

## BAFTSS SIG Funding report.

### French Screen Studies and BAFTSS French and Francophone Cinema SIG Study Day French Screen Comedy from the Coming of Sound to the SVOD era

On Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2023, the BAFTSS French and Francophone Cinema SIG joined forces with the journal *French Screen Studies* and Warwick University's School of Modern Languages and Cultures to host the Study Day 'French Screen Comedy from the Coming of Sound to the SVOD era'. The day's [programme](#) saw visitors from Europe as well as different UK institutions admire Warwick's new Faculty of Arts Building, including representatives from the Basque Country to Montpellier via several from Paris. Notable here was the fascinating keynote by Sorbonne-Nouvelle-Paris 3's Raphaëlle Moine about contemporary comedies centralising older people, drawn from a major international project on representing ageing in European audiovisual fictions. Other topics ranged from post-war star figures such as Louis de Funès to parodies on social media platforms, with gender, race and class providing master themes. Q&As and breaks were particularly lively and it was great to see several senior colleagues as well as students in attendance merely to listen, from Warwick as well as further afield. Meanwhile, the unexpectedly sun-drenched 'penthouse suite' boasted impressive views and altogether the day was an invigorating way to get into gear early in the academic year, and carve out a space for research during the busy teaching period. The organisers Mary Harrod (Warwick) and Ginette Vincendeau (KCL) thank all involved and most particularly BAFTSS, *French Screen Studies* and Warwick for between them enabling us to provide free food, refreshments and even travel bursaries allowing many early career researchers to attend alongside veteran scholars. May the academic year continue in an equally stimulating vein!

Dr Mary Harrod, University of Warwick

