50 YEARS LATER

Memories of Mai ’68

A series of events and happenings on the University of Chicago campus that commemorate and re-examine the tumultuous month that forever changed France

Photography Exhibition

“Au Cœur de Mai 68” by Philippe Gras

A series of 43 captioned black and white photographs by Philippe Gras taken in Paris during “the events.” These images, discovered in the photographer’s personal archive shortly after his death in 2007, are remarkable both for their artistic quality and for the power with which they depict the spirit of this time.

May 1-25, 2018
Harper Memorial Library (1116 E. 60th St.)
West Reading Room

Film Screenings

Friday, May 4, 7:00 pm — Cobb Hall, #307

Un Etrange Printemps
(Dominique Baux, 2012, 180 minutes)
French with English subtitles

This film tells the story of May ’68 through first-hand accounts offered by the police, CEOs, politicians, civil servants, and protesters. Through these accounts, we come to a better understanding the strengths and weaknesses of a social order in deep crisis.

Friday, May 18, 7:00 pm — Logan Center #201

Soulèvement de Jeunesse
(Maurice Lemaitre, 1969, 20 minutes)
French with English subtitles

Maurice Lemaître’s remarkably ambitious and creative film about the revolt of May 68.

CinéTracts
(Marker, Resnais, Godard, etc, 70 minutes)
French with English subtitles

A series of 41 documentary shorts (2-4 minutes each) that espouse a leftist political viewpoint through the filmed depiction of the real-life events of May ’68 in Paris.

Friday, June 1, 7:00 pm — Logan Center #201

Mourir à Trente Ans
(Half a Life)
(Romain Goupil, 1982, 95 minutes)
French with English subtitles

Rarely seen in the United States, Romain Goupil’s documentary chronicles his and his friends’ firsthand experiences as a militant, teenage Trotskyites in 1960s France during the heyday of the French student movements that culminated with the events of May 1968. A filmic meditation on the transition from adolescence to adulthood during this tumultuous historical moment.

The film will be introduced by the director, who will also lead Q&A following the screening.

Roundtable Discussion

“The Legacy of May ’68 in France and the US”

with Jennifer Wild (Cinema & Media Studies), Laura Latinsky (Visual Arts), Robert Morrissey (Romance Languages & Literatures), Bill Sewell (History)

Those attending are strongly encouraged to view the photography exhibition (referenced above) prior to the discussion, as it will be a point of reference.

Monday, May 7, 4:00 pm
Social Sciences #201 (Tea Room)
Reception to Follow
Seating is limited, doors open at 3:40

Visiting Filmmaker

Romain Goupil (May 28-June 3, 2018)

Romain Goupil directed his first short films in 1962. In 1969, he became an assistant cinematographer, then an assistant director, notably for Chantal Akerman, Roman Polanski, and Jean-Luc Godard. In 1982, he directed his first feature film, Mourir à trente ans, about the student revolt in May 1968 in Paris. The film won the Camera d’Or at the Cannes Festival. The same year, the film was also nominated at the Oscars as Best Foreign Film and won the Cesar for the Best First Film. His last feature film, Les jours venus, was released in 2014.

Mr. Goupil will introduce Mourir à trente ans prior to the screening on June 1 and will lead Q&A afterward. (See Film Screenings)

This series is organized by the France Chicago Center with the partnership and strong support of the Cultural Services at the Consulate General of France in Chicago, the Film Studies Center, the Department of Cinema & Media Studies, the Department of Romance Languages & Literatures, the Office of Study Abroad in the College, and the Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality. All events in this series are free and open to the public.

Photo by Philippe Gras