

LE MUSÉUM NATIONAL D'HISTOIRE NATURELLE ACCUEILLE

17^E ÉDITION | FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL DU FILM SCIENTIFIQUE

PARIS SCIENCE

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Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle | Jardin des Plantes Paris 5^e

En ligne &
en présentiel



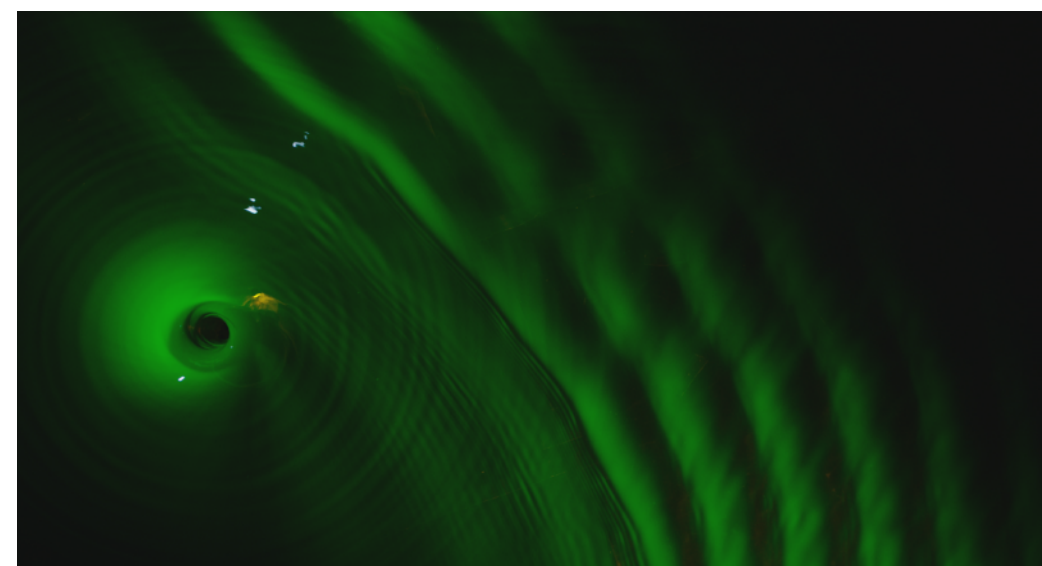


ARTIFICIAL IMMORTALITY

Directed by **Ann Shin**
 Written by **Ann Shin** and **Julia Nunes**
 74 min - Canada - 2021
 © Fathom Film Group
 In association with Crave (Bell Media)
French Premiere

If you were able to create an immortal version of yourself, would you? Until this decade, that question was the stuff of science fiction, but now experts in the fields of artificial intelligence and robotics suggest it will indeed be possible.

This cinematic documentary explores the latest technological advancements in AI, robotics and biotech, and poses the question: what is the essence of the human mind, and can this be replicated? Or even more unsettling, could we one day meet cloned versions of ourselves – clones which are better, smarter, and immortal?



BLACK HOLES: THE EDGE OF ALL WE KNOW

Written and directed by **Peter Galison**
 99 min - US - 2020
 © Collapsar, LLC - Sandbox Films
 French broadcast: Netflix

What can black holes teach us about the boundaries of knowledge? These holes in spacetime are the darkest objects and the brightest—the simplest and the most complex. With unprecedented access, *Black Holes | The Edge of All We Know* follows two powerhouse collaborations. Stephen Hawking anchors one, striving to show that black holes do not annihilate the past. Another group, working in the world's highest altitude observatories, creates an earth-sized telescope to capture the first-ever image of a black hole.



CRAZY, NOT INSANE

Written and directed by **Alex Gibney**
 119 min - US - 2020
 © Jigsaw Productions
French Premiere

Directed and produced by Academy Award winner Alex Gibney, *Crazy, Not Insane* follows Dr. Dorothy Otnow Lewis, a psychiatrist who has dedicated her career to studying murderers and seeking answers as to why people kill. The film explores her lifelong attempts to look beyond the grisly details of homicides and into the hearts and minds of the killers themselves.

