



NEXT STEP
SEMAINE DE LA CRITIQUE



NEXT STEP

15-19 December 2014

NEXT STEP

Created in collaboration with the TorinoFilmLab and supported by the CNC, the CCAS and the Moulin d'Andé-CÉCI, Next Step is a new programme, consisting of a 5-day workshop held in The Moulin d'Andé from 15 December to 19 December. The aim of this project is to support the 9 filmmakers discovered by La Semaine de la Critique as they branch out into feature films. During the workshop, the filmmakers will have the opportunity to discuss their projects with international experts and tutors, in order for them to receive advice on their scripts, to understand the reality of the industry and define an appropriate development strategy.

For over 50 years, this «parallel» section of the Cannes Festival committed to the emergence of new talent has supported short films, which has led it to reveal filmmakers such as Andrea Arnold, François Ozon, Gaspar Noé and more recently Justin Kurzel (selected in 2011 for his feature film *Snowtown*), Juliana Rojas (selected for *Un Certain Regard* with *Hard Labour* in 2011) and Claire Burger and Marie Amachoukeli (whose first feature *Party Girl* opens *Un Certain Regard* during this 2014 edition).

For its 53rd edition, La Semaine de la Critique showcased an eclectic and often surprising selection of films, a reflection on the creativity of young filmmakers from all over the world. The directors of those shorts will make up the first promotion of NEXT STEP: **Jonas CARPIGNANO** (Italy), **Carlos CONCEIÇÃO** (Portugal), **Gaëlle DENIS** (United Kingdom), **Una GUNJACK** (Bosnia), **Gerardo HERRERO** (Spain), **Laurie LASSALLE** (France), **Rémi SAINT-MICHEL** (Canada), **Gitanjali RAO** (India) et **Tomas SIWINSKI** (Poland)

This first edition of NEXT STEP will be supervised by 8 consultants: **Marie Amachoukeli**, scriptwriter and co-director of *Party Girl*, **Julien Lilti** co-scriptwriter of *Hippocrates*, **Antonio Piazza** and **Fabio Grassadonia**, scriptwriters and directors of *Salvo*, **Ewa Puszczynska**, producer of Pawel Pawlikowski's *Ida*, **Matthieu Taponier**, scriptwriter and script consultant, **Nadja Dumouchel**, consultant in projects development for ARTE Germany, and **Fabien Gaffez**, Short Film Coordinator at La Semaine de la Critique. 3 experts will be on hand to share their professional opinions on the submitted projects: **Virginie Devesa** (ALPHA VIOLET), **Geoffroy Grison** (scriptwriter and producer) and **Thomas Pibarot** (LE PACTE).

PARTICIPATING DIRECTORS

Jonas Carpignano

Carlos Conceição

Gaëlle Denis

Una Gunjak

Gerardo Herrero

Laurie Lassalle

Gitanjali Rao

Tomasz Siwinski

Rémi St-Michel

JONAS CARPIGNANO

Jonas Carpignano is an Italian-American filmmaker based in Southern Italy and France. His short films have been shown in prestigious film festivals around the world including Cannes, Venice, SXSW and The New York Film Festival. His short film *A Chjàna* won the Controcampo Award for Best Short Film at the 68th Venice Film Festival and was awarded a Nastro D'Argento Special Mention from the Association of Italian Film Critics (SNGCI). His latest short film *Ciambra* won the Sony CineAlta Discovery Prize at the 53rd Semaine de la Critique at Cannes. The film, which follows one night in the life of Pio, a young Romani boy living in Southern Italy, displays great spontaneity on the part of the director, every single image reflecting his very realistic, personal and intimate filmic approach. Jonas is 2012 Sundance Screenwriters & Directors Lab alumni and was named one of the "Top 25 New Faces in Independent Film" by Filmmaker Magazine. He is currently completing the postproduction of his first feature film *Mediterranea*. *A Ciambra*, his latest project, is the feature version of the short. It follows Pio Amato again, making him the perfect entry point into the Romani community, embodying everything that is special about it: he defies expectations, he is determined and he is loyal to his friends and family. *A Ciambra* also attempts to present a faithful portrait of a community that Jonas has come to love and admire in recent years.

