

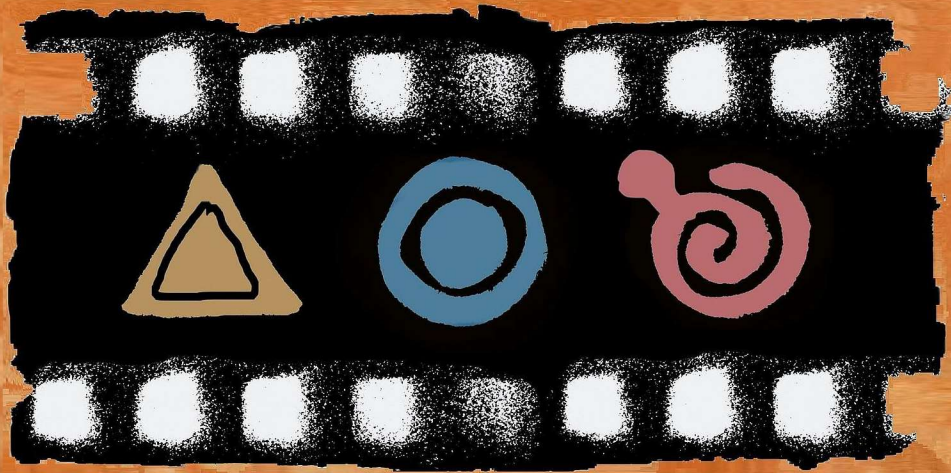


PRESENTS

## 2023 PROGRAM

VIRTUAL EDITION

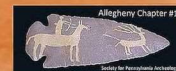
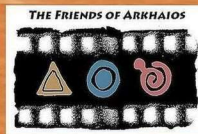
FLORENCE COUNTY MUSEUM, SC  
UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH, PA



# ARKHAIOS

CULTURAL HERITAGE  
AND ARCHAEOLOGY  
**FILM FESTIVAL**

**OCTOBER 9-15, 2023**



[WWW.ARKHAIOSFILMFESTIVAL.ORG](http://WWW.ARKHAIOSFILMFESTIVAL.ORG)

# ARKHAIOS 2023 FILM FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

## 2023 ARKHAIOS FILM FESTIVAL – VIRTUAL EDITION

Monday October 9, 2023 to Sunday October 15, 2023 Films can be screened on demand 24/7			
OFFICIAL SELECTION FILMS			
<b>Ancient Armageddon</b> <i>Director/Producer Katie Reisz, (UK)</i>	<b>Stories of a Necropolis</b> <i>Director/Producer Javier Trueba, (Spain)</i>	<b>The Tumuk Humak Expedition</b> <i>Director/Producer Freek de Goeje, (The Netherlands)</i>	
<b>EMPIRE INCA - Incas The New Story</b> <i>Director Thibaud Marchand, (France)</i>	<b>The Champollion Brothers</b> <i>Director Jacques Plaisant, (France)</i>	<b>Vikings: The Lost Kingdom</b> <i>Director Alexis de Favitski, (France)</i>	
<b>NAMARALI</b> <i>Director Tim Mummery, (Australia)</i>	<b>The Exiles: My Stolen Chinese Father</b> <i>Director Tom St John Gray, (Singapore)</i>		
<b>Neanderthal, in the footsteps of another Humanity</b> <i>Director David Geoffroy, (France)</i>	<b>The Lost City of Ramses the Great, Ep1, Ep2</b> <i>Director Laurent Portes, (France)</i>		
<b>Shéol</b> <i>Director Arnaud Sauli, (France)</i>	<b>The True Story of Pirates</b> <i>Director Stéphane Bégoïn, (France)</i>	<b>AWARDS – Saturday October 14, 5pm</b>	
FESTIVAL SELECTION FILMS			
<b>Petra Expedition</b> <i>Directors Nathalie Laville, Agnes Molia, Mathieu Schwartz, (France)</i>	<b>Quest for Vinča</b> <i>Directors Vladimir Jaksic &amp; Benjamin Elliott, (UK)</i>	<b>Surviving the Asteroid: the Darkest Hour, Ep1, Ep2</b> <i>Director Thomas Cirotteau, (France)</i>	
<b>Megaliths – the 5,500 year old story</b> <i>Director Krzysztof Paluszynski, (Poland)</i>	<b>ROMAN WEDDING BANQUET</b> <i>Director Milica Popovic, (Serbia)</i>	<b>Talia</b> <i>Directors David Gomes and Pedro Cruz, (Portugal)</i>	
<b>ODYSSEA</b> <i>Director Seb Duhem, (France)</i>	<b>ROUNDELS – THE 7,000-YEAR-OLD MYSTERY</b> <i>Director Krzysztof Paluszynski, (Poland)</i>	<b>The Black Italian Renaissance</b> <i>Director Cristian Di Mattia, (Italy)</i>	



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# INTRODUCTION



## **Welcome to the 11th annual Arkhaïos Film Festival !**

Every year the festival has introduced new features, new format, new track. This year is no different !

First, we are proud to introduce a new track: **The Arkhaïos SHORTS Competition.**

The Arkhaïos **SHORTS** ompetition presents future talent in filmmaking. Recognizing the important role short independent films have in the history of filmmaking,

storytelling, and culture, Arkhaïos helps empower the next generation of artists and scientists attracted to telling the stories of our past.

The Arkhaïos **SHORTS** competition operates under the umbrella of the larger Arkhaïos Cultural Heritage and Archaeology Film Festival, and showcases innovative cinema and new trends in short filmmaking aimed at discovering past cultures. **SHORTS** are 20 minutes or less in duration.

To reach a new segment of an audience fascinated with archaeology and ancient civilizations, Arkhaïos is pleased to announce a partnership with prominent podcast/YouTube channels, dedicated to History, Archaeology and Cultural Heritage.

The following channels will create and publish filmmaker interviews, commentaries, and discussions, and post films from the Arkhaïos SHORTS Official Selection at their discretion, to satisfy their channel audience.

- **Archaeology Studio**
- **Seven Ages**
- **Told in Stone**
- **World of Antiquity**

## **And for the second new feature: Welcome to the Arkhaïos Film Festival's Storefront !**

You can now get your Arkhaïos Film Festival t-shirts and sweatshirts in our Arkhaïos apparel store!

We have tote bags, crew/v-neck/youth t-shirts, and comfy sweatshirts available in many gorgeous colors. More items will be added. Each purchase helps Arkhaïos showcase the most fascinating cultural and archaeological films from around the world.

It also helps us keep the festival FREE!

<https://shop.printyourcause.com/campaigns/arkhaïos-film-fest>

Thank you again for your continued support!

**JEAN F GUILLEUX**  
**ARKHAÏOS FOUNDER,**  
**FESTIVAL DIRECTOR**



# THE 2023 ARKHAIOS JURY

## JUDY HOFFMAN, JURY PRESIDENT



**Judy Hoffman** has worked in film and video for 40 years. She was active in the Alternative Television Movement of the early 1970's. During the 1973 International Visual Anthropology Conference, she assisted French ethnographer and filmmaker Jean Rouch, and became deeply influenced by cinéma vérité and the idea of shared anthropology.

Another major and ongoing focus of her work is with the Kwakwaka'wakw First Nation of British Columbia, producing films and videotapes about the reclaiming of Native culture. **Hoffman** was formally adopted by the

Kwakwaka'wakw at the Cranmer potlatch.

**Hoffman's** cinematography credits include *Lives Visible*, *Howard Zinn: You Can't be Neutral on a Moving Train*; *Sacco and Vanzetti*; and *Nelson Algren: The End is Nothing, The Road is All*.

**Hoffman** received a VOICE Media Activism Award from Chicago's Center for Community and Media in 1994, and was awarded the 2004 Nelson Algren Committee Award for "community activists making a significant contribution to Chicago life".

She received an MFA from Northwestern University, and recently retired from her position as Professor of Practice in The Arts, in the Department of Cinema and Media Studies at the University of Chicago.

## DR. KIMBERLY CAVANAGH



**Kimberly Cavanagh** is an Associate Professor of Anthropology at the University of South Carolina Beaufort. She holds a PhD in Cultural Anthropology (2013), as well as an MA in Cultural Anthropology (2006), and a Graduate Certificate in Visual Anthropology (2007) from the University of South Carolina. She is the recipient of a Fulbright Scholar Award (2019-2020) and a Fulbright Student Award (2008-2010).

In addition, **Dr. Cavanagh** has worked on archaeological digs in the U.S., Canada, France and Jordan as an excavator and as a project photographer in Jordan over the past 23 years. Most recently, she has begun a research agenda closer to home, exploring the archaeology of the Barnwell Site --an 18th century tabby building-- on Hilton Head Island, SC.

## DR. ROBERT CLIFT



**Robert Clift**, Ph.D. is a documentary filmmaker and media studies scholar with work appearing on national public television, in film festivals, on new media platforms and in academic publications. His most recent film, *Making Montgomery Clift* (2018), looks at the life and legacy of his uncle, classic Hollywood movie star and queer icon Montgomery Clift. Produced and directed with independent filmmaker Hillary Demmon, the film has played at more than 50 national and international festivals and is slated to be distributed commercially in 2019.

