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Suggested Tweet For Media:

Vancouver Celebrates 23rd #Rendezvous French Film Festival @RVCQF\_filmfest! #RVCQF17  
#CdnFilm www.rendez-vousvancouver.com

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23 years of French Film in BC!  
Rendez-Vous French Film Festival  
Les 23e Rendez-vous du cinéma québécois et francophone



Vancouver, British Columbia (January 19th, 2017) - The Rendez-Vous French Film Festival is coming to Vancouver for the 23rd exciting year! With some 40+ lauded films from Quebec and from France, awarded acclaim at the highest levels internationally and at home, Rendez-Vous will give film-going, cinema-loving Vancouverites an opportunity to honour and promote the extraordinary talent of French filmmaking artisans, as well as those who are from right here in Canada, sharing stories in French!

The festival will take place Feb 2-12 with the program extending into several venues to accommodate the various locations and ease of residents of the Lower-Mainland.

Adding to the extraordinary line-up of french films this year -which feature award winners from other festivals, selected for their aesthetic and artistic qualities- Rendez-Vous French Film Festival has a number of special events this year, which are suited to various audiences and cinephiles! With a strong selection of films in French with English Subtitles, as well as special guests, Q&A's etc and a tremendous short-film program, including a gala evening hosted by comedian Jacques Lalonde at Auditorium Jules Verne, February 4th!

All in all, ten days of cinema to take the time to explore some of the depths of the soul of Quebec through its creators of stories and images and films from the Francophone world, each of which expresses, in its own way, something about the landscapes in which we live, and that live within us! The Rendez-Vous French Film Festival is happy to have you discover new stories in French!

#### Locations Include

February 1st: Coquitlam Evergreen Cultural Centre, 1205 Pinetree Way.

February 2 -5: Jules Verne Auditorium, 5445 Baillie Street, Vancouver.

February 7: Alliance française, 6161 Cambie Street, Vancouver.

February 8-12 : co-presented with SFU Woodward's at Goldcorp Centre for the Arts, 149 West Hastings Street, Vancouver

UBC: Series at Centre de la Francophonie

SFU/BAFF: Series at Printemps de la Francophonie

#### SCREENINGS HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE

**MARGUERITE** Xavier Giannoli 01/02/2017 19h30

Opening the 23rd edition of Rendez-vous du cinéma québécois et francophone de Vancouver, February 1st, 2017 at 7:30pm, is the Winner of Best Actress César 2016. The film Marguerite by Xavier Giannoli starring André Marcon, Denis M'Punga, Michel Fau, Christa Theret, Sylvain Dieuaide et Catherine Frot.

This very special screening will take place at the Evergreen Cultural Centre, located at 1205 Pinetree Way in Coquitlam. This is a co-presentation of the Provincial Association of Immersion Teachers and the Programme francophone of British Columbia (APPICC) with the collaboration of the Festival du Bois.

The film will also be screened at SFU Woodward's on Thursday, February 7 at 3 pm.

**JUSTE LA FIN DU MONDE** Xavier Dolan 12/02/2017 19H30 This anticipated screening of the film that won both Grand Prix du public and the Prize of the Ecumenical Cannes Jury last May, is the selection to celebrate a magnificent closing night, February 12 in Vancouver, at the SFU's Goldcorp Centre for the Arts, co-presented with SFU Woodward's and FirstWeekendClub.ca ! Xavier Dolan's *Juste la fin du monde* starring Gaspard Ulliel, Nathalie Baye, Marion Cotillard, Léa Seydoux, and Vincent Cassel. It is the highest award Dolan has won at the festival that made him a star, and rightfully so. While imbued with his trademark flamboyance, this is the Quebec director's most disciplined work, in which narrative and film craft function in dazzling tandem. Having recruited some of France's top acting talent, Dolan doesn't fail to put his own distinct stamp on the final product.

**THE GARDENER** Sébastien Chabot 02/02/2017 19h30

*The Gardener* a film by Sébastien Chabot, won le Prix du public au Festival international de la Ville de Québec last september. *The Gardener* will open the Rendez-vous at l'Auditorium Jules-Verne in Vancouver on Feb 2nd. Calling all Vancouver Green-thumbs! This spellbinding documentary is a visual mediation, reflecting on the meaning of gardening and its impact on our lives. Shortly before his passing at the age of 86, influential gardener and horticulturalist Frank Cabot recounts his personal quest for perfection at Les Quatre Vents, his twenty-acre English style garden and summer estate that was opened to a film crew for the first time ever! Nestled amongst the rolling

hills of the Charlevoix County in Quebec, Les Quatre Vents has become one of the world's foremost private gardens. Created over three generations, it is an enchanted place of beauty and surprise, a horticultural masterpiece of the 21st century. Preceded by UNE PROF DE OUF by Nawal Kaffouf.

