

SHOCK WAVES

A collection of four films

Diary Of My Mind

A film by Ursula Meier - Berlinale's Panorama

First Name : Mathieu

A film by Lionel Baier - Berlinale's Panorama

The Valley

A film by Jean-Stéphane Bron

Sirius

A film by Frédéric Mermoud

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"THE VALLEY" Directed by Jean-Stéphane Bron

Shock Waves

Just like any prosperous and quiet country, Switzerland is a fertile soil to real dramas and tragic news item. The incongruity of these, their violence sometimes, seems at least proportional to everyday life's normality. Like a mountain's dam whose calm water would mask the cracks. And in the weaknesses of this wall of respectability, it's the Swiss' life that emerges with intimacy and unconsciousness. Although they don't like to make a fuss, our fellow compatriots become victims and executioner of chaotic tales. Shockwaves is about this. Taking seriously four criminal tales, more or less famous, that made recent western swiss history. Family dramas, serial killers, sectarian aberration, police brutality. So much cases that feed our imagination, that make reality legendary.

Shock waves is four films made for TV by four Swiss directors. Four journeys which start is a news story that happened in Switzerland and which arrival point is merged with imaginary.

Ursula Meier
Jean-Stéphane Bron
Lionel Baier
Frédéric Mermoud



"SIRIUS" Directed by Frédéric Mermoud

First Name : Mathieu

Directed by Lionel Baier

Starring Maxime Gorbatchevsky, Michel Vuillermoz, Ursina Lardi, Pierre-Isaïe Duc, Mickael Ammann, Adrien Barazzone, Nastassja Tanner

Set in the 1980s, 17-year-old Mathieu is the only survivor of an infamous serial killer making the headlines. Injured and traumatized, he tries to regain a foothold in the existence of his family and his village. Despite the kindness of one another, his daily life does not find the mildness of before. There is this stabbing remembrance of the night of his aggression, the feeling that the killer is there, in his room, that he is the only one capable of understanding and soothing. Thanks to an incredible photographic memory and the help of an intuitive policeman, the teenager will succeed in making the identikit of the aggressor then leading to his arrest. But for Mathieu, nothing is really completed so far...

Length : 61 minutes

Written by : Julien Bouissoux and Lionel Baier

Produced by: Lionel Baier, Agnieszka Ramu, Françoise Mayor

DoP : Patrick Lindenmaier

Editor : Pauline Gaillard

Sound : Marc Von Stürler, Etienne Curchod

Music : Christian Garcia-Gaucher

Set Artist : Anne-Carmen Vuilleumier

Costume designer : Samantha François





Lionel Baier

Biography

Born in Lausanne in 1975 in a Swiss family of Polish origins, Lionel Baier programs et co-manages the Rex Cinema of Aubonne since 1992, before studying humanities at the University of Lausanne (1995-1999). Following the documentary *The Pastor's* and *The Parade (Our History)*, he directs his first feature film in 2004, *Stupid Boy*. His next films are *Stealth*– first episode of a tetralogy that continues with *Longwave*, then *Another Manor* and *Vanity* in a filmography of fictions and documentaries in several formats. Director of the Film department at the ECAL (Art school of Lausanne) since 2002, he co-founds *Bande à part Films* in 2009 and is the vice-president of the Swiss Cinemathèque's board of administration. Lionel also produced the four films of *Shock Waves*, and *The Venerable W.* (directed by Barbet Schroeder), presented in Cannes in 2017.



Diary Of My Mind

Directed by Ursula Meier

With Fanny Ardant, Kacey Mottet-Klein, Jean-Philippe Ecoffey, Stéphanie Blanchoud, Carlo Brandt, Jean-Quentin Châtelain

A few minutes before shooting his father and his mother in cold blood, Benjamin Feller, an 18-year-old young man, apparently uneventful, sends his personal diary by mail to his literature teacher in which he confesses and explains his double murder. The choice to associate this woman with his act and to unwillingly take her in his fall, follows several months of an educational relationship that encouraged the students to write a personal diary. The teacher find herself interrogated by the law, and soon confronted with her own doubts. What if her taste for a literature, haunted by the torments of the human soul, made her blind before the distress of her pupil and what was hidden behind the feverish prose he had made her read long before his crime?

