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## LEARNING FRENCH WITH OUR FILMS



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Les élèves d'une classe de francisation du Cégep du Vieux-Montréal ont assisté à la projection du film *Louis Cyr : l'homme le plus fort du monde* de Daniel Roby en septembre 2019.

**Montreal, January 25, 2021** – Québec Cinéma and Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec (BAnQ) are pleased to present a summary of their third year of collaboration: 2019-20, eight screenings of Quebec-made films for new Quebecers were organized.

The initiative allows people who are learning the French language and Quebec culture to apply what they've learned by watching Quebec-made films and discussing them with guest artists. The two organizations strongly believe that cinema is a powerful vector for education and social cohesion. Our cinema reflects Quebec's history and helps new members of the community discover our culture and the nuances of the French language.

### **Positive results in 2019-20**

The films screened in 2019-20 were all selected by the Québec Cinéma team from BAnQ's extensive collection, with cinematic and cultural value as the main criteria. Screenings began on September 27, 2019, with one session per month. Participants saw *Louis Cyr : l'homme le plus fort du monde* by Daniel Roby, *La Bolduc* by François Bouvier and *La passion d'Augustine* by Léa Pool, with the filmmakers present, and *C'est pas moi, je le jure* by Philippe Falardeau, with actor Antoine L'Écuyer attending. *Corbo* by Mathieu Denis was screened on January 15 with actor Anthony Therrien. The pandemic forced the suspension of the remainder of the season.

## A virtual season for fall 2020

Last fall, participants appreciated the three screenings as much as ever, even though they had to be presented online due to the exceptional circumstances. Following up its worldwide success last year, *Une colonie* by Geneviève Dulude-De Celles opened the season, and the director discussed the film with viewers afterwards. In December, Philippe Falardeau fielded questions after a screening of his film *Guibord s'en va-t-en guerre*, and the year closed with *Bon Cop, Bad Cop 2* by Alain DesRochers, followed by a discussion with the film's executive producer, Patrick Roy, who is also the president of Les Films Séville and chair of Québec Cinéma's board of directors.

"Our films can play a frontline role in helping our new compatriots understand Quebec's history and culture. Cinema is a universal form of entertainment and a common denominator in the search for dialogue. It gives newcomers a better understanding of Quebec's evolution into the modern, open, pluralistic society that it is today," said Sylvie Quenneville, deputy director of Québec Cinéma.

"This innovative project promotes the formation of a special bond between new Quebecers and Quebec culture. It leads to productive dialogue that helps enrich not only the learning experience, but our cultural sphere as a whole. Everyone wins," said Jean-Louis Roy, Chief Executive Officer of BANQ.

Québec Cinéma and BANQ are extremely proud to reaffirm their commitment to facilitating new Quebecers' cultural and linguistic integration through our cinema.

Québec Cinéma would like to thank the **Ministry of Immigration, Francisation and Integration** for their support.

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## ABOUT QUÉBEC CINÉMA

Québec Cinéma's mission is to showcase Quebec's films and their makers through promotional and educational activities. Access and audience awareness are core concerns for the organization, which organizes an engaging school-based program, the Lab Québec Cinéma. The organization also produces the three main showcases for Quebec's films: the **Rendez-vous**, the **Tournée** and the **Gala Québec Cinéma**, as well as offering a rich educational program in Quebec and Canada with the **Lab Québec Cinéma**, the organization reaches more than two million people around the world every year.

## ABOUT BANQ

Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec (BANQ) brings together three institutions whose purpose is to bring knowledge and culture to the entire province of Québec. **The National Library** collects, processes and preserves all materials published in Québec and ensures that as many people as possible can access the heritage collections it has acquired. **The National Archives** house public and private archives and provide access to them online and through 10 archives centres located throughout Québec. They also provide a framework to help public organizations manage their materials. **The Grande Bibliothèque** is a cultural

meeting place in the heart of the city that provides free access to the largest collection of French books and materials in the Americas. Québec's public library also has a wide variety of digital resources. BAnQ plays an active role in promoting Québec culture online. [banq.qc.ca](http://banq.qc.ca)

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