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TAHITI 2024



Avec le concours financier
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21^e FIFO

FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL DU FILM DOCUMENTAIRE OCÉANIEN

TE FARE TAUHITI NUI
www.fifotahiti.com

En salle & en ligne

 **FIFO Tahiti**

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On the way to the FIFO 2024

A new wind blows on the FIFO and which now inflates the sails of our *va'a*. After Pierre Ollivier, Miriama Bono, Marie Kops and Mareva Leu, the organization of the festival was entrusted to Laura Théron. She now dedicates her resources at the service of Oceanian cinema and offers a new vision for the evolution of FIFO, with the same goal of enhancing and developing the Polynesian and Oceanian audiovisual industry.

2004. The year FIFO raised its first curtains. Since then, it has taken festival-goers on a journey of emotions, discoveries and sharing. Being the only festival in the region to bring together French and English-speaking professionals, each edition is a journey that leads us from heart to heart, to meet an authentic, sincere, diverse Oceania. Like the peoples and cultures that weave it. The images come alive, tell stories of life's paths and provoke the encounter of dialogue and exchange.

20 years later, the curtains still rise as we hoist the veils of a *va'a tau'ati* and make Pape'ete the Oceanian capital of documentary by transporting the public to meet the Oceanian cultural immensity. Thanks to documentaries, the festival sails on our ocean of islands. In the midst of peoples with their identity woven with thousands of specificities for an ever brighter future. From the beginning, the FIFO offers a stage, a screen and a podium to carry the Oceanian voices, shout their hopes and make their concerns heard.

For its 21st edition, FIFO 2024 will take place online, on our website, as well as on-site, at the Maison de la Culture, from 02 to 11 February. In the tumult that has shaken our world since 2020, the FIFO is adjusting the sails of its *va'a* and living one of the most important evolutions since its inception. After a 100% digital edition in 2021 and hybrid versions in 2022 and 2023, the festival is getting ready for a new year hybrid format allowing a better adaptability of its program. And already, we look forward to seeing our great Oceanian family, on-line or in-person.

From 02 to 11 February 2024, FIFO will once again offer a unique selection: 13 out-of-competition films, 7 short documentaries and 13 narrative short films. In addition, 10 documentary films will be presented in competition to an exceptional international jurors panel, chaired by the talented Briar Grace Smith, Māori screenwriter, director and producer.

FIFO 2024's International Jury

Since its inception, the festival had the chance to welcome some prestigious head of the jury such as Hervé Bourges, Laure Adler, Pierre-Henri Deleau, Florence Aubenas, Luc Jacquet, Véronique Cayla, Jan Kounen, Abderrahmane Sissako, Emmanuel Kasarhérou, Stéphane Martin or Marie-Hélène Villierme. Thanks to their friendship and their reputation, the FIFO managed to shine and gain a legitimate place in the world of films festivals

For this 21st edition, FIFO has gathered an exceptional jury of audiovisual professionals and Oceanian culture experts.

President of the Jury



This year's jury will be chaired by Briar Grace Smith, Māori director, producer and writer. She wrote, co-directed and starred in the film *COUSINS*, adapted from the novel written by Patricia Grace and broadcast at FIFO 2022. Briar is also one of the co-directors of the feature film *WARU*.

Briar is a filmmaker of Ngāti Hau and Ngāpuhi descent. She is a writer of screenplays, short fiction and television scripts. Briar is an Arts Foundation Laureate, a recipient of the Merata Mita Fellowship and a member of the Directors Branch of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

Jury's Members



Allan Clarke, Australia.

Director and producer. Allan directed *THE BOWRAVILLE MURDERS*, winner of the jury's special award at FIFO 2022



Corinna Hunziker, New-Zealand.

Director and producer. Corinna directed *NO MĀORI ALLOWED*, winner of the jury's Grand Prix at FIFO 2023.

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Patrick Durand-Gaillard, New-Caledonia.

Journalist and documentarian, editor-in-chief of the television news show at France Télévisions and for the magazines of Nouvelle-Calédonie la 1^{ère} until 2022, co-founder with Walles Kotra of the documentary rendezvous *ITINÉRAIRES* and editor of the network magazine *Archipels* for the Pacific.



