

13^e FESTIVAL DU FILM FANTASTIQUE
GERARDMER

DU 25 AU 29
JANVIER 2006

PRESS RELEASE

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13th, 2006

THE FESTIVAL THEME

For the 13th edition, the Gérardmer Fantasy Film Festival didn't have to go to great heights to find an original theme. After addressing "the Devil is Back" in 2000, "the Extraordinary or Parallel Worlds" in 2001, "the Apocalypse" in 2002, "Fear in Movies" in 2003, "Fantasy Bestiary" in 2004 and "Agitations of the Soul" in 2005, the Festival has obviously chosen Number 13 and Number 13's Omens, as well as Superstition as Number 13's natural extension. Better still, 13 - which is key to self-discovery - induces us to follow the 13th path for which the festival could serve as a guide, through a radiant voice.

A « SUPERSTITION » RETROSPECTIVE

The festival includes screenings of films addressing this year's theme :

THE BLACK CAT by Edgar G. Ulmer (USA) (1934)
I WALKED WITH A ZOMBIE by Jacques Tourneur (USA) (1943)
NIGHT WITH A DEMON by Jacques Tourneur (U.K) (1957)
PET SEMATARY by Mary Lambert (USA) (1989)
THE MUMMY by Stephen Sommers (USA) (1999)
BELPHEGOR, LE FANTOME DU LOUVRE by Jean-Paul Salomé (2001)

TRIBUTE to HIDEO NAKATA

HIDEO NAKATA (Director) has emerged as one of the world's most influential horror film directors since directing the original "Ringu" in his native Japan. Based on a trilogy of novels by Japanese fright-master Suzuki Koji, the film went on to become the most successful horror movie in the history of Japanese cinema. The film also inspired a trend in what is commonly referred to as "J-Horror" films, emphasizing mystery and dread over such common contemporary horror mainstays as gore and special effects. Nakata followed up in 1999 with the second film in the series, "Ringu 2." Three years later, "Ringu" spawned DreamWorks' successful American remake, "The Ring."

Born in Okayama, Japan in 1961, Nakata studied both applied physics and journalism at the University of Tokyo. Upon graduating he landed a job as an assistant director at Nikkatsu Studios where he worked for seven years under the mentorship of director Masaru Konuma. In 1996, he directed his first feature film, "Joyu-rei" (aka "Ghost Actress"), which incorporated many of the supernatural trademark elements for which he would become best known.

In 1999, the same year he directed "Ringu 2," Nakata switched gears to direct the crime-drama "Kaosu" (aka "Chaos"). Returning to his roots in 2002, he directed "Honogurai mizu no soko kara" (aka "Dark Water"), based on a novel by "Ringu's" Suzuki Koji. American versions of both "Chaos" and "Dark Water" are currently being produced.

In 2000, between feature films, Nakata directed a documentary film on his mentor Masaru Konuma entitled "Sadistic and Masochistic."

"The Ring Two" marks Nakata's American film directing debut. He is next set to direct the remake of the Hong Kong horror film "The Eye" with Renee Zellweger attached to star.

As a tribute to Hideo Nakata, the following films will be shown :

RING (1998)

RING 2 (1999)

DARK WATER (2002) – Great Prize of the Gerardmer Fantasy Film Festival 2003

THE RING 2 (2005)

THE FEATURES JURY

HIDEO NAKATA

Film director

PRESIDENT

Filmography

1996 GHOST ACTRESS (Joyû-rei)

1997 ASSASSIN'S TOWN

1998 RING (Ringu)

JOSEPH LOSEY, THE MAN WITH FOUR NAMES

1999 RING II (Ringu II)

LE CERVEAU DE VERRE

- 2000 CHAOS (Kaosu)
SLEEPING BRIDE (Garasu no nou)
- 2001 SADISTIC AND MASOCHISTIC (documentaire)
LAST SCENE
- 2002 DARK WATER (Hanogurao mizu no soko kara) – Great Prize of the Gerardmer Fantasy Film Festival
2003
- 2005 THE RING - LE CERCLE II

