

NPO Sales

2018 Docs

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Title:
Backlight: Boyan Slat's Hunt For Plastics >
Producer: VPRO





Rail Away 55 x 25'

In a documentary of 25 minutes, the viewers travel along the line and watch the train riding through interesting scenery. Every program starts with a portrait of the city where the train departs. An important part of the program is filming the scenery where the train rides. Shots from the drivers' cabine, along the railway line in a scenic setting and from a helicopter form an almost unending possibility of mixing various shots and camera-points of view. This combination has already attracted viewers in The Netherlands and abroad for more than 20 years and continues to do so.

Amazons 3 x 50' English voice-over

Amazons is a documentary series concerning women who chose for armed fight to defend their cause. Amazons focuses on the lives of these women, the choice they made for armed guerilla and the effect that the choice has on their personal lives and environment. This series focuses on different female themes such as gender equality, motherhood, love, work and many other themes. Amazons consists of three episodes in which we travel to three different countries in order to try and understand women in their different 'fights'.

Changemakers 5 x 30'

Our society is longing for changes, new and thorough changes that can actually make a real difference. Changemakers is a factual series of portraits of 5 of the most innovative, interesting, striking people and their projects, covering a variety of themes.

Everyday Heroes 8 x 50'

People who do not just undergo their destiny but courageously row against the current, looking for a way out of downward spirals and vicious circles: international conflict journalist Rudi Vranckx has met them for 25 years during his travels. Mothers, fathers, village superiors, simple citizens, activists...: anonymous and futile they seem in the bigger picture, they won't win Nobel prices but they stand on the barricades of everyday life and choose to take fate into their own hands. In an ever chaotic world, they bring stories that do not depress, but inspire.

Sins Of The Father 3 x 45' Available by November 2018

Do children have to pay for the sins of their fathers and sometimes also their mothers? In every war there are perpetrators and victims, and also innocent people. In recent years, a whole generation of jihad fighters has left for Syria and Iraq. Many have been killed during the fighting, some have gone into hiding, the others will and have to be tried. Their fate seems clear. But what happens to their children?

Dance Or Die 54'

Dance or Die is the life philosophy of the Syrian dancer Ahmad Joudeh (27). These words are forever tattooed in his neck. Ahmad lives to dance, but it has become impossible for him to practice dance in his war-torn city of birth Damascus. He seized the opportunity to flee Syria and is now making career in productions by the National Ballet. Yet he struggles with his new life. He misses his family, still living in Syria. And there's a lot of pressure to make it here. What is the price Ahmad pays for his newly acquired freedom?

Fly Me To The Moon 46'

In Fly Me To The Moon we follow some couples in South Korea who get married during a mass ceremony with no less than 30.000 other couples in the Moon Church. In the 80s and 90s the Moon Church was known as a sect, with a terrible reputation. The founder Moon coupled hundreds of thousands of young couples over the years. He did this on the basis of photos or random indication just before the wedding ceremony. By linking boys and girls from totally different cultures, Moon wanted to promote world peace.

The Hut Syndicate 85'

Every autumn the free-spirited food connoisseur Ronald Timmermans takes a group of men out of their daily routine to go hunting in the countryside. They call themselves 'The Hut Syndicate'. It gives them a kick to be part of nature, but regulations are getting increasingly in their way. Filmmaker Diego Gutiérrez joins them during one hunting season and witnesses their longing to keep their vanishing world alive.



Loss Won't Pay The Bills 63'

Adrie and Francien's greengrocer's shop in Flushing's old town has been there for 65 years. Old age has affected their walking ability, but Adrie still works 14 to 16 hours a day. Just before they got married in 1957, they went on holiday for the first and last time. Loss won't pay the bills is a moving and humorous portrait of Holland's oldest greengrocer and his wife, who put their heart and soul into running their business and don't want to hear about quitting. Will Adrie and Francien be able to carry on or will they have to close down their shop?



Backlight: Calm Before The Cra\$h 44' *English voice-over*

Ten years ago, we were taken by surprise when Lehman Brothers' merchant bank went bankrupt. The financial crisis that followed was like a chain reaction; a pole dancer with her five mortgages turned out to be connected to the huge gap in the Greek national budget. Is it possible to predict the next crisis? What are the lessons learnt from the last one?



