

Making a Difference – film information kit

Original and English title

41 min. 16 sec. HD documentary

Screening formats: mpeg4 (h264), quicktime prores or DCP

Aspect ratio: 16x9

Year of production: 2016

script:

Reinier Vriend

Kuba Szutkowski

director:

Reinier Vriend

Kuba Szutkowski

Brechtje Boeke

camera:

Kuba Szutkowski

Brechtje Boeke

edit:

Brechtje Boeke

produced by:

Popov Film, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

Logline:

Faced with an unjust voluntourism industry, filmmakers Reinier and Kuba decide to correct the market with a international volunteering company of their own.

Synopsis:

When Reinier and Kuba discover the issues of the international voluntourism industry, they decide – partly as a joke – to shape their documentary project as a volunteer organisation. Trying to find a group of Dutch volunteers who not only share their criticism, but want to help filming and pay for it too, they embark on a helter-skelter journey that ends in Cape Town. They speak with volunteer entrepreneurs, social workers, professors and volunteers, circling ever closer around the question: is volunteer work always good volunteer work?

About the makers:

Summary:

Reinier (1984, Eindhoven), Kuba (1982, Warsaw) and Brechtje (1982, Amersfoort) are good friends with different academic backgrounds. Respectively media science, audiovisual design and cultural anthropology. But they are all fascinated by the ironies of the voluntourism industry. Kuba has made short fiction and documentary films screened on a broad range of festivals. 'Spark' (fiction short) was screened at IFFR and 30 festivals more, 'Collecting is a disease' (short doc) won the Chinese King Bonn award for best documentary.

Production/ sales/ distribution company:

Name: Popov Film
Address: Delftsestraat 25
3013AD Rotterdam
Country: The Netherlands
Phone: +31108412068
Email: kuba@popovfilm.nl
Website: www.popovfilm.nl

Director 1 (of 3):

Name: Brechtje Boeke
Date of birth: 2-7-1982
Address: C. van Eesterenlaan 522
1019 KA Amsterdam
Country: The Netherlands
Phone: +31614275697
Email: info@brechtjeboeke.nl
Website: www.brechtjeboeke.nl

Bio:

Brechtje Boeke (1982) is a master cultural anthropology and development sociology educated at the University of Utrecht and Leiden. She finalized her masters degree with a documentary on health insurance issues in Ghana.

Selected filmography:

- Insuring the Nation (22 min. doc) – 2010
- Enduring life (37 min. doc) – 2008 (selected for 11 international film festivals)
- Making a Difference (41 min. doc) - 2016

Director 2 (of 3):

Name: Kuba Szutkowski
Date of birth: 26-7-1982
Address: Schiedamseweg 11b
3026AA Rotterdam
Country: The Netherlands
Phone: +31618817477
Email: kuba@popovfilm.nl
Website: www.popovfilm.nl

Bio:

Kuba Szutkowski (Warsaw, 1982) moved to the Netherlands at the age of six. Here he studied Psychology and Philosophy before graduating from the Willem de Kooning Academy as an audiovisual designer. In 2009 he founded the film and tv production company Popov Film together with the actor Dragan Bakema.

Selected filmography:

- Otto Normalverbraucher (short doc) – 2009 (selected for 10 film festivals)
- Boijmans TV (semi-fiction tv series on art) - 2010-2015
- Heroes of Dutch Aviation (short doc) - 2012
- Collecting is a Disease (short doc) – 2014 (winner King Bonn award best doc)
- Spark (short) - 2015 (selected for 35 film festivals, winner best film (runner-up) MiFo Miami)

Director 3 (of 3):

Name: Reinier Vriend
Date of birth: 19-12-1984 (Eindhoven)
Address: De Boelelaan 445
1082 RJ Amsterdam
Country: The Netherlands
Phone: +31618996217
Email: reinier_vriend@yahoo.co.uk

Bio:

Reinier Vriend (Eindhoven, 1984) is a journalist, media scientist and writer. He writes his first book at the age of 17. Later he follows an academic route, eventually becoming a lecturer and teacher on the subject of film, media and framing at the University of Amsterdam. Now he works as a freelance global affairs journalist and the head of the foundation Volunteer Correct. A volunteering industry watchdog.

Selected filmography:

- Making a Difference (41 min. doc) – 2016 – debut

