



4 March – 9 April 2025
School screenings from 5 March

The Alliance Française French Film Festival is pleased to present the School Screening Selection for 2025!

Dear French teachers,

The Alliance Française of Sydney and Palace Cinemas are pleased to announce 7 films to be presented as special School Screenings for the 2025 Alliance Française French Film Festival. This year, School Screenings will commence on the 5th March, until the 9th April. Educational booklets will be available for these films to help you conduct activities with your class before or after the screenings.

THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO – FROM YEAR 9

Tuesday 11 March | 10am
Palace Norton St

Tuesday 25 March | 10am
Palace Central

Tuesday 8 April | 10am
Palace Moore Park

Tuesday 18 March | 10am
Hayden Orpheum

Thursday 3 April | 10am
Palace Moore Park

MONSIEUR AZNAVOUR – YEAR 10

Thursday 6 March | 10am
Palace Moore Park

Wednesday 19 March | 10am
Palace Central

Wednesday 12 March | 10am
Palace Norton St

Friday 4 April | 10am
Palace Moore Park

ALL STIRRED UP – FROM YEAR 5

Thursday 6 March | 10am
Palace Norton St

Tuesday 25 March | 10am
Hayden Orpheum

Tuesday 1 April | 10am
Palace Central

Wednesday 12 March | 10am
Palace Moore Park

Thursday 27 March | 10am
Palace Norton St

ARMY OF SHADOWS – FROM YEAR 10

Thursday 20 March | 10am
Palace Norton St

Tuesday 1 April | 10am
Palace Moore Park

SPEAK OUT – FROM YEAR 5

Wednesday 5 March | 10am
Hayden Orpheum

Tuesday 18 March | 10am
Palace Moore Park

Thursday 27 March | 10am
Palace Moore Park

Thursday 13 March | 10am
Palace Moore Park

Wednesday 19 March | 10am
Palace Norton St

THE MOST PRECIOUS OF CARGOES – FROM YEAR 9

Friday 7 March | 10am
Palace Moore Park

Wednesday 26 March | 10am
Palace Norton St

Thursday 20 March | 10am
Palace Moore Park

Tuesday 1 April | 10am
Hayden Orpheum

SAVAGES – FROM YEAR 4

Wednesday 12 March | 10am
Palace Central

Tuesday 25 March | 10am
Palace Moore Park

Thursday 3 April | 10am
Palace Norton St

SCHOOL SCREENINGS FILMS - Teaching Kits Available



THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO

LE COMTE DE MONTE CRISTO

Director: Matthieu Delaporte, Alexandre de la Patellière

Country: France

Cast: Pierre Niney, Bastien Bouillon, Anaïs Demoustier, Anamaria Vartolomei, Laurent Lafitte

Run time: 2h58 – 178' mins

Date of Release: 28/06/2024

Recommended: (15 – 17 years): Year 9 to Year 12

Genre: Adventure, Historical epic

Language: French with English subtitles

Classification: M

Trailer: [Here](#)

Stills: [Here](#)

Pierre Niney leads a stellar cast in Matthieu Delaporte and Alexandre de La Patellière's thrilling new adaptation of Alexandre Dumas' epic adventure, the first French cinematic treatment of the iconic tale of romance and redemption in over fifty years.

Marseille, 1815. The dreams of principled young sailor Edmond Dantès (Niney) are about to come true; promoted to ship's captain, he can finally marry the love of his life, Mercédès (Anaïs Demoustier). But his success inspires jealousy... betrayed by his rivals, Dantès is denounced as a member of a pro-Napoleon conspiracy and incarcerated without trial in an isolated prison.

After years of solitude, Dantès befriends the inmate in the adjacent cell, Abbé Faria (Pierfrancesco Favino), who reveals the location of a hidden treasure on the island of Monte Cristo. An extraordinary plan is hatched to exact revenge on the three men who wronged him...

A true cultural phenomenon in France (where it stormed the box office with close to 10 million tickets sold), THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO delivers luxurious, spectacular big-screen entertainment, at once timeless and electrifyingly new. Widely expected to sweep the 2024 Cesar Awards, it's a Festival must-see.

CTC CLASSIFICATION – CONTENT WARNING

Schools considering the School Screening of *The Count of Monte Cristo* are advised of the following content:

- Sexual activity is limited to kissing and embracing.
 - Implied sex only (shoulders bare).
 - Implied that the villain is a serial philanderer.
- Nude wall portrait including female nude breasts (quick shot)
- Moderate violence including a fight scene with some blood, knives, and guns.
 - Includes death via the following: drowning, impalement, suicide, a tunnel collapse, and stabbing.
 - Other moderate scenes of violence include: kidnapping, lashing with a whip, being thrown from a cliff, and attempted hanging.
- There is moderate use of alcohol (the villain is depicted as a heavy drinker)
- There are also some frightening and intense scenes that younger viewers may find distressing
- Minimal swearing including: damn, bastard, and whore.

THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO – FROM YEAR 9

Tuesday 11 March | 10am
Palace Norton St

Tuesday 25 March | 10am
Palace Central

Tuesday 8 April | 10am
Palace Moore Park

Tuesday 18 March | 10am
Hayden Orpheum

Thursday 3 April | 10am
Palace Moore Park

A teaching kit will be available.

We invite you to visit the 2025 Festival website from 5 February, to discover the complete line-up. Bookings are also available for general sessions.



MONSIEUR AZNAVOUR

MONSIEUR AZNAVOUR

Director: Grand Corps Malade, Mehdi Idir
Country: France
Cast: Tahar Rahim, Bastien Bouillon, Marie-Julie Baup
Run time: 2h13 - 133' mins
Date of Release: 06/11/2014
Recommended: (16 – 17 years): Year 10 to Year 12
Genre: Biopic, Drama
Language: French with English subtitles
Classification: CTC
Trailer: [Here](#)
Stills: [Here](#)

Just as Marion Cotillard was to *La Vie en Rose*, Golden Globe-nominated actor Tahar Rahim is to *MONSIEUR AZNAVOUR*, transforming into the iconic singer/songwriter for this lavishly entertaining rise-to-stardom biography of the man who beat all odds to not only become one of France's best-loved entertainers, but personified French culture to the English-speaking world.

Born in Paris in 1924 as the son of Armenian refugees, Aznavour's formative years are spent in poverty, but distinguished by his parents' passion for music and theatre. Ridiculed for his short stature and raspy tenor voice – traits he would in time fully embrace – Aznavour's early attempts at a showbiz career during the Occupation falter. Whilst gifted, his material finds more success in the hands of others, including his friend Pierre (Bastien Bouillon), and later the imperious Edith Piaf (a scene-stealing Marie-Julie Baup), who becomes a highly influential mentor and supporter. But by the 1950s, Aznavour finally realises his own ambitions...

Led by its star's astonishing performance and stunning vocal prowess, *MONSIEUR AZNAVOUR* is a true tour de force – as intimate as it is spectacular – and serves as a triumphant reminder of the power and impact of music. Don't miss it.

CTC CLASSIFICATION - CONTENT WARNING

Schools considering the School Screening of *Monsieur Aznavour* are advised of the following content:

- Brief scene of a nude dancer at a strip club (exposed breasts)
- Brief slang and swear words include "moron" and "shit".
- Moderate use of alcohol and cigarettes
- Sensitive viewers should be advised that the film also depicts xenophobia towards Armenian and Jewish communities.

MONSIEUR AZNAVOUR – YEAR 10

Thursday 6 March | 10am
Palace Moore Park

Wednesday 19 March | 10am
Palace Central

Wednesday 12 March | 10am
Palace Norton St

Friday 4 April | 10am
Palace Moore Park

A teaching kit will be available.

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ALL STIRRED UP!

TOUS TOQUÉS !

Director: Manon Briand

Country: France

Cast: Julie LeBreton, Édouard Baer, Élodie Fontaine, Oussama Fares, Douaa Kachachel

Run time: 1h53 - 113' mins

Date of Release: 13/09/2024

Recommended: (11 – 17 years): From Year 5

Genre: Comedy

Language: French with English subtitles

Classification: M

Trailer: [Here](#)

Stills: [Here](#)

Somewhere on the border between Quebec and the United States, the intractable customs officer, Sonia (Julie Le Breton), rules her boom gate with an iron first. No one gets past her eagle eye, not even Victor (Édouard Baer, *How to Be a Good Wife*, AF FFF20), a charming but down-on-his-luck French chef from New York, who finds his knives and gourmet food unfairly confiscated. Meanwhile, Sonia's daughter Lili-Beth is sick of being bullied at school. When she enters a Mini Chefs competition to stick it to her bullies, it seems she's the underdog with no hope of winning. Unless Julie can convince Victor to help her.

However, it's not just the pressure of the Mini Chefs competition that threatens to boil over: community tensions and divisions are bubbling under the surface of this rural border town, with bitterness an all-too-familiar flavour. But Sonia, Victor and Lili-Beth are about to serve up something new.

This feast of a comedy from director Manon Briand is full of laughs and touching connections. Set in the beautiful Canadian countryside and replete with mouthwatering dishes, *ALL STIRRED UP* is a deliciously heartwarming story that will leave you hungry for more.

