

Press Release

5-8 **nov.**
2015 **baffle**
BEIRUT ART FILM FESTIVAL **fff**

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A s h r a f i e h B e i r u t L e b a n o n

BEIRUT ART FILM FESTIVAL

1st Edition: 4 – 8 November 2015

Beirut Art Film Festival (BAFF), a premiere in Lebanon, will screen a fine selection of 25 recent **documentaries on art** at Metropolis Empire Sofil - Ashrafieh and in major Beirut universities, from November 5th to 8th 2015. The most exclusive documentaries assembled shall be screened for the first time in Beirut! They will feature Architecture, Art collections, Cinema, Contemporary Art, Dance, Design, Divas, Fashion, Masterpieces, Museums, Music and Photography;

BAFF is an invitation to a wonderful journey into the mystery of creativity, through documentaries. BAFF is not a contest. It is rather an open space dedicated to beauty and culture; rendered possible thanks to the generosity of donors, partners, sponsors and, the dedication of its organizers and workers.

For Five days, Beirut will glitter rays of sophistication, glamour, and refinement.

BAFF mission and objective

Created in 2014, BAFF's mission is essentially cultural:

- Increase awareness and appreciation of art to a wide audience both in Lebanon and the Middle East,
- Highlight achievements of film, video and television professionals,
- Bring together an audience of all ages around the film, as an expression of modern culture,
- Support production and dissemination of documentaries on cultural life in Lebanon.

BAFF organizers are

- Alice Mogabgab Karam – BAFF founder and Festival Manager
- Michèle Helou Nahas – BAFF founder and Artistic Manager
- Maria Chakhtoura - Honorary committee member, Communication and Artistic Consultant
- Nadine Mokdessi – Honorary committee member, Public Relation and NGO Consultant

- Pierre Sarraf – Honorary committee member, Communication and Production Consultant
- Souraya Karam – Administrative Assistant
- Alia Karam – Administrative Assistant

BAFF opening ceremony

Will be held on November 4th. at 7pm at the Metropolis Empire Sofil - Ashrafieh

Under the patronage of His Excellency Mr. Raymond Araigy, Minister of Culture

BAFF organizers are honored to open the festival with a screening of a documentary on the Lebanese diva *Fairouz* (60') by Frédéric Mitterrand.

BAFF 2015 events

The program features documentaries by established international film directors:

- Wim Wenders,
- Frédéric Mitterrand,
- Akram Zaatari,
- Evelyn Schels,
- Raphaëlle Aellig Regnier and others.

During this first edition, a selection of worldwide titles shall be screened:

- *The Salt of the Earth*,
- *Sagrada: The Mystery of Creation*,
- *Diaghilev and the Ballets Russes*,
- *Matisse and Picasso...*

Most of the films are to be showcased for the first time in Lebanon.

BAFF shall highlight major historical artistic events based on rare archives:

- The life and outstanding destiny of Rudolf Noureev with *La passion Noureev*,
- The magnificent story of a French masterpiece: *The True Story of the Raft of the Medusa*,
- The fascinating destiny of 1000 painting collection with *Gurlitt and the Nazi Treasure*,
- The story of the biggest art forgery scandal with *Beltracchi and the Art of Forgery*.

Contemporary creation shall be showcased through films on

- *Georg Baselitz* (contemporary art),
- *Tadao Ando, From Emptiness to Infinity* (architecture),
- *Design is One: Lella & Massimo Vignelli* (design),
- *Alexandre Tharaud: Le temps dérobé* (music).

Three major documentaries will portray the fascinating life of three historical collections:

- Jacques Jaujard was *The Man who Saved the Louvre* during World War II,
- *Villa Flora*, its collectors, its collection of Nabis painters and its exquisite architecture in the city of Winterthur,
- *The Great Museum*, the Kunsthistorisches Museum Wien, is one of the most important museums in the world.

Iconic fashion designers who contributed to social revolutions during the XXth century:

- *Chanel vs Schiaparelli*
- *Lagerfeld vs Saint-Laurent*.

The greatest men's rivalry in Italian cinema: the *Fellini vs Visconti* documentary.

BAFF special soirées

During BAFF, three soirées shall be dedicated to honor our cultural partners.

- *Dalí's Last Masterpiece*, a **World Première** and *Josep Lluís Sert* on Thursday, November 5 with the Embassy of Spain.
- *Design is One: Lella & Massimon Vignelli*, *Dorothea Lange: Grab a Hunk of Lighting* and *Diaghilev and the Ballets Russes* on Friday, November 6th with the Embassy of The United States of America.
- *Alexandre Tharaud*, *Le temps dérobé* and *Sagrada, the Mystery of Creation* on Saturday, November 7th with the Embassy of Switzerland.

A special soirée shall be dedicated to the XXth century greatest divas,

- *Callas vs Tebaldi*,
- *Fairouz*,
- *Oum Kalthoum*,

Sunday, November 8th.

BAFF closing ceremony to be dedicated to photography. Two documentaries will be screened:

- *The Salt of the Earth* directed by Wim Wenders with Sebastiao Salgado – Brasil,
- *28 Nights and a Poem* directed by Akram Zaatari with Hashim Al Madani – Lebanon.

Benefiting NGOs

During the festival, BAFF will offer the proceeds from sales of three documentaries to operating and active NGOs.

