PRESS RELEASE
Nantes, le 29 octobre 2026

48e ÉDITION DU FESTIVAL DES 3 CONTINENTS

An international festival dedicated to cinema from Africa, Latin America and Asia, the Festival des 3 Continents will take place in Nantes this year from **20 to 28 November 2026**. Online ticket sales for the festival will open this Thursday, 29 October.

Alongside a selection of contemporary films, this edition will celebrate Indian filmmaker Kailasam Balachander and Turkish director Zeki Demirkubuz, who will come to Nantes to accompany the presentation of his entire filmography for the first time in Europe.

The programme also includes recently restored classic films and a thematic exploration of the lives of ghosts.

"*A history such as that of the Festival des 3 Continents entails a responsibility towards the future. It requires us to give today's discoveries a lasting place, to support the conditions that enable them to meet their audiences, and not to give up on what takes time. From 20 to 28 November 2026, this new edition will give the most tangible expression to this conviction: films, distinctive works, filmmakers, stories and aesthetics that broaden our understanding of the world and the art of cinema. Their presence in Nantes is the result of collective work, often invisible, whose necessity and fragility we are increasingly aware of every day.*"

Jérôme Baron, Artistic Director of the Festival des 3 Continents.

The Official Selection

The Official Selection, comprising an International Competition and Special Screenings, brings together feature films from the current year, both fiction and documentary. Four awards will be presented to films in the International Competition: the Golden and Silver Montgolfières, the Audience Award and the Young Jury Award.

The award-winning films will be screened on Saturday, 28 November at the Katorza in Nantes, before returning to Paris from 5 to 7 February 2027, as part of a new collaboration with the Jeu de Paume art centre and the Cinéma du Panthéon.

The Official Jury

The professional jury, responsible for awarding the Golden Montgolfière, endowed by the City of Nantes, and the Silver Montgolfière, endowed by the Loire-Atlantique Department, comprises:

Yann GONZALEZ — Director

Jeanne LAPOIRIE — Cinematographer

Léonie PERNET — Composer, producer, multi-instrumentalist and performer

TRUONG Minh Quy — Director

Two further awards, the Audience Award and the Young Jury Award, endowed by Nantes Atlantique Airport, will recognise films in the International Competition.

Opening and Closing Events

Opening Ceremony at Mixt

Alea Jacarandas, a documentary film by Hassen Ferhani (France / Algeria, 2026, 78 mins), will be screened as a preview at the festival opening, **on Friday, 20 November, at 8.30 pm at Mixt**.

Awards Ceremony at the Cité des Congrès

The awards will be announced on Friday, 27 November at the Cité des Congrès, following a screening of *Rouge*, a film by Stanley Kwan (Hong Kong, 1987, 97 mins). The event will also celebrate the 40th anniversary of *Rouge*, Stanley Kwan's masterpiece (Hong Kong, 1987), which won the Golden Montgolfière in 1988.

Films in Competition

THE BURNING GIANTS — Phuttiphong AROONPHENG — Thailand / France / Singapore / Netherlands · 2026 · FICTION · 118 mins · DCP

DJELIYA, MÉMOIRE DU MANDÉ — Boubacar SANGARÉ — Burkina Faso / Côte d'Ivoire / Mali / Senegal / France · 2026 · DOCUMENTARY · 118 mins · DCP

HEARING — LE Bao — Vietnam / Singapore / Norway / France / Indonesia / Saudi Arabia / Cambodia / Thailand / Taiwan · 2026 · FICTION · 128 mins · DCP

THE ILLUSION OF AN EVERLASTING SUMMER — Alessandra SANGUINETTI — Argentina · 2026 · DOCUMENTARY · 94 mins · DCP

ILUMINADA — Nicolás RINCÓN GILLE — Belgium · 2026 · FICTION · 119 mins · DCP

LA NUIT ET LES JOURS DE MIGUEL BURNIER — João DUMANS — Brazil · 2026 · DOCUMENTARY · 82 mins · DCP

REHMAT — Gurvinder SINGH — India / France · 2026 · FICTION · 158 mins · DCP

SOMETIMES SADNESS, SOMETIMES REBELLION — María APARICIO — Argentina / Spain · 2026 · FICTION · 100 mins · DCP

TROP C'EST TROP — Elisé SAWASAWA — France / Democratic Republic of the Congo · 2026 · DOCUMENTARY · 65 mins · DCP

THE WORLD BEFORE — YOON Dan-bi — South Korea · 2026 · FICTION · 115 mins · DCP

Other Programmes

Zeki Demirkubuz, History in Hindsight (Türkiye)

A leading figure in contemporary Turkish cinema, Zeki Demirkubuz (born in 1964) will be the focus of an exceptional event featuring the presentation of his entire filmography for the first time in Europe. From *C Blok* (1994) to *Hayat* (2023), this retrospective will explore nearly thirty years of work devoted to human relationships, their contradictions and power dynamics.

