

Festival du film

Merveilleux *et* Imaginaire

16th
EDITION

PRESS KIT 2026



Under the patronage of the French National Commission
for UNESCO

SOUS LE PATRONAGE DE LA COMMISSION NATIONALE FRANÇAISE POUR
L'UNESCO

16 – 18 September 2026

Christine Cinéma Club · 4 rue Christine — 75006 Paris

www.festival-film-merveilleux.com

Photo: Mo Eid - Pexels

THE 2026 EDITION

26 short films, 3 evenings, 12 countries

Official competition selection • 16-18 September 2026 • Christine Cinéma Club, Paris

For its 16th edition, Festival du film Merveilleux & Imaginaire brings together 26 short films from 12 countries, presented in competition across three evenings. Held under the patronage of the French National Commission for UNESCO, the 2026 edition makes cinema a space for discovery, intercultural dialogue and reflection on major contemporary issues.

26	3	12	4 h 43
SHORT FILMS	EVENINGS	COUNTRIES	OF SCREENINGS

An international and diverse selection

Live action, animation, puppetry, animated ink and handcrafted techniques shape a programme in which intimate stories meet memory, exile, climate, transmission, equality and the diversity of imagined worlds.

Three themed sessions

Wednesday 16 September — “What We Carry Within Us” — 8 films • 1 hr 30

Thursday 17 September — “Looking It in the Face” — 9 films • 1 hr 37

Friday 18 September — “The Imagination and Its Shadows” — 9 films • 1 hr 36

THE FESTIVAL

About the Festival

A Paris-based event dedicated to short film, the marvellous and intercultural dialogue.

Festival du film Merveilleux & Imaginaire is a Paris-based event dedicated to short films exploring the marvellous, the imaginary and the diversity of artistic worlds.

Since its creation, it has showcased French and international filmmakers and made cinema a meeting place for intercultural dialogue and exchange between audiences.

Its 16th edition connects artistic creation, a diversity of perspectives and major contemporary issues through an accessible format that encourages the discovery of new voices in short filmmaking.

Under the patronage of the French National Commission for UNESCO

The patronage granted to the 16th edition accompanies an international programme grounded in cultural diversity, education, peace, inclusion and the circulation of perspectives.

Editorial focus

- Showcase French and international short films.
- Bring cultures, generations and cinematic forms into dialogue.
- Build bridges between artistic creation and major contemporary issues.
- Offer audiences a space for discovery, emotion and exchange.

PROGRAMME

The sessions at a glance

Three evenings of competition at the Christine Cinéma Club. All screenings begin at 7:30 p.m.

1

What We Carry Within Us

Wednesday 16 September • Opening cocktail at 7:00 p.m. • Screening at 7:30 p.m.

8 films • 1 hr 30

Grown Up Day • At Night • Gian • La Reine • The Skin I'm In • Our Fleeting Soul • No Wind to Hold • Bourreau des Cœurs

2

Looking It in the Face

Thursday 17 September • Screening at 7:30 p.m.

9 films • 1 hr 37

Hope • Above • The Cloud Herder • Sulaimani • Immigrant • Omnivore • Share the Happiness • Lifelines • BRIDGE — My Little Friends

3

The Imagination and Its Shadows

Friday 18 September • Screening at 7:30 p.m. • Closing cocktail and awards ceremony after the session

9 films • 1 hr 36

A Brushstroke • El Din • What Keeps Us Together • La ferme de papi • Strive • The Dracula Secret — Piwooz Music-Hall • Sequential • Don't Dust Up • Les bottes de la nuit

Key moments

Opening cocktail on Wednesday 16 September at 7:00 p.m. Closing cocktail and awards ceremony on Friday 18 September after the final screening.

SESSION 1

What We Carry Within Us

Wednesday 16 September · Opening cocktail at 7:00 p.m. · Screening at 7:30 p.m. · 8 films · 1 hr 30

A session devoted to intimacy, memory, resilience and the emotions and experiences carried within us.