CTC CLASSIFICATION - CONTENT WARNING

Schools considering a School Screening of *All Stirred Up!* are advised of the following content:

- This film contains brief use of vulgar slang, i.e. "*tu te fous de ma gueule*" but translated on screen as "you're kidding me"
- Sensitive viewers should be aware of implied community/racial tensions

ALL STIRRED UP – FROM YEAR 5

Thursday 6 March | 10am
Palace Norton St

Tuesday 25 March | 10am
Hayden Orpheum

Tuesday 1 April | 10am
Palace Central

Wednesday 12 March | 10am
Palace Moore Park

Thursday 27 March | 10am
Palace Norton St

A teaching kit will be available.

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ARMY OF SHADOWS

L'ARMÉE DES OMBRES

Director: Jean-Pierre Melville

Country: France

Cast: Lino Ventura, Simone Signoret, Paul Meurisse, Jean-Pierre Cassel, Claude Mann

Run time: 2h25 – 145' mins

Date of Release: 12/19/1969

Recommended: (16 – 17 years): Year 10 to Year 12

Genre: Historical, drama

Language: French with English subtitles

Classification: M

Trailer: [Here](#)

Stills: [Here](#)

Restored in 4k and presented at Cannes Classic in 2024, see acclaimed director Jean-Pierre Melville's unglamorous and nuanced study of the French Resistance, eating itself from the inside.

Betrayed by a comrade, Philippe Gerbier (Lino Ventura), the head of a Resistance cell, is captured and sent to a Nazi torture camp. In Vichy-run Marseille, the young betraying agent, Paul Dounat (Alain Libolt) is ambushed by Gerbier's comrades and sentenced to execution. Following the story of a small group of Resistance fighters, ARMY OF SHADOWS goes beyond a binary tale of good versus evil, offering a raw, poignant portrayal of the brave men and women who fought against fascism and the sacrifices they made along the way.

Based on Melville's experience in the French Resistance and Joseph Kessel's novel, the film is deeply personal, combining his intense study of the human condition with the signature chiaroscuro and realism that established him as a celebrated auteur of French crime cinema. Controversial upon its 1969 French release and only premiering in the U.S. in 2006, ARMY OF SHADOWS remains a masterpiece of atmospheric tension, ideal for cinéphiles. Don't miss this exclusive screening of one of history's greatest war films.

CTC CLASSIFICATION - CONTENT WARNING

Schools considering School Screening of *Army of Shadows* are advised of the following content:

- This film contains numerous disturbing violent scenes including:
 - A man is stabbed in the neck. Whilst there is no blood, some viewers may find it surprising or disturbing.
 - There is implied reference to torture (characters with facial scars and bruises).
 - A character is shot and killed. Whilst there is no blood, some viewers may find it disturbing.
- There is very mild profanity.
- Characters drink and smoke in social situations.
- It should be noted that this film has a dark and menacing tone that will likely be distressing to young viewers.

ARMY OF SHADOWS – FROM YEAR 10

Thursday 20 March | 10am
Palace Norton St

Tuesday 1 April | 10am
Palace Moore Park

A teaching kit will be available.

We invite you to visit the 2025 Festival website from 5 February, to discover the complete line-up. Bookings are also available for general sessions.



SPEAK OUT!

LE PANACHE

Director: Jennifer Devoldère

Country: France

Cast: José Garcia, Joachim Arseguel, Aure Atika, Cédric Vieira, Claire Dumas

Run time: 1h33–93' mins

Date of Release: 12/11/2024

Recommended: (11 – 17 years): From Year 5

Genre: Comedy, drama

Classification: CTC

Trailer: [Here](#)

Stills: [Here](#)

"Onstage, you can be anyone you want – even yourself."

Colin (Joachim Arseguel), a 14-year-old with a stutter, is the new student at school, and being himself is the furthest thing from his mind. Struggling to fit in and too shy to take up space, he's content to remain invisible if it means avoiding attention.

That is, until he meets Monsieur Devarseau (José Garcia), a passionate drama teacher who believes anything is possible if we have the courage to believe in ourselves. Challenging Colin to take on the lead role in *Cyrano de Bergerac* in their school production, Monsieur Devarseau's unwavering faith in his students will help them find their voices and bring the house down.

This touching comedic drama from Jennifer Devoldère showcases the power of tolerance and authenticity, proving that every leap of faith begins with someone who believes in us. Celebrating the transformative potential of theatre with a charming cast of misfits, *SPEAK OUT* teaches us that we deserve more than making ourselves small. If we want to bring down stars from the sky like *Cyrano*, we just need a little panache!