Hetereki Huke, Hawai'i.

Originally from Rapa Nui, he is an architect and territorial planner, a researcher specialized in the studies of Pacific Indigenous cultures.



Carmen Doom, French Polynesia

Former bilingual journalist and anchor of the *Ve'a* and the news show at Polynésie La 1^{ère}, Carmen is now the publishing manager of the station.



Heretu Tetahiotupa, French Polynesia

Painter and Tattoo artist, head of the organizing committee of the Matavaa O te Henua Enata (Comothe), director. Heretu is the co-director of *PATUTIKI, L'ART DU TATOUAGE DES ÎLES MARQUISES*, winner of the audience award at FIFO 2019.

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The 2024 FIFO's documentary films selection

The selection committee

This year again, the 9 members of the pre-selection committee (Pascale Briançon, Moana Brotherson, Michèle de Chazeaux, Marie-Noelle Frémy, Mareva Leu, Frédérique Machoro-Siebecke, Philippe Porcher, Goenda Reea, Moana'ura Teheiura) had the difficult task of viewing the 147 documentary films registered for the FIFO 2024 and choosing the official selection of the festival. A precious mission, on the eve of this 21st FIFO, which had asked them a great availability and highlighted their sensitivities, critical thinking and their sense of debate.

The selection of the 21st FIFO is thus filled with 30 documentaries: 10 in competition, 13 out of competition and 7 short documentaries that will all celebrate the 21st edition of our festival.

The official selection for the FIFO 2024

FIFO never imposed a theme on its official selection. It is intended every year to be representative of the Oceanian cinema of today and the concerns and diversity of the Oceanian peoples themselves. The selection of the festival allows to group in a certain number of themes, ideas, images and questions asked in the different films that compose it. They offer a snapshot of the peoples and cultures that make Oceania and their concerns. Attached to the past, while anchored to current realities and open to the future, Oceanians sometimes live, survive. They sing, enchant... or get disillusioned. They say, shout or scream. And they tell it all through these films.

The films in the FIFO 2024 selection focus on passionate identity issues. They are also the dazzling echo of the research and artistic creation of our region. A space of expression that expands through the contribution of artistic disciplines, this year's selection tattoos, sculpts and builds on the canvas as in the hearts, a community link between the men and women sitting in front of their screen and those who unveil themselves on it. History is never forgotten at FIFO. The 2024 selection makes no exception and questions our history. Amazing portraits of impressive characters, the films of the 21st FIFO carry with hope and dignity human adventures above all. As every year, the selection gives the floor. It gives it to all. It opens the debates and summons powerful, authentic, living emotions. This year, recurring themes of the FIFO intersect in the meanders of its selection.

The first of these themes is a FIFO regular: the environment. A global concern that this year's films largely revolve around like issues of the protection and the originality of nature (*Merveilles de la nature : Daintree, l'Australie des origines* et *De la crête au tombant*), the problem of rising water levels in *Nations of Water* and the issues of seabed mining with *Mining The Pacific Ocean*. The nuclear issue in the Pacific can be found in *In Exile* and *Walkatjorra – Our Action Will Never Stop*. In a very original way, *The Giants* evokes the environmental policy in Oceania and its legacy today. Climate change is discussed in *Gardiens de la forêt – Le temps des solutions* and *Wallis et Futuna, aux*

frontières de la mer or even in *Puisque c'est possible* with examples of solutions thought and implemented in the Pacific way or further away but still in the hands of the Oceanian peoples.

Identity issues are one of the themes most often discussed at FIFO. In 2024, they will also be represented in several films. *Tribal Sisters* and *Kaugere, A Place Where Nobody Enters* raise the question of belonging to a community when it threatens its own life and complicates its survival. Adoption and blended identities are explored in *Kindred*. *Homesteads - Mahika* evokes the connection to the land and the relationship to the family home, even when one is far away. How is an identity, simple or multiple, built when its foundations are crumbling? *Secteur 5* proposes an original reflection on this question. And how to rebuild oneself after self-deletion? This is the theme of the film *Gloriavale*.

