



arte
DISTRIBUTION

BRAVING THE TIDES

A **4K** documentary collection ~ 4x43' & 4x52'
Directed by Laurent Frapat & Benoit Demarle
Produced by One Planet



PITCH

To the rhythm of the tides and for 24 hours, we will sneak into the secret and tumultuous life of the strange creatures of the shorelines, to discover their incredible way of life. Twice a day, the dwellers of the sea coast must adapt to brutal temperature or oxygen changes, stand firm against the waves, currents or the violent gusts of wind. From the rocky tide pools of the Salish Sea, to the emerging coral plateaus; from the shoals and seagrass beds of Tanzania, to the dunes and lagoons of Germany, we will follow the incredible adventures of the animals of the seaside.

***You'll never see shorelines
the same way again!***

SYNOPSIS

Imagine... waking up, every morning, to pails of icy water, spending your afternoon under the scorching sun, spend the day completely dehydrated, on the verge of asphyxia, then starting your evening hit by waves crashing down on you with the force of a tsunami... And, as if that weren't enough, spending your night avoiding prowlers that see their future meal in you... Needless to say that living on the shores requires unique resistance skills.

Subjected to the ceaseless whims of the swell, the residents of the shores fight a daily battle against the indomitable forces of the ocean. Four times a day, seals, sharks, tortoises, otters, octopuses, urchins, starfish, nudibranchs or crabs must face the invasion of the sea or the ebb of the tide. But braving the elements is not enough here, one must also beware of the neighbors, potential enemies. The most splendid starfish can turn into a formidable predator.

Welcome to the ruthless world of the dwellers of the shores!

"BRAVING THE TIDES" takes us between land and sea where the ceaseless ebb and flow of the water shapes mysterious and spellbinding universes. Sandy, rocky, silty or made of coral; cold or temperate; subjected to strong or weak tidal ranges, each shore is a world of its own, populated with unique species.

At the heart of these remarkable environments, we will discover the various strategies animals and plants have developed to survive the periods when the sea washes over everything and those when it brutally disappears. Because, twice a day, the dwellers of the shores must adapt to brutal temperature or oxygen changes, stand firm against the waves, currents or the violent gusts of wind.

To each shore its heroes, and to each hero its strategy to brave the elements. From the rocky tide pools of the Salish Sea in Canada, to the emerging coral plateaus of Kimberley, Australia; from the shoals and seagrass beds of Zanzibar, Tanzania, to the dunes and lagoons of Wadden Sea, Germany, we will follow the incredible adventures of the animals of the seashores.



A COLLECTION 4x43' 4x52'

Each film in this collection proposes a 24-hour journey at the heart of a relentless universe. Two tidal cycles, an incredible tempo to structure the story and follow the adventures of heroes braving the colossal forces of the ocean.

*4 films,
4 battlefields,
4 animal-heros*

The unique adventures of individuals emblematic of each shore, and the challenges that they must face will reinforce the dramaturgy of the action. Thereby, alongside the characters, following the rhythm of the tides, each film will immerse us deep into the secret struggles that occur in these diverse and fascinating universes.



1. The fish Zig Zag in Salish Sea, Canada

On the Salish Sea, in Canada, the inhabitants of the shores must fight powerful breakers that destroy everything in their wake, face brutal changes in temperatures and the arrival of new predators. Through the adventures of a family of sea otters and a fish we will call Zigzag we will discover the lives the creatures of the Salish sea lead and their daily struggles.



1. The fish Zig Zag in Salish Sea, Canada



1. The fish Zig Zag in Salish Sea, Canada

All along the Salish Sea, the strength of the waves and wind has molded a rough and majestic coastline. A maze of sharp crests overgrown with vegetation, estuaries filled with silt-rich brown waters, rocky islands and multicolor tide pools teeming with life. Here, against the odds, everyone has found a place to brave the whims of the sea.

Along the shorelines, the sea otters firmly hang on to the stalks of an underwater forest. Closer to the shore, colonies of sea lions fiercely defend the rocky islands that are less exposed to the breakers. Seashells, fishes, sea anemones and starfishes inhabit the uppermost part of the shore: the intertidal zone. When the water rises, these animals must withstand waves that bear down upon them like a tsunami, and then resist thermal shock and dearth of water when the sea ebbs.