MAXIME CHATTAM – writer

Bibliography

- 2003 CINQUIÈME RÈGNE
(Fantasy Litterary Award at the Gerardmer Fantasy Film Festival in 2003, published under the name of Maxime Williams)
L'ÂME DU MAL
- 2003 IN TENEBRIS
- 2004 MALEFICES
- 2005 LE SANG DU TEMPS

LOU DOILLON – actress

Filmography

- 1997 TROP PEU D'AMOUR by Jacques Doillon
- 1998 MAUVAISES FREQUENTATIONS by Jean-Pierre Améris
- 1999 MAMIROLLE by Brigitte Coscas
- 2000 CARREMENT A L'OUEST by Jacques Doillon
- 2001 BLANCHE by Bernie Bonvoisin
- 2002 EMBRASSEZ QUI VOUS VOUDREZ by Michel Blanc
- 2003 SAINT ANGE by Pascal Laugier

ANTOINE DULERY – actor

Selective Filmography

- 1992 TOUT CA...POUR CA by Claude Lelouch
- 1999 MEILLEUR ESPOIR FEMININ by Gérard Jugnot
- 2000 GREGOIRE MOULIN CONTRE L'HUMANITE by Artus de Penguern
- 2001 SEXES TRES OPPOSES by Eric Assous
- 2003 MARIAGES ! by Valérie Guignabodet
MARIAGE MIXTE by Alexandre Arcady
CLARA ET MOI by Arnaud Viard

- TOUTES LES FILLES SONT FOLLES by Pascale Pouzadoux
2004 LE GENRE HUMAIN 1^{ère} PARTIE : LES PARISIENS by Claude Lelouch
BRICE DE NICE by James Huth
LE GENRE HUMAIN, LE BONHEUR C'EST MIEUX QUE LA VIE by Claude Lelouch
2005 L'ANNIVERSAIRE by Diane Kurys

CLAIRE KEIM – actress

Filmography

- 1994 AU PETIT MARGUERY by Laurent Bénégui
1996 LA BELLE VERTE by Colline Serreau
1997 J'IRAI AU PARADIS CAR L'ENFER EST ICI by Xavier Durringer
BARRACUDA by Philippe Haim
2000 LE ROI DANSE by Gérard Corbiau
LE ROMAN DE LULU by Pierre-Olivier Scotto
LE SENS DES AFFAIRES by Guy-Philippe Bertin
2001 FEROCÉ by Gilles de Maistre
2003 EN TERRITOIRE INDIEN by Lionel Epp
2004 CHICKEN LITTLE by Mark Dindal (French voice)

GABRIELLE LAZURE – actress

Filmography

- 1982 BELLE CAPTIVE by Alain Robbe-Grillet
1983 LE PRIX DU DANGER by Yves Boisset
SARAH by Maurice Dugowson
LA CRIME by Philippe Labro
1984 SOUVENIRS SOUVENIRS by Ariel Zeitoun
1985 JOSHUA THEN AND NOW by Ted Kotcheff (in competition in Cannes)
1986 LAST SONG by Dennis Berry
1987 NOYADE INTERDITE by Pierre Granier-Deferre
2001 LA BANDE DU DRUGSTORE by François Armanet
2002 LE PHARMACIEN DE GARDE by Jeran Veber
2003 LES RIVIÈRES POURPRES 2 by Olivier Dahan
AGENTS SECRETS by Frédéric Schoendoerffer

TOM NOVEMBRE – actor

Selective filmography

- 1991 VILLE A VENDRE by Jean-Pierre Mocky
- 1994 PRET A PORTER by Robert Altman
- 1997 LE LOUP GAROU DE PARIS by Anthony Waller
- 2002 APRES LA PLUIE LE BEAU TEMPS by Nathalie Schmidt
- 2003 CASABLANCA DRIVER by Maurice Barthelemy
- LE VENTRE DE JULIETTE by Martin Provost
- 2004 UN FIL A LA PATTE by Michel Deville
- 2005 MA VIE EN L’AIR by Rémi Bezançon

