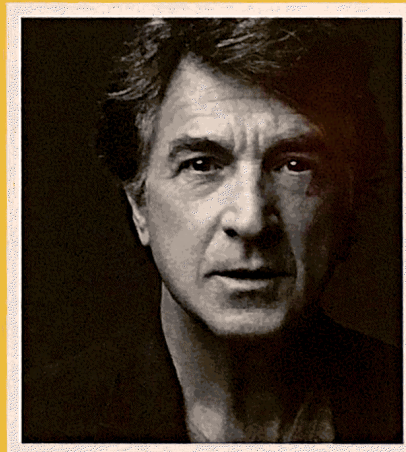


One of France's most talented and prolific actors, François Cluzet achieved international recognition with his remarkable performance in *The Intouchables*. His breathtaking portrayal of a wealthy quadriplegic in the film touched hearts and garnered rave reviews worldwide.

In 2007, François Cluzet won a French César Award for Best Actor for his extraordinary work in the captivating thriller *Tell No One*. Over his long and diverse career, he has been in more than 60 films, working with renowned French directors Jean Becker, Bernard Blier, and Claude Chabrol, as well as American directors including Robert Altman.

TROPHÉE DES ARTS 2013 FRANÇOIS CLUZET

Actor



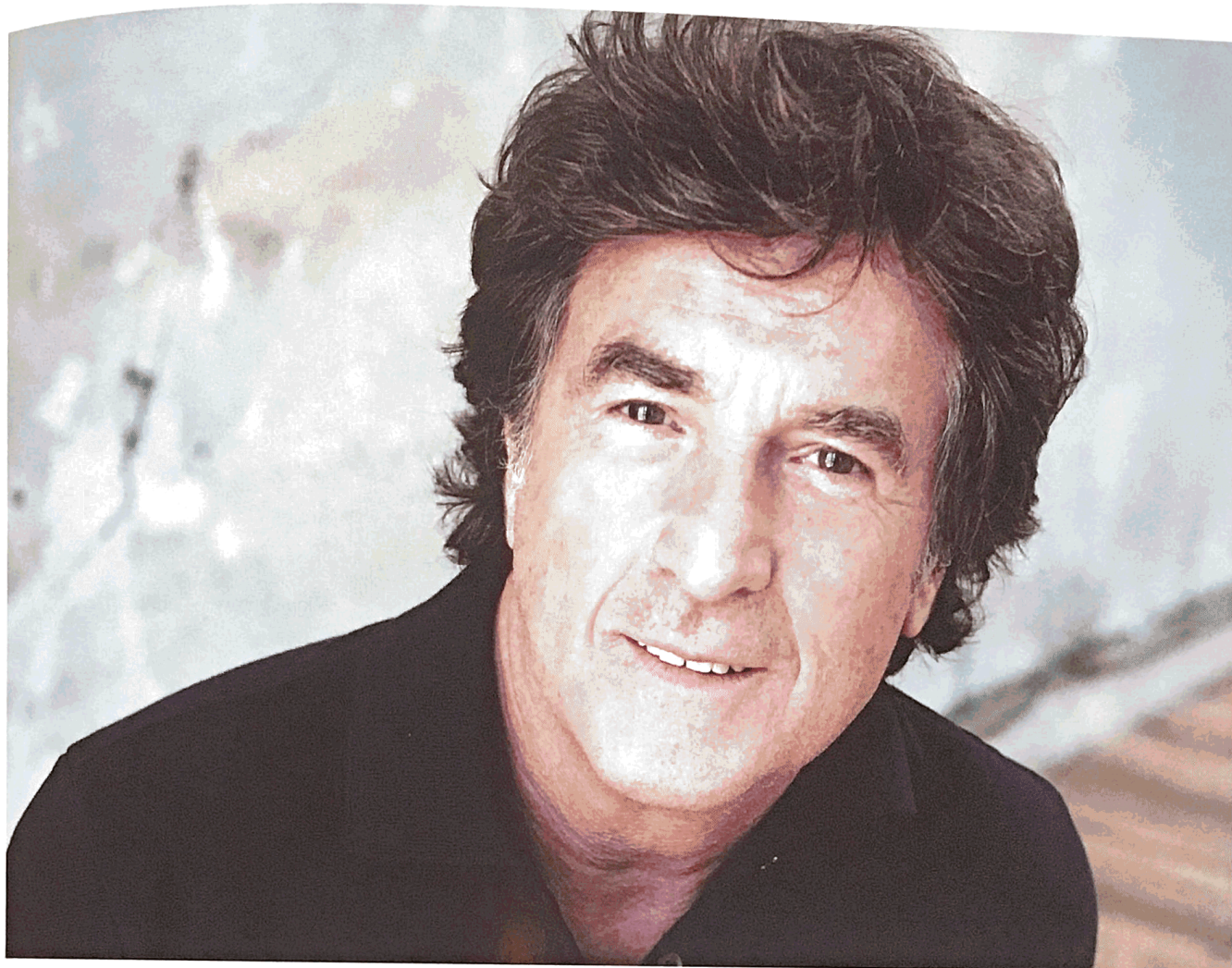
The *Trophée des Arts*, established in 1992, recognizes a distinguished artist or cultural icon who exemplifies our organization's mission of French-American friendship and cross-cultural exchange.

