

TIFF 2019 Premieres:

Composer Jean-Michel Bernard and Les Négresses Vertes Live in Cluj

April 2019

Composer and pianist **Jean-Michel Bernard**, who was awarded in Cannes in 2007, and legendary French group **Les Négresses Vertes** will play in Romania for the first time at the **18th edition of the Transilvania International Festival** (Cluj, May 31 - June 9, 2017). The two concerts are presented at TIFF as part of the Romania-France Season 2019.

Soundtrack of Dreams: Jean-Michel Bernard Cine concert

Saturday, June 8, 6:30pm at the Students Culture House

Award-winning pianist, composer, arranger and producer Jean-Michel Bernard comes to Romania for the first time with his work for films directed by Michel Gondry or Martin Scorsese, as well as with famous film music scores by Lalo Schifrin or Ennio Morricone, featuring special guest Kimiko Ono, Bernard's collaborator of over two decades.

Tickets are available at: <https://bit.ly/2HUM6Oo>

Bernard is well-known for his scores for **Paris-Manhattan** (2012, dir. Sophie Lellouche), **Hugo** (2011, dir. Martin Scorsese), **Be Kind Rewind** (2008, dir. Michel Gondry), or **Madame Bovary** (1991, dir. Claude Chabrol), as well as for being one of the most important contemporary musicians. In addition to the cineconcert, he will present a master class in film music during the Romania-France Season at TIFF.

“This guy's a genius!” Ray Charles said about Bernard, with whom he played between 2000 and 2003. Bernard's early start in music included playing the piano by age two, receiving his first recognition from the Bordeaux Conservatory at 14, and recording with the London Philharmonic by 19. He began scoring animation films under the guidance of Lalo Schifrin and Ennio Morricone, eventually collaborating with great figures of world cinema: in 2007 his score for Michel Gondry's surreal romcom **La science des rêves** was awarded at Cannes and was included in the shortlist for the World Soundtrack Awards. Bernard and Gondry continued their collaboration (which had started in 2001 with **Human Nature**) with **Be Kind Rewind**, whose premiere at Sundance in 2008 was followed by a live music show including Bernard, rap artist Mos Def, and Gondry himself on the drums. The next year Cannes invited Bernard to represent France in the film score



concerts program. Bernard's work has also been recognized by the European Union of Film Music Composers (UCMF) and by the SACEM Grand Prix, awarded to him in 2017. Bernard was recently nominated to be a Steinway Artist

Les Négresses Vertes Concert

Tuesday, June 4, 7pm, Students Culture House

Reunited after an 18-year hiatus, the legendary French group **Les Négresses Vertes** will meet Romanian fans for the first time as part of a tour celebrating the 30th anniversary of their first album.

Tickets are available at: <https://bit.ly/2YOOdrN>

Founded in 1987 in the working-class neighborhoods of Paris, the band became a success with its first album, *Mlah*, an original mix of world music flamenco, punk attitude, and rock influences. They became one of the few international successes selling millions of albums without speaking in English. "Imagine Edith Piaf jamming with the Pogues and playing some sort of Latin music, not taking themselves seriously and just having lots of fun," music producer Laurent Marceau said in an interview for The World. "Well, that's Les Négresses Vertes, really." In the 1990s, the band explored new territories and collaborated with major artists like Massive Attack and Howie B. Following an 18-year hiatus, Les Négresses Vertes got back together last year for a tour that will include Romanian leg at TIFF 2019.

Both events are part of the 2019 Romania-France Season (www.sezonulromaniafranta.ro), organized with support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Institut Français and Groupama, between November 27, 2018, and July 14, 2019. This is a series of cultural events and exchanges between the two countries, celebrating the close relationship between two cultures just as Romania takes over the Presidency of the European Council and celebrates 100 years since the unification of Romania and the end of World War I. The Romania-France Season, however, is future-oriented, daring, and bold, extending the space for expression and visibility for contemporary creators from newer generations in both countries. TIFF is honored to join in this initiative.

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The Transilvania International Film Festival is organized by the Association for Romanian Film Promotion and the Transilvania Film Festival Association.