Stories and History both have their place at FIFO. Directly or even frontally as in *In Exile; Eloi Machoro : Itinéraire d'un combattant; The Giants* and *William Albert Robinson : la dernière traversée* or in a roundabout way as with *Gloriavale; Walkatjurra – Our Action Will Never Stop* or *Monica in The South Seas*. Traditions and their resilience are also evoked in the films *Troisième feuille* and *Puisque c'est possible*.

Arts have always had a special importance at FIFO. This year, they are featured in *Abebe – Butterfly Song; Secteur 5* and *Tradewinds* singing Oceanian music. Traditional arts are evoked through *Te Mekameka O Te Pā Maunga* and *Taonga An Artist Activist*. The movie *Une île, un artiste*, from a collection of short documentaries, is a fascinating encounter with a young photographer from Mo'orea, passionate about his island, its history and his art. Cinema is obviously a golden theme for FIFO. Its past, its history and its evolution are at the heart of *Monica in The South Seas* which shows images of Samoa from over a century ago.

Some films address the problem of violence. Individual (*Ms Information*), family (*Entendez-nous : violences intrafamiliales en Polynésie*), tribal (*Tribal Sisters; Kaugere: A Place Where Nobody Enters*), societal (*Gloriavale*) or institutional (*Eloi Machoro : itinéraire d'un combattant; Circle of Silence; Walkatjurra – Our Action Will Never Stop*). Whoever they are, wherever they come from, they are never worse than when they are hushed. So FIFO 2024 also frees this word and opens the dialogue. In his own way, it lays the foundations for a possible healing, for the reconquest of who we are.

The portrait is one of the ways to stage important personalities of Oceania. It allows them to revive and rekindle, in the extent of a film, the hopes of their fights as in *Eloi Machoro : itinéraire d'un combattant; Circle of Silence* and *William Albert Robinson : la dernière traversée*. The portrait is also the place of impromptu encounters with colorful characters (*Uncle Bully's Surf Skool; Ms Information*). It allows the invocation of forgotten traditions as in *Troisième feuille* and *Monica in The South Seas*. In the plural, combined with the present and the future, it also opens the possibilities to crossed destinies and life paths, sometimes very distant, as in *Family Faith Footy – A Pasifika Rugby Story*.

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Competing films

CIRCLE OF SILENCE

2023 – AUSTRALIA & TIMOR-LESTE – 84 min
English and tetun language with english and french subtitles
Director: Luigi Acquisto & Lurdes Pires
Production: Stella Zammataro & Luigi Acquisto ; FairTrade Films ; Dili Film Works

ELOI MACHORO, ITINÉRAIRE D'UN COMBATTANT

2023 – NEW CALEDONIA – 53 min
French language with english subtitles
Director: Éric Beauducel
Production: Fanny Glissant, Gédéon programmes

FAMILY FAITH FOOTY - A PASIFIKA RUGBY STORY

2023 – AOTEAROA – 90 min
English language with french subtitles
Director: Fa'alavau Nanai Jeremiah Tauamiti
Production: Adrian Stevanon, Great Southern Television

KAUGERE: A PLACE WHERE NOBODY ENTERS

2023 – AUSTRALIA & PAPOUASIE NEW GUINEA – 60 min
English and tok pisin language with french and english subtitles
Director: Stephen Dupont
Production: Elizabeth Tadic & Stephen Dupont, A Bordertown Studio

KINDRED

2023 – AUSTRALIA – 91 min
English language with french subtitles
Director: Adrian Russell Wills, Gillian Moody
Production: Tom Zubrycki and Gillian Moody

MERVELLE DE LA NATURE : DAINTREE, L'AUSTRALIE DES ORIGINES

2023 – FRANCE – 52 min
French language with english subtitles
Director: Grégory Maitre
Production: Eric Ellena, French Connection Films, Arte France

THE GIANTS

2023 – AUSTRALIA – 113 min
English language with french subtitles
Director: Laurence Billiet & Rachel Anthony
Production: General Strike, Matchbox Pictures

TRIBAL SISTERS

2023 – PAPOUASIE NEW GUINEA – 50 min
English and tok pisin language with french and english subtitles
Director: Verena Thomas & Jackie Kauli
Production: Jackie Kauli & Verena Thomas, Yumi Sanap Strong and Yumi Piksa

