



HARROGATE
GRAMMAR SCHOOL
EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

French Films at Harrogate Grammar School 2019

Thursday 2nd May: School Of Life

Paris 1930. Paul always had only one and the same horizon: the high walls of the orphanage, a severe building on the outskirts of Paris. Entrusted to a cheerful lady of the countryside, Celestine and her husband, Borel, the somewhat rigid gamekeeper of a vast estate in Sologne, the child of the cities, recalcitrant and stubborn, arrives in a mysterious and worrying world, that of a sovereign and wild region. The immense forest, the misty ponds, the moors and the fields, everything here belongs to the Count of the Comte de La Salle. Fresnaye, a taciturn widower who lives alone in his mansion. The Count tolerates poachers on the estate, but Borel is relentlessly hunting them down and hounding the most cunning and elusive of them, Totoche. In the heart of the fairy-tale Sologne, next to the poacher, a great nature lover, Paul will learn about life but also the forest and its secrets.

Thursday 9th May: Jealousie

Nathalie, a middle-aged divorced University Professor, changes from being an affectionate woman to being irrepressibly jealous of everyone close to her. Her best friend, her new colleague, her ex-husband... everyone finds themselves at the mercy of her eccentric behaviour. Even her beautiful 18-year old daughter Mathilde! Entangled by her sarcastic nature and conflicted emotions, Nathalie navigates through this unexpected mid-life crisis in a funny, touching... and politically incorrect way...

Thursday 16th May: Kalinka

Based on a true story, KALINKA is about the struggle of Andre Bamberski to bring justice to his daughter Kalinka who died in disturbing circumstances. After 27 years of investigation to hunt down her presumed murderer, Bamberski will finally get the killer kidnapped and brought to justice.

Thursday 23rd May: Family For Rent

Depressed by his loneliness, Paul-André, a shy and wealthy man, offers to rent the family of a good-natured woman with two kids in exchange of settling her debts.

Thursday 6th June: Return To Burgundy

Three siblings reunite at their home in picturesque Burgundy to save the family vineyard in this tender tale of a new generation finding its own unique blend from acclaimed director Cédric Klapisch (L'Auberge Espagnole). Jean (Pio Marmai), the black sheep of the family, unexpectedly returns home from a decade abroad to reconnect with his hospitalized father. He's welcomed by his strong-willed sister, Juliette (Ana Girardot), who took over the reins of the vineyard after their father fell ill, and Jeremie (Francois Civil), the youngest of the three who has recently married into one of the region's more prestigious wine families. Their father passes shortly after Jean's return, leaving them with the estate and a looming inheritance tax of half a million dollars. As four seasons and two harvests go by, Jean, Juliette, and Jeremie have to learn to reinvent their relationship and trust in each other as they work to preserve the land that ties them together.

Thursday 13th June: Deux Jours A Tuer

Antoine Méliot is around 40 years old and has everything he needs to be happy: a beautiful wife, two adorable children, friends he can count on, a pretty house in the Yvelines and money. But one day he decides to ruin everything in one weekend.

Thursday 20th June: Heal The Living

Heal the Living follows three seemingly unrelated stories that carefully weave together: a French teenager and his friends on a surfing road trip that leads to tragedy; a woman in another town who learns that her weak heart is beginning to fail and action must be taken; and two teams of doctors and medical experts who struggle through their day-to-day attempts to save lives. Ultimately, it is an impassioned story of personal connections that philosophically, spiritually and literally plumbs the depths of the human heart

Thursday 27th June: I Got Life

Separated from her husband, Aurore also loses her job and to top it off, she learns that she will soon be a grandmother. She suddenly realizes that society is pushing her gently on a side line, but when she unexpectedly encounters her youthful love, Aurore decides to rebel by refusing the fate that seems to her all traced. What if a new life was about to be offered to her?

Thursday 4th July: The Guardians

An affecting human drama of love, loss, and resilience unfolds against the backdrop of World War I. The women of the Paridier farm, under the deft hand of Hortense, the family's matriarch (Nathalie Baye,) must grapple with the workload while the men, including two sons, are off at the front. Hortense reluctantly brings on an outsider, the hard-scrabble teenage orphan, Francine (Iris Bry), to help her daughter Solange (Laura Smet). New tools allow the women to triumph over the land, newfound independence is acquired, yet emotions are stirred especially when the men return from the front on short leaves. Acclaimed filmmaker Xavier Beauvois (Of Gods and Men) revels in the mysteries and beauties of the French countryside, here unravaged by war, with painterly images bathed in natural light, yet keeps his focus on the intricate drama that plays out against the upheaval of the Great War.

Thursday 11th July: Amelie

Amelie is 18 this year. It is worth celebrating. Happy Birthday, Amelie!

Amélie is a story about a girl named Amélie whose childhood was suppressed by her Father's mistaken concerns of a heart defect. With these concerns Amélie gets hardly any real-life contact with other people. This leads Amélie to resort to her own fantastical world and dreams of love and beauty. She later becomes a young woman and moves to the central part of Paris as a waitress. After finding a lost treasure belonging to the former occupant of her apartment, she decides to return it to him. After seeing his reaction and his new-found perspective - she decides to devote her life to the people around her. Such as, her father who is obsessed with his garden-gnome, a failed writer, a hypochondriac, a man who stalks his ex-girlfriends, the "ghost", a suppressed young soul, the love of her life and a man whose bones are as brittle as glass. But after consuming herself with these escapades - she finds out that she is disregarding her own life and damaging her quest for love.

(This film has never been on any of the programmes of French Films at Harrogate Grammar School.)