



QUINZAINÉ  
DIRECTORS' FORTNIGHT  
CANNES 2017

directed by Abel Ferrara

# ALIVE IN FRANCE



## SYNOPSIS

Abel Ferrara headlines a series of concerts and a film retrospective in France dedicated to songs and music from his films. Preparations with his family and friends show another side of the cult director of legendary films *BAD LIEUTENANT*, *THE KING OF NEW YORK* and *THE ADDICTION* and recent successes such as *WELCOME TO NEW YORK* and *PASOLINI*. Ferrara is joined on stage by past collaborators, including composer Joe Delia, actor-singer Paul Hipp and his wife, actress Christina Chiriac, for concerts at the Metronum in Toulouse and the Salo and Silencio Clubs in Paris in October 2016.



## NEW YORK DOLL

(written by JOSEPH DELIA - DAVID JOHANSEN; from FEAR CITY)

danger in the love you keep its anger that they fantasize to, so well  
concealed in every heart that beats, in every man who idolizes you

*“this was written by david johansen with joey about the time they were discovering the buster poindexter persona, david always referred to it as his tom jones, whats new pussycat, but he gave a killer performance in a song inspired by melanie griffith both in 1 and out of character.”*

## BLINDFOLD BLUES

(written by FRANCIS KUIPERS - ABEL FERRARA;  
from 4:44 LAST DAY ON EARTH)

in a world made out of gold they'll kill you for dirt, ain't that a bitch they'll  
kill you for dirt, but not today, not on the last day on earth

*“this was written by me and francis for 4:44 when i was thinking about a blues based score. shout out to slim harpo.”*

## LIVING IN A LONELY WORLD

(written by ABEL FERRARA; from ALIVE IN FRANCE)

he won't be home for christmas, still they wait by the tree,  
she's thirty years old, the baby is three,  
when the snow started falling it didn't fall on me, living in a lonely world

*“funny how you can write a sad song when you are feeling good.  
this is something i would just play to myself at home but paul and  
julian our sound guy really like it and got me to do it.”*

## LIFE IS GOOD

(written by PAUL HIPPIE; from ALIVE IN FRANCE)

and life is good in space and time, give me some of yours,  
i'll give you some of mine

*“this is paul's song to mia his much better half, and spiritual partner,  
and their life together and their poor dog who is gone but memorialized  
here.”*





## L TRAIN

(written by ABEL FERRARA; outtake WELCOME TO NEW YORK)

williamsburg brooklyn thats where i live under the bridge with the brothers  
and jews where money is money you snooze and you lose puerto ricans  
dealin' reefer white kids pushing booze

*"i never lived in brooklyn till i came back to nyc for welcome to new  
york and thought it was better to not stay in the city. besides the energy  
of brooklyn is more like the nyc i came up in."*

## TONIGHT WILL BE THE NIGHT

(written by JOSEPH DELIA - ABEL FERRARA; from THE FUNERAL)

i walk into a room, i've been a million times, i feel somebody move is it you  
old heart of mine/let the teardrops fall let your spirit shine, you, you want it  
all, with me i just want mine,

*"this is a sad song for me because it was written for chris penn and  
also about the night i seperated from my first wife and 2 girls, we were  
gonna play it in the show but it seems best to just remember chris  
performance of it."*



## THANA'S THEME

(written by JOSEPH DELIA; from MS.45)

*"this is another sad song because of how much the innocence of  
joe's track remind me of zoe when we first met her. 17 years old and  
already on scholarship to columbia university, the only child and pride of  
her parents life. ms.45 was her first film, bad lieutenant was her last."*

## AFTER ALL IS SAID AND DONE

(written by PAUL HIPPIE; from WELCOME TO NEW YORK)

When i am howling at the moon, and i am hiding from the sun,  
you're the only one I love, after all is said and done.

*An abstract version of this was used as the score in  
welcome to new york and only the la la la part is used in this film,  
but it is my favorite performance in the live show.*

## CHICKEN PECK

(written by JOSEPH DELIA; from THE FUNERAL)

well come on baby its just gonna be us, we might take a taxi or even a bus  
you know we gonna get in my buick and take a cruise drink up  
all of my cheap, cheap booze

*“this is a more joyous memory from the funeral period, joey wrote and played this during the sessions almost as a warm up for himself. i liked it so much i put it over the end credits.”*

## EYES OF THE DEVIL

(written by PAUL HIPPI - ABEL FERRARA;  
from SEARCHING FOR PADRE PIO)

i hear the words of the devil from the mouth of a friend mama mama  
i say mama mama my hands are bleeding, my hands are bleeding

*“a typical situation of not being able to afford blind willie mcTell's god don't like it so we were pushed into writing our own song with that spirit and the thought of a simple monk's battle with his demons.”*



## BAD LIEUTENANT

(written by ABEL FERRARA; from BAD LIEUTENANT)

i was born in the bronx i was raised on a street  
where they reach for their booze before they reach for their heat

*“lately i have come to realize this song and movie is a lot about my father and the life he was living when i was very young and still in the bronx. the song was written before during and after we wrote the script definitely before we began the movie.”*

## BALLAD OF NICKY AND NADINE

(written by DOUGLAS ANTHONY METROV - ABEL FERRARA;  
from DRILLER KILLER)

she was still in high school, not yet 17, nicky ran with the hitters squad  
always soaked to the skin in gasoline.

