

UN FILM DE JEAN-FRANÇOIS CAISSY — LES FILMS DU 3 MARS — PRÉSENTE UNE PRODUCTION LES FILMS DE L'AUTRE — DIRECTION PHOTO NICOLAS CANNICIONI

CANNICIONI SCÉNARISATION, PRODUCTION ET RÉALISATION JEAN-FRANÇOIS CAISSY MONTAGE MATHIEU BOUCHARD-MALO

CONCEPTION SONORE SIMON GERVAIS SON JEAN-FRANÇOIS CAISSY ET LYNNE TRÉPANIER MUSIQUE ORIGINALE GUILLAUME BOURQUE ET JÉRÉMI ROY

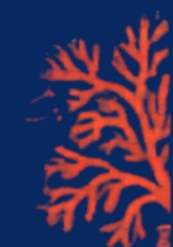
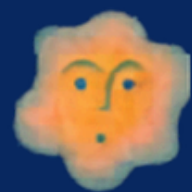


KINDERGARTEN DOCUMENTARY FEATURE | 2025 | 84 MIN



TRAILER





LOGLINE

THE CARING YET BUSTLING ENVIRONMENT OF A KINDERGARTEN SERVES AS THE ANCHOR FOR THIS DEEP DIVE INTO EARLY CHILDHOOD.

SHORT SYNOPSIS

SET IN THE WARM YET BUSTLING ENVIRONMENT OF A DAYCARE CENTER, *KINDERGARTEN* EXPLORES EARLY CHILDHOOD FROM A CHILD'S PERSPECTIVE. BY FOLLOWING THE DEVELOPMENT OF VARIOUS CHILDREN AGED 1 TO 5, THE FILM CAPTURES THE TRANSITION FROM "I" TO "WE."

LONG SYNOPSIS

THE CARING YET BUSTLING ENVIRONMENT OF A KINDERGARTEN SERVES AS THE ANCHOR FOR THIS DEEP DIVE INTO EARLY CHILDHOOD. STRUCTURED TO FOLLOW THE GRADUAL PROGRESSION OF AGES ON SCREEN, THE FILM TAKES US INTO THE BUBBLE OF VARIOUS CHILDREN FROM AGES 1 TO 5, AT A STAGE WHERE THE WORLD SEEMS TO REVOLVE AROUND THEM, AND SELF-AWARENESS SLOWLY SHIFTS FROM "I" TO "WE". THROUGH THESE RARELY FILMED MOMENTS, HUMAN NATURE GRADUALLY TAKES SHAPE. *KINDERGARTEN* IS THE FOURTH FILM OF A SERIES ABOUT LIFE'S MILESTONES.





FESTIVALS

MONTREAL INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL (RIDM) 28TH EDITION – NOVEMBER 20 TO 30, 2025
HOT DOCS CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL 33RD EDITION – APRIL 23 TO MAY 3, 2026
DOXA DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL 25TH EDITION – APRIL 30 TO MAY 10, 2026
INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL MUNICH (DOK.FEST MÜNCHEN) 41ST EDITION – MAY 6 TO 18, 2026
FESTIVAL LA ROCHELLE CINÉMA 54TH EDITION - JUNE 26 TO JULY 4, 2026
GIMLI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 26TH EDITION - JULY 22 TO 26, 2026
PERCÉ INTERNATIONAL ARTS AND FILM FESTIVAL (LES PERCÉIDES) 18TH EDITION - AUGUST 19 TO 23, 2026
EBS INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL 23RD EDITION - AUGUST 24 TO 30, 2026

THEATRICAL RELEASE

IN THEATERS IN QUEBEC AUGUST 28



TECHNICAL SHEET

IMAGE PROCESS	COLOURS
PRODUCTION FORMAT	2K
SOUND	5.1
PROJECTION RATIO	1.85:1
LENGTH	84 MINUTES
GENRE	DOCUMENTARY
ORIGINAL VERSION	FRENCH
SUBTITLES	FRENCH OR ENGLISH
COUNTRY OF PRODUCTION	CANADA
YEAR	2025
COPYRIGHT	2025





FINANCING

KINDERGARTEN WAS PRODUCED THANKS TO THE FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION OF THE SOCIÉTÉ DE DÉVELOPPEMENT DES ENTREPRISES CULTURELLES (SODEC), THE CANADA COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS, THE CRÉDIT D'IMPÔT CINÉMA ET TÉLÉVISION (GESTION SODEC) AND THE CONSEIL DES ARTS ET DES LETTRES DU QUÉBEC, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE ACIC - INDEPENDENT FILMMAKER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM OF THE NFB, CINEGROUND AND LES FILMS DE L'AUTRE.