A CIAMBRA / Production Info

4 coproducers already invested in Jonas previous shorts:

Constance Meyer (France) | Gwyn Sannia (Italy) | Jon Coplon (USA) | Ryan Zacarias (USA)

A portrait of Carlos Conceição, a man with dark hair and a beard, wearing a dark suit jacket over a dark t-shirt. He is looking slightly to the right of the camera with a neutral expression. The background is a bright, outdoor setting, possibly a beach or a coastal area, with a clear blue sky and a hint of the ocean.

CARLOS CONCEIÇÃO

Carlos Conceição majored in English with a focus on Anglo-Saxon Romantic literature and in film directing at the Lisbon Theatre and Film School (2006). He began creating video art, music videos and installations soon after that. His film *Versailles* competed in Locarno, Vila do Conde and Mar Del Plata in 2013. *Goodnight Cinderella* was in competition at the Semaine de la Critique of the Cannes Film Festival in 2014. A queer and fetish-inspired Cinderella taken from the oft-ignored point of view of the Prince Charming which was already signalling an illustrious start to a great filmmaker's career. Carlos is currently developing two feature projects, one of which will be shot in Africa, near the southern Angolan city where he was born. The other one, *Barking at Airplanes*, tells the story of a teenager who finds redemption by carrying out his dying sister's final wish: the loss of virginity. He searches the night for a shadow of himself and finds it in a young prostitute boy. He takes him home, to an enchanted forest. Once they arrive, the hustler finds himself somewhat unable to sell what he wants to buy. With *Barking at Airplanes*, Carlos wants to explore the gap between tragic reality and the beauty of fantasy.

BARKING AT AIRPLANES / Production Info

Primeira Idade Lda (Portugal):

Pedro Fernandes Duarte, JoanaGusmão | Epicentre Films (France) | Daniel Chabannes, Corentin Sénéchal

A portrait of Gaëlle Denis, a woman with dark hair, wearing a light-colored straw hat with a black band and a dark top. She is looking slightly to the right of the camera with a gentle smile. The background is a dark, textured wall, possibly a building facade.

GAËLLE DENIS

Gaëlle Denis is a French-born artist and filmmaker who relocated to London in 2000, to complete an MA in Animation Direction at the Royal College of Art. She has gained numerous accolades for her unique approach to storytelling, using varied media: animation, live action, theatre and advertising. She directed several award-winning shorts including *Fish Never Sleep* (premiere in the Official Competition of the Cannes FF, Cinéfondation 2002, BAFTA nomination 2003), *City Paradise* (50 awards, BAFTA nominee 2005) and *After The Rain*, a Film 4 & UK Film Council Cinema Extreme scheme (premiere in the official selection of the Clermont-Ferrand FF). Her feature projects have been in development through Torino's AdaptLab, Le Groupe Ouest and the Jerusalem Film Lab. In 2014, her short *Crocodile* premiered at the Semaine de la Critique in Cannes. The story of a bereaved headmaster, striking a perfect balance between tragedy and dark humour, harmoniously intertwined with a lightness of touch. The film won the Canal Plus Award. Her feature film project, *Shadowland*, is currently in development with French producer Nathalie Algazi. A dark romantic drama set during a suffocating summer in which two young lovers are left to deal with their parents' toxic legacy. The director found herself wanting to explore the way the young generation fights against social and class discrimination, predestination and prejudice, with a slightly fantasized, surreal twist anchored in naturalistic and truthful performances.

SHADOWLAND / Production Info

La Voie Lactée (France):

Nathalie Algazi

A portrait of Una Gunjak, a woman with short dark hair, wearing a brown blazer over a floral patterned shirt. She is standing outdoors with a body of water and a clear sky in the background.