**Robert Clift** previous films include two nationally broadcast PBS documentaries, *Blacking Up: Hip-Hop's Remix of Race and Identity* (2010) and *Stealing Home: The Case of Contemporary Cuban Baseball* (2001). He is an Associate Professor of Film and Media Studies in the Department of English at the University of Pittsburgh.

(cont'd →)

# THE 2023 ARKHAIOS JURY (CONT'D)

## DR. KARL HEIDER



**Karl G. Heider** is a retired Distinguished Professor of Anthropology at the University of South Carolina.

He began his career participating in digs in South Dakota, the classic Mayan site of Tikal, the upper Paleolithic Abri Pataud in France, and led two brief expeditions to a Mesolithic area in Thailand, and with the Minangkabau of West Sumatra, Indonesia.

He made a film, "*Tikal*", pursued ethnographic research with the Dani of Papua, Indonesia, made two more films "*Dani Houses*", "*Dani Sweet Potatoes*". He has written two books on Minangkabau emotion, books on

Ethnographic Film, Indonesian Cinema, and four editions of a textbook, "*Seeing Anthropology. Cultural Anthropology Through Film*".

## DR. JONATHAN M. LEADER



**Jonathan Leader** is the State Archaeologist with the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology at the University of South Carolina, Columbia.

He has conducted research on four continents, the islands of the Western Pacific and the Caribbean.

His research interests and background include the ancient Near East, SE Asia, Micronesia, Eastern United States pre and proto-history, submerged resources, cultural resource management, remote sensing, GIS, archaeometry, archaeometallurgy, and objects conservation.

He acts as a consulting SME with government and NGOs for the illicit trade in antiquities, protection of antiquities in conflict zones, and is a forensic archaeological recovery expert.

## GUY PERROTTA



**Guy Perrotta** is a Co-Director/Co-Writer/Co-Producer. Guy has produced, developed, and researched works airing on PBS and elsewhere.

He co-directed *Mystic Voices: The Story of the Pequot War*, which aired on PBS. He is a member of the Directors Guild of America (DGA), the National Television Academy (EMMY®), a board member of the Scottish Documentary Institute, and member of The Explorers Club (Fellow, 2016).

He has received EMMY® awards for producing and writing, and has presented at conferences on the impact of media on intercultural relationships, most recently on Celtic and Indigenous cultures. His latest work is *Voices Over the Water* concerning tragedy and triumph, stereotypes

and passions. He has aided in developing film festivals and various educational programs. He has taught part-time as a visiting Instructor of cinema and media at the university level.

(cont'd →)

# THE 2023 ARKHAIOS JURY (CONT'D)

## Underwater Archaeology

### JAMES D. SPIREK



**James Spirek** is the State Underwater Archaeologist with the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology at the University of South Carolina, Columbia.

Jim's responsibilities include managing and studying the maritime archaeological legacy residing in the lakes, rivers and coastal waters of South Carolina. Research interests lie in shipbuilding and seafaring of the 16th-century, civil war naval operations, and in providing public access to submerged maritime archaeological resources.

Jim is co-editor of *Submerged Cultural Resource Management: Preserving and Interpreting Our Sunken Maritime Heritage*.



## Welcome to the Arkhaios Film Festival's Storefront !



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We have tote bags, crew/v-neck/youth t-shirts, and comfy sweatshirts available in many gorgeous colors. More items will be added. Each purchase helps Arkhaios showcase the most fascinating cultural and archaeological films from around the world.

It also helps us keep the festival FREE!

Thank you again for your continued support.

<https://shop.printyourcause.com/campaigns/arkhaios-film-fest>

# ABOUT THE ARKHAIOS TEAM



**It takes a whole year to put all the pieces of the puzzle together, and create the Arkhaios Film Festival. It happens only because of the dedication of a team of volunteers. They should be recognized here for their persistence and dedication. Our heartfelt thanks !**

## **Arkhaios Team**

*Mary Lou BREWTON, Dr. Joanna CASEY, Christine HRABOS, Nena RICE, Seph VANDEGRIFT, Cheri WILLIAMS*

**Videos Recording:** *Joe WIDER*

**Trailer of Trailers Montage:** *Zacharias KARAMELEGOS*

**Poster:** *Artist Amiri FARRIS*

**Finally, a very special thank you goes to the  
*members of the Jury and of the Screening Committee,*  
all volunteers extraordinaire !**

**Arkhaios Film Festival would also like to express  
its deepest appreciation to the following festival  
benefactors for their personal donations:**

## **Festival Cinophile**

Neal and Cathy KONSTANTIN and the KONSTANTIN Foundation

Dr. Ernest L. HELMS, III

Dr. Pegi JODRY

## **Festival Aficionado**

Dr. & Mrs. LAWSON

Karl & Bea THOMAS

Dr. & Mrs. GUILLEUX

Dr. Joanna CASEY

Allegheny Chapter #1, Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology

## **Festival Patron**

Janet KAYLO

Carol C REED

Adrian FOWLER

Mary SOCCI

Michael WOSHNER

Josiane GUILLEUX

Lynn O'DONNEL

Don ROSICK

John GEISLER

Bruce EPPINGER

Paula ZITZELBERGER

Christine HRABOS

## **Festival Enthusiast**

Valerie SOOLEY

Suzie SALO

Bob NISBET

Amy GUTHRIE

Bob KATZ

Persephone VANDEGRIFT

Carole BOISVERT

Gus FAHEY

Melanie SPRENKEL

Derek KAUNECKIS

Mads BLOCH KRISTIANSEN, and more !

And to all our Friends who have graciously supported Arkhaios !

**The Festival happened because of all of you !**



# 2023 SCREENING COMMITTEE

## CHERI L. WILLIAMS, COMMITTEE CHAIR



**Cheri L. Williams** is a Program Coordinator at the North Carolina Museum of History in Raleigh NC. She holds an MA in Ancient History from North Carolina State University (2009). She was a CAORC Fellow at the American Center of Oriental Research in Amman, Jordan (2005). She is a former staff archaeologist with Roman Aqaba Project in Aqaba, Jordan (1998-2002) specializing in Egyptian Red Slip Pottery.

Wow what a group of films! If I had to pick my favorite it would have to be "*Talia*".

## DR. PHILLIP T. ASHLOCK II



**Phillip T. Ashlock II**, Ph.D., Archaeologist and Historic Preservation consultant has worked extensively in the Southeastern U.S., Alaska, and the Pacific. His current research is focused on Conflict Archaeology, UAV/UAS and VR/AI/3D technologies, and the impacts to cultural resources from climate change and sea level rise in the Southeast. His favorite selection for the 2023 Arkhaios Film Festival is "*EMPIRE INCA - Incas The New Story*", "*Petra Expedition*", and "*Ancient Armageddon*".

## LAURA BOYD



**Laura J. Boyd** is Chair of Cinema Arts department, and Associate Professor at the Point Park University in Pittsburgh. Her interest in travel, adventure and natural history steered her to the path of documentary filmmaking. In 2006, she was hired by National Geographic and produced content for the National Geographic Channel, National Geographic Mission Programs, National Geographic Explorer, Wild Chronicles for PBS and the award-winning children's television series Wild Detectives.

In 2011, she joined Point Park University to begin the next phase of her career, as faculty in the cinema program, overseeing the producing

concentration and teaching as many documentary classes as possible.

My favorites: "*Shéol*", and "*Ice Age America*".

## DR. CANDACE BRUDER



**Dr. Candace Bruder** serves as Communication Officer for the Beaufort County School District which has 21,500 students and 3,000 employees. An award-winning screenwriter, Bruder earned a BA in Media Arts from UofSC and a MFA in Screenwriting from Columbia University in NYC. She holds a doctorate in Curriculum and Instruction with a concentration in Educational Technology from the University of South Carolina.

Her favorite film submission was "*The Black Italian Renaissance*".

(cont'd →)

# 2023 SCREENING COMMITTEE (CONT'D)

## DR. JOANNA CASEY



**Joanna Casey** is an Associate Professor of Anthropology at the University of South Carolina. She holds a PhD in Anthropology from the University of Toronto, and BA and MA degrees in Archaeology from Simon Fraser University in Canada. Dr. Casey has done extensive archaeological fieldwork in Canada, the US and West Africa. For the past 20 years she has been doing Ethnoarchaeology in Northern Ghana and Tigray, Ethiopia.

## DR. DAWN CHAPMAN ASHLOCK



**Dawn Chapman Ashlock**, PhD, Archaeologist and Architectural Historian, has worked in prehistoric and historic archaeology in the southeastern United States since 2007. Her research focuses on buildings archaeology, historic construction materials and methods, the use of mortar analysis to identify material sources and date architectural features, remote sensing, and GIS mapping and analysis. Her favorite film this year is "**The True Story of Pirates**", followed by "**Quest for Vinča**" and "**The Tumuk Humak Expedition**".

## DR. AUDREY DAWSON



**Audrey R. Dawson**, Ph.D., is an archaeologist whose research focuses on both historic and prehistoric archaeology of the southeastern United States. After completing her undergraduate degree at West Virginia University, she earned her master's and doctorate degrees in anthropology from the University of South Carolina, Columbia. Her research interests include the Middle Archaic, specifically the use of the Sandhills region during this period, plantation complexes, lithic technology, and public archaeology. This year, my favorite films were "**Ancient Armageddon**" and "**EMPIRE INCA—Incas The New Story**".