All that little community has learned how to adjust to the constant ebb and flow of the sea and the wrath of the swell. As well as to contend with the presence of the many predators on the prowl. One must be tough to stand up against the rigors of nature here, but the fight is worth the while. For here, rich with the nutrients carried by the tidal currents, the seawater is more generous than elsewhere. The orcas know this as well. All year round, groups of females travel through the fish-rich waters of the Salish Sea, an essential stop for the schools of herrings and red salmons, on the way to the great rivers to spawn.

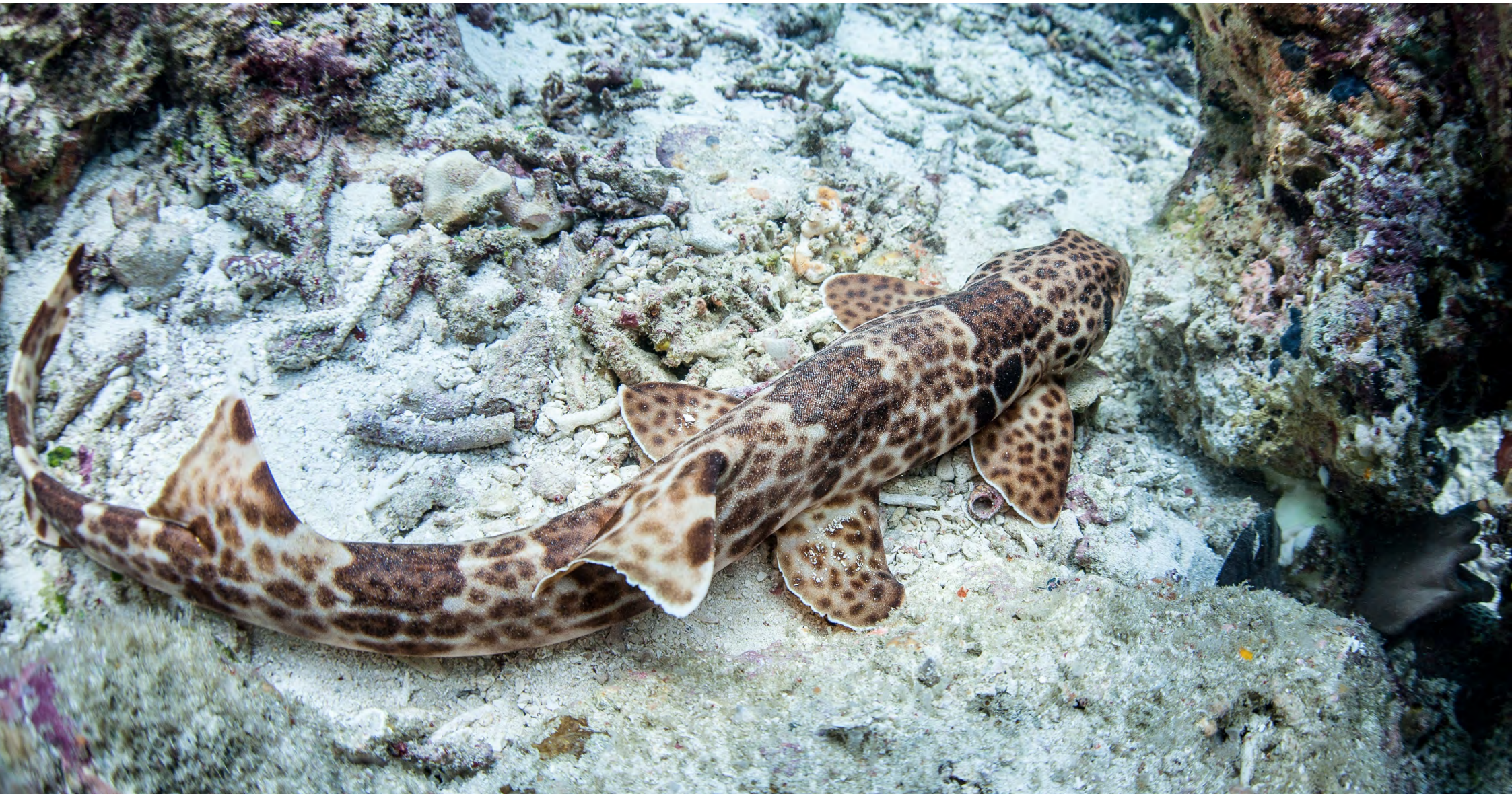
For each of these heroes, life on these coasts is a daily challenge. Twice a day, they must exert their ingenuity to face the force of the waves and the winds, and the arrival of predators from the open sea.