UNA GUNJAK

Born and raised in Sarajevo, Una now lives and works in London, where years ago she graduated from The National Film and TV School with an MA in Editing. Before that, she'd studied Film Studies in Torino, in Italy, directed a few commercials, and worked full-time as editor cutting films that have travelled world's most prestigious festivals, gaining numerous awards, including a BAFTA nomination and an award for Best Editing. Her short film *The Chicken* premiered at the 53rd Semaine de la Critique, Cannes. A war film shot from the point of view of a little girl who receives a chicken as a birthday present. A poignant and intelligent film, *The Chicken* subtly brought together the sweetness of childhood and the atrocities of conflict. The film is now being screened at around 80 festivals and has won 20 awards so far, amongst which a nomination for Best Short for the European Film Awards. Una is now developing her feature project *Alfa*, the story of a woman who wanted to save her family but ended up losing herself. Set during the Bosnian War, inspired by her own experience, *Alfa* follows Azra, a mother who decides to flee the country with her 15-year-old son to find refuge in Alfa, a drug rehab commune in Italy. This is a strong, visceral and intense film, which raises questions about a woman's role in the family and in society. Through this film, Una aims to explore the catastrophic impact of war on a human level and its wider sociological consequences.

A portrait of Gerardo Herrero, a man with long dark hair, wearing a dark blazer over a dark shirt. He is sitting outdoors with a body of water and a clear sky in the background.

GERARDO HERRERO

Gerardo Herrero (Asturias, Spain, 1979) studied law at the university of Oviedo and cinema at the ECAM film school. He wrote screenplays for production companies such as Telespan 2000 ("La Nariz de oro") and SoyLent Films ("El último recreo"). As a director, he directed visual pieces and commercials for fashion magazine *Grazia* and international brands such as Ferrari or Coach. His short, *Picnic*, has been awarded more than 80 prizes, including best short award at the Málaga Film Festival (2011), Cortogena (2010), Seminci (2011) and nominations at Robert De Niro's 10th Tribeca Film Festival (New York) and HBO Latino Film Festival (New York). Other short films are *The Acrobat*, nominated at the 12th Tribeca Film Festival (2013). His latest horror/drama *Safari*, awarded the Canal Plus España project prize in 2013 and selected in the 53rd Semaine de la Critique in Cannes, has drawn inspiration from the slasher genre to depict a Colombine-style killing spree, depicting sharp frames, narrative red herrings, graphic horror and claustrophobic suspense. Gerardo is now developing his new project *Picnic*, inspired by the short of the same name, which tells the story of Saša who, after living much of her life in England, returns to the forest of her childhood in eastern Bosnia with her family. But the lovely trip turns to tragedy when Saša and her infant are caught in a minefield. A horror story and a survival thriller, a film about war in which we never see any combat, with touches of Clouzot, Tarkovski or Bela Tarr, Gerardo clearly wants to bring the spectator to the limits of emotion.

A portrait of Laurie Lassalle, a woman with long dark hair, wearing a blue and red patterned top and a wooden bead necklace. She is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile.

LAURIE LASSALLE

Laurie Lassalle is a filmmaker, editor and musician born on 6 July 1984 in Paris, France. She started her directing career by making dance videos and music videos for artists such as *Melody's Echo Chamber*, *Judah Warsky*, *Mina Tindle*, *Ricky Hollywood*, *La Féline*, as well as for her former band *My Girlfriend is Better than Yours*. Laurie Lassalle then went on to work on documentaries and she is also a film editor, assisting notably François Quiqueré on Serge Bozon's *La France* (Directors' Fortnight, Cannes 2006). In 2014, she directed her first mid-length film produced by Haïku Films, *I Made My Own Course Down the Passive Rivers*, a mid-length fiction selected at the Semaine de la Critique in Cannes last may and at the Amiens International Film Festival. The film tells the story of Flore who joins Arthur for an imaginary party and who experiences the grief of loss and the lost childhood to find herself at the heart of her desire. This is a dreamlike tale, made all the more powerful by the astonishing performances of the two young actors. She is currently working on two feature-length screenplays, one fiction and one creative documentary. *Les Monstres Calmes*, is a story that takes place in a world in reconstruction where Celi, a 20-year-old mutant woman and a nocturnal cat-bird thief divides her time between her imaginary lovers, her friends, her ringleader and crime agent. Laurie's work is crossed by a desire to establish a feminine and sensual gaze that is both visual and poetic. The temptation of painting, words and music fuels her cinematic practice.