NATACHA REGNIER – actress

Selective filmography

- 1995 DIS-MOI OUI by Alexandre Arcady
- 1996 ENCORE by Pascal Bonitzer
- 1998 LA VIE REVEE DES ANGES by Erick Zonca
- LES AMANTS CRIMINELS by François Ozon
- 2000 LA FILLE DE SON PERE by Jacques Deschamps
- TOUT VA BIEN, ON S’EN VA by Claude Mouriéras
- 2001 COMMENT J’AI TUE MON PERE by Anne Fontaine
- 2003 VERT PARADIS by Emmanuelle Bourdieu
- DEMAIN ON DEMENAGE by Chantal Akerman
- TROUBLE by Harry Cleven (Great Prize of the Gerardmer Fantasy Film Festival 2005)
- 2004 LE PONTS DES ARTS by Eugène Green
- LE SILENCE by Orso Miret

JEAN-PAUL SALOMÉ – film director and screenwriter

Filmography

- 1993 LES BRAQUEUSES
- 1998 RESTONS GROUPES
- 2000 BELPHEGOR LE FANTOME DU LOUVRE
- 2003 ARSENE LUPIN

STUART SAMUELS – film director and producer

Selective Filmography as film director and producer

1992 VISIONS OF LIGHT

2005 MIDNIGHT MOVIES : FROM THE MARGIN TO THE MAINSTREAM

As producer

1987 STEPS

1994 A GREAT DAY IN HARLEM

1995 HOLLYWOODISM, JEWS, MOVIES AND THE AMERICAN DREAM

1998 PEACE, LOVE AND MURDER: THE IRA EINHORN STORY

ZINEDINE SOUALEM – actor

Selective filmography

1992 RIENS DU TOUT by Cédric Klapisch

1995 CHACUN CHERCHE SON CHAT by Cédric Klapisch

1996 TENUE CORRECTE EXIGÉE by Philippe Lioret
DIDIER by Alain Chabat

1999 PEUT-ÊTRE by Cédric Klapisch

2001 INCH ALLAH DIMANCHE by Yamina Benguigui
ASTERIX ET OBELIX : MISSION CLÉOPATRE by Alain Chabat
L'ANGE DE GOUDRON by Denis Chouinard
MA CAMÉRA ET MOI by Christophe Loizillon

2002 NI POUR NI CONTRE (BIEN AU CONTRAIRE) by Cédric Klapisch

2004 LES POUPÉES RUSSES by Cédric Klapisch
EMMENEZ-MOI by Edmond Bensimon

2005 VIVE LA VIE by Yves Fajnberg

ERIC VALETTE – film director

Filmography

2003 MALEFIQUE (Jury's Prize – Gerardmer 2003)

BERNARD WERBER – writer

Bibliography

1991 FOURMI

1992 JOURS DES FOURMIS

1993 L'ENCYCLOPEDIE DU SAVOIR RELATIF ET ABSOLU
1994 THANATONAUTES
1995 LA REVOLUTION DES FOURMIS
1997 LIVRE DU VOYAGE
1998 PERE DE NOS PERES
2000 L'EMPIRE DES ANGES
2001 L'ULTIME SECRET
2003 NOS AMIS LES HUMAINS
2004 NOUS LES DIEUX
2005 LE SOUFFLE DES DIEUX

FILMS IN COMPETITION

Expected personalities

Approached personalities

ALLEGRO

Denmark

by Christoffer Boe starring Ulrich Thomsen

Famous pianist Zetterstrøm returns to his native Copenhagen on the occasion of a gala concert. He has lost the memory of his past. But when he is contacted by a messenger from a mysterious off-limits "Zone" in the middle of the city, he connects with what lies behind him...

French Distributor: Celluloid Dreams -Tel : +33 (0)1 49 70 03 70

Publicity: Magali Montet - Tel : +33 (0)1 49 70 03 70

FRAGILE

Spain

by Jaume Balaguero starring Calista Flockhart

A young nurse gets a job in a rundown children's hospital about to close. When some strange events occur, she desperately tries to keep her patients safe from a plague of mysterious attacks...