Pano: Shield And Friends 42' *English and French voice-over*

Right-wing political movements are making their advance in Europe. "Schild & Vrienden", literally translated as "Shield and Friends" is a metapolitical youth movement in Flanders, focusing on Flemish identity and family values: the Flemish Alt-Right. In this documentary we followed the leader of Shield and Friends, filming their actions, speeches and meetings with, among others, the Hungarian president Viktor Orbán. More than 67.000 messages, memes, comments and thoughts were revealed in hidden chat boxes.



Backlight: Beyond The Green Horizon 44' *English voice-over*

What will the future sustainable world look like? That is the big question, now that the global transition towards sustainable energy is gaining momentum. For the growth of sustainable energy involves a lot more changes than just the colour of the power supplied to our homes. How will we build, how will our mobility be impacted, and will energy, one day, be free?



Backlight: Boyan Slat's Hunt For Plastic 50' *Available by November 2018*

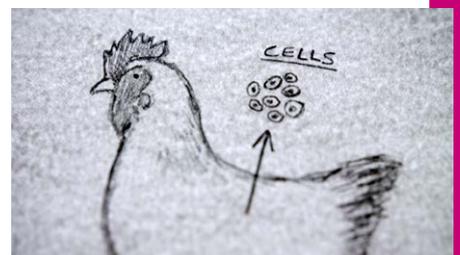
English voice-over

Boyan Slat has set up the greatest plastic cleanup campaign in history. And it all started over five years ago, with a graduation project about the plastic soup. Today, he has eighty employees, and he is about to roll out his first Ocean Cleanup system in the Pacific. Backlight follows Boyan Slat closely on his exciting journey.



Backlight: In-Vitro Meat 30' *English voice-over*

Every year at least 50 billion animals are slaughtered to meet our demand for meat. Nearly a fifth of the CO2 emissions on earth come from livestock production. In-vitro meat, or clean meat, can save animals and the environment. Backlight investigates how food companies in Silicon Valley are further developing and refining the inventions of Dutch pioneers *Van Eelen* and *Post*: meat without death.





Backlight: Future Fashion 43'

The fashion and clothing industry has developed into a system of 'Fast Fashion'. Every year, 100 billion new items of clothing are produced. One third of them are never worn and end up shredded, burnt, or in landfills. The fashion industry is also responsible for 10% of the global CO2 emissions. Things need to change, but how? Five future fashion pioneers work on making their industry future-proof. Their 'fashion of the future' stretches far beyond sustainability alone. They also force us to look at new notions of beauty and the role of clothing in our lives.



#FollowMe 50'

This social media platform has become a real business model where likes and followers have become currency. Does this create a shadow economy? What is real and what is fake? Can we fight the algorithm? Director Nicolaas Veul delves into the financial world behind Instagram. He examines the world of boost boys, bots, shout outs and paid comments from Russia. We welcome you to the Wild West of Instagram. *#FollowMe* is a cross-media study that can be followed on the account *#FollowMe* where Nicolas demonstrates, tries and discusses all the tips and tricks to gain popularity.



But Now Is Perfect 55'



"I do not know if I'm taking the right steps," says Becky Moses, but she is grateful for every moment of being alive. God or fate, has brought her to Europe via Libya from her native country Nigeria, on the run for an arranged marriage with an elderly man. Never would she have thought she would end up in Riace, a mountain village in Calabria (southern Italy) that has become world famous by its open-door policy for immigrants by the flamboyant mayor Domenico Lucano. Through the eyes of Becky and her fellow villagers, we witness how the shrunken Italian community lives together.



Cat Stories 72'

Cat Stories is the filmmaker's search for the emotional motives of millions of families to keep a cat as a domesticated pet. By means of a kaleidoscopic collection of portraits, which all center on the relationship between cats and their owners. The director tries in an airy, humorous way to find out why we attribute human feelings to our cats, why we often care more about them than our own family members and what that says about us.



My Body Is Mine 2 x 42' or 1 x 55' vrt

In Kenya, very young girls are getting genitally mutilated on a very large scale. In secluded places, hundreds of girls are waiting for their turn every day. Quiet and scared, tense and ignorant about their inevitable fate. The women who do the genital mutilations slip in ordinary houses early in the morning or late at night to do their horrible work. However, this practice has been legally forbidden in Kenya for ten years. Officially, there are no more female genital mutilations in Kenya, but the truth is completely different.



