

A full-page background image featuring a diver in silhouette, upside down, against a deep blue background. Bright light rays and bubbles emanate from the top left, creating a dramatic, ethereal atmosphere. The diver is positioned vertically, with their head near the bottom and legs pointing towards the top left.

Press Kit - November 2022

THE SIGHT OF BLUE

By Pierre Bouquet

With the support of Philippe Sellier - Triangle7

Olivier wants to fulfil his childhood dream before he goes blind



Olivier learns that he might go blind within the next five years, he wonders what he wants to see before his world is reduced to darkness: he needs to add pictures to the store of images he can recall afterwards. He then remembers his childhood dream of becoming veterinarian for whales. However, at the age of eight, he almost drowned and developed a big fear of water. He starts practicing freediving in order to overcome it and give himself the chance to make his dream come true. Five years later, he flies to the Maldives to freedive with Manta rays...

Motivations to create the film

My father introduced me to spearfishing when I was just 10 years old. When I came across the freediving school Olivier is a member of, I trained with them and started filming simultaneously. As I interviewed many members of the school, I met Olivier and discovered his incredible story. The latter made such an impression on me that I set out to crowdfund the necessary funds to produce a film about it. I flew with him to the Maldives, and I stood aboard the boat as he swam alongside Manta rays.



Interview Cinergie

Publié le 09/09/2022 par Nastasja Caneve / Catégorie: Critique

And if one day we lost our sight, what images would we want to imprint in our brain forever? What would we want to see so that we would never forget it? To keep a tangible, indelible trace of it? This is the question that Olivier asks when he learns, at the age of 35, that he is likely to lose his sight within five years.

When children are asked what they want to be when they grow up, some say astronauts or policemen, others actors or architects. Olivier wanted to be a whale vet. A huge project. But his marine dreams quickly dissipated after a traumatic experience in the swimming pool when he was eight years old. Unwilling to give up his desire, he overcame his fears and enrolled in a freediving course. By dint of perseverance, Olivier dives, without fear, descends, descends to get closer to a majestic ballet of manta rays.

It is this obstacle course that Pierre Bouquet (Mourad et Sophie, Route Mer), who initially trained in environmental law and then at the IAD, decides to film in *Les Yeux grands ouverts*. We embark on a boat in the Maldives in the company of Olivier, who is about to open his eyes forever, to make a freeze-frame of the depths.

The documentary oscillates between the protagonist's testimonies, training sessions, underwater images, those that we too will keep engraved. We understand the fascination for the underwater world, Jean Painlevé had wonderfully opened the way. Here, it is not a scientific documentary but rather an ode to marine life, a living picture with shimmering colours, choreographed movements of the underwater fauna, of a secret, inaccessible beauty. Olivier takes his place naturally in these depths, integrating himself, melting into the blue mass.

It is not the loss of sight that is at the centre of the documentary, but rather the unwavering will of a man who is fulfilling a childhood dream even though everything seems to prevent him from doing so. The documentary also asks the question of what cinema leaves as a legacy for those who see but will never see. Cinema as a trace, as immortal images.

Festivals

Bruxelles, Millenium International film festival

le 6 mai 2022 - Première mondiale

<https://www.festivalmillenium.org/fr/les-yeux-grands-ouverts-2/>

Paris, Festival Atmosphères "La vie rêvée"

le 6 octobre 2022 - Première internationale.

<https://www.atmospheresfestival.com/>

Dallas International Film Festival

le 14 octobre 2022 - Première américaine.

<https://dallasfilm.org/diff>

Innsbruck Nature Film Festival (Autriche)

le 17 octobre 2022

<https://naturefestival.eu/en/portfolio/the-sight-of-blue-2/>

Buenos aires, BUEIFF

Mars 2023

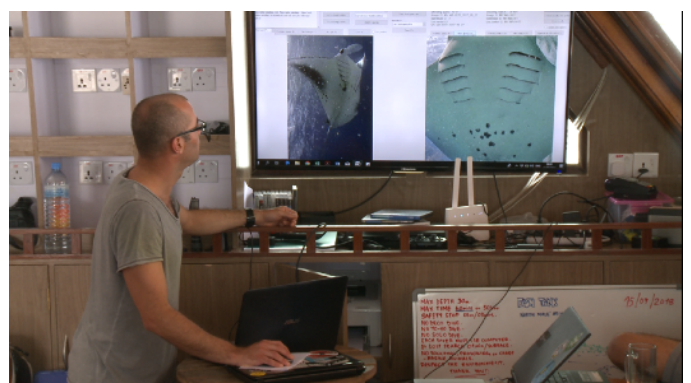
IMDB qualifying

<https://press.bueiff.com/2022/07/20/award-winners-results-9th-edition-bueiff-2022/>

Miami and Californie : insular & other seas Art Film Festival (IOSAFF)

Mars 2023

<http://iosaff.com/>



Recognition of the film at festivals

Short Shorts (Tokyo, catégorie A): Final short list

https://www.shortshorts.org/content/news_en/creators/short-shorts-film-festival-asia-2022-final-shortlist/

Flicker's Rhode Island (New York, catégorie A): semi-finaliste

Bordeaux Short Biennale : mention honorable

Festivals online

LA Documentary Film Festival (USA)

projection privée le 15 Avril 2022

Audience Feedback on the Sight of Blue : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rc7YKkDUEjw>

projection publique en 2023

Nature without Borders Int film festival (USA)

16 juillet 2022. Award : Merit Award.

BUEIFF CHANNEL (Buenos Aires International Film Festival CHANNEL)

15 octobre 2022. Official IMDb qualifying competition.

ESFF (European Short Film Festival): 2023



Biography

Pierre Bouquet

is from Brittany, France.

Having long flirted with theatre alongside his studies in environmental law, he decided to take his hobby to the next level by enrolling in I.A.D to train in filmmaking.



His main project, ***On Departure***, is about a girl named Sophie who has to make a choice when she discovers that her boyfriend wants to go to Syria for the jihad.

To the Deep Sea, his graduation film, is a documentary about the crew of a fishing trawler that examines loneliness, work, and life in close-quarters on the high seas.

As there were only two bunks on board, he decided to learn how to shoot his own pictures by himself with only the help of a sound designer at his side. He could then become an independent filmmaker : www.close-shot.com. Beside his corporate film activity, he continues to work on several documentaries and fiction projects, the topics of which include theater, faith and sports.



Documentary : 16 min - Stéréo VO-FR / VO ST-UK

Direction - Photography - Sound : Pierre BOUQUET

Additional Images : Jules KOECHLIN

Drone image : Corentin DOCKX

Underwater shooting: Pierre VAN DEN BROECK

Additional sound : Albert BUI

Film editing : Pierre BOUQUET et Lina CHAOUKI

Color grading : Stéphan HIGELIN

Sound editing and mixing : Stéphane ANTIPPAS

Production : © TRIANGLE7 - PIERRE BOUQUET - 2022

Links : le film Password LYGO

le teaser

Contacts

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