French Distributor: StudioCanal - Tel : +33 (0)1 71 35 35 35

THE HEIRLOOM

Taiwan

by **Leste Chen**

A young man inherits a family house where he moves with his girlfriend. He invites some friends to the new home but the next day one of them is mysteriously found hung to death in a hotel...

International Sales : Three Dots Entertainment – Tel : +886 2 2727 6629

HOSTEL

USA

by **Eli Roth**, produced by **Quentin Tarantino**

American college buddies backpack through Europe and head to a hostel in a remote Slovakian town with hedonistic expectations. They quickly find themselves in an increasingly sinister situation as deep as the sickest recess of human nature itself...

French Distributor : Gaumont Columbia Tristar – Tel : +33 (0)1 44 40 60 00

Press relations : Anne Lara – Tel : +33 (0)1 44 40 62 28

ISOLATION

UK/Ireland

by **Billy O'Brien**

In the middle of a winter night in the Irish countryside, a farmer waits as one of his cattle is about to give birth. The animal's agony weighs heavily on his mind, as he has allowed a bio-tech corporation to run tests on his livestock in return for financial aid for his debt-ridden ranch...

French Distributor : TFM Distribution – Tel : +33 (0)1 41 41 12 34

DUMPLINGS

Hong Kong

by **Fruit Chan**

A retired actress from Hong Kong longing to retain her beauty to win her unfaithful husband back seeks the rejuvenating effects of a doctor's "special" dumplings...

French Distributor : Wild Side Films – Tel : +33 (0)1 42 25 82 00

Publicity: Press office of the festival – Céline Petit – Tel : +33 (0)1 41 34 23 50

REEKER

USA

by Dave Payne starring Tina Illman

Five students sharing a ride to a party in the desert find themselves trapped at a deserted travel oasis. They refuse to let the new circumstances interfere with their fun and settle in only to be interrupted by haunting visions of severely mutilated travelers...

French Distributor : Bac Films – Tel : +33 (0)1 53 53 52 52

Publicity: Personality – Etienne Lerbret – Tel : +33 (0)1 44 29 23 12

THE RED SHOES

South Korea

by KIM Yong-gyun

A young single mother finds a pair of abandoned red shoes in the subway and brings them home. The woman and her daughter's behaviours change as they become obsessed with the fatally attractive shoes that seem to have a strange power over them...

French Distributor : Pathé Distribution in association with DesFilms – Tel : +33 (0)1 40 76 91 00

WOLF CREEK

Australia

by Greg McLean starring Cassandra Magrath

Three young backpackers travel in remote outback Australia. When their vehicle breaks down they accept help from a friendly local. But it soon dawns on them that he has no intention of fixing their vehicle, or of them leaving... ever again.

French Distributor : TFM Distribution – Tel : +33 (0)1 41 41 12 34

Publicity: Bossa Nova – Michel Burstein – Tel : +33 (0)1 43 26 26 26

SHORT FILMS JURY

SAM KARMANN

PRESIDENT

Actor, screenwriter and film director

As an actor

1981 LE GRAND PARDON by Alexandre Arcady

1982 LA BALANCE by Bob Swaim

1983 LE GRAND CARNAVAL by Alexandre Arcady

CA VA PAS ÊTRE TRISTE by Pierre Sisser

- 1984 RÉVEILLON CHEZ BOB by Denys Granier-Deferre
- LES VOLEURS DE LA NUIT by Sam Fuller
- TRAIN D'ENFER by Roger Hanin
- 1986 UNDER THE CHERRY MOON by Prince
- 1987 LA RUMBA by Roger Hanin
- 1989 HIVER 54, L'ABBÉ PIERRE by Denis Amar
- 1993 CUISINE ET DÉPENDANCES by Jean-Pierre Bacri and Agnès Jaoui
- 1994 LA CITÉ DE LA PEUR – LE FILM DE LES NULS by Alain Berbérian
- 1998 CA RESTE ENTRE NOUS by Martin Lamotte
- 1999 LE CIEL, LES OISEAUX...ET TA MÈRE by Djamel Bensalah
- 2000 LE GOÛT DES AUTRES by Agnès Jaoui
- 2002 MONSIEUR BATIGNOLE by Gérard Jugnot
- 2004 CASABLANCA DRIVER by Maurice Barthélémy