A portrait of Gitanjali Rao, a woman with dark hair, wearing a black top with a red neckline and a silver necklace with a purple pendant. She is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera.

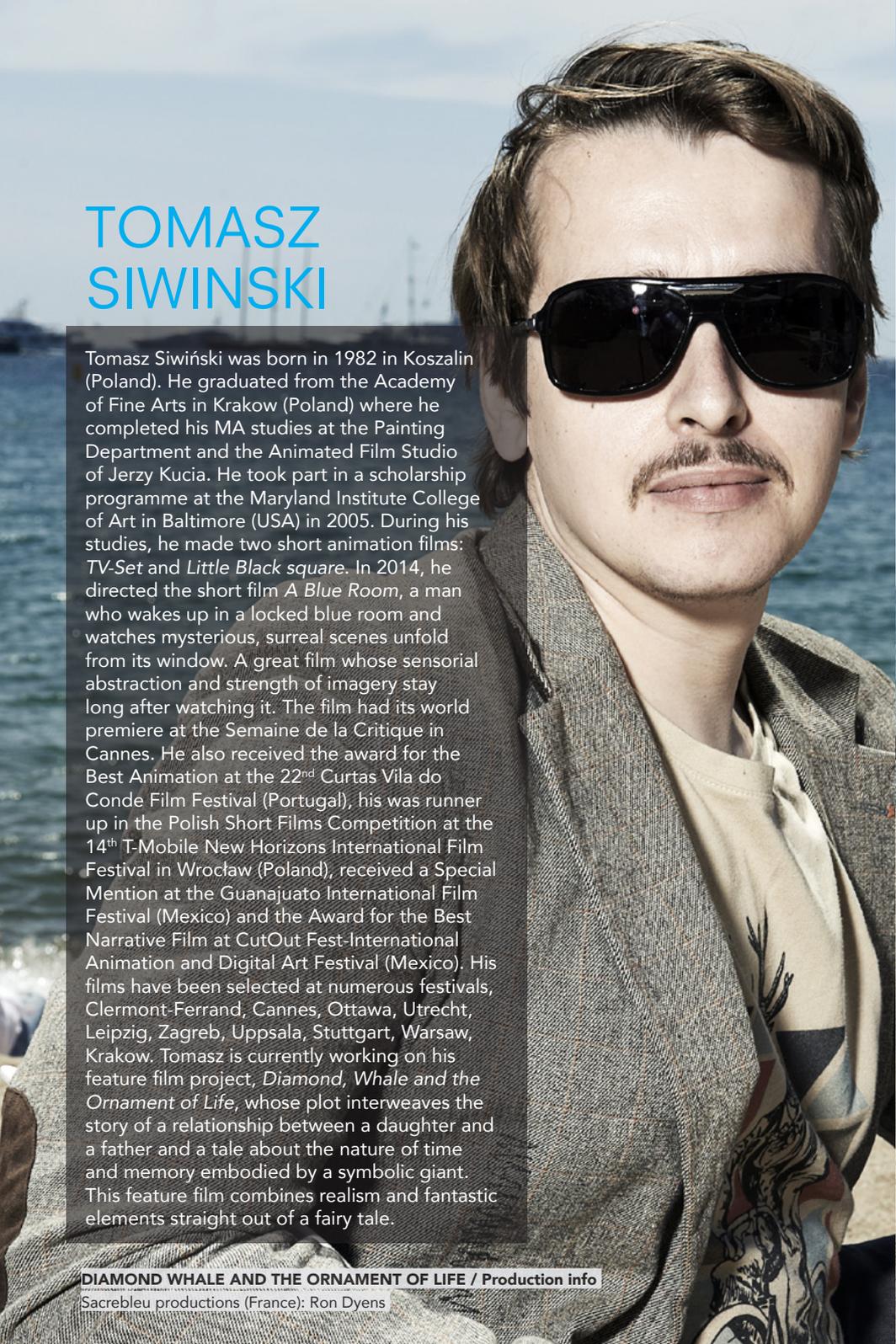
GITANJALI RAO

Gitanjali Rao graduated with honours as a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Sir J. J. Institute of Applied Art in Mumbai, in 1994. She is a self-taught animator, filmmaker, illustrator, teacher and theatre artist. Gitanjali's short animation film *Printed Rainbow*, won three Awards for the best short film at the Semaine de la Critique in Cannes in 2006. It was also shortlisted for the Academy Awards in 2008, on top of winning 25 International Awards and travelling to over a hundred Intl. festivals. Gitanjali was a member of the jury in the Semaine de la Critique in Cannes in 2011. Her Feature project *Girgit* was selected at Cinemas Du Monde in 2011. Her new animated short film *TrueLoveStory* also premiered at the Semaine de la Critique in Cannes in 2014, after winning the Golden Conch for best-animated short at the (Mumbai) MIFF 2014. The film is a romantic journey through the seductive, treacherous streets of Mumbai. Using stunning animation, this is a disenchanted but enchanting film on the illusions and beauty of cinema and on the unfortunate social circumstances of the country. Same goes for Gitanjali's *TrueLoveStory*, her feature film project, an ironic glimpse into the influence of Bollywood and the hypocrisy of the rule of law in Mumbai told through animation. The film follows 4 characters, of different ages, different stories, and when their paths cross; the difference between right and wrong, law and lawlessness and life and death becomes impossible to discern.

TRUELOVESTORY / Production Info

Les Films d'Ici (France): Serge Lalou, Clara Mahieu

Les Films de Ka (France): Karen Adler

A portrait of Tomasz Siwiński, a man with a mustache and sunglasses, wearing a grey jacket over a light-colored t-shirt. He is looking directly at the camera. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with water and a boat.