- Thursday November 5th @ 8.30 pm Metropolis I: *The True Story of the Raft of the Medusa* (90').
For the benefit of **TAMANNA** Fund (70114718 / 01998995)
- Thursday November 5th @ 8.30 pm Metropolis II: *Dalí's Last Masterpiece* (56') in **World Première!**
For the benefit of **BRAVE HEART** Fund (71483248)
- Friday November 6th @ 8.30 pm Metropolis I: *Matisse and Picasso* (60') followed by *Diaghilev and the Ballets Russes* (60').
For the benefit of **AFEL** Fund (76903410 / 03435869)

Supporters, Partners and Sponsor

BAFF is supported by distinguished Lebanese donors:

- Robert A. Matta Arts & Culture Association,
- Isabelle and Philippe Helou,
- Anne-Marie and Alexis Habib Foundation,
- Anonymous.

BAFF is shouldered by Cultural Partners:

- Lebanese Ministry of Culture,
- Embassy of Spain,
- Embassy of Switzerland,
- Embassy of The United States of America.

BAFF's Educational Partners are:

- Académie Libanaise des Beaux-arts, Université de Balamand
- Department of Communication Arts, Lebanese American University
- Institut des Beaux-arts, Université Libanaise
- Institut d'Etudes Scéniques Audiovisuelles et Cinématographiques, Université Saint-Joseph

BAFF's Main Sponsor is



List of documentaries

28 nights and a poem

Alexandre Tharaud – Le temps dérobé

Beltracchi – The Art of Forgery

Callas vs. Tebaldi, the Tigress and the Dove

Chanel vs. Schiaparelli, the Black and the Pink

Dalí's Last Masterpiece

Design is One: Lella and Massimo Vignelli

Diaghilev and the Ballets Russes

Dorothea Lange, Grab a Hunk of Lighting

Fairouz

Fellini vs. Visconti, Italian Standoff

The Great Museum

Georg Baselitz

Gurlitt and the Secret of the Nazi Treasure

Josep Lluís Sert, a Nomadic Dream

Lagerfeld vs. Saint-Laurent, the Reason and the Passion

The Man who saved the Louvre

Matisse et Picasso, la couleur et le dessin

Oum Kalthoum, l'astre de l'Orient

La Passion Noureev

Sagrada, the Mystery of Creation

The Salt of the Earth

Tadao Ando, from Emptiness to Infinity

The True Story of the Raft of the Medusa

Villa Flora, its collectors, its artists

28 nights and a poem

Sunday 8th November @ 8:00 pm. Metropolis II

Lebanon

2015

Duration: 120 min

Director: Akram Zaatari

Language: Arabic / Subtitles: English

Partly a study of a photographer's studio practice in the mid twentieth century and partly an exploration of the essence of the archives today, this film tries to understand how this mode of producing images, translated in the lives of communities it served, and why it ceased to exist and what did it lead to? It is filmed at the Arab Image Foundation, where most of Hashem el Madani's collection is preserved today, and in Studio Scheherazade in Saida, where the photographer still spends time surrounded by his old machines, tools, photographs, negatives and what remains of millions of transactions that took place there. It is a reflection of making images, of an industry of image making, as well as that of on age and on the life that remains and continues to grow in an archive. All is presented in this film through a set of staged interventions where Madani himself takes part of.



Alexandre Tharaud – *Le temps dérobé*

Saturday 7th November @ 7:00 pm. Metropolis I

Switzerland

2013

Duration : 65 min

Director : Raphaëlle Aellig Régnier

Language: French

Alexandre Tharaud is both a classical pianist and pioneer of new musical horizons. The general public discovered him thanks to the Rameau Harpsichord Suites in 2001, an album in which he bucked general conventions by playing not the harpsichord but the piano. He has emerged today as a master of both the baroque harpsichord, the piano as well as of romantic French music. He surprises and attracts by his sensitivity, his insatiable desire to play and his refusal to have a career instilled with routine and the mundane. Today, he gives concerts around the world according to his heart's desire: Chabrier, Ravel, Couperin, Satie, Chopin, Scarlatti, Bach. He travels with insolent and unbound freedom. This creative documentary is a reflection of his originality, his avid taste for music and the direction that Alexander lives every moment so brightly.



Beltracchi – The Art of Forgery

Saturday 7th November @ 5:00 pm. Metropolis II

Germany

2014

Duration: 93 min

Director: Arne Birkenstock

Language: German / Subtitles: English

For nearly 40 years, Wolfgang Beltracchi fooled the international art world and was responsible for the biggest art forgery scandal of the postwar era. An expert in art history, theory and painting techniques, he tracked down the gaps in the oeuvres of great artists – Max Ernst, Fernand Léger, Heinrich Campendonk, André Derain and Max Pechstein, above all – and filled them with his own works. He and his wife Helene would then introduce them to the art world as originals.

What makes these forgeries truly one-of-a-kind is that they are not merely copies of once-existing paintings, but products of Beltracchi's imagination, works "in the style of" famous early 20th-century artists. With his forgeries, he fooled renowned experts, curators and art dealers. The auctioneers at both Sotheby's and Christie's were hoodwinked; just like Hollywood star Steve Martin and other collectors throughout the world.

In "Beltracchi – The Art of Forgery", Wolfgang and his wife Helene Beltracchi chat openly – and with great wit and charm – about their quixotic adventures in an overheated art world ruled by blind greed, and in which apparently no one has an answer to the question as to what is an original, and what is a forgery...