TEAM

DIRECTED BY

SCRIPT

CINEMATOGRAPHY

EDITING

SOUND RECORDING

SOUND DESIGN

SOUND MIX

ORIGINAL MUSIC

PRODUCTION

DISTRIBUTION

JEAN-FRANÇOIS CAISSY

JEAN-FRANÇOIS CAISSY

NICOLAS CANNICIONI

MATHIEU BOUCHARD-MALO

JEAN-FRANÇOIS CAISSY, LYNNE TRÉPANIER

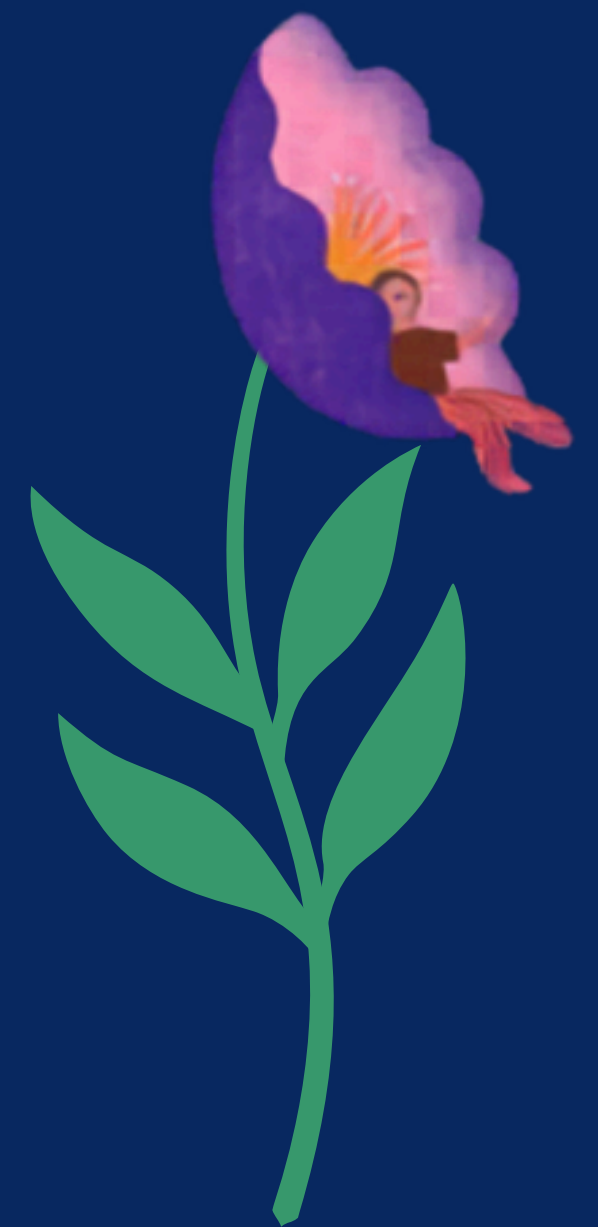
SIMON GERVAIS

JEAN-PAUL VIALARD

GUILLAUME BOURQUE, JÉRÉMI ROY

JEAN-FRANÇOIS CAISSY (LES FILMS DE L'AUTRE)

LES FILMS DU 3 MARS







DIRECTOR'S NOTE

I MAKE FILMS THAT EXIST SLIGHTLY OUTSIDE OF TIME. WITH *KINDERGARTEN*, I WANTED TO BRING A TOUCH OF HUMANITY TO A WORLD IN TURMOIL BY CREATING A WORK OF DISARMING SIMPLICITY. THE FILM OPENS A WINDOW ONTO EARLY CHILDHOOD, WHERE OUR SENSE OF BEING FIRST TAKES SHAPE.