The documentary film highlights Dr. Lewis' research, videotaped death row interviews, and the formative experiences and neurological dysfunction of infamous murderers such as Arthur Shawcross and Ted Bundy, to challenge the notion that murderers are made and not born.



FIREBALL: VISITORS FROM DARKER WORLDS

Directed by **Werner Herzog** and **Clive Oppenheimer**
 Written by **Werner Herzog**
 97 min - US - 2020
 © Sandbox Films - Apple Original Films - Spring Films - Werner Herzog Filmproduktion - Dogwoof
 French broadcast: Apple TV+

If you don't think that much about meteors, you have a whole universe to discover in *Fireball: Visitors from Darker Worlds*. Werner Herzog reunites with University of Cambridge professor Clive Oppenheimer, with whom he explored volcanoes for *Into the Inferno*. They travel the world hunting for meteors, revealing connections between science, history, and mythology.



MY YEAR OF LIVING MINDFULLY

Written and directed by **Julian Harvey** and **Shannon Harvey**

98 min - Australia - 2020

© Elemental Media

French Premiere

Overwhelmed with insomnia and an incurable autoimmune disease, Shannon Harvey needed to make a change. But while the award-winning health journalist found plenty of recommendations on diet, sleep and exercise, when she looked for the equivalent of a 30-minute workout for her mental wellbeing, there was nothing.

Worried for the future mental health of her kids who were growing up amidst epidemics of stress, anxiety, depression and addiction, Shannon enlisted a team of scientists to put meditation to the test. Could learning to quiet our busy minds be the simple solution the world so desperately needs?



THE SCENT OF FEAR

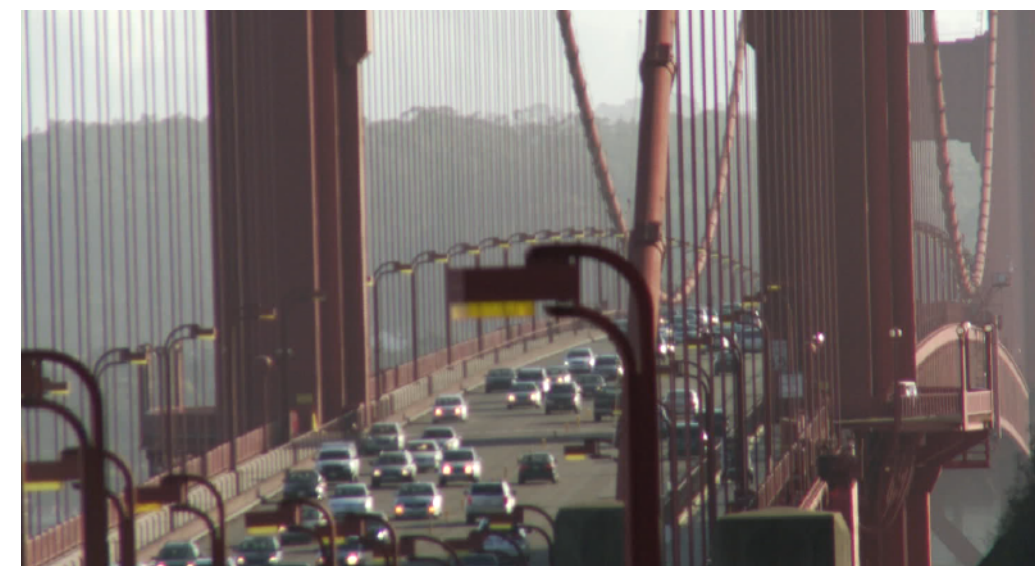
Written and directed by **Mirjam von Arx**

93 min - Switzerland - 2021

© ican films gmbh

French Premiere

A first-hand journey across the globe analyzing the effects fear has on individuals and societies. Along for the ride are leading experts in neural science, psychology, political sciences and more, providing the insight of those who enjoy fear and those paralyzed by it. With exhilarating characters and intellectual scholars, the film analyses the universal question of why fear causes so much fear.



