

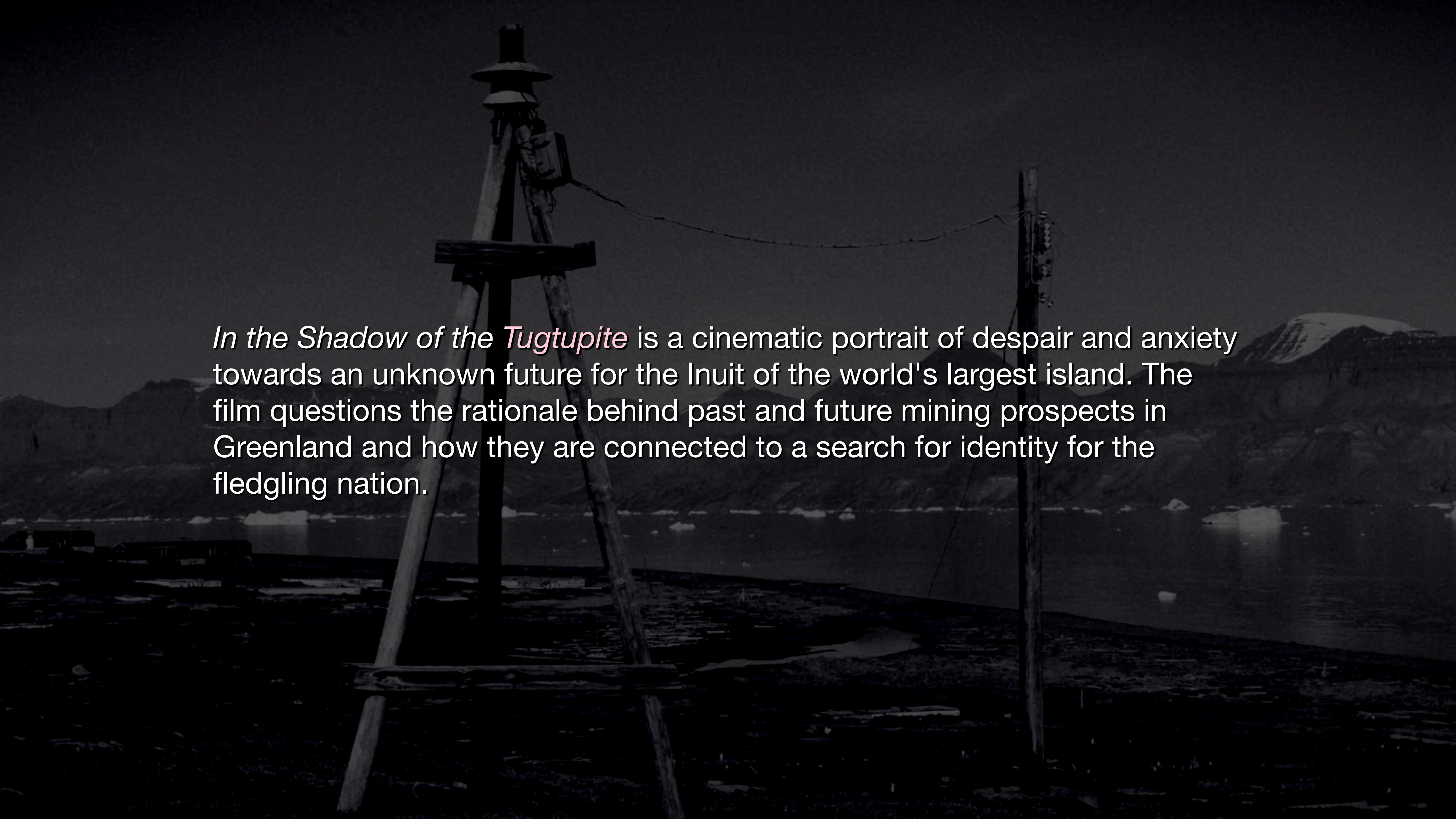


IN THE SHADOW OF THE
TUGTUPITE

PRESS KIT



PEOPLE HAVE ALWAYS TOLD STORIES

A dark, atmospheric landscape of Greenland. In the foreground, a wooden tripod structure stands on a dark, rocky shore. A thin wire or cable runs across the middle ground. In the background, a body of water is visible, with snow-capped mountains and a small building on the left. The overall mood is somber and desolate.

