



**23<sup>rd</sup> SACRAMENTO FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL**  
**June 7-9, 2024 • Tower Theatre**  
**FILM SYNOPSES**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 7**

**OPENING NIGHT**

**5:30pm** *Doors Open! French Pop by DJ Roger & no host bar*

**6:30pm DUPIEUX DOUBLE FEATURE: DAAAAALI! and YANNICK**

Quentin Dupieux is one of the most prolific and inventive French filmmakers today, and it is "incredible but true" (to quote the title of one of his many films) that the Sacramento French Film Festival has not presented any of his work yet. In 2024, we are making up for it, giving you the experience of watching not just one but two Dupieux comedies. Dupieux's latest film (yes, he has another one already) just opened the 2024 International Cannes Film Festival. In Sacramento as in Cannes, but with twice the fun! *With a 20-minute intermission.*

**DAAAAALI !** (77 min) Surrealist Comedy, *U.S. Premiere*

In Dupieux's hilarious and surreal homage to the "Master," a young French journalist repeatedly meets artist Salvador Dalí for a documentary film project that never seems to get started...

**YANNICK** (69 min) Absurdist Comedy

An unhappy spectator interrupts the performance of a bad play to complain that he is not getting his money's worth in entertainment value. Mayhem ensues.

*Screening followed by Q&A with Le Professeur Kevin Elstob*

**SATURDAY, JUNE 8**

**11:00am GREEN TIDE (Les algues vertes)**

Pierre Jolivet (108 min) Environmental Thriller, *U.S. Premiere*

With this powerful and suspenseful environmental thriller, director Pierre Jolivet retraces the real-life fight of journalist Inès Léraud against the green algae that has been poisoning Brittany's coast for over forty years. In the vein of, and inspired by, Todd Haynes' *Dark Waters*.

**1:20pm MARGUERITE'S THEOREM (Le théorème de Marguerite)**

Anna Novion (112 min) Romantic Comedy, *Female Director*

Love and math gloriously mix in *Marguerite's Theorem*, an unusual and crowd-pleaser rom-com. Marguerite (Ella Rumpf, winner of the 2024 César for Best New Talent) is a brilliant Ph.D. student in mathematics whose doctoral project is upended when an error is discovered in her work. Abandoning her project and her sheltered academic environment, she confronts the real world for the first time, finding friendship, love, and a new perspective on mathematics and life in the process.

**3:45pm THE NATURE OF LOVE (Simple comme Sylvain)**

Mona Chokri (111 min) Romantic Comedy from Quebec  
*2024 César: Best Foreign Film. Female Director*

Sophia abandons her conventional relationship for a passionate affair with Sylvain, a craftsman renovating her country house. Their romantic impulses are complicated by intellectual and social differences in this smart and sexy romantic comedy. Opposites attract, but can the relationship last?

**6:10pm ON THE PULSE (Vivants)**

Alix Delaporte (86 min) News Room Drama/Comedy, *U.S. Premiere, Female Director*

Gabrielle joins the crew of a prestigious long-running news program. She is thrilled to work with experienced reporters who cover war zones as well as fashion shows, infiltrate Chinese triads, and follow environmental activists in action, always in search of the truth. There is not a dull moment! *On the Pulse* successfully mixes drama and comedy to remind us of the importance of investigative journalism.



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**8:10pm JUST THE TWO OF US (L'Amour et les Forêts)**

Valérie Donzelli (105 min)

Psychological Thriller

*2024 César: Best Adapted Screenplay. Female Director.*

After Blanche and Grégoire begin a passionate romance, they quickly marry and move far from her family. Little by little, Blanche realizes that her prince charming is a deeply controlling and dangerous man in this tense and precisely observed psychological thriller.

*Screening followed by Q&A with Le Professeur Kevin Elstob*

**SUNDAY, JUNE 9**

**11:15am CHICKEN FOR LINDA! (Linda veut du poulet)**

Chiara Malta & Sébastien Laudenbach (73 min)

Animation Suitable for the Family

*2024 César: Best Animated Feature.*

A loving mom who feels guilty after unfairly punishing her daughter agrees to make her requested meal: chicken with peppers. Her task is complicated by a general strike. Stores are closed. Where can she find a chicken? *Chicken for Linda!* is a unique visual marvel of hand-painted animation with bright, color-blocked characters, and a story that is a delightful blend of comedy, musical, and family drama. **Presented in partnership with EFSac.**

**1:00pm STRIKING THE PALACE (Petites Mains)**

Nessim Chikhaoui (87 min)

Social Comedy, *U.S. Premiere*

Eva, a 20-year-old foster kid, is hired as a temp at a fancy Paris hotel. As part of the housekeeping crew, Eva finds herself amongst a united, resilient group of diverse women who become the closest thing she has to family. But when a labor strike shakes up life at the palace, can unity survive? An excellent comedy based on real events that explores life behind the scenes of a luxury hotel.

*Screening followed by Q&A with Le Professeur Kevin Elstob*

**3:20pm AUCTION (Le tableau volé)**

Pascal Bonitzer (91 min)

Art World Thriller

André Masson is an art dealer whose routine is unexpectedly disrupted by the discovery of a famous painting stolen from a Jewish family by the Nazis during World War II and assumed lost forever. *Auction* follows the newfound painting's thrilling journey through the treacherous art world. Will the painting end up in good hands?

**Presented in partnership with the Sacramento Jewish Film Festival.**

**5:30pm CLOSING NIGHT**

**ALONG CAME LOVE (Le temps d'aimer)**

Katell Quillévéré (125 min)

Historical Melodrama, *U.S. Premiere, Female Director*

1947. Madeleine, a single mother and waitress at a beachfront hotel-restaurant, meets François, a student, estranged from his wealthy family. These two lost souls, haunted by secrets, will share a remarkable and unusual love. Inspired by the films of 1950s Hollywood master Douglas Sirk, *Along Came Love* is a sweeping melodrama, beginning in the aftermath of the Second World War and unfolding over several decades.

*Screening followed by Q&A with Le Professeur Kevin Elstob*

**Join us after the film for a Closing Reception in the lobby of the Tower Theatre!**

**[www.sacramentofrenchfilmfestival.org](http://www.sacramentofrenchfilmfestival.org)**