SOLUTIONS

Directed by **Pernille Rose Grønkjær**

Written by **Per Sandholt** and **Pernille Rose Grønkjær**

Cowritten by **Kristina Korsholm**

110 min - Denmark - 2021

© Danish Documentary Production

French Premiere

A group of the world's leading scientists and entrepreneurs isolate themselves for 10 days at the renowned Santa Fe Institute hidden away in the desert of New Mexico. They come from all corners of science representing environment, economy, democracy, cyberspace, education, status of institutions and artificial technology. They want to secure the future of humanity by creating a new and optimistic pathway into the future.



ANTHROPOCENE - A FORCE OF NATURE

ANTHROPOZÄN - NATURGEWALT MENSCH

Directed by **Jens Monath**
Written by **Jens Monath** and **Heike Schmidt**
103 min - Germany - 2020
© ZDF - 3sat - ZDF.enterprises

A new geological age has begun, the Anthropocene. Looking back on the successive industrial revolutions of the 19th and 20th centuries, this documentary explores the way humans have shaped the Earth and its climate. Now that the Anthropocene has started, what will the future look like? How will we manage energy? How will we feed everyone? The director Jens Monath investigates some possible answers.



ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, WHAT'S GOING ON

Written and directed by **Ana Montserrat**
60 min - Spain - 2021
© B23 - RTVE

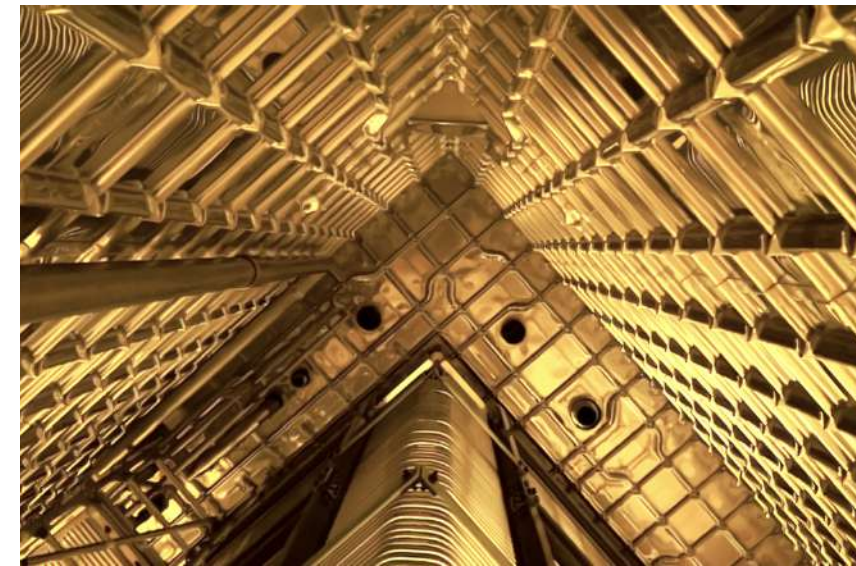
Telecoms, economics, healthcare... Artificial intelligence can be found everywhere - even in the most mundane aspects of our existence - and new AI-related inventions are made every day. With ethics in mind, scientists interrogate this state of things and wonder if humans should really put their trust in machines.