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Callas vs. Tebaldi, the Tigress and the Dove

Sunday 8th November @ 9:00 pm. Metropolis I

France

2013

Duration : 52 min

Director : René-Jean Bouyer

Language: English

On September 16th 1968, backstage at the Metropolitan Opera in New York, opera singers Maria Callas and Renata Tebaldi embraced warmly. On that day, one of the most bitter, fruitful and public artistic rivalries of the 20th century officially came to an end. This film presents the fascinating story of a rivalry that opposed the world's greatest divas, the catalysts in the revival and popularity of opera in its golden age, the 1950s, on the world's most prestigious stages. The film is notably shot at the Paris Opera House, La Scala in Milan, and the Met in New York, and showcases the lives of two exceptional women and unique artists, recounted by leading figures in the opera world: conductor Riccardo Muti, a friend of Tebaldi, singers Diana Damrau and Patricia Petibon, and the General Manager of the Met, Peter Gelb, as well as Callas' close friend, Giovanni Lomazzi, her friend and teacher, Jeanine Reiss, and experts such as Alain Duault and Fred Plotkin.



Chanel vs. Schiaparelli, the Black and the Pink

Thursday 5th November @ 7:00 pm. Metropolis I

France

2013

Duration : 52 min

Director : Katia Chapoutier

Language: English

The biggest name in female fashion design? Gabrielle Chanel. It seems obvious today, but it wasn't always the case. As of the end of the 1920s, her supremacy was fiercely contested. Another designer, just as famous and equally admired, disputed the title of the 'queen of haute couture', from Paris to Hollywood... Her name? Elsa Schiaparelli. Their styles were diametrically opposed. Their clienteles were identical. From this paradox the bitterest rivalry in the history of high fashion was born. An emulation that gave rise to the most important innovations haute couture has ever seen.

In this film, Marisa Berenson, Schiaparelli's granddaughter, and Claude Delay, a close friend of Chanel's, evoke the lives and rivalry of two great pioneers in the emancipation of women. Other specialists provide insightful views too, with the expert eye of the editor-in-chief of Harper's Bazaar, London, and the pertinent contemporary vision of Karl Lagerfeld.



Dalí's Last Masterpiece

WORLD PREMIERE: Thursday 5th November @ 8:30 pm. Metropolis II

Spain

2015

Duration: 56 mn

Director: David Pujol

Language: Catalan / Subtitles: English

This documentary shows the Dalí Theatre-Museum as it has never been seen before and also reveals the artist's creative process both through his own persona and that of his friend and painter Antoni Pitxot. Dalí's Last Masterpiece makes us privileged audience to the magic and mystery of art.



Eric Schaal ©Fundació Gala-Salvador Dalí, Figueres, 2015.
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Design is One: Lella and Massimo Vignelli

Friday 6th November @ 7:30 pm. Metropolis II

USA

2013

Duration : 79 min

Director: Kathy Brew, Roberto Guerra

Language: English / Subtitles: English

Italian-born Lella and Massimo Vignelli are among the world's most influential designers. Their work covers such a broad spectrum that one could say the Vignellis are known by everyone, even by those who don't know their names. Throughout their career, their motto has been, "If you can't find it, design it". For over 40 years, their achievements in industrial and product design, graphic and publication design, corporate identity programs, architectural graphics, and exhibition, interior, and furniture design have earned them worldwide respect and numerous national and international awards. The film brings us into the work and everyday moments of the Vignellis' world, capturing their intelligence and creativity, as well as their humanity, warmth, and humor.



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Diaghilev and the Ballets Russes

Friday 6th November @ 9:00 pm. Metropolis I

USA

2013

Duration : 57 min

Director: Carroll Moore

Language: English

The impresario Serge Diaghilev was the creator and driving force of the Ballets Russes. He persuaded, cajoled, and charmed the greatest talents of the early twentieth century to join his company. Artists (Pablo Picasso and Henri Matisse), composers (Igor Stravinsky and Erik Satie), choreographers (Michel Fokine and George Balanchine), and dancers (Vaslav Nijinsky and Anna Pavlova) all collaborated to realize Diaghilev's dream of a seamless fusion of the arts. The spectacular productions of the Ballets Russes dazzled audiences and revolutionized modern dance. This documentary includes footage of revivals of Ballets Russes performances by the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo, the Paris Opera Ballet, the Joffrey Ballet, and the New York City Ballet. Also featured are sets and costumes from Diaghilev's innovative productions, as well as interviews with dancers, musicians, and scholars.



The film was made possible by the HRH Foundation

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Dorothea Lange, Grab a Hunk of Lighting

