

ÉCOLE NATIONALE SUPÉRIEURE  
DES MÉTIERS DE L'IMAGE ET DU SON

La femis

member of  
PSL   
RESEARCH UNIVERSITY PARIS

INTERNATIONAL  
partnerships & programmes  
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Founded in 1986, La Fémis is a national state school supervised by the French Ministry of Culture and Media and the French Ministry of Higher Education and funded by the CNC (Centre National du Cinéma et de l'Image Animée). International award-winning film director Raoul Peck (*I Am Not Your Negro* – Toronto International Film Festival 2016 - People's Choice Award For Documentary, *Fatal Assistance* – Berlinale 2013, *Moloch Tropical* – Berlinale 2010, *Lumumba...*) chairs the school. Nathalie Coste Cerdan is the General Director.

Since 1986, La Fémis has trained over 1 500 students in all filmmaking skills: directors, screenwriters, producers, editors, DoP, sound engineers, production designers, continuity supervisors, distributors and exhibitors. In 2013, La Fémis created a new department training students in TV series writing and 2014, a one-year full-time training program for 4 young aspiring filmmakers without diploma requirement called *La Résidence*. The school has also a research programme named SACRe which was developed within the research and higher education cluster PSL (Paris Sciences et Lettres).

La Fémis has become a reference in France and abroad, providing an excellent level of training (50 students are selected each year among around 1 200 applicants), based on high standards regarding films, permanent artistic cross collaborations between the various departments and more generally, courses balanced between artistic research, professional development and technical training.

Since 1986, La Fémis' students have directed more than 2 800 short films, fictions and documentaries. Often more than mere exercises, some of these films are genuine works containing the seeds of new talent, which have been selected and rewarded in many festivals (Cannes Film Festival, Berlin Film Festival, Clermont Ferrand Short Film Festival...)

Alumni have turned into directors such as Emmanuelle Bercot, Claire Burger, Thomas Cailley, Jean-Paul Civeyrac, Samuel Collardey, Antony Cordier, Émilie Deleuze, Arnaud des Pallières, Ariane Doublet, Deniz Gamze Ergüven, Noémie Lvovsky, Laetitia Masson, François Ozon, Céline Sciamma, Marina de Van, Rebecca Zlotowski and many others. La Fémis has also trained well known cinematographers, sound engineers, mixers, editors...

For more than 10 years now, La Fémis has set as one of its main priorities to develop international partnerships and student's mobility:

- Setting up student exchange agreements with international film schools,
- Creating special programmes for foreign students,
- Organizing a short programme for European documentary filmmakers,
- Organizing a one year programme for European producers,
- Exporting the know-how of the school.

# I. STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES

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In today's constantly changing film environment marked by the globalization and internationalization of the film industry and the rising number of co-productions, it is essential for film schools to build bridges between faculty, students and staff in order to better understand each other's curricula, exchange teachers, and foster contacts and mutual understanding between students who will very likely work together on future films.

Since 2006, La Fémis' aim has been to send all the students from one department for a period going from 2 to 6 weeks to a foreign film school. Eleven exchange programmes have already been set up concerning all departments: with Columbia University for the screenwriting students, l'École Cantonale des Arts de Lausanne (ECAL) for the editing and continuity students, Universidad del Cine – FUC, California Institute of the arts (CalArts) and the Beijing Film Academy (BFA) for the directing students, Korean Academy of Film Arts (KAFA) and Tokyo University of the Arts for the producing students, INSAS for continuity students, the VGIK for the sound students, the Film and Television Institute of India (FTII) for production design students and the Hochschule für Fernsehen und Film München (HFF) for the cinematography, distribution and exhibition students. Beside these exchange programmes, La Fémis has set up a partnership with the Filmakademie of Baden-Württemberg, which consists of welcoming their students for a term.

## 1 – Columbia University – New York (since 2006)

Columbia University website: [www.columbia.edu](http://www.columbia.edu)

### *La Fémis students at Columbia University:*

6 third-year screenwriting students from La Fémis spend 5 weeks in New York. They first attend a short film scriptwriting workshop run by world known playwright Israel Horovitz with 6 writing students from Columbia University. The second part of their programme is focused on a TV series writing workshop taught by well known TV writers. They also have the opportunity to attend other classes provided by the Film School of Columbia University such as directing classes, courses on US film production...

