

2015 MEMORY BOOK

FESTIVAL CINÉ ALTER'NATIF

6th edition

2 - 10 October 2015 in Paris, Nantes, Grenoble and La Turballe, France

*The first European Festival dedicated to fictional and documentary films
and made exclusively by Indigenous filmmakers and media artists*



delaplumealecran@yahoo.com - <http://delaplumealecran.org>



THE ONLY EVENT OF ITS KIND IN EUROPE

France has an increasing number of film festivals featuring fiction films and documentaries that touch on Indigenous themes. However, no festival has ever been exclusively devoted to showcasing films made **by and for** Native Americans. Yet these films, numerous and varied, do indeed exist. Thanks to its rich and ambitious programme, the Festival Ciné Alter'Natif has finally made it possible to showcase these films in France.

THE 2015 FESTIVAL A FEW FACTS AND FIGURES

- Close to 2000 audience members
- 13 days of programming
- 11 different screening venues and meeting places across 8 towns and cities
- 24 screenings followed by discussions
- 50 short and feature-length films, 45 of which were premieres in France and subtitled by our team
- 1 professional encounter
- 3 Native American guests (from the US and Mexico)
- 3 screenings with professional sign-language interpreters
- 2 fundraising concerts



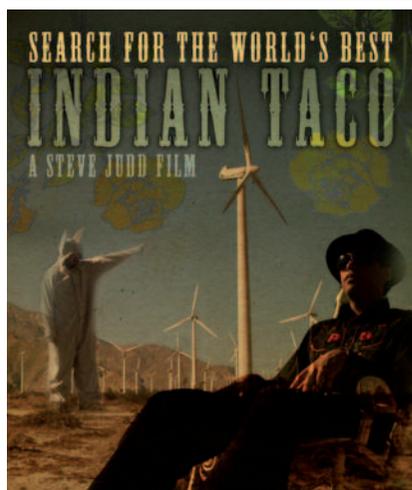
- 1 - Steven Paul Judd
- 2 - Cinéma Le Concorde, our partner since 2009
- 3 - mettre AND à la place de ET
- 4 - Amber Michel, producer, and Steven Paul Judd at Saillé
- 5 - Stéphane Athimon and Steven Paul Judd at the Junior High School of la Petite Lande - Rezé
- 6 - Solidarity night at the Cinéma La Clef in Paris

AN ORIGINAL, RICH AND AMBITIOUS PROGRAM

With Native American guests present, the Festival Ciné Alter'Natif team, which is entirely made up of volunteers, provides a platform for a different kind of cinema from North and South America. The Festival allows audiences to discover the great diversity of Indigenous cinema (short and feature-length films, fiction and nonfiction films), its artistic richness as well as the stories that it tells, funny at times, but always powerful.

Over the years we have created strong links with several Native American production companies and we regularly attend various international film festivals. As we are constantly on the lookout for new films, we have once again been able to offer you a collection of recent Native American productions so as to share our love for Native American cinema with you.

This 6th edition of the Festival Ciné Alter'Natif has enabled more people than ever before in the history of the festival to discover some real artistic gems.