MES NUITS FERONT ECHO Sophie Goyette 03/02/2017 18h30

Mes nuits feront écho, first feature film by Sophie Goyette selected in Official Competition at the Rotterdam International Film Festival at the beginning of February in the «Bright Future», section «specially dedicated to promising talented directors with unique style and vision who enrichissent le paysage cinématographique d'œuvres audacieuses», in the Festival Press release. Starring Éliane Préfontaine, Gerardo Trejoluna, Felipa Casanova, Marie-Ginette Guay, Monique Spaziani.

NITRO RUSH Alain Desrochers 03/02/2017 21h00

Max has lost his young wife and is now behind bars. But when he learns that his son Theo, who blames him for his mother's death and wants nothing to do with him, has just been hired by a criminal syndicate, Max will risk everything to save him. Max's high wire and racing skills will now be put to good use. Starring Guillaume Lemay-Thivierge, Antoine Desrochers, Madeleine Peloquin, Raymond Bouchard, Alexandre Goyette, Antoine Olivier Pilon, Jean-Nicolas Verreault, Andreas Apergis, Micheline Lanctôt et Michel Charrette.

Our Selection of Documentaries:

DEMAIN Mélanie Laurent & Cyril Dion 04/02/2017

César 2016 Best Documentary! Climate is changing. Instead of showing all the worst that can happen, this documentary focuses on the people suggesting solutions and their actions. In French February 4 at Jules-Verne at 1:30, in English at SFU Woodward's Wednesday February 8 at 2:30 and travelling in Victoria and Kelowna in February 2017.

QUEBEC MY COUNTRY MON PAYS John Walker 05/02/2017 16h00

While Canada as a whole is divided by two solitudes, both coexist in Quebec, where relations between francophones and anglophones are often uneasy. It is a state of affairs filmmaker John Walker has experienced first-hand. Like nearly 500,000 other anglophones, his family made the wrenching decision to leave Montreal after the rise of the independence movement in the 1960s and 70s. Speaking with key cultural figures (Denys Arcand, Jacques Godbout, Louise Pelletier...) as well as young francophones and anglophones struggling with today's questions of identity and economics, Quebec My Country Mon Pays uses archival materials and the director's family history as a way to better understand the roots of the divide.

LE PEUPLE INTERDIT Alexandre Chartrand 05/02/2017 19H00

Director Alexandre Chartrand's documentary takes us to the fall of 2014, when the Catalan leader Artur Mas, leading the nationalist movement in this most prosperous part of Spain, began what was going to be a large scale consultation to engage all Catalonians to come out and voice their demands to Madrid. Madrid has denied the people of Catalonia a right to hold a referendum by labelling such a move illegal. The largest mobilization of people was meant to turn this around. The film dives right into this very grassroots call to action/vote. Activists gather and explore what impact something similar would have in other world capitals like New York, Paris and London as we see a glimpse of what Barcelona looks like lined with the red and yellow colours of a free Catalan.

More festive evenings are in store, starting with the screening at the Alliance Française de Vancouver, located on 6161 Cambie Street, as part of the Rendez-vous, SPARTACUSS & CASSANDRA by Ioanis Nuguet: a warm hearted documentary about two Romani children in France. Prix du public au FNC de Montréal!

Presented Tuesday February 7 at 7:30 and at SFU Woodward's Thursday February 9 at 6pm.

Also part of Young French Cinéma THE WOODS DREAMS ARE MADE OF: A descent into life in the Bois de Vincennes near Paris from veteran director Claire Simon, presented at Jules-Verne, Sunday February 5 and at SFU, Sunday February 12 at 11am.

EMBRASSE-MOI COMME TU M'AIMES André Forcier 08/02/2017 20H30

Best Canadian Award at the 40th edition of the Montreal World Film Festival!

It is 1940. In Europe, the Second World War is raging. In Montreal, Pierre Sauvageau, 22, wants to join the army but he must take care of his twin sister Berthe, a paraplegic from birth. This closeness awakens Berthe's sensuality who sets out to seduce her brother. Pierre rejects her advances, but when he falls in love with Marguerite, the girlfriend of his best buddy, he is haunted by the fantasy of his sister. He would like to get rid of it, but the fantasy of Berthe is very persistent. Embrasse-moi comme tu m'aimes (Kiss Me Like a Lover). Starring Juliette Gosselin, Émile Schneider, Céline Bonnier, Mylène Mackay.

\*\*\*SPECIAL EVENT SCREENING DIRECTOR IN ATTENDANCE!