EXTRA LIFE: A SHORT HISTORY OF LIVING LONGER - EPISODE 2: DATA

Directed by **Jason Sussberg**, **David Alvarado** and **Duncan Singh**
Written by **Duncan Singh**
52 min - UK - 2021
© Nutopia
In association with Cineflix

Extra Life: A Short History of Living Longer will examine the science and medical innovations that have doubled life expectancies by defeating some of the world's deadliest diseases, including smallpox, cholera, the Spanish flu and others. The mini-series will also reveal how scientists, doctors, self-experimenters and activists had managed to save countless lives with the discovery of certain vaccines and medicines, fundamentally altering how we think about illness and "ultimately paving the way for modern medicine."



GHOST PARTICLE - THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH FOR NEUTRINOS

Written and directed by **Geneva Guerin**
62 min - Canada - 2021
© Cinécoop Production

Ghost Particle is a science documentary that follows international efforts to understand the universe with some of the largest experiments ever built to study the smallest of known things. Neutrinos are invisible, essentially massless, particles that pass through matter like ghosts. They behave in peculiar quantum ways and their identity-changing behaviour may hold the key to unlock big questions about the origin of the universe. So how to study the undetectable?

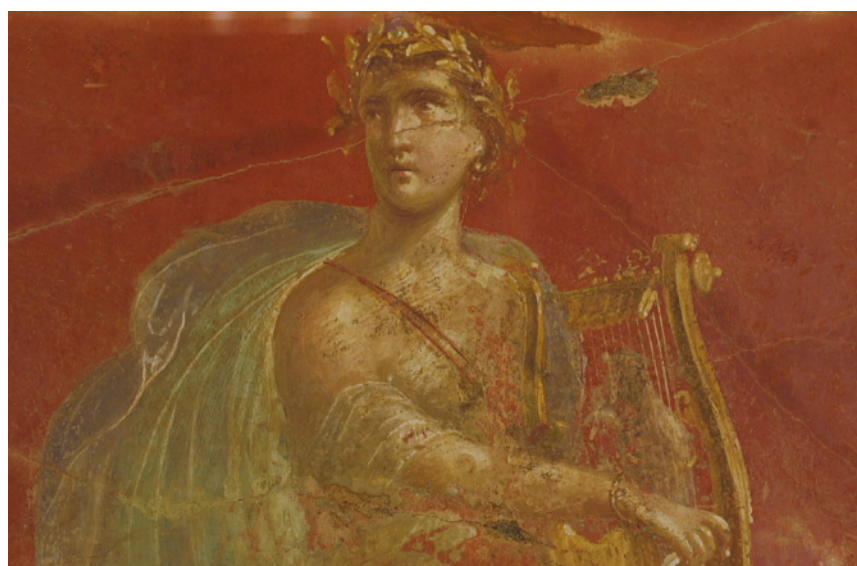


KROMDRAAI - LOOKING FOR THE FIRST HUMANS

KROMDRAAI - À LA RECHERCHE DU PREMIER HUMAIN

Written and directed by **Cédric Robion**
90 min - France - 2021
© Ex Nihilo
In association with France Télévisions
French broadcast: France 5

At Kromdraai, in South Africa, the paleoanthropologist José Braga discovered the remains of two young children. Quickly, he realized he had discovered some of the most ancient human bones ever found. This incredible discovery shook the scientific world and revived discussions on an age-old question: how was mankind born?



LOOKING FOR THE MUSIC OF ANTIQUITY

À LA RECHERCHE DE LA MUSIQUE DE L'ANTIQUITÉ

Written and directed by **Bernard George**
 53 min - France, Greece - 2021
 © ARTE France - O2B Films - Cosmote TV
 - Minimal Films - CNRS Images
 French broadcast: ARTE

Recently, a papyrus was discovered in the Louvre Museum basement. It is a barely readable text, topped with tiny strange characters. The research lead by the archeo-musicologist Annie Bélis revealed that it is a very ancient score of Greek music, and more specifically of a tragedy, the Medea. But how to decrypt the music of the Medea? A medieval manuscript describing the ancient Greek musical notation system, the Tables of Alypius, will turn out to be a true "Rosetta Stone".



