

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

Merge Film Festival 2026



1–4 October 2026

MASSAGNO

Thursday

1 OCTOBER 2026

One evening on the big screen.

20:30

20:30–23:00 · CINEMA LUX, MAIN AUDITORIUM

CHF 15.– / conc. 10.–

Opening ceremony • Memory of Princess Mumbi

The festival opens and the film begins immediately afterwards in the same auditorium. One ticket for the whole evening.

Competition screenings, retrospectives, opening and closing ceremonies: CHF 15.– per event, CHF 30.– day pass.

Students and over-65s: CHF 10.– and CHF 20.–. All other events are free.

Accreditation includes one free seat per screening.

Friday

2 OCTOBER 2026

Private school sessions in the morning, followed by the first two competition programmes, the talk and the Swiss awards. Food and drinks in Piazza Grande from 18:00 to 01:00.

09:00	09:00–13:00 · MASSAGNO SCHOOLS, AULA MAGNA AND CLASSROOMS 1–3 Workshops for middle schools · Luca Botturi Schools only
10:00	10:00–12:00 · CINEMA LUX, MAIN AUDITORIUM Retrospective · title to be announced We'll announce it soon. CHF 15.– / conc. 10.–
10:00	10:00–11:45 · CINEMA LUX, COSMO AUDITORIUM Masterclass for arts high schools · Antonella Autuori Schools only
14:00	14:00–15:30 · CINEMA LUX, COSMO AUDITORIUM Masterclass for science high schools · Stefano Peduzzi Schools only
14:00	14:00–15:30 · CINEMA LUX, MAIN AUDITORIUM In competition · Programme 1 Seven short films, ≈ 60 min. Followed by a Q&A with the directors in person. CHF 15.– / conc. 10.–
17:00	17:00–18:00 · CINEMA LUX, MAIN AUDITORIUM FORMA APERTA · Where does the creative process live? Open talk and launch of FORMA APERTA, with Felix Bachmann, Kevin Merz, Manuela Bachmann and Simona Gamba. Free admission
18:30	18:30–19:45 · CINEMA LUX, MAIN AUDITORIUM Talk · Alessandro Bavari and Dario Cirrincione Free admission
20:30	20:30–22:15 · CINEMA LUX, MAIN AUDITORIUM Swiss awards and In competition · Programme 2 Swiss Innovator Award and Swiss Press Award, followed by six short films, ≈ 60 min., with a Q&A with the directors in person. CHF 15.– / conc. 10.–

Competition screenings, retrospectives, opening and closing ceremonies: CHF 15.– per event, CHF 30.– day pass.

Students and over-65s: CHF 10.– and CHF 20.–. All other events are free.

Accreditation includes one free seat per screening.

Saturday

3 OCTOBER 2026

The busiest day: three competition programmes, a roundtable, a talk and the Critics' Award. Food and drinks in Piazza Grande from 10:00 to 01:00.

10:00	10:00–12:00 · CINEMA LUX, MAIN AUDITORIUM Retrospective · title to be announced We'll announce it soon. CHF 15.– / conc. 10.–
10:00	10:00–13:00 · MASSAGNO SCHOOLS, AULA MAGNA CISA and USI lecture · Alessandro Bavari and Marco Longo Schools only
13:30	13:30–15:00 · CINEMA LUX, MAIN AUDITORIUM In competition · Programme 3 Eight short films, ≈ 60 min. Followed by a Q&A with the directors in person. CHF 15.– / conc. 10.–
14:00	14:00–15:00 · CINEMA LUX, COSMO AUDITORIUM Roundtable With Marco Zaffalon, Colin Porlezza, Javisth Chabria and Pierre Alexandre Tremblay. Free admission
15:30	15:30–17:00 · CINEMA LUX, MAIN AUDITORIUM In competition · Programme 4 Eight short films, ≈ 60 min. Followed by a Q&A with the directors in person. CHF 15.– / conc. 10.–
17:30	17:30–19:00 · CINEMA LUX, MAIN AUDITORIUM Talk · Javisth Chabria and Kevin B. Lee Free admission
21:00	21:00–22:30 · CINEMA LUX, MAIN AUDITORIUM Critics' Award and In competition · Programme 5 The Critics' Award, followed by seven short films, ≈ 60 min., with a Q&A with the directors in person. CHF 15.– / conc. 10.–

Competition screenings, retrospectives, opening and closing ceremonies: CHF 15.– per event, CHF 30.– day pass.

Students and over-65s: CHF 10.– and CHF 20.–. All other events are free.

Accreditation includes one free seat per screening.

Sunday

4 OCTOBER 2026

The final retrospective, followed by the awards ceremony and a screening of the winning films immediately afterwards.

10:00

10:00–12:00 · CINEMA LUX, MAIN AUDITORIUM

Retrospective · title to be announced

CHF 15.– / conc. 10.–

We'll announce it soon.

15:00

15:00–16:00 · CINEMA LUX, MAIN AUDITORIUM

Awards ceremony and screening of the winning films

CHF 15.– / conc. 10.–

The awards are presented, immediately followed by a screening of the winning films.

Competition screenings, retrospectives, opening and closing ceremonies: CHF 15.– per event, CHF 30.– day pass.

Students and over-65s: CHF 10.– and CHF 20.–. All other events are free.

Accreditation includes one free seat per screening.