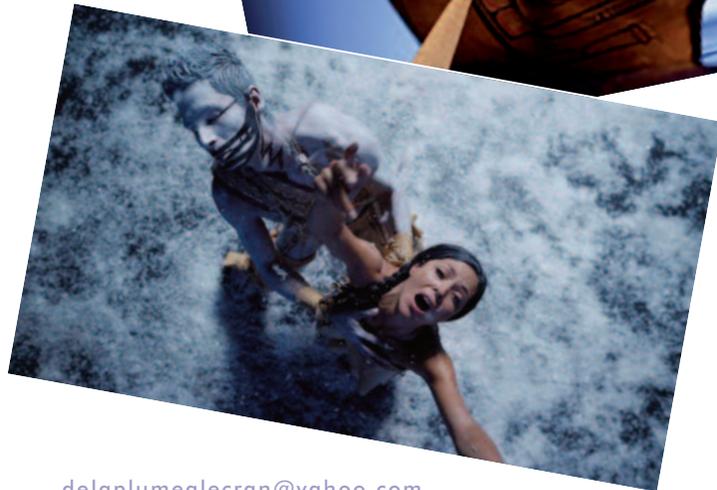
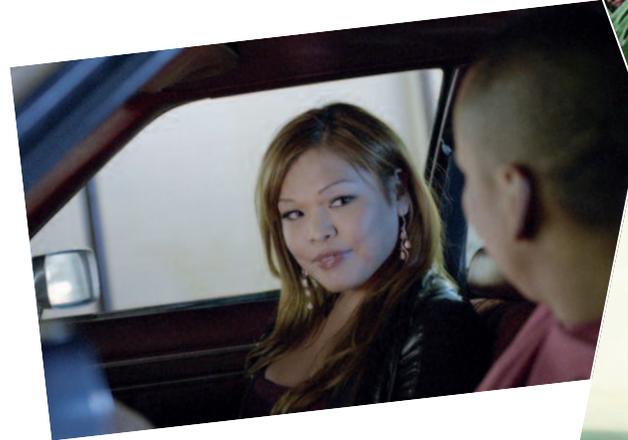


7 NEW THEMES

The 2015 programme was made up of **50 films** from Indigenous communities across the American continent, including **45 films previously unreleased in France with most of them subtitled by our team.** The films were divided into 7 themes:

- Echoes of the Earth - Indigenous perspectives on climate change
- Double Spirits: resistance, gender, and decolonisation
- The (Anti-) Heroes of our imagination
- Women!
- Life journeys
- Draw me a story
- Body and Writing

Details concerning these themes for each film can be found on our website www.delaplumealecran.org



NANTES-SEATTLE: TWINNING HONORED FOR THE THIRD YEAR IN A ROW

To celebrate the 35th anniversary of the twinning of Nantes and Seattle and also to acknowledge the support given by the city of Nantes since the very beginning of the Festival Ciné Alter'Natif, De la Plume à l'Écran joined forces with the Direction Attractivité Internationale and the Maison des États-Unis for the opening night of the festival in the presence of our Native American guests of honor: Steve Judd (Kiowa/ Choctaw), Sydney Freeland (Navajo), Concepción Suarez Aguilar (Maya) and Amber Michel (Tlingit).



Speeches were given by:

- Sophie Gergaud, President of the association De la Plume à l'Écran and Director of the Festival Ciné Alter'Natif
- Gildas Salaün, Municipal Councillor for Cultural Affairs for the city of Nantes
- Nicolas Martin, Deputy Mayor and Municipal Councillor for Youth for the city of Nantes
- Eva Prévost from the US Consulate in Rennes
- Mariette Cassouret, President of the Maison des Etats-Unis



1 - Steve Judd, Amber Michel, Sophie Gergaud
 2 - Mariette Cassouret, Solène Merville, Concepción Suarez Aguilar, Sydney Freeland
 3 - Gildas Salaün, Eva Prévost, Mariette Cassouret
 4 - Concepción Suarez Aguilar, Sydney Freeland, Steve Judd
 5 - Christian Véron and Nicolas Martin



CROSSING VIEWS WITH TEENAGERS...

Stereotypes of Native Americans are particularly visible in TV programmes and cultural activities designed for young people, even those aimed at very young children. One of the main educational aims of the Festival Ciné Alter'Natif is to better identify the stereotypes promoted by the media, to understand how such representations can influence public perception and create discrimination, and to promote, from a very early age, a better understanding of Native American communities in order to encourage intercultural dialogue.

The involvement of middle and high school students in the development of the programme has been particularly significant this year. In June 2015, close to 400 youths gathered to watch the 25 pre-selected short films and to pick their 10 favorites, which were then shown throughout the festival during the "Life Journeys" sessions.