MANUFACTURING IGNORANCE

LA FABRIQUE DE L'IGNORANCE

Directed by **Pascal Vasselin** and **Franck Cuveillier**
 Written by **Pascal Vasselin**, **Franck Cuveillier**, **Stéphane Foucart** and **Mathias Girel**
 97 min - France - 2020
 © ARTE France - ZED
 In association with France Télévisions, RTS, AMC Networks International Iberia, RTBF and Télé Québec
 French broadcast: ARTE, France 5

Never has scientific knowledge seemed so vast, detailed and shared. And yet it appears to be increasingly challenged. It is no longer surprising to see private corporations put strategies in place to confuse the public debate and paralyze political decision-making. Overwhelmed by excess of information, how can we, as citizens, sort out fact from fiction? One by one, this film dismantles the workings of this clever manoeuvre that aims to turn science against itself.



NUCLEAR FOREVER

ATOMKRAFT FOREVER

Written and directed by **Carsten Rau**
 94 min - Germany - 2020
 © Pier 53 Filmproduktion - SWR NDR

Germany is turning away from nuclear power once and for all in 2022. Because the risk is too high, the technology unmanageable. Yet the nuclear nightmare goes on: with umpteen thousands of tonnes of radioactive waste whose storage isn't the least bit clear. With the hazardous dismantling of power plants which will take decades and gobble up many billions of euros. And with neighbours who firmly hold on to mankind's dream of atomic energy. The feature-length documentary film *Nuclear Forever* by Carsten Rau takes an equally profound and alarming look at the nuclear nightmare. That has no end.

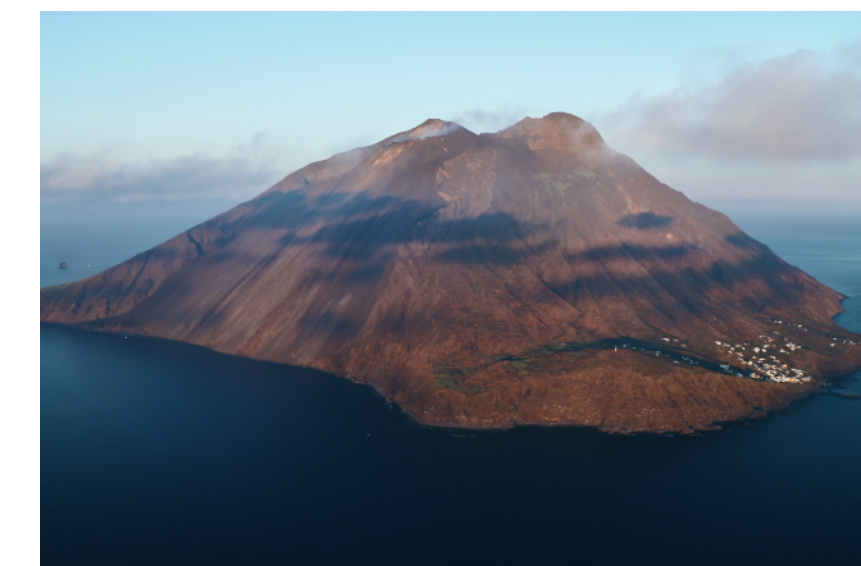


THE UNGEMACH EXPERIMENT, A HISTORY OF EUGENICS

L'EXPÉRIENCE UNGEMACH, UNE HISTOIRE DE L'EUGÉNISME

Directed by **Jean-Jacques Lonni** and **Vincent Gaullier**
 Written by **Vincent Gaullier**
 67 min - France - 2020
 © Look at Sciences - Sancho & C° - France Télévisions
 In association with Histoire TV
 French broadcast: France 3 Grand Est, Histoire TV

In 1924, an idyllic house and garden complex known as « Ungemach » was inaugurated in Strasbourg. It welcomed couples whose lifelong project was to found a large family. What tenants did not know is that they were participating in a great eugenics experiment: only « healthy and fertile strain » are selected. The experiment was a subject of fascination everywhere in the world. Today, what is its legacy?



