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PRESS RELEASE

2020 Poitiers Film Festival: it's on!

In the wake of France's new government measures, the Poitiers Film Festival is changing shape.

In April of this year, despite the lockdown measures in place, we had decided to maintain the festival's call for films as a way of ensuring our link with film schools, and of providing a hopeful outlook for filmmakers. Signing films up to the festival was a way of bringing them beyond national borders so they could be seen, potentially chosen, and shown when cinemas opened back up. We received 1,300 films from around the world.

Today, we feel strongly about bringing to light the short films chosen for this 43rd annual festival. As such, despite the closure of cinemas, we're working hard on developing an alternative that will nevertheless offer the chance for the films to meet their spectators.

The short films from the **International Selection** and the **So French!** session will be freely accessible online to festival attendees from November 27 to December 13, 2020 (link to follow). These films will be entered into a competition, a jury will award prizes, and winners will receive grant money. The awards ceremony will be held on December 4 as originally planned.

Jump In and **Talents en Court Nouvelle-Aquitaine**, programs that accompany young filmmakers on the start of their professional paths, will be maintained remotely.

We are currently evaluating the possibility of postponing certain major festival events such as **Focus Africa2020**, dedicated to young female directors from Africa, which could be held over a weekend as part of the TAP Castille's programming.

Please continue following the latest news from the Poitiers Film Festival; we regularly update information on our website and on social media.

PRESS

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