School screenings were also organized, bringing together a hundred or so high school students. Our guests also gave talks in schools, notably at the Pôle des Arts Graphiques in Nantes, at Collège de la Petite-Lande, a junior high school in Rezé and at Lycée Guist'hau, a high school in Nantes. All in all, almost 500 young people voted for the Best Short Youth Film 2015. (see page 16).



CROSSING VIEWS WITH TEENAGERS...

The Festival Ciné Alter'Natif gave young audiences and their teachers the opportunity to meet Native American filmmakers in person, thus taking their awareness of Indigenous issues a step further and banishing any one-dimensional stereotypes they might have had about Indians once and for all.

Many thanks go to Stéphane Athimon from Collège de la Petite-Lande in Rezé and to the many students who came to the festival.

Pictures 1 to 5 : Junior High School of la Petite-Lande at Rezé - Picture 6 : Guist'hau high school - Picture 7 : Junior High School students members of the Youth Jury during the closing night



NEW IN 2015: ANIMATED FILMS

There are many different types of film animation techniques - paper cutting, puppetry, modelling clay, computer generated images - and Native American filmmakers, whether amateur or professional, have really invested in this growing artistic field. For the first time at the Festival Ciné Alter'Natif, this 6th edition showed a selection of animated films made by Native Americans from all four corners of the continent. These films captivated audiences with their extremely personal visual universes and the wide range of animation and narrative techniques used.



L'Orphelin et l'ours polaire de Neil Christopher et Louise Flaherty (Canada)

The "Draw me a story..." session, shown in Paris and Nantes, took part in the **Fête du Cinéma d'animation** that was organised by the AFCA (Association française du cinéma d'animation) and during which more than 300 events were organized throughout the year in France. **Thanks to this new partnership, the Festival Ciné Alter'Natif has further expanded its professional network dedicated to showcasing Native American films in France.**

Fin De by Federico Cuatlacualt (Mexico)



Sloth (Paresse) by Alethea Arnaquq Baril (Canada)



Indigo by Amanda Strong (Canada)



Neil discovers the moon by Steve Judd (USA)



OFF-SITE SCREENINGS

Ever year, various associations and institutions contact us expressing the desire to organize more screenings and events parallel to the official festival program, thereby increasing the nationwide dimension of this festival, truly the only one of its kind in France.

OCTOBER: THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE FESTIVAL...

For the 2015 edition, off-site screenings took place in Paris, Grenoble and La Turballe during the high point of the festival with our guests of honour Steve Judd, Sydney Freeland and Concepción Suarez in attendance. Meeting the filmmakers was an enriching experience for the numerous festivalgoers who were curious and captivated and led to inspiring discussions and genuine moments of exchange.

Once again this year, the Festival Ciné Alter'Natif stood out as the annual meeting place for Native American cinema in all its diverse forms.



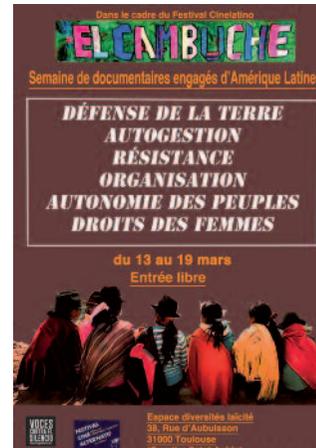
- 1 - Amber Michel, Steve Judd, Sydney Freeland, Sophie Gergaud
- 2 - Solène Merville, Concepcion Suarez, Sophie Gergaud
- 3 - Sydney Freeland
- 4 - Sophie Gergaud, Steve Judd, Sydney Freeland
- 5 - Solidarity night
- 6 - Cinéma La Clef in Paris

...AND ALL YEAR LONG

After the highlight of the festival in October, the Festival Ciné Alter'Natif continued thanks to the organisation of off-site screenings at the request of other festivals, associations or film programme planners who had been impressed with the quality of the festival's films and the originality of the themes from our 2015 selection.

It was the first time that our partners gave us free rein to organise their own events. This shows just how much Native American cinema, which we have been promoting for many years now, really has a place in the French cinematographic landscape.