Film	Director	Country	Runtime	SDG
Grown Up Day	David Caspir	France	22'08	SDG 4
At Night	Pooya Afzali	Iran	5'00	SDG 16
Gian	Hamed Yousefi	Iran	13'00	SDG 3
La Reine	Anaëlle Perthuis, Jeanne Trupin, Nour Baz, Mathilde Le Men, Liam Pavie, Lauryne Grisin	France	6'25	SDG 16
The Skin I'm In	Elena Vialykh	United Kingdom	14'32	SDG 5
Our Fleeting Soul	Marin Caquez, Eva-Louise Moreau, Nour Kharraz	France	8'06	SDG 3
No Wind to Hold	Mickael Abbate & Chris Conti	France	14'35	SDG 3
Bourreau des Cœurs	Inès Moussard, Antoine Genza, Ilian Belkilani, Sam Ripart, Alexandre Julhe, Camille Duvere	France	6'00	SDG 11

SESSION 2

Looking It in the Face

Thursday 17 September · Screening at 7:30 p.m. · 9 films · 1 hr 37

Stories exploring dreams, exile, freedom, climate, loss and the courage to look at the world differently.

Film	Director	Country	Runtime	SDG
Hope	Jamal Ademola	USA	3'55	SDG 13
Above	Dmitry Borzykin	Russia	19'49	SDG 4
The Cloud Herder	Aidan McAteer	Ireland	7'05	SDG 13
Sulaimani	Vinnie Anne Bose	France	19'49	SDG 4
Immigrant	Nilram Ranjbar	Iran	1'40	SDG 10
Omnivore	Daria Garonika	Russia	14'00	SDG 16
Share the Happiness	Azimjon Rahimjonov	Uzbekistan	8'00	SDG 10
Lifelines	Bruno Richaud	France	12'57	SDG 3
BRIDGE — My Little Friends	Kazuyuki Ishihara	Japan	9'30	SDG 3

SESSION 3

The Imagination and Its Shadows

Friday 18 September • Screening at 7:30 p.m. • Closing cocktail and awards ceremony after the session • 9 films • 1 hr 36

An evening where the uncanny, fantasy, dark comedy and handcrafted animation techniques come together.

Film	Director	Country	Runtime	SDG
A Brushstroke	Stéphane Martinet	France	19'33	SDG 3
El Din	Julien Regnard & Pascal Giraud	Belgium / France	5'14	SDG 11
What Keeps Us Together	Sergei Annenkov	Russia	13'00	—
La ferme de papi	Elise Coupet, Matthis Acker, Yseult Duval, Yves Dubois, Anaïs Mulier, Camille Majorczyk	France	6'17	SDG 2
Strive	Jussi Rautaniemi	Finland	14'50	SDG 3
The Dracula Secret — Piwooz Music-Hall	Giovanni Gasparetto	France	2'30	SDG 3
Sequential	Bruno Caetano	France, Italy, Poland, Portugal	12'05	SDG 4
Don't Dust Up	Anastasia Pastory	Russia	10'06	SDG 3
Les bottes de la nuit	Pierre-Luc Granjon	France	12'22	SDG 4

2030 AGENDA

Reading the selection through the Sustainable Development Goals

For the first time, films that lend themselves to the approach are placed in dialogue with the United Nations SDGs.

This reading is not intended to impose a single interpretation on the works. It highlights films that naturally engage with education, health, equality, inequality, climate, peace, sustainable cities or transmission. Works that are purely artistic or humorous may therefore remain deliberately unassigned to an SDG.

The eight goals highlighted by the 2026 selection

2 Zero Hunger	3 Good Health and Well-being
4 Quality Education	5 Gender Equality
10 Reduced Inequalities	11 Sustainable Cities and Communities
13 Climate Action	16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

The Festival developed the SDG reading based on the themes naturally addressed by the films.

PRESS INFORMATION

Practical information and contacts

Essential information for preparing an article, interview or event coverage.

Dates	16-18 September 2026
Venue	Christine Cinéma Club • 4 rue Christine • 75006 Paris
Screenings	Every evening at 7:30 p.m.
Opening	Wednesday 16 September • Cocktail at 7:00 p.m.
Closing	Friday 18 September • Closing cocktail and awards ceremony after the screening
Website	www.festival-film-merveilleux.com

Press contacts

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Available materials

- 2026 Press Kit
- Press Release — 2026 Programme
- Press Release — UNESCO and the SDGs
- Paris Press Agenda
- Official visuals and interview requests

Press

For interview requests, high-resolution visuals, credits or further information, please contact the press team.