The Salish sea is located in the North Pacific ocean, and spreads over 18 000 km². Wedged between the British Columbia coast and Vancouver island, Canada, it is bordered to the south by the Washington State, USA

2. The Epaulette Shark in Kimberley, Australia

On the coasts of Central Kimberley, in Australia, twice a day, the strongest tropical tides in the world leave the shores bare under an unforgiving sun, merciless sun. Following the adventures of an Epaulette shark, trapped on a reef by the low tide, we will discover the astonishing strategies that corals, octopus and other animals of the shores have developed to protect themselves from dehydration and extraordinarily intense ultraviolet rays.



2. The Epaulette Shark in Kimberley, Australia



2. The Epaulette Shark in Kimberley, Australia

Northwest of Australia, is one of the wildest and most isolated shores on the planet. A virgin and barely explored world still, where nature offers some of its most beautiful scenery.

In Kimberley, the powerful ebb and flow of the sea and the tumultuous union of the Indian Ocean with the Timor Sea have shaped bays of white sand, vertiginous cliffs and coral reefs subjected to a most unique phenomenon. When the tide goes out, the formidable masses of water that escape towards the ocean hurtle down the coral reef in flows, forming ephemeral torrents and fabulous horizontal cascades.

Over time, the corals have modeled the plateau that extends over several hundreds of meters from the beach to the ocean. A veritable labyrinth crossed by underwater faults and immense emergent massifs providing a host of shelters against the ebb and flow of the swell, a tidal range that can go up to 11 meters. On this shore, vital links unite the fauna to the frail builders of their habitat. Mantis shrimps use small pieces of dead coral to buttress the galleries of their lair. The epaulette shark and the land-walking octopus have made this their hunting ground, even at low tide. But they avoid certain neighbors, some of the most venomous creatures on Earth, such as the geographer cone or the blue-ringed octopus that hide in the crevices of the reef. And whenever this living citadel comes under attack, the valiant coral crabs whip out their pincers to deter the giant coral-devouring starfishes.

For each of these heroes, life on the coast of Kimberley is an everyday challenge. Twice a day, they must deploy all their ingenuity to stay afloat despite the immense strengths of the tides.



The Kimberley is the northernmost of the nine regions of Western Australia. It is bordered on the west by the Indian Ocean, on the north by the Timor Sea, on the south by the Great Sandy and Tanami deserts in the region of the Pilbara, and on the east by the Northern Territory.

3. The new born seal in Wadden Sea, Germany

Along the Wadden Sea, in Germany, the fury of the wind and currents continuously reshape the landscapes. To live in this perpetually moving world is a real challenge especially for a new born seal. By following its first steps we will discover the fight that the animals of the shores lead in order to adapt to the sudden drying up of the lagoons, the disappearance of islets and the aerial attacks of million migrating birds who invade Wadden every year.



3. The new born seal in Wadden Sea, Germany



3. The new born seal in Wadden Sea, Germany

Every six hours along the Wadden Sea, a new performance takes place, as magical as it is striking. Here, the endless succession of high tide and low tide reveal of what the forces of nature are capable; how the ebb and flow of the sea can dry up a strip of coast that stretches over 30 kilometers in some places, or form ephemeral sand dunes, channels or islands.

Listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, Wadden is the last great wild coast in Europe. Stretching out over 500 kilometers, its shorelines offer the wild fauna and flora an incredible mosaic of habitats. Yet, the elements here make life hard for them. Every day, the winds and the currents change the physiognomy of this ecosystem; moving islands around, destroying sandbanks, diverting channels or digging lagoons. And when the elements eventually calm down, the inhabitants of Wadden are faced with other threats... from the sky, this time.

In just a few minutes, fierce storms can destroy the sandbanks and annihilate the offspring of nesting birds. Violent windstorms and ensuing strong currents regularly divert the flow of the channels; threaten fry nurseries and schools of juvenile fish. And as if that weren't enough, crabs, fishes, sea-shells, mollusks or laver spire snails must brave armadas of migratory birds that swoop down on these shores. Every year, 12 million starving birds armed with formidable beaks forage the foreshore to drive them out, leaving them very few chances of making it through. So, one must know how to burrow, hide or fight against the elements... deploying a host of techniques and skills to outsmart the adversary.