### *Columbia University students at La Fémis:*

- 1 directing student from Columbia University write, prepare and shoot over a period of 10 weeks a short film written in collaboration with a Fémis scriptwriter. This

workshop focuses on directing actors with the participation of student actors from a Parisian Drama Art school. The shooting is done half on a movie set and half on real locations.

- 3 producing students from Columbia University follow for 6 weeks the Atelier Ludwigsburg-Paris program, covering European co-productions through an internship with a sales agent during the Cannes Film Festival.

Within this exchange program, La Fémis hosts in Paris each year a screenwriting teacher from Columbia University for 5 weeks in June to teach La Fémis second-year producing students. Columbia professors are professional screenwriters who teach tools and methodology very specific to the art of storytelling.

## 2 – École Cantonale des Arts de Lausanne - ECAL (since 1997)

ECAL website: [www.ecal.ch](http://www.ecal.ch)

The third-year editing students from La Fémis study during 6 weeks in ECAL (Lausanne – Switzerland), to edit directing students' graduation films (fictions or documentaries). The rerecording of those films is made at La Fémis.

La Fémis hosts, in return, students from the ECAL Editing MA who follow the second-year curriculum of the editing department during a month.

From 2015, La Fémis continuity students also participate in the shooting of ECAL directing students' graduation films.

## 3 - The Filmakademie of Baden-Württemberg – Ludwigsburg (since 2007)

Filmakademie website: [www.fimakademie.de](http://www.fimakademie.de)

A complete film crew (screenwriter, director, producer, 2 cinematographers and an editor) of students from the Filmakademie spend 15 weeks at La Fémis to prepare, write and shoot a short fiction film, along with La Fémis third-year students. The post-production is made in Germany.

#### 4 - Universidad del Cine - FUC – Buenos Aires (since 2008)

FUC website: [www.ucine.edu.ar](http://www.ucine.edu.ar)

3 students trained as directors of photography at the Universidad del Cine attend a 4-month programme including a workshop on light with French directors of photography and a course on the role of the DoP assistant. They work also as assistant DoP on third year fiction films.

In return, 2 third-year directing students from La Fémis shoot a film (fiction or documentary) in Buenos Aires for 6 weeks with the support and assistance of the Universidad del Cine.

This programme is supported by the French Embassy in Argentina.

#### 5 – CalArts – California institute of the Arts – Los Angeles (since 2011)

CalArts website: [www.calarts.edu](http://www.calarts.edu)

2 third-year directing students from La Fémis attend during 6 weeks a feature film scriptwriting workshop run by a CalArts scriptwriting teacher. They can also attend other classes offered by the Film Directing Department.

In return, La Fémis hosts one CalArts directing student to attend the second year actors' directing workshop (write, prepare and shoot a film in Paris in the same conditions as a student from CU and the 6 other Fémis directing students).

#### 6 – Tokyo University of the Arts - Geidai (since 2010) and Korean Academy of Film Arts – KAFA – Seoul (since 2014)

Geidai website: [www.geidai.ac.jp/english/film/index.html](http://www.geidai.ac.jp/english/film/index.html)

KAFA website: [www.kafa.ac](http://www.kafa.ac)

La Fémis producing students have the opportunity to attend classes and lectures in one of the 2 films schools in Asia La Fémis have set up a partnership with: Geidai and KAFA. Every other year, La Fémis students are hosted by one of these 2 schools for a 2-week session where they work on case-studies including the production and release of domestic films produced in the 3 countries, and attend a practical filming workshop.

In return, La Fémis welcomes in December Japanese producing students for a one-week seminar with producing case studies seen from an European point of view.

This programme is supported by the French Embassies in Japan and South Korea.

7 – Institut National Supérieur des Arts du Spectacle – INSAS – Brussels (since 2011)

INSAS website: [www.insas.be](http://www.insas.be)

La Fémis and INSAS exchange script continuity students to be members of a student film's crew (third year or graduation film) and to attend classes (the history of editing for Fémis students, 3D and TV shooting for INSAS students).

8 – VGIK – Moscow (since 2013)

VGIK website: [www.vgik.info](http://www.vgik.info)

6 VGIK sound students attend during 10 days in April a specific training workshop on direct sound. 6 Fémis third-year sound students spend 10 days in Moscow afterwards to attend a workshop on music recording and rerecording music for image.

