



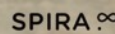
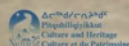
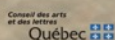
Nallua ᑎᓐᓴᓴᓐ

SPIRA PRESENTS A LES VUES DU FLEUVE PRODUCTION 'NALLUA' WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY CHRISTIAN MATHIEU FOURNIER PRODUCED BY NADINE BEAUDET & JOSÉ GÉRIN-LAJOIE
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY CHRISTIAN MATHIEU FOURNIER EDITOR RENÉ ROBERGE
DESIGN AND SOUND EDITING CLAUDE BEAUGRAND MUSIC BY BERTRAND CHÉNIER

lesvuesdufleuve.com



Canada Council for the Arts



BEST CANADIAN DOCUMENTARY AWARD
International Film Festival Les Percéides, Quebec, Canada

JURY'S SPECIAL MENTION AWARD
Babel Film Festival, Cagliari, Italy

Nallua

A film by Christian Mathieu Fournier

Documentary, 76 min, Canada, 2015 V. O. Inuktitut, english subtitles

Synopsis

The Pond Inlet Inuit in Nunavut live with the memory of a tragedy: in 1943, 25 people – over half the population of the community – died within the span of a few days. This personal and intimate documentary brings us into homes and lives of Ruth and Elisapie, two survivors of this tragedy. We join them on their journey back to the ancestral land with their grandchildren, and see their efforts to strengthen the younger generation's connection to place and culture, hoping to ground them in their history and traditions as they face the challenges of the future.

«This beautiful and sensible film aims to bridge the past, present and future of this community. It is about the transmission between grandparents and their grandchildren, giving voice to the Elders' concerns about the future, but also to the hope their grandchildren preserve their culture, language and identity. The film also aims to give the Inuit a sense of pride and freedom to live in such a grandiose environment, as well as a sense of urgency to protect it, along with their culture.» (Montréal First Peoples Festival)

Biography



After studying cinema at Laval university (Quebec City, Canada), Christian Mathieu Fournier's cinematographic experience with documentaries began in 2002 with *Die off sea*, a film that tells of the concerns of groundfish fishermen in Gaspésie and *The damned machine!*

a human portrait on the universe of gamblers addicted to video poker lottery. In 2004, his film *They made money and left* on workers suffering from berylliosis at the Noranda mine won him the Public's Award and the Enviro Award at the *Festival de films de Portneuf sur l'environnement*. He then continued with *Léandre Bergeron : with conviction hopeless* (2008), an encounter with the nonconformism of a man, unwavering in his desire for freedom and his fight for his vision of social, political and family justice. *The angel of Grondines* (2012), received the Public's Award at the *Festival de films de Portneuf sur l'environnement 2013*. With much sensitivity, the film presents the eternal childhood of Joseph Étienne, who, at age 73, lives the present moment and the discovery of imaginary territories.

Filmography

2012 / *The angel of Grondines* / 62 minutes.

2008 / *Léandre Bergeron : with conviction hopeless* / 62 minutes.

2004 / *They made money and left* / 52 minutes.

2002 / *The damned machine!* / 46 minutes

2002 / *Die off sea* / 52 minutes

Credits :



With : Ruth Sangoya (Qaunnaq),
Elisapie Ootoova & Rhoda
Arnakallak

Director: Christian Mathieu Fournier

Research : José Gérin-Lajoie

Photography: Christian M. Fournier

Editing: René Roberge

Sound design and editing:

Claude Beaugrand

Music: Bertrand Chénier

Producers: Nadine Beaudet
and José Gérin-Lajoie

Distribution : Spira

Nallua's website :

<http://lesvuesdufleuve.com/nallua-film,3,7>

<https://www.facebook.com/nallua2015>

Festivals :

2016

Big Sky Documentary Film Festival, Missoula, Montana, USA

Available Light Film Festival, Yukon, Canada

2015

World Premiere : Montréal First Peoples Festival

BEST CANADIAN DOCUMENTARY AWARD ,
International Film Festival Les Percéides, Quebec, Canada

JURY'S SPECIAL MENTION AWARD
Babel Film Festival, Cagliari, Italy

Official selection : Québec City Film Festival

Festival opening film: Indigenous Film & Arts Festival, Denver, Colorado, USA

Distribution :

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NOS DOCUMENTAIRES

Les Percées - Festival international de cinéma et d'art de Percé -
Meilleur documentaire canadien

« Très silencieux, souvent
contemplatif, NALLUA n'a pas peur
d'exposer les éléments qui menacent
la survie des Inuits. »
(A. Duchesne, La Presse)

DOCUMENTAIRE
PRÉSENTÉ EN
V.O.S.-T.F.