TOMASZ SIWINSKI

Tomasz Siwiński was born in 1982 in Koszalin (Poland). He graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Krakow (Poland) where he completed his MA studies at the Painting Department and the Animated Film Studio of Jerzy Kucia. He took part in a scholarship programme at the Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore (USA) in 2005. During his studies, he made two short animation films: *TV-Set* and *Little Black square*. In 2014, he directed the short film *A Blue Room*, a man who wakes up in a locked blue room and watches mysterious, surreal scenes unfold from its window. A great film whose sensorial abstraction and strength of imagery stay long after watching it. The film had its world premiere at the Semaine de la Critique in Cannes. He also received the award for the Best Animation at the 22nd Curtas Vila do Conde Film Festival (Portugal), his was runner up in the Polish Short Films Competition at the 14th T-Mobile New Horizons International Film Festival in Wrocław (Poland), received a Special Mention at the Guanajuato International Film Festival (Mexico) and the Award for the Best Narrative Film at CutOut Fest-International Animation and Digital Art Festival (Mexico). His films have been selected at numerous festivals, Clermont-Ferrand, Cannes, Ottawa, Utrecht, Leipzig, Zagreb, Uppsala, Stuttgart, Warsaw, Krakow. Tomasz is currently working on his feature film project, *Diamond, Whale and the Ornament of Life*, whose plot interweaves the story of a relationship between a daughter and a father and a tale about the nature of time and memory embodied by a symbolic giant. This feature film combines realism and fantastic elements straight out of a fairy tale.

DIAMOND WHALE AND THE ORNAMENT OF LIFE / Production info
Sacrebleu productions (France): Ron Dyens

A portrait of Rémi St-Michel, a man with a beard and dark hair, sitting on a white stool on a beach. He is wearing a black t-shirt and dark jeans, looking thoughtfully to the right. The background shows the ocean and a clear sky.