THE WRATH OF VOLCANOES

BAIE DE NAPLES, LA COLÈRE DES VOLCANS

Directed by **Laurence Thiriat**
 Written by **Laurence Thiriat** and **Thomas Marlier**
 88 min - France, Italy - 2021
 © Artline Films - Mymax - RAI Documentari
 In association with France Télévisions, RTBF, Ushuaïa TV and SBS-TV Australia
 French broadcast: France 5, Ushuaïa TV

From the infamous Vesuvius to the formidable Stromboli, the Gulf of Naples is surrounded by threatening volcanoes. With a unique approach mixing science, archeology and architecture, director Laurence Thiriat looks into the mysteries of one of the most remarkable European natural sites and investigates the volcanic activity of a zone under high surveillance.



THE WAKEFUL SLEEPER

LE DORMEUR ÉVEILLÉ

Written and directed by **Boris Van der Avoort**
 74 min - Belgium - 2020
 © YC Aligator Film - RTBF - Proximus - CBA - GSARA
French Premiere

In search of the reasons for his chronic insomnia, the director films his own investigation into sleep. Gradually widening his investigations, he goes to meet other plant and animal species. Living beings watch, sleep and dream. The wakeful sleeper questions these different states of consciousness and the difficulty humans have in synchronizing their social rhythm with their biological rhythm.



CANCER: LIFE WITH MY BEST ENEMY

CANCER : MA VIE AVEC MON MEILLEUR ENNEMI

Written and directed by **Christine Doridon**
 52 min - France - 2020
 © France Télévisions - Les Films de la découverte
 French broadcast: France 3

How does one live with cancer? Nowadays, patients turn to blogs, magazines and associations. These organisations aim to inform properly and to create spaces where patients can express themselves and escape loneliness. Director Christine Dorion met with some of these patients and through their testimonies, all sad and funny in equal measure, she invites us to reconsider how we can live with an illness.



THE DEMONS IN OUR BASEMENT

LE SOUS-SOL DE NOS DÉMONS

Directed by **Fanny Fontan**
 Written by **Feriel Alouti** and **Fanny Fontan**
 52 min - France - 2021
 © France Télévisions - Comic Strip Production
 In association with Mediapart
 French broadcast: France 3 Occitanie

In prison or in the hospital, Magali and Mathieu listen to the stories of pedophiles. In a closed room hidden from the eyes of all, these psychologist and psychiatrist receive those that society would like to make invisible. They fight for preventing these men to act. Under the hospital, they heal our demons to better protect us from them.



LIKE A VIRGIN

Written and directed by **Feriel Ben Mahmoud**
 53 min - France - 2020
 © Drôle de Trame - France Télévisions - TVM Est Parisien
 In association with Public Sénat
 French broadcast: Public Sénat, France 3 Paris Ile-de-France

The film investigates the condition of virgin women on several continents. In the Maghreb, in Egypt or in Indonesia, women still undergo humiliating practices of "verifying" their virginity and in the United States, "purity balls" bring sexual abstinence before marriage back into fashion. However, virginity is merely an invention, a myth constructed by history, religion, and medicine; a fiction that imprisons a woman's body.

A DAY WITH PARTICLES

UNE JOURNÉE AVEC LES PARTICULES

Directed by **Vojtech Pleskot**, **Daniel Scheirich**, **Martin Rybar** and **Connie Potter**
Written by **Vojtech Pleskot** and **Connie Potter**
31 min - Check Republic - 2020
© Charles University, Prague
French Premiere

Outreach must continue, even in a pandemic. Few outreach initiatives do this as charmingly as *A Day With Particles*. Mixing hand-drawn animations, deft sound design and a brisk script targeted at viewers with no knowledge of physics, the short film follows a day in the life of postdoc Vojtech Pleskot.

