

AVANT LES RUES BY CHLOÉ LERICHE: CLOSING FILM OF THE 34th RENDEZ-VOUS DU CINÉMA QUÉBÉCOIS



MONTREAL, Thursday, January 7, 2016 – Québec Cinéma is pleased to announce that *Avant les rues*, the first fictional feature by director-producer Chloé Leriche, will close the 34th annual **Rendez-vous du cinéma québécois**, to be held this February 18 to 27. Produced by Les Films de l'autre and distributed by FunFilm, the film will be premiered at a SOIRÉE TAPIS BLEU on February 27, presented by Bell in collaboration with the Casino de Montréal.

Shawnook lives in a small Atikamekw community in Quebec with his mother, cop stepfather, sister and niece. One day, a white drifter hires him as a backroads guide, to search for a cottage to rob. The evening goes very badly: Shawnook kills a man. After fleeing into the forest, he returns to his community and tries to liberate himself through traditional rituals. *Avant les rues* was filmed on location in an Atikamekw village, with many local non-professional actors working in their native language. Alongside actor **Martin Dubreuil**, the audience will discover the talented **Rykko Bellemare** and the charismatic, poignant **Jacques Newashish**, **Kwena Boivin Bellemare** and **Janis Ottawa**.

Chloé Leriche writes, directs and edits her fictional films and art videos. Her work has been screened and appreciated at several festivals in Canada and abroad, and shown on television and in museums. Having made several well-received short films such as *Les grands* and *Soleils bleus*, Leriche has made a feature debut as poetic as it is harsh, taking a frank look at real life in aboriginal communities. The filmmaker has often worked in collaboration with the Wapikoni, the mobile training and production unit run by and for young First Nations artists. She also worked with numerous residents of Quebec's three Atikamekw communities and produced the film in partnership with the Manawan Atikamekw council.

"It is a great pleasure to close the Rendez-vous by introducing audiences to Chloé Leriche's first feature, *Avant les rues*, a deeply sensitive and humane film that goes straight to the heart. Rarely has our cinema taken such an honest, lucid look at our First Nations fellow citizens. *Avant les rues* is one the festival team's favourite films of the year, and we have no doubt that everyone who has the pleasure of seeing it – and I

hope many people will – at the festival or in general release will appreciate is as much as we do,” said Dominique Dugas, director of the Rendez-vous du cinéma québécois.

Chloé Leriche – selected filmography:

SOLEILS BLEUS

Experimental, 5 min. 30 sec., 2010

QUI EST LÀ

Experimental, 5 min., 2008

UN CRI AU BONHEUR

Collective fictional feature (Quebec poetry) 91 min., 2007

LES GRANDS

Short - youth fiction, 11 min. 30 sec., 2007

FRAGMENTS OU LETTRE À UN ALLEMAND (DONT JE SUIS AMOUREUSE EN SECRET)

Experimental, 7 min. 46 sec., 2003

HAMBOURG-ALTONA

Short - fiction, 7 min. 6 sec., 2003

COMME UNE OMBRE ALLONGÉE SUR L'ASPHALTE

Short - fiction, 3 min. 6 sec., 2001

LA RÉPLIQUE

Short - fiction, 19 min. 44 sec., 2001

L'HOMME ET LA FENÊTRE

Short - fiction, 2 min. 30 sec., 2001

MÉMOIRES

Experimental, 1 min. 51 sec., 2001

Chloé Leriche – awards and honours

- 2010 *Soleils bleus* – Shown on more than 20 screens during the Vancouver Olympics
- 2007 *Les grands* – Named to the Top Ten at the Toronto International Film Festival
- 2006 *Les grands* – Drama Prize of the National Screen Institute, Winnipeg, Manitoba
- 2004 *Fragments ou lettre à un Allemand* – Special mention, Festival VidéoFormes, France

The feature film **AVANT LES RUES** by Chloé Leriche
Closing film of the 34th Rendez-vous du cinéma québécois
Produced by Les Films de l'autre, distributed by FunFilm.
Theatrical release: spring 2016

Facebook: www.facebook.com/avantlesrues

Twitter: www.twitter.com/avantlesrues

With actress Pascale Bussi eres as its spokesperson, the 34th annual Rendez-vous du cin ema qu eb ecois will be held in Montreal from February 18 to 27, 2016 in the cinema district of the Quartier des Spectacles, the Quartier Latin. The full program will be announced on February 3.

For all the latest on the 34th Rendez-vous du cin ema qu eb ecois: #RVCQ16
www.facebook.com/QcCinema / www.twitter.com/Qc_Cinema / www.quebeccinema.ca

Essential partnerships

The Rendez-vous du cin ema qu eb ecois extends warm thanks to the SAQ, presenting partner, Radio-Canada, co-presenting partner, Bell, Starring Role partner, and our Leading Role partners, Casino de Montr al, MELS, Cineplex and the Cin math que qu eb ecoise, and to Akufen et Ig2. The Rendez-vous du cin ema qu eb ecois also wishes to thank its public and government partners, the Soci t  de d veloppement des entreprises culturelles (SODEC), the Minist re du Tourisme, the Secr tariat aux affaires intergouvernementales canadiennes (SAIC), Secr tariat   la r gion m tropolitaine (SRM), R gie du cin ema, Telefilm Canada, the Canada Council for the Arts, the Ville de Montr al, the Conseil des arts de Montr al and

Tourisme Montréal.

About Québec Cinéma

Québec Cinéma's mission is to promote Quebec's cinema and its artists and professionals, and to contribute to the advancement of our film industry. The organization is focused on improving access, education and awareness, reaching more than one million people in Quebec and around the world every year. Québec Cinéma produces the Jutra Awards, the Tournée du cinéma québécois and the Rendez-vous du cinéma québécois, and has an extensive educational outreach program.

- 30 -

Source: [Québec Cinéma](#)

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