Friday 6th November @ 9:00 pm. Metropolis II

USA

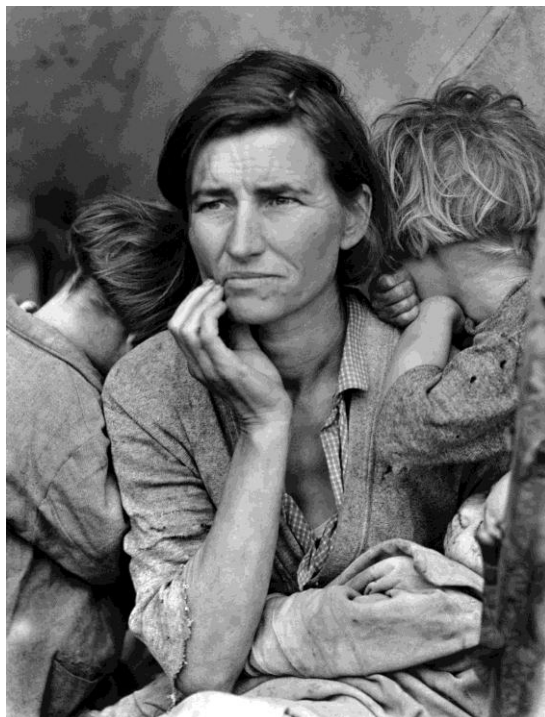
2014

Duration: 97 min

Director: Dyanna Taylor

Language: English / Subtitles: English

Explore, through her granddaughter's eyes, the life story of Dorothea Lange the photographer who captured the iconic image "Migrant Mother". Never-seen-before photos, film footage, interviews, family memories, and journals reveal the artist who challenged America to know itself. Lange's enduring images document five turbulent decades of American history, including the Great Depression, the Dust Bowl, World War II Japanese American Internment camps, and early environmentalism. Yet few know the story, struggles, and profound body of work of the woman behind the camera. Award winning cinematographer Dyanna Taylor, Lange's granddaughter, directs and narrates this intimate documentary as it explores Lange's life, probes the nature of her muses – two great men and the camera itself – and her uncompromising vision. Taylor, who learned to see the visual world at her grandmother's feet, weaves Lange's preparations for her career retrospective at New York's MOMA into a universal story of a woman's struggle to live a creative life.



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Fairouz

Sunday 8th November @ 8:00 pm. Metropolis I

France

1998

Duration: 52 min

Director: Frédéric Mitterrand

Language: Arabic and French / Subtitles: French

For over a half century, Fairouz, the Lebanese diva has been a shining light in a world of Arab stars. Her melancholic voice represents the unity of Lebanon despite its successive wars and rifts. Frederic Mitterrand's documentary retraces her career and unveils a generous and modest woman. Normally reclusive, reserved and unapproachable, the icon is revealed as she has rarely been seen. She retraces her childhood in the 30's, her first meeting with Assi and Mansour Rahbani, her exclusive composers, her marriage to Assi and their work and their complicity together. This just and moving portrait is enriched by precious footage of Beirut. It is best illustrated with excerpts from concerts, films and musicals many of which made Fairouz popular and famous and allowed the Rahbani brothers to impose their new style, a synthesis of Arabic and Western music. We are carried away by this great voice.



Fellini vs. Visconti, Italian Standoff

Saturday 7th November @ 9:00 pm. Metropolis II

France

2014

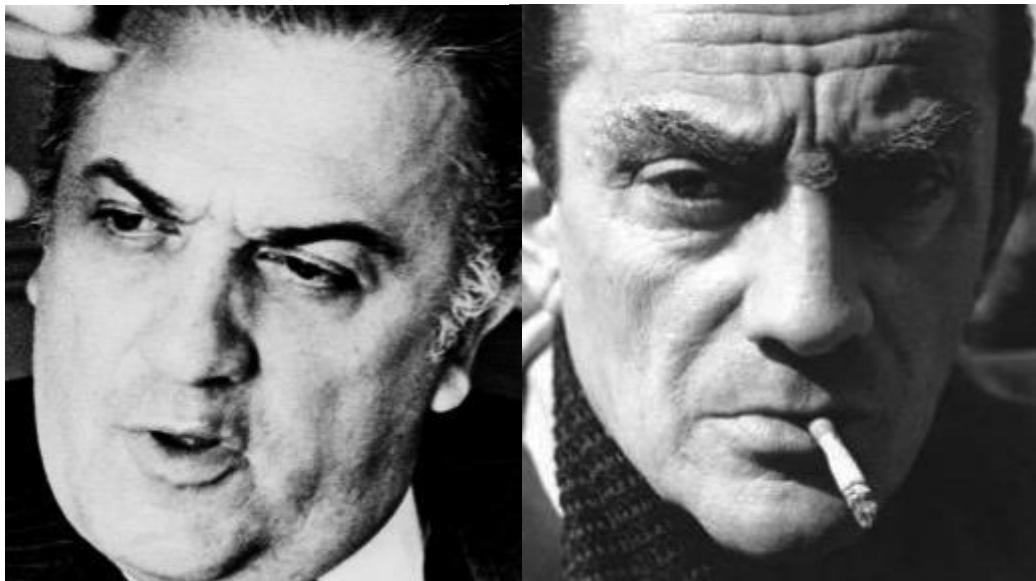
Duration : 52 min

Directors : Marie-Dominique Montel, Christopher Jones

Language: English

The two greatest names in Italian cinema had absolutely nothing in common and cordially detested one another for over twenty years, mutually 'stealing' actors, musicians and technicians from each other... Between Visconti, the Milanese aristocrat, and Fellini, the son of the middle-classes of Rimini, the clash was inevitable: a battle of imaginary worlds, of two talents, two cultures, and two egos...

Everything opposed them. Fellini would have sold his soul to be blessed with the critical consideration that Visconti saw merely as his due. Mastroianni said: « Visconti is the professor everyone dreams of, and Fellini, the ideal friend. » Orson Welles thought that « Visconti filmed fishermen like divas', while « Fellini danced with his cameras ». The film takes an unprecedented appraisal of the two men's rivalry, with testimony from those who worked with the two 'sacred giants' of Italian film: Claudia Cardinale, Moraldo Rossi, Gianfranco Angelucci, Enrico Medioli, John Baxter...



