French and Francophone Film Festival 2019
March 7, 8, 9 & 14, 15, 16
San Diego State University
Free admission – all films screened with English subtitles.
Presented in collaboration with the Department of European Studies, the Center for European Studies, and the LGBTQ Research Consortium and FACE Council.

Thursday, March 7: 7 pm LT 161
UN BEAU SOLEIL INTERIEUR / LET THE SUNSHINE IN
Dir. Claire Denis 2017 / 94 min.
Trailer: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ps_Sau7xq8Y
Driven by Juliette Binoche’s masterful performance, Let the Sunshine In takes the perspective of a middle-aged woman to give a timely report on the battle of the sexes, hinting at the more general malaise hanging over French society today. As always in a Claire Denis film, there comes a point when the angst gives way to a breathtaking dance scene: in this case, set to an Etta James song – cinema in its purest, most sensual state.

Friday, March 8: 7 pm LT 161
VISAGES, VILLAGES / FACES, PLACES
Dir. Agnès Varda 2017 / 113 min.
Trailer: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P7rFM07ODBk
With Faces, Places, 89-year-old powerhouse Agnès Varda teams with the world-famous young street artist JR to make a film as wide-ranging as it is personal, as fanciful as it is pointed. The two artists focus on people generally outside of the spotlight: retired miners, factors workers, the wives of dockers, and farmers. Faces, Places was nominated for an Academy Award for the Best Documentary of 2017.

Saturday, March 9: 5 pm LT 161 -- An Evening with Jeanne d’Arc
LA PASSION DE JEANNE D’ARC/THE PASSION OF JEANNE D’ARC
Dir. Carle Dreyer 1928 / 84 min.
Trailer: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CshFPRM6lqo
In 1927, Danish filmmaker Carl Theodor Dreyer was invited to make a film in France. He settled on the story of Joan of Arc and spent a year researching her life, drawing primarily from the transcripts of her trial. The resulting account of her trial and execution stands as one of the towering achievements of the silent cinema and has consistently been voted one of the best films of all time.

Saturday, March 9: 7 pm LT 161 -- An Evening with Jeanne d’Arc
JEANNETTE, L’ENFANCE DE JEANNE D’ARC / JEANNETTE: THE CHILDHOOD OF JOAN OF ARC
Trailer: https://vimeo.com/250349617
Writer-director Bruno Dumont created a faithful but strikingly contemporary adaptation of turn-of-the-century poet Charles Péguy’s two plays about the childhood of Joan of Arc, with music by death metal composer Igorr and modern-day children recorded singing live on the dunes of the Pas-de-Calais. The result is mystifying and mystical, jaw-dropping and farcical, but never less than inspired.

Thursday, March 14: 7 pm SHW 011
120 BATTEMENTS PAR MINUTE / BPM (BEATS PER MINUTE)
Dir. Robert Campillo 2017 / 143 min.
Trailer: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VBPdxfJaQbg
BPM is a fictionalized account of Act Up-Paris, the story of some of the heroes of our era: men and women who fought for the recognition and improved treatment of HIV and AIDS patients at a time when a diagnosis was a death sentence. An original member of Act Up, writer-director Robin Campillo brings an authenticity to his reconstruction of the organization’s politically and emotionally charged meetings.

Friday, March 15: 7 pm LT 161
JOURS DE FRANCE / 4 DAYS IN FRANCE
Dir. Jérôme Reybaud 2016 / 137 min.
Trailer: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sug7cLgbHlY
Jérôme Reybaud cleverly encapsulates his first feature as a “sentimental Grindr road movie, a unique cinematic experience. 4 Days in France follows Pierre, a gay Parisian who decides to leave his life behind to cruise the back roads of the provinces in an Alfa Romeo, using Grindr as a GPS.

Saturday, March 16: 5 pm LT 161
Félicité
Dir. Alain Gomis 2017 / 129 min.
Trailer: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6IC3ys9pqIM
Félicité is a nightclub singer in Kinshasa who lives alone with her teenage son Samo. When Samo severely injures himself in a motorcycle accident, Félicité must find a way to raise the money to pay for an operation or allow her son’s leg to be amputated. Alive with the diverse sounds of various Kinshasa musicians, Félicité is an engaging, deep dive into the days and, nights of a city by turns nightmarish and surprisingly radiant.

Saturday, March 16: 7 pm LT 161
METAMORPHOSES
Dir. Christophe Honoré 2014 / 102 mi.
Trailer: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uyw9PCI3380
Christophe Honoré takes a surprising turn away from his bittersweet tales of modern-day love with this contemporary adaptation of Ovid’s Metamorphoses. He uses Ovid to portray the multicultural France of today, setting his story not only in lush natural landscapes but among the housing blocks of the French suburbs, and casting a high school student of North African descent in the central role of Europa, the young woman who encounters a series of gods and mythological characters.

Go to: https://www.facebook.com/FrenchFilmFest/ for more information.
Support for the Tournées Festival is provided by The French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs / The Centre National de la Cinématographie / The Florence Gould Foundation / The Grand Marnier Foundation / higbrow entertainment. www.facecouncil.org