## JOE EHMAN



**Joe Ehman** teaches International Baccalaureate Film and is the IB Diploma Programme Coordinator at the Obama Academy in Pittsburgh PA. He has taught film for the past 9 years, and originally went to college to become "Indiana Jones". The experience with Arkhaios was very enjoyable because it combined his love of film, history, and archaeology. The purpose of the filmmakers who submitted to Arkhaios stood out most to him. It was very interesting to see the passion for teaching and history that was evident in all of the films. His preferred films are "**Shéol**", and "**The Exiles: My Stolen Chinese Father**".

(cont'd →)

# 2023 SCREENING COMMITTEE (CONT'D)

## MEG GAILLARD



**Meg Gaillard** is an archaeologist with the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) Heritage Trust Program, co-founder of the South Carolina Archaeology Public Outreach Division (SCAPOD), and co-founder of the North American Heritage at Risk (NAHAR) research collective. Her primary research is in archaeology, visual anthropology, public interpretation, disaster preparedness and recovery, and heritage at risk. Meg received an MA in Visual Anthropology from the University of Manchester where she focused her research on the visual representation of archaeology, and BA degrees in Journalism and Anthropology from the University of South Carolina. Meg's favorite film this year is "*The True Story of Pirates*".

## DR. KELLY GOLDBERG



**Kelly Goldberg**, Ph.D., is a Clinical Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the University of South Carolina. She is a historical archaeologist and the Director of the university's Public Heritage Lab, which focuses on connecting K-12 schools with archaeological resources. She was the recipient of a Fulbright Student Award (2016-17), which supported her dissertation research on archaeological investigations of the transatlantic slave trade in 19<sup>th</sup> century Guinea. More recently she has begun working on NPS sites in the eastern US (Virginia and Georgia). Kelly's favorite film this year is "*Ancient Armageddon*".

## JEAN F GUILLEUX



**Jean F Guilleux** is the Arkhaïos founder and festival director. An avocational archaeologist who spent 12 seasons digging the Pleistocene terrace at the Topper site in SC. Listening during the evening lectures to Dr. Goodyear and the guest lecturers, he developed an interest in the search for the First American, the Solutreans, the Neanderthals, and Human Origin. After a dig at a Solutrean site in France, he attended one of the oldest archaeology Film Festival in Europe. It was the revelation that led to Arkhaïos after discovering there was only one such festival in the USA. He is most proud of the number of films choosing Arkhaïos to premiere in America.

## NATALIE HARVEY



**Natalie Harvey** was named the Director of the Office of Cultural Affairs at the Town of Hilton Head Island in 2022. She manages the Town's public art, marketing of arts and cultural organizations, community outreach and the annual "Crescendo" celebration focused on the island's art, culture, and heritage. Natalie's educational background is in Art History and Historic Preservation. She was the editor of the Images of America volume "Hilton Head Island." Her interest in the "pre-bridge" era on Hilton Head Island led to her thesis work in graduate school and many exhibitions at her previous position with the Coastal Discovery Museum. Natalie's favorite film this year is "*The Champollion Brothers*".

(cont'd →)

# 2023 SCREENING COMMITTEE (CONT'D)

## COLLEEN LANE



**Colleen Lane** is a graduate student in anthropology specializing in environmental anthropology and multi-species ethnography, with a research focus on impacts of climate shift on Indigenous agricultural populations.

## ABIGAIL MCCORMICK



**Abigail McCormick** found her passion in the healing arts after training at the prestigious Heartwood Institute in Northern California. She enjoys bringing a bit of peace and calm to her clients through the healing arts. As an independent artist, Abby enjoys nature photography, mixed medium painting and a love of documentaries on all topics of human existence, human expression and human experience. Abby is an avid nature lover, hiker, camper, and loves experiencing new adventures. Abby loves traveling and recently returned from a meditative journey to South Africa. My preferred films were "*Surviving the Asteroid: the Darkest Hour*",

and "*EMPIRE INCA—Incas The New Story*".

## JEFFREY MCQUILLEN



**Jeffrey McQuillen, M.A.**, is an instructor at the University of South Carolina-Beaufort, where he teaches Freshman Composition and film studies; and he is the program coordinator for the Film Minor. This is Jeffrey's seventh year adjudicating for ArkhaioS including three as the Screening Committee chair. His favorite films this year are "*Ice Age America*" and "*The Tumuk Humak Expedition*".

## DR. ERIC POPLIN



**Eric Poplin**, Archaeologist, is Senior Archaeologist at Brockington and Associates, where he has worked from their Mt. Pleasant office since 1990. Research interests include plantation archaeology, Native American adaptations in coastal SC, the interactions of Native Americans and Europeans during the Contact era, and military sites. Most recently, Eric has been studying Altamaha pottery made by the Yamasee Indians during their 40-year residence in South Carolina. His favorite films this year are "*NAMARALI*", "*Quest for Vinča*", and "*The Black Italian Renaissance*".

(cont'd →)



# 2023 SCREENING COMMITTEE (CONT'D)

## IAN N. ROA



**Ian Roa** is a Ph.D. archaeology candidate at University of Pittsburgh. His dissertation is focused on Maya-animal relationships in ritual ceremonies from the Preclassic to the Terminal Classic (300 BC - AD 1000). He is interested in learning about the life histories of ritually important animals through stable isotope analysis, including documenting their geographic origin and diet. His research is based across four ancient Maya sites in western Belize, seeking to understand if the ceremonial use of specific species correlates with ecological changes and social pressures over time. His favorite films for the 2023 film festival is tied between "**Empire**

**Inca**" and "**Surviving the Asteroid**".

## CATHERINE RUNYAN



**Catherine Runyan** is an adjunct instructor of anthropology at the University of South Carolina - Beaufort. Formerly she worked in Cultural Resource Management as an archaeologist in Florida, Georgia and South Carolina specializing in prehistoric ceramic analysis. She holds a B.A. in Anthropology from Miami University and an M.A. in Anthropology with a focus on Archaeology from Florida Atlantic University. These days she's spending time with her four children and husband, and is always cuddling her Pomeranian, Hermes, in the South Carolina Lowcountry. Her favorite

film is "**Vikings: The Lost Kingdom**", followed closely by "**The Champollion Brothers**", and "**The Tumuk Humak Expedition**".

## TERRY SHIRK



**Terry Shirk** is the Safety Coordinator for the Cinema Department at Point Park University in Pittsburgh, PA. He also is an instructor in the program and teaches 1<sup>st</sup> year and 2<sup>nd</sup> year film production courses and a Grip and Electric course. Prior to working at Point Park University, Terry work primarily as a Best Boy Electrician on Film, TV series and commercials in the Pittsburgh area. Some of his film credits include: "Jack Reacher", "The Dark Knight Rises", "The Road", "Foxcatcher".

His favorite films this year are "**The Black Italian Renaissance**", "**The Exiles: My Stolen Chinese Father**" and "**The True Story of Pirates**".

## JIM SIDLETSKY



**Jim Sidletsky** teaches Media Arts at the University of South Carolina Beaufort. His own work specializes in the creation of 3D Modeling and Texturing hard surface objects, characters and environments. Most recently, Jim worked on an NFT collection and subsequent trailer for the ResQ Project; whose purpose is to raise funds for sheltered companion animals. Jim also wrote and directed the short animated film "**The Ghostly Lovers of Fripp Island**", the first in a series of ghost stories based on Low Country tales and lore. Jim contributed 3D modeling and visual effects work to the television series "**Dead by**

**Midnight**", by You42 productions.

**Jim Sidletsky** had two favorites "**Vikings: The Lost Kingdom**", and "**EMPIRE INCA - Incas The New Story**".

(cont'd →)

# 2023 SCREENING COMMITTEE (CONT'D)

## JAN LEE SWEATT



**Jan Lee Sweatt** is an independent artist of photography and paint, graduating Summa Cum Laude from Queens University, Charlotte, NC with a BA in Art History and Museum Studies. Jan served as the Secretary of the Artifact Acquisition Committee at North Carolina Museum of History. In this capacity Jan developed, with curators, a refinement in the museum's process for acquiring artifacts: confirming authenticity, relevance and prospect of exhibit. In addition to her study of US Southern history, she is persistent in the exploration of film, photography, and ancient worlds. My favorite films for 2023 are "***Sheol***", "***Vikings: The Lost Kingdom***", and

"***Namarai***".

## MARIA TRUITT



**Maria Truitt** is a Senior Video Producer/Editor at Discovery Education in Washington D.C. She holds a B.A. in Anthropology from the University of Virginia, and an M.A. in Visual Anthropology, Ethnographic Documentary from the University of Manchester. In her current role, Maria oversees the production of videos covering a wide range of national and international subjects. She is excited to return as a member of the 2023 selection committee, and her favorite films this year are "***The Exiles: My Stolen Chinese Father***" followed by "***The Lost city of Ramses the Great***".