Much has been written about the deeper message in this true story. In your mind, what value stands out the most?

Humanity, difference, and tolerance are the most important values of this movie. Working with my partner Omar Sy throughout the shoot, we kept in mind that the sincerity of our feelings was definitely what would make the difference. I had to play for him; he had to play for me.

Was your character in the international blockbuster *The Intouchables* the most challenging role you have ever played?

All of my different characters have been challenging to play, but my role in *The Intouchables* was certainly one of the most interesting. The challenge was to act only with my eyes and facial expressions. I had to forget my body and, at the same time, remember that I could not move a finger. This situation led me to optimize all the other senses, especially sight and hearing.



The Robert Altman film *Prêt-à-Porter* kicked off your “American year” in 1994 working alongside some of the most incredible actors at the time: Sophia Loren, Marcello Mastroianni, Kim Basinger, and Rupert Everett. Is it different to act for an American director, particularly Robert Altman?

And Julia Roberts, she is my favorite! What was interesting with Robert Altman was his style of directing. He used to gather all the actors and make them rehearse scenes together through lunch and make-up. Once we started shooting, he would continue to direct his two cameramen as they were filming, adjusting to the play of the actors and the images on the two monitors.

You must have liked working with Americans because the same year, you had a role in Lawrence Kasdan’s comedy *French Kiss*, featuring Meg Ryan, Kevin Kline, and Jean Reno. This film explores the cultural differences between French people and Americans. It seems that comedies are a perfect way to bridge cultural differences. Do you agree?

I was a fan of Lawrence Kasdan’s movies and got along very well with Meg Ryan and Kevin Kline. Cinema is often universal; whether it is a comedy or drama, it is more often than not, circulated around the world. It is definitely a wonderful way to highlight the differences people have in terms of culture and knowledge.

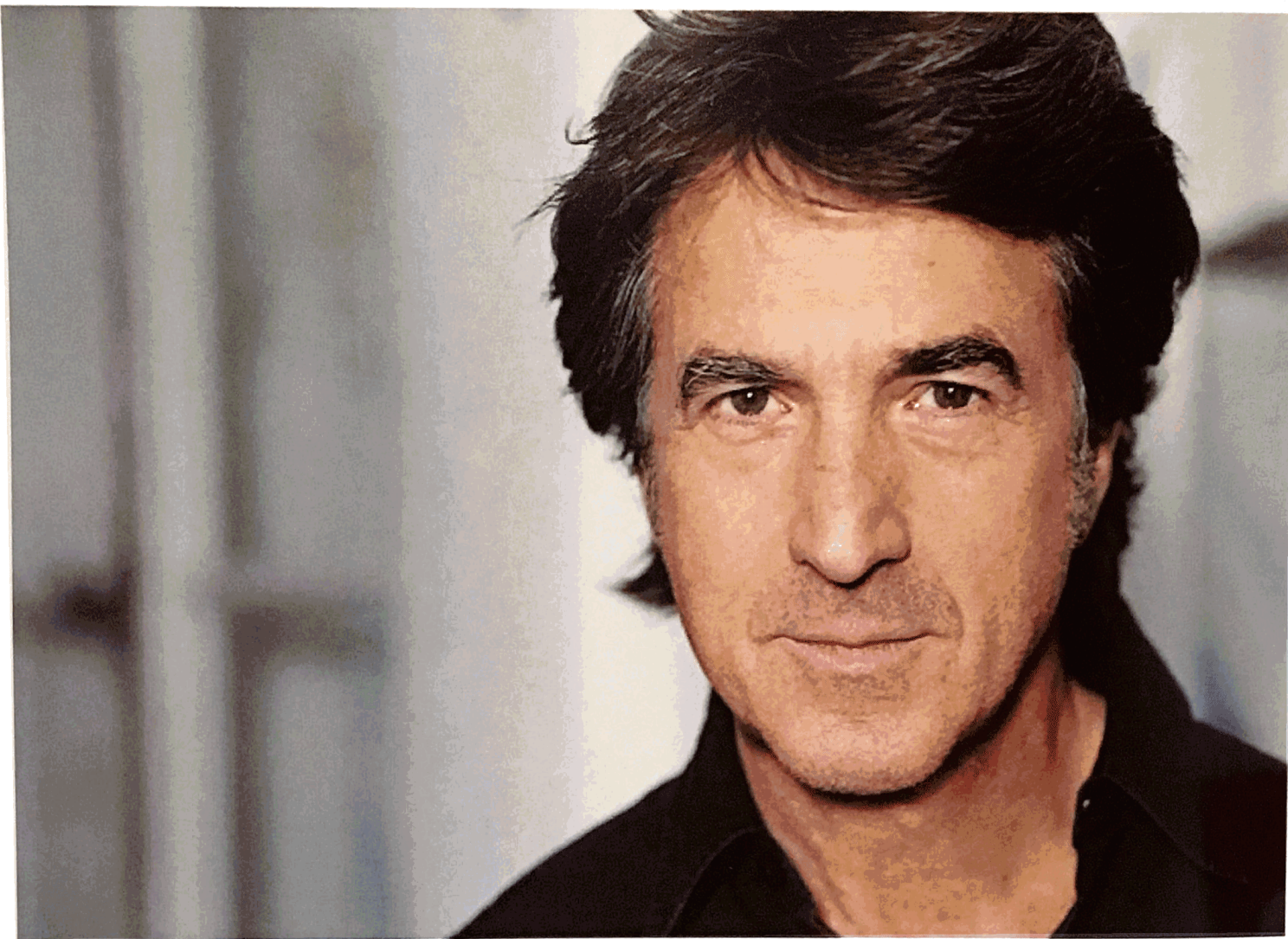
I also had the chance to meet and work with American saxophonist Dexter Gordon in the movie *Round Midnight*. It was definitely a wonderful memory.