The Great Museum

Saturday 7th November @ 5:00 pm. Metropolis I

Germany

2014

Duration: 93 min

Director: Johannes Holzhausen

Language: German / Subtitles: English

This feature documentary portrays one of the most important museums in the world, the Kunsthistorisches Museum Wien. It presents a unique look behind the scenes of this fascinating institution and introduces a number of charismatic protagonists and their working fields. Thus unfolding the museum's special world – as an art institution as well a vehicle for state representation.



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Georg Baselitz

Saturday 7th November @ 7:00 pm. Metropolis II

Germany

2013

Duration: 106 min

Director: Evelyn Schels

Language: German / Subtitles: English

Georg Baselitz is one of the greatest geniuses of his generation. For the first time, the reclusive artist has opened his studios in Germany and Italy to a film crew. Director Evelyn Schels accompanied him up close on trips to New York, Paris and Berlin, as well as being allowed into his private life. She was permitted to look at his family albums, talk to his wife and companions, and shows us the decisive events of his life in this enthralling biopic. Baselitz grants us a unique look at the heart of his art. The audience is right there during the most sensitive and critical phases of his creative process, in both painting and sculpture, following each brush stroke, witnessing his doubts and euphoria, discovering not only the artist, but also the person that is Georg Baselitz.



Gurlitt and the Secret of the Nazi Treasure

Friday 6th November @ 9:00 pm. Metropolis II

Germany

2014

Duration: 52 min

Director: Maurice Philip Remy

Language: German / Subtitles: English

The case is as fascinating as a crime story: In 2010 customs officers take notice of an older German man traveling from Zurich to Munich. He is carrying cash, just under the allowed maximum amount. The man's name is Cornelius Gurlitt and at the time he is 79 years old at the time. The customs officers decide to follow up on him. A year later, Gurlitt sells a valuable Expressionist painting at an auction for almost one million euros, which sparks the customs authorities to issue a search warrant for his apartment in Munich. What the agents find there in early 2012 exceeds their expectations by far: a huge collection of over 1000 paintings from all eras and of carefully selected quality. What makes the situation even more difficult is the fact that the paintings were inherited from Gurlitt's father Hildebrand, who was an art dealer during Nazi times. The suspicion arises whether these paintings are looted art the collection is confiscated.



Josep Lluís Sert, a Nomadic Dream

Thursday 5th November @ 6:00 pm. Metropolis I

Espagne

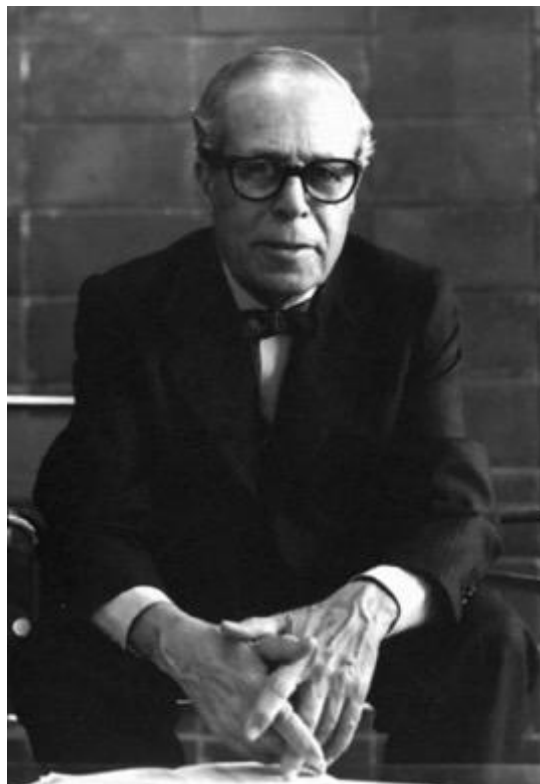
2013

Duration: 72 min

Director: Pablo Bujosa Rodríguez

Language: Spanish / Subtitles: English

This is the story of a talented architect, city planner and contemporary of Miró, Calder and Picasso and his indelible impact on the course of American architecture. Dean of the Harvard Graduate School of Design from 1953 to 1969, Josep Lluís Sert fled from Spain during the Civil War, and immigrated to the United States where he lived for almost 40 years. The documentary explores his life and work beginning in 1926 (when he received his degree in Architecture at the Universitat de Barcelona) until his death in 1983. Josep Lluís Sert / A Nomadic Dream examines the life of a complex man who was able to rebuild his own career in the United States away from his own land.



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Lagerfeld vs. Saint-Laurent, the Reason and the Passion

Thursday 5th November @ 6:00 pm. Metropolis II

France

2014

Duration: 52 min

Director: Stephan Kopecky

Language: English

Karl Lagerfeld and Yves Saint-Laurent, two complexes, talented, gifted men, into the heart of a half-century of fashion and haute couture. They represent indirectly the changes in French society, the changes in the morals and lifestyles of the 50s all the way to the 2000s, by way of May 68, the liberating and excessive 70s, the 80s marked by money and appearance... It is the story of the rivalry of two men fueled by ambition, creativity and jealousy.