## PERSEPHONE VANDEGRIFT



**Persephone Vandegrift** is a multi-award-winning screenwriter, filmmaker, and playwright but she would have loved to become an archaeologist. Her first exposure to the ancient past was at the impressionable age of 11 when her mother gave her a copy of the Reader's Digest: The World's Last Mysteries. Although she pursued a career in the film industry, her fascination with the ancient world never faded and she can often be found stalking archaeology news sites until the wee hours. When she's not stalking, Seph writes children's books, screenplays, and teaches creative writing workshops. My favorites films are "***Stories of a Necropolis***", followed by "***Talia***" and "***Vikings: The Lost Kingdom***".



# OFFICIAL SELECTION

IN COMPETITION

*ANCIENT ARMAGEDDON*

*EMPIRE INCA - INCAS THE NEW STORY*

*NAMARALI*

*NEANDERTHAL, IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF  
ANOTHER HUMANITY*

*SHÉOL*

*STORIES OF A NECROPOLIS*

*THE CHAMPOLLION BROTHERS: THE EGYPT  
CODE BREAKERS*

*THE EXILES: MY STOLEN CHINESE FATHER*

*THE LOST CITY OF RAMSES THE GREAT*

*THE TRUE STORY OF PIRATES*

*THE TUMUK HUMAK EXPEDITION*

*VIKINGS: THE LOST KINGDOM*

# OFFICIAL SELECTION

## ANCIENT ARMAGEDDON

*Director/Producer Katie Reisz*  
*Exec Producer Richard Reisz*  
*TV6 Limited, (UK), 2023, 84 min.*

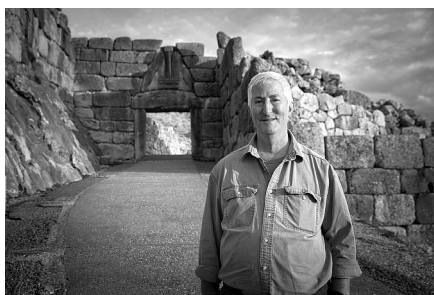
This documentary film delves deep into the mysterious and catastrophic collapse of ancient civilizations during the late Bronze Age, as empires from Greece to ancient Egypt were wiped off the map. It explores the various theories and hypothesis that have emerged to explain their sudden downfall, revealing the tumultuous events that brought an end to a once-thriving era of human history. Through invasions, mega-droughts, natural disasters, and rebellions, we discover the complex web of factors that were involved. With stunning visual imagery, expert interviews and immersive storytelling, this film offers a fascinating glimpse into one of the most pivotal and enigmatic periods of human history. And it warns that

we could be facing a similar combination of threats today.

### **ABOUT THE DIRECTOR**

*Katie Reisz has extensive experience working as a producer on science and archaeology productions, ranging from the philosophical, a NOVA on the nature of mathematics, to the practical, a series walking the ancient trackways that criss-cross the UK.*

*She has worked on a range of archaeology programs for the Science Channel, Channel 4, the Smithsonian Channel, and other broadcasters featuring a wide range of sites all over the world including Stonehenge, Knossos, Saqqara, and the Valley of the Kings. She has also recently made a true crime documentary for Channel 5. She is known for maintaining excellent relations with contributors and presenters, and is extremely resourceful.*





# OFFICIAL SELECTION

USA PREMIERE

## EMPIRE INCA – INCAS THE NEW STORY

*Director Thibaud Marchand*

*Producers Agnes and Christie Molia*

*Tournez S'il Vous Plait, Arte France, (France), 2022, 90 min.*

They were the masters of the Andes. The masters of the Pacific coasts. The masters of America's first superpower... Their name has gone down in history: they are the Incas. This masterful civilization would, however, never have had writing...

Its history was therefore brought to us by its enemies: the Spanish conquistadors who invaded this Empire from 1532.

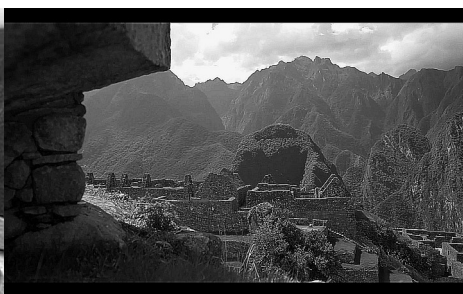
But for 15 years, thanks to technical progress and increasingly numerous research programs, a new history of the Inca Empire has emerged, revealing aspects unknown or poorly understood until then.

What is the real history of the Incas, this people who have become legendary? From the four corners of their ancient empire, scientists are gathering all the clues to establish the truth.

### **ABOUT THE DIRECTOR**

*Thibaud Marchand is a French documentary director. He works for Tournez S'il Vous Plait (a French audiovisual company). Director of historical and scientific films and documentaries, particularly devoted to archeology productions like :*

- *Easter Island*
- *Schnidi*
- *Inca Empire*
- *Neanderthal*



# OFFICIAL SELECTION

## NAMARALI

*Director Tim Mummery*

*Producers Tim Mummery and Yorna Woolagoodja*

*Woolagoodja*

*(Australia), 2021, 52 min.*

NAMARALI is a 52min documentary charting artist Donny (Yorna) Woolagoodja's quest to rekindle deep connections with his traditional ancestral culture. Yorna's spiritual beliefs revolve around the wandjina - creator beings whose images adorn the caves and rock ledges throughout the Kimberley in Western Australia. Refreshed with new ochre each year by his ancestors the wandjinas are now fading away with the absence of Yorna's people.

But the community's decision to allow one of Yorna's designs to appear at the 2000 Sydney Olympics opening ceremony empowers a progressive new perspective. Yorna is compelled to visit the big-boss wandjina NAMARALI in his cave. His mission: to repaint the imposing 4m wandjina image with fresh ochre and restore NAMARALI back to his full glory.

On a distant, inaccessible section of the West Kimberley coast, the film is witness to the radical action of a man and his community determined to bring their deity 'back to life'.

NAMARALI was created over 20 years by Tim Mummery and senior knowledge

keeper Yorna Woolagoodja (2021 Red Ochre lifetime achievement award).

### **ABOUT THE DIRECTOR**

*Tim Mummery is an independent director, cinematographer, editor and video producer working across the documentary, news and feature mediums. Tim pioneered the creation of video content for online news website ([www.theage.com.au](http://www.theage.com.au)), winning a Quill Award in 2007 and twice being nominated for prestigious journalism award The Walkleys.*

*He has produced video content for The Guardian, The New Daily and Foxtel and continues to produce content across the Fairfax media portfolio. Tim's documentary photography also has appeared across print and online news mediums.*

### **AWARDS & SCREENINGS**

Awards received: (1) Innovation in Feature Documentary or Non-Fiction (2022 WAS Screen Culture Awards), (2) Winner Oceania Best Feature Film & Winner Best Feature Film Director (both at 2023 Quetzalcoatl Indigenous International Film Festival).



# OFFICIAL SELECTION

## NEANDERTHAL, IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ANOTHER HUMANITY

*Director David Geoffroy*

*Producer Caroline Chassaing*

*Cours-jus Production, (France), 2022, 52 min.*

Threatened by marine erosion, which global warming is inexorably accelerating, Le Rozel, in the Cotentin region of France, offers rare vestiges of the daily life of Neanderthal populations who occupied this remarkable spot on the Normandy coast, some 80,000 years ago. Among these fragile remains, more than 2,000 footprints have been unearthed by archaeologists: the world's largest collection of Neanderthal footprints!

Since 2012, archaeologist Dominique Cliquet has been working, race against time, to excavate this prehistoric site of international importance before the raging sea swallows the traces of life left in the dune by the Neanderthal men, women and children who frequented the site.

In the wake of the Normandy discoveries and other research across Europe and far beyond, this groundbreaking archaeological

investigation takes us on a dizzying journey through time, in the footsteps of Neanderthal man. Little by little, behind the everyday life of the Neanderthals, archaeology gives us a glimpse into the humanity of this extinct species, so different... and yet so close to us!

### **ABOUT THE DIRECTOR**

*David Geoffroy's vocation as a documentary filmmaker was born very early on.*

*At the beginning of the 2000s, his meetings and friendships with many of the great names in French archaeology naturally led him to realize his aspirations.*

*Since 2006, he has written and directed a dozen documentaries dedicated to archaeology, mainly for television.*

*His work as a director has been rewarded many times in numerous international festivals. His singular gaze transpires in his writing, which is at once precise, musical and poetic.*



# OFFICIAL SELECTION

## SHÉOL

*Director Arnaud Sauli*

*Producer Fabrice Main*

*Dublin Films, (France), 2022, 88 min.*

In a forest in eastern Poland, an archaeologist digs to bring to light the traces of the Sobibor extermination center. Thousands of objects that belonged to the victims are emerging from the ground as fragile witnesses. This research must be completed, because the construction of a new museum-memorial is beginning...

How can the Shoah be commemorated on its own site, today and tomorrow, when an era without witnesses is emerging? How does the Shoah continue to work on the history and memory of Poland, of its citizens, within Europe, in a conflicting political context?

The film looks at these questions by showing and hearing the voices of archaeologists, historians, architects, journalists, curators, and visitors linked to Sobibor.

### **ABOUT THE DIRECTOR**

Arnaud Sauli was born in 1972. Initially intending to study history, he worked on a PhD on the colonial police in North India before choosing documentary film. He made his first documentary behind the camera as part of a research program in anthropology of the CNRS on lepers and a caste of transsexuals in New Delhi.

