



2017 ARKHAIOS CONFERENCE & FILM FESTIVAL

Pittsburgh, October 27-28, 2017

FILMS SYNOPSIS

Friday October 27, 2017 at 3:05pm

AMERICAN PREMIERE

THE ENIGMA OF THE CELTIC TOMB

Director : Alexis de Favitski

Producer : ARTE France, ELEAZAR Productions

France, 2017, 52 min.

Late 2014: Layau, near Troyes in French Champagne, a team of archeologists have brought to light an ancient necropolis in which they made an incredible discovery: under an enormous tumulus, in a 14 meter squared funeral chamber, lay a skeleton adorned of beautiful jewels. Its body surrounded with luxurious objects such as a cart and a set of dishes containing magnificent Greek and Etruscan pieces. The tomb of this wealthy Celt, who died during the 5th century, now referred to as "the prince of Lavau", constitutes one of the most important discoveries of European archeology of recent years.

From the objects found in the tomb, their analysis and their comparison to other tombs, and alongside archeologists from other archeological sites, this film proposes to recount this enigmatic, troublesome period, nicknamed by historians and archeologists the "princely phenomenon"; Period of around one hundred years when the Celts met the Greeks and exchanged with them commercially, artistically and culturally.

Saturday October 28, 2017 at 4:00pm

BRITAIN'S POMPEII: A VILLAGE LOST IN TIME

Director: Sarah Jobling

Producer : 360 Production, Arte France

United Kingdom, 2016, 69 min.

This film follows a team of multidisciplinary scientists who conduct excavations in England in an ancient Bronze Age village, renamed "British Pompeii".

Thanks to the quality of preservation of the village buried in the marshes for thousands of years, archaeologists have discovered perfectly preserved dwellings with all their contents, illuminating a very little documented period of life in Great Britain 3000 years ago.

The excavations at Must Farm also help to clarify the links between the European populations during the Bronze Age. The villagers of Must Farm practiced a flourishing agriculture on a large scale, suggesting that they could trade with other European peoples and buy materials such as metal and glass.

Saturday October 28, 2017 at 5:30pm

THE STOLEN WARRIORS

Director : Wolfgang Luck

Producer : a&o buero filmproduktion

Germany, 2014, 52 min.

How does Cambodia's most famous temple statue end up in Sotheby's auction catalog? This film tells the story of a spectacular case of art robbery. We follow the route of an iconic warrior sculpture looted from a Khmer temple to a posh auction house in New York. An investigative journey into the murky world of the antiques trade.

When he leafed through Sotheby's auction catalogue, archaeologist Simon Warrack couldn't believe what he saw. With a starting bid of two million dollars, a life-sized, 500-pound warrior statue dating back to the Cambodian Khmer dynasty was to be auctioned in New York.

This story reveals the workings of the international antiques mafia. And it raises questions about the moral responsibility of museums and the credibility of supposedly reputable auction houses. The court case in New York is expected to set a precedent for the regulation of the trade in antiquities and artifacts.

AWARDS and SCREENINGS: *Second Prize by Jury in Split, Croatia, 2016. Special Mention, category Threatened Heritage, ICRONOS, France, 2016. Special Mention for Script, Athens, Greece, 2016. Honorable Mention by Jury for Narration, and Audience Favorite, TAC Festival, USA, 2016. Audience Prize, Cinarchea, Germany, 2015. Le Prix du Meilleur Film sur le Patrimoine en Danger, Nyon, Switzerland, 2015.*

Saturday October 28, 2017 at 6:25pm

THE GRAND MASTERS OF THE CHAUVET CAVE

Director: Christian Tran

Producer : Quark, Arte France

France, 2015, 52 min.

A team of artists, visual artists and prehistorians was appointed to oversee the creation of the Pont d'Arc Cavern, a reproduction of the Chauvet Cave.

The film follows the Catalan painter Miquel Barcelo as he observes and comments on the work of the artists as they create the reproductions. The paintings and drawings of the Chauvet cave – made thirty six thousand years ago and discovered twenty years ago in the south of France – are the oldest human artistic expression to date. Their strength and modernity changed radically all the ideas we had on prehistorical art.

The creation of an important museum devoted to the reproduction of the works allows a close-up on the paintings, the drawings and the engravings. The film enables us to understand their incredible techniques and feel their intact emotional power.

AWARDS and SCREENINGS:

Audience Favorite Award - International Festival of Archaeological Film - Rovereto, Italy, 2015. FIFA Festival International du Film sur l'Art - Montréal, Canada 2016. Festival du Film d'Archéologie d'Amiens, France 2016. International Festival of Science Documentary Films of Olomouc, Czech Republic 2016. Festival Artecinema, Napoli Italy 2016. Rencontres d'archéologie de la Narbonnaise 2016. Festival International du Film Archéologique de Bordeaux – ICRONOS 2016. Festival du film de Saint-Séverin, QC Canada 2016 .

Saturday October 28, 2017 at 7:35pm

GOVAN YOUNG

Director: David Archibald, Martin Clark and Cara Connolly

Producer : David Archibald Connolly Clark Films

Scotland, 2016, 30 min.

Govan Young follows a group of schoolchildren from Govan's Pirie Park Primary in Scotland as, aided by Professor Stephen Driscoll, an historical archaeologist at the University of Glasgow, they learn the rarely-told story of the Viking invasion of central Scotland and the subsequent establishment of the medieval kingdom of Strathclyde, which had its spiritual centre in Govan.

The archaeological discoveries at Govan Old church are central to this story and provide a dramatic demonstration of the value of archaeology to community engagement.

What happens when the children discover the lost kingdom of Strathclyde and learn that 1000 years past Viking and kings walked on the ground below their feet?

AWARDS and SCREENINGS:

Lucknow International Children's Film Festival, India, 2017. Cultural Exchange Award, Seoul Guro International Kids' Film Festival, South Korea, 2017.