



Louis Garrel introduces *A Faithful Man*, Bille August to receive Kristián at closing

French actor and director **Louis Garrel** came to Prague to present his film *A Faithful Man*, which was a success in the competition at the Toronto IFF and at other eminent festivals. Garrel collaborated on the script with screenwriter **Jean-Claude Carrière** and cast his wife **Laetitia Casta** and **Johnny Depp's** daughter **Lily-Rose Depp**, as well as playing the male lead himself. After Febiofest his film will enter Czech cinemas on 4 April, distributed by Film Europe.

"The film is actually a kind of mix of thriller, romantic comedy and drama. The screenwriter Jean-Claude and I wanted every scene to be surprising. We wanted to play with the audience, so they had no idea what would happen in the next scene. We wanted people to laugh. At the first screening we were waiting to see if that'd happen. When you make a French film and employ a 'French joke', you don't know how audiences in other countries are going to respond. When we had a screening at the festival in Toronto and after two minutes I heard laughter coming from the hall I was happy. And I'm curious how viewers will respond here in the Czech Republic," said the actor and director, who will introduce the Czech premiere of the picture within Febiofest at CineStar Anděl.

The first half of Febiofest is behind us. To date the festival has welcomed numerous international filmmakers, presented a great many premieres and started its Industry Days for film professionals. Alongside other guests, the second half of Febiofest will belong to a major figure in world cinema, Danish director **Bille August**. Within a profile of his work, the Oscar winner and two-time recipient of the Palme d'Or at Cannes will introduce his latest work *A Fortunate Man* on Wednesday 27.3. The film recently earned **Katrine Greis-Rosenthal** a prize for Best Actress in a Supporting Role from the Danish Film Academy.

Other guests from Scandinavian states, showing their latest movies as part of the Northern Lights section, are also attending the festival these days. **Isabella Eklöf**, who won a Danish Film Academy award for Best Film for her directorial debut *Holiday*, is on her way to Prague. *The Ragged Life of Juice Leskinen*, which is about the "Finnish Bob Dylan" and stars **Riku Nieminen**, is sure to be an audience hit. **Tuva Novotny**, a Swedish actress with Czech roots, will introduce her latest work *Blind Spot*. And Swedish director **Marcus Lindeen** will present a sociological study in the documentary *The Raft*.

Monday evening at Febiofest will also belong to Slovak director **Juraj Šlauka's** film *Punk Never Ends!* and the Czech Television series *Without a Trace* directed by **Vít Karas** and starring **Ondřej Vetchý**. Czech projects will also be represented by the six-part series *Back to Square One* from the directorial duo of **Vladimír Škultéty** and **Jan Prušinovský** and featuring fresh Czech Lion recipient **Eliška Křenková**. She stars in the show alongside **Kryštof Hádek** and **Jan Strejcovský**. Thanks to cooperation between Mall.tv and Febiofest the Tuesday 26.3 screening, attended by a delegation, will take place free of charge.



Also coming to Prague is **Valeria Sarmiento**, the well-known Chilean director, editor and screenwriter, who collaborated on major works by her husband, the Chilean director **Raul Ruiz** (*The Lost Domain*, *Klimt*, *Mysteries of Lisbon*, *Night Across the Street*). Since the 1970s she has lived and worked in France, where she has dedicated herself to independent film making. Sarmiento will introduce her new historical film *The Black Book* at the festival on 27.3. Visiting from the UK will be **Peter Strickland**, who on the same day will present the anthology horror *Field Guide to Evil* within the Night Circus section. Germany will be represented by **Marcus H. Rosenmüller** and his film *The Keeper*. Viewers can also look forward to the US cinematographer **Alex Salahi**, who will introduce **Amir Naderi's** film *Magic Lantern*. **John Butler** will represent the Queer Now section with his *Papi Chulo*, while the Israeli filmmakers **Yona Rozenkier** and **Or Lee-Tal** will be in town for the end of the festival with *The Dive*.

Febiofest's closing ceremony, at which director Bille August will receive a Kristián award for lifetime contribution to world cinema, will take place on Thursday 28.3 at CineStar Anděl. The winner of the New Europe competition will be announced, as will the winner of the Amnesty International Febiofest Award and the You're the Filmmaker competition. The closing will also include a screening of *Stan and Ollie*, **Jon S. Baird's** film mapping a little-known latter phase in the collaboration between comedy duo Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy.

Febiofest as such finishes a day later on Friday 29.3 and viewers can look forward to a unique premiere screening of **Viktor Tauš's** TV miniseries *Monsters of the Shore*. The second-last series from the cycle *Detectives from the Holy Trinity* stars **Klára Melíšková** as a detective and also features **Miroslav Krobot**, **Václav Neuzil**, **Zuzana Stivínová**, **Lenka Krobotová** and others. A delegation will introduce the project on Friday at 18:00.

The festival opened at Prague's Municipal House on Thursday 21 March 2019. So far the pre-premieres of the children's films *Mirai* and *Mia and the White Lion* in particular have been audience hits, while other popular titles include *Arctic*, *The Old Man & The Gun* and *At Eternity's Gate*.

Following the Prague part of the festival Febiofest will continue from 1 to 18 April in 14 other cities and towns: České Budějovice, Hradec Králové, Plzeň, Beroun, Jihlava, Ostrava, Mikulov, Kladno, Liberec, Děčín, Olomouc, Uherské Hradiště, Chomutov and Zlín. As is traditional, the closing will take place in Zlín.

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26TH PRAGUE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
PRAGUE 21. - 29. 3. 2019 / REGIONS 1. 4. - 18. 4. 2019

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