

Valais Film Commission and Switzerland in the spotlight at CINEMANIA Festival.

Sion, 26 October 2023. The Valais Film Commission (VFC) will attend the 29th CINEMANIA Film Festival in Montreal (from 1 to 12 November 2023), where it aims to strengthen ties with the Canadian film industry through co-production agreements.

CINEMANIA is a French-language film festival that takes place every year in Montreal, and the Valais Film Commission will be heading to Canada to attend. The festival honours a different country every year, with Switzerland and Valais set to dazzle Quebec at the 2023 edition. "Foudre" ("Thunder"), a film shot in Valais by Carmen Jaquier, was used in the official festival art for the 29th edition and will take centre stage at CINEMANIA before representing Switzerland for a nomination at the 2024 Oscars.

VFC will be continuing its promotional work on the other side of the Atlantic with an unparalleled programme of films and events celebrating the creativity of French-speaking Switzerland. VFC aims to attract foreign productions to the region to ensure international recognition as a film location. "Film festivals and markets are vital in bringing about international co-productions and showcasing Valais' landscapes and VFC's facilitation services," explains Tristan Albrecht, Valais Film Commissioner.

VFC is partnering with the Culture Department of the Canton of Valais, Switzerland Tourism, Swiss Films, the Consulate General of Switzerland in Montreal, Presence Switzerland and the CINEMANIA Festival to put together a professional programme of events including round tables and photo exhibitions. There will be a number of activities focusing on productions that were either filmed in the canton of Valais or created by Valais natives, including "Laissez-moi" ("Let Me Go") by Maxime Rappaz, "Foudre" by Carmen Jacquier and "La Voie Royale" ("The Path of Excellence"), the latest film by Frédéric Mermoud.

Further information:

Valais Film Commission: <u>https://valaisfilmcommission.ch/en/</u> CINEMANIA: <u>https://www.festivalcinemania.com/en/</u> GoldenEggProduction: <u>http://www.goldeneggproduction.ch/homepage/</u>

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