



RULES AND REGULATIONS

As part of the **47th edition of Cinéma du Réel** (March 22 – 29 2025), of **ParisDOC** (dedicated to industry professionals), and of the **6th Classic Documentary Film Rendez-vous, Cinéma du Réel** and **Préludes** have created the **Préludes Award**, designed to support the restoration of documentary films.

Préludes is an international sales and distribution company as well as a FVOD platform dedicated to debut films (feature and short). In addition to providing distribution services, it works alongside emerging filmmakers and supports the restoration of first films.

CINÉMA DU RÉEL & PRÉLUDES CALL FOR RESTORATION PROJECTS OPEN FROM 19 DECEMBER 2024 TO 1 MARCH 2025

1/ ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Submission is free of charge and open to films from all countries.

To be eligible, the film must meet the following requirements:

- The project is a feature-length documentary debut produced by French, European, or international sources (student films are not eligible).
- The rights holders to the film are looking to restore it ahead of a new theatrical, television, or online release.
- All rights must be secured: a clean chain of title will be required for authors' rights, including writer and director agreements, as well as licenses for original and additional music and archival footage.
- The film must have been shot in celluloid and the original material must be available. A letter or email authorizing the release of the material from the laboratory where it is stored must be supplied. It will need to state the available material and provide a cost estimate for its release.

- Distribution and exhibition rights to the film must be available (for theatrical, television, and online release) at the time of submission. Past distribution and exhibition contracts must be supplied.
- The same film cannot be entered twice.

2/ SELECTION

Pre-selection: the festival reserves the right not to consider projects that do not meet the eligibility requirements or that do not contain the information and documents requested in the submission form.

Every submission must be approved by the Préludes Award team via a phone interview with the candidate to be considered by the jury.

The information provided and the link to the video/screener of the film will only be used during the selection process.

A special jury made up of industry professionals will be in charge of reviewing submitted projects and selecting a winner. Members will convene in March. The winner will be notified in the days following the jury's decision.

The jury will present the Préludes Award to the winning applicant during the Awards Ceremony, Saturday 29 March 2025.

3/ AWARD DETAILS

The Préludes Award includes the following:

- Restoration of the selected project (4K scan and restoration by Préludes in collaboration with Micro Climat and Cosmo Digital, depending on the material provided).
- The winning film will be screened in its restored version during the 2026 edition of Cinéma du Réel, as part of the Classic Documentary Film Rendez-vous.
- An industry pass (worth €50) will be awarded to the film's rights holders, giving them full access to the festival and to ParisDOC events during Cinéma du réel 2026.

4/ OBLIGATIONS

- Préludes will acquire the available rights to the film, in agreement with the rights holders.
- The winning film must prominently include the laurel-wreath logo provided by Cinéma du Réel and Préludes on all promotional documents and press kits published after the festival, in the context of commercial or non-commercial distribution or of a presentation at a festival in France and abroad. These logos must also feature in the film's credits and on all DVDs alongside information about the film's restoration.



5/ APPLYING AND SUBMITTING A PROJECT

All films must be submitted by completing the form available on the homepage of the Classic Documentary Film Rendez-vous, at cinemadureel.org.

For additional questions, please contact us at both following addresses: acquisitions@preludes.fr - cinereel-parisdoc@bpi.fr.

If you accept and understand these conditions, please complete the submission form.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: 1 MARCH 2025 at 11:59 PM

Catherine Bizern
Artistic Director and General Delegate of Cinéma du Réel
Thomas Choury
Head of ParisDOC, Classic Documentary Film Rendez-vous
Thomas Carillon
Founding President of Préludes
Louise Gerbelle
Chargée de la diffusion