QUANTUM HEADS OR TAILS

PILE OU FACE QUANTIQUE

Written and directed by **Hugo Cayla**
12 min - France - 2021
© 7 Points Productions
French Premiere

Quantum entanglement is a phenomenon that escapes our intuitive knowledge of reality. Yet, at a quantum scale, two distinctive particles can be one physical object, no matter the distance between them. Animation and a cyberpunk esthetics come together to explain this strange phenomenon of modern physics.

ARE WE RECEIVING BIOLOGICAL SIGNALS FROM OUTER SPACE?

Written and directed by **Tim Grabham**
4 min 43 - UK - 2021
© cinema iloobia
French Premiere

Could biological transmissions over vast astronomical distances be the preferred mode of communication between advanced cultures in space? A short experimental documentary regarding the biodynamic interstellar communication experiments of electronics engineer L. George Lawrence.

RADIO FELIX

Written and directed by **Lauranne Van den Heede**
16 min - Belgium - 2020
© Associate Directors - Ketnet
French Premiere

Whether at school, playing a game, in the gym, or out on his bike, any situation in Felix's life can be about managing conflict or feeling isolated from peers. Felix is on the autism spectrum. But this Flemish preteen has found a clever way of dealing with the situation. He makes news items for Radio Felix, his self-created radio program. Each subject relates to the complicated circumstances he experiences at school, out and about, or at home.

MISSING MEMORIES OF THE UNIVERSE

Directed by **Ali Alvarez**
Written by **Ali Alvarez** and **Rebecca Oppenheimer**
6 min 37 - UK, US - 2021
© Ali Alvarez
French Premiere

Filmmaker Ali Alvarez collaborates with one of America's leading astrophysicists, Dr. Rebecca Oppenheimer, in a tribute to one of the world's leading scientific institutes, Palomar Observatory - creating a reflection on the memories of the universe lost due to the pandemic.

MY QUARANTINE BEAR

Written and directed by **Weijia Ma**
34 min - France, China - 2021
© Les Valseurs - Beyond Frozen Films
French Premiere

While working in Strasbourg on her latest animated short, Weijia Ma has to rush back to China when France falls under lockdown. Upon her arrival, another lockdown awaits her. Fourteen days in a hotel, like a bear in its cave. From the surreal flight to her quarantine, the director recounts this experience through a videotaped diary, with the humor, inventiveness of a romantic comedy.



CHOUM'S ODYSSEY

L'ODYSSÉE DE CHOUM

Directed by **Julien Bisaro**
 Written by **Julien Bisaro** and **Claire Paoletti**
 26 min - France, Belgium, Germany - 2019
 © Pico Pictures - Bardaf! Productions - RTBF - VRT-Ketnet - ZDF
 In association with Piwi+ and Canal+ Family
 French broadcast: Piwi+, Canal+ Family

Meet Choum, a very little owl who comes into the world in the middle of storm. Looking for his parents, Choum will have to go through many adventures, with animals and humans alike, to find a home. With poetry and subtlety, this animated short film explores the delicate relationship between mankind and the rest of nature.



DESCARTES: AUTOPSY OF A GENIUS

L'HISTOIRE AU SCALPEL - DESCARTES, AUTOPSIE D'UN GÉNIE

Directed by **Dominique Adt**
 Written by **Dominique Adt** and **Philippe Charlier**
 52 min - France - 2020
 © CAPA Presse
 In association with France Télévisions and Histoire TV
 French broadcast: France 5, Histoire TV

Since the 19th century, a skull covered in latin inscriptions has been hiding in a cabinet display at the Musée de l'Homme. For a long time, many speculated that the skull belonged to the famous philosopher René Descartes. Philippe Charlier, anthropologist and medical examiner, investigates this century-old case.