He then directed a short documentary in Rwanda, *Sonatubes-Nyanza* (26', 2012, Corsicadoc, Entrevues Belfort parallel program), *Le Kaddish des Orphelins in Israel* with the writer survivor of the Shoah Aharon Appelfeld (52', 2016, Dublin Films, France TV L'heure D, étoile de la Scam) and the feature film *L'enfance d'Aharon* (2018, Dublin Films, Cinema Jueu Festival in Barcelona, Flickers Roving Eye in Rhodes Island).

He then shot for four years in Poland a film on the memorialization of the Holocaust on the site of the extermination center of Sobibor.

### **AWARDS & SCREENINGS**

Les rendez-vous de l'Histoire 2022 : Grand Prize Historic Documentary.

FIFAN 2023 – Festival Int. du Film d'Archéologie: Best archaeological film





# OFFICIAL SELECTION

## STORIES OF A NECROPOLIS

*Director/Producer Javier Trueba*

*Madrid Scientific Films, RTVE, (Spain), 2022, 56 min.*

Dra Abu el-Naga, is a fundamental hill in the history of Egypt. The kings of the 17th dynasty and the first of the 18th dynasty were buried there, between 1600 and 1500 BC., until Hatshepsut inaugurated the Valley of the Kings. It also attests to the relevance of this necropolis that Champollion (discoverer of hieroglyphic writing and father of French scientific Egyptology) passed through, along with Rosellini —father of Italian Egyptology.

Through the long life of the cemetery, its reuses and transformations over time, this documentary will present Egyptology and its objects of study as parts of a dynamic process. That is why digging in a necropolis means documenting new uses, looting, social, political and religious changes, fashions... And the Egyptologist has to put the puzzle together trying to deduce chains of events and processes over time.

Combining exciting scenes of discoveries in real time with never-before-seen images of field and laboratory work on singular pieces, this

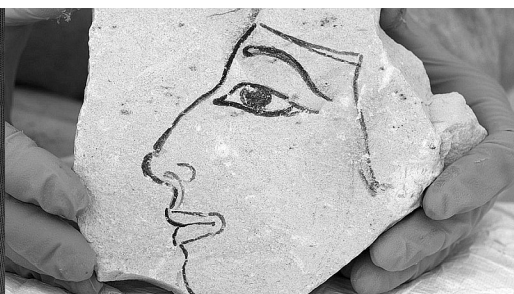
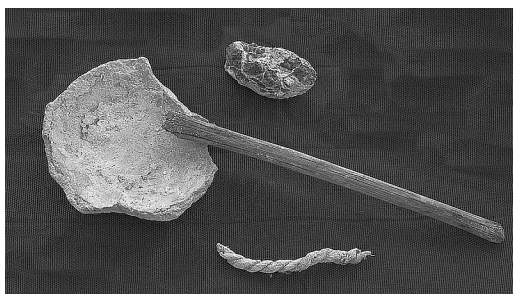
film will maintain the line of good harmony between show and high disclosure that has already been achieved with previous documentaries.

### **ABOUT THE DIRECTOR**

*Director and producer of documentaries specialized in nature and scientific cinema, Javier Trueba's work has been carried out in 40 countries with productions in film, video, 3D and animation formats for television and audiovisuals for cultural institutions and museums around the world.*

*As a photographer, he has published hundreds of reports in magazines and newspapers around the world such as National Geographic, Science, Nature, PNAS, Archaeology, Scientific American, Discovering Archaeology, Focus, Geo, Paris Match, La Recherche, and has collaborated on dozens of books .*

*Since 1986 he has worked with the Atapuerca research team in Spain and Djehuty Project in Luxor and is currently also collaborating with the Olduvai project in Tanzania and Pinilla del Valle excavation projects.*



# OFFICIAL SELECTION

USA PREMIERE

## **THE CHAMPOLLION BROTHERS: THE EGYPT CODE BREAKERS**

*Director Jacques Plaisant*

*Producers Agnes and Christie Molia*

*Tournez S'il Vous Plait, Arte France, (France), 2022, 52 min.*

Two hundred years ago, Jean-Francois Champollion deciphered the Egyptian hieroglyphs for the first time, thus solving one of the greatest enigmas in the History of Humanity.

What little is known is that behind this genius hides a man in the shadows: Jacques-Joseph, the eldest brother of the Champollion family.

The recent study of family archives shed new light on this intellectual adventure that was deciphering.

It is in the light of this latest scientific knowledge and the latest finds in the epistolary exchanges of Jean-Francois Champollion with his brother that the life of this genius is re-read.

### **ABOUT THE DIRECTOR**

*Jacques Plaisant is known for La nature vue du ciel (2013), Rituals of the World (2018) and Dans le secret des hiéroglyphes : Les frères Champollion (2022).*



# OFFICIAL SELECTION

USA PREMIERE

## **THE EXILES: MY STOLEN CHINESE FATHER**

*Director/Producer Tom St John Gray  
CNA, Mediacorp (Singapore), 2023, 54 min.*

At the end of the Second World War, hundreds of Chinese seamen who served with the Allies during the conflict vanished from their homes in Liverpool, England. They left behind heartbroken wives and children, and many went to their graves believing they had been deserted.

Decades later, the astonishing truth is finally revealed. Declassified documents prove these heroic men and their families were betrayed by the British government in an astonishing act of deception.

As their descendants search for clues, could a potential relative in Singapore be the missing puzzle piece for one Liverpool family?

### **ABOUT THE DIRECTOR**

*With two decades of experience crafting documentaries in the UK and Southeast Asia, Tom St John Gray has made award-winning content for the BBC, Channel 4, National Geographic, History, Discovery Channel, Science Channel, Smithsonian Channel, CNA (Channel NewsAsia), SBS Australia, Netflix and Vice News.*



# OFFICIAL SELECTION

## THE LOST CITY OF RAMSES THE GREAT

*Director Laurent Portes*

*Producers Samuel Kissous, Fabrice Frank*

*Pernel Media, France Televisions, Histoire TV  
(France), 2022, 2x45 min.*

Ramses the Great is one of ancient Egypt's most famous pharaohs, a ruler celebrated as the most powerful king ever to command the country. A skillful strategist that saw in the edification of the powerful city of Pi-Ramses a way to gain power.

A great pacifist who, through his new gigantic capital, devoted his reign to reinforcing the diplomatic and commercial influence of Egypt. The rise of his legendary city that spread its influence throughout the Mediterranean mirrors in many ways the tremendous power of the pharaoh himself.

But how much do we really know about the king?

Today, a team of enthusiastic archaeologists led by Prof. Henning Franzmeier have uncovered a remarkable palace and treasure room inside the city.

With exclusive access to the site, this documentary follows this unprecedented mission during 8 weeks of filming and for the first time unlocks

the true story of the lost city of Ramses the Great.

The film shows the scientists on the field as they excavate Ramses II's palace as well as other archaeologists and historians exploring nearby sites that help provide context to the story.

### **ABOUT THE DIRECTOR**

*Laurent Portes is an author and documentary director with a passion for history and archeology. Among his latest productions:*

*"The Lost City of Ramses the Great", 2x45', for France 5 (prime time, Science Grand Format).*

*"The Battle of Thermopylae ", 45', for Planète+.*

*"The Trojan War: myth and reality", 90', for France 5 (prime time, Science Grand Format).*

*"Attila's Forbidden Tomb", 90', for France 5 (prime time, Science Grand Format).*

*"The great sabotages of the resistance", 60', for RMC Découverte & France 3.*



# OFFICIAL SELECTION

## THE TRUE STORY OF PIRATES

*Director Stéphane Bégoïn*

*Producers Stéphane Millière and Valérie Guérin*

*Gédéon Programmes, ARTE France, Curiosity Stream  
(France), 2022, 52 min.*

How did the pirates live, who were they beyond the legend? To answer this, our film follows two exceptional archaeological research missions to Mauritius and Madagascar.

Until now, only a few pirate shipwrecks have been discovered. Today, in the western Indian Ocean, a team of archaeologists is conducting underwater studies in search of the remains of the *Speaker*, a famous pirate ship that sank in 1702... On land, complementary research is being carried out on Sainte-Marie Island, where pirates used to hide and live. Their research provides us with clues and tangible evidence of the mysterious lives of these men.

Illustrated by superb animations and supported by expert insights (historians, curators, a biologist, a geophysicist specializing in aerial investigations, etc.) and sometimes unpublished archives, the film invites us to take a captivating plunge into the little-known history of maritime piracy, which accompanied the boom in maritime trade between Europe and Asia.

### **ABOUT THE DIRECTOR**

*Stéphane Bégoïn has collaborated to numerous TV shows, like Les enfants du rock (Children of rock), Oceaniques (Oceanics), Désirs des arts (Art's desires). Meanwhile, he encounters and works with people like Pierre Trividic, Jean-Luc Léon, who share his love for documentary and the taste for solid and well-structured stories.*

*After ten years of editing, he decides to make his own films. He is particularly interested in human stories, as well as spirituality, and in the great questions that trouble the world of Science.*

*Among other films, he directs Cayeux, pleine et basse mer (Cayeux, deep and low sea, a documentary about the Somme's bay area and its inhabitants), Roger B., alchimiste (Roger B. alchemist, a documentary about the personal search of a man looking for the philosophical stone), Et Sapiens inventa l'Homme (And Sapiens created the Man, documentary dedicated to the first modern Men) and a series dedicated to paternity (Du côté des pères / On the father's side).*

### **AWARDS & SCREENINGS**

TAC / Honorable Mention for Animation & Effects

TAC / Honorable Mention for Narration

TAC / Honorable Mention for Music



# OFFICIAL SELECTION

## THE TUMUK HUMAK EXPEDITION

*Director and Producer Freek de Goeje  
(The Netherlands), 2022, 41 min.*

In 1907, the Toemoek Hoemak expedition took place under the leadership of Claudius de Goeje.

