

PERSONALIA

NAME Thom Vander Beken
ADDRESS Lissabonstraat 34,
1060 Sint-Gillis, Belgium
TEL + 32 478 511 496
E-MAIL thom_vanderbeken@hotmail.com
BORN August 23rd, 1977
NATIONALITY Belgian



EDUCATION

IDF ACADEMY
23–25TH
NOVEMBER
2007

IDF Academy presents a wide range of inspiring teachers and masters of the genre telling about their work, renowned professionals introducing their field of expertise and filmmakers showing their latest film in special screenings. IDF Academy is for film students and emerging documentary filmmakers.

→ www.idfa.nl

BERLINALE TALENT CAMPUS
10–15TH
FEBRUARY
2007

Selected to participate in the Talent Campus of the Berlinale, Berlin. The Berlin International Film Festival invites young filmmakers from all over the world to attend workshops, share ideas and mingle with international stars and colleagues during the Berlinale Talent Campus Week. – Additional selection for the Berlin Angels Day with German documentary director Uli Gaulke.

→ www.berlinale-talentcampus.de
→ www.berlinangelsday.de

CANVAS
FEBRUARY–
MARCH
2004

Internship as a researcher for the Canvas program 'Histories'. Working on an episode together with director Servaas Heirman.

→ www.canvas.be

SINT-LUKAS
2000–2004

Graduated as Master in the Audiovisual Arts from Sint-Lukas in Brussels, Belgium.

→ www.sintlukas.be



→ EDUCATION

UNIVERSITEIT GENT
1995–
2000

Graduated as Master in Dutch and English Literature from Ghent University, Belgium. As part of the research for my dissertation I spent several months at the University of Stellenbosch, South Africa.

→ www.ugent.be

Title dissertation: Postcolonial Elements in 'Kikoejoe' by Etienne van Heerden, tendencies in recent Afrikaans language literature.

ONZE-LIEVE-VROUW-COLLEGE
1989–1995

Modern Languages – Sciences in secondary school in Ledeberg, Belgium

→ www.olvc.be

WORKING EXPERIENCE

ICELAND ON THE EDGE *January 2007*

Concept and direction for the media campaign for the 'Iceland on the edge' festival in the Centre for Fine Arts in Brussels. Broadcasted on RTBF and TV Brussel.

→ www.bozar.be



LOST IN TRANSITION *since 2006*

A 52 min. documentary on youngsters in Serbia who need to come to terms with the role their fathers and former heroes played in the Balkan conflicts in order to build their own future.

→ www.savagefilm.be

DE FIGURANTEN *November 2006 – April 2007*

Directing 'Grand Tour' for the socio-cultural organisation De Figuranten in Menen, Belgium. Since 1995 De Figuranten have been working with people from challenged social groups. Through artistic projects they try to activate them to participate in society.

→ www.defiguranten.be



→ WORKING EXPERIENCE

MUZIEKTHEATER TRANSPARANT *November 2005 – April 2006*

Working as assistant to the director for the opera productions 'La Mort de Ste-Alm enne' (Arthur Honegger) and the European tour (performances in Paris, Brussels, Copenhagen, Utrecht and Luxembourg) of 'Jakob Lenz' (Wolfgang Rihm). Both directed by Caroline Petrick. Muziektheater Transparant is a production company that shifts the boundaries between opera and musical theatre.

→ www.transparant.be

VLAAMSE OPERA *December 2004 – Februari 2005*

Assistant to the director for the production of 'Richard III' in the Flemish Opera, Antwerp. A new opera by Giorgio Battistelli, directed by Robert Carsen.

→ www.vlaamseopera.be

VUURSTEEN VZW *Summer 2006*

Co-founder of Vuursten vzw. Vuursteen was founded in 2004 to produce my audiovisual works, but also organised the big project 'Priemietiv' in the summer of 2006.

→ www.vuursteen.be

PERISCOPE PRODUCTIONS *December 2004*

Runner for 'Requiem for a Cup Final', a documentary by Lode Desmet about the Heysel soccer match. Produced by Paul Pauwels for Periscope Productions.

→ www.flandersimage.be

HOGESCHOOL AALST *2001 – 2004*

Teacher of English to adults.

→ www.leerwatjewil.be



FILMS AND PROJECTS

LOST IN TRANSITION *since 2006*

'Lost in Transition' is a 52 min. documentary on youngsters in Serbia who need to come to terms with the role their fathers and former heroes played in the Balkan conflicts in order to build their own future.

Produced by Bart Van Langendonck for Savage Film. Production support from the European MEDIA program and the Flemish Audiovisual Fund, presale by VRT/CANVAS.



GRAND TOUR 2007

Five youngsters from the border city of Menen have never left their town. They spend their days with doing nothing and that's exactly what they plan to do for the rest of their lives. This film tells what happens when they travel to Ireland to discover a world that is completely new to them.

A documentary film project commissioned by the socio-cultural organisation De Figuranten.

Premiered in Menen 14th of April 2007 during the festival celebrating 10 years De Figuranten.



PRIEMIETIV 2006

In the summer of 2006 Vuursteen invited 7 different photographers to collaborate on a photo exhibition. Carl De Keyser, Anja Hellebaut, Marjan Verschraegen, Mathias Boudry, Isabel Pousset, Bart Gabriel and a local photography group, Fixatief, made pictures in De Brugse Poort. Once an industrial area but now the most multi-cultural part of the city of Ghent. 10.000 people from more than 150 nationalities live together here. The idea of the project was to question Flemish identity.



AMSTERDAM ANNÉE ZÉRO 2005

Co-Writer of 'Amsterdam Année Zéro' by Bram de Sutter as part of his education at DasArts, Amsterdam. In this production the director investigates what happens when you place 'reality' on a stage. People from the fourth world that live isolated from the rest of society are brought into the spotlights. DasArts is a post-academic „think-and-do“ tank for the performing arts based in Amsterdam.

ALICE 2004

In 'Alice', five women over the age of 40 talk about their journey through Wonderland, the psychiatric hospital where they live and work. Where does reality end and fiction start?

Winner Courtisane Festival 2005

Selected for national and international festivals:

Courtisane Festival For Short, Video And New Media, Ghent (BE) | International Film Festival München; The Way We Live (DE) | The Other Film Festival Melbourne, Australia | Het Grote Ongeduld!, Brussel (BE) | International Short Film Festival Leuven (BE)



BEING MERRY 2002

Through her microscope Mary is looking for the anti-cancer properties of plants that grow under olive trees in Palestine. Meanwhile, people in Palestine sacrifice their life to become suicide bombers to give their families a better future. How does Mary's life and work relate to the struggle in her country and how does she think she can contribute to a better future for other Palestinians?

IK DROOMDE ONS 2002

A portrait of my mother who struggled with life and cancer.

The Viewpoint student award on the Viewpoint documentary festival in Gent, Belgium, 2003

