

A film by Simon Plouffe

SEEING THROUGH

THE DARKNESS



Les Films du 3 Mars présente à la production et Les Films de l'Autre  
coproduisent Les Films du 3 Mars. Scénario par et Jean-Paul Villard  
co-scénario par Marc Boissacré, coréalisé par Natalie Lamoignon.

Montage, caméra et Anja Souppé, Tristan Rodon  
Nébojša Bandović, arrières, mouvements,  
direction, caméra vidéo par Simon Plouffe



# TECHNICAL SHEET

## SEEING THROUGH THE DARKNESS DOCUMENTARY FEATURE - 93 MINUTES

Year: 2024

Country of production: Canada (Québec)

Filming location: Ukraine, Japan, Germany, Serbia, Bosnia, Colombia, Armenia (Nagorno-Karabakh)

Original languages: Ukrainian, Japanese, German, Serbo-Croatian, Spanish, Russian

Subtitles: French, English, Ukrainian, Japanese, German, Serbo-Croatian, Spanish

Audio description version: French, English, Ukrainian, Spanish

Subtitles for the hearing impaired: French and English

Title in French: Les yeux ne font pas le regard

Financing: SODEC, Telefilm Canada, Crédit d'impôt cinéma et télévision (Gestion SODEC), Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec, Canada Council for the Arts and the Independent Filmmaker Assistance Program (ACIC) of the NFB, in collaboration with PRIM and CineGround.

Available in Dolby Atmos and 5.1 surround sound

# CREATIVE TEAM

**Direction:** Simon Plouffe

**Script:** Simon Plouffe

**Cinematography:** Simon Plouffe

**Sound Recording:** Simon Plouffe, Vasyl Yavtushenko, Koča Kaštavarac, Steven LeFever, Pablo Villegas

**Editing:** Natalie Lamoureux

**Sound Design:** Simon Plouffe

**Sound Mix:** Jean Paul Vialard

**Color Grading:** Marc Boucrot

**Protagonists:** Rodion Trystan, Anja Stupp, Yukizo Watanabe, Nebojša Badović, Steven Santander

**Distribution:** Les Films du 3 Mars

**Production:** Simon Plouffe - Les Films de l'Autre



**TRAILER**

## LOGLINE

*Seeing Through the Darkness* is an anti-war polyphonic tale exploring the unique and humane perspectives of five individuals blinded by global conflicts.

## SYNOPSIS

Through an immersive sound environment, *Seeing Through the Darkness* delves into the lives of five resilient individuals who have lost their sight in armed conflicts. This film challenges our societal blindness to violence and suffering amidst a flood of images, urging us to listen to these inspiring stories echoing with urgency and profound humanity.



# DIRECTOR'S NOTE

With this documentary, I'm primarily interested in people who have experienced the loss of sight during war. In an age when we produce banal and ephemeral images, I believe it's important to slow down and listen to those who can inspire us to new ways of conceiving or glimpsing the world.

To get closer to the world of blindness, the stories presented are carried by an immersive sound environment, highlighting the sonic acuity of the characters. The voices of today, embodied and alive, allow us to question, through singular looks, on different themes related to the war, including the loss of identity, injustice, and the impulse of life and death. The human being who is at the center of these conflicts must be able to tap into his inner resources in order to pass through this total darkness and find his way to a brighter destiny, which is freedom.

**Simon Plouffe**



# BIOGRAPHY

Simon Plouffe lives and works as a filmmaker in Montreal / Tiohtià:ke / Mooniyang. He studied screenwriting at UQAM and cinema at Concordia University. His film *Others' Gold* (2011) was shown at DOK.fest Munich and Big Sky Film Festival. *Those Who Come, Will Hear* (2018) won the Jury Award at the Ann Arbor Film Festival and Best Sound at the Gala Québec Cinéma in 2019. His short exploratory documentary *Forests* (2022) was screened at festivals including Krakow Film Festival, Edinburgh Film Festival, and was featured at the Hong-gah Museum in Taiïwan. It won the Art and Experimentation Award at Rendez-vous Québec Cinéma and the Jury Award at Trento, Italy, in 2023. *Seeing Through the Darkness* is his latest documentary.

# FILMOGRAPHY

*Forests*, 16 min, Documentary, 2022

*Those Who Come, Will Hear*, 77 min, Documentary, 2018

*Others' Gold*, 60 min, Documentary, 2011



# CONTACTS

## MEDIA RELATIONS **pixelleX**

Caroline Rompré | pixelleX communications  
[caroline@pixellex.ca](mailto:caroline@pixellex.ca) | +1 514-778-9294

## DISTRIBUTION



**LES FILMS DU 3 MARS** (F3M) promotes Quebec and Canadian auteur films nationally and internationally. From ideation through the final cut and onto the screen, we put our expertise toward helping our members market and distribute their work. A leader in the distribution of feature documentaries, F3M also promotes works of every genre and length. We strive to cultivate a taste for original works of quality among our viewers while ensuring representativity based on the principles of equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI).

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Sylvain Lavigne | Les Films du 3 Mars  
[distribution@f3m.ca](mailto:distribution@f3m.ca) | +1 514-523-8530



## PRODUCTION

LES FILMS DE  
**L'AUTRE**

**LES FILMS DE L'AUTRE** is an artists centre whose mission is to support formal research and creative freedom in independent cinema and to foster the emergence of strong, original and diverse voices. The organization occupies a unique place in the Quebec film landscape by bringing together filmmakers who act both as producers and directors of their works.

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