

Press release
Geneva, September 27, 2019

Xavier Dolan is the guest of the 25th Geneva International Film Festival // GIFF

What an event! Geneva International Film Festival // GIFF will welcome Canadian French filmmaker, screenwriter, producer and actor Xavier Dolan at its next Festival, from November 1 to 10, 2019.

An award-winning virtuoso, Dolan will receive a brand-new prize given by the Festival for the very first time, the Geneva Award.

A full retrospective of his movies will support this tribute. In addition, GIFF's audience will get to discover *The Death and Life of John F. Donovan*, a film never screened in Switzerland that will close the 25th Festival.

Xavier Dolan is undeniably the most fascinating filmmaker of his generation. A prolific prodigy, he delights audiences with his boldness, his talent when it comes to transcribing the most extreme emotions, his sophisticated and clever lyricism and his visionary outlook.

"We are delighted to welcome Xavier Dolan, his producer Nancy Grant and the great actress Anne Dorval, who has worked with him several times", says GIFF Artistic and General Director Emmanuel Cuénod. "His movies are steeped in cinema, they are its purest and most supreme expression. Xavier Dolan embodies faith in images with their potential to express the most complex emotions we might come to feel as human beings. GIFF's festivalgoers will have the opportunity to see all his movies and to appreciate the fascinating artistic career that is unfolding before them."

The closing ceremony of the 25th Geneva International Film Festival // GIFF, on Saturday, November 9, 2019, will also see Xavier Dolan receive the Geneva Award. This award, given for the first time this year, celebrates the career of major talent in the audiovisual industry who, through their artistic choices, inspire their contemporaries.

An exceptional masterclass on Saturday, November 9, 2019, during which Xavier Dolan will have the opportunity to present his work and talk with the public, complements this program of events dedicated to the artist from Quebec.

Xavier Dolan retrospective at GIFF:

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- *J'ai tué ma mère [I Killed My Mother]*, 2009
 - *Les Amours imaginaires [Heartbeats]*, 2010
 - *Laurence Anyways*, 2012
 - *Tom à la ferme [Tom at the Farm]*, 2013
 - *Mommy*, 2014
 - *Juste la fin du monde [It's Only the End of the World]*, 2016
 - *Ma vie avec John F. Donovan [The Death and Life of John F. Donovan]*, 2018
 - *Hello – Adele*, 2015 (video clip)
 - *College Boy – Indochina*, 2016 (video clip)
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Key dates and information

- The 25th GIFF will take place from November 1 to 10, 2019.
- Discounted Early Bird passes are on sale until October 4, 2019 on giff.ch. Please note that until October 4, the purchase of an Early Bird pass enables you to register for an exclusive masterclass with Xavier Dolan on Saturday, November 9 (subject to availability). More information on giff.ch.
- The full program will be available on October 9, 2019 on giff.ch.