- **Nantes (west of France), 7th November 2015: the session "Echoes of the Earth and Native American Perspectives on Climate Change"** was organised as part of the Semaine de la solidarité internationale (International Solidarity Week) by the Maison des Citoyens du Monde.
- **Marly (north east of France), 14th November 2015: the session "Body and Writing"** was organised by the Mosellan Centre for Human Rights and Forgotten Troubadours at Marlymages cinema theatre. In addition to this, a session entitled "Tales of the Great North" rescreened a selection of 10 Canadian short films of all genres.
- **Laval (west of France), 5th March 2016: The session "(Anti-) Heroes of our Imagination"** was organised by the Festival Reflets du Cinéma which, this year, was dedicated to independent American cinema.
- **Toulouse (south west of France), 15th March 2016:** this session rescreened 4 short films from Latin America organised by the El Cambuche Association as part of the Cinélatino festival.
- **Digne-les-Bains (south east of France), 24th March 2016: the session "Body and Writing"** was organised as part of the 44th Cinematographic Conference in Digne-les-Bains.



PROFESSIONAL ENCOUNTERS IN THE PAYS DE LA LOIRE REGION

Over the years, the Festival Ciné Alter’Natif has developed professional contacts within its network of the Pays de la Loire region with a view of benefitting the Indigenous filmmakers participating in the festival. The aim is to help them carry out their artistic career plan and to serve as a megaphone to spread the word on the struggles they cover in their films.

For the second time, **a master class with OPCAL** (Organisation for Cinema and Audiovisual Professionals in the Pays de la Loire) was organized during the festival. This year, the chosen theme was: "Advantages and disadvantages of categorizing films according to genre. Crossing perspectives on Indigenous experiences." Everyone was able to learn more about production conditions and the organization of the professional process in each of the different countries that were represented. Constructive exchanges occurred with actors, directors and producers of the Pays de la Loire region who in turn were made more aware of the realities faced by Native Americans.



WHEN SOLIDARITY AND ART GO HAND IN HAND

The Festival Alter'Natif is also a key moment that allows us to express **our solidarity with Indigenous peoples and nations** by informing the public on the struggles they encounter when their fundamental rights are denied in their countries and on the mobilisation that surrounds their causes.

Thanks to the Region of the Pays de Loire and its FRASICOD ICI program, our support was materialized through encounters bringing together our Native American guests and the French public, and more specifically residents of the Loire region, following screenings where film served as fodder for discussion and a call for solidarity. All along the festival, we also invited speakers from organizations engaged in mobilization campaigns: solidarity events were organized in Paris (Saturday evening, October 3rd) and in Nantes (Saturday evening, October 10th). These speakers gave the public ideas on how to get involved; and outside of the screenings, they exchanged with our Native American guests in view of reinforcing their respective advocacy campaigns, especially when they met with the Pays de Loire solidarity networks with which we are involved, like the Maison des Citoyens du Monde and the Alcid.

The 2015 Festival Ciné Alter'Natif was a place that fostered encounters:

- **positive encounters** aimed at promoting solutions for defending rights
- **creative encounters** based on the artistic and innovative talent of younger Indigenous generations
- and **encounters characterized by solidarity** providing ideas to help us live together more peacefully, respecting each other's cultural specificities.



Several types of fundamental rights were highlighted through the themes of the films and the various encounters:

- **the rights of Indigenous women** who face a form of double discrimination. The Festival's thematic session "Women!" was entirely devoted to them, foregrounding the campaigns in support of the family members of the missing and murdered Aboriginal women in Canada. Our guest, Concepcion Suarez, gave a poignant account of the violence suffered by women in Mexico, which also left an impression on the public.
- **natural resources and environmental protection**, with special attention to the fight against climate change with the session "Echoes of the Earth - Indigenous perspectives on climate change". Indigenous people are the first ones to be affected by climate change, which bears an irreversible impact on their daily lives and culture. And yet, they often feel that they are left out of the international debates on the topic...