REMI ST-MICHEL

Rémi St-Michel discovered theatre and cinema at François-Xavier Garneau College in Quebec City. In 2010, he directed his first short film *Marshmallow*, which had a respectable festival run and helped him get onto the cinema programme at the University of Quebec in Montreal. For his final studies project, he co-wrote and directed *The Deer*, which won many prizes around the globe. Encouraged by this success, he went on to direct a new short, *Little Brother*, that premiered at the Semaine de la Critique in Cannes in 2014. The film follows a teenager and his tutor in the streets of the Montreal Metropolis. References to Kevin Smith's *Clerks* are openly acknowledged, and *Little Brother* succeeds in finding its magic recipe: absurd dialogues, moments of pure joy, bits of comedy and just the right amount of emotion. The young man from Beauport has many other projects in mind and is actually writing his first feature film with the help of a number of institutions. *Max* follows a guy from his first robbery in a convenient store at the age of 19, until the present day. He is now the father of a young girl, has a girlfriend and works as a heavy equipment operator. This is the story of a young man who has managed to convince himself that his illusions of wealth and "glory" were realistic until he turns his back on all of that to return to a "normal life". With *Max*, Rémi wants to explore his fondness for marginal characters, antiheroes, those who act and think in a manner that defies logic and the complexity of the situations to which they may lead.

CONSULTANTS & EXPERTS

Marie Amachoukeli – director and scriptwriter

Antonio Piazza & Fabio Grassadonia

– directors and scripwriters

Nadja Dumouchel – script consultant

Julien Lilti – script consultant

Matthieu Taponier – script consultant

Fabien Gaffez – film critic and film festival

Ewa Puszczynska - producer

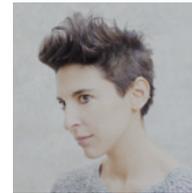
Virginie Devesa – sales agent

Geoffroy Grison – producer and screenwriter

Thomas Pibarot - distributor

CONSULTANTS:

MARIE AMACHOUKELI – director and scriptwriter



Marie Amachoukeli, director and writer, graduated from La Fémis in screenwriting. She wrote and took part in the direction of *Forbach* – Clermont Ferrand Grand Prix in 2008. She co-directed *It's Free for Girls* – César for Best Short in 2010 and selected at the Semaine de la Critique in 2009 – and *Demolition Party* with Claire Burger. Marie Amachoukeli's first feature film, *Party Girl*, co-directed with Claire Burger and Samuel Theis, was selected at Un Certain Regard in Cannes 2014 and won the Caméra d'Or award.

ANTONIO PIAZZA & FABIO GRASSADONIA – directors and scripwriters



They began their careers working as writers and script consultants for a few Italian production companies. In 2004, they wrote for Fandango, the musical comedy *Ogni olt ache te ne vai*, set in the world of dance halls along the Italian coast of Romagna. They still work as freelance script consultants, collaborating with a few European workshops, such as Locarno Open Doors, Nisi Masa ESP, Berlinale Residency and Torino FilmLab, and as teachers for the University of Malta. In 2010, they wrote and directed the short film *Rita*, their debut as directors and one of the most successful Italian short films ever. *Rita* was set in Palermo, where Fabio Grassadonia and Antonio Piazza come from and where they also shot *Salvo*, their first feature film as directors. In 2013, *Salvo* premiered in Cannes at La Semaine de la Critique, winning both top prizes, the Nespresso Grand Prize and the France 4 Visionary Award, and getting distribution in around 25 countries around the world. Fabio Grassadonia and Antonio Piazza are currently writing their second feature film, a French-German-Italian coproduction again set in Sicily.

NADJA DUMOUCHEL – script consultant



Nadja Dumouchel is currently engaged in script consulting for various film labs such as Groupe Ouest and European Short Pitch run by Nisi Masa, in university teaching (scriptwriting), as a reader for the CNC and in film journalism. She studied visual culture in Brighton, journalism and literature in Berlin and cinema in Valencia. Nadja worked as a programmer and commissioning editor for ARTE's short film magazine Court-Circuit. She was later hired by the international distribution and production company PREMIUM FILMS in Paris,

before going back to ARTE in the feature film section in 2010. She has since then been contributing to the development of international film projects in collaboration with ARTE Germany. Until recently, she was also in charge of a short film collection produced every year by the students of Atelier Ludwigsburg-Paris (European production master class), as well as the attached transmedia-project on ARTE CREATIVE. Nadja was trained as a story editor at the Torino Film Lab. She is co-founder of « La Scénaristerie », a development platform for screenwriters to be launched soon in Paris.