Life on these foreshores is a constant battle that spares no one, not even those that parade at the top of the food chain. Summer is a high-risk season for the seals. The gestating females must find a sandbank, sufficiently sheltered from the whims of the tides; an unsinkable islet to welcome their new-borns.



The Wadden Sea is an intertidal zone in the southeastern part of the North Sea. It lies between the coast of northwestern continental Europe and the range of low-lying Frisian Islands, forming a shallow body of water with tidal flats and wetlands. It has a high biological diversity and is an important area for both breeding and migrating birds. This area was recently added on **UNESCO's World Heritage List**.

4. The baby turtles in Zanzibar, Tanzania

On the shores of Zanzibar, every twelve hours the sea waters retreat over hundreds of meters. Stuck between the reef and the beach, in less than a meter of water, the animals must show resourcefulness to escape from the predators and survive the crushing heat. Through the misfortunes of a little lost turtle in the mangroves and the sea grass beds, we will discover surprising creatures who have become masters in the art of camouflage and survival.



4. The baby turtles in Zanzibar, Tanzania



4. The baby turtles in Zanzibar, Tanzania

Stretching all along the beaches of Zanzibar, lies an aquatic maze of rocks, corals and marine prairies, populated with fascinating creatures. In these turquoise waters, some species are attired in flamboyant colors, whereas others favor discretion, camouflaged almost to perfection.

On these very flat shores, tides never go unnoticed. Here, the ocean pulls back several hundred meters, as far as the foot of the reef, leaving huge stretches of white sand, large shallow tide pools and white seagrass beds behind.

Twice a day, when the water ebbs, the large predators hasten to join the open sea, abandoning the seagrass meadows where juvenile fish can blend into the vegetation. There, practically undetectable, frogfishes and crocodile fish are already living in ambush. This central area of the shoreline belongs to those who know how to become invisible. A strategy that is of no avail further down, where the reef marks the border with the open sea. On the contrary, the inhabitants of the coral reef boast extravagant outfits to signify their toxicity and ward off predators.

At the other end of the shore, high up on the beach, it's hatching season for the green turtles. Fearless and resolute, these little heroines must reach the open sea as fast as possible. But things don't always go as planned...

The Zanzibar Archipelago consists of several islands lying off the coast of East Africa south of the Somali sea. There are four main islands, three primary islands with human populations, a fourth coral island that serves as an essential breeding ground for seabirds, plus a number of smaller islets.



EDITORIAL INTENTION

Each situation will be experienced from the point of view of the heroes and of other characters who live by the sea.

“Resisting, hanging on, never letting go facing the impetuous currents or towering waves... To fight against the FORCE of the elements, everyone has his own technique...”

While each story relies on observed and scientifically researched behaviors, the story and the narration are treated as the adventures of superheroes confronted with titanic forces.

To capture the balance of power and the adversity that the shoreline animals must withstand, the narrative and imaging play on the differences in scale.

From the tiniest of crustaceans to the most disproportionate of waves, cameras placed between the sea and the sky will render the “washing machine” effect of rising tides, the powerful crash of waves breaking on the rocks and the phenomenal energy produced by the ebbing water.

Throughout the tides, the cameras will capture the magic of natural light. Fugitive moments when, a mere ray of sunlight, a veil of mist or an ephemeral rainbow transfigure the most ordinary natural setting. The series explores an infinitely rich range of atmospheres: the musical poetry of lapping water; the phosphorescence of a full moon or the dazzling energy of a storm. A full spectrum of the variations that take part in the marvelous sights Nature has to offer.

Each situation will be experienced from the point of view of the heroes and of other characters who live by the sea.

Point-of-view camera shots -sometimes underwater- and overhead or low angle shots will heighten the dramaturgy. Every effort will be made to convey that the impact of the tides is different depending on the size or morphology of each animal.

The film direction will often play on the duality and oppositions between species that undergo the wrath of the elements differently.

The tidal movements and the onslaughts of the sea are the cornerstones of each of the films. The breakers will be treated as a monster released at full speed.

Aerial shots will reveal all the majesty of the shorelines: strings of natural pools, coral plateaus or sandbanks stranded between two tides.

Hyper-lapse shots will allow for dynamic editing and show the all-powerful nature our heroes must face.

