

MALVERN French Film Festival

A festival of six films made by female directors

Spend a spring weekend in the lovely Malvern Hills

11 & 12th April 2026

Cléo de Cinq à Sept, 1962

Cléo from 5 to 9, Agnès Varda

Gazon Maudit, 1995

French Twist, Josiane Balasko

Parlez Moi De La Pluie, 2008

Let It Rain, Agnès Jaoui

Antoinette Dans Les Cévennes, 2020

My Donkey, My Lover & I, Carole Vignal

Diabolo Menthe, 1977

Peppermint Soda, Diane Kurys

L'Avenir, 2016

Things To Come, Mia Hansen-Løve

Tickets: £6/film or Festival Pass £30

More Information: malvernfrencfilmcentre.uk

Introduced on Saturday 11th April by Fiona Handyside
Associate Professor of Film Studies at the University of Exeter

www.malvernfrencfilmcentre.uk

Malvern French Film Festival - Saturday April 11th

Introduction by Fiona Handyside, University of Exeter

Saturday 10.30am



Prof Fiona Handyside is an authority on European film and has written extensively on women's roles and female characters in film, amongst other things. She is part of the FEMME international collective researching women in the film and media industries. She thrilled us last year and we are delighted to welcome her once again to introduce our programme of films. this year directed exclusively by women and representing significant female voices in French cinema since the 1960s.

Cléo de 5 à 7/Cleo from 5 to 7 1962 (PG) 1h 30m

Saturday 11.30am



Director: Agnès Varda

A must-watch for its defining role in French New Wave cinema, by one of its pioneers. Agnès Varda's vibrant portrayal of 1960's Paris is seen through Cléo, a young and pretty singer waiting for the results of a medical test. She lives through ninety anxious minutes. It crackles with energy and modernity, full of typical Nouvelle Vague on-location filming, realism and personal expression.

Awards: 1962 Palme D'Or nominee

Parlez Moi De La Pluie/Let It Rain 2008 (12A) 1h 50min

Saturday 3pm



Director: Agnès Jaoui

A delightfully bitter-sweet slice of life from arguably the most successful woman in contemporary French Cinema. Jaoui leads as the feminist career woman reluctantly re-visiting her small home town to help her sister sort through their recently deceased mother's estate. She is persuaded to be filmed by an amateur documentary maker and a has-been journalist, as life and loves entangle to produce a nuanced social comedy.

Gazon Maudit/French Twist 1995 (15) 1h 50min

Saturday 7pm



Director: Josiane Balasko

A farcical, dynamic love triangle like no other set in the south of France. A womanising estate agent and his gorgeous Spanish wife have their lives turned upside down by a lesbian DJ, Marijo (played by director Josiane Balasko), who arrives into their lives by accident and stays. The clever and witty screenplay swings deliberately between high comedy belly laughs, and genuine pathos.

Awards: 1996 Césars 5 nominations, 1 win

Tickets £6/film or £30 for a Festival Pass

All films shown with English subtitles

Malvern French Film Festival - Sunday April 12th

Antoinette Dans Les Cévennes/My Donkey, My Lover & I Sunday 11am



Director: Carole Vignal 2020 (15) 1h 36min

A warm comedy of unparalleled Frenchness about infidelity and animal magnetism, as Parisienne primary school teacher, Antoinette, accidentally-on-purpose goes on the same donkey-trekking holiday as her lover's family. She arrives in denim hot pants and wedge sandals but her lover's party is nowhere to be seen. It's not love at first sight with her stubborn donkey, Patrick, either.

Vin d'Honneur in the Upstairs bar at Malvern Theatres Sunday 1pm

An informal reception with wine and nibbles for the chance to discuss the weekend's films and meet Prof Handyside. Please join us in our appreciation of French film, meet fellow French-cinefiles and offer suggestions for our future film programme. We look forward to meeting you.

Diabolo Menthe/Peppermint Soda 1977 (12A) 1h 37min Sunday 3pm



Director: Diane Kurys

Still fresh 40 years on. A coming of age story that is just like peppermint soda; fizzy and pleasing going down, then tingles the palate afterwards.

Utterly charming, charting the life of two adolescent sisters at an all-girls school as they experience a rapid-fire onslaught of 'firsts' during a time of political protest and social change in France.

Awards: 2 nominations, 2 wins

L'Avenir/Things To Come 2016 (12A) 1h 42min Sunday 7pm



Director: Mia Hansen-Løve

Isabelle Huppert is note-perfect in this moving account of a philosophy teacher spiralling through a series of late-life crises; the death of her mother, losing her book deal, and dealing with a husband who is cheating on her. A film that is utterly real and will involve you emotionally and intellectually. Also one that defies being summarised.

Awards: 25 nominations, 9 wins including Berlin Silver Bear for Best Director

Tickets £6/film or £30 for a Festival Pass

All films shown with English subtitles

Malvern French Film Centre's Film Festival Weekend

The Malvern French Film Centre shows its films in Studio One, part of the Malvern Theatres Complex on Grange Road, WR14 3HB, which is in the centre of Great Malvern. This is a few minutes walk from most facilities and only a 10 minute walk from Great Malvern train station. All films are shown with English subtitles and seating is unreserved.

Professor Fiona Handyside's introductory talk on Saturday is at 10.30am
Saturday's film times are: 11.30am, 3pm and 7pm
Sunday's film times are: 11am, 3pm and 7pm

On Sunday at 1pm there will be a reception with wine and nibbles in the upstairs bar at Mavern Theatres and a chance to meet Prof Handyside and discuss the weekend's films.

How to book

Tickets cost £6, or you can buy a Festival Pass for £30 for all 6 films.
Book via Malvern Theatres' Box Office online at malvern-theatres.co.uk or by phone **01684 892277**. Please note Festival Passes can only be bought by phone or in person, not online.
There are many choices of accommodation in and around the Town and surrounding area, go to visitthemalverns.org for more information.

Get In Touch

Check our website, malvern frenchfilmcentre.co.uk, or send us an email at info@malvern frenchfilmcentre.uk

Films shown in association with

