



A selection of short films by Annecy International Animation Film Festival to be screened at France Pavilion at Dubai World Expo

September 7, 2021 – The France Pavilion at Dubai World Expo, due to be held from 1 October 2021 until 31 March 2022, is delighted to welcome the Annecy International Animation Film Festival as an institutional partner. During the six-month long mega event, the Annecy Festival will present an exceptional selection of short films for each thematic fortnight of the Pavilion.



© ANNECY FESTIVAL/L. Gouttenoire

The Dubai World Expo is expected to be the biggest event of the year 2021, and the France Pavilion will make the most of this biggest global show to highlight France by promoting its companies, excellence, innovations, talents, ideas and assets.

By scheduling 12 thematic fortnights for the six-month long exhibition, France has chosen to put the United Nation's initiative for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the heart of its events.



France Pavilion's event programming

The main goal of each thematic fortnight is **to raise public awareness about the major issues and potential challenges shaping the future**, as well as to highlight French initiatives and actions in areas such as biodiversity, climate, peace, space and consumption amongst other things.

The scheduled events at the France Pavilion will be open to the **general public** and will be held at the Belvedere, an exceptional venue offering a panoramic view of the Expo site. A wide array of events has been lined up to fit with each theme. The events will include mini-exhibitions, conferences, workshops, masterclasses, round tables, meetings of personalities, presentation of innovative objects, performances, installations and others.

Within this framework, the Annecy Festival will present a selection of short films illustrating the issues highlighted by each thematic fortnight.

"I am delighted to welcome the Annecy Festival as an Institutional sponsor, which will contribute with a selection of short films made specially to cope with each thematic fortnight. The festival's valuable resources will enhance French creativity and innovative ideas in all topics related to the Sustainable Development Goals."

Erik LINQUIER

Commissioner General for France at Expo 2020 Dubai, and Chairman of Cofrex



The Annecy Festival celebrations will last for the six-month period of the World Expo

The Annecy International Animation Film Festival has been celebrating the best animation movies since 1960. It has soon became the **world's biggest event dedicated to this movie making technique.** Complemented in 1985 by the International Animation Film Market (Mifa), which is considered as a major event in the animation industry that brings together about 800 international exhibitors, the Annecy Festival attracts more than 12,000 participants, including students, professionals, journalists, and the general public as well.

"We pride ourselves on being part of the France Pavilion's events, and its unifying project that highlights French creativity, talent, businesses and savoir-faire.

This is truly the very core of the Annecy Festival, and we are eager to showcase, through the different events, the richness of the animation industry that we regard as the cinema of universality and diversity."

Mickael MARIN Director CITIA, Annecy Festival



© ANNECY FESTIVAL/S. Matter

Dubai World Expo, the international event of the year 2021

Dubai Wolrd Expo, the first international exhibition in the MEASA region (Africa, Middle East and South Asia), will be held under the central theme "Connecting Minds, Creating the Future". Bringing together more than 200 participants from various backgrounds - countries, organizations, companies and academic institutions- Dubai Wolrd Expo is expected to attract 25 million visitors.

The global Expo exhibitions have always been ranked at the forefront of major international events alongside the Olympic Games and the Football World Cup. They are also among the oldest events in the world, the first being the Great Exhibition of 1851 held in London, the United Kingdom.

In the present days, the ambitions of these exhibitions have evolved towards international cooperation and the **search for solutions to biggest challenges facing humanity.** For the period of six months, all countries in the world will gather to reflect, propose and implement concrete solutions for the good of humanity. In terms of of the health crisis we are experiencing, this theme is not only a proposal, but an imperative.

For more information: www.francedubai2020.com & www.annecy.org

Press contacts:

France Pavilion – Havas Paris – <u>francedubai2020@havas.com</u> Annecy Festival: Laurence Ythier – <u>laurenceythier@citia.org</u>

About COFREX

Founded in January 2018, COFREX (Compagnie Française des Expositions) is a SAS whose sole shareholder is the State.CORPEX is the first expert company to specialise in participation of France to major international events. Its purpose is to prepare, organize and implement France's participation in universal and International Exhibitions.

The creation of COFREX is part of a sustainable project to build on the experience of previous exhibitions in order to optimize the participation of France to future universal and international Expos in terms of cost-effectivness and oraganization. It is also part of a partnership between public and private actors, based on France's image and attractiveness. For more information: www.cofrex.fr

About the Annecy Festival

Located between a lac and a mountain, the Annecy International Animation Film Festival has been celebrating the best animation movies since 1960. It has soon became the **world's biggest event devoted to this movie making technique.** Complemented in 1985 by the International Animation Film Market (Mifa), which is considered as a major event in the animation industry that gathers around 800 international exhibitors, the Annecy Festival attracts more than 12,000 participants including students, professionals, journalists, and the general public as well