



Francophonie Festival

16 - 21 March 2015

In Partnership with the Pakistan National Council of Arts (PNCA) Islamabad

The term francophonie refers to the world community of French-speaking countries, or the collective unit formed by French-speaking people. It is a community, based on a common language, which believes in the unity and diversity of cultures.

The French language is used as a way to bring about a coming together, a sharing, and a collaboration that is strengthening those countries that have linguistic commonalities as well as the countries that do not. As a result, people have an opportunity to come into contact with a huge array of cultur-

al differences and diverse traditions, which fosters tolerance—something the world needs more of.

The Organisation internationale de la Francophonie is an international organization representing countries and regions where French is the first or customary language; and/or where a significant proportion of the population are French speakers. The organization comprises 57 member states and governments, three associate members and twenty observers—representing around 800 million people worldwide.

PROGRAM

Exhibition : 16 - 20 March

Food stalls : 16 March

Film Festival : 18 - 21 March

Storytelling with Children 16 -18 March

Radio and TV programs : All week

School Competitions : All week



PAKISTAN NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE ARTS

Participating Member, Observer, and Associate States of the Francophonie

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Egypt, France, Greece, Hungary, Lebanon, Morocco, Poland, Romania, Switzerland, Tunisia, Vietnam.

Festival Opening Reception

Monday, 16 March - PNCA

By Invitation Only

Exhibition

Monday, 16 March to Friday, 20 March - PNCA

Opening 16 March - 7 PM

Austria : "Seeing with your Ears - Hearing with your Eyes" – Graphic scores by Renald Deppe

Belgium : "Conversation" – Pakistani interpretations of Belgian miniature paintings

Czech Republic : "Czech Gems"

France : History of France through advertisements

Tunisia : Tourism posters and traditional items

Vietnam : Embroidered landscape pictures, handicraft, tourism posters

Food stalls

Monday, 16 March - PNCA at 6 PM

Lebanon, Romania, Tunisia

Film Festival

Wednesday, 18 March - PNCA

NGOAI O The Outskirts of Hanoi, Vietnam, 24 mins - 5 PM

Stories of daily work and life of the people living in the villages outside of Hanoi, as they struggle to keep the traditional works and cultural identities of their villages in the context of modernization and industrialization.

Welcome, France, 2009, 109 mins - 6 PM

Simon tries to help a young Kurdish illegal immigrant, Bilal Kayani, whose dream is to cross the English Channel from Calais in France to the UK to be reunited with his girlfriend, Mina. Simon gives Bilal temporary refuge at his home after Bilal registers for swimming lessons, intending to train to be able to swim across the Channel.

Babí léto Autumn Spring, Czech Republic, 2001, 97 mins - 8 PM

Terminal prankster Frantisek Hána refuses to grow up and take certain responsibilities, despite his wife Emilie's constant badgering to do so. Even faced with his own looming death and an ungrateful son who wants to whisk his parents off to the old folks' home, Frantisek's wit won't quit as he vies to live until he dies.

Thursday, 19 March - PNCA

Cerro Torre, Austria, 2013, 104 mins - 4 PM

Cerro Torre is a documentary about mountaineering, friendship and transformation. It's a coming of age story that also takes a close look at the state of rock climbing and alpinism, as well as their many philosophies and ethical approaches.

La Petite Chambre, Switzerland, 2010, 87 mins - 6 PM

One day, a bad fall forces Edmond to accept Rose's help. Eventually, the two grow closer. The young woman finds relief in confiding painful memories to the older man; things she cannot even bring herself to tell her husband. Meanwhile, Edmond, too, opens up, sharing recollections of his beloved wife.

Tango Libre, Belgium, 2012, 98 mins - 8 PM

A prison guard is attracted to a woman at his weekly tango class. They meet again when she visits her husband in the prison where he works and he is drawn into her complicated romantic life. Meanwhile the prisoners are learning the tango.

Friday, 20 March - PNCA

Nomad's Land, Switzerland, 2009, 90 mins - 5 PM

The young director, Gael Metroz, takes the road alone, camera in hand, in the footsteps of Nicolas Bouvier. He discovers that the East is no longer the almost carefree land of the Fifties recounted in l'Usage du Monde: Iran in crises, Pakistan shaken by tribal violence's, Taliban, civil war in Sri Lanka. This world, Bouvier had the usage, seem to have disappeared under the veil of time. Disappointed the director leaves the main road traced by the famous Topolino and continues on the small path with the nomads. In creating his own route, Gael Metroz reveals the writer's philosophy of travel.

La Vie en Rose, France, 2007, 140 mins - 7 PM

Life story of singer Edith Piaf

Saturday, 21 March - PNCA

Hiver Nomade, Switzerland, 2012, 90 mins - 4 PM

Pascal and Carole are shepherds. In the month of November 2010, they embark on their long winter transhumance: four months during which they will have to cover 600 km in the Swiss-French region, accompanied by three donkeys, four dogs and a eight hundred sheep. An exceptional adventure is about to begin: they brave the cold and the bad weather day in day out, with a canvas cover and animal skins as their only shelter at night. This saga reveals a tough and exacting profession requiring constant improvisation and unflinching attention to nature, the animals and the cosmos.

Making Off, Tunisia, 2006, 112 mins - 6 PM

Young and restless, Bahta is jobless, has no degree and no prospects. His one passion is breakdancing, but even that outlet is repressed by the police. When the Iraq war breaks out, he encounters all new challenges. Bahta falls in with a group of fundamentalists that takes him down a destructive path. The process of brainwashing will not occur without clashes.

Félix et Meira, Canada, 105 mins - 8 PM

An unusual romance blooms between two lost souls who inhabit the same neighbourhood but vastly different worlds.

*Admissions are free
All films are shown in their original languages with English Subtitles*