



Alliance Française
Sydney - Australie
Cultural Foundation

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

Alliance Française de Sydney Cultural Foundation Limited

The Alliance Française French Film Festival

2019 marked the 30th anniversary of the Alliance Française French Film Festival (AFFFF) and was another record season. Once again, the AFFFF enhanced its reputation for high-quality programming thanks to the diversity and range of films selected, the dedication of the venue partners, the sponsors and the AFFFF's long-term and loyal audience as well as new enthusiasts of French cinema.

This milestone within the Australian cultural calendar is organised by the Alliances Françaises de Sydney, Melbourne, Canberra, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth in association with the Embassy of France in Australia and in partnership with Palace Cinemas and Hayden Orpheum Cremorne. From 5 March to 10 April, close to 64,000 tickets were sold in Sydney. Nation-wide, the AFFFF remains the premier French film festival outside of France, the biggest intercity film festival and the largest French cultural event in Australia. This success can be attributed not only to the love story between France and Australia but also to the strong and long-term partnerships that have been forged throughout the years with sponsors, partners, distributors and other participating organisations that have continued to support the AFFFF.

The AFFFF teams rejoiced in celebrating the 30th anniversary of the AFFFF with new projects and initiatives: a new website, more special events, new partnerships and collaborations, and more tailored sponsorship packages. The AFFFF reinforced its public relations strategy, extended its communication campaigns and strengthened targeted marketing. Thirty special events were organised in Sydney, bringing new formats such as “babes in arms” screenings, jazz nights and family sessions. This anniversary season also featured one of the richest and most extensive film selections that the AFFFF had ever seen.



AFFFF 2019 Gift Bag



Treneal - AFFFF Sponsor



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AFFFF Sydney 2019
Opening Night Gala



Gilles Lellouche, guest
at the AFFFF



AFFFF Sydney 2019
Opening Night Gala



Lyn Tuit (left), President of the Alliance Française de Sydney,
Philippe Ostermann (centre), General Manager of the Alliance Française de Sydney
and H.E. Christophe Penot (right), Ambassador of France to Australia



AFFFF Jacques Audiard
and David Stratton event

Events

The Alliance Française de Sydney offers a rich calendar of cultural events for members and supporters, with Bastille Day being the most important of these after the AFFFF. Each month, its CBD location is abuzz with 300 guests attending cocktail soirees, exhibitions, talks, presentations from acclaimed authors, wine tastings, workshops and more. In 2019, there was a total of 34 cultural events organised by AFS.

To commemorate the special occasion of the Alliance Française de Sydney's 120-year anniversary, a programme of events was hosted between mid-September and mid-October. A discussion by Klorane and Avène on the allure of French beauty, a presentation by leading bilingualism researchers Dr Robyn Maloney and Dr Alice Chic, and a trivia night presented in partnership with FACCI and Le Courier Australien were among some of the curated events.

Other highlights from this year's calendar included the annual unveiling and tasting of the Beaujolais Nouveau wine with Maison M. Chapoutier, the "Almost French" and "Almost Australian" round-table discussions with pioneering women, kids baking masterclass and comic drawing workshop, the "Amazing Taste of France" talk with Gabriel Gaté, and Benedicte Belzung's unique "The Land is Talking" exhibition showcasing some of the greatest contemporary Indigenous Australian artists.



Chef Gabriel Gaté



Barayuwa, Australian Aboriginal Artist
Exhibition "The Land is Talking"



Winners of the
School Competition



Lillo Teodoro Guarnieri (left), Director of Istituto Italiano di Cultura Sydney, with
Philippe Ostermann (right), General Manager of the Alliance Française de Sydney



Alliance Française de Sydney 120 Anniversary Event :
"Opening Night Soirée", with FACCI and Le Courier Australien

List of Events:

- Art Conference: “Modern Masters from the Hermitage” with Anne Gérard-Austin, Art Gallery of NSW
- Author talk: “Castaway” with Robert Macklin
- Preview event: “The 30th Edition of the Alliance Française French Film Festival” with Philippe Platel
- Table Ronde 1#: “Almost French” with Lyn Tuit, Sarah Turnbull and Brigid Kennedy
- Table Ronde 2#: “Almost Australian” with Laurence Crussol, Sabine Duffy and Marie Chrétien
- Conference: “Georges Perec” with Christelle Reggiani
- Exhibition for “Head On Festival” with Craig Holmes
- Conference: “Josphine’s Ark” with Terry Smyth
- Cooking Masterclass with Pierre Gaudin, The Essential Ingredient Surry Hills
- Inauguration of the New Caledonia space with Dr. Yves Lafoy
- Author Talk: “The Blue Rose” with Kate Forsyth
- Conference: “The Wives of the French Presidents” with Professor Ross Steele
- Author Talk: “Terra Australis” with Laurent-Frédéric Bollée
- Art Conference: “Matisse and Picasso” with Marie Chrétien
- Art Conference: “Monet Impressionism” with Marie Chrétien
- Kids Comic Book Workshop with Nicolas Martin
- Conference: “How to be an Illustrator” with Nicolas Martin
- Conference: “Protecting our Coral Reefs, from a Franco-Australian perspective” with Sophie Ansel and Dr. Emma Camp
- Author Talk: “1921 in Paris” with Tessa Lunney
- Conference: “Women in Comics” with Philippe Ostermann
- Conference: “Subs reshaping French-Australian strategic and intercultural dialogue” with Emmanuelle Crane
- Art Conference: “The Australian Aborigines and the Baudin Expedition” with Professor Margaret Sankey
- Conference: “Behind the Scenes of Les Hirondelles de Kaboul” with Zabou Breitman
- Wine Tasting Event: “Beaujolais Nouveau” with Maison M. Chapoutier
- 120th Anniversary Event: “Opening Night Soirée”, with FACCI and Le Courrier Australien
- 120th Anniversary Event: “The Amazing Taste of France” with Gabriel Gaté
- 120th Anniversary Event: “French Beauty” with Avène and Klorane
- 120th Anniversary Event: “The Benefits of Bilingualism” with Dr. Alice Chic and Dr. Robyn Moloney
- 120th Anniversary Event: “Pour le Devoir de Mémoire” with the OZY Youth Choir
- 120th Anniversary Event: “120 years of the Alliance Française de Sydney”
- 120th Anniversary Event: “Kids Baking Class”
- Group exhibition: “The Land Is Talking...Through the voices of Australian Aboriginal Artists” curated by Benedicte Belzung
- 2019 Schools Competition: Short Film, Photo College and French Songs categories
- European Day of Languages, in conjunction with Goethe-Institut, Istituto Italiano di Cultura and Instituto Cervantes