THE AGE OF DINOSAURS

AU TEMPS DES DINOSAURES

Directed by **Pascal Cuisson**
 Written by **Pascal Cuisson**
 In collaboration with **Yusuke Matsufune** and **Kazuki Ueda**
 52 min - France, Japan - 2020
 © Bonne Pioche Télévision - NHK Avec la participation de France Télévisions, Ushuaïa TV, Viasat World Limited, Telefonica et RTL Belgium
 French broadcast: France 5, Ushuaïa TV

Scientists now believe they have a more accurate overview of dinosaurs. Unique fossils have revealed more details about their behaviour and characteristics. Feathers were a widespread feature amidst dinosaurs and must have facilitated their adaptation to extreme climates, such as the Arctic. In addition, the discovery of a fossilized nest suggests that these animals hatched their eggs and took care of their offspring. This is an exciting vision quite different from the world imagined for *Jurassic Park*!



THE MISSING LINK

LE CHAÎNON MANQUANT

Written and directed by **Clémence Rabeau** and **Nadège Demanée**
 50 min - France - 2020
 © AB Productions
 French broadcast: Science & Vie TV

What happens when a link in the chain of the living disappears? What will the world of tomorrow look like if we do not do better to protect biodiversity? Experts explain the interconnexions between different species and the role of each in their respective ecosystem.



THE MYSTERIES OF THE MOUNTAIN LA PÉROUSE
LES MYSTÈRES DU MONT LA PÉROUSE

Directed by Yann Rineau
Written by Yann Rineau and Nicolas Bazeille
52 min - France - 2020
© ARTE France - les gens bien productions -
Andromède Océanologie
French broadcast: ARTE

Off the coast of the island of Réunion, a secret hides under the water. Even oceanologists know very little about this geological mystery: an underwater mountain called La Pérouse. Patrick Durville, biologist, gathered a team of accomplished divers, photographers and scientists to explore the secrets of this natural marvel.



STRAWBERRIES FOR THE FOXES
DES FRAISES POUR LE RENARD

Directed by Thierry Robert
Written by Stéphane Durand and Thierry Robert
54 min - France - 2020
© Le Cinquième Rêve
In association with France Télévisions and TV5
Monde
French broadcast: France 3, TV5 Monde

A revolution is brewing in the countryside. Farmers are talking to birds, fraternizing with foxes and badgers, playing host to migrating birds, cohabiting with turtles and bats, welcoming weeds as well as all the unwelcome, unnecessary and supposedly harmful ‘nature’. Across France, hybrid communities are slowly taking shape where farmers, domestic life and wildlife interact and negotiate about each other’s daily needs for the greater benefit of all.



BATS: ALLIES OR ENNEMIES?

CHAUVES-SOURIS : ALLIÉES OU ENNEMIES ?

Written and directed by **Raphaël Hitier**

52 min - France - 2021

© CAPA Presse - Films à Cinq

French broadcast: ARTE

They are at the top of the Covid-19 contamination chain. A reservoir for viruses, bats are also the object of fantasies. A consortium of international researchers is trying to unravel the secrets of this little animal's superpowers. This project, on an unprecedented scale, is beginning to bear fruit with discoveries about their extraordinary lifespan, their resistance to viruses and diseases. And the hope of finding answers to this ultimate question: are its biological superpowers transposable to humans?

arte



PERMAFROST: THE THAWING A TIME BOMB

DÉGEL DU PERGÉLISOL : UNE BOMBE À RETARDEMENT

Written and directed by **Rémi Forte**

52 min - France - 2021

© Ushuaïa TV - Bo Travail !

In association with TV5 Monde

French broadcast: Ushuaïa TV, TV5 Monde

In 30 years, climate change has multiplied by 7 the rate at which the permafrost is melting. By thawing, the permafrost frees not only greenhouse gas but also unknown bacteria and viruses. What consequences can we expect? Meet the scientists who study the permafrost to better understand the impact of human activities on its evolution and the risks its thawing may pose for us.

Ushuaïa TV

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