The filmmaker will be a guest of the Festival des 3 Continents and will be present in Nantes to accompany this retrospective.

Kailasam Balachander, Society in the spotlight (India)

The Festival des 3 Continents is dedicating an exceptional retrospective to Kailasam Balachander (1930–2014), a major Indian filmmaker whose work remains largely unknown in Europe. Made in Tamil, Telugu, Kannada and Hindi, his films explore themes including desire, women's emancipation, family hierarchies and class differences.

The past here and now (restored films)

The "The Past in the Present" programme is dedicated to recently restored films from the cinematic heritage. From Brazil to Japan, via Morocco and the Philippines, these works bring lesser-known chapters of film history back into circulation.

Thematic programme: The life of ghosts

Ghosts, the absent, the dead who linger in the memories of the living: "The Lives of Ghosts" brings together films in which the ghost becomes a way of bringing back what refuses to disappear. The works presented include Hideo NAKATA's *Dark Water* (2002), Mati DIOP's *Atlantique* (2019) and Hayao MIYAZAKI's *Spirited Away* (2002).

Young Audience Films: First Steps Towards 3 Continents

"First Steps Towards the 3 Continents" invites audiences to discover a selection of films for children aged three and over and their families. Workshops introducing the art of moving

images will be offered following screenings at weekends and on Wednesdays throughout the festival.

This selection is also available to nursery and primary school classes in Nantes and Loire-Atlantique, with dedicated educational resources.

Parallel Events

Meetings, conferences, concerts and music evenings will accompany the festival screenings.

Discussions Around the Films

- **Sunday, 22 November, 11 am–12.30 pm – Le Cinématographe:** Meet the director Zeki DEMIRKUBUZ. Free admission.
- **Monday, 23 November, 1–2 pm – Le Cinématographe:** "An Introduction to the Cinema of K. Balachander", a lecture by Shakila ZAMBOULINGAME. Free admission, followed by a screening of *Rudra Veena*.
- **Tuesday, 24 November, 2–4 pm – Espace Cosmopolis:** "Taking an Edit Apart", around *Still Playing*, with Mohamed MESBAH and Jean COSTA.

Music Evenings and Concerts

- **Saturday, 21 November, 9.30 pm–1.30 am – Le Lieu Unique:** Nova Danse evening with DJs Siam and Praktika. Free admission. In collaboration with Radio Nova and Le Lieu Unique.
- **Sunday, 22 November, 5.30–7 pm – Pannonica:** "Hémisphères" concert by Guillaume LATIL and Matheus DONATO. Tickets available at pannonica.com.
- **Tuesday, 24 November, 2–4 pm – Espace Cosmopolis:** "Taking an Edit Apart", around *Still Playing*, with Mohamed MESBAH and Jean COSTA.
- **Thursday, 26 November, 7.30 pm – Espace Cosmopolis:** Senegalese acoustic music concert with Vieux and Mariama. Free admission.

Practical informations

- **Festival dates:** 20–28 November 2026.
- **Ticketing:** https://www.3continents.com/fr/festival-2026/billetterie-2026/
- **Online ticket sales open:** Thursday, 29 October 2026, at 11 am.
- **Main cinemas:** Katorza, Le Cinématographe (12 bis rue des Carmélites), Le Concorde.
- **Partner cinemas:** Cinéma Jacques Tati (Saint-Nazaire), Cinéma Atlantic (La Turballe), Le Gén'éric (Héric), Cinéma Eden 3 (Ancenis).
- **Online programme:** https://www.calameo.com/festival-des-3-continents/read/00723109895262c56c800
- **Press kit:** https://www.calameo.com/festival-des-3-continents/read/00723109801f2eb05e2e2?authid=eJyFHtzQGuom
- All the latest programme information is available at **3continents.com**.

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The Festival des 3 Continents is a film event offering a different perspective on cinema and the world through a unique selection of films from Africa, Latin America and Asia. It has taken place every year since 1979 in the city of Nantes and throughout the Loire-Atlantique department.

Organised by the non-profit Association Les 3 Continents, the festival is committed to making culture accessible to all, with a focus on accessibility for audiences with disabilities, sustainable development, and promoting equality and diversity within the film industry.

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