CTC CLASSIFICATION - CONTENT WARNING

Schools considering the School Screening of *Speak Out* are advised of the following content:

- There is brief moderate language: "fuck", "shit", and "fucking fascist".
- There is mild reference to sex for in-film teaching purposes.
- Sensitive viewers should be aware that this film depicts homophobia and LGBTQIA+ intolerance.
- This film is concerned with the social stigma and challenges surrounding stuttering. The main character experiences bullying related to his stutter.

SPEAK OUT – FROM YEAR 5

Wednesday 5 March | 10am
Hayden Orpheum

Tuesday 18 March | 10am
Palace Moore Park

Thursday 27 March | 10am
Palace Moore Park

Thursday 13 March | 10am
Palace Moore Park

Wednesday 19 March | 10am
Palace Norton St

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THE MOST PRECIOUS OF CARGOES

LA PLUS PRÉCIEUSE DES MARCHANDISES

Director: Michel Hazanavicius

Country: France, Belgium

Cast: Dominique Blanc, Grégory Gadebois, Denis Podalydès, Jean-Louis Trintignant

Run time: 1h21– 81' mins

Date of Release: 20/11/2024

Recommended: (15 – 17 years) : From Year 9

Genre: Historical drama

Classification: M

Trailer: [Here](#)

Stills: [Here](#)

Premiering at the 77th Cannes Film Festival to a ten-minute standing ovation, Michel Hazanavicius' resonant animated film *THE MOST PRECIOUS OF CARGOES* marks the 80th anniversary of World War II. An adaptation of Jean-Claude Grumberg's 2019 novel, it is Hazanavicius' first foray into animation, with his original drawings brought to life in an art style reminiscent of engravings.

Like all fairy tales, it begins with "Once upon a time" – yet this is no fantasy. During a snowstorm, a poor, childless woodcutter's wife discovers an abandoned baby, thrown from one of the trains that rattle through the forest. Returning home to her taciturn husband, she is determined to cherish the child, even as war and poverty close in around them. Like all fables, the child will profoundly alter the lives of the woodcutter, his wife, and the mysterious man from the train, exposing both the light and darkness within humanity.

Featuring the voices of Jean-Louis Trintignant, Grégory Gadebois (*The Sitting Duck*, AF FFF24), Dominique Blanc (*The Origin of Evil*, AF FFF24), and Denis Podalydès (*The President's Wife*, AF FFF24), this lyrical, minimalist film is an extraordinarily tender yet unflinching account of the Holocaust.

M CLASSIFICATION - CONTENT WARNING

Schools considering the School Screening of *The Most Precious of Cargoes* are advised of the following content:

- This film is about the Holocaust with implied violence and genocide.
 - This includes moderate scenes such as:
 - A woman and her baby are selected for a gas chamber (implied off-screen death).
 - A sonderkommando (Jewish prisoners forced to work in the Nazi camp) picks up corpses to incinerate them.
 - A mass grave.
- This film contains a scene of the abandonment of a baby.
- The title of the film in French, *THE MOST PRECIOUS OF CARGOES*, is a reference to the term employed by Nazis for Jews, which was merchandise.

THE MOST PRECIOUS OF CARGOES – FROM YEAR 9

Friday 7 March | 10am
Palace Moore Park

Wednesday 26 March | 10am
Palace Norton St

Thursday 20 March | 10am
Palace Moore Park

Tuesday 1 April | 10am
Hayden Orpheum

A teaching kit will be available.

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SAVAGES

SAUVAGES

Director: Claude Barras

Country: France

Cast: Babette de Coster, Laetitia Dosch, Martin Verset, Benoît Poelvoorde

Run time: 1h27– 87' mins

Date of Release: 16/10/2024

Recommended: (10 + years): From Year 4

Genre: Animation, Family

Classification: CTC

Trailer: [Here](#) *

Stills : [Here](#)

**The trailer is not currently subtitled - the subtitled trailer will be available soon.*

In the rainforests of Borneo, 11-year-old Kéria (Babette de Coster) lives on the edge of the wild. Her father works at an industrial palm oil plantation, but their lives change forever when Kéria witnesses local loggers kill a mother orangutan, leaving behind the orphaned Oshi. Rescuing the baby orangutan, Kéria awakens to the devastating reality of the forces threatening to destroy her home.

When Kéria's cousin, Selaï (Martin Verset), a member of the Indigenous Penan tribe, seeks refuge with them to escape a conflict with powerful logging companies, the trio becomes united in their fight to protect the forest. But when Selaï and Oshi go missing after a heated argument, Kéria must venture deep into the jungle to find them.

