

## Cannes 2022 November in Memoriam



How we deal with loss and pain defines who we are. People deal with it in different ways depending on how they work through the trauma channeling it beneficially or falling ill. *These choices were forced upon the people of Paris on Friday, November 13th, 2015, when a brutal terrorist attack left the nation scarred and traumatized. 137 people died at the hands of ISIL suicide bombers, and over 400 others were injured.* Since then, Parisians and French people abroad have come together in solidarity. But the wounds still festered, and people were left wandering alone with their grief and empty hands. *Artists have since gone to work exploring their grief through murals and poems.*

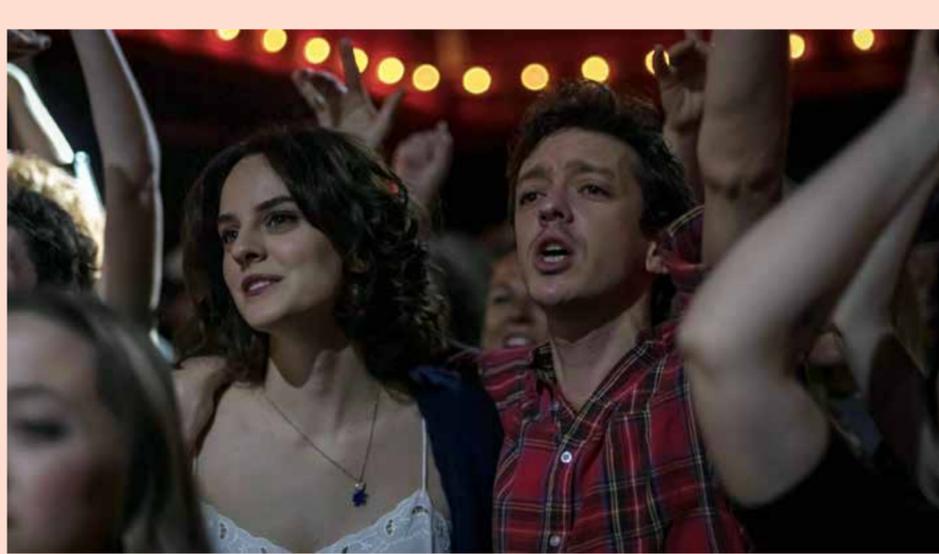
*Now it's time for the cinema auteurs to process what they have. This year Cannes has given a spotlight to films and directors who have created stories centered around the event or its aftermath.*

*This year, three films were shown in the spotlight: 'November,' 'One year, one night' and 'Paris Memories.'*



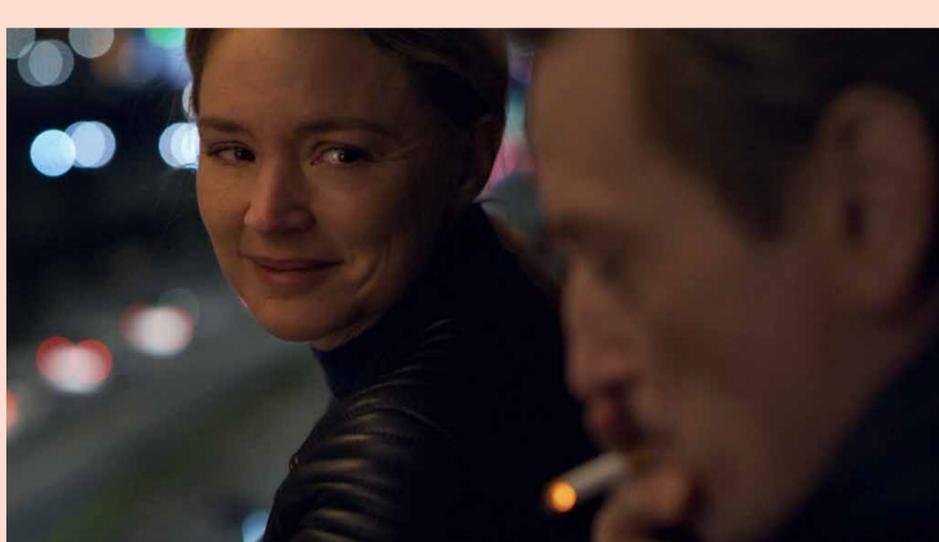
*November*

*'November' is a police thriller about catching the remaining perpetrators of the November 13th terrorist attack. Directed by Cédric Jimenez, and starring Jean Dujardin, Anaïs Demoustier, Sandrine Kiberlain, and Jérémie Renier the film has suspense through and through but offers little emotional weight. Critics have argued that the film wasted its chance by not exploring the human effects of the tragedy. But above all else, critics agree that the film captured the sense of urgency and drive that was felt in the initial police chase.*



*One Year, One Night*

*Another movie screened was 'One Year, One Night,' which focuses on a couple and how they coped with what happened that night. Director Isaki Lacuesta, and his talented actors Nahuel Pérez Biscayart, Noémie Merlant were praised for their take on the story. The film goes out of its way to emphasize the damage the attack has done to the characters and how they've become fundamentally different people.*



*Paris Memories*

*The final film, 'Paris Memories,' follows a Parisian woman who suffers from Dissociative Amnesia because of that night and her relationship with a man who just wants to forget about that night. The film begs the question of what exactly it means to 'move on.' Critics have praised the two's story and how it intertwines with each other and their message of love overcoming any form of terror. Alice Winocour's tale, though fictional, sprang true for many of those still trying to recover and move on. Both Virginie Efira and Benoît Magimel did an excellent job telling their broken but whole story.*

*Each of these films pays homage to and respects the events that happened 6 years ago.*

There is no glorifying the tragedy, and the effects on what it meant to people were never downplayed. Instead, all of them serve as a sort of reflection on how we respond to difficult moments in our lives. Of course, justice, turmoil, and peace are something we all strive for. *But let us never forget, like the movies told the audience, that through love, compassion, and unity, we can move forward and heal from whatever left us scarred.*