I Didn't Do It 85'

In 2003, the Dutchman Romano van der Dussen was arrested in Spain for raping and assaulting three women in one and the same night. It was not until his Dutch lawyer provided DNA evidence to prove that one of the rapes had been committed by the notorious British serial rapist Mark Dixie, that Romano was released. By then, he had already served 12 years, 5 months, and 13 days. Elena Lindemans has turned the horror scenario of a conviction of an innocent man, and the search for justice and rehabilitation, into a documentary.



March 22, A Day Like No Other 55' vrt English voice-over available

A - tragic - historical event such as the attacks of 22 March 2016 in Brussels, had to be remembered in context; with eye witness accounts from people who were actually there: the victims and the emergency services. Not to explain, but to tell their stories. *March 22, a day like no other* is an occasionally confronting but ultimately healing account of how the horrendous actions of three individuals brought out the best in thousands of people.

Pano: Rehabilitation After March 22 47' vrt

In *Rehabilitation after 22 March* we show what happened after the horror. Walter (47), a manager, wanted to visit his daughter in Tel Aviv that day. Laurens (22) wanted to fly to his girlfriend, who is studying in Sweden. And Margaux (33), a Polish mum of a 6-year-old son, was heading to work, as usual, with the metro. They got seriously injured. For all three of them, 2016 was all about rehabilitation. We learn their stories and their personal rehabilitation.



You Are My Friend 58' & 77'



The first day at a new school is always nerve-racking, but especially for six-year-old Branche. He has come with his parents from Macedonia to the Netherlands, he doesn't know anyone at the school, and nobody understands Macedonian. Branche is in a special class for children who are still learning Dutch—the same class that previously featured in the awarded film *Miss Kiet's Children*. A couple of times, Branche has to start all over again, for example when he moves to a new Dutch class. In the years he is followed, we watch him grow up and gain self-confidence in his friendships.



Zembla: The Bitter Pill 37'

The German cancer patient Petra swallows the drug Sutent. Successfully. The drug has been preventing tumor growth in her kidneys for years. When Petra starts with a new package of Sutent, the medicine suddenly does not work anymore. Her tumor is growing strongly and, unlike before, Petra has no serious side effects. Her doctor comes to the shocking conclusion, that Petra has taken a fake cancer drug. Because there was no or too little active substance in the pill, the tumor of Petra could grow. How is it possible that there was a fake drug given to Petra by the pharmacy?



Pano: Bushmeat 37' vrt *English voice-over available*

Bushmeat is meat from wild animals living in the African rain forest. Many of these animals are protected or endangered species. Every year, tons of this bushmeat enter Europe via Zaventem airport spreading over the continent. Pano investigates the risks and consequences of the bushmeat trade.



Zembla: Pounds And Poison From Moscow 37'

ZEMBLA investigates the story of Sergei Magnitsky: a Russian lawyer who died in prison after his testimony about the largest Russian tax fraud in history. Police officers and employees of the Russian tax authorities collaborated with a criminal gang to steal 230 million dollars from the Russian tax payers. Magnitsky became a symbol for Russian human rights atrocities.



Zembla: The Real Price Of Cheap Medicine 37'

It's not only our clothes that are made in India and China: our drugs are produced there too. In these countries, materials are cheaper and wages are low. In India, pharmaceutical giant Aurobindo manufactures cheap antibiotics, psycho pharmaceuticals, and painkillers for export to 150 countries. Many low-wage countries are infamous for their lax attitude to laws governing health and safety, working conditions, and the environment. This documentary investigates under what conditions medicines are produced in India. Who pays the true price?



Around The North Sea 10 x 45' vrt

Each country that borders the North Sea boasts its own typical coastline. But the limits of the actual North Sea stretch much further than commonly thought. Beyond our own shores, there is a vast water world we barely know, a sea that created our history and connects the Belgians, the French, the English, the Scottish, the Norwegians, the Danes, the Germans and the Dutch. In this 10-episode documentary we will be exploring the rich history of our North Sea and collect amazing stories that unfolded on and around the water.



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