



24th SACRAMENTO FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL

JUNE 20-22, 2025 • TOWER THEATRE

1 WEEKEND • 10 BRAND NEW FILMS

ALWAYS SWITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES!

FRIDAY, JUNE 20

OPENING NIGHT

6:00 pm **Doors open! French Pop by DJ Roger & no host bar**

7:00 pm **THE MARCHING BAND** Emmanuel Courcol (103 min) • Social Comedy

When Thibaut, an internationally renowned conductor, learns both that he has leukemia and that he was adopted, he sets out to meet his estranged brother. Jimmy is a factory worker who plays the trombone in his labor union's marching band. Everything seems to separate them, except their love of music. Sensing his brother's talent, Thibaut tries to remedy the injustice of fate, while Jimmy begins to dream of a different life... *The Marching Band* grabs you in the first five minutes and won't let go, up to its poignant and superb finale. A real crowd pleaser!

→ Followed by Q&A with *le Professeur Kevin Elstob*

SATURDAY, JUNE 21

11:00 am **MIKADO** Baya Kasmi (94 min) • Family Dramedy • Female filmmaker
U.S. Premiere

Mikado and Laetitia, two former foster youths, live in a van and homeschool their children, by choice. One day, in helping a stranded motorist, they damage their van. The motorist, Vincent, agrees to let them camp on his beautiful countryside property while they wait for a part to arrive. Can three weeks in the same place be enough to give the family a taste of normalcy and change their minds about their alternative lifestyle? A tender and luminous family dramedy, full of love and compassion for its flawed but endearing characters.

1:00 pm **SOULEYMANE'S STORY** Boris Lojkine (93 min) • Immigration Drama • César Winner
As he pedals through the streets of Paris to deliver meals, Souleymane rehearses his story. In two days, he has to go through his asylum application interview, the key to obtaining papers... Shot like a documentary, on city streets with concealed handheld cameras, *Souleymane's Story* has a true-to-life feel, while its intense screenplay makes it a pulse-pounding and emotional thriller about a man whose life is about to change, for better or worse. Winner of four 2025 César Awards.

→ Followed by Q&A with *le Professeur Kevin Elstob*

3:30pm **THE MOHICAN** Frédéric Farrucci (87 min) • Corsican Western
U.S. Premiere

Joseph, a Corsican shepherd, is pursued by the mafia after he refuses to sell them his land and accidentally kills one of their men. As the days go by, his legend spreads across the entire island, igniting a resistance to the island's corrupt institutions. A genuine western, set in wild landscapes under the Corsican sun, with a lone hero, gunfire, intense car chases, and a final deadly duel...

→ Followed by Q&A with *le Professeur Kevin Elstob*

5:45pm **MEET THE BARBARIANS** Julie Delpy (101 min) • Ensemble Comedy • Female filmmaker
The town of Paimpont (in Brittany) enthusiastically voted to host a family of Ukrainian refugees. But the refugees, it turns out, aren't Ukrainian after all. They are Syrian! When the Fayad family arrive, they are faced with graffiti calling them barbarians. Clearly, some townspeople only want a certain kind of refugee. So, when all is said and done, who are the barbarians? A wildly funny, tongue-in-cheek comedy about what separates us, but more importantly what brings us together.

→ Followed by Q&A with *le Professeur Kevin Elstob*



8:30pm **DEAD MAN'S BOOTS** Yohann Gloaguen (94 min) • Surreal Mystery/Comedy • First Feature • *US Premiere*

Panicking after finding his customer shot dead in the back of his car with a big wad of cash in his pocket, Prosper, a shy Uber driver, decides to dispose of the dead man, after stealing his fabulous crocodile boots and the cash. The boots, it turns out, are not only fabulous – they are magical. When he slips them on, Prosper becomes possessed by the spirit of the deceased... This well paced, cheerfully entertaining mystery/comedy with an all-black cast is infused with a touch of fantasy that makes it quite unique. And discover the world of "La Sape," a black subculture born in the Congo whose members take dressing up and being fabulous very seriously.

SUNDAY, JUNE 22

11:45 am **ROBOT T-O** Giulio Callegari (78 min) • Sci-fi Comedy • First Feature
U.S. Premiere

In a near future, when humans depend on robots, Max (the delightful Blanche Gardin) and her daughter Paula make a living by selling stolen robots on the black market. Max doesn't like robots much but when she loses custody of Paula, she can only rely on the help of one of them, T-O (Théo), to get her back. And T-O, their latest loot too outdated to be sold, is more than eager to help. With its sweet, absurd humor and low-tech futuristic road-movie vibe, *Robot T-O* is a true delight for the whole family.

1:30pm **HOW TO MAKE A KILLING** Franck Dubosc (113 min) • Dark Comedy/Thriller
Michel and Cathy, a couple worn down by time and financial difficulties, barely talk to each other anymore. That is, until the day Michel, trying to avoid a bear on the road, hits a car and, through a series of hilarious events, kills both of its occupants. Two dead bodies plus two million in used bills in the trunk are bound to make you talk again! Set in a snowy mountain village, with a perfect mix of hilarious grim humor and mystery, the highly entertaining *How to Make a Killing* is reminiscent of the Coen Brothers' *Fargo* but with a definite French spin.

4:00pm **SUDDENLY** Thomas Bidegain (114 min) • Adventure/Romance
A couple must fight for survival after becoming stranded on a deserted island near the Antarctic Coast. With only two characters and one location, not only is *Suddenly* a tremendously suspenseful and gorgeous survival/adventure film, it is also a fantastic love story. It will keep you on the edge of your seat till the very end. We waited a whole year to show you *Suddenly*, after being unable to secure it in 2024, enjoy the spectacle (it's truly going to look spectacular on the tower's big screen!)

CLOSING NIGHT

6:30pm **THE TIES THAT BIND US** Carine Tardieu (106 min) • Feel Good Family Drama • Female Filmmaker

Our 2025 "coup de coeur," *The Ties that Bind Us* follows a proudly independent, prickly single woman (played by Valeria Bruni Tedeschi) who sees her world turned upside down when she unexpectedly becomes involved in the daily life of her next-door neighbors. Who knew she could form a special bond with a young boy and care so much about this adopted family? A real jewel of kindness, there are few films as touching and uplifting as this one! Exactly what we need these days.

Immediately followed by a Closing Bubbly & Dessert Reception!