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The Man who saved The Louvre

Friday 6th November @ 7:00 pm. Metropolis I

France

2014

Duration: 60 min

Directors: Pierre Pochart, Jean Pierre Devillers

Language: English

At the dawn of World War II, a resistance group organizes an incredible exfiltration of masterpieces from the Louvre Museum to save it from Nazis' hands. The man leading the operation is Jacques Jaujard, the Louvre Museum's director. Jaujard had an extraordinary personality and was madly in love with art. Although he was a devoted servant of the State, he used his knowledge of the system and his audacity to serve a universal cause: saving the world heritage. The film talks about this important chapter of history combining interviews and rare footage (including Jaujard's notebook). It is supported by dynamic narration and animated sequences of the protagonists, which are embedded in archives and the footage shot in situ. This form is in ad equation with our heroes 'elegance that remained until now in the shadow...



Matisse et Picasso, la couleur et le dessin

Friday 6th November @ 8:00 pm. Metropolis I

FRANCE

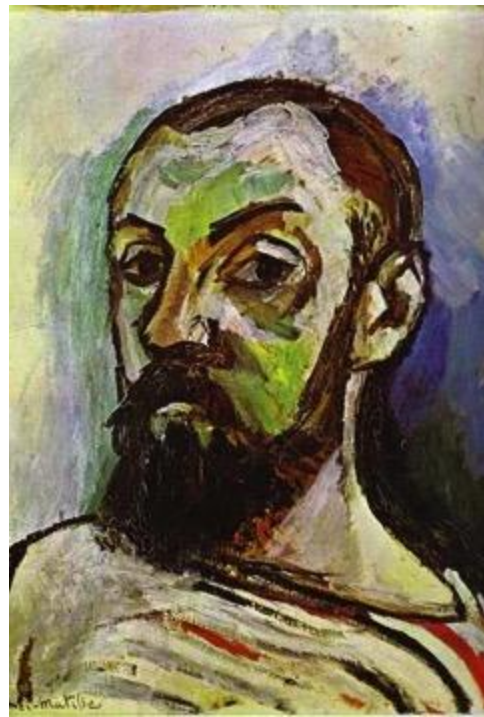
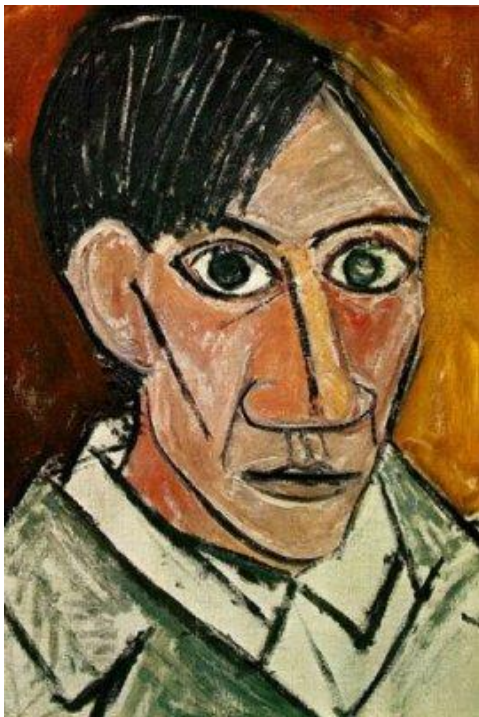
2013

Duration: 52 min

Director: Jarmila Buzkova

Language: French

In 1906 in Paris, the 36-year-old Matisse – who had turned painting upside down with his explosive colour palette – met the twelve years younger Pablo Picasso, newly arrived from Spain. At that moment, the two painters were far from imagining that their relationship would become one of the 20th century's richest artistic dialogues. In an apotheosis of colours and lines, the film gives an account of the competition, the fierce contrapositions and reconciliations between them. Often quoting the artists' own words, it shows their clashing but equally stimulating differences. Matisse and Picasso's rivalry reveals itself as the formidable hidden driving force behind their inventive work, which opened up new horizons for modern painting.



Oum Kalthoum, l'astre de l'Orient

Sunday 8th November @ 7:00 pm. Metropolis I

France

2008

Duration : 52 min

Directors: Ferial Ben Mahmoud, Nicolas Daniel

Languages: Arabic & French / Subtitles: English

52 minutes through the exceptional destiny of Oum Kalthoum, the idol of the Arab world. For decades, this woman alone, embodied with her personality and her talent, a certain manner of being an Arab in the twentieth century. Besides being an artist with an incomparable voice and singing like no one else the poetry of passionate love so dear to the Arabic world, she became the incarnated "Voice of the Arabs" globally: at the same time the symbol of identity as well as ambassador for their causes. Her iconic destiny seemed intertwined with that of a people who have never ceased since to perpetuate her memory. Through archival footage and numerous interviews filmed in France (Armande Altaï, Marie Laforet, Jean-Michel Boris, Sappho) and in the Arab World (Omar Sharif, Elias Sanbar, Gamal El-Ghitani, Farouk Hosni), this film allows us to rediscover the art and the exceptional destiny of this woman who today continues to inspire and enslave a public that devoutly worships at her altar.



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La Passion Noreev

Thursday 5th November @ 7:00 pm. Metropolis II

USA

2013

Duration: 60 min

Director: Fabrice Herrault

Language: French / Subtitles: English

From the New York Times (Jan. 29, 2014)

"La Passion Noreev", a French film about Rudolf Nureyev by Fabrice Herrault, seems for a moment to bode disaster in an early scene in which a boy does ballet steps in class as if he might be, or wanted to be, Nureyev. However his turns out to be an isolated scene that adds a measure of poignancy and dimension. The rest of this chronicle is culled entirely from footage of Nureyev and his colleagues, most of which is rare and much of it taken from live performance. I had not known that any film existed of Nureyev dancing Balanchine's "Apollo," Jerome Robbins's "Dances at a Gathering" or José Limón's "The Moor's Pavane," all of which I saw him perform in 1976; here, there are excerpts from those and 12 other Nureyev roles, as well as vivid backstage interviews and rehearsal scenes. This includes footage of Nureyev at the barre with the Danish dancer Erik Bruhn and the dress rehearsal for Ashton's "Marguerite and Armand" (the celebrity version of Dumas's "Lady of the Camellias," whose lead roles, were danced exclusively during their lifetimes by Margot Fonteyn and Nureyev).



