



March 23 to 29, 2007 • Cinéma du Parc  
3575, avenue du Parc • 514-281-1900  
[www.ffdpm.com](http://www.ffdpm.com) / [www.cinemaduparc.com](http://www.cinemaduparc.com)  
Screenings: \$5

34 countries—115 films, with 74 in competition + 3 cartes blanches  
a program of 28 short films on Lebanon and Palestine  
Post-screening discussions

*“Artistic creation is useful, not to change the world,  
but to make the impossible probable.”*  
Abderrahmane Sissako, filmmaker

Montréal, Wednesday, March 7, 2007 — The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual **Festival de films sur les droits de la personne de Montréal** (FFDPM) / Montréal Human Rights Film Festival will run from **March 23 to 29, 2007**, at the **Cinéma du Parc** in Montréal. This year's spokesperson is activist filmmaker **Hugo Latulippe** (*Bacon, the film; What Remains of Us*), considered by *L'Actualité* to be one of the people shaping the Quebec of tomorrow.

The FFDPM uses cinema to promote awareness and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It aims to denounce human rights violations and open a space for dialogue on issues of intolerance.

*“Making documentaries starts with an obsession,  
an affection for people, for the mysterious strength  
they show in the face of adversity.  
Bringing together films from all corners of the world,  
the FFDPM is a necessary festival.  
It represents the need to open our borders and our doors  
to people who come to Quebec,  
the need to be open.”*  
HUGO LATULIPPE, filmmaker and spokesperson for the 2<sup>nd</sup> FFDPM

The program of films, prepared by Diya Angeli, Monique Lortie and Ginette Dumouchel, includes close to **115 documentary and fiction films**, selected from around 300 submissions. The works encourage reflection and mirror the concerns of filmmakers, who are worried about the state of the world and dare to take on neglected areas of reality. These filmmakers compel us to discover, exchange, and alter our ways of looking.

The films cover a wide range of subjects, such as labour and exploitation, the Romany in Europe, health care in Africa, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, prisoners of opinion in Morocco and Mexico, genocide in Rwanda and Darfour and against the Armenians, the rights of children, homophobia, illegal prostitution, female trafficking and forced marriages, environmental refugees, international cooperation, Latin America, war and civilians, immigration and issues of status, racism, and intolerance.

The **official selection** is made up of **74 works in competition** (short, mid-length and feature-length; 13 fictions, 60 documentaries, and 1 animation film), of which **39 are premieres**. In addition, the program includes a series of 28 short films under the title **Cinesoumoud, Short Films for Lebanon and Palestine**, produced as a matter of urgency during the summer of 2006 war. Three cartes blanches are being presented this year: **Parole Citoyenne** (an NFB Web initiative) will screen the best short films from the contest “*Avez-vous la tête de l'emploi ?*” (“*Is this a job for you?*”); the **Alter-Ciné Foundation** will present two films by young filmmakers from Brazil and Argentina; and **Productions Rhizome** will show the four short films produced as part of **Par/Courts ! (Fast Films)**. The screenings will be followed by discussions with the invited filmmakers on questions of rights and freedoms.

The festival will open with the Quebec premiere of **Bamako**, a fiction directed by Mauritanian filmmaker **Abderrahmane Sissako**, distributed in Quebec by Remstar. [By invitation only. Public screening as part of Festival, March 27, 9:00 p.m. director attending.] In **Bamako**, a village puts the World Bank and International Monetary Fund on trial when its citizens decide the institutions are responsible for Africa's crisis. **Bamako** won the *Jury Prize* at the 2006 Carthage Film Festival, the *Coup de Coeur du public* at the 2006 Festival Lumières d'Afrique in Besançon and the *Grand prix du public* at the 2006 Festival Paris Cinéma. It was screened in the *Out-of-Competition Official Selection* at the 2006 Cannes Film Festival.

Two documentaries will be screened on **closing night**, Thursday, March 29, at 7:30 pm, in a session open to the public. **Le Nerf de la paix** by Canadian filmmaker **Alexandre Kozminski** (world premiere; the filmmaker will attend the screening) looks at the problem of armed conflict and what might be done to prevent it. Filmed in Canada, the United States, France and Germany, it offers a vision of the causes and effects of war that is at once analytical, change-oriented, intimate and shocking. **People of Peace** (*Philanthropos Irini*, North American premiere) by **Maria Hatzimichali-Papaliou** features personalities from the Greek and international political and arts scenes (including Mikis Théodorakis, Théo Angélopoulos, Nelson Mandela, and Fernando Botero) who read and comment on texts from Antiquity that deal with peace. An investigative film that moves from the early Christian era to modern times.