As a screenwriter and film director

- 1992 OMNIBUS (short film)
- 1999 KENNEDY ET MOI
 adapted from Jean-Pol Dubois's novel
- 2003 A LA P'TITE SEMAINE

ARIÉ ELMALEH – actor

Filmography

- 2000 CHANGE-MOI MA VIE by Liria Begeja
- 2001 LES AMANTS DU NIL by Eric Heumann
- 2002 CHOUCOU by Merzak Allouache
- 2003 TOUT LE PLAISIR EST POUR MOI by Isabelle Broue
- 2004 LA MAISON DE NINA by Richard Dembo

CHLOÉ LAMBERT – actress

Filmography

- 2000 CHAOS by Coline Serreau
- CONFESSIONS D'UN DRAGUEUR by Alain Soral
- 2001 24 HEURES DE LA VIE D'UNE FEMME by Laurent Bouhnik
- 2004 MARIAGES ! by Valérie Guignabodet

VINCENT MARTINEZ – actor

Filmography

- 1998 L'ECOLE DE LA CHAIR by Benoît Jacquot
- 1999 UN ANGE by Miguel Courtois
- 2000 LA CONFUSION DES GENRES by Ilan Duran Cohen
- 2005 CAVALCADE by Steve Suissa
- LA TRAHISON by Philippe Faucon

CLÉMENCE POÉSY – actress

Filmography

- 2002 BIENVENUE CHEZ LES ROZES by Francis Dalluau
- 2005 HARRY POTTER ET LA COUPE DE FEU by Mike Newell

BRUNO SALOMONE – actor

Filmography

- 2001 GAMER by Zak Fishman
- 2003 LES INDESTRUCTIBLES by Brad dird
- 2004 LE CARTON by Charles Nemes
- 2004 BRICE DE NICE by James Huth

FLORENCE THOMASSIN – actress

Selective Filmography

- 1994 MINA TANNENBAUM by Martine Dugowson
- 1995 AINSI SOIENT-ELLES by P.et L. Alessandrin
- ELISA by Jean Becker
- 1996 DES NOUVELLES DU BON DIEU by Didier Le Pêcheur
- BEAUMARCHAIS by Edouard Molinaro
- 1997 DOBERMANN by Jan Kounen
- 1998 LE PLAISIR (ET SES PETITS TRACAS) by Nicolas Boukhrief
- 1999 RIEN À FAIRE by Marion Vernoux
- 2000 UNE AFFAIRE DE GOÛT by Bernard Rapp
- 2003 LE COEUR DES HOMMES by Marc Esposito
- 2004 UN LONG DIMANCHE DE FIANÇAILLES by Jean-Pierre Jeunet
- 2005 L'ANNIVERSAIRE by Diane Kurys

FRENCH-SPEAKING SHORTS

Both a lover and a supporter of fantasy films, LVT is proud to be an official partner of the Gérardmer Festival. On this occasion, LVT will pay for the awarded short film's subtitling.

Films selection that will be shown on Sunday, January 29th at 11 :30 am at the Casino :

ANGEL DUST by Guillaume Foresti

BOTTOM by Giovanni Sportiello

L'INNOCENCE by Arnaud Gautier

LE BAISER by Stéfan le Lay

PROTOCOLE 33 by Benoît Lestang

SOMEWHERE by Emmanuel Murat with Yvan Attal

YSE by Lionel Jadot

OPENING FILM

UNDERWORLD : EVOLUTION
by Len Wiseman with Kate Beckinsale

USA

The war between the Vampires and the Lycans continues. Selene and Michael, the Lycan hybrid, are taken into a battle to end all wars as the immortals must finally face their retribution...

