

LOGLINE

«The little death» is an intimate and multi-faceted portrait of the female orgasm.

SYNOPSIS

«The little death» is a documentary film about the female orgasm. Women from various ages, experiences and sexual preferences talk about their orgasms in all sincerity. Poetical, abstract and metaphorical images take us into the heart of their sensations. Speaking about orgasm, the protagonists talk about their desires, their sexuality. With sensibility, poetry and humor, the film takes us in the intimacy of women. Far away from pornography, performance's cult or excessive erotic. The film is a collective adventure, driven by a common will to break some taboos that still weigh on female sexuality.

«The little death» is a dialog between women, for women. And for men.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

I'm interested in female desire and pleasure in our society overexposed to pornography and nudity. Sex is everywhere, romantic sadomasochism sells millions of books, young people make their sexual education watching porn: sex isn't taboo anymore. If the sexual liberation did happen, the female desire isn't totally liberated yet. For a long time, men's perspective dominated and determined women's sexuality. For a long time, women couldn't claim their right to pleasure, nor wondered about their own desires. Still today, erotism and pornography are largely dominated by men, and few women recognize themselves in this vision. For example, women are still more judged on their sexuality than men: If too active "slut", if not sexual enough "frigid". It's time to let women speak about their own sexuality!

"The little death" aims to break taboos and reveal the lack of knowledge about female sexuality. I truly believe that through constant dialogue and sharing experiences, women can liberate themselves and have a better, and more fulfilling sex life.

"The little death" is an invitation for women to take over their sexuality. I want to provoke reflection and inner quest. Without judgements, determination of norms or cult of performance. I decided to be part of the film myself, as the narrator, and to testify with my own doubts, questions and lack of knowledge. The film becomes a collective adventure, where the director exposes herself as much as the protagonists.

The interviews are built like an indirect dialog between the protagonists and the narrator. I've specifically chosen to have many "talking heads" in the film in order to normalise the fact of speaking about sexuality. There is nothing to hide or be ashamed of. I do believe that testimonies on such an intimate topic are particularly strong when they happen in front of the camera.

Next to the interviews, metaphorical and abstract images translate visually the sensations and visions that women can have during orgasm. Together with the music and sound design, I wanted to create a sensorial experience of the female orgasm, in its variety, power and beauty. This choice to treat this intimate topic with sincere testimonies in front of the camera and a strong esthetic focus on the sensations during orgasm is what makes this film unique.

I hope "The little death" can be the "sparkle" that will inspire women and men to explore female sexuality differently. It could be the beginning of an exciting inner journey!





TECHNICAL

Colour

16:9. / HD

Language: French / English

Subtitles availables: English / French

Sound: Stereo

Screening Format: DCP / Apple ProRes / .mov

CREDITS

With: Anne-Valérie, Aude, Aurore, Lada and Maggie

Narrator: Joséphine de Weck

With the participation of: Tina, Wendy and Stéphanie

Writer & Director: Annie Gisler

Producers: Mark Olexa, Dunja Keller, Francesca Scalisi

Executive Producers: Mark Olexa, Annie Gisler

Director of Photography: Géraldine Zosso

Sound Engineer: Nora Longatti

2nd Unit DOP: Valérie Anex, Meret Mädorin

2nd Unit Sound Engineers: Oliver Rogers, Sandra Gómez Jiménez

Editing: Valérie Anex

Sound Design & Mix: Julian Joseph

Colorist: Yves Roy Vallaster

Music: Benoît Gisler

Catering: Madeleine Huwiler, Marie Cuennet Translations: Bruce Yoder, Thomas Röthlisberger

Equipment: Eberle Filmequipment, FTK

Arts:

Clitzilla by Ellebasi Gorenpeng, Ida Aniz and carbon company Snowflakes by Mirko Hecht from I show flag Vulvaaaart. Vulva art with two extra a's by Lina Lätitia Blatt

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Filmed at the exhibition "Vive la V!", Kulturstätte Keller, Berlin, 28.10.2017. Exhibition organized by Künstlerkollektiv Vulvae

With the participation of:

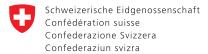
RTS radio télévision suisse, documentary films unit, Irène Challand and Frédéric Pfyffer



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CONTACT

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DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Following her graduation from the Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK) with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Photography, Annie Gisler (*1983) studied a variety of film courses in Buenos Aires and San Jose (CR). Then she completed a year of film director studies at the Spanish School of Cinema in Madrid (ECAM). She continued her studies towards a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Filmmaking at the ZHdK. She graduated in 2013 and works as a director and screenwriter since then.