NALLUA

Un film de Christian Mathieu Fournier
Du même réalisateur : L'Ange des Grondines



GÉNÉRIQUE : Québec. 2015. 76 min (V.O. en inuktitut avec S.-T.F.).
Documentaire réalisé par Christian Mathieu Fournier. Mus. orig. :
Bertrand Chénier. Int. : Ruth, Elisapie.

SYNOPSIS : Ruth Sangoya est la toute dernière survivante du village de Qarmaarjuut qui, en 1943, a vu 24 personnes, soit plus de la moitié de sa communauté, trouver la mort dans d'étranges circonstances. Plus d'un demi-siècle plus tard, Ruth, accompagnée d'Elisapie, une membre de la famille qui l'a recueillie à l'époque, retourne sur les lieux de la tragédie, en plein cœur de l'île de Baffin, dans le Grand Nord canadien.

NOTES : Ce documentaire aux images aussi belles que porteuses de sens poursuit le devoir de mémoire de ses protagonistes, témoins privilégiés de ce drame mystérieux qui serait dû à un empoisonnement collectif. En racontant les circonstances de cet événement funeste et historiquement méconnu, le film relie le passé au présent et permet surtout de mieux comprendre à quel point la survie de la culture inuite semble fragilisée et que les problématiques sociales sont lourdes à porter pour les peuples nordiques. (P.B.)

Nallua: A Film about Transitions in the Arctic

 MERVYN L. TANO · 1 OCTOBRE 2015

Nallua

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

7-9 pm

Denver Museum of Nature & Science

2001 Colorado Boulevard, Denver



Pond Inlet, Nunavut.

Maslow supposedly said, “If all you have is a hammer, everything looks like a nail.” And after working on climate issues for the past fifteen years, every natural phenomenon, social upheaval, and incident of political unrest is all climate-related to me. Which brings me to **Nallua**.

Nallua, directed by Christian Fournier, is, at first blush, a quiet, intimate, and uncomplicated film. After viewing the film at an indigenous film festival in Montréal and twice on the small screen here in Denver, **Nallua** remains for me a quiet and intimate film, but it is far from uncomplicated. Filmed mainly in the village of Pond Inlet in Nunavut, **Nallua** tells the story of Ruth and Elisapie, two Inuit women.

Pond Inlet is a small, predominantly Inuit community in the Qikiqtaaluk Region of Nunavut, located in northern Baffin Island. Pond Inlet is where Ruth and Elisapie now live but they are originally from Bylot Island. They live with the memory of a tragedy. In 1943, 25 people – over half the population of the community on Bylot Island – died within the span of a few days. The cause of these deaths was never definitively determined. However, these tragic deaths are not the central story of **Nallua** although the narrative both begins and ends with Bylot Island.

For me, **Nallua** is all about transitions—transitions engendered by modernity, by the fraying of the social, cultural, and economic fabric of the community, and especially by climate. Fournier deftly uses extreme long shots to locate the small community of Pond Inlet in the vastness of the Arctic surrounded by mountains and water. He uses long shots to capture an unsuccessful seal hunt moving from the hunter to the seal and back again. The close-ups of Ruth, Elisapie, their family and friends in their homes demonstrate the extraordinary access granted Fournier and his crew. He films them preparing sealskins, decorating masterfully hand sewn clothing, carving narwhal ivory not for personal use but as items of commerce to be sold to passengers of cruise ships plying the Northwest Passage in the Summer. He captures, almost casually and non-judgmentally, the difficulties of transmitting tradition to a generation awash in the trappings of modernity.

What Fournier has produced is far from a pedantic, didactic treatment of a changing climate and its effects on the people of Pond Inlet. There are no victims here; no dramatic shots of melting glaciers; no tales of declining populations of marine mammals; and no stories of hunters lost falling through thinning sea ice. And yet with a hint here, with a bit of dialogue there, and especially with deft camera work, Fournier shows us that life is indeed changing and that these changes are due in no small part to a changing climate.

Nallua closes with Ruth's and Elisapie's journey back to their site of their village on Bylot Island with their grandchildren. We see their efforts to strengthen the younger generation's connection to place and culture, hoping to ground them in their history and traditions as they face the challenges of the future.

Joining us to answer questions and give us more details of her work with Ruth and Elisapie will be José Gérin-Lajoie, Northern Projects Coordinator at the Département des sciences de l'environnement, Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières. For several years now she has been working in the Arctic to study the tundra concentrating Inuit local knowledge related to the impacts of climate change on vegetation, factors affecting plant growth, as well as the ecology and usage of berry species in the Arctic.

Please join us on Wednesday, October 7, 2015 at 7-9 pm at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science, 2001 Colorado Boulevard, for a free screening of **Nallua**. And please share this with your Denver friends and colleagues. Mahalo nui.