FILMED IN A DAYCARE CENTRE, THOUGH NEVER ABOUT THE DAYCARE ITSELF, *KINDERGARTEN* FOCUSES ON ONE CHILD AT A TIME, INVITING US TO MOMENTARILY STEP INSIDE THEIR UNIVERSE. EACH CHILD, IN TURN, BECOMES THE CENTRE OF OUR ATTENTION, ALLOWING US TO ENTER A STATE OF INTROSPECTION AS WE WATCH THEM TRY TO MAKE SENSE OF THE WORLD AROUND THEM. THE SPEED AT WHICH CHANGE OCCURS AT THAT AGE MEANS THAT SOME OF THESE TRANSFORMATIONS UNFOLD BEFORE OUR EYES.

THE FILM'S STRUCTURE FOLLOWS THE GRADUAL PASSAGE FROM INFANCY TO AGE FIVE, GUIDING US THROUGH THE DIFFERENT PHASES IN THEIR DEVELOPMENT. WE MOVE GENTLY FROM ONE GROUP TO THE NEXT, ATTUNED TO THE QUIET FLOW OF TIME AS THEY GROW OLDER.

TO ECHO THAT NOTION OF A WORLD GRADUALLY EXPANDING, I CHOSE TO ADAPT THE FILM'S FORMAT TO THE AGE OF THE CHILDREN ON SCREEN. WE THUS BEGIN WITH BABIES IN AN ALMOST SQUARE RATIO (1.33:1), THEN THE FRAME PROGRESSIVELY STRETCHES OUT TOWARD FULL WIDESCREEN (1.85:1) WITH THE OLDER KIDS. THE PICTURE ITSELF GROWS WITH THE CHILDREN, MIRRORING THEIR BROADENING HORIZONS.

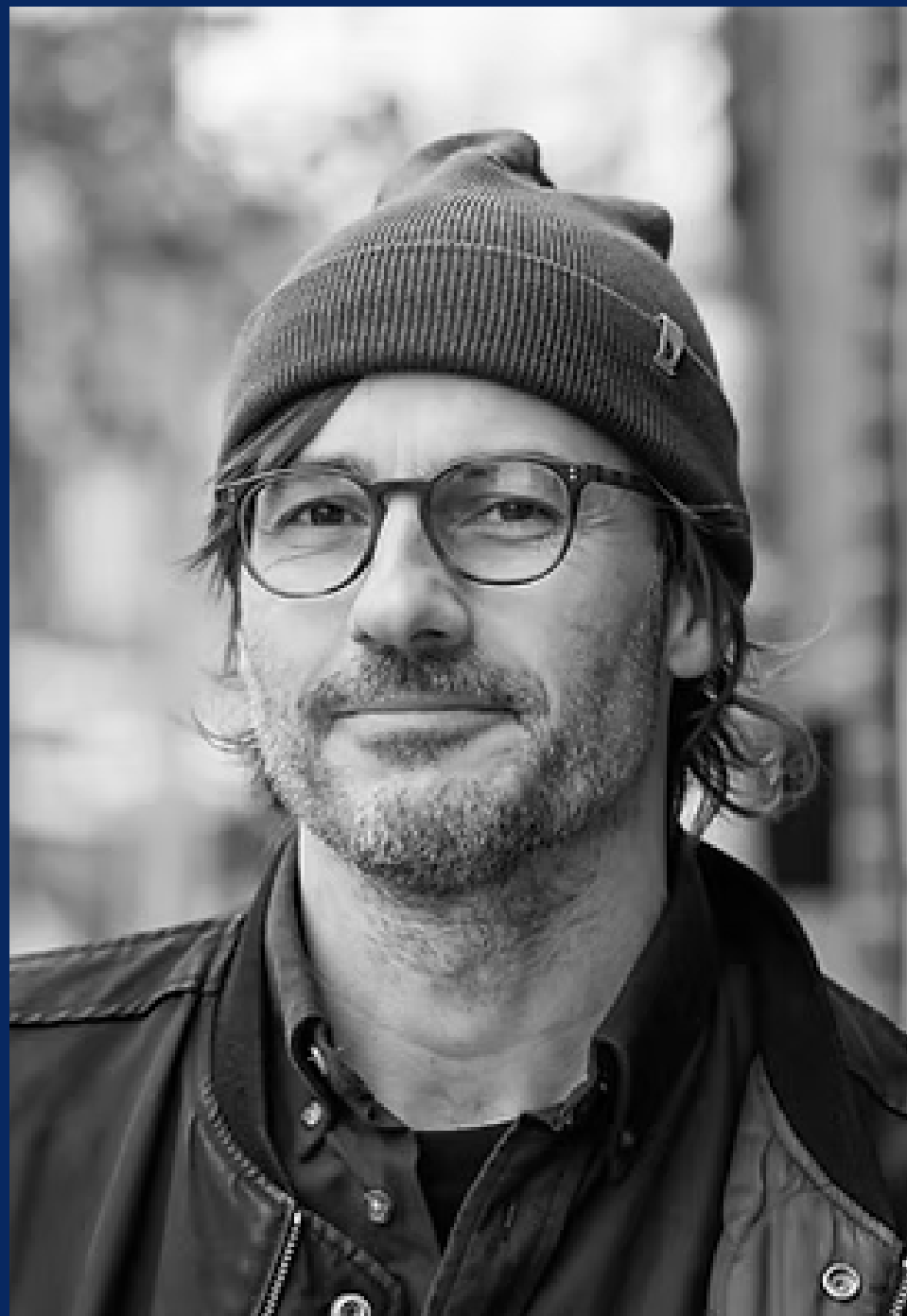
KINDERGARTEN WAS SHOT WITH AN OLD ZOOM LENS ORIGINALLY DESIGNED FOR SUPER 16MM CAMERAS, LENDING THE IMAGES A DREAMLIKE QUALITY. IT WAS ALSO A WAY TO EVOKE THE LOOK OF THE '70S AND '80S DOCUMENTARIES THAT SHAPED MY OWN CHILDHOOD.