WALKATJURRA: OUR ACTIONS WILL NEVER STOP

2023 – AUSTRALIA, CHILE, FRANCE – 71 min
English, nganyatjarra, french and spanish language with french and english subtitles
Director: Francisca Silva Bravo
Production: Alessandra Cristina, Cetáceas, Chilko

WILLIAM ALBERT ROBINSON, LA DERNIÈRE TRAVERSÉE

2023 – FRENCH POLYNESIA – 52 min
French language with english subtitles
Director: Paul Manate, Denis Pinson
Production: Catherine Marconnet, Archipel Productions, Nona Robinson, Vista

Non Competing Films

TROISIÈME FEUILLE

2023 – FRENCH POLYNESIA – 61 min

French language

Director: Virginie Tetoofa

Production: Maruia Richmond, Ahi Company

ABEBE – BUTTERFLY SONG

2023 – AUSTRALIA – 98 min

English language with french subtitles

Director: Rosie Jones

Production: Jason Byrne, Michael Agar, Jake Coombes, Positive Ape

ENTENDEZ-NOUS ! VIOLENCES INTRAFAMILIALES EN POLYNÉSIE

2023 – FRANCE & FRENCH POLYNESIA – 52 min

French language

Director: Laurence Generet

Production: Cyrille Perez et Gilles Perez, 13 Prods, France Télévisions

GARDIENS DE LA FORÊT, LE TEMPS DES SOLUTIONS

2022 – FRANCE – 52 min

English language with french subtitles

Director: Marc Dozier

Production: Lato Sensu, Wide Productions, Arte

GLORIAVALE

2022 – AOTEAROA – 89 min

English language with french subtitles

Director: Noel Smyth, Fergus Grady

Production: Fergus Grady, Noel Smyth

MINING THE PACIFIC OCEAN

2023 – QATAR – 50 min

English with french subtitles

Director: Lucy Murray, Drew Ambrose

Production: 101 EAST, Al Jazeera Media Network, SBS Australia, Walkley Public Fund

MONICA IN THE SOUTH SEAS

2023 – FINLAND – 72 min

English and somoan language with french and english subtitles

Director: Sami Van Ingen, Mika Taanila

Production: Eerola Jussi, Elokuveyhtiö Testifilmi

MS INFORMATION

2023 – AOTEAROA – 103 min

English language with french subtitles

Director: Gwen Isaac

Production: Alex Reed - Bloom Pictures, Phillida Perry - Daughter

NATIONS OF WATER

2022 – NEW CALEDONIA – 52 min

English and french language with french subtitles

Director: Géraldine Giraudeau, Valérie Baty

Production: New Caledonia University

SECTEUR 5

2023 – NEW CALEDONIA – 73 min

French language

Director: Stéphane Ducandas

Production: Aurélie Ducandas - Ethnotracks Prod

TE MEKAMEKA O TE PĀ MAUNGA

2023 – AOTEAROA & COOK ISLAND – 70 min

English, rarotongian and māori language with french and english subtitles

Director: Liam Koka'ua

Production: Kereti Rautanga, Toimatarau Productions

UNCLE BULLY'S SURF SKOOL

2023 – HAWAII – 40 min

English language with french subtitles

Director: Leah Warshawski, Todd Soliday

Production: Leah Warshawski, Inflatable Film

WALLIS ET FUTUNA, AUX FRONTIÈRES DE LA MER

2023 – FRANCE – 52 min

French language

Director: Claire Marchal, Sébastien Thiébot

Production: Jean-Luc Milan – Grand Angle Productions, France Télévision

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Short Films : 7 short documentaries

