

PORTABLE LIFE

DRAMA BY

FLEUR BOONMAN

SAVAGEFILM
2 Square Sans-Souci
1050 Brussels, Belgium

Bart Van Langendonck
+32 476 551153
bart@savagefilm.be
www.savagefilm.be



Writer & Director Fleur Boonman
Producers Bart Van Langendonck (Savage Film, Belgium)
..... Sun Fu Maltha (Fu Works, Netherlands)
Confirmed cast Rutger Hauer, José Verheire, Eddy Kneefel
..... David Ramaekers, Vincent Morelle, Steve Togni, a.o.
Duration approx. 90'
Language Dutch, English, French, Polish, Romanian, Arabic
Format hdv
Budget 700.000 €
Shooting Schedule Summer & Winter 2009
Release Summer 2010
Distributor Benelux BFD - www.bfdfilm.com

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Pitch

Where life carries us and how we carry life.

During a long trip, in search of her 'place to be and the one to be with', a young naive girl becomes a young woman through seemingly chance encounters. Portable Life tells the story of her journey (a real and an inner one), through parallel worlds and different times, where certain people are inextricably linked with each other.

General Info

Portable Life is a contemporary roadmovie, exploring the boundaries between film and photography, with an international cast, set in Belgium, France, Romania, South-Africa, Bali and Morocco.

Fleur Boonman lives the life of a nomad. Her photographic work is like an adventurous and colored traveller's notebook in which places and people pass along. Her quest for poetry and for the absurdity of life results in astonishing images, exploring the edges of photography and painting.



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SYNOPSIS

Sea, 20-years-old, visits her father after she broke up with her boyfriend. Her father is a loner living a primitive lifestyle with his horses in a dense forest in the Belgian Ardennes. Sea's mother recently died and has left her daughter piles of encyclopaedia and photo books about travelling. Sea fancies an adventurous life and decides to take a trip around the world in search for the place to be and the one to be with. She cuts out a little photo of a tropical island from a magazine and leaves.

On her journey she crosses paths with Vince, a 35-year-old French man who owns an illegal tango club in Morocco, where he secretly teaches the sensual dance to veiled Muslim women. There she also runs into Moira, an Afro-American porn actress. In Romania there is Igor, a 40-year-old man who is doing dodgy fur coat trades with gypsies. And Eddie, who leaves her his address in Indonesia. In Italy she meets Massimo, a circus director who has inherited an eight-generation old circus from his family but would prefer to be a tennis teacher. In a hot desert in Central Africa she gets a ride with Antonio, who lives alone in a big colonial house in the middle of the desert.

Meetings between Sea and these people have also occurred hundreds of years before. What has happened in the past influences her present life and her relationships through scary coincidences. New opportunities open and cure old wounds. Her journey is a true rollercoaster in which Sea transforms from a young ignorant woman into a self-aware adult.

Two years later, after a non-stop journey around the world, Sea walks through a flea market in Belgium. Suddenly she recognizes a furniture lot that has a striking similarity with her father's furniture... With an anxious premonition Sea travels home. When she arrives there the house is up for sale.

Sea finds out that her father has died in a car crash and the other driver made a hit and run. Confused and angry, she finds back the postcard with Eddie's Indonesian address on it and decides to travel there. Finally Sea finds herself back in the same place where hundreds of years before she lost herself. The circle is round. Sea has found the place to be and the one to be with in her self. She decides to no longer look for the other but to live her own dream. And then Igor shows up in Indonesia...

DIRECTOR'S INTENTION

Before and after finishing my studies at the Rietveld Academy in Amsterdam, I have been travelling for the past 14 years from pole to pole. Every step, every ride, every flight has meant disengagement and extirpation. But the further away I was from home, the more clearly the contours of my person were drawn up, through roads chosen and challenges met. Through the years, I got intrigued by the lifetimes of people I met on my travels. The idea of lives that come across at the "right" moment is the basis for Portable Life.

When travelling all over the world, you have more chances to hear interesting life stories because the meetings with people are often very short and therefore usually more intense.

Conversations with people you meet are about the "portableness", or the exact opposite, of being and about the origins of their way of living.

I like to dig into the mysteries of their lives, their choices. These questions often remain unanswered but they leave traces of images, moments and feelings.

My experiences and own idea of karmic meetings form the subtext, the undertone and thus the possibility of this film. Why do we meet certain people in our lives? And what can these people learn us? What can we share with them?

There is beautiful magic in these meetings, a moment hard to describe in words, but a moment of pure perfection. It is my motive to capture this very powerful force between lovers and friends and enemies. People who keep on meeting "accidentally", the connection, the unexplainable trust you feel with some people or that you can feel in certain places where you have never been before. Situations that are too scary or too coincidental to be true, but they are ...

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Nomad artist Fleur Boonman (born in Belgium, 1976) studied Audiovisual Art at the Gerrit Rietveld Academy in Amsterdam. She specialized in film, video and photography and was highly successful in these fields; her work has been exhibited by institutions such as FOAM, Amsterdam's Museum of Photography and Stedelijk Museum in the same city, the Fabriek in Eindhoven, Galerie Fifty One in Antwerp and Analix Forever in Geneva. She is now preparing her first feature film "Portable Life".

www.fleurboonman.com

PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY

Savage Productions was founded in 2002 by producer Bart Van Langendonck and operates from Brussels, in an association with Eyeworks Film & TV Drama. Savage Film produces fiction, documentary and dance films with an edge, with subjects as versatile (fiction, politics, social issues, art, ...) as its directors' backgrounds. After a career in music management and programming, Bart Van Langendonck was general manager of choreographer/film director/photographer Wim Vandekeybus' internationally renowned dance company 'Ultima Vez'. He produced several documentaries and fiction projects for the film production company CCCP between 2002 and 2006. In November 2006 he launched the label SAVAGE FILM, presently developing and producing feature films of Wim Vandekeybus (Galloping Mind), Michaël R. Roskam (The Fields), Fleur Boonman (Portable Life) and Frank Theys (The Will to Virtuality), the documentaries 'Pale Peko Bantu II' (Bram Van Paesschen), Walking Back To Happiness (Pascal Poissonnier), No Comment (Pascal Poissonnier), In Search of Draughtswoman Zhou (Jeroen Van der Stock), and the dance film Rain (Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker).

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