### **Three prizes will be awarded:**

The **FFDPM Grand Prize** (with \$2,500 in prize money), awarded by Rights & Democracy.

The jury is composed of **Monika Ille** (Aboriginal Peoples Television Network (APTN)), **François Bugingo** (Journalist, Reporters sans frontières, Télé-Québec), **Ari Cohen** (producer, director and president of Les Films Ari A. Cohen Inc. / Diversus Inc), and **Danièle Lacourse** (president, the Alter-Ciné Foundation).

The **Short Film Award** (with \$750 in prize money), awarded by the Conseil des relations interculturelles.

The jury members are **Michel Coulombe** (film columnist), **Sandro Forte** (critic and video artist) and **Jéricho Jeudy** (founding member of Kino).

The **Audience Choice Award** (with \$1,000 in prize money), awarded by Amnistie Internationale.

The awards will be given out during the closing ceremonies at the Cinéma du Parc on Thursday, March 29 at 7:00 pm.

Created by **Images Interculturelles**, under the presidency of Alix Laurent, in collaboration with the **Centre International de Documentation et d'Information Haïtienne, Caraïbienne et Afro-canadienne** (CIDIHCA), the FFDPM continues in the same vein as the film program presented for the past seven years during **Action Week Against Racism (AWAR)**. This year's AWAR will be held from March 14 to 25 in Montréal and several other cities in Quebec.

This second edition is presented with the support of Remstar, Alliance Films, Amnistie Internationale, Rights & Democracy, the Conseil des relations interculturelles, the National Film Board of Canada, Canadian Heritage and the Ministère de l'Immigration et des Communautés culturelles.

The FFDPM is backed by a **Board of Governors**, formed in 2006 and made up of personalities who are recognized for their social, political, economic and cultural involvement and their concern for human rights issues. Since January 2007, the FFDPM has been a **member of the Human Rights Film Network**, an international partnership established in Prague in 2004 to increase the circulation of human rights films in festivals and make them accessible to as many people as possible.

### **TICKET OFFICE**

**TICKETS ON SALE STARTING MARCH 8, 2007, AT THE BOX OFFICE OF THE CINÉMA DU PARC AND ON THE INTERNET**  
3575, avenue du Parc, Montréal • TEL. 514-281-1900 – [www.cinemaduparc.com](http://www.cinemaduparc.com)

### **INFO-FESTIVAL**

**THE OFFICIAL PROGRAM WILL BE AVAILABLE, FREE OF CHARGE, AS OF MARCH 9, 2007.**

**THE PROGRAM OF FILMS AND SCHEDULE CAN BE CONSULTED ON THE WEB SITE AT [www.ffdpm.com](http://www.ffdpm.com).**

### **MEDIAS**

On-line media accreditation: [www.ffdpm.com](http://www.ffdpm.com), under "Press."

DVDs of certain films can be sent to journalists who request them from the press officer.

## OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAM OF FILMS

The films in this second edition provide remarkable insights into issues of rights and freedoms. They put into words and images the stories of women, men and children who are living through the world's harshest conflicts or facing challenges to their civil, social and political rights and identities. Whether through fiction or documentary, comedy or social thriller, portrait, tribute, investigative film or testimony, the filmmakers encourage us to build awareness and exercise our duty to memory.

Films in competition: Grand Prize Competition (gpc) and Short Film Competition (sfc)

**Genocide in Rwanda and Darfour and against the Armenians:** *SCREAMERS* by CARLA GARAPEDIAN (UK, gpc); *RWANDA À TRAVERS NOUS, L'HUMANITÉ* by Marie-France Collard (Belgium, gpc); *VOLEVO SOLO VIVERE* by Mimmo Calopresti (Italy, gpc); *DARFUR DIARIES: MESSAGE FROM HOME* by Adam Shapiro, Aisha Bain, and Jen Marlowe (Sudan/Chad/USA).

**Racism and arrogance:** *EXIT*, collective (France); *WHITE TERROR* by Daniel Schweizer (France, Switzerland); *BIENVENUE EN AFRIQUE* by Andreas Gruber (Austria); *EÛT-ELLE ÉTÉ CRIMINELLE* by Gabriel Perrot (France, sfc).

