

APRIL IN PARIS

Join us for *April in Paris*, Hartford's Festival of French and Francophone Film at Cinestudio on the Trinity College Campus



April 17- April 21, 2026

Friday through Tuesday

Power Plays ~ Jeux de Pouvoir in Francophone Cinema at Cinestudio

Bienvenue! This spring April in Paris and Cinestudio take up the question of power plays – striking and small, to explore the various ways that power is represented and how people use, abuse, resist, or rebel against it. Five films ranging from the silent era to the present day feature characters who strategize or maneuver into or out of specific situations. These films open our eyes to the ways that the inimitable art of cinema deepens our understanding of personal ethics, political power, creative expression, and love. Please join us for a discussion after each screening. – Festival Director, Karen Humphreys

Friday evening, April 17- 7:00 pm – *No Chains No Masters* (Ni Chaînes ni maîtres, 2023) by Simon Moutairou (98 min). In 1759 Mauritius under French rule, enslaved teenager Mati escapes plantation life in search of freedom. As she is pursued, her father Massamba ventures into the jungle to find her. Their journey becomes a fight for survival and a break from oppression. Discussion with Prof. Blase Provitola (Trinity College) following the film.

Saturday matinée, April 18- 1:00 pm – *The New Gentlemen* (Les Nouveaux Messieurs, 1929 silent) by Jacques Feyder (123 min). Feyder's film follows Suzanne Verrier, a Paris Opéra dancer and mistress of an influential aristocrat who advances her career. She begins a romance with Jacques Gaillac, a union organizer elected to Parliament, straining their relationship. When the government falls and the aristocrat's party returns to power, he has Gaillac sent abroad, forcing Suzanne to return. **Live piano accompaniment by Associate Professor Emeritus Patrick Miller of the Hartt School. Join us for the Festival's opening reception in the Cinestudio lobby following this satirical comedy, sponsored by the Alliance Française.**

Sunday evening, April 19- 7:00 pm – *When Autumn Comes* (Quand vient l'automne, 2024) Actress and director Josiane Balasko appears in a recent film by François Ozon (104 min). Michelle now retired in Burgundy after a turbulent life in Paris, is troubled by the hostility of her daughter Valérie. With help from her friend Marie-Claude (Balasko), whose son has just been released from prison, Michelle seeks a path long denied her. Ozon crafts a twisty thriller where family ties prove most mysterious. Join us for a discussion afterwards with Prof. Elisabeth Buzay (Trinity College).

Cinestudio Theater on Trinity Campus, 300 Summit Street in Hartford
Tickets - <http://cinestudio.org>

General Admission - \$10.00
Student (with ID) - \$8.00
Member - \$7.00

Real Art Ways Member - \$7.00
Senior (62 and Up) - \$8.00



Monday evening, April 20- 7:00 pm – *Red Island* (L’Ile rouge, 2023) by Robin Campillo (117 min). Living on a French military base in 1970s Madagascar, ten-year-old Thomas begins to notice cracks in his family’s seemingly idyllic life. Inspired by his comic hero Fantomette, he secretly observes those around him, uncovering the complex political and personal dynamics between colonizers and the colonized. Both a coming-of-age story and a reflection on colonialism, Campillo blends the personal and political through a child’s perspective. Join us after the screening for a discussion with Prof. Walid Bouchakour (Trinity College).

Tuesday evening finale, April 21- 7:30 pm – *The Umbrellas of Cherbourg* (Les Parapluies de Cherbourg) by Jacques Demy (91min). The striking Catherine Deneuve was launched to stardom by Demy’s dazzling musical. She plays an umbrella-shop owner’s daughter, glowing with first love for a handsome garage mechanic, played by Nino Castelnuovo. When the young man is shipped off to fight in Algeria, the two lovers must grow up quickly. Exquisitely designed in a kaleidoscope of colors and told entirely through the lilting songs of the great composer Michel Legrand. *The Umbrellas of Cherbourg* is one of the most revered and unorthodox movie musicals of all time.

Celebrate April in Paris and come to our final night reception at 6:30 pm on April 21 in the Cinestudio lobby, followed by the 7:30 pm screening of a brilliant classic. Please join us as well for a discussion of the film with musicologist and author Walter Frisch from the Dept. of Music at Columbia University. Professor Frisch is currently writing a book about *The Umbrellas of Cherbourg* and will field a Q&A session afterwards. Cinephiles and music lovers of all ages will love this stunning film.



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