1:54 Yan England 09/02/2017 20H30

A very special collaboration with the Tournée du cinéma québécois will give us the opportunity to welcome director Yan England at the screening of his film 1:54, screening at A special collaboration with the Tournée du cinéma québécois will give us the opportunity to welcome director Yan England at the screening of his film 1:54 featuring at SFU Woodward's, on Thursday, February 9. At 16, Tim is a shy young man, brilliant, and with a natural athletic talent. But the pressure it undergoes will push him into a corner, where human limits reach the point of no return. This suspenseful dramatic thriller stars Antoine Olivier Pilon, Sophie Néllisse, David Boutin, Patrice Godin, Robert Naylor, Lou-Pascal Tremblay.

PAYS Chloé Robichaud 10/02/2017 18H00 The political drama is set in the imaginary country of Besco, which is in tense negotiations with Canada over the exploitation of its natural resources. An opaque intrigue slowly gives way to a playful character study of the three women at its core. Starring Macha Grenon, Nathalie Doummar, Emily VanCamp, Alexandre Landry, Serge Houde et Rémy Girard

VOTEZ BOUGON Jean-François Pouliot 10/02/2017 20H30 \*\* (In French Only)

Directed by Jean-François Pouliot (La Grande Séduction), this enjoyable movie is based on the controversial / over-the-top hit TV series.

Feeling like a 90-minute episode. Starring Rémy Girard, Hélène Bourgeois-Leclerc, Louison Danis, Claude Laroche, Antoine Bertrand et Laurence Barrette.

HUMAN/ HUMAIN Yann Arthus-Bertrand 11/02/2017 11H00 Photographer and filmmaker Yann Arthus-Bertrand (Home, Planet Ocean) shot this film in 60 countries over three years as Arthus-Bertrand collected real-life stories of 2,020 people in 63 languages. The stories span the globe, encouraging social change through the eyes of freedom fighters in Ukraine to death-row inmates

in the U.S. to farmers in Mali. Special representation at SFU Woodward's Saturday 11am (with French sub-titles)

LA REINE GARÇON Mika Kaurismäki 11/02/2017 18H00

THE GIRL KING paints a portrait of the brilliant, extravagant Kristina of Sweden, queen from age six, who fights the conservative forces that are against her ideas to modernize Sweden and who have no tolerance for her awakening sexuality. Based on the screenplay of Michel-Marc Bouchard with Malin Buska, Sarah Gadon, François Arnaud, Hippolyte Girardot, Patrick Bauchau, Michael Nyqvist.

#### SHORTS PROGRAM

Our exciting short film program Gala Evening takes place February 4th at Auditorium Jules-Verne, hosted by comedian Jacques Lalonde!

The short film program comes from the independent and collective TRAVELLING, SPIRA, WAPIKONI and INIS, including two films from France.

SOIRÉE GALA DES COURTS MÉTRAGES 04/02/2017 19h00

LA PARTIE Alexandre Isabelle

ENJAMBÉES Noémie Brassard

LE PROPRIÉTAIRE EST UN TELESCOPE Charles Massicottek

NTK Cloé Conseil

LA VOCE David Uloth

WAITING FOR SPRING, PERSEPHONE AND THE POMEGRANTE Nicole Dextras

MUTANTS Alexandre Dostie

UNE PROF DE OUF Nawal Kaffouf

NOUS NOUS SOULÈVERONS Natacha Kanapé Fontaine

MEL GE' GI' NUT EPIT - STRONG WOMAN SONG Noami Condo

MON DERNIER ÉTÉ Claude Demers

LES SUCRIERS Nicolas Paquet

UN SEUL HOMME Philippe Gregoire

MANTOKATCIKAN Sipi Flamand et Elisa Moar

To finish in style, a selection of France films, including production emerging from the international francophone world.

DAGUERREOTYPE, le secret de la chambre noire first French movie by Gapanese master Kiyoshi Kurosawa, Un questionnement sur ce qu'est la vraie photographie. Starring Tahar Rahim, Constance Rousseau, Olivier Gourmet et Mathieu Amaric ;

LA NOUVELLE VIE DE PAUL SNEIJDER, de Thomas Vincent avec Thierry Lhermitte, Pierre Curzi, Géraldine Pailhas, Pierre Curzi, Guillaume Cyr, Hugo Dubé et Gabriel Sabourin and La vache de Mohamed Hamidi est une comédie avec Fatsah Bouyahmed, Lambert Wilson, Jamel Debbouze.

## OTHER EVENTS

~A special School Matinées program with

LE PETIT PRINCE / DEMAIN / LA FAMILLE BÉLIER /TOUT EN HAUT DU MONDE /

will be shown through April 2017.

~Other wonderful film nights include films presented in the film series at the UBC Centre de la Francophonie, as well as four films that will be included in the March 2016 program for Printemps de la Francophonie presented by SFU-BAFF.

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