



LE COURT UNVEILS ITS PANORAMA SECTION: SPOTLIGHT ON SOUTH KOREA AND DEMOCRACY

The 49th edition of the Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival will take place from 29 January to 6 February 2027. As always, the National, International, Lab, and XR Competitions will be accompanied—among other programs—by a Panorama section composed of a thematic Retrospective program and a geographical Focus program.

In 2027, the Festival will shine the spotlight on the theme of “Democratic life through the prism of comedy” for its Retrospective program, and its geographical Focus program will be dedicated to the country of South Korea.

WATCH THE TRAILER



FOCUS ON A COUNTRY KSHORTS : 10 YEARS OF KOREAN SHORT FILMS



God's Daughter Dances directed by Byun Sungbin - 2021 International Audience Prize

A trio of programmers has set out to study Korean society much like an entomologist would. With a decade's worth of short films under the microscope, they aren't searching for parasites or bloodthirsty sea creatures, but for highly original cinematic gems. From over-the-top comedies and social dramas to horror-thrillers and explosive animations, no need to choose just one genre: the filmmakers in this Focus program layer, blend, and intertwine genres with a truly exhilarating frenzy—reminiscent of Bong Joon-ho during his *The Host* era.

South Korean cinema is struggling to recover from a drop in cinema attendance since the Covid-19 pandemic, which has pushed audiences towards streaming platforms with successful series such as *Squid Game* or *The 8 Show*. But future and seasoned talents alike are featured in this year's Focus program, and they make full use of the freedom that the short film format offers.

23
films directed
between
2011 and 2025

4
animations

4
experimental
fictions

4
music videos
created by the
Balming Tiger
collective

THE FOCUS ALSO INCLUDES

SOME PROGRAMS OUTSIDE PANORAMA SECTION

BLOODY NIGHT:
Gruesome tales from the land of the
morning calm



Modern Family by Kim Kwang-bin

When one thinks of Korean cinema, it is difficult not to think of genre films. It would be impossible, then, not to dedicate a Clermont-Ferrand ISFF *Bloody Night* to this current of Korean cinema, with five short films that—following the example of their illustrious predecessors—blend dark humor, immorality, social commentary, and extreme violence.

One-off screening:
Friday 5 February at 21:30
Cocteau Theater (Maison de la culture)

SEE THE PROGRAM

COLLECTIONS :
Korean Film Archive



Kamahameha by Balming Tiger
music video directed by Hong Chan-hee

Balming Tiger is an alternative K-pop band and music collective formed in Seoul in 2018. The collective brings together a wealth of talent, including rappers, producers, music video directors, and visual artists. So we just had to dedicate a full program to these lively troublemakers and their infectious energy!

SEE THE PROGRAM

COLLECTIONS :
The Swan and the Child



White Man by Bong Joon-ho

The Korean Film Archive (KOFA) has unlocked its treasure chest to bring forth six gems of Korean short film for this year's Collections program. An ideal opportunity to (re)discover the first films of Bong Joon-ho (*Parasite*, *Memories of Murder*) and Yeon Sang-ho (*Last Train to Busan*, *Colony*).

SEE THE PROGRAM



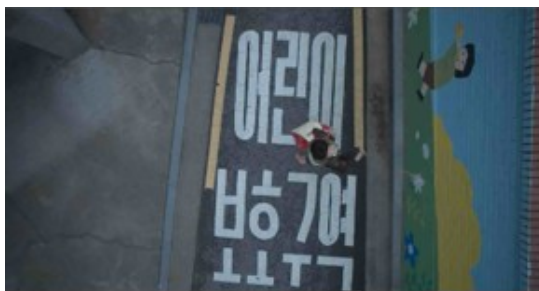
Ondo by Baek Mi-young

This programme of three short films by the South Korean director Baek Mi-young invites us to immerse ourselves in her poetic and dreamlike world. The themes explored in these films envelop us in the gentleness and sensitivity of a marvellous imaginary journey.

SEE THE PROGRAM

GUEST FILM SCHOOL PROGRAMS - Seoul Chung-Ang University

These two programs bring together a selection of short films created at the Chung-Ang University by several generations of students. Spanning a wide range of styles, the films explore both intimate narratives and broader themes, reflecting the perspectives of South Korean filmmakers on a society in constant flux. The selection offers a glimpse into the richness and diversity of the films produced at this University.