French distributor : SND – Tel : +33 (0)1 41 92 66 66

Publicity : Personality – Etienne Lerbret – Tel : +33 (0)1 44 29 23 12

CLOSING FILM

HAPPY TREE FRIENDS
by Kenn Navarro and Rhode Montijo

USA

Animation film

Happy Tree Friends are cute, cuddly, and about to die in terrible pain... and you're going to love it !!!

French distributor: Bac Films – Tel : +33 (0)1 53 53 52 52

Publicity: Personality – Etienne Lerbret – Tel : +33 (0)1 44 29 23 12

SPECIAL SCREENINGS

Expected personalities

Approached personalities

BOOGEYMAN

USA

by Stephane T. Kay

Tim returns to his childhood home and confronts the terrifying visions that have haunted him all his life...

French distributor : TFM Distribution – Tel : +33(0)1 41 41 12 34

FINAL FANTASY VII

Japan

by Nomura Tetsuya

Cloud Strife, an ex-soldier has decided to live a secluded, solitary life away from his friends. One day he receives a phone call from a mysterious man asking him for protection. In the mean time three brothers are searching for their mother and seem to believe that Cloud knows where to find her...

International Sales : Sony Pictures Entertainment – Tel: + 1 310 244 400

MIDNIGHT MOVIES

Canada/USA

by Samuel Stuarts

“Midnight Movies: From the Margin to the Mainstream” focuses on the phenomenon of 1970’s cult films and examines six movies known as “midnight movies” that re-invented the film medium while pushing the boundaries of “bad taste” and “social taboos”.

French distributor : Pretty Pictures – Tel : +33 (0)1 43 14 10 00

NANNY MCPHEE

by Kirk James with Emma Thompson

USA

SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR KIDS

Cedric Brown has just lost his wife and is now left with his seven children who misbehave so much that all the nanny's have run away. He his told by a mysterious voice that he should get Nanny McPhee, a woman with magical powers...

French distributor : Mars Distribution – Tel : +33 (0)1 71 35 11 03

Publicity : Laurence Granec & Karine Ménard – Tel : +33 (0)1 47 20 36 66

SHEITAN

by Kim Chapiron with Vincent Cassel, Roxane Mesquida, Leila Bekhti,
Olivier Barthélemy, Nico le Phat Than et Ladj Ly

France

A group of youngsters exit a disco late one night and accidentally run into a shepherd who has prepared himself for a night of Satanic worship.

French distributor : Mars Distribution – Tel : +33 (0)1 71 35 11 03

Publicity : Christopher Robba – Tel : +33 (0)1 53 40 88 04

THE FOG

by Rupert Wainwright

USA

One hundred years ago, off the rocky shore of an isolated Northern California town, a ship of lepers was betrayed by the town's founding fathers. Now, shrouded within a supernatural fog, the ghosts of the long-dead mariners have returned from their watery graves to exact revenge by killing anyone who stands in their murderous path...

French distributor : Mars Distribution – Tel : +33 (0)1 71 35 11 03

Press relations : 213 COMMUNICATION – Laura Gouadain & Emilie Maison – Tel : +33 (0)1 46 97 03 20

THE SADDEST MUSIC IN THE WORLD

by Guy Maddin with Isabella Rosselini

Canada

Winnipeg, Canada in 1933 during the Great Depression. Lady Port-Huntly, a beer baroness and double amputee organizes a contest to determine the saddest music in the world. Penniless musicians congregate from all over the world. Among them is Chester Kent, a down-in-his-luck impresario who enters the competition, hoping to win the first prize of \$25,000...

French distributor : ED Distribution – Tel : 01 43 48 61 49

NEVER-BEFORE-SEEN VIDEO FILMS INCOMPETITION

The Never-Before-Seen Video Film Section is for the 5th time sponsored by MAD MOVIES magazine that will be give its Audience prize on Sunday evening.

The following films have been selected:

DEAD AND BREAKFAST by Matthew Leutwyler with David Carradine	USA
DRACULA 3 : LEGACY by Patrick Lussier	USA
MOSQUITOMAN by Tibor Takacs	USA
SATAN'S LITTLE HELPER by Jeff Lieberman	USA
SHUTTER by Banjong Pisanthanakun and Parkpoom Wongpoom	Thailand
DO YOU LIKE HITCHCOCK ? by Dario Argento	Italy

« MASTERS OF HORROR » NIGHT

This year, a special night will be dedicated to the never-seen American series « Masters of Horror ».