- **LGBT rights** with the session “Double Spirits: resistance, gender, and decolonisation” offering a better understanding of a multi-gendered world within Indigenous cultures
- **the right to self-determination and freedom of expression**, whether it be through film or any other type of community media. The camera is often a tool of resistance. Through its actions, De la Plume à l’Ecran provides an audience to Native American filmmakers so that their films may be viewed in France and their voices heard without the hindrance of an intermediary.

Our thanks go out to the Cedidelp for their support in the Festival’s international solidarity endeavors which are part of the Paris City Hall’s project “Tous pour le climat”.

We would also like to thank the Pays de Loire Region for contributing to the international dimension of our activities. Their support is essential because every year there are more and more citizens from the region who participate in the festival.



EVENTS MADE ACCESSIBLE FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING

Solidarity also entails making our events accessible for the deaf and hard of hearing. In spite of the financial cutbacks that we suffered, we continued the work allowing accessibility that we had started several years ago. Three sessions in Nantes were thus offered to the deaf and hard of hearing thanks to the volunteer work of French sign language interpreters. Sincere thanks to them.

The exchanges we had with the deaf and hard of hearing were magnificent moments, very much appreciated by our Native American guests.

Once again, thanks to our translators our agreed to work on a voluntary basis: Sabine, Jocelyne, Vanessa and Amélie.



"OCT. 10TH AT THE DIX" IN NANTES: THE CLOSING NIGHT: AN EVENING FULL OF FUN

The closing evening has over the years become a key moment. The team now celebrates the end of the Festival Alter'Natif at the community and performing arts hall, the DIX, in Nantes - a pure moment of conviviality! With free access for all, the closing evening is an opportunity for the public to meet our Native American guests in an informal setting, around a buffet set up by our volunteer workers in support of our association.

For the first time, this year an award ceremony was organized. The following prizes were awarded:

- **The City of Nantes' Youth Prize went to Juan M. Fernandez Chico (Tarahumara)'s film *El Camino de Felipe*. A special mention was awarded to the film *The Man Who Killed God* by Noé Tom and Wao Xintro (Oro Wari).** This prize was awarded by over 500 junior high school students in the region of Nantes. It was given to the filmmakers by Grade 8 students, in the presence of their teacher Stéphane Athimon, from the Junior High School of La Petite-Rande de Lézé, having participated in the selection of the films belonging to the thematic session "Life Journeys".
- **The People's Choice Award went to *Drunktown's Finest*, a film by Sidney Freeland (Diné).** This prize was awarded by all the audience members who attended the festival in Paris and in Nantes.
- **The Best Animated Film Award went to *Neil Discovers the Moon* by Steven Paul Judd (Kiowa/Choctaw)..** This prize was awarded by all those who attended the sessions "Draw me a story", devoted to animated films in Paris and in Nantes.



OUR DEDIDACTED VOLUNTEERS

Our volunteers are the supporting pillars of our association. Without our small team of year-round volunteers devoted to preparing events, programming screenings, and to fund raising, the Festival Ciné'Alternatif would not exist. Our existence is also due to all those volunteers who join us once the Festival is in full swing. They guarantee that the Festival turns out to be a huge success every year! The Festival's success resides in their ongoing generosity and energy.

Special thanks to: Anne, Cécile, Sophie, Catherine and Christian, Véronique and Patrick, Solène, Monique, Marie-Odile, Rose-Marie, Stéfanie, Jeff, Chloé, Danielle and Thierry, Babet, Elodie, Amandine, Aurélie and Gaël, Euryale, Céline, Adrian, Sylvia, Paulo, Antonietta, Gül, Amandine and the members of the association "Coup de Food", Florence-Marie, Anouk, and Alma.

... who will join us in 2016?



OUR PARTNERS

THE FESTIVAL CINÉ ALTER'NATIF COULD NOT HAVE HAPPENED WITHOUT ANY FINANCIAL SUPPORT.