In the Shadow of the Tugtupite is a cinematic portrait of despair and anxiety towards an unknown future for the Inuit of the world's largest island. The film questions the rationale behind past and future mining prospects in Greenland and how they are connected to a search for identity for the fledgling nation.



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IMPACT OF THE *TUGTUPITE* FILM

During Nuuk International Film Festival, where the film premiered in September 2020, the ICC (Inuit Circumpolar Council - the body that represents the Inuit of the world on matters of international importance) arranged a panel debate on the rights of indigenous peoples' in relation to their land. The event was held in front of an audience consisting of politicians, journalists, and students of the college and the university of Nuuk, Greenland.

In Greenland, several schools (primary through to secondary) and cultural institutions have since the premiere had a screening link and (local) screening rights in order to promote and educate a new generation on the impacts of the historical events depicted.

The film was used by the NGO *Urani Naamik* (No to Uranium in Greenland) to promote their protest in connection to the public hearings for the proposed rare-earth mine on the Kvanefjeld mountain in southern Greenland. Drawing international attention this eventually lead to the NGO nominating the director of the film for consideration for the *Earth Day Network's My Future Voice Award*.

The issues highlighted in the film ultimately laid the foundation that led to a call for an early election in Greenland in the spring of 2021.

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BACKGROUND

During a thirty year period from the 1950s onwards Greenland saw major societal change as the country went from being a colony of Denmark to a fledgling nation with aspirations of becoming independent one day. What had taken Europe 300 years to accomplish during the industrialisation was more or less forced upon the indigenous population of Greenland in 30. This had great consequences on every aspect of the Inuit way of living and was for many a devastating blow to living a harmonious life. More than 70 years have now passed since Greenland lost its status as a colony, and now new changes are on the horizon. Changes that are not necessarily for the good.



DIRECTOR'S INTENT

The Inuit have always told stories, and this short film is in many ways a retelling of old folklore - yet strangely predictive of things to come.

Today Greenland is not yet a truly independent nation but is trying to break loose of the chains of colonialism, and in that process history is about to repeat itself as international interest in the riches of the country is on the rise. Colonialism in a post-colonial world. With this film I want to draw a parallel between modern day Greenland and the history of the people of the great island.

Without pointing any fingers I aim to make sense of things to come while drawing inspiration from an old Inuit tale of the red rocks of the **Tugtupite** (which literally means the blood of the reindeer). For the look of the film I wanted to depict a town devoured of people while always having the mountains looming in the background to create tension, and with only a few camera movements and hardly any human activity on screen. This plays well in connection to the message of the film.

As Inuit we have always told stories and I wonder what stories future generations will tell about us.

THE DIRECTOR

Award-winning short film director and producer. Educated from the university of Aarhus Inuk has been involved in several marketing-/short film productions as well as being an active member of the film making community of Greenland, Film.gl. As an indigenous filmmaker he has a focus on aesthetic images and personal stories that touch on the identity, history, and culture of the Greenlandic Inuit people.



Inuk Jørgensen

SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY

The Bottle Cleaner (2006)
Greenland Adventure Race (2007)
Home (2018)
Hedtoft (2019)
In the Shadow of the Tugtupite (2020)



FAQ:

- ENGLISH TITLE:

In the Shadow of the Tugtupite

- FILMING LOCATION:

Narsaq, southern Greenland

- FILMING DATE:

July 2020

- PREMIERE:

Nuuk International Film Festival (September 2020)

- FIRST AWARD:

Best Short Film (NIFF 2020)

- SCREENING HISTORY:

www.inuks.dk/Tugtupite




SPECS:

- **GENRE:**
Documentary short
- **LENGTH:**
6 minutes 49 seconds
- **ASPECT RATIO:**
1.85:1 - 1998 x 1080p
- **SOUND/LANGUAGE:**
Stereo/English (close captioned)
- **FILMING FORMAT/CAMERA:**
Digital, h.264/Canon XA 35 & Mavic Mini
- **PROJECTION FORMATS:**
DCP or QuickTime file



FUNDING / SUPPORT:

 The Nordic Institute
in Greenland

NORDISKA
FILMSKOLAN



A dark, rocky tunnel with a red door in the center. The tunnel walls are made of rough, grey rock. The floor is covered in dark, jagged rocks. The lighting is dim, highlighting the texture of the rock and the door.

I WONDER WHAT STORIES FUTURE GENERATIONS WILL TELL ABOUT US



@tugtupitefilm

www.inuks.dk/Tugtupite