JULIEN LILTI – script consultant



Until 2002, Julien lived between France and Burkina Faso, where he completed his studies in sociology and rural development. After earning a master in documentary filmmaking in 2003, he worked as a reporter for Canal + for four years. Meanwhile, he took part in several films in front or behind the camera. In 2007, he left journalism to become a fulltime screenwriter. Since then, he has written for television (*The World of Pahé*), for films (*Pax Romana*, *Hippocrates*, *Adama*, *Rudy*) and for documentaries

(*Gilles Caron, j'ai voulu voir*). *Hippocrates*, feature film which he has co-written, co-produced by Canal + and France 2, was the closing film of the 2014 edition of La Semaine de la Critique and was released in France last September. His most recent personal project, *Adama*, a feature-length animation film, was selected for the Groupe Ouest residency and earned a "development award" in the 2012 TorinoFilmLab. It is now in production and will be released in September 2015.

MATTHIEU TAPONIER – script consultant



After studying Modern Literature in Paris, he completed an MFA in filmmaking at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. His thesis film, *Les Rites*, was awarded the Warner Bros Production Grant, and was screened and awarded prizes in several festivals in Europe (Festival du Film Court de Villeurbanne, Festival Jean Carmet, Festival international de Cine de Valencia Cinema Jove). For three years, he worked as a script consultant for French TV channel TF1 and several art house film companies in France. In

2013, he was a participant of the TorinoFilmLab Script & Pitch, as a story editor, and has been working since with young film directors from around the world (Iran, Greece, Lebanon, Mauritius, Hungary). As a screenwriter, he is currently collaborating with Hungarian filmmakers László Nemes (*Sunset*) and Bálint Kenyeres (*Hier*). He has also edited László Nemes' first feature film, *Saul Fia*, to be released in 2015.

FABIEN GAFFEZ – film critic and film festival



Fabien Gaffez is the Artistic Director of the Amiens International Film Festival. He's a film critic for Positif, a film history and aesthetics teacher, and has written several books on cinema. He is the head of a collection of books dedicated to cinema (« La mémoire vivante »). Fabien also works as a reader for ARTE France Cinéma. For la Semaine de la Critique in Cannes, he was member of the selection committee for feature films in 2009 and joined the committee for short films and became its coordinator in 2014.

EWA PUSZCZYNSKA – producer



Ewa was born and raised in Lodz in Poland. She started her professional life working for one of the most famous Polish puppet theatres, Arlekin, as a literature researcher, playwright, editor and advisor. In 1993, she translated *In my Grandmother's Purse* by Eric Bass, an American puppeteer, and was an assistant director to Eric when he was directing his play in Arlekin. Since 1995, she has been working for Opus Film, an independent film production company in Poland and has been managing project

development and execution since. Ewa was producing David Lynch's photo sessions in Poland and was line producer of the Polish part of his *Inland Empire*. She is a speaker at the Film School in Lodz and the Andrzej Wajda Film School in Warsaw, at the MAIA and SOFA workshops. She is a Member of PFA and EFA. Her very recent credits as a producer are: *Ida*, written and directed by Pawel Pawlikowski, *The Congress* written and directed by Ari Folman, *Aglaja*, written and directed by Krisztina Deak and *King of Devil's Island* directed by Marius Holst.