**Gays and lesbians, victims of exclusion:** *KEEP NOT SILENT: ORTHO-DYKES* by Ilil Alexander (Israel); *THIS WAY OUT* by Jill Burnett and Antonin Lhotsky (Canada).

**Cinésoumoud, 28 short films for Lebanon and Palestine** (North American premiere)

During the opening ceremonies of the 8th Biennale des Cinémas Arabes, held on July 22, 2006, at the Institut du monde arabe (IMA) in Paris, Arab filmmakers who were presenting their films at the event launched an appeal in response to Israeli aggression in Lebanon and Palestine. Hundreds of other filmmakers around the world expressed their support for the project. Filmmakers were invited to make a short film from wherever they were, creating a chain of images that could be submitted to festivals, cinemas and other venues. Cinesoumoud brings together some 30 films produced as a matter of urgency during the summer of 2006. [Saturday, March 24, room 1, Cinéma du Parc]- <http://www.cinesoumoud.net>

**Israeli/Palestinian conflict and borders:** *Don Quichotte à Jérusalem*, by Dani Rosenberg (Israel, fiction, sfc); *THE COLOUR OF OLIVES* by Carolina Rivas (Mexico); *IT'S NOT A GUN* by Hélène Cotinier and Pierre-Nicholas Durand (Lebanon, sfc); *STORIES FROM THE MIDDLE EAST* (four in program) short films produced under the umbrella of the World Health Organization).

**Conditions of the Romany in Greece and Romania:** *EVERYDAY LIFE OF ROMA CHILDREN IN BLOCK 71* by Ivana Todorovic (Serbia, sfc); *GARLIC AND WATERMELON* by Lauren Feeney and Cameron Hickey (Greece/USA, gpc).

**Prisoners of opinion in Morocco and Mexico:** *VIVRE À TAZMAMART* by Davy Zylberfajn (France, gpc); *KEEP BEING/TO CONTINUE BEING (SEGUIR SIENDO)* by Emiliano Altuna (Mexico).

**Childhood in danger:** *LA VITRINE* by Mohamed Bensouda (Morocco, sfc); *THE CLOWN CHILDREN* by Jannicke Systad Jacobsen (Norway, sfc); *ENFANT EN DANGER (Timoun an danje)* by Arnold Antonin (Haiti); *INVISIBLE CHILDREN* by Carol Mansour (Lebanon, sfc); *NOS DROITS ET NOUS* by Bernard Messina (Cameroon); *LOST CHILDREN* by Ali Samadi Ahadi and Oliver Stolz (Germany).

**Illegal prostitution, female trafficking and forced marriage:** *THE JAMMED* by Dee McLachlan (Australia, fiction); *AGAINST MY WILL, HIGHWAY* by Ayfer Ergün (The Netherlands); *HIGHWAY COURTESANS* by Mystelle Brabbée (India); *LES FEMMES DE MON VILLAGE* by Georges Biyong (Cameroon, sfc).

**Labour and exploitation:** *SOUFRE* by Florian Geyer (France); *ENFANTS DE LA MONTAGNE D'ARGENT (HIJOS DE LA MONTANA DE PLATA)* by Juan S. Betancour (Spain, gpc).

**Struggles and insecurity in Latin America:** *STATE OF FEAR* by Pamela Yates (USA/Peru); *IDENTITÉ PERDUE (IDENTIDAD PERDIDA)* by Nicolas Gil Lavedra (Argentina); *OPENED DUE TO BANKRUPTCY (ABIERTO POR QUIEBRA)* by Carlos Castro (Argentina).

**Citizenship, immigration and status:** *IF THEY LET US (SI NOS DEJAN)* by Ana Torres (Spain); *SAREAN* by Asier Altuna Rosenberg (Spain, sfc); *I SEE THE STARS AT NOON* by Saeed Taji Farouky (UK); *OUT OF STATUS* by Sanjna Sing and Pia Sawhney (USA); *THE SHORT LIFE OF JOSÉ ANTONIO GUTIERREZ* by Heidi Specogna (Germany, Switzerland); *JUST MARRIED* by Ayelet Bechar (Israel); *LA COULEUR DU SACRIFICE* by Mourad Boucif (Belgium, gpc).

