

SPIRA at Fantasia

4 films in the Official Selection of the festival, including a World Premiere



© *Danavan* by Franie-Éléonore Bernier & Jean-David Rodrigue

Quebec, Tuesday, July 5, 2022 – SPIRA is proud to present **four short films during the 26th edition of the [Fantasia International Film Festival](#)**, as part of the **Fantastiques week-ends du cinéma québécois**. This includes the World Premiere of *Danavan*, directed by Franie-Éléonore Bernier & Jean-David Rodrigue. The films *The Left Hand* by Maxime Robin, *L'abattu des vents* by Félix-Antoine Garneau-Chouinard, as well as *Belle River* by Guillaume Fournier, Samuel Matteau & Yannick Nolin will have their Montreal premiere at Fantasia.

Danavan by **Franie-Éléonore Bernier & Jean-David Rodrigue** takes place in the Limoilou neighbourhood of Quebec City, where René and Polo are apprehensive about the arrival of the new next-door neighbour. Though he doesn't know it, the young man is moving into the apartment previously occupied by Robert, their late friend who passed away two weeks prior. Spotting Robert's barbecue left on the balcony, René begins to spiral as he refuses to leave it in the hands of the new next-door neighbour. The short film's **World Premiere will happen on Sunday, July 17 at 8 p.m. at Cinéma du Musée**, in the "Notre monde" program. The filmmakers will attend the screening.

The animated film *L'abattu des vents* by **Félix-Antoine Garneau-Chouinard** features a lightkeeper alone on a secluded island, a prisoner of his own madness. Inspired by Robert Eggers' *The Lighthouse*, the filmmaker achieved amazing aesthetics and atmosphere. The Montreal premiere will be on **Saturday, July 16 at 8:30 p.m. at Cinéma du Musée**, in the "Les autres mondes" program.

Written, directed and starring **Maxime Robin**, [The Left Hand](#) is inspired by one of the filmmaker's childhood memories. It follows a boy who doesn't fit in, despite his teacher's and his mother's efforts. The film also stars Evelyne Rompré. Selected in Cannes as part of Telefilm Canada's "Not Short on Talent" initiative, the short film will be presented in the Hitchhiker's Guide to Comedy program on **Friday, July 29 at 8 p.m. at Cinéma du Musée**.

Having already screened in a dozen festivals, including Hot Docs, the Palm Springs International Festival of Short Films, and REGARD, [Belle River](#) by **Guillaume Fournier, Samuel Matteau & Yannick Nolin** will have its Montreal premiere at Fantasia in the "De la Terre jusqu'au ciel" program. As the third part of a documentary trilogy filmed in Louisiana and exploring Acadian culture, it focuses on the Louisiana territory and its quiet inhabitants, which are both endangered by the emerging climate crisis. The screening will take place on **Sunday, July 31 at 8 p.m. at Cinéma du Musée**.

SPIRA FILMS AT FANTASIA

DANAVAN by Franie-Éléonore Bernier and Jean-David Rodrigue

Fiction. Quebec, Canada. 2022. 13 minutes. Original French version with English subtitles.

Production: Centième Singe (Nicolas Léger)

[Information & Schedule](#)

L'ABATTU DES VENTS by Félix-Antoine Garneau-Chouinard

Animation. Quebec, Canada. 2021. 5 minutes. No dialogue.

Production: Alexandre Desjardins, Anthony Labrecque, Jérôme Collin and Maxime Giard

[Trailer](#) | [Information & Schedule](#)

THE LEFT HAND by Maxime Robin

Fiction. Quebec, Canada. 2022. 14 minutes. Original French version with English subtitles.

Production: La Vierge folle (Claudine Thériault)

[Trailer](#) | [Information & Schedule](#)

BELLE RIVER by Guillaume Fournier, Samuel Matteau and Yannick Nolin

Documentary. Quebec, Canada. 2022. 11 minutes. Original version in Cajun French, with English subtitles.

Production: Kinomada (Jean-Pierre Vézina)

[Trailer](#) | [Information & Schedule](#)

About [SPIRA](#)

SPIRA is a cooperative devoted to independent filmmaking, born in 2015 from the merger of Spirafilm and Vidéo Femmes, which had both been around for nearly 40 years. Spira's core mission is to support the production and distribution of independent films, whether short or feature. Each year, about thirty works benefit from its various creation support programs. SPIRA also distributes documentary and fictional works in various markets in Canada and abroad: festivals, theatres, television, Web, etc.

To request interviews, screeners or visual material, please contact:

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