9 - Hochschule Fur Fernsehen und Film München – HFF (since 2013)

HFF website: [www.hff-muc.de](http://www.hff-muc.de)

8 HFF fourth-year producing and media students and the 8 second-year exhibition and distribution La Fémis students attend a two-week common seminar in April (one week at La Fémis, one week at the HFF) on the acquisition and distribution of French and German films regarding each territory and have practical case studies on the release of German / French films. They also visit some movie theaters in Paris and Munich.

This programme was supported in 2014 and in 2016 by the Office Franco-Allemand pour la Jeunesse (OFAJ).

Since 2016, another exchange program has been set up with this German school and concerns the cinematography students.

6 Fémis and 6 HFF cinematography students attend a common workshop on special effects which lasts one month. The first 2 weeks, students shoot at La Fémis on a green set some sequences with a director and a special effect supervisor. The second part of the programme happens in Munich where students edit and post-produce the sequences shot previously.

#### 10 – Film and Television Institute of India – FTII – Pune (since 2013)

FTII website: [www.ftiindia.com](http://www.ftiindia.com)

2 editing students from the FTII attend a course on special effects with La Fémis editing students. And 2 production designing students from the FTII attend a practical workshop with the third-year Fémis students. They have to go through the whole process of set design preparation for a feature length film based on its script.

The fourth-year production designing students from La Fémis spend one month in Pune in January to understand the Indian perspective of production design by collaborating on short films.

This programme is supported by the French Embassy in India and by the Indian Embassy in France.

#### 11 – Beijing Film Academy - BFA (since 2015)

BFA website: [www.bfa.edu.cn](http://www.bfa.edu.cn)

2 third-year directing students from La Fémis collaborate on the preparation and shooting of documentaries made by BFA students from the documentary MFA during 6 weeks. In return, La Fémis hosts in October 2 directing students from the BFA who follow the sound track workshop with the third-year Fémis scriptwriting students, where they write a synopsis based on a original sound track recorded in a specific place in Paris.

## II. PROGRAMMES FOR FOREIGN STUDENTS

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### 1 – Summer University of La Fémis (since 1989)

The French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development and La Fémis have annually joined together to offer a Summer programme aimed at foreign film and television students, along with young film industry professionals, who wish to develop their practical and theoretical knowledge of documentary filmmaking in France.

The summer university programme runs for 9 weeks of intensive classes 5 days per week. It takes a maximum of 15 students from different countries: Algeria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Egypt, India, Morocco, Niger, Russia, Senegal, Tunisia, Ukraine...

#### *Selection:*

The participants are selected jointly by the cultural services of the French embassies, the Director of Cooperation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development and representatives of La Fémis on applications and a film submitted by the applicants.

#### *Program:*

The students follow 3 weeks of classes, including many film screenings. These classes are taught by professionals on the following themes: filming reality, directing and documentary shooting, French funding for foreign co-productions, and coproduction schemes.

The second part of the programme is dedicated to making of a short documentary. The students are involved in the various stages of the project's development: writing, location scouting, shooting and editing. Each student makes a 10-minute documentary film. Each, in turn, assumes the different positions in the making of the films. Throughout these exercises, the students are supervised by professionals.

### 2 – Gulf Summer University (since 2014)

The Gulf Summer University is a new programme in English proposed by La Fémis together with the French Embassies in the Gulf.

This programme is open to 9 very motivated young filmmakers, native from the Gulf region who wish to develop their practical and theoretical knowledge of filmmaking in France.



The Gulf Summer University programme runs for 5 weeks of intensive classes, 5 days per week, during which trainees thoroughly explore the craft of filmmaking. The aim is not to provide specialized technical training, but to involve trainees in creating works that allow them to better understand the roles and tasks of each actor in the film process. Trainees also have the opportunity to discover contemporary French cinema through the study of major French directors and direct a short film.

This programme is supported by the Doha Film Institute, the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters in Kuwait, Total UAE, other private sponsors in Bahrain and the local French Embassies.

### 3 - Training workshops designed for partners (since 2007)

La Fémis can design specific programmes of different lengths (from 3 weeks to 8 weeks) to meet the expectations of training partners. Those programmes are inspired by the curriculum of La Fémis and provide a practical experience of filmmaking besides artistic teaching and technical training.

To write, prepare, shoot, and edit, inspired by the great themes of French cinema today, through meetings with directors and screenings of emblematic films are the founding principles of those programmes set up by La Fémis.

Such a programme was designed for Harvard University students in 2007 and 2008.

