

Josh Appignanesi's **COLOSSAL WRECK** is a wry and searingly honest film on the COP Climate Circus - UK-wide release 7 November 2025



COLOSSAL WRECK (in UK cinemas from 7 November)

World premiere at Curzon Soho on Wednesday 22 October

TRAILER

Filmmaker Josh Appignanesi released his climate documentary MY EXTINCTION in 2023, charting the wry travails of a dad-turned-activist taking protest to the streets with XR and unmasking the oil-funded climate-sceptic lobbyists of Tufton Street.

When the film was invited to screen at COP28 in Dubai, he felt he couldn't pass up the opportunity to get a sneaky inside look at the COP circus. Out of this experience, comes his latest film **COLOSSAL WRECK**. With his innocuous selfie-stick, Josh moves unnoticed through Dubai's seductive slickness to reveal the talks, meetings and elite backroom parties behind the strange mixture of global cry for help and empty political posturing that is COP.

Are these enormous gatherings all about false promises that hinder change? Or are they the only hope we've got for world-saving unity? To the activist's eye, COP looks like the enemy: a parade of statesmen and their toothless agreements while emissions continue to skyrocket.

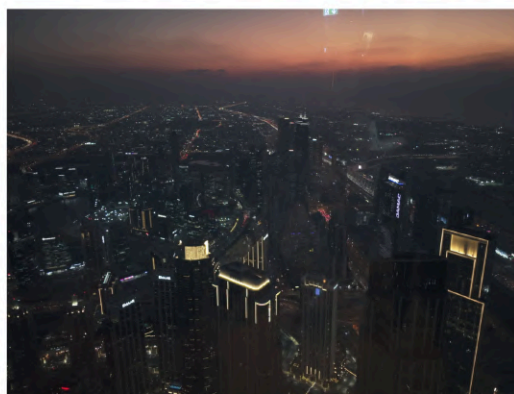
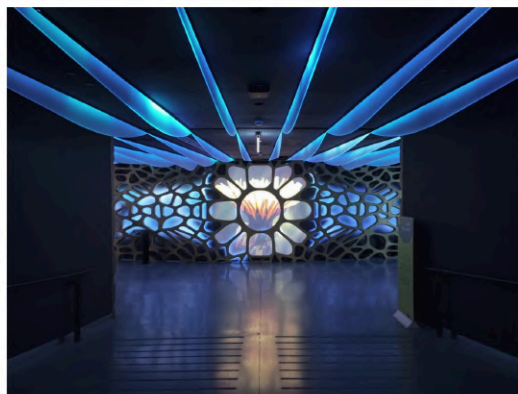
Lost in translation, Josh comes face to face with the irony of an oil baron hosting this last-chance climate saloon in a techno-utopian leisure city - that, er, happens to be built in a burning desert. Yet the reality of some of the participants he met at COP was very different - committed, knowledgeable and resourceful

specialists in finance, tech, development, law, culture, and science. And of course, if there were no COPs at all, might things have been even worse?

Then Josh encounters something that cuts through the noise: indigenous voices from the frontline of climate injustice, including the Brazilian Amazon. People suffering not only from climate change itself but from the direct actions of those who hasten it - murder and violation at the hands of those seeking dominion over the natural world and its resources. It is a piercing reminder of what is really at stake.

As preparations begin for COP30 in Brazil and with the stakes higher than ever, Josh's film provides a lever for debate. In his customary humorous tone, Josh narrates what he saw and what he felt - from irony to despair to hope - from a searingly honest first-person viewpoint that takes us on a journey into "the conference at the end of the world." Can global gatherings like COP save the world from itself? Can the global South and indigenous people really have a voice there? Is COP part of the problem, or part of the solution... or somehow both?

For more information, interviews and images contact Sophie Toumazis at tpr media consultants sophie@tpr-media.com (+44 7974 428858) or Marcello Aisoni marcello@tpr-media.com



JOSH APPIGNANESI

Josh Appignanesi is a writer/director whose socially-conscious work spans fiction, documentary and the space in-between. Shown in competition at Tribeca, Berlin, Rotterdam, ACID/Cannes, and Sheffield festivals, with awards at London, Edinburgh, and with BIFA and BAFTA nominations, his work has featured talent like Tom Hiddleston, John Malkovich, David Tennant, Omid Djalili, and Sarah Jessica Parker, with cultural figures like Zadie Smith, Slavoj Zizek, and John Berger appearing in his films, often playing 'versions of themselves.'

Following acclaimed features like *The Infidel*, *Husband*, *Song of Songs* and *The New Man*, his climate action doc *MY EXTINCTION* (2023) screened at 80 UK sites and powered direct recruitment to a range of climate action partners. It was also invited to screen at COP28.

With work shown on BBC TV, Channel 4 and MUBI, and interviews on BBC Newsnight, BBC Radio, The Times, The Observer and The Guardian, funders include Arts Council England, BFI, BBC Films, Channel 4, WellcomeTrust, and AHRC.



About Dartmouth Films

Dartmouth Films are pioneers of independent documentaries in Britain — finding new ways of funding, making and distributing films which have impact. Recent titles include the summer box office success *'Eric Ravilious: Drawn To War'* (£320,000 gross, on release), Grierson-nominated and the UK's 2022 entry to the Oscars® *'Dying to Divorce'*, BAFTA-winning *'Men Who Sing'* and BIFA-winning *'Children of the Snow Land'*. Non-theatrical successes include *'Resilience'*, which had a direct impact on the health policy objectives of the Scottish government, and *'Magic Medicine'*, which continues to be used as a crucial resource in cross-party efforts to reform drug policy. www.dartmouthfilms.com