EXPERTS:

VIRGINIE DEVESA – sales agent



Virginie made her first foray into Cinema in Kiev in Ukraine, where she was part of the team organising the Molodist Film Festival. Back in France, she worked for 3 years at Celluloid Dreams. She was then hired by the French Embassy in Moscow for 3 years to organise with Unifrance the French Film Festival in Moscow and work on film programmes throughout Russia, up to Vladivostok. Upon her return, she studied film production at the CFPF in Paris and started to work for Urban Distribution as Head of acquisitions

and sales department. Her experiences have led her to the creation of her own sales label, Alpha Violet, with the desire to keep promoting the films she loves in a close relationship with the producers she works for. ALPHA VIOLET's recent credits include *El Estudiante* by Santiago Mitre, *The Tribe* by Myroslav Slaboshpytskiy (*Nespresso* Grand Prize, and France 4 Visionary Award at the last Semaine de la Critique), *El Verano de Los Peces Voladores* by Marcela Said and *2 Autumns, 3 Winters* by Sébastien Betbeder.

GEOFFROY GRISON – producer and screenwriter



After a Masters degree in classical Greek poetry and an early experience as a stage actor, Geoffroy started working for Arte TV with Pierre Chevalier, as his script adviser. He went on to begin his career as a producer with Raphael Nadjari, with whom he produced five films: *The Shade* (1999), *I Am Josh Polonski's Brother* (2001), *Apartment #5C* (2002), *Avanim* (2004) and *Tehilim* (2007) selected three times at the Cannes Film Festival, twice at the Berlinale and acclaimed by critics. Grison went on to discover

emerging auteurs from France and abroad, producing the directorial debuts of filmmakers such as Laurent de Bartillat, Rodolphe Tissot, or Bulgarian contemporary artist Konstantin Bojanov (*Avé – Semaine de la critique* 2011). In 2013, he wrote his first script with Raphael Nadjari, *A Strange Course of Events*, which was selected for the 2013 Directors' Fortnight. He has participated in several funding commissions for the French National Film Centre (CNC). He currently serves as commission member of the Strasbourg City Film Fund (France) and SSA/Suissimage Creative Development Fund in Lausanne (Switzerland).

THOMAS PIBAROT – distributor



Thomas Pibarot started working as an intern at TPS CINEMA (paying TV satellite bouquet) in 1998. He spent 9 years developing, programming and buying feature films for 7 TV film channels, including four years as Head of Acquisitions for Cinema. He then switched from TV to cinema distribution and joined Bac Films in May 2007 to work in acquisitions. When Jean Labadie left the company he joined him in his new adventure in launching Le Pacte, a new Distribution,

International sales and Coproduction company in December 2007. He's been Head of Acquisitions ever since. Le Pacte's latest credits as a distributor include *Hippocrates* by Thomas Lilti, *Salt of the Earth* by Wim Wenders and Juliano Salgado, *Timbuktu* by Abderrahmane Sissako, and as a coproducer, *Only Lovers Left Alive* by Jim Jarmusch and *Tale of Tales* by Matteo Garrone.

STAFF NEXT STEP

For La Semaine de la Critique

Rémi Bonhomme
Program manager

Hélène Auclair
Head of film department

Julie Marnay
Film Department in charge of short films
Next Step coordinator

For TorinoFilmLab

Matthieu Darras
Head of Program

Team of La Semaine de la Critique

Charles Tesson, Artistic Director - Short film selection committee: Fabien Gaffez (coordinator), Iris Brey, Pierre-Simon Gutman - Feature film selection committee: Ariane Allard, Annick Peigné-Giuly, Léo Soesanto, Thomas Baurez, Olivier Pelisson, Xavier Leherpeur - Marion Dubois-Daras, Head of administration - Marion Grosbois, Managing assistant - Dany de Seille, Publicist - George Ikdāis, Head of operations - Bernadette Icovic, Partnership - Ali Cherri, Graphic design

La Semaine de la Critique is organized by the French Union of Film Critics (President: Isabelle Danel)

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And the distributors and producers of the short films: François Morisset, Marie-Pier L.Couture, Ohna Falby, Nathalie Algazi, Constance Meyer, Guillaume Dreyfuss, Thomas Jaeger, Claire Trinquet, Ron Dyens, Camille Condemi, Sinisa Juricic, Cécile Ducrocq, Karen Adler.

Crédits photos Aurélie Lamachère – Bertrand Noël

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CANNES



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