

**UWM French and  
the Union Theatre present  
The 22nd Annual Festival of Films in French**

**February 15-24, 2019**

Music and mayhem fill the backdrop to the 22nd UWM Festival of Films in French (February 15-24, 2019). Featured on the big screen are titans of Jazz (Josephine Baker, Django Reinhardt, Miles Davis), peerless, dearly departed Charles Aznavour, a Kinshasa club singer, a travelling folk group, and even a heavy metal depiction of Joan of Arc's childhood in Bruno Dumont's *Jeannette*. The festival jumps forward from the Middle Ages to Paris in the roaring twenties (*La Revue des revues*), to World War II (*Django*, *Un Taxi pour Tobrouk*, *Un Sac de billes*) and to the 1960s and 1970s feminist movement in films by Agnès Varda and Catherine Corsini that offer deep context to today's #metoo movement. Other ethical controversies are also explored including ethnographic studies (*Petit à petit*), GMOs (*Modifié*), marijuana's decriminalization (*Les Mauvaises Herbes*) crimes of passion (*Ascenseur pour l'échafaud*), reality TV and the judicial system (*Ni juge ni soumise*). As usual, the festival provides thrilling armchair travel - we will go down to Death Valley (*Valley of Love*) and up to the Alps (*Belle et Sébastien 3*), from Paris to Brussels and Amsterdam, to France's Mediterranean coast (*L'Atelier*), from urban to rural Quebec, to crossing the North African desert, to a race against time on Kinshasa's streets in the Democratic Republic of Congo (*Félicité*), and even to Iran (*L'Une chante, l'autre pas*). So come in from the winter and buckle your UWM cinema seatbelts!

The UWM French Program thanks the FACE Foundation and the Cultural Services of the French Embassy for the Tournées Film Festival grant, and is grateful for the generosity of Dr. Richard Stone and the continued support of the Québec Government Office in Chicago. Three films (*Jeanette*, *l'enfance de Jeanne d'Arc*, *La Revue des revues*, and *Un Taxi Pour Tobrouk*) are in memory of Nicole Darmon Chandler, a resident of Milwaukee for over 40 years, and a former president of the Alliance Française. Nicole participated in French language activities at UWM for decades. She was a fan of "old movies", and Josephine Baker was among her favorite actresses. *En souvenir...* We thank our many UWM co-sponsors, past and present: the College of

Letters and Sciences, UWM Humanities, Student Involvement, the Sam & Helen Stahl Center for Jewish Studies, the Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies, the Community Media Project, the Department of Film, Video, Animation, and New Genres, the Middle Eastern North African Studies Certificate Program, the Institute of World Affairs, Global and International Studies, the Milwaukee LGBT Film/Video Festival, the Department of Dance, the Department of Africology, the MA in Language, Literature, and Translation Program (MALLT), the Department of French, Italian, and Comparative Literature, and the program in German in FLL. We greatly appreciate the community sponsorship of the Alliance Française of Milwaukee, the Milwaukee French Immersion School, and of SWAAF (Southeast Wisconsin Academic Alliance in French). We extend a special note of gratitude to our colleague Professor Emerita Gabrielle Verdier for her vision in establishing the UWM Festival of Films in French with Professor Martine Darmon Meyer (1929-2013).

### ***Ni juge ni soumise (So Help Me God)***

Friday February 15, 7pm

Saturday February 16, 9:30pm

Yves Ginant & Jean Libon, DCP, 100 Min Belgium/France, 2017 (French)

Anne Gruwez, the extraordinary, offbeat Belgian magistrate responsible for conducting investigative hearings and taking depositions takes us behind the scenes of real life criminal investigations.



### ***Valley of Love***

Friday February 15, 9pm

Saturday February 15, 5pm

Guillaume Nicloux, Blu-ray, 91 min, France/Belgium, 2015 (French, English)

Isabelle Huppert and Gérard Depardieu play a famous acting couple who divorced soon after the death of their son.

Having received a letter from them from beyond the grave, they meet in Death Valley to fulfil his final wishes.

Presented as part of the Tournées Film Festival. Co-sponsored by the Alliance française de Milwaukee



### ***Django***

Saturday February 16, 7pm

Sunday February 17, 7pm



Etienne Comar, Blu-ray, 117 min, France, 2017 (French, German, English, Romany)

This tribute to world famous guitarist and composer Django Reinhardt is set in wartime Paris when he and his family were pursued by the Nazis owing to their gypsy heritage.

Co-sponsored by the UWM German program in FLL.

***Belle et Sébastien 3, le dernier chapitre***  
***(Belle and Sebastien 3, Friends for Life)***

Sunday February 17, 12pm

Sunday February 24, 12pm

Clovis Cornillac, DCP, 97 min, France, 2017 (French)

When a stranger arrives claiming to be Belle's rightful owner, Sebastian will do all it takes to protect his best friend and her three little pups.

Co-sponsored by the Milwaukee French Immersion School



***Un Sac de billes (A Bag of Marbles)***

Sunday February 17, 2pm

Sunday February 24, 2pm

Christian Duguay, Blu-ray, 110 min, France/Canada/Czech Republic, 2017 (French, German, Yiddish, Russian)

Based on Joseph Joffo's 1973 autobiographical novel, the film tells the story of a small Jewish boy's flight, with his brother Maurice, to escape from Nazi occupied France during World War II.