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Sagrada, the Mystery of Creation

Saturday 7th November @ 8:30 pm. Metropolis I

Switzerland

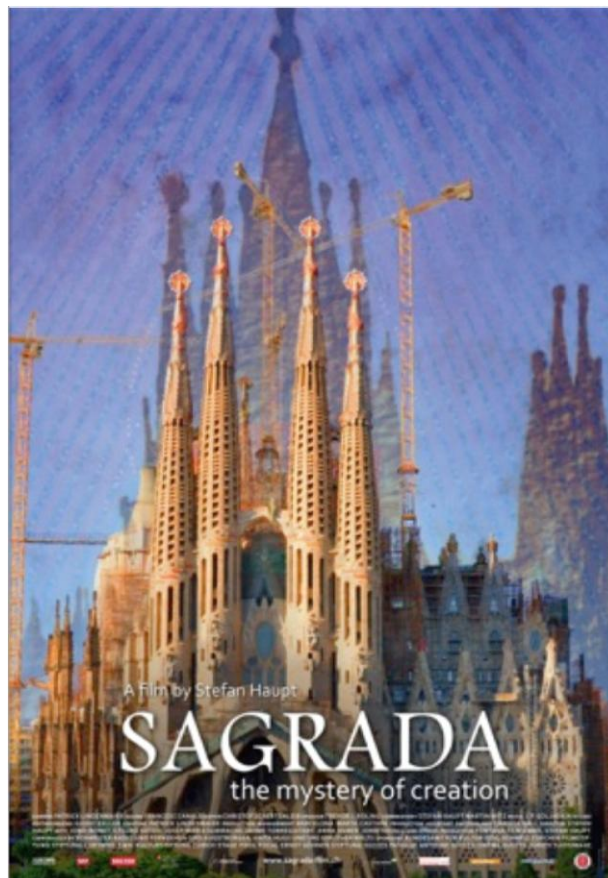
2013

Duration: 89 min

Director: Stephan Haupt

Language: Spanish & English / Subtitles: English

One of the most iconic structures ever built, Barcelona's La Sagrada Familia is a unique and fascinating architectural project conceived by Antoni Gaudi in the late 19th century. After more than 125 years since construction began, the basilica still remains unfinished. *Sagrada: The Mystery of Creation* celebrates Gaudi's vision and the continuing work of other architects as they strive to complete the colossal project while delving into the process of artistic creation in a historical context.