The expedition was intended to map the rainforest of southern Suriname. During the trip, Claudius made the first contacts with the Wayana tribe.

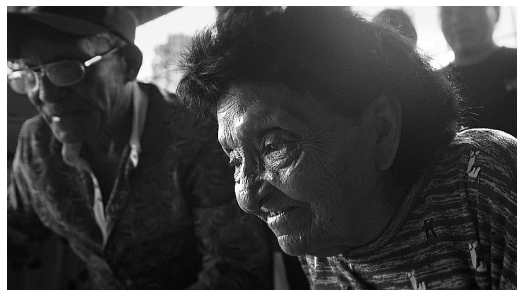
One hundred years later, his descendant is trekking through the jungle in search of the Wayana and

to see what the consequences of this colonial expedition were.

### **ABOUT THE DIRECTOR**

*Freek the Goeje, born in Amsterdam 1997, is an obsessive fictional writer but likes to take reality as a starting point in movies.*

*He strives to enforce unheard stories and tell unknown tales from far away lands. His first book will be released in September 2023.*



# OFFICIAL SELECTION

## VIKINGS: THE LOST KINGDOM

*Director Alexis De Favitski*

*Producers Gaëlle Guyader / Floran Sax*

*ZED, Mechanix Film, (France), 2022, 90 min.*

2018, Gjellesstad, Norway. Archaeologists make the discovery of a lifetime: a 20-metre long, 1200-year-old Viking funeral ship. Who is hiding in the grave? What can this coffin tell us about the daily lives, beliefs and traditions of the Vikings?

In July 2020, begins an exceptional archaeological expedition in hope to find answers.

This buried vessel was to led its passenger to Valhalla, realm of the slain warriors ruled by Odin. An ancient ritual dedicated to most powerful Vikings. Will a king or a queen be uncovered?

Thanks to an exclusive access to the site, we follow each step of the archaeologists' quest. Before our eyes, a fascinating puzzle is about to be solved. This unearthed ship unveils above all the customs of these seafarers, as well as their undeniable mastery skills.

Using state-of-art technologies, cinema-worthy dramatized reenactments and with the help of great specialists, Vikings: the lost kingdom is both a scientific investigation and an epic historical drama which brings back to life villagers, warriors and craftsmen of this lost civilization.

### **ABOUT THE DIRECTOR**

*Former editor and cinematographer, the director Alexis de Favitski has been making documentary films for over 20 years, with a constant quest for a fluid image.*

*His experience in editing has led him to very smooth realizations; his years as a cinematographer allow him to master different visual narratives, such as a crane, a steadycam, a multi-camera or a drone.*

*Throughout his career, he has directed many scientific and archaeological films, infusing them with modernity.*

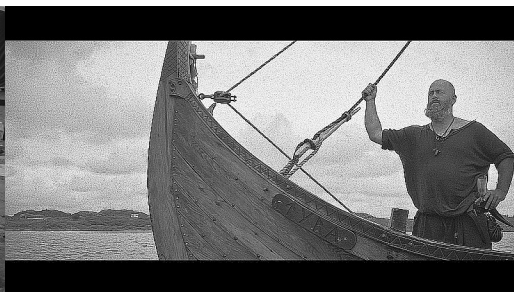
*His latest Filmography includes:*

*Vikings: The Lost Kingdom (2022)*

*Rise of Knights, the mystery of The Bayeux Tapestry (2021)*

*Les Etrusques : une civilisation mystérieuse de Méditerranée (2020)*

*Nos mondes disparus (2019)*





# FESTIVAL SELECTION

OFF COMPETITION

*EXPEDITION PETRA*

*MEGALITHS – THE 5,500 YEAR OLD  
STORY*

*ODYSSEA*

*QUEST FOR VINČA*

*ROMAN WEDDING BANQUET*

*ROUNDELS – THE 7,000-YEAR-OLD  
MYSTERY*

*SURVIVING THE ASTEROID: THE DARKEST  
HOUR*

*TALIA*

*THE BLACK ITALIAN RENAISSANCE*



# FESTIVAL SELECTION

USA PREMIERE

## EXPEDITION PETRA

*Directors Nathalie Laville, Agnes Molia, Mathieu Schwartz*

*Producers Agnes and Christie Molia*

*Tournez S'il Vous Plait, (France), 2022, 52 min.*

Archaeologist Laïla Nehmé took on a truly challenging endeavor: leading an expedition in the deserts of Saudi Arabia and Jordan to map out the exact incense trade route.

This unique archaeological investigation, shot as a road movie, will take us on an exploration of a whole civilization, the Nabataeans, masters of the desert.

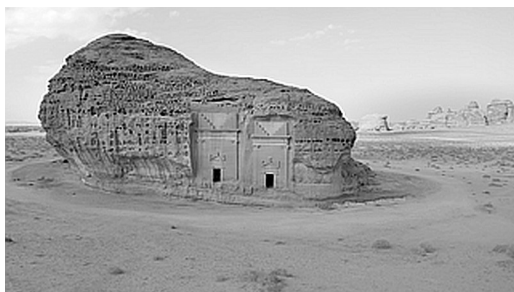
Who were they? How did they manage to create such a powerful kingdom? What was their religion,

their beliefs ? Thanks to the latest archaeological discoveries, at Hegra and Petra (the kingdom's capital), we are able to gain a better understanding of this still deeply mysterious civilization.

### **ABOUT THE DIRECTOR**

*Mathieu Schwartz is a writer and a movie director. He created many documentaries for TSVP, such as Expedition Petra, Napoléon: La destinée et la mort, and Français.*

*He usually makes historical documentaries.*



# FESTIVAL SELECTION

USA PREMIERE

## MEGALITHS – THE 5,500 YEAR OLD STORY

*Director/Producer Krzysztof Paluszynski  
PFS PalFilmStudio, (Poland), 2018, 66 min.*

Polish lands hide secrets like Stonehenge. Specialists named the civilization that emerged on Polish lands about 6,000 years ago from the shape of the preserved vessels - the Funnel Beaker Culture. Its greatest secret is the oldest preserved monuments in Poland - megaliths.

Megaliths are monumental buildings made of earth and stone with a length of up to 150 meters. However, unlike the stone circles from southern England, which attract tourists from all over the world, only a small group of scientists know about them in Poland.

The history that took place in our lands over five thousand years ago had to be told for many reasons. It is part of the European heritage that we should promote not only in Poland, but also in the world. It is part of our ancient culture that should be brought closer to Polish society, it is practically unknown to them. All this is part of the extraordinary cognitive value of the film.

Thanks to the film, we go back more than 5 millennia. Thanks to the locations, scenography, reconstructors,

3D animation, precisely planned frames, we see a world that has long ceased to exist.

### **ABOUT THE DIRECTOR**

*Krzysztof Paluszynski - Television and film producer, screenwriter, director. Member of the Polish Filmmakers Association. Creator of numerous audiovisual productions. Documentary films, reportages, columns and documentary productions.*

*Productions related to nature and culture indicate a high sensitivity and social commitment, aimed at the desire to bring our cultural heritage closer and preserve it for future generations. They are also excellent film archival material.*

*The director received the third prize at the Zamość Film Festival - "Meetings with History" for the film "Megaliths - History from 5,500 years ago" and distinctions at the "Edukino" educational film festival for the film "Anton Szulczyński - a painter from birth", and the film "Polychromia Turkowska - the greatness of Józef Mehoffer's talent". Recent movies are "Rondels - a great riddle from 7000 years ago" and "Bronze halberd - a symbol of civilization change".*

### **AWARDS & SCREENINGS**

*The director received the third prize at the Zamość Film Festival - "Meetings with History" for the film "Megaliths - History from 5,500 years ago"*



# FESTIVAL SELECTION

## ODYSSEA

*Director Seb Duhem*

*Producer Jean Penet*

*Tropisme, Archeosite, Le Musée d'Aubechies-Beloeil, (France), 2023, 30 min.*

The history of the evolution of mankind from the Neolithic period to the end of the Roman period.

There is something new at the Archeosite of Aubechies (Belgium). The visits will now start with a projection of the immersive film *Odyssea* in the new room. The public will be able to discover a real historical fresco by going back in time to the distant past of our ancestors.

The film allows us to travel 300,000 years from our prehistory, to the Gallo-Roman period, to finally come back to our contemporary time and feed our

reflection on contemporary issues such as the climate question.

Giving to the visitors all the keys in hand to travel in time, *Odyssea* has many scenes shot at the Archeosite.