THE FILM STANDS AS THE FOURTH CHAPTER IN A SERIES EXPLORING KEY LIFE MILESTONES. IT FOLLOWS *JOURNEY'S END* (2009), ABOUT OLD AGE AND SET IN A SENIORS' RESIDENCE; *GUIDELINES* (2014), A PORTRAIT OF ADOLESCENCE FILMED IN A HIGH SCHOOL; AND *FIRST STRIPES* (2018), ABOUT THE START OF ADULTHOOD, SHOT IN A CANADIAN ARMED FORCES TRAINING CENTRE.

JEAN-FRANÇOIS CAISSY







(c) Denis Germain

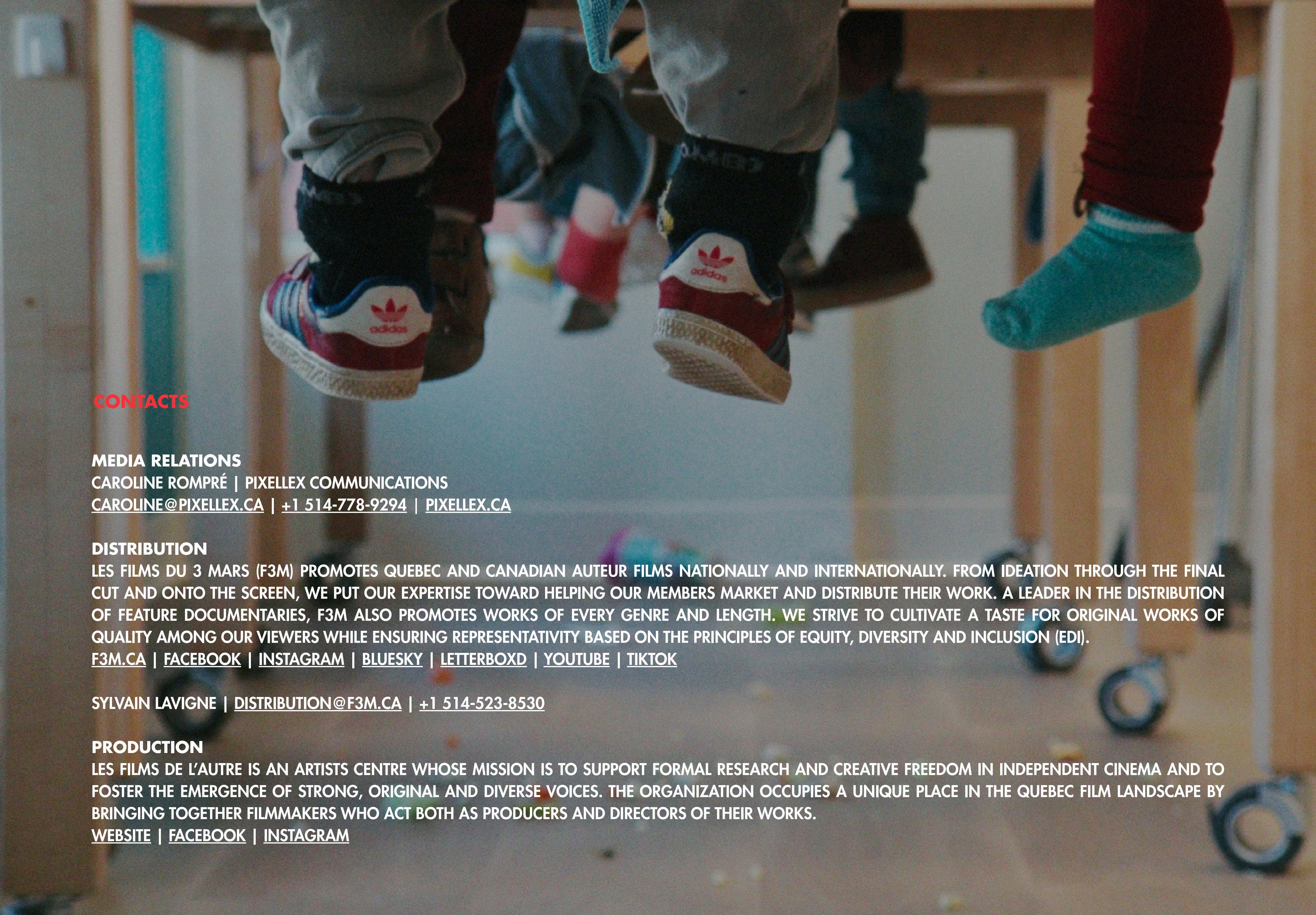
BIOGRAPHY

AFTER STUDYING PHOTOGRAPHY, JEAN-FRANÇOIS CAISSY DIRECTED THE FEATURE LENGTH DOCUMENTARY *JOURNEY'S END* (2009), WHICH PREMIERED AT THE 60TH BERLIN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL. HIS SUBSEQUENT FILMS, *GUIDELINES* (2014) AND *FIRST STRIPES* (2018), WERE ALSO PRESENTED AT THE BERLINALE, WINNING SEVERAL PRIZES, INCLUDING THE WORLD PULSE AWARD AT THE INDIELISBOA FESTIVAL.

FILMOGRAPHY

2025 - *KINDERGARDEN* - DOCUMENTARY FEATURE (84 MIN)
2018 - *FIRST STRIPES* - DOCUMENTARY FEATURE (104 MIN)
2014 - *GUIDELINES* - DOCUMENTARY FEATURE (76 MIN)
2009 - *JOURNEY'S END* - DOCUMENTARY FEATURE (80 MIN)





CONTACTS

MEDIA RELATIONS

CAROLINE ROMPRÉ | PIXELLEX COMMUNICATIONS

CAROLINE@PIXELLEX.CA | [+1 514-778-9294](tel:+15147789294) | PIXELLEX.CA