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The Salt of the Earth

Sunday 8th November @ 6:00 pm. Metropolis II

France

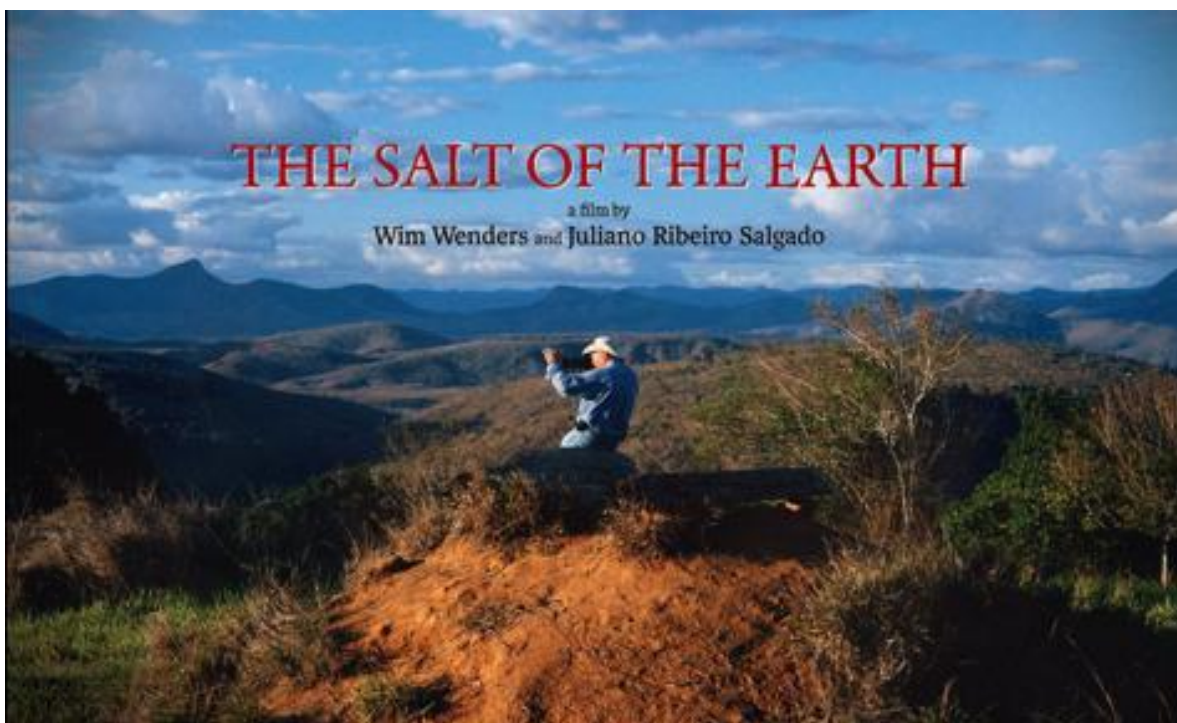
2014

Duration: 110 min

Director: Wim Wenders, Juliano Salgado

Language: French & English / Subtitles: English

During the last forty years, the photographer Sebastião Salgado has been travelling throughout the continents, in the footsteps of an ever-changing humanity. He has witnessed the major events of our recent history; international conflicts, starvations and exodus... He is now embarking on the discovery of pristine territories, of the wild fauna and flora, of grandiose landscapes: a huge photographic project, which is a tribute to the planet's beauty. Sebastião Salgado's life and work are revealed to us by his son, Juliano, who went with him during his last journeys, and by Wim Wenders, a photographer himself.



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Tadao Ando, from Emptiness to Infinity

Friday 6th November @ 6:00 pm. Metropolis I

Germany

2013

Duration: 52 min

Director: Mathias Frick

Language: Japanese / Subtitles: English

The documentary Tadao Ando - From emptiness to infinity portrays one of the world's most renowned architects: the Japanese "Master of Minimalism" Tadao Ando. His award-winning brutalist architecture creates a spectacular connection between Japanese tradition and contemporary modernism.

The film introduces Ando's world-famous buildings and accompanies him and his work. Ando personally share his sources of inspiration and motivation with us.



The True Story of the Raft of the Medusa

Thursday 5th November @ 8:30 pm. Metropolis I

France

2014

Duration: 90 min

Director: Herlé Jouon

Language: English

The Machine... that was the name given to the raft of the Medusa by those whose sorry task was to build and launch it at the height of the storm. 148 sailors and one woman, willingly or not, were heaped aboard this makeshift craft. Only 7 survived. Many people know Gericault's magnificent and frightening painting. But who knows the real story that lies behind this world-famous painting? Using a double investigation - one contemporary carried out by a passionate historian and one from the past carried out by Gericault for the creation of his work - The Machine invites the viewer on a voyage to rediscover piece by piece this astonishing page in our colonial and maritime history. The Raft of the Medusa is not merely only a painting. On the eve of its 200th anniversary, it's time to shed the full light upon its story.



Villa Flora, its collectors, its artists

Friday 6th November @ 6:00 pm. Metropolis II

Germany

2014

Duration: 78 min

Director: Nathalie David

Language: German / Subtitles: English

Hedy and Arthur Hahnloser began collecting the art of 'Les Nabis', a group of French Post-Impressionist artists, long before they had achieved any kind of fame. The Hahnlosers travelled often to Paris, where they purchased works recommended to them by their friends, the artists. In this way, they introduced the art of Bonnard, Vuillard, Vallotton and others to a Switzerland where modernism was still controversial. The works by the Nabis found their own new home at the Villa Flora in Winterthur, a building specially designed and built for Arthur and Hedy by the architect Rittmeyer. It did not take long before the Villa's hand-made wallpaper was covered with paintings and its purpose-designed garden decorated with sculptures. The collectors opened their doors to the artists; the artists spent their summers there, and the Villa Flora was transformed into a Gesamtkunstwerk. In 1995, the Villa Flora opened as a small art museum with an exquisite

collection of works by Nabis and Fauves. Visitors were able to admire works by Bonnard, Matisse, Redon, Rouault, Maillol, Vuillard, Manguin, as well as works by their predecessors such as Van Gogh, Gauguin, Cézanne and Renoir. Today, however, the city of Winterthur is deeply in debt and is no longer able to provide any financial support for the museum. The Villa Flora is in a state of stasis, its future uncertain. On April 29th, 2014, the great paintings were taken down from the Villa's walls. They will spend the upcoming years on tour throughout Europe – to Hamburg, Halle, Paris and even further...



Beirut Universities

BALAMAND UNIVERSITY, ACADEMIE LIBANAISE DES BEAUX-ARTS (ALBA)

ALBA, Sin el Fil, Saloumeh

Grand Auditorium

The Man who Saved the Louvre

Thursday 5th November @ 5:00 pm.

Design is One: Lella and Massimo Vignelli

Thursday 5th November @ 6:00 pm.

UNIVERSITÉ LIBANAISE, INSTITUT DES BEAUX-ARTS (IBA)

Hadath Campus

Institut des Beaux-Arts Auditorium

Georg Baselitz

Friday 6th November @ 10:00 am.

Sagrada, the Mystery of Creation

Friday 6th November @ 1:00 pm.

UNIVERSITÉ SAINT-JOSEPH, INSTITUT D'ÉTUDES SCÉNIQUES AUDIOVISUELLES ET CINÉMATOGRAPHIQUES (IESAV)

Campus des Sciences Humaines, Damascus Street

Béryte Theatre

Fellini vs. Visconti, Italian Standoff

Friday 6th November @ 11:00 am.

Dorothea Lange, Grab a Hunk of Lighting

Friday 6th November @ 12:00 am.

LEBANESE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY, SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES (LAU)

Beirut Campus

Irwin Theatre

The Man who saved the Louvre

Thursday 5th November @ 6:00 pm.

Fellini vs. Visconti, Italian Standoff

Friday 6th November @ 6:00 pm.