### **ABOUT THE DIRECTOR**

*Sébastien Duhem has been a filmmaker for 10 years and made a lot of different movies.*

*His last one about Gallic culture, titled "The Gallic pact" received a lot of awards from the archeological community.*

*You can see it for free on youtube.*

*His last movie is a documentary called ODYSSEA.*



# FESTIVAL SELECTION

USA PREMIERE

## QUEST FOR VINČA

*Directors Vladimir Jaksic & Benjamin Elliott*

*Producer Vladimir Jaksic*

*(UK), 2022, 87 min.*

Quest for Vinča is a journey of discovery to understand the roots of European culture and development during the neolithic period.

Tracking a course from England to Serbia, follow author and historian, Benjamin Elliott, as he brings together fragments of the past, visiting archaeological sites and interviewing some of Britain and Serbia's most respected academics.

Discovering the possible nucleus of human development in Europe, Quest for Vinča uncovers the foundations of our modern world as we understand it today, offering an alternative narrative to the story of human progress.

### **ABOUT THE DIRECTOR**

*Vladimir Jaksic was born 1965 in Aleksandrovac, Serbia where he graduates from high school. Since 2003 lives and works in the UK. 2011 he graduated at the University of Brighton, UK, Department of Performance and Visual Arts.*

*2022 he enrolled in MA Screen and Film Production at Brighton Film School.*

*Engaged in film and video production and specialized in low and medium-budget HD production.*

*Filmography: 1. Tails and Towers, 5 min 45sec, 2008. 2. Serbian Way, 9 min 47 sec, 2009. 3. Rakija Western, 24 min 08 sec, 2010.4. Quest for Vinca, 87min 27 sec, 2022.*

### **AWARDS & SCREENINGS**

2022 - Best Documentary – Runner-up  
- Brighton Rocks International Film Festival UK.

Screenings: 1. Brighton Rocks International Film Festival UK 2. International Film Festival Trebinje BIH 3. Festival della Comunicazione e del Cinema Archeologico Licodia Eubea Italy 4. Imbibe Cinema -Online Film Festival 5. London Rocks International Film Festival UK 6. Hastings Rocks International Film Festival UK 7. Paradise Film Festival Budapest Hungary 8. Liverpool Indie Awards UK 9. Festival del Cinema di Cefalu Palermo Italy 10. XXIII International Archaeological Film Review of the National Museum Belgrade Serbia.



# FESTIVAL SELECTION

USA PREMIERE

## ROMAN WEDDING BANQUET

*Director Milica Popovic  
Producer Svetlana Bandic  
Radio Television of Serbia, (Serbia)  
2022, 26 min.*

As a part of the docufiction series ArcheoCuisine, the show "Roman Wedding Banquet" represents maturing of boys and girls during the Roman times, up to the very act of marriage. Roman hedonism is at its peak at the wedding banquet and it blends the most exotic ingredients and aromas. The show was filmed in an authentic location with the enormous support of the Archeologic Park Viminacium.

### **ABOUT THE DIRECTOR**

*Milica Popovic graduated in Archeology and obtained a master's degree from the Faculty of Philosophy in Belgrade. She has been a member of the Serbian Archeological Society for almost two decades. She participated in more than 30 archaeological researches, of which the most important sites are Vinca, Gamzigrad, Sarkamen, Zidovar,*

*Salitreña pecina. She participates in the multi-year project Jadar implemented by Archaeological Institute in Belgrade, and Brooklyn College, City University of New York, USA.*

*As a conservator of pottery, she participated in numerous exhibitions, with the most famous being: The archaeological Treasure of Kosovo and Metohija in SANU, Židovar treasure, Blagotin, and part of the material in the permanent exhibition of the Valjevo Museum and Museum of Jadar in Loznica.*

*She is also a member of the RTS choir as part of Music Production, and as of November 2020, she became an editor at the Science Editorial Office of the RTS Educational and Scientific Program. There she is dedicated to the topics of archeology and cultural heritage. She is the author of the series ArcheoDiscoveries, the docufiction series ArcheoCuisine, and the show dedicated to the 75th Anniversary of UNESCO.*



# FESTIVAL SELECTION

USA PREMIERE

## RONDELS –

# THE 7,000-YEAR-OLD MYSTERY

*Director Krzysztof Paluszynski*

*Producer Andrzej Paluszyński*

*PFS PalFilmStudio, (Poland), 2021, 54 min.*

This fictionalized documentary is a kind of story - a journey through the lands of Poland and Europe almost 7,000 years ago, which directly translates into a high cognitive and educational value of the film. Thanks to the locations, set design, reconstructors, 3D animation, precisely planned frames, we see a world that has long since ceased to exist. This type of film does not exist in Polish cinematography.

The starting point for the film are the relatively poorly recognized and researched rondels, which are the oldest, dating back 7000 years, examples of monumental architecture in Europe. They were built e.g. in Hungary, the Czech Republic, Austria, Germany and, most importantly, in today's Polish lands. In total, over 180 of them have been discovered in Europe.

In 2014, only three structures of this type were recognized in Poland, now there are at least 5 of them, on a circular plan, erected using simple tools by the community of the oldest farmers who came to the lands of present-day Poland from the Danube area. Their construction

began around 4900 BC. After about 200-300 years of functioning, they disappeared.

In the opinion of Professor Lech Czerniak, rondelles were a new social institution in Central Europe, the invention of which played a key role in the formation of a new social order after the collapse of the culture of the first farmers at the beginning of the 5th millennium BC.

### **ABOUT THE DIRECTOR**

*Krzysztof Paluszyński - Television and film producer, screenwriter, director. Member of the Polish Filmmakers Association. Creator of numerous audiovisual productions. Documentary films, reportages, columns and documentary productions.*

*The director received the third prize at the Zamość Film Festival - "Meetings with History" for the film "Megaliths - History from 5,500 years ago" and distinctions at the "Edukino" educational film festival for the film "Anton Szulczyński - a painter from birth", and the film "Polychromia Turkowska - the greatness of Józef Mehoffer's talent". Recent movies are "Rondels - a great riddle from 7000 years ago" and "Bronze halberd - a symbol of civilization change".*



# FESTIVAL SELECTION

## **SURVIVING THE ASTEROID: THE DARKEST HOUR**

*Director Thomas Cirotteau*

*Producers Fabrice Frank, Céline Payot Lehmann*

*Pernel Media, with Ushuaïa TV and NHK, and  
France Televisions, (France), 2022, 2x45 min.*

What is the origin of the animals and plants that inhabit our planet ? How did life rebuild itself after the asteroid that wiped out the dinosaurs and killed 75% of the world's species 66 million years ago ? Why did some species survive while others succumbed ?

These answers have long been shrouded in mystery, because finding fossils dating to this period is extraordinarily rare. But now an astonishing discovery in Colorado is rewriting history. American paleontologist Tyler Tyson and his team have uncovered a series of unique fossils that offer an unprecedented insight into the rebirth of life after the meteorite.

For the first time, scientists can lift the veil on the origin of the species we know today, tracing their ancestors back to the survivors of this cataclysm. "Surviving the Asteroid" follows the work of these scientists with exclusive access to the digging site in Colorado and plunges the viewer into the lost

world of these creatures, brought back to life with spectacular CGI. Their astounding story is also that of the origins of life today.

### **ABOUT THE DIRECTOR**

*After studying science at the University Paris VI, and graduating from ENS Louis Lumière, Thomas Cirotteau received the Kieslowski Award in 2001 for Best Script, for the movie HIROMI.*

*In 2016, Jacques Malaterre put him in charge of an episode of the series 'Unsung Heroes' (26', Arte, 2016): 'Jeannette Mac Donald, a lioness among lions'.*

*His most recent works include 'Who killed the Neanderthal?' (90', France 5, 2017, co-written with Eric Pincas and Jacques Malaterre), 'Lady Sapiens' (90', France 5, 2021), 'Pierrette en Terre animale' (first work of fiction using a video game engine, 2020) and 'After the Meteorite: the Asteroid Survivors' (90', France 5, 2022, co-written with Eric Pincas).*



# FESTIVAL SELECTION

USA PREMIERE

## TALIA

*Directors/Producers David Gomes and Pedro Cruz*  
*CATIVA, (Portugal), 2021, 26 min.*

Natália is a 75 year old Portuguese crafts woman, who struggles to maintain the art of the bulrush mats. Ever since her early days, in a time and place that knew no abundance, the bulrush was a central piece of a simple way of living. Her life and her craft intertwine and blend in a magic realism documentary.

### ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

*Pedro Cruz, born in 1983, is a Portuguese director and sound editor. With a degree in Psychology and a degree in Documentary Cinema, he directed "Farewell to the river" - Best Short Film at Festival Luso-brasileiro de Sta Maria da Feira 2018, and Honorable Mention for Best Doc. at Caminhos do Cinema Português, 2017; and "The Pleasant Feeling of Being in a More Innocent Age - Paul Bowles' Impressions on Portugal" screened at Leffest 2017.*

*David Gomes is a Portuguese director and director of photography of*

*independent documentary, with an educational background on Creativity and Advertisement. He co-directed "Farewell to the river".*

### AWARDS & SCREENINGS

Alexandria Short Film Festival 2022 – Hypatia Silver Prize Award Best Documentary (Egypt);  
International Portrait Film Festival Sophia 2021– Most Wonderful Film Award (Bulgaria);  
Avanca Film Festival 2021 – Best Documentary - Avanca Competition (Portugal);  
Screener Short Films 2021 – Best Documentary (UK);  
International World Film Awards 2021 – Best Short Documentary (Slovakia);  
Heritales International Heritage Film festival 2021 (Portugal) - Best Medium Documentary;  
Madrid Film Awards 2022 – Best Short Documentary (Spain);  
Arruda dos Vinhos 2022 – Best Short Film (Portugal);  
Fiorenzo Serra Film Festival 2023 – Best Short Film (Italy).





