

## Forever 15

An eternal teenager, Black Movie is celebrating its 15th birthday in 2014. So, from **17-26 January**, we're whooping it up ! Picking through reel after reel in search of the rare pearl, setting off alarm bells and unveiling young prodigies are some of Black Movie's best anti-brain-death weapons. A daring and passionate anniversary program designed to encourage the teenager buried inside of *you*...

### Torn posters, heat-rending films

Our Festival poster evokes this edition's minty freshness and lightly Hollywoodian flavour. An edition bursting at the seams with miles of footage, including **13 European** and **30 Swiss premieres**, divided into 10 sections :

#### 1. HAPPY BIRTHDAY

No birthday being worth its salt unless your friends are there to celebrate with you, this deluxe retroshow includes the 15 most brilliant films we've shown since 1999 : masterpieces to view, or revisit.

#### 2. CHOICE OF MASTERS (*carte blanche to five hand-picked directors*)

If you were expecting a real birthday surprise, you won't be disappointed ! Five cult directors, **Pen-ek Ratanaruang**, **Sourav Sarangi**, **Amat Escalante**, **Brillante Mendoza** and **Pablo Stoll** all responded to our appeal by entrusting us with an as yet relatively unknown film d'auteur. Just this once won't hurt : it'll be your discovery as much as ours !

#### 3. CRITICS' PRIZE

Ten solid films will compete for the favours of five top-flight international critics : **Hughes Dayez** (RTBF), **Leslie Felperin** (*The Hollywood Reporter*), **Mario Kozina** (*Filmonaut*), **Xavier Le Herpeur** (*Le Cercle/Le Masque et la Plume*) and **Jay Weissberg** (*Variety*).

#### 4. A FLIRT WITH THE FANTASTIC

These films dabble in raw sex, thumb their nose at or just lightly touch up the fantastic, imagine possible idylls, but don't really belong to the fantastic genre. What they undoubtedly are are films d'auteur that switch to bloody nightmares or SM chronicles and end up as symphonies.

#### 5. FAITHLESS AND LAWLESS

In a world that's holding its breath, five documentaries record the mystico-political efforts or phony strategies that pretend to solve the countless human problems of the IIIrd millennium. A Congolese pre-election tale, an Evangelistic crusade in Uganda, Haïti's double penalty : all films that examine power games and promises of paradise hereafter.

#### 6. CINEMATOGRAPHIC NEWS

Neither long nor short, these films are juicy tidbits, urgent or promising works that share a spontaneous charm: rites of passage, lightning thrillers, political satires or silent commentaries, they ignore all norms, formatting constraints and, especially, all our expectations.

#### 7. CARTE BLANCHE TO THE BEIJING INTERNATIONAL INDEPENANT FILM FESTIVAL

Showing films is never completely innocent wherever it may be. But in some countries, it's considered a crime. As was the case in China in August 2013: if the BIFF it had been organized normally, one of its organizers, Wang Longwei, might have ended up in prison. Our way of being in solidarity was to invite the BIFF to present a selection of films that should have been screened during their 10<sup>th</sup> edition.

#### 8. BLACK MOVIE FOR KIDS... AND GROWN-UPS

This year the Festival is pulling some « Not for children » bunnies – funny and tragic – out of a hat. Gently wicked, these cartoon shorts open a Pandora's box for fans of this sort of thing : a staggering drunk, a steak-headed person, a baby tourist tippler... they all do a brilliant take on the gaps and imbalances of our time.

## 9. WATCH OUT FOR...

Lasting friendships are made up of little events and momentous encounters. As always, the Festival is keeping track of its idols' latest works. Friends forever ! **Tsai, Sono, Hong, Jia** and all the others...

## 10. BLACK MOVIE FOR KIDS

Galvanized by a hugely successful autumn tour, Black Movie for Kids is all set to confirm its growing reputation by challenging the conformism that characterizes so many films made today for children. 43 films from 23 countries – just awesome!

### ***New opportunities for collaboration***

The spirit of Black Movie is when a Caribbean blue carpet replaces a red one. And you wake up with sequins sticking to your skin... and soul.

You're moved, you debate in conferences and round tables, you rub shoulders with and talk to filmmakers (more than 30 are attending the Festival!), and you dance lots... at the **Belinda B.**, a magic boudoir next to the Sputnik cinema.

The fun and games are happening in a number of unexpected places this year : the **Usine theatre** is changing its attire and welcomes us in a movie theatre, the **FORDE gallery** foils *Big Brother* on the Grütli's 3rd floor, and we make friends with the **Geneva FMAC** to fete the Seven Deadly Sins.

Over ten days, Black Movie will be lifting around a hundred films out of the fog. One by one, like rose petals that you love, a lot, passionately... madly !

Get your bearings at [www.blackmovie.ch](http://www.blackmovie.ch)

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