### III. SHORT PROGRAMME FOR EUROPEAN DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKERS

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Archidoc (since 2002)

Objective:

La Fémis organizes Archidoc, a continuous training programme for 10 European directors who wish to develop a documentary film project based on archives. Europe Creative MEDIA supports this programme.

Three working sessions of one week are organized in different places. One week is held at La Fémis and the two other weeks are held in parallel of international documentary film festivals (for instance: Leipzig, Doclisboa, One World – Prague, Cinéma du réel, IDFA, Nyon festival ...).

Program:

- Analysis of project, re-write with tutors who are renowned European documentary filmmakers,
- Preparation of a project dossier (note of intent, synopsis, trailer) for financiers,
- Master class on documentary films presented by their directors and study of artistic and legal issues with European experts,
- Positioning in the web of producers and broadcasters,
- Pitching session to major European commissioning editors.

## IV. ONE YEAR PROGRAMME FOR YOUNG EUROPEAN PRODUCERS

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### Atelier Ludwigsburg-Paris (since 2002)

Following the system of dual diplomas which exist in Europe, La Fémis and the Filmakademie of Baden-Württemberg have created a common continuous training programme, which is validated by both schools.

This one-year fulltime programme designed for young European producers and distributors was created with the support of the French and German states, the Europe Creative MEDIA and the OFAJ. Since 2007, one session of the course takes place in London in partnership with the National Film and Television School.

Its objective is to offer a new generation of future producers and distributors a realistic and concrete view of present strategies in screenwriting, financing, coproducing, distributing, marketing and selling of European cinematic works, specifically in France, Germany, and England. The mission of this course is also to teach participants the development of a commissioned production in common.

#### *Selection:*

University or film school graduates (minimum baccalaureate + 3) with prior experience in audiovisual production and very motivated by this sector, coming from the wider European Union and not over the age of 30.

#### *Program:*

- Workshops, seminars and meetings with professionals,
- Practical case studies,
- Active presence at Angers, Berlin and Cannes film festivals,
- Production of a short film project.

#### *Calendar:*

The training programme takes place in France, Germany and England from the beginning of October until the end of August and is divided into 6 sessions: 2 sessions at the Filmakademie of Baden-Württemberg, 2 sessions at La Fémis with an active presence of one week at the Angers and Cannes film festivals, 1 session in London at the NFTS, and 1 session in Berlin during the Berlinale.

Training languages: respectively French, German and English.

## V. EXPORTING LA FÉMIS KNOW-HOW

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Beside the customized training programmes such as summer universities which objective is to respond to filmmaking training needs from public bodies or foreign partners, La Fémis has developed an expertise to export its know-how in film training. This development contributes to the international influence of France regarding education in cinema.

La Fémis being under the supervision of the CNC and the French Ministry of Culture and Media, many bilateral agreements signed in the cinema industry between the French government and foreign ones include an article on film training education involving La Fémis.

Moreover, La Fémis is also directly approached by foreign institutions or governments to provide its expertise and its knowledge of cinema education.

For instance, in 2013, the Republic of Ecuador designed the project to create a public university of arts (Universidad del Artes) with a film school and contacted La Fémis in order to benefit from its know-how. Since then, La Fémis has been regularly consulted in order to support the establishment of this new film school. In October 2015, a cooperation agreement was signed between La Fémis and Universidad del Artes, this newly created public university.

With highly qualified professional teachers in many film ranges, ultimately modern facilities and equipment, a reputation of excellency through its graduates, La Fémis has developed a know-how which can serve the interest of countries wishing to create high standard education film programmes.

# CONTACTS

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Partner schools:  
BFA, CalArts, Columbia University, ECAL, Filmakademie of Baden-Württemberg, FTII, FUC, HFF, INSAS, KAFA, LFS, NFTS, Tokyo University of the Arts, VGIK.

Partners:  
Creative Europe  
L'Institut français  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development  
French Embassies (Argentina, Bahrain, China, India, Kuwait, Japan, South Korea, United Arab Emirates)  
Ile de France Region (AMIE – international students' mobility agency)  
Office Franco-Allemand pour la Jeunesse (OFAJ)  
For the Gulf Summer University: National Council for Culture, Arts & Letters in Kuwait, Doha Film Institute & Total UAE  
TITRAFILMS

La Fémis is a member of the CILECT association and the GEECT association.

## La Fémis' partners



## International partnerships & programme 2016-2017

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