# FESTIVAL SELECTION

USA PREMIERE

## THE BLACK ITALIAN RENAISSANCE

*Director Cristian Di Mattia*

*Producer Federico Riboldazzi*

*Sky, Tiwi. (Italy), 2022, 90 min.*

The Black Italian Renaissance is a mosaic of "cold-cases" on the life of black people during the Renaissance, all tied together by the spread of the geographic explorations that took place between the XV and the XVI century.

We will meet many characters that, in very different ways, left their mark on history. Their faces peek through the canvases of some of the greatest art works of their time. Their names are scattered among ancient ledgers in magnificent archives, lost among thousands of documents. What were their origins?

Seamlessly traveling through the stories of nobles, enslaved people, ambassadors, and knights, the documentary will uncover a new and unexpected perspective on

how the Renaissance concept of "race" was different from the one we know today.

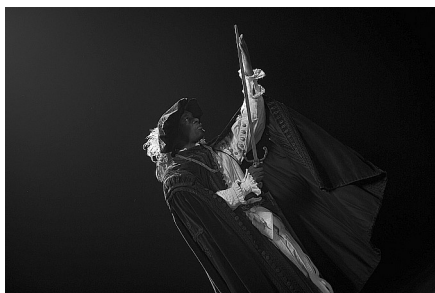
### **ABOUT THE DIRECTOR**

*Upon graduation from the New York Film Academy, Cristian Di Mattia began writing and directing music videoclips, advertisements and short films. Over the years, he has directed documentaries for the most important television networks in Italy.*

*For Rai Cinema he directed the docu-films, "Il Condannato. Cronaca di un sequestro", "1989. Cronache dal Muro di Berlino", "La dannazione della sinistra. Cronache di una scissione". He also directed several television programmes for Mediaset, Discovery Channel And Rai.*

### **AWARDS & SCREENINGS**

MASTER OF ART FILM FESTIVAL 2023  
RapidLion - The South African International Film Festival 2023  
Festival Internazionale del Cinema d'Arte di Asolo 2023





# ARKHAIOS SHORT FILMS COMPETITION

The Arkhaios **SHORT** Films Competition presents future talent in filmmaking. Recognizing the important role short independent films have in the history of filmmaking, storytelling, and culture, Arkhaios helps empower the next generation of artists and scientists attracted to telling the stories of our past.

The Arkhaios **SHORT** Films competition operates under the umbrella of the larger Arkhaios Cultural Heritage and Archaeology Film Festival, and showcases innovative cinema and new trends in short filmmaking aimed at discovering past cultures.

Arkhaios is pleased to announce a partnership with prominent podcast/YouTube channels, dedicated to History, Archaeology and Cultural Heritage.

The following channels will create and publish filmmaker interviews, commentaries, and discussions, and post films from the Arkhaios **SHORTS** Official Selection at their discretion, to satisfy their channel audience.

- **Archaeology Studio**
- **Seven Ages**
- **Told in Stone**
- **World of Antiquity**

## Arkhaïos 2023 SHORT Films Official Selection

(alphabetical order - in competition)



### **Abaznoda (Basket)**

Director Charlotte Gauthier-Nolett, Producer Wapikoni mobile, (Canada)



### **At the Edge of the Mountains**

Writer, Director, and Producer Chris Boyd, (USA)



### **Bandelier: Reclaiming Home**

Director and Producer Rachel Preston, (USA)



### **Can Archaeology Repair its Past with Indigenous America?**

Director and Producer Victoria Sutton, Victoria Sutton Films, (USA)



### **Conservation in the 2nd Century Temple of Artemis:**

#### **Temple Restoration Project**

Director and Producer Chris Boyd, Diego City Media, (USA)



### **In the Village of Poets**

Director Dan Frodsham (UK), Producer Michael Walsh, SCAD, (USA)



### **Izeh**

Director and Producer Iman Kiarsi, Golden Fram, (Iran)



### **Shoals and Shipwrecks of Port Royal Sound**

Directors Oh Shoot Productions, Farlow+Co, Producer Jim Spirek, SCIAA, (USA)



### **The Archaeologist**

Director and Producer Thiago Altafini, Urgência Filmes, (Brazil)



### **The Music of the Wiwa People**

Director and Producer Michael Brims and Jaime Bofill, Cosmic Light Productions, (USA)



### **Titration: Radioactive Waste, Princeton, and the Navajo Nation**

Director and Producer Michael Q. Ceballos, Producer Ryo Morimoto, Twiddle Productions, Nuclear Princeton, (USA)



### **Tree CROWN**

Director and Producer Predrag Todorović, TV CENTAR, (Serbia)



### **What will I show you?**

Director Elie-John Joseph, Producer Wapikoni mobile, (Canada)

## Arkhaïos 2023 Short Films Festival Selection

(alphabetical order - off competition)



### **Il Perdono**

Director Roberto Flammia, Producer Carmine Caracciolo, Premiere Film, (Italy)



### **L'Anima Di Un Uomo**

Director Gian Maria Pontiroli, Producer Amedeo Palazzi, Premiere Film, (Italy)



### **Silent is the Grave II, A Hair Raising Experience**

Director Richard Sturtz, Producer Peter Barta, (USA)



### **The Hut**

Director and Producer Pierrick Chilloux, (France)



### **The Initial Cave**

Director and Producer Terry Janosik, Frog Rock Productions, (USA)

# SATURDAY OCTOBER 14

2023

## AWARD CEREMONY

The Award Ceremony will be streaming as part of the festival (EST time).

5:00PM **AWARD CEREMONY**

ARKHAIOS FOUNDER AWARD

PRESENTATION OF THE JURY

SPECIAL MENTIONS

BEST P.A. HERITAGE FILM AWARD

BEST S.C. HERITAGE FILM AWARD

BEST U/W ARCHAEOLOGY FILM AWARD

BEST ARCHAEOLOGY FILM AWARD

BEST CULTURAL HERITAGE FILM AWARD

GRAND PRIZE OF THE ARKHAIOS FESTIVAL

AUDIENCE FAVORITE FILM AWARD

5:30PM **END OF AWARD CEREMONY**



# 2023 ARKHAIOS FILM FESTIVAL SCHEDULE FOR FLORENCE COUNTY MUSEUM, SC

Thursday October 12, 2023 Waters Building, Florence	
5:30	<b>EVENING OPENING</b>
5:45	Film Introduction
5:50	<b><i>The Champollion Brothers: The Egypt Code Breakers</i></b>
6:45	Q&A
6:55	Closing Comments
7:00	<b>END OF FESTIVAL</b>



## SPECIAL THANKS

**University of South Carolina, College of Arts and Sciences,  
SC Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology - SCIAA**

Dr. Adam King, Director of SCIAA

Nena Powell Rice, retired Director of Outreach

**Department of Anthropology**

Dr. Jennifer Reynolds, Department Chair

Dr. Joanna Casey, Associate Professor

**The Welsch Tract Historic Properties Association, SC**

Dr. Ernest L. HELMS, III, President

**Florence County Museum, Florence, SC**

Andrew R. Stout, Director

**University of Pittsburgh, Department of Anthropology**

Dr. Nicole Constable, Department Chair

Dr. Elizabeth Arkush, Professor

**Allegheny Chapter #1-Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology**

Dr. Sarah Neusius, President

Amanda Valko, Treasurer

# 2023 ARKHAIOS FILM FESTIVAL SCHEDULE FOR PITTSBURGH, PA

## 2023 ARKHAIOS FILM FESTIVAL – UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH, PA

Friday October 13, 2023 Frick Fine Arts Building		Saturday October 14, 2023 Frick Fine Arts Building		Sunday October 15, 2023 Frick Fine Arts Building	
				2:00	AFTERNOON OPENING
				2:05	Introduction
				2:15	<i>EMPIRE INCA - Incas The New Story</i>
				3:45	Break
				4:00	<i>The true story of Pirates</i>
				5:00	END OF FESTIVAL
		5:30			
7:00	FESTIVAL OPENING	7:00	EVENING OPENING		
7:05	Welcome	7:05	Introduction/Awards		
7:15	<i>Vikings: The Lost Kingdom</i>	7:15	<i>Shéol</i>		
8:45	Break	8:45	Break		
9:00	<i>The Exiles: My Stolen Chinese Father</i>	9:00	<i>NAMARALI</i>		
10:00	END OF DAY	10:00	END OF DAY		

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**Arts and Sciences**

SC Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology



**Arts and Sciences**

Department of Anthropology

**Welsh Tract**  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES ASSOCIATION



**University of Pittsburgh**

Department of Anthropology

Allegheny Chapter #1



Society for Pennsylvania Archeology

**[www.ARKHAIOSFILMFESTIVAL.ORG](http://www.ARKHAIOSFILMFESTIVAL.ORG)**