On Friday, January 27th at the Espace LAC, the following films will be shown :

CIGARETTE BURNS by John Carpenter with Norman Reedus and Udo Kier (2005)

DANCE OF THE DEAD by Tope Hopper with Robert Englund (2005)

HOMECOMING by Joe Dante with Jon Tenney and Robert Picardo (2005)

French distributor : First International Production – Tel : +33 (0)1 56 59 91 00

« FRIDAY 13 » NIGHT

This year, the festival will feature a « FRIDAY 13 » Night.

On Saturday, January 28th at 00 :13 pm at the Espace LAC, the following films will be shown - as of today :

FRIDAY THE 13th by Sean S. Cunningham (1980)

FRIDAY THE 13th , PART 2 by Steve Miner (1981)

JASON X by James Isaac (2001)

COMIC STRIP EXHIBIT

The Gérardmer Fantasy Film Festival will feature this year at the Maison de la Culture et des Loisirs an exhibition of different works gathered in the book « **METAL HURLANT : 1975 - 1987 THE DREAM MACHINE** » by Gilles Poussin and Christian Marmonnier, **with one of the magazine's founding fathers attending - Jean-Pierre Dionnet.**

GILLES POUSSIN

A musician, bookseller, critic, screenwriter, writer and founder of Ogoun! Magazine, Gilles Poussin has been a key witness to and an active participant in the comic-strip realm.

CHRISTIAN MARMONNIER

After hosting the "Bulles Noires" programme on Radio Libertaire, Christian Marmonnier has become a journalist and a writer of books dedicated to his favorite topic.

THE FESTIVAL'S SPECIAL EVENTS

At the crossroads of fantasy arts, the Gérardmer Festival will offer special events which will largely contribute to the celebration. Those events will be particularly aimed at family audiences and will be a useful addition to the movie showings. The following events have so far been confirmed:

PLASTIC ARTS

♦ Young Talents Exhibition

Located at: Ground floor of the Villa Monplaisir (at the Espace LAC)

This exhibition gathers new artists' works showcased within the framework of the Festival. All items are only fantasy-inspired. This exhibition will feature several techniques – stonework, steel work, watercolors, charcoal drawing, oil painting, cut-outs...

♦ Plastic Arts Exhibition

Located at: Salle Bellbriette (at the Espace LAC)

In the "salle Bellbriette" at the Espace LAC, you will enjoy our more "experienced" artists' works which have long been exhibited in many an art gallery. Some paintings have been performed with state-of-the-art techniques such as digital collage. Some others have been made with more traditional techniques such as oil painting, charcoal drawing, watercolors...

♦ Comic Strips Exhibition

Located at: Maison de la Culture et des Loisirs

The exhibition will feature " METAL HURLANT : The Dream Machine (from 1975 to 1987) "

From 30 to 35 plates will be on show, as well as replicas of a selection of double-pages of the scrapbook, with quotations from interviews emblematic of the METAL HURLANT saga.

LITERARY SALON AND FANTASY AREA

♦ "Au Grimoire", the Festival's Literary Salon

Located at: Espace Tilleul

The Festival's literary salon will celebrate its fourth anniversary. Dedicated to writing and created in partnership with Gérardmer's Maison de la Presse, the salon will accommodate many fantasy authors and offer a wide variety of books aimed at both adult and younger audiences. Meeting and signing sessions between writers and readers will be held throughout the Festival.

En 2006, the following authors will be attending: Jay Alis, Ange, Renaud Benoist, Alain Bérard, Olivier Bidchiren, Jérôme Camut, Thierry Claude, Gilbert David, Jean-Paul Demangel (illustrator), Guy Gauthier, Franck Guilbert, Céline Guillaume, Nadia Harley, Johan Hélot, Marc Jakubowski, Evelyne

Jonas, Nathalie Leguerchois, Sullivan Lord, Véronique Lagny-Delatour, Emanuelle Maia, Michel Metzeldard, Nicolas Fabrice, André Rainine, Michel Rosenberg, Nathalie Rouyer, Stéphane Sagard, Virginia Schilli, Pierre Stolze, Denis Voignier.

