

## WHAT'S NEW ON THE BFFS BOOKING SCHEME?



Institut Français, a BFFS partner, has expanded its range of films available to film societies and community cinemas through the BFFS Booking Scheme. These unusual and hard-to-access titles are available to BFFS Members and Associates for a £25 administration fee.

### LA FRANCE

Serge Bozen | France | 2007 | 102mins  
**WINNER OF THE PRIX JEAN VIGO 2007**

When young wife Camille receives a letter from her soldier husband saying she'll never see him again, she decides to travel to the front line to find him. Disguised as a man, Camille joins a group of soldiers as they trudge through the war-torn French countryside. However, instead of the expected subdued silence, the group reveal homemade stringed instruments and break out into charming, jangling songs. This bold and mysterious war film is like no other.



*'It is the indelible image of lonely and lost men that speaks the loudest.'* **New York Times**

### LE PETIT LIEUTENANT

Xavier Beauvois | France | 2005 | 110mins  
**BEST ACTRESS CESAR FOR NATHALIE BAYE**

Recovering alcoholic and grieving mother Caroline (played stunningly by Baye) is the leader of a Parisian police squad investigating the murder of a homeless man. She takes a maternal shine to the recently graduated Antoine, who relishes his new role within the squad with a childish fervour. On his own in the big city, Antoine embraces his fellow police as an extended family – whose support he soon needs when the investigation turns nasty.



*'A reminder that great acting often has little to do with words.'* **Seattle Times**

### LE SILENCE DU PALAIS (SAMT EL QUSUR)

Moufida Tlatli | France, Tunisia | 1994 | 127mins  
**SUTHERLAND TROPHY, BFI AWARDS 1995**

In the mid 1960s, the death of Prince Sid'Ali takes Alia on a journey back to the palace where she was born and lived as a servant with her mother until her escape when a teenager. Having grown up in an environment where female servants are expected to please their masters in every way, Alia is desperate to assert her independence from her own lover, who refuses to marry or have children.



A stark reminder of the monotony and soul-destroying nature of servitude.

*'Moufida Tlati has directed a fascinating and accomplished first feature.'* **New York Times**

**TO BOOK ANY OF THESE GREAT NEW TITLES GO TO: [www.bffs.org.uk](http://www.bffs.org.uk)**

## BAKO L'AUTRE RIVE

Jacques Champreux | Senegal | 1978 | 108mins

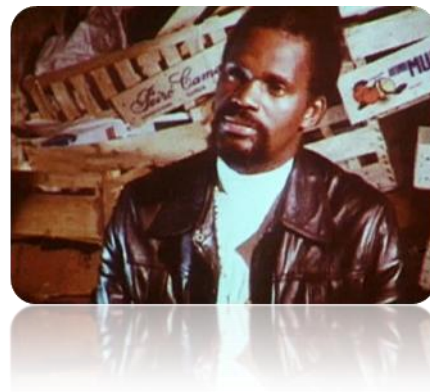
**WINNER OF THE PRIX JEAN VIGO 1978**

A Senegalese village threatened with drought sends one of its young men to Paris to find his brother and raise some much-needed funds. The naïve traveller runs into one difficulty after another until he reaches Paris – only to find his troubles are far from over.

*Bako L'autre Rive* was one of the first French-language films to tackle xenophobic attitudes towards African migrant workers in the 1970s.

An inspiration for generations of African filmmakers.

*'A masterpiece by any standard.'* **African Film Library**



## MA VIE EN L'AIR

Rémi Bezançon | France | 2005 | 103mins

**MOST PROMISING ACTOR NOMINATION, CESAR AWARDS 2006**

Yann has not flown since his mother died on board an aeroplane giving birth to him. Even his job as a simulator trainer for an airline can't tempt him. When he discovers his girlfriend is going to Australia for a year Yann is unable to board the plane that would reunite them. He is left to lick his wounds with best friend Ludo by his side... that is, until Alice (Oscar winner Marion Cotillard) turns up to remind him of his need for love.

This is a well-crafted romantic comedy which offers plenty of both.

*'Ma vie en l'air is a fun and enjoyable film, well written, well interpreted and without vulgarity.'* **Le Monde**



## PLATFORM

Zhang Ke Jia | HK, China, Japan, France | 2000 | 154mins

**NETPAC AWARD, VENICE FILM FESTIVAL 2000**

*Platform* examines the social and cultural changes that swept through 1980s China as Western influence began to take hold. Focusing on a Maoist propaganda performance group, this drama traces their move towards Western trends until they are renamed the 'All Star Rock and Breakdance Band'.

Shot with very few close-ups, the film takes an ambivalent attitude towards the effects of historical change on individual lives, instead observing the changes that accompany cultural and sexual freedom.

*'Superbly played, beautifully filmed, Platform is powerful Eastern filmmaking.'* **Empire**



**ALSO AVAILABLE FROM THE FRENCH INSTITUTE THROUGH BFFS:**

**MEURTRIÈRES:** Patrick Grandperret | 2006 | France | 107mins

**LES GENS DE LA RIZIÈRE:** Rithy Panh | 1994 | Cambodia, France, Switzerland, Germany | 125mins

**JOM:** Ababacar Samb-Makharam | 1981 | Senegal, West Germany | 76mins



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