A journey of resilience, hope and discovery, Kéria will learn about the Penan's harmonious way of life and uncover truths about her own roots. Featuring the voices of Laëtitia Dosch and Benoît Poelvoorde, and brought to life with whimsical stop-motion animation, *SAVAGES* delivers a heartfelt ecological message for all ages about humanity's relationship with nature – and with one another.

CTC CLASSIFICATION - CONTENT WARNING

Schools considering the School Screening of *Savages* are advised of the following content:

- Scenes of environmental destruction, including logging and burning forests.
- Depiction of the death of a mother orangutan (off-screen but emotionally impactful).
- Discussions about industrial exploitation and conflict with indigenous communities.

SAVAGES – FROM YEAR 4

Wednesday 12 March | 10am
Palace Central

Tuesday 25 March | 10am
Palace Moore Park

Thursday 3 April | 10am
Palace Norton St

A teaching kit will be available.

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Booking/ticketing information

TEACHING KITS

Teaching kits will be emailed to you with your booking confirmation. So don't miss out on this opportunity for your classes!

PRICE

The cost is \$14 per student/teacher for groups of 20+ with a complimentary ticket for one accompanying teacher for every 20 students per group.

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL: To Alliance Française de Sydney

Please fill in the attached Booking Form/Tax Invoice and return it to the attention of **Emma**: school@afsydney.com.au or by phone on: 02 9292 5741. We will confirm bookings promptly upon receipt and send you an invoice accordingly (see payment section below).

PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT THE CINEMAS DIRECTLY

Please note that bookings will not be taken over the phone at the cinemas, but only via Alliance Française de Sydney as mentioned above.

PAYMENT: At the cinemas

For Palace Cinemas :

Payment must be made either by cash at the cinema's box office or by cheque made out to "Palace Moore Park" or "Palace Norton Street" or "Palace Central" accordingly. If you are paying via EFT your invoice must be paid before your screening. Failure to provide remittance for the screening will result in your screening being cancelled.

Total amount of original booking is to be paid in full; there will be no discount for absent students on the day, or any refund.

For Hayden Orpheum :

No payment can be taken over the phone. Payment can only be made via bank transfer in advance or card payment at box office. No cash or cheque payments available.

Total amount of original booking is to be paid in full; there will be no discount for absent students on the day, or any refund.

CINEMAS LOCATION DETAILS:

Palace Central
Level 3/28 Broadway, Chippendale NSW 2008 | 02 9190 2290

Palace Moore Park
Entertainment Quarter, The, Shop/215/122 Lang Rd, Moore Park NSW 2021 | 02 9360 6099

Palace Norton Street
99 Norton Street, Leichhardt NSW 2040 | 02 9564 5620

Hayden Orpheum
380 Military Rd, Cremorne NSW 2090 | 02 9908 4395

Please note that once an invoice goes out if there are any changes that need to be made, **an administration fee may apply.**

For any queries regarding the school screenings, please contact **Emma**: school@afsydney.com.au

Booking Form – Tax Invoice (AF FFF2025)

Please fill in and send to the attention of **Emma**: school@afsydney.com.au

PALACE CINEMAS **ABN 21 065 352 221**

HAYDEN ORPHEUM PICTURE PALACE **ABN 51 001 443 376**

SCHOOL NAME: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

SUBURB: _____ POSTCODE: _____

TEACHER'S NAME: _____

CLASS / YEAR: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ FAX: _____

E-MAIL: _____

(Please print clearly)

Invoice n°: AF FFF2025

Y/Ref:

Date:

For the Following school screening at the 2025 Alliance Française French Film Festival.

Please fill in according to your booking:

CINEMA:	FILM:
DATE:	TIME:

QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
	Students at \$14.00 (<i>GST included</i>)	\$
	Teachers at \$14.00 (<i>GST included</i>)	\$
	Teachers at \$0.00 (<i>ie: 1 teacher free per 20 students</i>)	\$0.00
	TOTAL AMOUNT DUE (<i>GST included</i>)	\$

Students have access to the bar:

YES

NO

If yes, how many? _____

Palace Cinemas : Payment must be made either by cash at the cinema's box office or by cheque made out to "Palace Norton Street" or "Palace Central" or "Palace Moore Park" accordingly. If you are paying via EFT your invoice must be paid before your screening. Failure to provide remittance for the screening will result in your screening being cancelled.

Hayden Orpheum : No payment can be taken over the phone. Payment can only be made via bank transfer in advance or card payment at box office. No cash or cheque payments available.

IMPORTANT: The total booking amount must be paid up front and no discounts or refunds will be issued for absent students on the day of screening. **Please note that any changes to invoices once submitted will incur an admin fee.**