

MIPTV/MIPDOC 2018

HUMAN INTEREST

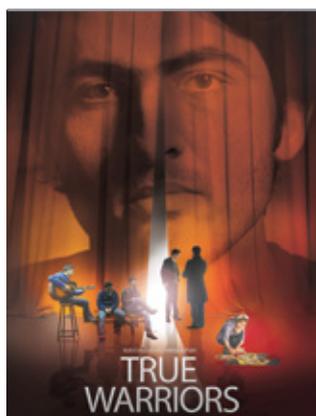
THE LONG SEASON

A FILM BY LEONARD RETEL HELMRICH

NETHERLANDS/LEBANON 2017 – 115' (festivals) & 90' - 58' (broadcast)

There are in Lebanon currently about 1.2 million Syrian refugees. In the Beqaa valley, between Damascus and Beirut, there are many camps, sometimes no larger than 100 people. Before the war they came to Beqaa to work as seasonal labourers in agriculture. Now they are refugees in the same Beqaa and cannot go back to Syria. True to his unique camera style, Leonard Retel Helmrich delved into the lives of the people in camp by living among them as one of them for a year and a half. He shows what daily life is like for those whose lives are postponed. He shows how they adapt to their seemingly hopeless circumstances and through their resilience are able to find hope and enjoy life.

IDFA COMPETITION 2017 - BEST DUTCH DOCUMENTARY AWARD

TRUE WARRIORS

A FILM BY NIKLAS SCHENCK AND RONJA VON WURM-SEIBEL

GERMANY 2017 – 90' & 52'

In Coproduction with ZDF-ARTE

TRUE WARRIORS is the powerful story of Kabul theatre group AZDAR and their daring play about a suicide bombing. At their premiere in the theatre of the French embassy, a real suicide bomber is in the audience and blows himself up...(all filmed on cell phones!) What is now almost a statistic in every day news all of a sudden becomes very real and all of a sudden we get some understanding of the horrible reality of this. After this shocking incident some of the artists flee to Europe, amongst them world renowned Afghan film director Siddiq Barmak. But most stay in Kabul and stepped up their efforts, moving outside of secured compounds and into the streets, performing risky, political plays completely unprotected. They first resurface together with a play on the public lynching of a woman named Farkhunda in the center of Kabul, which hit the news worldwide in 2015. Their return carries an uplifting message, after all: ART is a true weapon and survives all adversity.

HUMAN INTEREST/ARTS



INVESTIGATION

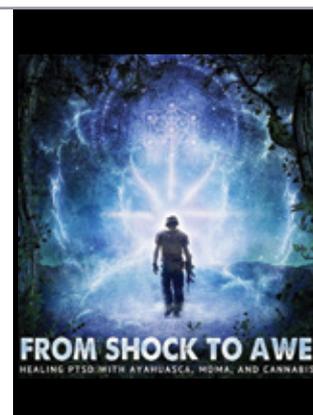
FROM SHOCK TO AWE

Just when you thought there was no hope...

A FILM BY LUCE COTE AND JANINE SAGERT

USA/CANADA 2018 – 90' & 52'

Following the journeys of Michael and Matt, two U.S. combat veterans and their families when they decide to leave the pharmaceutical drugs behind as they seek relief from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder caused by their experiences in Afghanistan and Iraq. They enter the unknown, mind-expanding world of cannabis, ayahuasca and MDMA (Ecstasy). Filmed over 3 years, it takes an intimate look at how these substances, in this case mainly ayahuasca can be used successfully to heal our wounded soldiers—and, by extension, their families. It changed their lives, just when you thought there was no more hope.

THE WAY OUT – Escaping ISIS

A FILM BY MICHELLE SHEPHARD AND DAVID YORK

CANADA 2018 – 50'

In Nov 2014, a young woman left Canada to join ISIS in Syria following a wave of thousands of young people from around the world who joined Islamic State. The journey there was easy – leaving, nearly impossible. **THE WAY OUT** is an intimate portrayal of a mother's 3 year struggle to find and rescue her daughter. The film follows the twist and turns, the revelations and crushing disappointments, and the shadowy Syrian militiamen who helped her to pull off a daring and extraordinary escape.

INVESTIGATION





DOLPHIN MAN

A FILM BY LEFTERIS CHARITOS

GREECE/FRANCE/CANADA/JAPAN 2017 – 52' & 75'

In Coproduction with ARTE

The film **Le Grand Bleu** (The Big Blue) propelled French deep-sea diver Jacques Mayol into world stardom, inspired by Mayol's daring feat of diving 100m in one breath and his profound affinity with the sea. **DOLPHIN MAN** takes us on a journey across Mayol's life and travels from Japan to Miami and from Marseille to the islands of Caicos, Kalymnos and Elba, to places of extreme beauty that impacted on Mayol, showing us a man who risked his life for fame, to his transformation into a messenger, who reached the limits of the human body and mind, not just to break records but hoping to discover the deeper affinity between human beings and the sea.

ECOLOGY/BIOGRAPHY



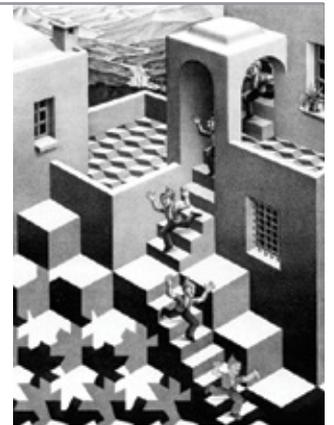
ARTS/BIOGRAPHY

ESCHER – JOURNEY INTO INFINITY

A FILM BY ROBIN LUTZ

NETHERLANDS 2018 – 52' & 90'

This new documentary film about world famous Dutch graphic artist Maurits Escher, is based on more than 2000 letters he wrote during his lifetime. We hear him speak about his life, his fears, doubts, politics, work and the amazement he encounters time and time again. Whilst he speaks, what he sees is recorded by the camera. Two of his sons, George (91) and Jan (79) are featured as well as Sir Roger Penrose, the British mathematician, who, with his father gave Escher the idea's for some of his world-famous prints. Additionally, musician Graham Nash (Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young) tells about his contact with Escher who inspired him to become an art collector. The film looks at Escher's legacy and how his work even today inspires comic strips, advertisements, movies etc. and draws massive visitors worldwide to exhibitions of his art.



MUNCH IN HELL

A FILM BY STIG ANDERSEN

NORWAY 2017 – 52' & 90'

MUNCH IN HELL looks at the life of Edvard Munch. Regarded as one of the most important painters in the history of art -Munch left extensive notes, letters, literary works and even drafts for an auto-biography. This allows us insight into his private thoughts and his own reactions to the public scandals and bureaucratic harassments he suffered. **MUNCH IN HELL** will let the painter tell the story in his own words – but it also reveals another side of his life and character. Munch was also a witty, practical and determined man who even was into ecological farming.

ARTS/BIOGRAPHY



HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY

WHY THE JEWS?

A FILM BY JOHN CURTIN

CANADA 2018 – 40'

Writers, researchers, philosophers, painters, architects, filmdirectors.....The stunning social, scientific and artistic accomplishments of the Jews raise an obvious question. How do they do it? From Shimon Peres to Judit Polgar and Dr. Ruth, from Noam Chomsky to Daniel Libeskind and Alan Dershowitz, some of the world's most accomplished Jews tackle a mystery shrouded in ignorance and prejudice and tears back the curtain on a taboo.