DIRECTOR'S FILMOGRAPHY

2019 " REBELLIOUS LELO" ("Lélo l'insoumise"), documentary, 52 min, Dok Mobile. Currently in fundraising. Co-writer.

Award: "Perspectives d'un doc", Visions du réel (2017).

2018 "THE LITTLE DEATH" ("La petite mort"), documentary, 61 min, Dok Mobile. <u>Festival:</u> Zurich Film Festival (27.09.-07.10.18), Competition Switzerland-Germany-Austria / Arts Festival Porny Days (24.-26.11.18, Zürich Switzerland) / Solothurner Filmtage (24.-31.01.19, Switzerland).

2013 "CÉLESTINE", fiction, 13min, ZHdK

<u>Awards:</u> Jury Award, Los Angeles Student Film Festival / Audience Award, Festival Internacional de curtas metragens de Sao Paolo

<u>Festivals:</u> Los Angeles Student Film Festival (2014, USA) / International short film Festival Parties de campagne (2014, France) / Festival Internacional de curtas metragens, Sao Paolo (2014, Brazil), / International Film Festival Schlingel (2014, Germany).

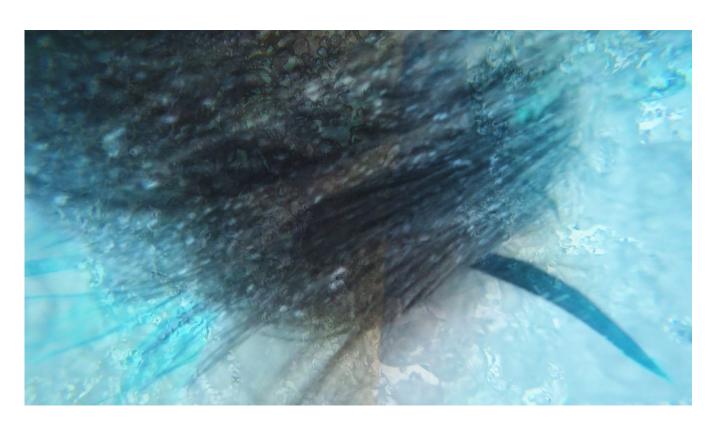
2013 "SUNDAY WITH THE FAMILY" ("Le dimanche en famille"), documentary, 25 min, ZHdK

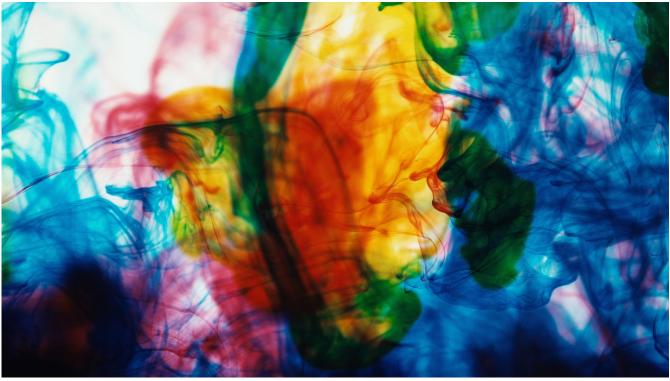
<u>Awards:</u> Best short documentary Award, Festival International de Cine Gastronomico, 2nd Award Foundation Alexis Victor Thalberg (Zürich)

<u>Festivals:</u> Dokfest München (2013, Germany) / Almaty International Film Festival (2013, Kazakhstan) / Toffifest, Torun, (2013, Poland) / Media 10-10, Namur (2013, Belgium) / Festival de cortometrajes de los Condes, Santiago (2014, Chili) / CineEsCena, Festival International de Cine Gastronomico (2014, Spain) / Brooklyn Independent Film Festival (2015, USA) / Flying Film Festival (2015, Swissair) / Culture Unplugged Film Festival, (2016, India, USA, Indonesia, New Zealand).

CONTACT

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avec MAGGIE, AUDE, LADA, ANNE-VALÉRIE et AURORE Voix de JOSÉPHINE DE WECK avec la participation de WENDY, STÉPHANIE, TINA image GÉRALDINE ZOSSO son NORA LONGATTI images supplémentaires VALÉRIE ANEX, MERET MADÖRIN son supplémentaire OLIVER ROGERS, SANDRA GÓMEZ JIMÉNEZ COLLA montage VALÉRIE ANEX musique BENOÎT GISLER sound design &mix JULIAN JOSEPH colorist YVES ROY VALLASTER producteurs MARK OLEXA, FRANCESCA SCALISI, DUNJA KELLER producteurs exécutifs MARK OLEXA, ANNIE GISLER écrit et réalisé par ANNIE GISLER

PERIE MANUEL MAN

Un film d'Annie Gisler