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# First contact

PITCHING SESSION FOR  
DOCUMENTARIES IN WRITING

*\*French speakers only*



PROJECTS FROM THE ATELIERS VARAN:

## **THE FREE LANDS - Amelia Veitch**

In a coastal village, a wide area between sea and land has escaped agricultural modernization while the surrounding land is cultivated for intensive livestock farming. The result is a wildland, almost a forest, which seems unspoiled and open to possibility. As the land's existence becomes problematic, the film plunges into the heart of the debates that shake the village.

**Amelia Veitch** is an anthropologist. "The Free Lands" is her first film, inspired by her research on agricultural transformations in Brittany, France.

## **WOMEN LAWYERS - Delphine Moreau**

Every day, activist lawyers receive women victims of rape, incest, sexual harassment in the workplace, and domestic violence. They accompany with an unshakeable conviction these women weakened in legal battles and transmit to them a new energy, that of the action, of the fight.

**Delphine Moreau** is a documentary director.

### **MUSIC AND NEURONS - Erwan Ricordeau**

In a school in the Drôme, musicians and health professionals, supported by neuroscience researchers, are trying to convince the teaching staff to set up a "music at school" program for all children in order to develop their cognitive faculties.

**Erwan Ricordeau** is a musician and director.

### **THE REST WAS DARKNESS - Fanny Douarche**

Tariq, a rapper in his thirties, leads a double life as a dandy artist and a waiter in a café, taking singing, dancing and acting lessons to improve his stage performances, and meditating long hours to develop his concentration.

**Fanny Douarche** is a psychoanalyst and filmmaker.

### **WORK OF JUSTICE - Marianne K. Roméo**

An independent magistrate, Isabelle Prévost Desprez persists in rendering equal and humane justice. Following the thread of a financial case, the director films her in the meticulous preparation of a hearing, aware of the stakes and the pitfalls that must be anticipated.

**Marianne K. Roméo** is a film programmer. She was introduced to filmmaking at Ateliers Varan.

### **TRANSFORMATIVE JUSTICE, A UTOPIA? - Marie Chartron**

Faced with the blatant inadequacy of the French judicial system regarding rape, an alternative is slowly emerging behind the scenes: a systemic approach centered on the victims' needs, which does not seek individual punishment, but rather collective transformation.

A doctor in political philosophy, **Marie Chartron** has recently collaborated in the writing and coordination of documentary series for Raoul Peck (HBO, arte). Trained in documentary filmmaking at Ateliers Varan, she co-created *JUSTICE!* (France.tv, 2021).

### **THE BUMBLEBEE TAKES OFF - Pierre Albert Vivet**

David Defois is a real genius inventor, a didg-crafter and qualified engineer, living a frugal life in Brittany. Using the latest technological innovations, he has transformed the ancestral Aboriginal Australian horn into a new ultra-modern chromatic instrument, the Korn Bass. To what end ?

**Pierre Albert Vivet** is a sound engineer

## **WORLDS, LITERATURES AND THE ELEPHANT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROOM -**

**Tan-Ying Chou**

This is the investigation of a protean literary "I", a rare specimen from the island of Taiwan who became a Francophone through her university education, who questions the fabrication of world literature in France. Is translating literatures really an invitation to get to know worlds?

**Tan-Ying Chou** is a Chinese language author and translator. She teaches at the Bordeaux Montaigne University and has directed 3 short films.



PROJECT FROM THE FEMIS DOCUMENTARY WORKSHOP:

## **BEIRUT, DIARY OF A COLLAPSE - Katia Jarjoura**

Inspired by the text by writer Charif Majdalani, "Beirut 2020, Diary of a collapse", the film recalls, through the use of archives and contemporary images, an intimate and political story of the Lebanese downfall, from the October 2019 revolution to the port explosion of August 4, 2020.

Of Lebanese origin, **Katia Jarjoura** is a documentary and fiction director. She has directed several films in the Middle East for the ARTE channel as well as two short films Dans le Sang (France 2 prize in Brest) and Seul le Silence (broadcast on France 3). She is also a speaker in workshops.

**Scam\***

PROJECT FROM *BROUILLON D'UN RÊVE* - LoSCAM :

## **MARS ACADEMY - Hugo Saugier**

In a laboratory, then in the very middle of a desert, some scientists test several self-sufficiency systems, as well as their own resistance to confinement. In similar conditions as a long-term spatial journey, they prepare for their last mission : to come back to Earth.

After many explorations around video and sound, **Hugo Saugier** came to cinema by writing a first film project focusing on a mountain where the origins of the world are studied.