their stories politically?

Moderation: Aurélien Marsais (selection committee). Participants: Daniela de Felice, Diana El Jeiroudi, Patrick Muroi, Elvis A-Liang Lu (subject to change).

Tuesday 12.04 | 10.00-11.30 am, Colombière

Morning Talk 3 : The issue of territory

The territory is not a landscape. It can be geographical, imaginary or mental. It imposes its physical immediacy, which nevertheless calls for the frame to grasp it. A territory contains multiple points of view, random paths easily lost. For the filmmaker, it constitutes a representation issue. But how do you tell the story of a place or a space?

Moderation: Emmanuel Chicon (selection committee). Participants, among others: Laurence Bonvin, Isabella Rinaldi, Mila Zhuktenko and Daniel Asadi Faezi.

Wednesday 13.04 | 10.00-11.30 am, Colombière

Morning Talk 4 : Artists and documentaries practices : a field guide

Faithful to its mission of disseminating new ideas of cinema, Visions du Réel explores artist films panorama of practices that enrich, stretch, challenge, deconstruct and reconstruct documentary film. If cinema has seduced the art world since its early years, artist films have never been so visible in the cinema landscape. But what is the path that leads artists toward cinema and what are their approaches to documentary cinema?

Moderated by Rebecca De Pas (selection committee). Participants: Elise Florenty and Marcel Türkowsky, Emilia Skarmulyté, Jumana Manna (subject to change).

Thursday 14.04 | 10.00-11.30 am, Colombière

Morning Talk 5 : About casting: choosing characters to embody a story

The practice of casting, so common in fictional cinema, seems more problematic when it comes to filming reality, which seems far from the techniques of the Actor's Studio or the Stanislavski method. It is, however, essential to a whole area of real cinema, as soon as "actors" are going to carry a story and embody it. Does the choice of characters come into play at the location scouting stage, the shooting stage? Unless those who are to become protagonists appear without warning on the editing table?

Moderated by Jordan Cronk (freelance critic for Cinema Scope, Sight & Sound, Reverse Shot, Los Angeles Review of Books, The Hollywood Reporter, among others). Participants, including: Jonathan Perel, Zayne kyol, Paul Heintz, Vahagn Khachatryan.

Online Talks

Thursday 14.04 – 16.00 - 17.30 pm | visionsdureel.ch

Round table : Filming in resistance

Since February 24, the war in Ukraine is also driven by the images that report or distort its reality. Every day, the unbearable is revealed to us, as shown by the latest revelations on the martyrdom of Boutcha. The Lithuanian filmmaker Mantas Kvedaravicius paid with his life, in Mariupol, where he was documenting the atrocities committed by the Russian forces" (tweet of the Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs). Even before the announcement of this terrible news, Visions du Réel decided to offer a platform to young Ukrainian filmmakers and producers who are currently standing alongside their compatriots under the Russian bombs, to reflect and debate with them on the possibility of resisting the ongoing onslaught with images that document it.

Moderator: Emmanuel Chicon (selection committee). The list of participants will be communicated later

Sunday 10.04 | 18:00-19:30 | visionsdureel.ch

Online Talk: How to play in the big league: Documentary productions at A-festivals and prestigious international festivals

Given the essential role that the highly prestigious and A-list festivals play in the life of film productions, we invite festival representatives to discuss the programming of documentary films in their selections: what kind of decisions are involved, what is the potential for documentaries in the major festivals, and how do they interact with the rest of the program?

Moderation: Finn Halligan (Screen International) Participants: Frédéric Boyer, Artistic Director, Tribeca Film Festival (New York), Giulia D'Agnolo Vallan, US Programmer and member of the selection committee, Venice Film Festival, Eva Sangiorgi, Director, Viennale (Austria)

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