**Environmental refugees:** *LES RÉFUGIÉS DE LA PLANÈTE BLEUE* by Hélène Choquette and Jean-Philippe Duval (Quebec, gpc); *CEUX QUI N'EN MEURENT PAS LAISSENT TOUTE ESPÉRANCE* by Robert Cornelier (Canada).

**The risks of globalization:** *BAMAKO* by Abderrahmane Sissako (France-Mali, fiction); *MY CULTURAL DIVIDE* by Faisal Lutchmedial (Canada).

**International cooperation, emerging democracies and ethics:** *LE PORTEUR D'EAU* by Pascal Gélinas (Canada); *QUE VIVA MAURICIO DEMIERRE* by Stéphane Goël (Switzerland); *L'EAU DU DIABLE* by Arham Amirul (France/Bangladesh); *HOWRAD ZINN: L'IMPOSSIBLE NEUTRALITÉ* by Ellis Dad and Denis Mueller (USA); *DES ARMES AUX URNES* by Santiago Torres (Spain); *DEMOCRACY 76: STATE OF EMERGENCY* by Omar Wael (Égypt, sfc); *MÉDIAS CONTRE TAMBOURS...* by Dominique Berger and Oliver Stolz (Germany).

And many more!

## THREE CARTES BLANCHES

### CARTE BLANCHE TO THE ALTER-CINÉ FOUNDATION

**Monday, March 26, 2007, 7:00 pm, room 1, Cinéma du Parc**  
**Screening of two documentaries**

<http://www.sextans.com/altercine/>

The Alter-Ciné Foundation was created in 2000 in memory of Canadian filmmaker Yvan Patry. It awards a \$10,000 grant every year to young film and video makers from Africa, Asia and Latin America to direct a documentary on the theme of rights and freedoms, including social and economic rights, women's rights, and the right to culture and artistic creation.

#### **MON PREMIER CONTACT**

Réal./Dir. : Kumaré Ikpeng

Brazil, 2006, 55 min. / in Ikpeng w/ French s.-t.

In 1965, on the banks of the Jatobà in Brazil, the first contact between white men and the indigenous Ikpeng occurred. It was documented by filmmaker Jesco Von Puttkammer. Forty years later, the Ikpeng elders recall this pivotal moment in their history.

#### **OSCAR**

Réal./Dir. : Sergio Morkin

Argentina, 2004, 60 min., in Spanish w/ English s.-t.

Oscar is a taxi driver in Buenos Aires. Feeling overwhelmed by commercial advertising, he decides to get his own back. He has now transformed more than 800 billboards with his own collages and drawings.

### CARTE BLANCHE TO PRODUCTIONS RHIZOME

**Tuesday, March 27, 2007, 4:00 pm, room 2, Cinéma du Parc**  
**Screening of four short films: *Par/Courts ! (Fast Films)***

<http://www.productionsrhizome.org/>

Rhizome is an interdisciplinary non-profit organization based in the city of Québec. It brings literature into contact with other disciplines such as theatre, cinema, video, installation, sound design, photography, technological arts, music performance and comic art.

From March 15 to 24, four teams of people from various cultures and disciplines will face off in a race against time. Their job: in the space of one week, to produce a short film on issues revolving around cross-cultural relations, racism and integration in Quebec. The four films produced in this video-literary rally will be screened at the FFDPM.

The following authors and video artists are participating in the activity: Gérald Alexis (Haiti), Pedro Nel-Marquez (Colombia), Henri-Louis Chalem (Brazil), Cimon Charest (Quebec), Vincent Charles Lambert (Quebec), Nadine Ltaif (Lebanon), Éric Martin (France), Omar Alexis Ramos (Mexico), Angel Ivan Salcedo Gomez (Mexico).

### CARTE BLANCHE TO PAROLE CITOYENNE

**Tuesday, March 27, 2007, 8:00 pm, room 2, Cinéma du Parc**  
**Screening of short films: *Avez-vous la tête de l'emploi ? (Is this a job for you?)***

<http://citoyen.onf.ca/onf> - <http://www.nfb.ca/parolecitoyenne/>

Online since September 2003, the Parole citoyenne Web site continues to play a vital role as social enabler, community broadcaster, alternative conduit and Web platform dedicated to speaking out. A technological public space, the Web site contains short films, blogs, film excerpts, forums, photos and links. Everyone is encouraged to participate.