Coming of Age by LeeJung-hyun

SEE THE PROGRAMS

PRESTIGIOUS GUESTS

JANE JIN KAISEN



Visual artist and filmmaker known for her visually striking, multifaceted, performative, and poetic works, **Jane Jin Kaisen** will serve as jury member in the Lab Competition, and the Hôtel Fontfreyde - Centre photographique will host an exhibition showcasing her visual art and film works.

MOWG



Mowg—whose real name is **Lee Sung-hyun**—is a South Korean jazz musician and composer. He collaborated with numerous directors, including Kim Jee-woon, for whom he composed the scores for *I Saw the Devil* (2010) and *The Last Stand* (2013). He will serve on the Lab Competition jury for this year's edition of the Festival.

AN ARTISTIC ASPECT

EXHIBITION MEENO YOON



© Meeno Yoon, *Island-woman*, 2024, 78 × 125 cm, collage and pigments on hanji paper

Through the loss of a loved one, much like a family member, the artist **Meeno Yoon** develops a new perspective on what remains invisible. She questions and feels the meaning of what it is to “be alive”, as well as the relationship that links the living to the deceased. The artist expresses her reflections through the sensations of her own body, but also through the medium of hanji, a traditional Korean paper which, much like skin, absorbs matter while drying out.

She will exhibit at Le Cadre Noir art gallery in Clermont-Ferrand, 40 rue du Port.

THE OFFICIAL POSTER



© Brian Cougar

This poster, which symbolises focus, is made by Brian Cougar, a screen-printing artist based in Clermont-Ferrand.

ALL THE INFO ON THE FOCUS

THEME IN FOCUS

**ONE LAUGH, ONE VOTE :
COMEDY SHORT FILMS AND DEMOCRATIC LIFE**



National Anthem directed by Jack Turits

In 2027, French citizens will take to the polls to elect a new president. By next February, the presidential campaign, with all of its debates and ideas, will be in full sail.

To experience this important moment of civic engagement in a slightly different way, the Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival invites us to laugh—sometimes with and sometimes at—the elements that shape our democracy. With a range of films, from lighthearted to laugh out loud, this retrospective offers a chance to be entertained and perhaps to view our political institutions from another perspective.

This collection of films is centered around three themes present in each program: elected officials first, from busy governments to high-voltage assemblies; voters next, from armchair discussions to hushed deliberations in polling booths; and to finish, civic engagement in its broadest sense, from collective movements to small everyday actions. Between chaotic elections, jaded presidents, out-of-control ministers, clever or clumsy candidates, calculating or deeply committed activists across all political backgrounds, past and present, one thing is certain: In Laughter We Trust!

THE FOCUS AT A GLANCE

25
films directed
between
1912 and 2025

1
restored heritage
films

13
countries
represented

4
documentaries

THE FOCUS ALSO INCLUDES

SYLVAIN DESCLOUS IN THE NATIONAL JURY



Sylvain Desclos is a filmmaker with an unusual background, shaped by studies in political science and law, which is particularly evident in the tone of his films. They scrutinise the workings of power, political commitment and institutions, making him a natural choice to accompany this retrospective on democracy.

TWO EXHIBITIONS



The traditional thematic exhibition organised by local artists will return to the Chapelle des Cordeliers from 27 January to 15 February 2027.

Also in store is an exhibition of film posters and stills on this theme presented by La Jetée's Resource center, *Vox Populi Vox Comedy*, from 26 January to 25 February 2027.

LET'S HIT THE POLLS !

As a dress rehearsal before the first round of the French presidential elections, the Clermont-Ferrand ISFF's Retrospective program invites audiences to participate in a slightly less serious election. Audience members will be able to cast their vote for their favorite film from this special program, with a voting booth and ballot box on-site to boot! On this unique occasion, festival-goers will also get the chance to have their festival ticket or catalogue stamped with a "I Voted, 2027" mark.

ALL THE INFO ON THE RETROSPECTIVE

BECOME A VOLUNTEER

JOIN THE STUDENT JURY



MAKE A DONATION

Photo credits © Daniel Zox (Jane Jin Kaisen) / Patrick Hadjadj (Sylvain Desclois) /
Le Court, Baptiste Chanat (Two exhibitions).

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THE CLERMONT-FERRAND INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM FESTIVAL IS ORGANISED BY

LE COURT

**SAUVE QUI PEUT
LE COURT MÉTRAGE**

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