HOMESTEAD – MAHIKA

2022 – AOTEAROA – 27 min

English and māori language with french and english subtitles

Director: Piata Gardiner-Hoskins

Production: Kimiora Kaire-Melbourne, Te Imurangi Media Ltd

TAONGA AN ARTIST ACTIVIST

2021 – COOK ISLAND – 15 min

English language with french subtitles

Director: Glenda Tuaine

Production: Motone Productions - Pacific Islanders In Communications

DE LA CRÊTE AU TOMBANT – LA MANGROVE ET LE PLATIER

2022 – NEW CALEDONIA – 26 min

French language

Director: Thomas Decros, Elisabeth Auplat

Production: Elisabeth Auplat, Bluegreen Production, Canal+ Calédonie

TRADEWINDS

2022 – GUAM – 23 min

English language with french subtitles

Director: Kyle Perron

Production: Nia Serneo, Mighty Island

UNE ÎLE UN ARTISTE – TEMOANA

2023 – FRENCH POLYNESIA – 24 min

French language

Director: Denis Pinson

Production: Catherine Marconnet -Archipel production

IN EXILE

2023 – USA, MARSHALL ISLAND – 11 min

English and marshallese language with french and english subtitles

Director: Nathan Fitch

Production: Angela Edward, Nathan Fitch, Pacific Islanders In Communication

PUISQUE C'EST POSSIBLE : ITINÉRAIRES SCIENTIFIQUES EN NOUVELLE-CALÉDONIE

2022 – FRANCE – 25 min

French language

Director: Jean-Michel Boré

Production: Institut de Recherche pour le Développement

14th Night of Fiction, the short fiction film selection

A window on the storytelling talent and audiovisual skills of our cousins around all of the Pacific. A meeting allowing us to travel throughout the depth of the oceanian imagination! All the 47 movies received this year have been watched by a committee composed of Luz Copie, Marie-Noëlle Frémy, Patricia Lichon, Pierre Ollivier, Claire Schwob, Hina Sylvain and Serge Thébaut.

THE POLYCEES

2023 – AOTEAROA – 9 min

English language with french subtitles

Director: Celia Jaspers

Production: Scorpio Productions

HAFEKASI

2023 – AUSTRALIA – 17 min

English language with french subtitles

Director: Annelise Hickey

Production: Josie Baynes

BIG QUESTION

2022 – AOTEAROA – 5 min

English language with french subtitles

Director: Liam Maguren

Production: Liam Maguren

O²

2023 – FRENCH POLYNESIA – 6 min

French language

Director: Lino Cosso

Production: Paul Gauguin Highschool -
cinéma-audiovisual specialization

TAUMANU

2022 – AOTEAROA – 23 min

English and māori language with french subtitles

Director: Taratoa Stappard

Production: Sharlene George, Sweetshop & green

MILK

2021 – AOTEAROA – 5 min

English language with french subtitles

Director: Celia Jaspers

Production: Scorpio productions, Triquestra Films

AIKĀNE

2023 – HAWAI'I – 14 min

No dialogue

Directors: Daniel Sousa, Dean Hamer, Joe Wilson

Production: Hinaleimoana Wong-Kalu, Qwaves,
Kanaka Pakipika

GOOD GIRL

2021 – AOTEAROA – 4 min

English language with french subtitles

Director: Dean Hewison

Production: Traces of Nut

DIALOGUE

2023 – FRENCH POLYNESIA – 10 min

French language

Director: Matteo Damesin

Production: Paul Gauguin Highschool -
cinéma-audiovisual specialization

BLUE COOLER

2021 – HAWAI'I – 8 min

English and hawaiian language

Director: Laura Margulies

Production: Ukulele pictures LLC

FREEDOM FIGHTER

2023 – AOTEAROA, SAMOA – 17 min

English and samoan language with french subtitles

Director: Tusi Tamasese

Production: Catherine Fitzgerald, Blueskin Films Ltd

MINISTRY OF JINGLE

2023 – AOTEAROA – 12 min

English language with french subtitles

Director: Maddie Dai

Production: Carthew Neal, Piki Films – Verity
Mackintosh, Krafty Productions

I AM PARADISE

2023 – AOTEAROA – 17 min

*English and māori language with french and
english subtitles*

Director: Hiona Henare

Production: Hiona Henare, Kurahaupō Film
Company

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The Prizes

Among the 10 movies in competition, 2 special awards will be given by the international jury of the festival.

To these is added the audience award that will reward the audience's favorite documentary among the films in competition and out of competition. The Best Short Documentary and Best Short Fiction Film Awards, also designated by an audience vote.

And completing this list of winners of FIFO 2024, is the Jury's Grand Prize.

A prize book that takes a classic amplitude with 6 prizes that reward the films of the official selection of FIFO 2024, 3 of which will be chosen by the public.

Informations and contacts

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