

The **MELBOURNE** Salon

French & Australian Dialogues

You are invited to the next Melbourne Salon at the Alliance Française
51 Grey St., St. Kilda
Thursday 2nd May 2019, 7pm - 9 pm

French Cinema: The New Wave and its Legacy **Dr Andrew McGregor**



What is cinema? was a question famously asked in 1958 by André Bazin, founder of the French film journal *Cahiers du cinéma*, to which such luminaries as François Truffaut and Jean-Luc Godard contributed as film critics, along with other notable contemporaries who went on to become famous filmmakers in their own right. The late 1950s saw the dawn of what was to become known as the French New Wave, a brief but memorable period in film history that was characterised by youthful vitality, unprecedented artistic licence, technical innovation and a profound reinvention of the role of the film director as the *auteur* or the author of his or her work. It was a clear departure from the theatricality of classic French cinema, the traditional *cinéma de qualité*, or *cinéma de papa*, as Truffaut derided it, towards a more personal form of artistic creation, whether it be the representation of a particular world view, an individual take on an established film genre or, in the case of Jean-Luc Godard, something that pushes the boundaries of our understanding of what cinema is and of what it can be. In this Melbourne Salon we will explore the careers of key filmmakers of the French New Wave such as François Truffaut, Jean-Luc Godard, Claude Chabrol, Alain Resnais, Jacques Rivette, Eric Rohmer and Agnès Varda and examine their lasting legacy in the context of contemporary French and international cinema.



Dr Andrew McGregor lectures in French Studies at The University of Melbourne, where he obtained his PhD in French Studies. He completed a Masters in Film Studies at the Université de Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne and received a personal accreditation to attend the 52nd Cannes International Film Festival. Andrew is the founding co-editor of the *Film Cultures* series for Peter Lang Academic Publishing, Switzerland. He lectures and publishes on French and European cinema and particularly on the representation and interpretation of cultural identities in film.

Cover charge (includes cheese and wine) \$20; Bookings and pre-payment essential please:

<https://www.afmelbourne.com.au/culture-and-events/special-events/melbourne-salon-the-new-wave-and-its-legacy/>