

**Avril 2010**

**April 16-18: Fresno Filmworks Film Festival**

The Alliance Française is delighted to co-sponsor a Cannes Film Festival Official Selection called *Panique au Village*, a French-language film, which will be shown at the **Tower Theater at noon on Saturday, April 17**. Hilarious and frequently surreal, the stop-motion extravaganza *A Town Called Panic* has endless charms and raucous laughs for children from eight to eighty. Based on the Belgian animated cult TV series (which was released by Wallace & Gromit's Aardman Studios), *Panic* stars three plastic toys named Cowboy, Indian and Horse who share a rambling house in a rural town that never fails to attract the weirdest events. Directed by Stéphane Aubier & Vincent Patar, the film is 75 minutes long. <http://www.atowncalledpanic.com/>  
(For a complete list of films go to [www.fresnofilmworks.org](http://www.fresnofilmworks.org))



**Orpheus Concert: Messaien's Monumental Masterpiece:**



*Visions de l'amen*

**April 23, 8 :00 PM**

St. Anthony's Catholic Church

5770 N. Maroa, Fresno

\$12 regular; \$10 seniors and students.

Pianists are Andreas Werz and Hatem Nadim, Music Professors at California State University, Fresno

Released from prisoner-of-war camp in 1941, Frenchman Olivier Messiaen was slow to get going again as a composer in occupied Paris. The stimulus he needed came from Yvonne Loriod, who arrived as one of his students and was to become his second wife; almost at once, he wrote *Visions de l'Amen* (1943) for the two of them to play. Her part, according to his note in the published music, has "the rhythmic difficulties, the bunches of chords, everything concerned with speed, allure, and quality of sound"; while to himself, at the second piano, he allotted "the principal melody, the thematic elements, everything demanding emotion and power."

**33rd Basque Festival:** Rancho Vista Del Rio, 6440 N. Golden St., Madera, May 1 Fresno Basque Club's Annual barbecue. Basque club dancers will also perform. Gates open at 9 AM, lunch 1-3 PM. Adults, \$15, Children (7-12) \$6, 6 and under, free. Call 226-7499.



**The Alliance Française de Fresno and the Fresno Art Museum are delighted to announce:  
A Lecture by Robert Boro, *The Gardens of France***



**May 12, 7:00 PM**  
Fresno Art Museum  
2233 N First Street, Fresno  
Doors will open at 6:30 PM  
Admission is free to the public.

Robert Boro was born in Fresno to a pioneer family. He studied Landscape Architecture at UC Berkeley and worked in Brussels and Jerusalem for two years before returning to practice here 37 years ago. A lifetime Francophile, he visits France often. At Fontainebleau he studied historic gardens and continues to be fascinated by all aspects of French gardens. Mr. Boro has always given back to the Fresno community by supporting historic preservation, all of the cultural arts and social justice. His lecture will include slides of diverse gardens in France with a focus on their design and cultural context. With humor and great entertainment value, Mr. Boro is certain to educate the eye to recognize the French Style.



**FRENCH CLASSES BEGIN THE WEEK OF April 12:** All instructors are native French speakers. See proposed schedule below; additional classes will be added to meet demand.  
**For information on adult French classes: contact School Directress Odette Cohen, 435-3285; for children's classes contact Michelene Curnyn at 435-5532 or [mcurnyn@comcast.net](mailto:mcurnyn@comcast.net).**

**Adults**

Beginners I: T 7:00-9:00 PM	Beginners IV: T 12:00-2:00 PM
Beginners II: M 7:00-9:00 PM	Intermediate II: Th 9:00-11:00 AM
Beginners III: M 5:00-7:00 PM	Advanced: W 9:30-11:30 AM

**Children**

French 2	(Jr. High)	T 4:15-5:15 PM	(Madame Curnyn)
Intermediate V	(10-12 yrs)	Th 4:00-5:00 PM	(Madame Curnyn)
Intermediate I	(8-10 yrs)	Th 4:15-5:15 PM	(Madame Yang)

**CAFÉS DE L'ALLIANCE, PLEASE NOTE:**

The Cafés de l'Alliance are now meeting for conversation in French every Thursday from 3:30-5:00 PM. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month we meet from 3:30-6:00 PM. We meet at La Boulangerie in Fig Garden Village. Please join us.



**Bravo!** The last lecture presented by Norman Stokle on William the Conqueror was a rousing success. More than 130 Alliance members and students listened as Mr. Stokle described William's early life, the gruesome casualties of the Battle of Hastings and the French influences on the English language.

**Upcoming Events for 2010**

April 23 Messiaen's Monumental Work	May 12 Robert Boro, Gardens of France
May 12 Alliance Française Scholarships Results	July 11 Fête de la Bastille