In 2006, Parole citoyenne called upon filmmakers and the general public to question the notion of racism-free zones by making short films on the subject. The films were screened at the 1<sup>st</sup> annual FFDPM. This year, Parole citoyenne is once again inviting people to *dare to go short* by making films on the theme of racism in the workplace. Is this a job for you? The public will vote for its favourite film, which will receive a non-exclusive, unlimited-term licence for broadcast on the Parole citoyenne Web site, worth \$500.

## BACKGROUND INFO

### HUGO LATULIPPE, FFDPM's spokesperson

"It's an honour for me to represent the festival, especially since after watching all the films in the program, I really feel like I know a little more about what's going on on Earth."

Filmmaker **Hugo Latulippe** began his career as a participant in Radio-Canada's *La Course destination monde*, then made around 60 short films for the TV5 series *Bons baisers d'Amérique* between 1996 and 1997. Latulippe made a name for himself with the feature documentary *Bacon, the Film*, which paints a dark picture of the Quebec pork industry and its impact on the environment. According to film journal *Séquences*, Hugo Latulippe "makes movies like Che would have." Latulippe was the co-director of *What Remains of Us*, filmed in Tibet between 1996 and 2004 without the knowledge of the Chinese authorities. The film won the audience choice award at last year's Montréal Human Rights Film Festival and the Sergio Vieira de Mello Award at the 2006 International Film Festival on Human Rights (FIFDH) in Geneva. In 2005, Latulippe made *Requiem pour l'humanité*, a film based on Brahms' Opus 45, in collaboration with his friend, maestro Yannick Nézet-Séguin. The filmmaker and his team, in collaboration with playwright Philippe Ducros, are working on a documentary on the Middle East conflict called *Millions of Us in Love*. They are also preparing a documentary adaptation of the work of Uruguayan writer Eduardo Galeano (*Memoria del fuego*, production in 2009).

### THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FFDPM

Co-chaired by **André Paradis**, acting director of Amnistie internationale and **Honey Dresher**, president of Culture, Diversité, Communications, the **FFDPM board of governors** includes several prominent members of the film community (**Danièle Lacourse**, filmmaker and producer; **Denis Chouinard**, filmmaker and producer; and **Raymonde Provencher**, filmmaker and producer). Also on the board are people from the human rights sector (**Jean-Louis Roy**, president, Rights & Democracy; **Marc-André Dowd**, interim chair, Commission des droits de la personne et des droits de la jeunesse; and **Julius Grey**, lawyer, Grey & Casgrain). Other members are **François Crépeau**, scientific director, Centre d'études et de recherches internationales and Canada Research Chair on International Migration Law; **Janet Lumb**, director, Festival Accès Asie; **Laurent McCutcheon**, chair, Fondation émergence, Gai Écoute; **Maria Luisa Monreal**, executive director, Association québécoise des organismes de coopération internationale (AQOCI); **Brenda Paris**, board member, Société de transport de Montréal; **Laure Waridel**, author, eco-sociologist and co-founder of Équiterre; and **Hubert Sacy**, senior partner, BleuBlancRouge.

### HUMAN RIGHTS FILM NETWORK

<http://www.hrfn.org/>

As of this year, the **Montréal Human Rights Film Festival (Festival de films sur les droits de la personne de Montréal—FFDPM)** is a member of the **Human Rights Film Network (HRFN)**. This international partnership was established in Prague on April 18, 2004, to promote film as a tool for denouncing human rights violations. At present, it brings together a dozen festivals from around the world, including Alliance Ciné (Paris, France), Amnesty International Film Festival (Amsterdam, The Netherlands), Amnesty International Film Festival (Belgium), Amnesty International Travelling Film Festival (Canada), Amnesty International Film Festival USA (Los Angeles and other US cities), DerHumAlc (Buenos Aires, Argentina), Human Rights in Film (Warsaw, Poland), Human Rights Nights (Bologna, Italy), Human Rights Watch International Film Festival (New York, USA; London, UK), International Film Festival of Human Rights (Barcelona, Spain), International Film Festival on Human Rights (Geneva, Switzerland), One World (Prague, Czech Republic), Perspektive: International Human Rights Film Festival (Nuremberg, Germany), Seoul Human Rights Film Festival (Seoul, South Korea), Stalker (Moscow, Russia), 3 Continents (Johannesburgh, South Africa; Buenos Aires, Argentina; Bombay, India), and Vermont International Film Festival (Burlington, USA).

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