♦ **Espace fantastique (Fantasy Area)**

Located at: Espace Tilleul

In this area, visitors will find several stands related to the "Au Grimoire" literary salon – most notably a make-up area gathering the Candice Mack make-up school and special effects designer David Scherrer, a demo and sales stand of simulation games, the labelled products store and a fantasy figurines store. France Bleu Sud Lorraine and L'Est Républicain will also be found in this area to organize live interviews. Visitors will also be able to relax and have a drink at the bar.

ACTIVITIES FOR SCHOOLCHILDREN

♦ **Christophe Joncquel's Fantasy Tales**

Located at: Salle des Armes de la Mairie

This is an animated puppet show aimed at young and old alike, but most notably at 7-to-15-year-old children. This year, Christophe Joncquel will particularly emphasise puppet animation techniques. Schoolchildren may book in advance at the Festival's office phone number: 03.29.60.98.21

♦ **Fantasy short stories:** for the third year in a row, a short stories contest will be organised. It is open to budding writers from 6th grade to 12th grade who feel inspired by fantasy writing. If you want to apply, please write at the following address by January 18: *Concours de Nouvelles Fantastiques – Festival de Gérardmer – 29 avenue du 19 Novembre – BP 105 – 88403 Gérardmer Cedex.*

OUTSIDE EVENTS

♦ **Bureau Nomade de la Poste (Travelling Post Office)**

Located at: Place du Tilleul

In this "Post Office store", you will find everything you need to send your mail (stamps, "distinguo", "chronopass"...), vintage "La Poste" items ("La Poste" collectible car models), children's games, fair-trade fabrics, regional books, books about stamps, postcards...

♦ **Village aux 13 Fantômes (13 Ghosts Village)**

Located at: Place du Tilleul

In Gérardmer's Place du Tilleul, you will find the 13 Ghosts Village made up of 13 wooden chalets. In those chalets craftsmen will offer a number of various items ranging from manufactured products to regional produce. The market will be open from Saturday, January 21 through Sunday, January 29.

MEDIA PARTNERS

L'EST REPUBLICAIN / LA LIBERTE DE L'EST (local daily newspapers)

13^{ème} RUE (TV)

FRANCE BLEU (national radio)

LE MOUV' (national radio)



This festival is a creation

General Director of the festival :

Lionel Chouchan

Director of the festival :

Bruno Barde

PRESS OFFICE FOR NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PRESS IN PARIS :

LE PUBLIC SYSTEME CINEMA

Céline Petit / Sophie Bataille / Alexandra Faussier

40, rue Anatole France – 92594 Levallois Perret Cedex – France

Tel : +33 (0)1 41 34 23 50 / 20 32 / 22 01 – Fax : +33 (0)1 41 34 20 77

e-mails : cpetit@lepublicsysteme.fr / sbataille@lepublicsysteme.fr / afaussier@lepublicsysteme.fr

www.lepublicsystemecinema.com

PRESS OFFICE OF LOCAL PRESS IN GERARDMER :

SG ORGANISATION

Anthony Humbertclaude

29 avenue du 19 novembre – BP 105 – 88 400 Gérardmer – France

Tel : +33 (0)3 29 60 98 21 – Fax : +33 (0)3 29 60 98 14

e-mail : presse@gerardmer-fantasticart.com

Press Office DURING THE FESTIVAL :

Situated at the Espace Tilleul (opposite The Grand Hotel)

FESTIVAL 'S OFFICIAL WEBSITE

<http://www.gerardmer-fantasticart.com>

Gérardmer Tourist Office

4 place des Déportés – BP 5

88401 Gérardmer – France

Tel : +33 (0)3 29 27 27 27 – Fax : +33 (0)3 29 27 23 25