We express our sincere thanks to:

- the City of Nantes
- the Region of the Pays-de-la-Loire and their program FrasicodICI
- the Cedidelp in Paris, a Mediatheque for social movements
- the Foundation "Un Monde Par Tous"
- Maya Kallevig-Gilbert from Tobacco Row, Billings (Montana)

Our Partner Associations and Organizations:

- Le Concorde movie theater
- La Clef movie theater
- The Canadian Cultural Centre in Paris
- Marlymages in Marly
- Collectif du DIX
- The local group of Amnesty International in Nantes
- OPCAL (Organisation de professionnels du cinéma et de l'audiovisuel ligériens) <http://www.opcal.fr/>
- The Association Coup de Food - ESSCA

Our Off-site Partners

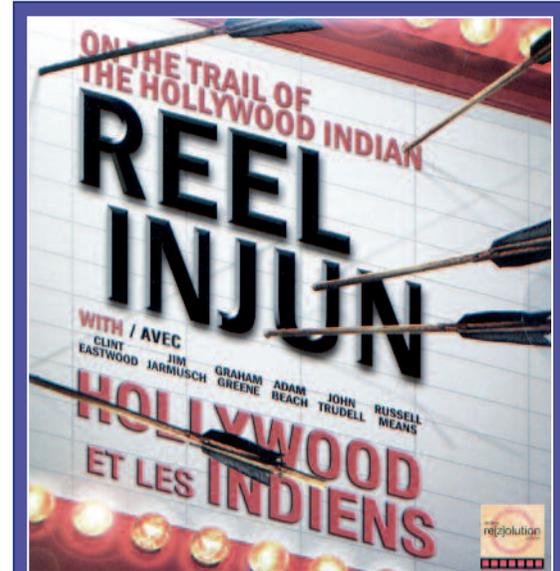
Troubadours Oubliés

Le Centre mosellan des droits de l'homme

Atmosphères 53 et les Reflets du cinéma

Les Rencontres cinématographiques de Digne-les-Bains

El Cambuche and the festival Cinélatino



REEL INJUN

when you buy the film, you are supporting the festival !

Rezolution Pictures, the company that produced the famous film tracing one century of representations of American Indians in the Hollywood films, chose to become a partner of our Festival. Our association, De la Plume à l'Ecran, is the exclusive distributor of Reel Injun in France, and so each DVD sold is a precious donation to the Festival Ciné Alter'Natif ! So please go and check out our online shop! <http://delaplumealecran.org/#btq;DVD>

Our Programming Partners

We sincerely thank the following for their amazing collaboration:

- Jason Ryle and Daniel Northway-Frank, ImagineNative
- Fran Sienicki, Nehst Media Enterprises
- Jessie Hale, Taqut Productions
- Ian Skorodin, Skinsplex / LA Film festival
- James Ruel, Southern California Indian Center
- Yareni Velázquez, Ambulante Más Allá
- Tracy Rector, Longhouse media
- Wapikoni Mobile, Québec
- Julie and Chad Burris, Indian Films

Our Communication Partners

- Pulsomatic <http://www.pulsomatic.com/>
- Jet FM <http://www.jetfm.asso.fr/site/>
- PRUN' <http://www.prun.net/>
- SUN <http://www.lesonunique.com>
- Radio Libertaire (Paris) <http://media.radio-libertaire.org/>
- Radio Jerico www.radiojerico.com
- Revue Altermondes <http://altermondes.org/>
- Maison des Citoyens du Monde <http://www.mcm44.org/>
- Association Nantes Jacksonville Seattle <http://www.nantes-usa.org/>
- Survival International



PEPPER SCISSORS

<http://pepperscissors.blogspot.fr/>



A partner of the 6th edition of the Festival, designer Sarah Poulain from Pepper Scissors, made the badges for our guest and volunteers as well as the prizes awarded at the festival. Check out her site PepperScissors to discover her unique, hand-made creations.



