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Tournees Film Festival brings contemporary Francophone cinema to Morris

Summary: Hosted by the French Discipline and Entre Nous, the festival is made possible by the French-American Cultural Exchange's generous support. The films will be screened at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays for five weeks beginning September 15, 2010. Read more at <http://www.morris.umn.edu/newsevents/view.php?itemID=10959>.

(September 1, 2010)-The University of Minnesota, Morris French Discipline and Entre Nous, the French student organization, will bring the Tournées Film Festival to Morris thanks to the generous support of the French-American Cultural Exchange (FACE). The 2010–11 Festival includes five award-winning feature films. Subtitled in English, the films will be screened at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays for five weeks beginning September 15, 2010. The campus and the public are invited to the free viewings in the Student Center's Edson Auditorium.

“The French Club’s mission is precisely to contribute to the internationalization of campus,” said Tammy Berberi, associate professor of French. “We are delighted to bring this series to campus this year. Receiving support from a prestigious foundation like FACE—for a third time—is a tribute to the strength of our French program as well as our connection to the Morris community.”

The 2010 Tournées Film Festival at Morris

September 15

Le Chant des mariées/The Wedding Song
Director Karin Albou, 2007

In a follow-up to her 2005 debut, *Little Jerusalem*, Albou reveals herself to be a highly gifted, sensitive chronicler of both the complex lives of young women and religious differences. Set in Nazi-occupied Tunisia in 1942, *The Wedding Song* focuses on the friendship between teenagers Nour, a devout Muslim celebrating her engagement to Khaled, and her neighbor Myriam, a secular Jew living with her widowed mother.

September 22

Panique au village/A Town Called Panic
Directors Stéphane Aubier and Vincent Patar, 2009

The giddy, chaotic pace in Aubier and Patar’s first feature, a marvelous fantasia made using meticulously detailed stop-motion animation and a cast of 1,500 plastic-toy figures, never lets up for a second. Seemingly inspired by the manic energy of the Marx brothers and old Warner Bros. cartoons, *A Town Called Panic*, which originated as a cult-favorite TV show, is ultimately in a class of its own. Its playful, nonstop anarchy bound to appeal to children and adults alike.

September 29

La Belle personne/The Beautiful Person

Director Christophe Honoré, 2008

Loosely based on *La Princesse de Clèves*, Madame de Lafayette's 1678 novel about forbidden passions and unrequited love among the aristocracy, Honoré's pleasingly tart *La Belle Personne* plays like a Gallic Gossip Girl. Honoré's wry look at teenage lust and bad adult behavior, filled with dark love songs by Nick Drake, is a pitch-perfect exercise in mood and style, completely besotted with the beauty of its comely cast.

October 6

Le Scaphandre et le papillon/The Diving Bell and the Butterfly,
Director Julian Schnabel, 2007

As the editor of French magazine *ELLE*, Jean-Dominique Bauby was a key player in Parisian social and cultural circles before suffering a massive stroke at 43. He developed a locked-in syndrome: he lost all muscle control, save his left eyelid. Blinking one letter at a time, he composed a book describing his new life. This is the basis of Schnabel's enthralling film in which Jean-Dominique Bauby summons enormous courage, determination, and his soaring imagination to escape from his trap.

October 13

La Fille du RER/The Girl on the Train
Director André Téchiné, 2008

Téchiné's provocative film is inspired by true events: the RER D, a Paris commuter line, affair of July 2004, in which a nonJewish young woman falsely claimed to be the victim of an anti-Semitic attack by six men, whom she identified as Arabs and blacks. Téchiné skillfully observes contemporary French society and politics without ever lecturing. *The Girl on the Train* provides a prism through which we may begin to understand anti-Semitism, racism, and what it means to declare yourself a victim.

The *Tournées Festival* brings contemporary Francophone cinema to college or university campuses. The program is made possible with the generous support of The French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, The Centre National de la Cinématographie, The Florence Gould Foundation, The Grand Marnier Foundation, and highbrow entertainment.

For more information, contact [Berberi](#).

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