



## **Ciné Breizh**

Arno/Pierre It is called Ciné Breizh

Richard When did you start it?

Arno/Pierre About 70 years ago

Richard Was it you who started it? How long have you been president?

Arno/Pierre Since 2003

Richard How long have you been vice president?

Arno/Pierre Since last year.

Richard How was this association founded & by whom.

Arno/Pierre It belonged to (Dio Seize) and then in 1995 it was given to the associate for a symbolic franc.

Richard Is it a normal to set up an association, a cinema, or is this out of the ordinary?

Arno/Pierre Well I suppose it is fairly exceptional. We belong to A.F.C.A.E. and being part of A.F.C.A.E. does make it culturally exceptional. A.F.C.A.E. is the Association Française des Cinémas d'Art et Essai, so the cinema is linked with lots of other small cinemas like ours, which together creates a sort of chain of cinemas across France. This is not the case in Spain, Germany or Italy, but the idea has been copied by other countries that have done the same thing.

Richard So this is yet another French idiosyncrasy?

Arno/Pierre I suppose you could say that.

Richard Are you part of a group. You spoke to me a minute ago about a group, can you just explain to me a bit more.

Arno/Pierre Starting a local level, in Cote d'armor, we have 18 auditoria, we take part in the 'Rules of the Game', a regional association which has 70 auditoria, right across Brittany so it is quite a big thing. We have been involved with ARCAE for about 10 years,

since 2000 – 2001. Quite a while. We are responding to a need, a quality of cinema which is thought provoking.

Richard The choice of film – is it you who chooses or are the films given to you by the association?

Arno/Pierre Both, we propose films to Ciné Diffusion, who is our programmer, but depending on the number of copies the distributor doesn't give copies to small cinemas like ours, so we sometimes have to wait about 3 weeks after nation realise.

Richard How many volunteers & salaried people work with you?

Arno We are all volunteers – about 35 altogether. There are some comings and goings, we have students after their studies. Pierre for example comes back at the weekends, but this isn't the case for all students. It we take the last four years, on average we have between 35 – 40.

Richard And so Pierre you are the projectionist?

Pierre Yes, it is a hobby, I am not a professional projectionist, but I have been training with someone who was a professional here and I am learning to load and unload the reels.

Richard You have more professional ambitions in the cinema – not as an actor?

Pierre No just to stay in the area of projection.

Richard Why did you choose cinema? Is it a passion you had since childhood?

Pierre Through the family and by accident. Family because my elder sister knew the team that was here before so she baptised me into cinema since I was 15. When I first arrive here my cultural understanding stopped at the Lion King and now I have moved toward original version film for example and discovered British Cinemas. I have been part of the judging panel at the Dinard Film Festival. That is very interesting to see the screening of films that are not out in the national arena. Films which haven't got a distributor. I have really discovered the cinema over the last 15 years.

Richard You talk about films in the Original Version, as everybody knows there are a lot of British around Rostrenen. Have you created a niche market of Original Version films for the English Market, or is it just by accident.

Pierre A niche? No, I would say that we search out films that are fairly well known in Original Version. We try to provide films which are really good quality art cinema, but well known, we are not able to

show four or five films a week because we haven't the resources, so Original Version films have to have a general appeal.

Richard So, I am going to finish now by asking each of you, first Pierre, the projectionist, your favourite film?

Pierre Umm .....I'm really into Star Wars, I was brought up with Star Wars.

Richard And you Arno?

Arno It's difficult, recently the foreign film I preferred was a Turkish film out last year, that's not very well know, a real work of art, but more generally, I am talking as a teacher - 'Dead Poet Society', I find it exceptional!

Richard You didn't ask me but I am going to tell you anyway, it is 'La Grande Illusion'. Thank you for answering all my questions.