*“this is pure roosters a song me and doug metrov wrote in 1977 the middle of that punk, son of sam, some girls, early springsteen, rolling thunder, taxi driver era.”*

## MIDNIGHT FOR YOU

(written by PAUL HIPPI; from CHINA GIRL)

killer winds rip the city whistle through a broken heart,  
blowing chances down empty streets where all bad habits start

*“hippi played this for me one night on an out of tune piano inside a church basement and that more or less sealed our friendship, the way him and joey do this song now takes me right back to that place.”*

## JUST ANOTHER KILLER

(written by ERICK VON GERRING - JESSE BONDS JR WEAVER;  
from DANGEROUS GAME)

once upon a time in the ghetto a little brother kind of tough kind of mellow  
he in a gang called the parkside killers they smoked a lot of j's drunk a lot  
of millers

*“this is another of schoolys masterpieces his epic poetry taking the reality of hood life in the projects of philadelphia to another dimension.”*

## PUT IT IN WRITING

(written by ABEL FERRARA; from ALIVE IN FRANCE)

why all this fussing, whats with all this fighting, my little baby thunder, my  
little baby lightning, dont you think its time, we put it in writing

*“this was written thinking about the two brothers who blew up the marathon race in boston, i think it has to as much to do with my early recovery which was going on at the same time as this nightmare event .”*

## DEE DEE RAMONE

(written by ABEL FERRARA; out take CHELSEA ON THE ROCKS)

why don't you come back home , why did you leave me alone,  
why don't you call on the phone, dee dee ramone

*“dee dee was the kind of guy that you didn't see much, but every meeting was memorable, especially the first time i saw him and his band playing on stage, and the last time.”*





## ABEL FERRARA

With a reputation as a director of controversial cinema, Abel Ferrara moves into his fourth decade of filmmaking with continued work in the US as well as European projects. Recent successes include PASOLINI, starring Willem Dafoe, and WELCOME TO NY, starring Gerard Depardieu and Jacqueline Bisset.

Born in the Bronx in 1951, Ferrara started on Super 8 in his teens in upstate New York with writers Nicholas St. John and John McIntyre. His first features were DRILLER KILLER and MS. 45 in the late 70s. The 80s and 90s led to a cult reputation with legendary films like THE KING OF NEW YORK, BAD LIEUTENANT, THE ADDICTION and THE FUNERAL.

Ferrara is currently preparing his next feature SIBERIA with Willem Dafoe, Isabelle Huppert and Nicolas Cage.

## SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY

- 2017 ALIVE IN FRANCE (documentary)
- 2014 PASOLINI
- 2014 WELCOME TO NEW YORK
- 2011 4:44 - LAST DAY ON EARTH
- 2009 NAPOLI, NAPOLI, NAPOLI
- 2008 CHELSEA ON THE ROCKS (documentary)
- 2007 GO GO TALES
- 2005 MARY
- 2001 R XMAS
- 1998 NEW ROSE HOTEL
- 1997 THE BLACKOUT
- 1996 THE FUNERAL
- 1995 THE ADDICTION
- 1993 DANGEROUS GAME
- 1993 BODY SNATCHERS
- 1992 BAD LIEUTENANT
- 1990 THE KING OF NEW YORK
- 1987 CHINA GIRL
- 1984 FEAR CITY
- 1981 MS. 45
- 1979 DRILLER KILLER

bathysphere presents

# ALIVE IN FRANCE

Directed by Abel Ferrara  
Producer: Nicolas Anthomé  
Associate producers: Michel Merkt, Dounia Sichov  
With Paul Hipp, Abel Ferrara, Joe Delia, Cristina Chiriac,  
Dounia Sichov, PJ Delia, Laurent Bechad, Anna Ferrara,  
Anastasia Balan, Pilipe Bérard, Mia Bablalis and Richard Belzer  
Director of photography: Emmanuel Gras  
Camera operator: Clément Le Penven  
Assistant director: Azzura Lugari  
Sound: Julien Momencaeu  
Editors: Fabio Nunziata Leonardo, Daniel Bianchi  
Sound editing: Silvia Moraes  
Sound mixing: Paolo Segat  
Color grading: Gadiel Bendelac  
Production management: Soizic Perrodou, Antoine Delahousse  
Production accountant: Antoine Stehlé  
Post production coordinator: Maud Berbille  
Music supervision, Sound Division: Thibault Deboaisne  
Post production: La Rose pourpre-CinéLAB, Archipel Productions  
World Sales: The Match Factory





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**THE MATCH FACTORY**

A rocknroll glance at cult director Abel Ferrara when he headlines a series of concerts dedicated to songs and music from his films... From the director of legendary films BAD LIEUTENANT, THE KING OF NEW YORK and THE ADDICTION and recent successes such as WELCOME TO NEW YORK and PASOLINI.