DE LA PLUME A L'ECRAN

The Festival Ciné Alter'Natif is an event organized by De la Plume à l'Écran, an organization that began in 2008 to combat stereotypes involving Native Americans, mainly disseminated by films and the media.

De la Plume à l'Écran is also :

- Showings and debates centered around films that touch on issues related to American Indians
- Conferences covering many different themes surrounding the history and/or contemporary struggles of American Indians. We also give presentations to schoolchildren (pre- school, elementary and secondary level).
- *Photography exhibitions. Discover the expositions, "Lakota: De la Survie à la Survivance" and "Les Yeux des Sans Voix", currently touring France.*
- Publication of C@mérindien, the first French newsletter that provides a quarterly analysis of what's new in American Indian cinema.
- A resource center (films, books, online articles)
- Advice and support to associations or structures wishing to organize screenings of films created by Native Americans.
- A major effort to subtitle films created by American Indians that have not yet been released in France.

The Festival Ciné Alter'Natif is one of the main goals of the association as it aims to give a voice to American Indian cinematographic production in all its magnificent diversity. The team behind the festival is entirely made up of volunteers.



THE FESTIVAL IN THE MEDIA

You can listen to our guests on the following radio shows:

RADIO

"Le Midi" / Radio Jet FM on Thursday October 8th, in Nantes (live), with Steven Paul Judd (Kiowa/Choctaw) and Sydney Freeland (Diné).

<http://tinyurl.com/j4o7lfj>

Alternantes mercredi 7 octobre 16h30,

SUN Radio émission « Le 17/19 » Wednesday, October 7th, (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=swkfiTlxEO>)

Radio Grésivaudan, Emission "Le chant de la terre" with Sydney Freeland and Steve Judd (<http://tinyurl.com/zdvfty4>), and with Concepcion Suarez <http://tinyurl.com/htmrrps>

OR, READ ABOUT THEM IN THE PRESS:

- « Ils s'impliquent pour le Festival Ciné Alter'Natif », Ouest France, 3/06/2015
- « Des élèves très critiques », Presse Océan, 12/06/2015
- « Festival Ciné Alter'Natif à la Turballe », Presse Océan, 28/09/2015
- « Des élèves au Festival Ciné Alter'Natif », Rezé mensuel, Octobre 2015
- « Deux films en exclusivité au Cinéma L'Atlantic », L'Echo de la Presqu'île, 2/10/2015
- « Festival Ciné Alter'Natif avec les Navajos et les Inuit », Ouest France, 7/10/2015
- « A la découverte du cinéma amérindien au Concorde », Ouest France, 8/10/2015
- « Un réalisateur amérindien à la Petite-Lande », Ouest France, 10-11/10/2015
- « Un cinéaste à la rencontre des collégiens », Presse Océan, 14/10/2015
- « Druntown's Finest gets rave in Europe », Indian Country Today Media Network, 9/11/2015



Le réalisateur américain Steven Paul Judd est venu présenter ses courts-métrages aux élèves du collège de la Petite-Lande.

SEE YOU IN 2016 FOR THE SEVENTH EDITION!

The program will be rich and varied with fiction and documentary films, experimental and animated films, short and feature-length films, directed and produced by Native Americans, screened in the presence of artists, filmmakers and producers! There will also be an exhibition and concerts... In the meantime, check out the online photoreport

and relive the best moments from the Festival Ciné Alter'Natif thanks to the work of our volunteer photographers. Many thanks to them! <http://tinyurl.com/h9wpgll>

TO CONTACT US :

delaplumealecran@yahoo.com

 www.delaplumealecran.org

 DeLaPlumeLEcran

DE LA PLUME A LECRAN

Sophie Gergaud (Président of the festival): 06 61 31 45 83

Christian Véron (Public Relations): 06 11 77 13 64

Photos by Patrick Le Thiesse, Solene Merville, Paulo Serrato, Cécile Vaillant

Created/Written by Sophie Gergaud - Design: Anne Killian-Deligne