Underwater low angle shots aimed towards the surface will strengthen the impression of incarnating a shoreline creature subjected to the rise or ebb of the water. To follow a crab, an octopus or a moray eel as close as possible in a tide pool, we will use endoscopic or tubular lenses that can slip between the corals or the rocks.

Lastly, numerous macrophotography shots will reveal the details of the incredible metabolisms of the shoreline creatures: for example, the eye of a peacock shrimp, the teeth of an urchin, the amazing anatomy of a nudibranch or a moving starfish. Macro-photography will allow us to travel through the swarm of organisms that make up the plankton or the delicate umbrellas of the barnacles that open and shut to capture suspended nutriments.

Special attention will be paid to the sound. The atmospheres of each site will prevail and convey the force of the elements present; the sounds emitted by certain animals, reinvented using sound design which will add to the dramaturgy of the battles that are played out every day on these shorelines.

Laurent Frapat



Editor and director

He has directed more than 30 documentaries.

Specializing in animal documentaries, he has renewed the genre by offering innovative films in content and form, sometimes with a lot of humor. Here is a selection of his most recent films.

- 2018: THE LAST GIRAFFE (52')
- 2018: THE BREATHE OF THE CHEETAH (52')
- 2017: BOSS CROC (52')
- 2016 : BLACK AND WILD (52')
- 2012-2013: SAVANNAH UNPLUGGED (52')
PRIX DU MEILLEUR SON ET PRIX DU PUBLIC FIFA ALBERT 2014
- 2009: WILD OPERA (75')
GRAND PRIX AMAZONAS FILM FESTIVAL 2009
GRAND PRIX ET MEILLEURE IMAGE FIFA ALBERT 2010
FINALISTE CATÉGORIE LONG-MÉTRAGE AU JACKSON HOLE
WILDLIFE FILM FESTIVAL 2009
- 2001-2011: WILDLIFES OF SAVANNAH LANE (6X52')
- 2005-2007: LITTLE ME (3X52')

Benoit Damarle



Director of Photograpy and Director.

He has directed more than 10 animal documentaries.

- 2019: MIGRATIONS SECRETES (2X52')
PRIX ETUDIANT À PARIS SCIENCE 2019
PRIX DU MEILLEUR FILM ORNITHOLOGIQUE 2019
AU FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL DU FILM ORNITHOLOGIQUE
- 2018 : LA FACE CACHÉE DU POISSON-LUNE (2018)
- PRIX DE LA JEUNESSE 2018 – FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL DE
L'IMAGE SOUS-MARINE DE MARSEILLE
- 2017 : LES SOLDATS DU FEU (6X52')

PRODUCTION'S NOTE



For the past fifteen years, we have developed, written and produced films dedicated to science, society, nature and the environment. These films were broadcast on French television stations such as France 2, France 3, France 5, Canal+, Arte, or Planete. Most of these productions also had strong international resonance and were notably aired on National Geographic, the Discovery Channel, RTBF, RAI, TVE, NHK, TSR, Radio Canada, ARD, etc.

After collaborating for more than ten years with Télé Images Marathon and Angel Productions, (Lagardère Group), we decided in September 2007 to create our production company, ONE PLANET.

Today, ONE PLANET produces programs in 4K or in High Definition and on an international scale - films and collections of documentaries about discovery, characterized by original viewpoints and stories that provoke emotions. Our world is unique; knowing it better is certainly the best way to preserve it.

Eric Gonzalez and Marie Pilhan



arte DISTRIBUTION

the ultimate reference for factual documentaries



FLORENCE SALA
*Head of
International Distribution
& Marketing*
f-sala@arteFrance.fr



ALEC HERRMANN
*Head of
Catalog and Video
Acquisitions (DVD/VOD)*
a-herrmann@arteFrance.fr



AUDREY KAMGA
Sales Manager
a-kamga@arteFrance.fr
Canada, USA, South America,
Australia, New Zealand,
MENA Region



ISABELLE MONTEIL
Sales Manager
i-monteil@arteFrance.fr
UK, Ireland, Italy, Spain,
Portugal, Asia
language versions



SOPHIE SOGHOMONIAN
Sales Manager
s-soghomonian@arteFrance.fr
Eastern Europe, Russia, Africa
Israel, Greece
worldwide inflight



FRANKA SCHWABE
Sales Manager
f-schwabe@arteFrance.fr
Germany, Austria, Switzerland,
Belgium, France, Netherlands
Scandinavia, Iceland