

Weekend Film Festival 1st and 2nd May 2027



**MALVERN
FRENCH
FILM
FESTIVAL** 



1st & 2nd May 2027

**French Colonialism
on the Big Screen**

introduced by Prof Fiona Handyside

www.malvernrenchfilmcentre.uk

MALVERN FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL - Saturday May 1st

Des Hommes et Des Dieux/Of Gods And Men 2010 (15) 2h02 **Saturday 11.30am**



Director: Xavier Beauvoir

Inspired by real events of 1996, when a group of French Cistercian monks was abducted from their monastery in the Atlas Mountains in northern Algeria and held hostage by Islamic militants during the violent Civil War. It is one of those rare films that has the confidence and integrity to pause and reflect upon issues of conscience, faith and moral values without being sensationalist or superficial.

Awards: 31 nominations, 20 wins, 2 Césars inc Best Film

Chocolat/Chocolat 1988 (15) 1h45

Saturday 3pm



Director: Claire Denis

Inspired by the director's childhood, a young woman returns to West Africa and reflects on her upbringing in a colonial outpost of Cameroon, and her bond with their house servant, Protée, and her mother's suppressed, tense attraction to him. When a small plane makes an emergency landing nearby, the stranded passengers introduce new layers of colonial toxicity to the compound.

Awards: Nominations for Palme D'Or, César

Indochine/Indochine 1992 (15) 2h40

Saturday 7pm



Director: Régis Wargnier

Set in French Indochina of the 1930s against the backdrop of the rising Vietnamese nationalist movement, Catherine Deneuve is a decadent French plantation owner who adopts a Vietnamese daughter. A tragic love triangle tears them apart and we see the historical human rights abuses, compromised government ethics, and violations of social justice that are the dark side of colonial rule, as well as the seductive pleasures enjoyed by the French elite.

Awards: Oscar Best Foreign Film, 5 Césars, Golden Globe

All films shown with English subtitles

MALVERN FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL - Sunday May 2nd

Caché/Hidden 2005 (15) 1h57

Sunday 11am



Director: Michael Haneke (crime thriller)

Gripping thriller based on the denial and guilt mixed into the foundations of post Colonial western prosperity. When a famous Parisian TV presenter receives menacing videos of his home life he suspects an Algerian called Majid, to whom he did something unspeakable when they were both six years old. Is the grown-up Majid turning the tables? Did he send the videos, or is there another explanation?

Awards: 37 nominations 29 wins, Palme d'Or, 4 Césars

Pépé Le Moko/Pépé Le Moko (PG) 1h34

Sunday 3pm



Director: Julien Vuvivier

Jean Gabin gives a definitive performance as a notorious Parisian gangster hiding out in the labyrinthine Casbah of colonial Algiers. Its claustrophobic depiction makes it a sanctuary and a trap, where Western identity and morality are eroded - a political parable about colonialism and entrapment. Pépé's longing for Paris and a beautiful tourist ultimately lead to his tragic downfall. This early Film Noir influenced classics such as Cassablanca.

L'Etranger/The Stranger 2025 (15) 2h04

Sunday 7pm



Director: François Ozon

This new adaptation of Albert Camus's existentialist classic, shot in crisp black and white, follows, Meursault, an emotionally detached French "pied-noir", living in 1930s colonial Algeria. After showing no grief at his mother's funeral his life spirals into an absurd murder trial when he kills an unnamed Arab man on a sun-drenched beach for no apparent reason.

Awards: 4 wins, 11 nominations: 1 Lumière, 2 Césars

All films shown with English subtitles