DISTRIBUTION

LES FILMS DU 3 MARS (F3M) PROMOTES QUEBEC AND CANADIAN AUTEUR FILMS NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY. FROM IDEATION THROUGH THE FINAL CUT AND ONTO THE SCREEN, WE PUT OUR EXPERTISE TOWARD HELPING OUR MEMBERS MARKET AND DISTRIBUTE THEIR WORK. A LEADER IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF FEATURE DOCUMENTARIES, F3M ALSO PROMOTES WORKS OF EVERY GENRE AND LENGTH. WE STRIVE TO CULTIVATE A TASTE FOR ORIGINAL WORKS OF QUALITY AMONG OUR VIEWERS WHILE ENSURING REPRESENTATIVITY BASED ON THE PRINCIPLES OF EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION (EDI).

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SYLVAIN LAVIGNE | DISTRIBUTION@F3M.CA | [+1 514-523-8530](tel:+15145238530)

PRODUCTION

LES FILMS DE L'AUTRE IS AN ARTISTS CENTRE WHOSE MISSION IS TO SUPPORT FORMAL RESEARCH AND CREATIVE FREEDOM IN INDEPENDENT CINEMA AND TO FOSTER THE EMERGENCE OF STRONG, ORIGINAL AND DIVERSE VOICES. THE ORGANIZATION OCCUPIES A UNIQUE PLACE IN THE QUEBEC FILM LANDSCAPE BY BRINGING TOGETHER FILMMAKERS WHO ACT BOTH AS PRODUCERS AND DIRECTORS OF THEIR WORKS.

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