Length : 70 minutes

Written by : Antoine Jaccoud and Ursula Meier

Produced by: Lionel Baier, Agnieszka Ramu, Françoise Mayor

DoP : Jeanne Lapoirie

Editing : Nelly Quettier

Sound : Patrick Becker, Etienne Curchod

Set Artist : Ivan Niclass

Costume designer : Anna Van Brée





Ursula Meier

Biography

Swiss and French, Ursula Meier studied filmmaking in Belgium. Her short films' and documentaries' successes allowed her to get worldwide recognition. She was chosen to be part of Arte's collection of TV movies Masculin/Féminin and directed in 2002 Strong Shoulders which was met with great acclaim. In 2008, her movie Home has been premiered at the Cannes Film Festival Critics' Week and received several awards and distinctions, including three Césars' nominations. Sister received a Silver Bear-Special Award at the 2012 Berlin International Film Festival, was nominated for the Independent Spirit Awards and Kacey Mottet Klein for Best Male Newcomer's César. This film, as Home, was rewarded of three Quartz at the Swiss Film Awards and represented Switzerland for the Oscar race. In 2014, she takes part of the omnibus film Bridges of Sarajevo presented in Official Selection at the Cannes Film Festival.



The Valley

Directed by Jean-Stéphane Bron

With Ilies Kadri, Kamel Labroudi, Nadim Belatreche, Anaïs Nussbaum, Amadou Awana Soumare

ARiyad and his friend Zaïd leave their estate near Lyon and go to Switzerland to steal two luxurious cars for the account of Chérif, the thug ruling their area. Yet the journey goes wrong. Hunted, Riyad sinks into the mountains to escape the police. The hunt continues in the heart of a lost, hostile valley, in which Riyadh desperately seeks a way to return to France.

Length : 50 minutes

Written by : Alice Winocour et Jean-Stéphane Bron

Produced by: Lionel Baier, Agnieszka Ramu, Françoise Mayor

DoP : Claire Mathon

Editing : Myriam Rachmuth

Sound : Marc Von Stürler, Masaki Hatsui, Etienne Curchod

Music : Christian Garcia

Set Artist : Olga Fabrizio

Costume designer : Françoise Nicolet





Jean-Stéphane Bron

Biography

Born in Lausanne in 1969, Jean-Stéphane Bron is a documentarian. His movies received several distinctions in Europe and in the US, like *Connu de nos services* (1997), about a scandal of files compiled by Swiss Federal Police. *Le Génie helvétique (Mais Im Bundeshuus)* (2003), one of the biggest success of Swiss film, or *L'Expérience Blocher*, portrait of the right-wing populist leader Christophe Blocher, which stirred up controversy. With *Cleveland against Wall Street* (2010), about the subprimes crisis, which is presented in Cannes and nominated for a Cesar, he gains international recognition and receives for the second time the Quartz of Best documentary at the Swiss Film Award. His last movie, *The Paris Opera* (2017), about Paris Opera's backstage, is widely distributed around the world.



Sirius

Directed by Frédéric Mermoud

Starring Dominique Reymond, Carlo Brandt, Grégoire Didelot, Iannis Jaccoud
Camille Figuereo, Baptiste Coustenoble & Marianne Basler.

Five days before D-Day, the day of the last voyage of the Order of Sirius, a sect nestled in the Vaudoise Alps, Switzerland. Five days during which a community of 48 people, women, men, children, fed with esotericism and guided by a narcissistic guru, will test their faith and be deprived of their identity.

Five days in which every gesture could be the last. Sirius is inspired by the massacre of the Order of the Solar Temple in 1994 in Western Switzerland.

Length : 61 minutes

Written by : Laurent Larivière, François Decodts et Frédéric Mermoud

Produced by: Lionel Baier, Agnieszka Ramu, Françoise Mayor

DoP : Stephan Massis

Editor : Sarah Anderson

Sound : Marc Von Stürler, Etienne Curchod

Music : Keegan De Witt

Set Artist : Rekha Musale

Costume designer : Samantha François





Frédéric Mermoud

Biography

Born in 1969 in Sion, Frédéric Mermoud directed noted short films like *The Staircase*, awarded Best short film at the Swiss Film Award, and *Rachel* nominated for a Cesar. In 2009, his first feature film, *Complices*, is presented in Locarno Film Festival and receives Best Script at the Swiss Film Award. In 2012, he directs four episodes (5-8) of Canal+ series *Revenants*, awarded of an International Emmy Award. He gets back to swiss cinema by directing *Moka* (2016) with Emmanuelle Devos and Nathalie Baye, which has a big critical and commercial success. He focuses then on thriller and directs six episodes of the Canal+ *Engrenages* series. He also directed the writing and production of around 40 ECAL (Art school of Lausanne) students.



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