Co-sponsored by the Sam and Helen Stahl Center for Jewish Studies



***Jeannette, l'enfance de Jeanne d'Arc (Jeannette: The Childhood of Joan of Arc)***

Sunday February 17, 5pm

Bruno Dumont, Blu-ray, 105 min, France, 2017 (French)

Based on Charles Péguy's 1910 play, Dumont's musical weaves folk, flamenco, and heavy metal to portray the weight of the French Nation resting like armor on the frail shoulders of the young Joan of Arc as she grapples with matters of the soul in early 15th century France.

Presented as part of the Tournées Film Festival.

In memory of Nicole Darmon Chandler.

Co-sponsored by the UWM Department of History.



***Ascenseur pour l'échafaud (Elevator to the Gallows)***

Monday February 18, 7pm

Louis Malle, DCP (restored), 91 min, France, 1958 (French, German)

Miles Davis' groundbreaking jazz score sustains the suspense in this early French New Wave thriller, in which a woman (Jeanne Moreau) plots to kill her husband with the help of her lover.

Co-sponsored by Union Sociocultural Programming.



***La Revue des revues (Parisian Pleasures)***

Tuesday February 19, 7pm

Joe Francis, DVD, 103 min, France, 1927 (Silent)

Gabrielle Deriseau rises to lead dancer at the Folies Bergère where she performs in a show of review numbers from around the world including two with the legendary Josephine Baker making her cinematographic debut. With live piano accompaniment by Renato Umali.

In memory of Nicole Darmon Chandler.

Co-sponsored by the UWM Department of Dance.



***Modifié (Modified)***

Wednesday February 20, 6pm

Aube Giroux, DCP, 97 min, Canada/France/USA, 2017 (English, French)

Winner of the Best French Canadian Film Award at the 2018 Quebec Cinema Festival, Modified follows the grassroots struggle to label GMOs in the US and Canada, exposing the cozy relationship between the biotech industry and governments.

Followed by a discussion with Wisconsin Foodie host, Kyle Cherek, and other guests.

Co-sponsored by UWM Student Involvement and by MALLT.



***Un Taxi pour Tobrouk (Taxi for Tobruk)***

Thursday February 21, 7pm

Denys de La Patellière, Blu-ray, 95 min, France/Spain/West Germany, 1961 (French, German, English)

In our tribute to Charles Aznavour (1924-2018) the great actor, singer, and songwriter plays one of the four French



Commandos who join forces with a German officer in order to cross the North African desert during World War II.  
In memory of Nicole Darmon Chandler.

***Les Mauvaises Herbes (Bad Seeds)***

Friday February 22, 7pm  
Sunday February 24, 7pm  
Louis Bélanger, DVD, 97 min, Quebec, 2016 (French)  
An actor flees to the countryside to escape gambling debts. After meeting a farmer and a young woman, the three of them start a thriving marijuana growing operation.  
Co-sponsored by the Québec Government Office in Chicago



***L'Atelier (The Workshop)***

Friday February 22, 9pm  
Laurent Cantet, Blu-ray, 113 min, France, 2017 (French)  
Antoine is one of a few young people selected to attend a summer writing workshop with a famous crime novelist in this “smart social thriller that blurs the lines between reality and fiction.” (Hollywood Reporter)  
Presented as part of the Tournées Film Festival



***Petit à petit (Little by Little)***

Saturday February 23, 1pm  
Jean Rouch, DVD, 96 min, France/Niger, 1971 (French)  
This high farce cinéma vérité hybrid narrative documentary casts a critical gaze on cultural assumptions and turns the tables on white colonialists by making Parisians into objects of a Nigerien’s ethnographic study.  
Presented as part of the Tournées Film Festival  
Co-sponsored by the Institute for World Affairs



***L'Une chante, l'autre pas (One Sings, the Other Doesn't)***

Saturday February 23, 3pm  
Agnès Varda, DCP, 120 min, France/Belgium/Venezuela, 1977 (French, Farsi)  
This film, which Varda called a “feminist musical,” follows the intertwined lives of two women in the 1960s and 70s across the landscape of France, with a brief foray into Iran.



Co-sponsored by UWM Student Involvement and by MALLT

***La Belle Saison (La Belle Saison)***

Saturday February 23, 6pm

Sunday February 24, 4:30pm

Catherine Corsini, Blu-ray, 105 min, France, 2015 (French)  
Delphine, the only child of a farming couple, stuns her rural community by moving to Paris to go to university. She quickly gets swept up in the feminist movement and falls in love with the sophisticated activist Carole.

Presented as part of the Tournées Film Festival

Co-sponsored by the Milwaukee LGBT Film/Video Festival



***Félicité***

Saturday February 23, 8:30pm

Alain Gomis, Blu-ray, 129 min,

France/Belgium/Senegal/Germany/Lebanon, 2014 French,  
Lingala)

Félicité is a nightclub singer in a little bar in Kinshasa who lives along with her teenage son Samo. When he is injured, Félicité must find a way to raise the money to pay for an operation.

Presented as part of the Tournées Film Festival



All films are in French and other languages w/English subtitles.

All films are **FREE** and open to the public!