You have also been cast in many dramatic roles, such as Jean Becker’s *L’Été Meurtrier*, Chabrol’s *L’Enfer* and *Une Affaire de Femmes*, and Olivier Assayas’ *Fin Août, Début Septembre*. In 2007, you received the César, the French equivalent to the Academy Award, for another internationally acclaimed movie, *Tell No One*, directed by Guillaume Canet. What draws you to dramatic roles?

What I like about drama is its capacity to inspire intense emotions and a powerful feeling of love. What I like about comedy is the chance to be ridiculous and the feeling of happiness that this produces.

An American remake of *The Intouchables* is under way....What about your own American projects?

To find out the address of the best doughnuts in New York!



FRANÇOIS CLUZET KEY DATES

1955 Born in Paris, France.

1966 Discovers his passion for acting while watching Jacques Brel, a French singer and actor, in the movie *L'Homme de la Mancha*.

1973 Enrolls at Cours Simon, one of France's most prestigious acting schools.

1975 Studies with Jean-Laurent Cochet and Jean Perimony, two famous drama professors who also taught Gérard Depardieu among many other icons of French cinema.

1976 Makes his theater debut in *Haut Surveillance*, written by Jean Genet.

1979 Makes his first on-screen appearance in the film *Cocktail Molotov*, directed by Diane Kurys.

1980 Appears in the acclaimed family drama *The Horse of Pride* (*Le Cheval d'Orgueil*), directed by Claude Chabrol.

1983 Stars in the film *L'Été meurtrier*, directed by Jean Becker.

1984 Nominated for two César Awards: Best Supporting Actor for his role in *L'Été meurtrier* and Most Promising Actor for his role in *Vive la Sociale*, directed by Gérard Mordillat.

1986 Stars in *Round Midnight*, an American-French musical drama, directed by Bertrand Tavernier and starring Dexter Gordon, Herbie Hancock, and Martin Scorsese.

1990 Nominated for the César Award for Supporting Actor for his role in *Force Majeure*, directed by Pierre Jolivet.

1994 Makes his international acting debut with *Prêt-à-Porter*, directed by Robert Altman, and *French Kiss*, directed by Lawrence Kasdan. Plays the lead role in *L'Enfer*, directed by Claude Chabrol.

1995 Returns to French cinema and comedy with *Les Apprentis*, directed by Pierre Salvadori.

1996 Nominated for the César Award for Best Actor for his role in *Les Apprentis*.

2001 Stars in the French drama *The Adversary*, directed by Nicole Garcia.

2003 Plays John Lennon in *Janis et John*, directed by Samuel Benchetrit.

2007 Wins the César Award for Best Actor for his role as a doctor suspected of double homicide in the French thriller and global hit *Tell No One* (*Ne le dis à personne*), directed by Guillaume Canet.

2010 Stars in the acclaimed French comedy-drama *Little White Lies* (*Les Petits Mouchoirs*), directed by Guillaume Canet.

2011 Achieves international recognition for his breathtaking portrayal of a wealthy quadriplegic in the celebrated sensation *The Intouchables*, directed by Olivier Nakache and Eric Toledano.

November 6, 2013 Release of his latest movie, *En Solitaire*, directed by Christophe Offenstein, in which he plays a solitary sailor competing in *Le Vendée Globe*, the round-the-world, single-handed yacht race.